



TIC AMERICAS
Talent and Innovation **Competitions** of the Americas

Young Entrepreneurs

TIC Americas case studies

InnovAction
Challenge
Innovation in Action responding to COVID-19



Caribbean
Innovation Competition



Young Entrepreneurs

TIC Americas case studies

INTRODUCTION

The [Young Americas Business Trust \(YABT\)](#) is a nonprofit international organization that works in cooperation with the [Organization of American States \(OAS\)](#) to promote social and economic development of young people around the world. While building entrepreneurial capacity and creating opportunities for future business leaders, the YABT community advances the global goals and strengthens youth-led initiatives for sustainable development.

The [Talent and Innovation Competitions of the Americas \(TIC Americas\)](#) is a business accelerator platform for young entrepreneurs that YABT organizes to foster entrepreneurship and innovation in the Americas. TIC Americas provides guidance, training, mentoring, seed capital, investment and a wide international network.

Regardless of the level of the solution and business model, this program is tailored to help entrepreneurs in their journey to growth. Every year top innovative business solutions are identified, trained and coached to foster more sustainable and inclusive development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Since 2007, more than 51,429 young entrepreneurs from 48 countries have participated in TIC Americas, registering a total of 35,393 business proposals.



TIC Americas Alumni at the I Cities Summit of the Americas, Denver, USA, 2023.



<https://aboquete.com/>

TIC Americas 2008

Regenerative Agriculture / Sustainability

Aboquete is a company dedicated to the production of organic fertilizer inoculated with beneficial microorganisms and biological controllers. Aboquete contributes to the good use of the soil and promotes sustainable and regenerative agriculture, thus reducing the environmental impact of the sector.

The company and its founder, Demetrio Díaz, have received awards such as the TIC Americas, the Pioneers of Prosperity Award from the IDB, the National Business Innovation Award of Panama, EcoPreneurs, and others.



<https://alsec.com.co/>

TIC Americas 2008

Nutrition / Food security

Alsec is a Colombian company established in 11 countries (Colombia, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, the USA) that generates nutritional innovation for the food industry.

Alsec has been recognized by awards granted by Ruta N, McKinsey & Company, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism of Colombia, Colciencias, among others. In addition, they have allies such as the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

www.yabt.net



<https://www.braveup.com/>

TIC Americas 2014

Tech / Health

BRAVE UP! is the first software and app that enables schools to detect, prevent and predict different cases of microaggressions, bullying, and cyberbullying.

BraveUp has been recognized throughout the continent and the world with awards such as the Turner MIINT of Harvard University, GES Awards (London), Social Innovation for vulnerable populations award of the IDB, among many others. Its media participation includes channels such as Canal 24 horas, the Chamber of Deputies of Chile and more.



<https://www.ciclo.com.co/>

TIC Americas 2017

Sustainability / Plastics recycling / Green cities

Ciclo is a company that develops, manufactures, and operates reverse vending machines and environmental impact strategies that encourage recycling while providing benefits for its users and consumers in return.

Ciclo collaborates with institutions such as Postobón, Pespico, Levis, Metro de Medellín, TetraPack, among others. It is the protagonist of the episode "[Nuevos Ciclos de Sustentabilidad](#)", of the documentary series "Planet Love" created by PepsiCo and National Geographic.



<https://desechablesbiodegradables.com/>

TIC Americas 2012

Sustainability | Plastics replacement

Entelequia is a Mexican company that creates and markets disposable biodegradable products as a solution to avoid single-use packaging in the food industry. The company has become the largest marketer of biodegradable disposable products in Mexico.

Its founder, Elizabeth Nava, won the Mexican National Entrepreneur Award, and has participated in Shark Tank Mexico. Entelequia is the protagonist of the worldwide-distributed episode "[Amor compartido](#)", part of the Planet Love series.



<https://firstjob.me/>

TIC Americas 2017

Tech | Youth employability

FirstJob is a 10-year-old company created with the objective of improving youth employability and the connection between youth and industry. It is used by more than half a million young people and companies a year.

FirstJob has won several awards such as BBVA Open Talent, Seed Start World Chile, TIC Americas, among others. It was incubated by Wayra Chile and Mexico 500 and participated in incubation programs in Silicon Valley. They have been recipients of more than half a million dollars of capital.

< Laboratoria >



<https://www.laboratoria.la/>

TIC Americas 2015

Tech | Gender Equality | Capacity building

Laboratoria is a company that works in 6 Latin American countries to promote a more inclusive and competitive digital economy for women. To achieve this, they identify and train young women from vulnerable backgrounds to become web developers and UX Designers.

Laboratoria Alumni work in more than 1000 companies around the world. The company has raised more than \$750,000 US capital including investments funds from the IDB and the Pacific Alliance. Its CEO, Mariana Costa, has received awards such as MIT Innovators Under 35 and the BBC 100 Women.



<https://reciclaelectronicos.com/>

TIC Americas 2012

Sustainability | Citizen participation

Recicla Electrónicos México S.A. (REMSA) is the leading company in the recycling of electronic equipment and obsolete products in Mexico. Through a Collaborative Development strategy, REMSA drives the transformation towards a sustainable production economy with low environmental impact. Nowadays,

REMSA works with partners such as Movistar, Office Depot, EPSON and local governments. Its leader, Alvaro Nuñez, is a serial entrepreneur who has generated more than 14 ventures throughout his life and has become a model in electronics recycling in the region.



<https://web.solben.com.mx/index.php/us/>

TIC Americas 2011

Bioenergy | Sustainability

Soluciones Tecnológicas en Bioenergía (Solben) is a Mexican company that became the largest assembler of technology to produce Biodiesel in Mexico. Currently its technologies operate in several Latin American countries.

Solben developed a technological innovation that allows it to set different standards in the production of biofuels.

Given the success of Solben, its founder, Daniel Gomez, soon generated his second company Talent Network. In 2017, Talent Network convened more than 33,000 young people in its Talent Land edition and established a Guinness World Record as the largest Hackathon in the world.



<https://www.wascompany.com/>

TIC Americas 2020

Sustainable architecture

WAS Company is a science-based company that develops new sustainable building materials from plastic, and construction and mining waste. The company is the result of the merger of 3 ventures created by its young CEO, Walter Mata.

WAS Co. works with Aeromexico, Petstar, UNICEF, Techo, among other large institutions. It has won awards such as the Eco-Challenge, UNICEF Lab, Solar Impulse Foundation, MIT Innovators Under 30 and more.

WAS Company has revenues of +100,000 USD a year and it has the contract for the construction of the facade of the next soccer and baseball stadium in Merida, Mexico, the first sustainable stadium in the state.



TIC Americas 2017 Winners and Finalists at the TIC Americas Finals, Cancun, Mexico, 2017.



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