

SPRINTUY - THIRD EDITION

Terms of the call

2026

The National Agency for Research and Innovation (ANII) is a government agency that promotes research and the application of new knowledge to the country's productive and social reality. ANII provides funding for research projects, national and international graduate scholarships, and programs that promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in both the private and public sectors.

Uruguay XXI is the agency responsible for promoting exports, investment, and the country's image. Its mission is to strengthen the export capacity and competitiveness of Uruguayan companies, to promote the country as an attractive destination for productive investment, and to promote the Uruguay country brand around the world.

Through this program, ANII and Uruguay XXI aim to attract innovative startups from abroad that are looking to expand from Uruguay into the region.

1. PURPOSE

The program's goal is to showcase the opportunities and advantages Uruguay offers as a destination for startups through a week-long immersion in the local entrepreneurial ecosystem. The goal is to build strong connections between startups, investors, and industry leaders, as well as to provide a detailed overview of the entrepreneurial ecosystem and business opportunities from the country to the region.

The aim is to encourage the creation of new innovative companies in Uruguay that generate quality jobs and promote exports. The program also aims to facilitate knowledge transfer and strengthen the national entrepreneurial ecosystem.

2. TARGET STARTUPS

Startups looking to expand their operations in LATAM by establishing their base of operations in Uruguay are eligible to apply for the program.

The startups must have the following characteristics:

- companies incorporated abroad with a maximum of 5 years of existence
- the entrepreneurial team must hold at least 51% of the applicant company's shares.
- technology-based or science-and-technology-based companies.
- early-stage companies with technical validation, a minimum viable product/functional prototype, and demonstrable traction.
- a value proposal that offers a significant advantage over existing local solutions.

3. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS AND SELECTION PROCESS

a. Application

This call is conducted as a competitive process, and startups must apply exclusively through ANII's application system. The call for applications will remain open from 2:00 p.m. on May 21 until 2:00 p.m. on July 21, 2026.

Once the application period has ended, ANII and Uruguay XXI will verify that the applications meet all the necessary requirements to begin the selection process. It is the applicant's responsibility to meet the basic requirements listed on the corresponding form.

b. Selection

The selection process will be conducted by ANII's Ventures Evaluation and Monitoring Committee, and the selection criteria are:

- Innovative product, service, or process
- Entrepreneurial team
- Business model and scalability.
- Having received public / private investment or having significant revenue
- Uruguay's appeal and viability as a business and innovation hub

The selection process will use AI-based support tools, in accordance with the provisions of Schedule I.

Once this selection process is complete, ANII's Board of Directors will issue the corresponding resolution.

4. PROGRAM DURATION AND EXECUTION

The immersion program will take place from October 5 to October 9, 2026, and will include the following activities:

- Networking event: Exclusive access to a side event at the Private Equity Forum, designed to maximize networking and create opportunities with key players in the investment ecosystem.
- Visits to organizations in the innovation ecosystem: Strategic tours of key innovation nodes, including incubators, accelerators, open labs, scientific labs, technology hubs, and free trade zones, among others.
- Workshops and talks on legal issues and the legal framework in Uruguay, building local teams and recruiting talent, international expansion in LATAM, and strategies for raising capital, among other topics.
- Presentation of support instruments: detailed presentation of the instruments and funding available within the local innovation ecosystem to foster the growth of startups.
- Cultural immersion activities and engagement with the local community.

5. FINANCING

The program will cover travel and accommodation expenses in Uruguay for one founder from each selected startup, with the organization responsible for arranging the stay.

As for the tickets, they will be issued through a travel agency designated by the program, by assigning a voucher in the name of the representative of each participating startup.

Participants must coordinate directly with the agency to arrange for their ticket to be issued within the deadlines that will be communicated by the program in due course. The program will cover the cost of an economy-class fare based on market rates; the startup must cover any additional costs resulting from voluntary decisions, such as date changes, upgrades, seat selection, excess baggage, or other related charges.

Refunds are not available for tickets purchased from external sources. Likewise, in the event of early withdrawal, partial participation, or failure to complete the program's mandatory activities, the organization reserves the right to revoke the associated benefits. Finally, the startup will be responsible for covering all expenses not directly related to the activities outlined in the program.

SCHEDULE I

Use of artificial intelligence in the selection process

1. Tool used and role in the process

As part of this call for proposals, the **PIA – People Intelligence Assistant platform (NEURALIS SAS – 220409950014 – Camino De Los Horneros, Mirador De La Tahona, Lote B3)** will be used as technological support for the analysis of application forms and, for those applications that advance to the pre-selection stage, for conducting digital interviews with structured analysis of the applicant's responses. The report generated by PIA constitutes a **non-binding input** in the process. The evaluation and the decision to advance, reject, or select an applicant rest, in all cases, with **members of the ANII selection team**.

2. Processing of personal data

The following data of the applicant will be processed:

- Identity and contact information (name, e-mail address, telephone number).
- Professional and academic data (CV, work experience, education, skills).
- Responses included in writing in the application form.

If the applicant advances to the pre-selection stage, the following will also be processed:

- Video and audio recorded during the digital interview, provided applicants have given specific consent for the recording.

- Transcripts, response times, and analytical reports generated by the platform.

3. Purpose

The purpose of data processing is to manage this selection process, subject to the **prior express and informed consent** of the applicant, granted in accordance with **Law No. 18,331 (Uruguay)** and related regulations, without prejudice to other regulations applicable to ANII in its capacity as **data controller**.

4. Data retention, future calls and statistical purposes

The applicant's data will be retained in accordance with ANII's data retention policy, unless there is a longer legal obligation to retain the data or specific consent to the contrary. If express consent is provided for this purpose, the data may be **considered in future ANII calls for applications and selection processes** during that period.

De-identified data may be retained for longer periods and used **for statistical purposes and for the training, validation, and calibration of automated assessment tools developed by ANII or its technology providers**, through **de-identification procedures** in accordance with Law No. 18,331, so that it is not possible to identify the applicant.

5. International data transfer

Data may be hosted and processed on the infrastructure of cloud service providers and subprocessors located outside Uruguay, including the United States. The safeguards required by **Article 23 of Law No. 18,331** and other relevant regulations apply.

6. Rights of applicants

Applicants may exercise their rights to **access, correct, update, add to, and delete** their personal data at any time. Likewise, in accordance with **Article 16 of Law No. 18,331**, they have the right to **challenge assessments generated by automated processing** and to obtain information regarding the assessment criteria and the software used. Requests may be sent to **sprintuy@anii.org.uy**.