Sandbox.Rio — Rio de Janeiro's Municipal Regulatory Sandbox Draws 55 Applications for Its Third Cycle and Admits AI Drones and River-Cleaning Stations, Without Published Outcomes

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Brazil

Quality score: 47/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Rio de Janeiro's city sandbox, launched in 2022, grants temporary test permits. In April 2026 its third cycle picked 10 of a record 55 applicants, including AI projects for drowning detection, dengue control and river cleaning. No results have been published.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	1/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-23

Prefeitura do Rio de Janeiro — Secretaria Municipal de Desenvolvimento Econômico — accessed 2026-11-23

Mobile Time — Prefeitura announces cycle III of Sandbox.Rio (2 Apr 2026) — accessed 2026-11-23

Diário do Rio — Rio to test lifeguard drone and aquatic waste bike — accessed 2026-11-23

IT Forum — Rio launches regulatory sandbox (Jan 2022) — accessed 2026-11-23

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