

Innovation Award for Sustainability 2025 of the Stiftung Südtiroler Sparkasse and the Südtiroler Sparkasse

To reward outstanding innovative achievements in the field of sustainability, the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, on behalf of the Stiftung Südtiroler Sparkasse and the Südtiroler Sparkasse, announces the "Innovation Award for Sustainability 2025 of the Stiftung Südtiroler Sparkasse and the Südtiroler Sparkasse".

The prize is awarded to South Tyrolean entrepreneurs and collaborators for innovative solutions, products or services for sustainable development in the sense of the UN's 17 SDGs.

A total of €10,000 is available for the prize, which may be awarded to a maximum of two recipients. If more than one person wins, the prize will be divided equally. The award will be presented at a ceremony at unibz, with the date to be announced.

Application guidelines

1. The call addresses entrepreneurs and collaborators who have designed or implemented innovative solutions, products or services for a sustainable development.
2. The invention, development or service has been carried out in the period 2023-2025 and contributes to one or more of the UN's 17 SDGs.
3. The company is based in South Tyrol, and the invention, development or service has been done in South Tyrol.
4. The application consists of the following documents:
 - Fully completed and signed application form.
 - Summary of the work (maximum 3 pages) with the following elements: Context of the work; innovative elements; individual contribution of the applicant; maximum of 3 SDGs with rationale; impact of the invention, development or service on the economy and society; reference to further documents, websites etc. describing the work.
 - A short video presenting the invention, product or service (optional, max. 3 minutes).
5. Applications can be submitted in English, German or Italian.
6. Applications must be sent by e-mail to the Vice-Rector for Research at rectorate@unibz.it within **25.06.2025**.
7. Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:
 - (a) Compliance of the invention, development or service with sustainability issues as set out in the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations;
 - (b) Degree of innovation compared to the state of the art of the invention, development or service
 - (c) Impact of the invention, development or service on the economy and society
 - (d) Connection of the invention, development or service with South Tyrol.The prize will be awarded to the project that fulfills criteria (a), (b) and (c); in the event of a tie, criterion (d) will be applied.
8. The Innovation Prize for Sustainability of the Stiftung Südtiroler Sparkasse and the Südtiroler Sparkasse can only be awarded once to the same person.

9. The jury for the selection of the winner(s) of the Innovation Prize for Sustainability will be composed of the following members:

1. President of the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano
2. Rector of the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano
3. The Vice-Rector for Research of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano
4. One representative of the Stiftung Südtiroler Sparkasse
5. One representative of the Südtiroler Sparkasse

Bolzano, 09.05.2025

Prof. Dr. Tanja Mimmo

Vice-rector for Research