EU SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AWARDS CATEGORIES

**CONSUMERS**
rewarding actions leading to the behavioural change of individual energy users

**PUBLIC SECTOR**
rewarding public and non-profit organisations taking exemplary initiatives in energy efficiency or use of renewables

**BUSINESSES**
rewarding forward-thinking businesses which are exemplary in their production or use of energy

**CITIZENS’ AWARD**
rewarding the nominee which best captures the public imagination
Note: The Awards are intended to highlight the success of completed projects from a wide range of sectors and countries across the EU. The assessments will not be too strongly influenced by the quality of presentation in the submissions, which must be made in the English language. For this reason, the secretariat will seek clarifications and obtain missing information for eligible projects so that they can be assessed on an equal basis by the Technical Advisory Committee and the jury.

There will be three assessment criteria, with a maximum score of ten points each. A project can therefore receive a maximum total score of 30 points.

1. **Excellence and innovation (10 points)**
Each winning project should be a best in class example in its area. It is not enough for a project to simply address energy efficiency and/or the use of renewable energy sources. It should be outstanding and reflect excellence in its implementation. Winning projects should also have elements of originality and innovative features which are attractive to the media so that they are likely to benefit from large-scale EU-wide media coverage.

2. **Impact and contribution to the 2030 objectives (10 points)**
Each winning project should have a measurable impact and a strong contribution to the European Union’s 2020 and 2030 sustainable energy objectives. For example, projects should state KWh/year of final energy saved, KWh/year of renewable heating/cooling/electricity produced, CO₂ emissions avoided per year or number of jobs created. The baselines and means of monitoring the impacts need to be clearly presented. Strategic projects need to demonstrate the potential longer-term impact. Additionally, other socio-economic benefits for citizens and positive environmental effects will be considered. The relevant impacts will be assessed in relation to the size of the project concerned.

3. **Replication potential and social acceptance (10 points)**
Social acceptance is a key aspect for the success of sustainable energy projects, and applicants should demonstrate that they have collected positive feedback from the relevant societal groups and representatives. Winning projects should also be transferable: they will be widely promoted across the EU, with the aim of encouraging others to adopt the successful approaches and practices used, and to help others to benefit from the winner’s experience.
The following eligibility criteria shall be applied to all submitted entries. Eligibility criteria are mandatory. Projects which do not meet these criteria will be excluded from further evaluation. The Awards Secretariat will confirm via email the eligibility of all submitted entries.

1. Geographical scope

The project coordinator must be based in the EU28 or in one of the following countries: Iceland, Norway, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Israel, Moldova, Switzerland, Faroe Islands and Ukraine.

2. Practical application

Research projects are not eligible. The aim of the Awards is to collect and showcase outstanding projects with a high impact and replication potential. Academic studies and theoretical research projects without any long-term, real-scale application directly linked to renewable energy or energy efficiency are therefore not eligible.

3. Timing

The project must be ongoing or concluded after 30 June 2015. Projects which are still at the planning stage or not yet fully operational are not eligible.