IEA Hydrogen Technology Collaboration Programme (TCP)

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2024

GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION

The IEA Hydrogen TCP launched the Award of Excellence competition to recognize excellence in international collaboration in research, development, and application of hydrogen technologies. The IEA Hydrogen TCP is an international collaboration initiative for R&D in hydrogen technologies with over 40 years of operating history, 34 member countries, the European Commission, and 8 sponsor members. The TCP envisions a clean sustainable energy supply with hydrogen playing a key role in all sectors of the economy.

The Hydrogen TCP Award of Excellence aims to leverage innovation in hydrogen technologies and applications. The Award of Excellence will be a joint action of the IEA Hydrogen TCP and the Clean Energy Ministerial Hydrogen Initiative (CEM-H2I) to recognize excellence in hydrogen technology projects around the world and provide a platform to showcase the winning projects.

The Award of Excellence will be given out yearly during the annual Clean Energy Ministerial meeting. The theme for this Award of Excellence competition in 2024 is “Hydrogen: Enabling Energy Transition” and will be awarded during CEM15 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

WHO CAN APPLY?

An award may be given to a private/public entity, a team, a group, or an individual. The Hydrogen TCP encourages applications from public/private energy companies, start-ups, universities, and research institutions. Any entity or team of entities may apply, but only one entry per project will be allowed.

CRITERIA FOR THE AWARDS

The following evaluation criteria will be considered when assessing the projects.

- **Scientific and technological excellence (30 points):** This criterion evaluates the project's contribution to the enhancement or advancement of existing processes or systems. Points will be allocated based on the thorough analysis of societal and...
industrial needs, the project's capacity to generate value for users or customers, and its effectiveness in addressing prevailing issues or refining current solutions.

- **Technological and environmental impact of the project (25 points):** This criterion assesses the project's influence on both technology and the environment, taking into account its approach, design, implementation, and functionalities.

- **Potential for replication and scaling-up (25 points):** This criterion evaluates the extent to which the project's characteristics can be replicated, expanded, or customized for various environments and/or nations, as well as the ease with which this can be accomplished.

- **Technological Advancing (10 points):** This criterion assesses the potential of the technology to progress from its conceptual stage to practical demonstration. It considers factors such as feasibility, innovation, and the capability to effectively transition from theoretical development to real-world application, thereby driving tangible progress in technological innovation.

- **Collaboration (5 points):** This criterion examines the extent to which collaboration has been established with other countries, institutions, or stakeholders to facilitate the execution of the project. It assesses the depth and effectiveness of partnerships forged to leverage diverse expertise, resources, and perspectives in project implementation, thereby enhancing its impact and sustainability.

Special emphasis will be placed on projects developed in regions, including Africa, Latin America, and Asia, to promote international collaboration among Hydrogen's TCP Contracting Parties and potential new members. A specific additional prize may be awarded for this category, at the discretion of the Selection Committee.

- **Other benefits (5 points):** This criterion evaluates the additional value provided by the project, encompassing non-economic advantages beyond those addressed in previous criteria. This includes factors such as diversity, social impact, youth participation, and any other positive outcomes that contribute to the broader societal well-being and development.

*The project will not be required to fulfill all criteria simultaneously but should meet at least two (2) of them.*
PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

Applications to the IEA Hydrogen TCP Award of Excellence must be submitted by 23:59 UTC, June 14th.

All proposals must be submitted through the Hydrogen TCP website using the online form provided. Once your application is submitted, you will receive an email confirmation. Only those submissions entered before the deadline will be accepted for consideration.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Selection Committee comprises highly respected and well-known experts, currently or previously associated with the Hydrogen TCP, with an extensive knowledge of hydrogen technologies. The Committee is renewed each year, made up of experts with extensive expertise in the chosen topic of each year’s Award.

CONTENT OF SUBMISSION

Each submission must contain the following information:

1. **Title of the project**
2. **Location**: (City, Province/Region/State, Country)
3. **Time period of the project**
4. **Link to the project website** *(if applicable)*
5. **Project description**: main goals, scope, and how the project is related to the award theme and hydrogen’s TCP mission: *To accelerate the development and deployment of sustainable technologies for the production, storage, and delivery of clean and affordable hydrogen and its derivatives for use in industry, mobility, heating, and power.*
6. **Project implementation**: Description of the project’s impact, including its approach, design, implementation, and functionalities.
7. **Project outcomes**, describing the outcomes of the project and how they exhibit excellence when measured against the evaluation criteria. These should be supported by relevant metrics or other performance indicators when possible.
8. **Information about the submitting entity**, with organizational name, email address, and contact information.

9. **Consent to submission** of the project and agreement to all the provisions of the guideline's awards.

Questions regarding any aspects of the application process or guidelines may be submitted to the Organizing Committee via e-mail at technicalsecretariat@ieahydrogen.org. Please include the term “Question Award” in the e-mail subject line.

Please check the FAQ section on the webpage of the award before sending in your question. It might already be answered.

**PROCEDURE FOR SELECTING AwarDEES**

The Organizing Committee will collect all proposals and send them to the Selection Committee which will have around four weeks to evaluate them. The members of the Selection Committee will individually and collectively review the submissions, judging them using the evaluation criteria described above. The evaluation process will close with a “consensus meeting” where both the Organizing and Selection Committees will put their ideas in common and select the winning project(s).

The Evaluation Committee, together with the organizing committee, may select one or more projects as winners, following the established criteria.

Each member of the Selecting Committee has the right to withdraw without advance notice in the event of circumstances beyond his/her control. Each member of the Selection Committee must notify the Organizing Committee in writing if he/she has any substantial prior knowledge of or contact or involvement with, any of the submissions provided to him/her for review and recuse him/herself from the review, evaluation, and discussion in which he/she (A) has a personal or substantial financial interest, or is an employee, officer, director, or agent of any entity that is a submitting party; or (B) has a familial or financial relationship with an individual who is an employee, officer, director, or agent of any entity that is a submitting entity. The Organizing Committee will work with the Selecting Committee to prevent all conflicts of interest or the appearance thereof.
AWARD INSTRUMENT

The winner(s) will receive a restricted personal license to advertise and promote the awarded project, along with a limited privilege to utilize and reference the H2 TCP Award of Excellence emblem (i.e., the logo) and the designation “Hydrogen TCP Award of Excellence Winner.”

The Award will include coverage of travel expenses for attending the ceremony in person and accepting the prize.

*Travel costs covered up to 2000€.

TIMELINE FOR THE 2024 AWARD PROCESS

- **May 6**th: Launch of the Awards of Excellence
- **June 14**th: Submission deadline
- **July 30**th: Announcement of the winner(s)
- **October 1**st – 3**rd**: Awards Ceremony (15th Clean Energy Ministerial, Brazil)