

Annex I:

2025 Global Innovation Model Cities Application and Implementation Guidelines

I. Purpose and Significance of the Global Innovation Model Cities

The initiative aims to recognize the outstanding achievements of globally innovative cities, set international benchmarks, promote technological innovation and industrial development, and support the United Nations' goals of innovation and sustainable development, thereby enabling innovation to better benefit humanity.. The Global Innovation Model Cities are exemplary cases with global influence curated by the World Innovation Conference. Being selected as a Global Innovation Model City will significantly enhance a city's international competitiveness and influence, attract widespread media coverage and global attention, and provide valuable references for decision-making by governments, enterprises, and investment institutions worldwide.

II. Eligible Applicants

Applications are open to cities worldwide that have achieved remarkable accomplishments in fields such as technological innovation, industrial innovation, modern services, cultural and tourism innovation, openness to the outside world, and urban governance, and that serve as exemplary leaders in global urban economic and social innovation and development.

III. Basic Conditions and Criteria (Cities that meet any of the following criteria are eligible to apply)

1. Cities with strong independent innovation capacity, outstanding technological leadership, a high level of sustainable economic and social development, and significant regional influence;

2. Cities with notable achievements in technological innovation, industrial development, service innovation, cultural innovation, and innovation governance;
3. Cities with a gross domestic product (GDP) of innovation industries—including next-generation information technology, new energy, new materials, high-end equipment, new energy vehicles, smart home appliances, green and environmental protection, aerospace, ship and marine engineering equipment, artificial intelligence and robotics, and biopharmaceuticals—exceeding USD 50 billion;
4. Cities that host national or international science and technology innovation parks, laboratories, or research and development centers, with more than 300 high-tech enterprises located therein;
5. Cities whose annual R&D expenditure accounts for more than 2.5% of their GDP;
6. Cities that have hosted internationally influential innovation conferences, summits, or events in the past three years and are home to globally renowned innovation enterprises and brands;
7. Cities that have a clear strategy and vision for developing as an innovation city, possess talent and high-tech enterprises for developing an innovation economy, and aspire to become global Models of innovation.

IV. Evaluation Institutions

The Model Cities Evaluation Committee is jointly established by the Organizing Committee of the World Innovation Conference, internationally recognized think tanks, and representatives of academic experts.

V. Evaluation Principles

The evaluation process shall be conducted under the principles of fairness, impartiality, and transparency.

VI. Evaluation Procedures and Timeline

Application Registration → Preliminary Selection → Shortlisting → Initial Public Announcement (Solicitation of Public Feedback) → Final Review → Official Announcement and Awarding of Certificate and Plaque.

VII. Application Fees

The application process for the Model Cities designation is free of charge. However, government leaders of selected cities must attend the World Innovation Conference 2025 Annual Meeting in person to receive the official certificate and plaque.

VIII. Additional Benefits

1. Cities awarded the Global Innovation Model City honor will receive priority consideration to host the World Innovation Conference (Annual Meeting) and its series of summit and forum events. They may also organize dedicated investment promotion sessions during the conference;
2. Mayors of awarded cities may apply to deliver keynote speeches or participate in high-level dialogues at the World Innovation Conference (Annual Meeting) and relevant forums and summits, showcasing their city's innovation achievements and competitive advantages to a global audience;
3. Awarded cities will become long-term strategic partners of the World Innovation Conference, which will actively promote the city's innovation, investment, and business environment globally.

IX. Important Notes

1. Participating cities must submit truthful application materials and bear

legal responsibility for the authenticity and compliance of the submitted documents;

2. Cities requiring on-site inspections by evaluation experts may submit a formal request to the Organizing Committee and shall bear the corresponding costs, including expert evaluation fees;

3. Cities must complete the application form in accordance with the instructions outlined in the “2025 Global Innovation Model Cities Application Form” and submit all required supporting materials;

4. Any fraudulent or infringing behavior will result in disqualification from the evaluation process;

5. Application materials can be downloaded from the official website of the World Innovation Conference (www.wewic.com);

6. Once all application materials are prepared, please organize them into a folder, compress the folder into a zip file, and submit it via email to: 123@wewic.com.

Organizing Committee of the World Innovation Conference

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