# Tec welcomes global social entrepreneurs to Hult Prize summit



**Social, sustainable, and technological** projects were presented by young people from more than 20 countries during the **2024 Hult Prize Summit** at **Tec de Monterrey's** Monterrey campus.

The Tec was **one of seven venues around the world for the Hult Prize Summit** semi-final, where 55 teams presented their business projects before the international final.

The Hult Prize is an international competition that more than **100,000 university students from** around the world participate in each year. It aims to foster innovative and sustainable ideas which will address global challenges.

"More than **1,500 teams** participate at the start of this competition. Selected teams then participate in the seven international semi-finals, each known as a Summit.

*"They are held in Mumbai, Bangkok, Boston, Lisbon, Dubai, Nairobi, and Monterrey,"* explained Christian Salazar, leader of the Business Development Center at the Eugenio Garza Lagüera Institute of Entrepreneurship.

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In total, **55 teams** from countries such as Taiwan, Nigeria, Ghana, Congo, Germany, France, Scotland, Peru, Bolivia, Colombia, the United States, Mexico, and Canada met at the semi-final held at the **Monterrey Campus** on **June 14 and 15**.

"For the past three years, the Monterrey campus has organized Summits with the aim of **strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem** in Monterrey," explained **Salazar**.

Six of the 55 teams came from various Tec de Monterrey campuses.

## "Congratulations to all the finalists; their startups will make a difference to many lives." – Iván Rivas

The Institute of Entrepreneurship, Distritotec Innovation District, the Entrepreneurship Professors Department, and the Tec's Community Service Department joined together to organize the **2024 Hult Prize Summit in Monterrey.** 

Also participating was the State Government, via the Ministries of Social Inclusion and Trade.

"All the projects presented provide important value to the entrepreneurial community.

"Congratulations to all the finalists; their startups will make a difference to many lives," shared **Iván Rivas, the Nuevo León Minister of Trade**, who also served as a judge at the competition.

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During the two-day competition, participants had the opportunity to take part in various activities related to entrepreneurship, such as **talks** from winners of previous Hult Prize competitions.

They were also able to attend **networking** sessions with mentors, professors, students, and members of the entrepreneurial ecosystems at Tec de Monterrey.

#### Supplying power to African communities

A **500-watt energy storage and distribution battery** that can provide power to underserved areas in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was the **winning presentation** at the 2024 Hult Prize Summit held at Tec de Monterrey.

<u>Owanga</u> is the name of the project, which was developed by a group of young people from **Africa** who participated in the international competition and will travel to the final in London.

"Our battery can power 3 light bulbs, charge 3 phones, and run fans, a TV, or a laptop.

*"It is also equipped with a geo-location system and an override switch," said Benedict Owanga, founder of the project.* 



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#### 2024 Hult Prize

In order to participate in the Hult Prize, each team had to develop a project that would have a positive **impact** on society and address one of the seventeen <u>United Nations</u> <u>Sustainable</u> <u>Development Goals (SDGs)</u>.

This year's finalists will be selected at the seven world semi-finals that take place between **June 7** and **23**.

"Our aim is to strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Monterrey." - Christian Salazar.

"A single winner is chosen at each of the semi-finals, going on to join the other selected teams in Boston, where they will participate in an accelerator (workshop).

*"Later, in September, they will travel to London to compete in the Hult Prize final*," said Christian Salazar.

The winning team will receive **one million dollars** that they can invest in their project as seed capital.

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