



INTERNAL REGULATIONS

FUNDACIÓN VIDANTA AWARD: “CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REDUCTION OF INEQUALITY AND POVERTY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN”

The following Regulations establish the guidelines and procedures governing the granting of the Vidanta Foundation Prize to one or more candidates who, in the opinion of the jury, merit such distinction.

The staff appointed by the Vidanta Foundation, hereinafter “Vidanta,” will function as the Technical Secretariat responsible for bestowing the “Vidanta Foundation Prize: *Contributions to the Reduction of Inequality and Poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean*,” hereinafter “the Award,” on an annual basis.

Chapter I - General Regulations

Information on the Award is spread through a Call for Submissions published in mass communication media in different regions of the Americas as well as on the Vidanta website (www.fundacionvidanta.org). The Organization of American States (OAS), through the agency of their Permanent Missions and their extensive data base of civil society organizations in the region, collaborates extensively in publicizing the competition. Moreover, the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) cooperates in the task of promotion through its different representation offices and by posting the Call for Submissions on its web page.

The Award has been created with the purpose of recognizing and providing support for outstanding individual or collective projects carried out in Latin America and the Caribbean to reduce poverty and inequality and combat discrimination. As additional objective, it seeks to spread awareness of such efforts and share their contributions in order to influence decision making on public policies; create greater consciousness and motivate public opinion with regard to key poverty, inequality and discrimination related matters in Latin America and the Caribbean; and foster corporate philanthropy and social responsibility.

The Award competition is announced annually in the month of November. In 2012, the award recognized in different ways: a) academic papers containing original and practices developments and appropriate proposals in order to reduce poverty and inequality, and b) field work carried out in the region to reduce poverty and inequality and combating discrimination.

For works referred to in item a), the first and second prize will consist of the sum of USD 50,000 and USD 25,000, respectively. With regard to field work, the first and second prize will consist of the sum of USD 100,000 and USD 50,000, respectively. All are contributed entirely by the Vidanta Foundation.

Chapter II – Technical Secretariat

The Technical Secretariat will consist of the individual or the administrative body to be designated by Vidanta, and the Technical Secretary will be responsible, from an expository though not restrictive standpoint, for:



- A. The publication of the Call for Submissions and the Rules of the Award;
- B. The reception, compilation and distribution of the nominations;
- C. The reception and clarification of doubts and questions regarding the Call for Submissions, Rules and Regulations;
- D. Coordinating, together with the Department of International Affairs of the OAS, the organization of the event and award-giving ceremony;
- E. Organizing a second round of voting in the event of a tie;
- F. Forwarding the formal explanatory report on the jurors' decision to the Secretary General of the OAS and the Secretary General of the SEGIB;
- G. Communicating the decision of the jury to the winner(s);
- H. Counting the jury votes in the presence of a notary public, and documenting the event; and,
- I. Composing a report for publication to include all the competition submissions and results.

All Awards related communications shall be addressed exclusively to the Technical Secretary and to no other Vidanta office or controller, or to the OAS or SEGIB.

The Internet address where the public may clarify doubts is: premio@fundacionvidanta.org

Chapter III – Award Candidates

The following candidates are eligible, whether nominated or self-proposed: i) nationals of the countries of the Americas and Andorra, Spain and Portugal; and ii) organizations legally registered or constituted in one of such countries.

The candidates must demonstrate that due to their nature or activities they are involved in the task of reducing poverty and inequality and combating discrimination in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In the case of works of academic nature, special consideration will be shown for works containing original ideas and practical and well founded proposals to reduce poverty and inequality.

In the case of the field works, special consideration will be shown for individuals or organizations that work on the subject with resources that are self generated or the result of communal efforts. The work done by the candidates must have completed a minimum of three years from the beginning of the work (in the case of individuals) or the creation of the organization (in the case of legal organizations)

In the case of individuals or organizations that have received funds or technical assistance from a country which is not part of the Americas, with the exception of Andorra, Spain and Portugal, it will suffice that the impact and results of the project submitted have occurred in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Individuals, civil institutions and non-governmental organizations from Latin America and the Caribbean and from Andorra, Spain and Portugal, may nominate candidates in accordance with the guidelines established in the Call for Submissions.

No employees of Vidanta, the OAS or the SEGIB, or members of their immediate families or of the jurors' families, may participate or submit candidates to compete for the Award.



Under no circumstances shall a candidate be rejected for reasons of sex, religion, disability, political ideology, sexual orientation, socioeconomic level or ethnicity.

Chapter IV- Submissions

To be eligible, the candidate or nominee submissions shall only be considered complete if they include:

- A. A plain copy of the present Regulations duly signed in the assigned space at the end of the document.
- B. The “Vidanta Foundation Prize: Contributions to the reduction of inequality and poverty in Latin America” entry form, which may be downloaded from the Vidanta Foundation web page, as well as the additional documents stipulated in it and in the competition Rules.
- C. Documentation validating the legal constitution of the organization and, in the case of individuals, official identity documents (passport, birth certificate, etc.).
- D. Supporting documents that help to understand the work of the candidates (brochures, videos, etc)
- E. Two letters of recommendation containing contact information of the person who recommended

May 31, 2012 is the last date for reception of the submissions at the following address:

Vidanta Foundation Prize
Av. Paseo de las Moras S/N
Fracc. Náutico Turístico
Nuevo Vallarta, Nayarit C.P. 63732
México

Submissions that do not comply with all of the above mentioned requirements include false information or are received after the closing date shall be automatically disqualified. Should the documentation submitted not clearly reflect the nature, objective, methodology and/or results of the nominated project, the Technical Secretary shall have the option of requesting additional information or rejecting the entry.

The documentation and information submitted will only be returned at the express request in writing by the sender and for account of the recipient. Vidanta reserves the right to make copies of all documents and information for its records.



Chapter V – Selection Process

All submissions will be revised by a Pre-Selection Committee and subsequently sent to a jury panel.

The Pre-Selection Committee will, from an expository though not restrictive standpoint, be responsible for:

- A. Receiving and revising that the documentation sent is complete, and preparing a file for each candidate;
- B. Rejecting the incomplete submissions and recording the reason for rejection in the corresponding file;
- C. Requesting additional information from the candidates, when appropriate;
- D. Sending the complete files on each submission to the jury panel and confirming their receipt;
- E. Providing the jurors with technical assistance as required.

Chapter VI – Jury Composition and Duties

The jury panel will be made up of prominent personalities recognized internationally for their experience and careers in the academic, social, political, business, cultural and intellectual worlds, and care will be exercised that each sub-region of the hemisphere be represented on the jury panel.

The names of the jurors will be made public in the Call for Submissions published by the Technical Secretary. If, after publication of the composition of the jury panel, a juror should be unable to participate, such member may be replaced without need for a new publication.

The members of the jury will participate on an honorary basis, but have the right to reimbursement of travel and accommodation expenses incurred in the course of their mission.

Under no circumstances may the jury panel include members of the staff of the Vidanta Foundation, the OAS or SEGIB.

The entries will be judged in terms of their significance, in accordance with the following criteria:

- ***Innovation***: from a conceptual viewpoint (in the field of scientific work or the incorporation of new ideas, technologies and processes) or in the area of implementation.
- ***Quantifiable results and impact***: the projects must have provided concrete results and benefits.
- ***Duration and transference***: the projects must exhibit their capacity for continuity over time, provide knowledge and experience extensive to other beneficiaries, and be applicable in other areas without such subsequent application involving any economic consideration for the award winners or for the individuals or organizations financing the winner.
- ***Environmental sustainability***: the entries must be environmentally friendly.

The jury's verdict shall be final and not open to appeal, and the decision will be announced in the press. The entry with the highest score will be declared the winner and the Technical Secretary will send the



corresponding formal explanatory report to the Secretary General of the OAS and the Ibero-American Secretary General. In the event of a tie, a second round of voting will be held.

The procedure governing the granting of the Award will be based on the principles of publicity, transparency, objectivity and non-discrimination.

Chapter VII – Award-Giving Ceremony

The Award will be presented in November, 2012, in a place to appoint

The winning organizations must designate a duly accredited representative to claim the Award. Such accreditation may be made through power of attorney, letter of appointment or designation in writing.

Individuals who cannot personally claim the Award may send a representative, who must show the corresponding power of attorney to the Technical Secretary prior to the award-giving ceremony.

The Award may not be divided, or withheld, or bestowed posthumously, except in the case of submissions entered by two or more individuals or associations as joint creators of a contribution or proposal, considered individually, in which case the award will be divided equally among the winners. In no case will more than five individuals or associations having worked on the same project be considered for the award.

The winner must be of age by the closing date for submissions.

The cost of transport and accommodation of the winners and a companion to be present at the award-giving ceremony will be for the account of Vidanta.

The net sum to be awarded shall be subject to the tax system applicable in the country of origin, of residence, or of the award-giving ceremony, the winner being solely responsible for making the corresponding tax payments. The award may be claimed personally or by a legal proxy.

Vidanta, together with the OAS and SEGIB, will take the steps required to develop and apply the competition rules and regulations.

Upon signing the “Certification” below, the undersigned agrees to submit any controversy related to the Award, the selection process or any activity described in the present regulations to a standard industry related arbitration process before resorting to law. Similarly, for the purposes of the present Regulations, the undersigned agrees to abide by the laws and courts of Mexico and renounces any other jurisdiction that could be applicable in view of nationality or place of residence.



CERTIFICATION

**I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT, AND AGREE
WITH THE TERMS IT CONTAINS.**

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____