ICTAZ



THE 2026 ICTAZ

TECH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

& GALA DINNER

VENUE:
CIÊLA
RESORT & SPA

DRESS CODE:
AFRICAN ROYALTY
(BEST DRESSED WINS AN EXCLUSIVE NIGHT AT CIÊLA RESORT & SPA)

EVENT STARTS:
18HRS
RED CARPET:
17HRS

DATE:
4TH DECEMBER 2026

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AT **AWARDS.ICTAZ.ORG.ZM**

THE 2026 ICTAZ

TECH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

& GALA DINNER







Celebrating excellence from over

250+

Organizations



and more than

6000+

members shaping Zambia's digital future.





The ICTAZ Annual Tech Excellence Awards is a premier annual event that celebrates outstanding achievements, innovation and excellence within Zambia's ICT industry. The event brings together industry leaders, professionals, organisations, innovators and key stakeholders to recognise and honour individuals and organisations whose contributions are advancing the country's technology landscape.



With great pleasure, I welcome you all to the **3rd ICTAZ Tech Excellence Awards and Gala Dinner**, a celebration of the achievements, contributions, and innovations of Zambia's technology professionals. The awards bring together our leading minds, talents, and creativity as we celebrate our heritage, hard work, milestones, growth, and collective impact over the past year.

This year's theme, **"Beyond the Binary – An African Celebration of Innovation, Excellence & Possibility,"** recognises our African roots and the transformative power of digital technology. It celebrates the people, ideas, and innovations driving Africa's digital transformation and affirms that our talent and capabilities are equal to the opportunities and demands of this evolving digital landscape.

We are grateful for the feedback you continue to share, which helps us shape our future. In response, we have expanded our categories to reflect the diverse nature of our industry. We have also strengthened the nomination and adjudication processes to promote quality competition that inspires, impresses, and recognises truly impactful achievements.

This year, we are taking the celebration to **Ciela, the Lusaka International Convention Centre**, with a capacity of 1,000 guests. We invite you to secure your tickets early and be part of this memorable occasion.

The impact of the ICTAZ Tech Excellence Awards extends beyond the gala itself. Previous nominees and winners have continued to excel. Zambian technology professionals and entrepreneurs are increasingly earning recognition both locally and internationally for their contributions to technology, entrepreneurship, digital transformation, and industry excellence.

Beyond recognising excellence, we are celebrating **African royalty, culture, and style!** Come dressed in your finest African fashion for an elegant evening of five-star cuisine, entertainment, networking, and festivity. You could be the one walking away with the prize for the Best Dressed of the evening. Guess what it is, a night for two at Ciela.

As we close the year, I invite you to step away from the usual office routine and join us for a spectacular night of celebration, connection, and inspiration. Let us honour the people and innovations shaping our digital future and celebrate the limitless possibilities that lie ahead.

Make your nominations, secure your tickets, and join us as we go Beyond the Binary — celebrating African innovation, excellence, and possibility!

Clement Sinyangwe (Dr.)
President.

2025 ICTAZ Tech Excellence Awards Trailblazer Recap

The 2025 ICTAZ Tech Excellence Awards celebrated innovation, achievement and excellence in Zambia's ICT industry, bringing together professionals, innovators and industry leaders under the theme **"Ciphers & Silhouettes: Unveiling the Codes of Innovation in Timeless Styles."** The event honoured the individuals and organisations advancing digital transformation and shaping Zambia's technological future.

Meet the remarkable winners whose achievements defined excellence in 2025.

AWARD CATEGORY	AWARD WIINNER
ICTAZ ICT Leadership Award of the Year	**Owen Malambo**
ICTAZ CEO of the Year Award	**Jason Mwanza**
ICTAZ CIO of the Year Award	**Christopher Lalusha**
ICTAZ ICT Professional of the Year Award	**Eltone Makaliki**
ICTAZ Women in Tech Excellence Award	**Pendo Manjele**
ICTAZ Cyber Security Excellence Individual	**Nawa Themba Samatebele**
ICTAZ Outstanding Student of the Year Award	**Steven Sautu**
ICTAZ Student Chapter of the Year Award	**ZCAS University**
ICTAZ ICT Company of the Year Award	**Infratel Corporation Limited**
ICTAZ Cyber Security Excellence Award	**Digital Safe Limited**
ICTAZ ESG Champion of the Year Award	**National Pension Scheme Authority**
ICTAZ Best FinTech Innovation of the Year	**Hobbiton Technologies Limited**
ICTAZ Technology Innovation of the Year Award	**Absa Bank Zambia**
ICTAZ Best Enterprise Solution Implementation	**Sparc Systems Limited**
ICTAZ Excellence in Industrial Technology & Automation	**FQM Trident Limited**
ICTAZ Excellence in Emerging Technology of the Year	**Ubuntu AI Community**
CEO's Recognition Award	**Albert Phiri**
Presidents Recognition Award	**Professor Douglas Kunda**
Presidents Recognition Award	**Alick Siankumo**
ICTAZ Outstanding Employee of the Year	**Nyambe Kanyinji**

Roadmap Calendar

THE 2026 ICTAZ TECH EXCELLENCE AWARDS & GALA DINNER

ICTAZ reserves the right to any modifications. Updates will be duly announced via official communication platforms.



Call for nominations
24 October – 10 November 2026

Validation & screening of nominations
10–13 November 2026





Voting & public selection
16–27 November 2026

Judging & final selection
16–27 November 2026



2026 ICTAZ Tech Excellence Awards & Gala Dinner
4 December 2026



Winners announced

THE 2026 ICTAZ

TECH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

& GALA DINNER

2026 Theme:

Beyond The Binary
“An African Celebration of Innovation, Excellence & Possibility”

This year’s theme, **“Beyond the Binary,”** draws inspiration from the foundation of computingCdvancements challenging conventional boundaries and shaping Africa’s digital future.

Join us at the 2026 ICTAZ Tech Excellence Awards and Gala Dinner for an evening celebrating outstanding achievements, visionary leaders, and the possibilities shaping tomorrow.

Tickets Now Available!

Secure your at the table: **https://awards.ictaz.org.zm.**

INDIVIDUAL

EARLY BIRD

K3,800

UP TO 13TH NOVEMBER

INDIVIDUAL

LATE ADMISSION

K4,000

FROM 14TH NOVEMBER

CORPORATE

TABLE FOR 5

K19,250

SHARED TABLE

CORPORATE

TABLE FOR 10

K38,000

EXCLUSIVE SEATING

ICTAZ



AFRICAN ROYALTY

OUTFIT MOODBOARD

EARTH TONES / AFRICAN PRINT ACCENTS / CULTURALLY INSPIRED

Ready to raise the bar? Dress to impress and win yourself an Ultimate Escape!

An exclusive night stay at Ciêla Resort & Spa awaits our best-dressed winner. Make your style unforgettable!








The dress code for the 2026 ICTAZ Tech Excellence Awards is **"African Royalty"** inviting guests to celebrate excellence through style that reflects individuality, creativity and bold expression.

Inspired by the richness of African heritage and the elegance of royalty, guests are encouraged to embrace African-inspired fashion, statement pieces, refined silhouettes and distinctive details that showcase their personal style. Whether through traditional attire, contemporary African fashion or a creative fusion of both, let your look embody the confidence, sophistication and originality that define African royalty.

AWARD CATEGORIES

1. RECOGNITION AWARDS

1. ICTAZ Lifetime Achievement Award

Recognizes individuals whose long-standing contributions have significantly shaped Zambia's ICT landscape and/or ICTAZ.

2. ICTAZ Presidents' Award

An award of recognition by the ICTAZ President to an individual(s) or institution(s) the President deems deserving

3. ICTAZ CEOs Award

An award of recognition by the ICTAZ CEO to an individual(s) or institution(s) the CEO deems deserving

2. LEADERSHIP AWARDS

CEO of the Year

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding Chief Executive Officer who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, strategic vision, and excellence in managing a technology company, driving business growth, fostering innovation, and delivering outstanding organisational performance.

Some key assessment areas

- **Business growth and performance** — revenue growth, profitability, market share, and business sustainability.
- **Strategic leadership** — clear vision, effective execution, and positioning the company for long-term success.
- **Innovation and competitiveness** — developing innovative products, services and solutions.
- **Organisational excellence** — building strong teams, effective systems, and a high-performance culture.
- **Industry impact** — contributing to the growth and advancement of Zambia's technology sector.

Who would qualify?

Nominees must lead a technology company, and the award will recognise their overall leadership achievements and the company's performance under their stewardship.

Selection Criteria: 100% Judging

CIO/CTO of the Year

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding technology leader who has demonstrated exceptional strategic leadership, technical excellence, and innovation in advancing technology capabilities, improving operational efficiency, and delivering measurable organisational value.

The award is open to Chief Information Officers (CIOs), Chief Technology Officers (CTOs), IT Directors, Heads of IT, and other senior technology professionals with equivalent leadership responsibilities.

Some key assessment areas

- **Strategic leadership** — aligning technology strategy with organisational goals and long-term growth.
- **Technology innovation** — championing the adoption and development of effective technology solutions.
- **Operational excellence** — improving the reliability, security, efficiency, and performance of technology systems.
- **Business impact** — delivering measurable value through technology investments and initiatives.
- **Team and talent development** — building capable technology teams and fostering a culture of continuous improvement.

Who would qualify?

The award would recognise a CIO or CTO whose leadership has significantly advanced the technology capabilities and performance of their organisation.

While CIOs typically focuses on information systems, technology strategy, and business alignment and a CTO typically focuses more on technology architecture, engineering, product development, and technical innovation. The award would cover both roles under one category the submissions would be assessed according to each nominee's responsibilities.

Selection Criteria: Hybrid: Judging 80% : Voting 20%

CISO of the Year

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding cybersecurity leader who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and expertise in protecting organisational information assets, managing cyber risks, strengthening information security, and building organisational resilience against evolving cyber threats.

The award is open to Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs), Information Security Directors, Heads of Cybersecurity, and other senior information security professionals with equivalent leadership responsibilities.

Some key assessment areas

- **Cybersecurity leadership** — providing strategic direction and embedding a strong security culture across the organisation.
- **Risk management** — identifying, assessing, and mitigating cyber and information security risks.
- **Security resilience** — strengthening preparedness, incident response, business continuity, and recovery capabilities.
- **Governance and compliance** — promoting effective security policies, controls, and compliance with relevant standards and regulations.
- **Security innovation and impact** — implementing effective security solutions and demonstrating measurable improvements in the organisation's security posture.

Who would qualify?

While the category name is CISO of the Year, the eligibility extends to equivalent senior cybersecurity leaders, regardless of their formal job title.

Selection Criteria: Hybrid: Judging 80% : Voting 20%

3. PROFESSIONALS AWARDS

Tech Professional of the Year

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding technology professional who has demonstrated exceptional expertise, professionalism, innovation, and achievement in the technology field, making a significant contribution to their organisation and the advancement of the technology industry.

The award is open to technology professionals across various disciplines of technology who have demonstrated excellence in their work, measurable impact, and a have delivered superior results.

Some key assessment areas

- **Professional excellence** — demonstrating outstanding technical competence, quality of work, and adherence to professional standards.
- **Innovation and problem-solving** — applying technology expertise creatively to address challenges and deliver effective solutions.
- **Achievement and impact** — demonstrating measurable contributions to organisational performance or the wider technology sector.
- **Professional development** — showing continuous learning, skills advancement, and adaptation to emerging technologies.
- **Integrity and professionalism** — iupholding ethical conduct, accountability, and responsibility in professional practice.

Who would qualify?

The award is open to technology professionals across various disciplines of technology who have demonstrated excellence in their work, measurable impact, and a have delivered superior results.

Selection Criteria: Hybrid: Judging 80% : Voting 20%

Cyber Security Professional of the Year

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding cybersecurity professional who has demonstrated exceptional technical expertise, professionalism, and achievement in protecting digital systems, safeguarding information assets, identifying and mitigating cyber threats, and strengthening the security and resilience of organisations.

The award is open to cybersecurity practitioners across various specialisations, including security operations, ethical hacking, penetration testing, digital forensics, incident response, and vulnerability management.

Some key assessment areas

- **Technical excellence** — demonstrating strong cybersecurity knowledge, skills, and practical expertise.
- **Threat detection and prevention** — effectively identifying, investigating, and mitigating cyber threats and vulnerabilities.
- **Security impact** — delivering measurable improvements in the protection of systems, networks, and information.
- **Innovation and problem-solving** — applying effective and innovative approaches to cybersecurity challenges.
- **Professional integrity** — demonstrating ethical conduct, continuous learning, and adherence to professional standards.

Who would qualify?

This award would recognise hands-on cybersecurity practitioners, rather than primarily senior executives whose main responsibility is strategic leadership.

Selection Criteria: 100% Judging

Software Development Professional of the Year

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding software development professional who has demonstrated exceptional technical expertise, creativity, and achievement in designing, developing, testing, and maintaining software applications and systems that solve real-world problems and deliver measurable value.

The award is open to software developers, software engineers, and other software development practitioners who have demonstrated excellence in their work and made a significant contribution to their organisation or the wider technology industry.

Some key assessment areas

- **Technical excellence** — demonstrating strong programming, software design, development, and engineering skills.
- **Innovation and problem-solving** — developing creative and effective software solutions to real-world challenges.
- **Quality and reliability** — producing secure, efficient, maintainable, and reliable software.
- **Impact and achievement** — demonstrating measurable value through software products, applications, or systems developed.
- **Professional growth** — keeping pace with evolving technologies, development practices, and industry standards.

Who would qualify?

The award would recognise individual software development practitioners, whether employed by technology companies, working in other organisations, or developing software independently.

It would cover software developers and software engineers across specialisations, including web and mobile development, enterprise applications, systems software, and other software solutions.

Selection Criteria: 100% Judging

Tech Project Manager of the Year

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding technology project manager who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, planning, coordination, and execution in delivering technology projects that achieve their objectives, meet stakeholder expectations, and generate measurable organisational value.

The award is open to project managers and other professionals with equivalent responsibilities for leading and delivering technology projects, regardless of their formal job title.

Some key assessment areas

- **Project delivery excellence** — successfully delivering technology projects within agreed scope, timelines, budgets, and quality standards.
- **Leadership and coordination** — effectively managing multidisciplinary teams, vendors, resources, and stakeholders.
- **Planning and risk management** — demonstrating sound project planning, risk mitigation, and change management.
- **Business and organisational impact** — delivering measurable benefits and ensuring projects achieve their intended outcomes.
- **Professional excellence** — demonstrating accountability, effective communication, problem-solving, and adherence to recognised project management practices.

Who would qualify?

The award would recognise individuals responsible for leading and delivering technology projects, including software implementations, digital transformation initiatives, ICT infrastructure deployments, cybersecurity projects, cloud migrations, and enterprise systems implementations.

Eligible candidates could include dedicated technology project managers as well as programme or project leads who perform equivalent responsibilities.

This award recognises excellence in leading and delivering technology projects, rather than technical expertise alone or the overall performance of the technology department.

Selection Criteria: Hybrid: Judging 80% : Voting 20%

ICTAZ Tech Infrastructure Professional of the Year

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding technology infrastructure professional who has demonstrated exceptional technical expertise, innovation, and achievement in designing, implementing, managing, and maintaining reliable, secure, and resilient technology infrastructure that supports organisational performance and service delivery.

The award is open to technology infrastructure practitioners, including network engineers, systems administrators, cloud infrastructure specialists, data centre professionals, and other specialists with equivalent responsibilities.

Some key assessment areas

- **Technical excellence** — demonstrating expertise in the design, deployment, configuration, and management of technology infrastructure.
- **Reliability and resilience** — improving infrastructure availability, performance, scalability, and business continuity.
- **Security and risk management** — implementing effective measures to protect infrastructure and ensure operational stability.
- **Innovation and optimisation** — applying modern technologies and approaches to improve infrastructure efficiency and effectiveness.
- **Impact and achievement** — delivering measurable improvements in service quality, operational performance, or infrastructure capability.

Who would qualify?

The award would recognise hands-on professionals responsible for the infrastructure underpinning technology services, including networks, servers, cloud environments, data centres, storage systems, and enterprise IT environments.

Selection Criteria: Hybrid: Judging 85% : Voting 15%

Women in Tech Excellence Award

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding woman in the technology sector who has demonstrated exceptional professional achievement, leadership, innovation, and contribution to the advancement of technology and the growth of the industry.

The award is open to women across technology disciplines who have distinguished themselves through excellence in their work, meaningful impact, and contributions to the development of the technology profession.

Some key assessment areas

- **Professional achievement** — demonstrating outstanding performance and accomplishments in the technology field.
- **Innovation and impact** — developing or implementing technology solutions that deliver measurable value.
- **Leadership and influence** — inspiring others and contributing to the advancement of the technology sector.
- **Mentorship and empowerment** — supporting the development of other women and young people in technology.
- **Industry contribution** — advancing the profession through knowledge sharing, community engagement, or professional initiatives.

Who would qualify?

The award could recognise women working in any technology discipline at any level. It would be open to both established professionals and those who have made significant achievements at earlier career stages, provided their accomplishments meet the judging criteria.

Selection Criteria: Hybrid: Judging 70% : Voting 30%

Tech Innovation of the Year

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding technology innovation that demonstrates originality, creativity, and effective application of technology to solve real-world problems, improve existing processes, or create new products, services, or opportunities with measurable impact.

The award is open to individuals, teams, companies, and institutions that have developed or implemented innovative technology solutions with demonstrated value and potential for wider adoption.

Some key assessment areas

- **Originality and creativity** — introducing a new solution or significantly improving an existing technology, product, or process.
- **Practical application** — effectively applying technology to address a clearly identified need or challenge.
- **Impact and value** — demonstrating measurable benefits to users, organisations, communities, or the wider economy.
- **Scalability and sustainability** — showing potential for continued use, growth, and long-term value.
- **Technical execution** — demonstrating the feasibility, quality, and effectiveness of the innovation.

Who would qualify?

This award would recognise the innovation itself, rather than simply the professional or organisation behind it. Eligible innovations could include software applications, AI solutions, digital platforms, automation systems, hardware products, and other technology-driven solutions.

Selection Criteria: Judging 70% : Voting 30%

FinTech Innovation of the Year

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding financial technology innovation that demonstrates originality and effective use of technology to improve financial services, expand access to finance, enhance transaction efficiency, or address challenges within the financial services industry.

The award is open to individuals, teams, companies, and institutions that have developed or implemented innovative financial technology solutions with demonstrated impact and potential for wider adoption.

Some key assessment areas

- **Innovation and originality** — introducing new or significantly improved technology-driven financial solutions.
- **Financial inclusion** — expanding access to financial services for underserved individuals and businesses.
- **Efficiency and customer experience** — improving the speed, convenience, affordability, security, or accessibility of financial services.
- **Impact and adoption** — demonstrating measurable benefits, customer uptake, or improvements in financial service delivery.
- **Scalability and sustainability** — showing potential for growth and long-term viability within the financial services ecosystem.

Who would qualify?

The award could recognise innovations in mobile payments, digital banking, digital lending, electronic payments, blockchain-based financial services, insurtech, regtech, and other technology-enabled financial solutions.

Eligible nominees could include fintech startups, established financial institutions, technology companies, and independent innovators.

Selection Criteria: Hybrid: Judging 70% : Voting 30%

Mining Tech Excellence Award Innovation

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding technology solution, initiative, or application that demonstrates excellence in leveraging technology to improve mining operations, enhance safety, increase productivity, optimise resource utilisation, or advance sustainability across the mining industry value chain.

The award is open to mining companies, technology providers, teams, and institutions that have developed or implemented impactful technology solutions within the mining sector.

Some key assessment areas

- **Innovation and application** — effective use of technology to address mining industry challenges.
- **Operational efficiency** — improvements in productivity, cost efficiency, equipment performance, or resource utilisation.
- **Safety and risk reduction** — use of technology to improve worker safety, hazard detection, and operational risk management.
- **Sustainability** — contributions to environmental management, energy efficiency, and responsible resource extraction.
- **Measurable impact** — demonstrated results and potential for broader adoption across the mining sector.

Who would qualify?

The award could recognise technology applications in the mining value chain.

Eligible nominees could include mining companies implementing technology internally, technology firms supplying solutions to the mining industry, or collaborative teams responsible for successful deployments.

Selection Criteria: 100% Judging

Emerging Technology Innovation of the Year

Recognising an outstanding innovation driven by emerging or next-generation technologies, such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, robotics, cloud and edge computing, the Internet of Things (IoT), quantum computing, and blockchain. The award celebrates innovative applications or advancements of these technologies that introduce new capabilities, solve complex challenges, transform industries, or create significant opportunities for economic and societal development.

The winning innovation should demonstrate originality, effective application of emerging technology, measurable or demonstrable value, and potential for wider adoption and impact.

Some key assessment areas

- **Technological advancement** — effective application or advancement of emerging and next-generation technologies.
- **Innovation and originality** — introducing novel approaches, capabilities, or applications.
- **Practical relevance** — addressing real-world challenges or unlocking new opportunities.
- **Potential impact** — demonstrating the capacity to improve productivity, service delivery, competitiveness, or societal outcomes.
- **Scalability and future potential** — showing promise for wider adoption and sustained value.

Who would qualify?

The award could cover innovations involving artificial intelligence, machine learning, robotics, cloud and edge computing, Internet of Things (IoT), quantum computing, blockchain, and other emerging technologies.

Eligible nominees could include technology companies, startups, research institutions, established organisations, and individual innovators.

Selection Criteria: 100% Judging

Industrial & Operational Technology Award

Recognising and celebrating an outstanding application or implementation of industrial and operational technologies that improves industrial processes, operational efficiency, safety, reliability, and productivity. The award celebrates the effective use of technologies such as industrial automation, robotics, industrial Internet of Things (IIoT), supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA), distributed control systems (DCS), and programmable logic controllers (PLCs).

The winning entry should demonstrate effective application of industrial or operational technology to address operational challenges and deliver measurable value.

Some key assessment areas

- **Technical Excellence** — Demonstrating effective and appropriate application of industrial or operational technologies.
- **Operational Impact** — Delivering measurable improvements in productivity, efficiency, process control, reliability, or cost-effectiveness.
- **Safety and Reliability** — Improving workplace safety, equipment reliability, operational resilience, or risk management.
- **Innovation and Problem-Solving** — Applying technology creatively to address industrial or operational challenges.
- **Integration and Interoperability** — Integrating effectively with existing industrial systems, equipment, and processes.
- **Sustainability and Scalability** — Demonstrating lasting value, efficient resource utilisation, and potential for wider application.

Who would qualify?

The award would recognise technology solutions or implementations in areas such as industrial automation, smart mining, industrial robotics, predictive maintenance, process control, smart grids, and real-time industrial monitoring. Eligible entries could come from mining, manufacturing, energy, utilities, agriculture, and other sectors that rely on industrial and operational technologies.

The award would recognise the solution or implementation itself, based on its effectiveness and demonstrated operational value.

Selection Criteria: 100% Judging

6. TECH COMPANY OF THE YEAR

Tech Company of the Year Award

Recognising an outstanding technology company that has demonstrated excellence in business performance, innovation, service delivery, and contribution to the growth of the technology industry. The award celebrates companies that have developed competitive technology products or services, delivered value to customers, achieved sustainable growth, and made a significant contribution to the advancement of the technology sector.

Some key assessment areas

- **Business Performance and Growth** — Demonstrating strong business performance, revenue growth, market development, and financial sustainability.
- **Innovation and Technology Excellence** — Developing or delivering innovative technology products, services, or solutions that respond to market needs.
- **Customer Value and Service Excellence** — Demonstrating customer satisfaction, service quality, and the ability to deliver reliable, value-driven technology solutions.
- **Market Competitiveness** — Demonstrating a strong market position, competitiveness, and the ability to adapt to changing industry trends.
- **Organisational Excellence and Sustainability** — Demonstrating sound management, operational efficiency, responsible business practices, and long-term sustainability.
- **Industry Contribution and Impact** — Contributing to technology sector development, job creation, skills development, and the wider digital economy.

Who would qualify?

The award would recognise established technology companies, including those providing software development, ICT services, telecommunications, digital platforms, hardware, cybersecurity, cloud computing, and other technology products or services. Eligible companies should demonstrate strong business performance, innovation, customer value, and a meaningful contribution to the technology industry.

Selection Criteria: 100% Judging

scan code

or visit: **https://tinyurl.com/2026TechNominations**

To access the nomination form
Please ensure submissions are accurate and follow all guidelines in this document.

Judging Criteria and Guidelines

Focus Area	Weight
Statement of Motivation	15
Achievements, Results & Impact	37
Supporting Evidence of Impact Results and Achievements	30
References / Recommendation Letters	18
	100

The information provided below is intended as a guide and is not exhaustive. Applicants are encouraged to provide as much relevant detail as possible.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

Each nomination must identify the nominator and nominee and provide in detail the outlined supporting components below. Together, these should explain why the nominee merits recognition in the selected award category and provide credible evidence of achievements, results and impact.

Both self-nominations and nominations submitted by another person will be accepted. These requirements apply to individual, innovation and institutional nominations, as appropriate to the award category. Ccassessment criteria must also be addressed.

A. Nominator details

Provide the nominator's details that include full name, email address and contact details. The nominator would also indicate whether the nomination is a self-nomination or otherwise. Nominations submitted by another person would require consent to be given by the nominee.

B. Nominee details

Provide the nominee's full name or official institutional name or innovation, the award category, and contact details. For an institution, include its principal activities and the name, position and contact details of the designated contact person. For an innovation, include the innovation name and institution/person behind it.

C. Required supporting components

Use this statement to explain the case for recognition. Present the detailed record of achievements and results in Component 2, supported by the evidence in Component 3.

1. Statement of Motivation

Explain why the nominee deserves this award by highlighting their achievements, contributions, and the positive impact of their work.

If you are nominating yourself, write in the first person (using “I” and “my”). If you are nominating someone else, write about the nominee in the third person (using their name or “he,” “she,” or “they”).

- The statement of motivation must introduce the nominee and their background, together with the work that they have done relevant to the award.
- The statement of motivation must present a clear case for recognition, showing how the nominee meets the award category's criteria and reflects ICTAZ's values.
- The statement of motivation must highlight what distinguishes the nominee, including relevant leadership, innovation or excellence, supported by specific examples.

2. Achievements, Results and Impact During 2026

Provide a focused summary of the nominee's accomplishments during the assessment period specified for the 2026 awards. Include earlier work only where needed to explain the context, and clearly identify the results achieved within the assessment period.

For each major achievement, describe:

- The project, initiative or accomplishment, when it took place and the problem it addressed.
- The nominee's specific role and contribution. Distinguish personal contributions from those of a team, partner or wider organisation.
- The results achieved, using measurable indicators where available, such as people reached, service improvements, cost savings, adoption or improved performance.
- The difference those results made to individuals, communities, the organisation or the ICT sector, including who benefited and how.
- Any significant challenges overcome and relevant milestones, recognition or awards received.
- The supporting evidence reference for each major claim, so that judges can locate the corresponding material.

Focus on outcomes as well as activities. For example, a training achievement should state how many people participated and what skills or opportunities they gained, where this can be demonstrated. Explain the source and period of reported figures, and distinguish verified results from estimates. Where numerical measures are unsuitable, provide specific, verifiable qualitative evidence.

3. Supporting Evidence of Impact Results and Achievements

Provide relevant, credible and verifiable material that substantiates the claims in the motivation statement and achievements summary. Organise evidence by achievement and label each attachment clearly, using references such as E1, E2 and E3 consistently throughout the submission.

Depending on the award category and the nature of the achievement, evidence may include:

- Project reports, completion reports and activity summaries.
- Statistics, survey findings, monitoring reports and performance records.
- Attendance registers or beneficiary records, with personal information protected as appropriate.
- Photographs, videos or demonstrations showing the work and its results.
- Certificates, awards, publications, media coverage and relevant project links.
- Testimonials from clients, beneficiaries, partners or community members.

For each item, identify the achievement it supports, its source or issuing organisation, and the relevant date or reporting period. Where applicable, include endorsement or verification by the issuing authority or organisation. Provide sufficient context for photographs, testimonials and other material to show what they demonstrate.

4. Two (2) Independent References and/or Recommendation Letters

Provide signed and/or stamped independent references or recommendation letters from credible individuals or institutions able to verify the nominee's contributions, achievements and impact. These should provide third-party validation beyond the nominee's or nominator's own account.

Who may provide a reference

Appropriate referees may include supervisors, managers, executives, professional peers, colleagues, clients, project partners, collaborators, community leaders, mentors, academic supervisors, beneficiaries or human resource leaders who have direct knowledge of the work.

For institutional nominations, referees may include a senior leader, board member, collaborating institution, partner or recognised corresponding office with direct knowledge of the institution's achievements. Each referee should state their relationship to the nominee and disclose any affiliation relevant to assessing the independence of the reference.

What each letter should contain

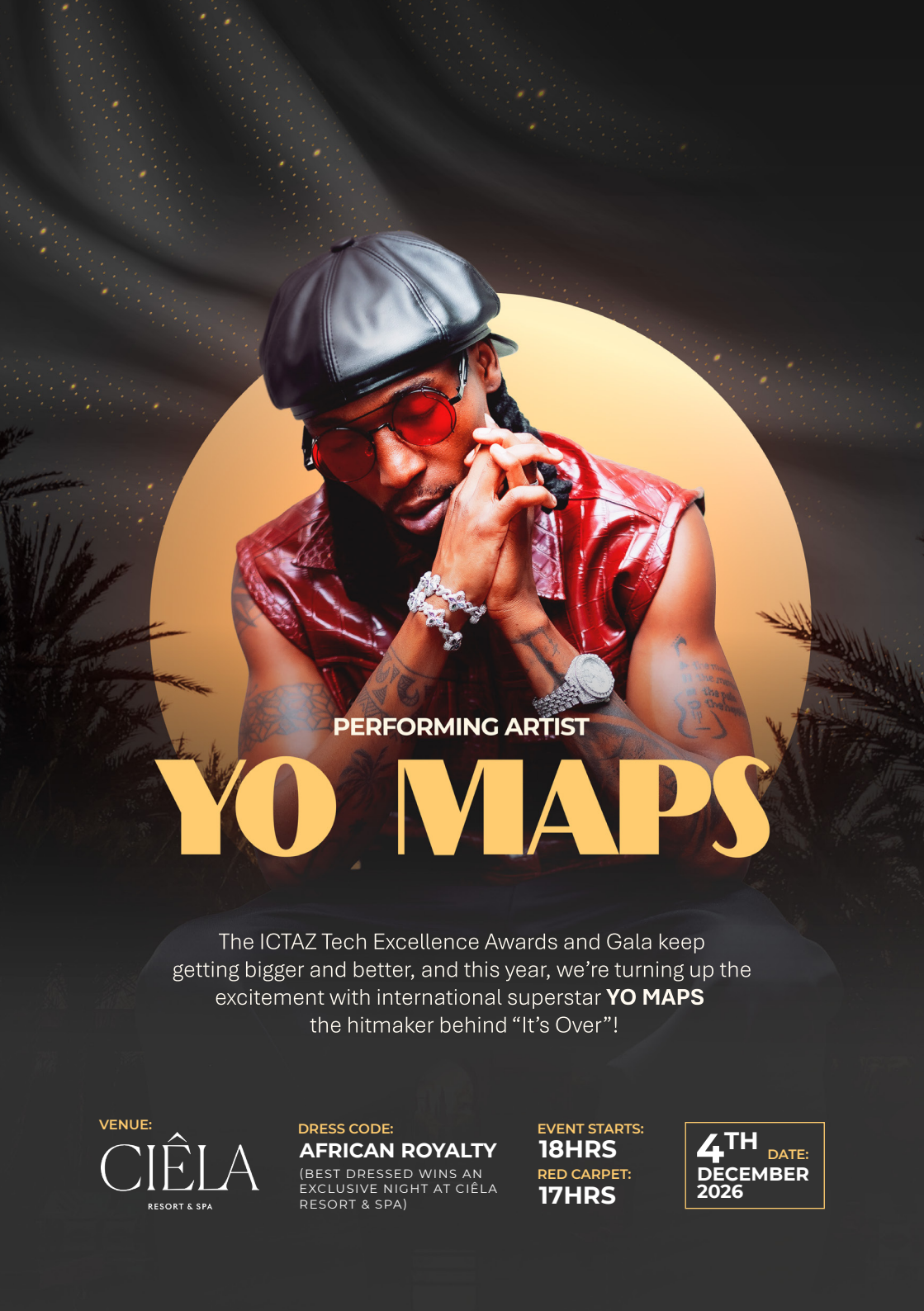
- The referee's full name, position, organisation where applicable, email address and telephone number.
- The nominee's name and the award category being supported.
- The nature and duration of the referee's relationship with the nominee and the basis of their knowledge of the work.
- Specific examples confirming relevant achievements, results, impact and qualities, rather than general praise alone.
- An explanation of how the nominee's contributions align with the award criteria and ICTAZ's values.
- The date and the referee's signature and/or official stamp, as applicable. Official letterhead should be used where available.

Referees should be able to substantiate the statements they make and be contactable for verification. An official stamp or organisational letterhead is applicable only where the referee is issuing the endorsement in an official capacity.

5. Submission guidelines

- Submit written statements, summaries, letters and documentary attachments in readable PDF format. Give each file a clear title identifying the nominee and its contents.
- For online projects, publications or videos, include clearly labelled, accessible links in a PDF evidence index. Embed photographs in a labelled PDF with brief captions. Follow any additional media instructions issued for the awards.
- Cross-reference evidence consistently and check that files open correctly and links can be accessed for assessment.
- Provide accurate information and share only material that you are authorised to submit.
- Follow the published award category requirements, assessment period, submission deadline and any specified word counts, file limits or reference requirements.

Before submitting, check that the nominator and nominee details are complete and that all four components are included: the Statement of Motivation; Achievements, Results and Impact of the Year; Supporting Evidence; and Independent References or Recommendation Letters.



PERFORMING ARTIST

YO MAPS

The ICTAZ Tech Excellence Awards and Gala keep getting bigger and better, and this year, we're turning up the excitement with international superstar **YO MAPS** the hitmaker behind "It's Over"!

VENUE:
CIÊLA
RESORT & SPA

DRESS CODE:
AFRICAN ROYALTY
(BEST DRESSED WINS AN EXCLUSIVE NIGHT AT CIÊLA RESORT & SPA)

EVENT STARTS:
18HRS
RED CARPET:
17HRS

DATE:
4TH DECEMBER 2026

Looking to partner with us at this year's Tech Excellence Awards & Gala?

Exciting sponsorship opportunities await you!

THE 2026 ICTAZ

TECH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

& GALA DINNER

For more info or general inquiries, please contact:

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