

Energy & Water Sustainability Award 2025

Guidelines



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
MINISTRY FOR THE
ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY
AND PUBLIC CLEANLINESS

Energy & Water Sustainability Award

The Award is open to private enterprises that have implemented projects in order to make a significant impact on their energy and/or water usage. The scope of this document is to assist applicants¹ when applying for the Energy & Water Sustainability Award 2025.

1. The Award Category

Application for projects to be considered for the Energy & Water Sustainability Award is open to private enterprises submitting a qualifying project with a special focus on energy and/or water and which must incorporate the qualifying criteria, being, energy efficiency, integration of renewable energy sources (RES), energy storage solutions, smart energy solutions, sustainable water management and integration of energy and water (Energy-Water nexus). A project may incorporate one of these criteria, or any combination thereof, and shall be assessed as per the weighting accorded to the separate criteria as described below. The Award shall be assigned to the highest-scoring project.

The project may be the creation of a new product, process or system, or the significant improvement, or a new application of existing ones. Projects should be tangible, concrete, and well developed. Any submissions which constitute abstract unimplemented ideas and intentions shall not be considered mature enough to qualify for application for this Award.

2. The Project Selection Criteria

The selection board will evaluate the submitted projects based on the following criteria:

- **Concept**
 - Addressing Malta's key energy and/or water management priorities
 - Innovative aspect
- **Implementation**
 - Cost-effectiveness
 - Replicability of the project in the local context
- **Impact**
 - % energy savings / % energy generated from RES / % water savings
 - Social impact
 - Economic impact
 - Energy and Water nexus

¹ Wherever it appears in these guidelines, the term "applicant" shall be taken to include the authorised representative of a private company, of a group of private companies, or of joint venture between two companies, at least one of which is a company duly registered in Malta.

It is not mandatory to address all sub-criteria. The description of each sub-criterion and the accompanying weighting are provided hereunder.

Concept

- ***Addressing Malta's key energy and/or water management priorities (15 points)***
The applicant must indicate how the project addresses key challenges in Malta's energy and water sectors by overcoming local barriers & constraints, thus making a positive difference in this regard.
- ***Innovative aspect (15 points)***
The applicant must highlight the innovative aspect of the project. The originality of concept or appreciable refinement of current techniques shall also be considered.

Implementation

- ***Cost-effectiveness (10 points)***
The applicant must indicate the cost/impact ratio of the submitted project.
- ***Replicability of the project in the local context (10 points)***
The applicant should explain how the submitted project could be/has been replicated in similar or possibly different contexts within the local scenario.

Impact

- ***% energy savings / % energy generated from RES / % water savings (20 points)***
The applicant shall justify the extent to which the project has taken into account measures that are conducive to efficiency in the use of energy and/or water and possibly makes use of alternative forms of energy.
 - % energy savings: The applicant shall calculate and present the % energy savings as a result of the implementation of the project on the overall energy consumption² of the enterprise.
 - % energy generated from RES: The applicant shall calculate and present the % energy generated by RES as a result of the implementation of the project on the overall energy consumption² of the enterprise.
 - % water savings: The applicant shall calculate and present the % water savings as a result of the implementation of the project on the overall water consumption³ of the enterprise.
- ***Social impact (10 points)***
The applicant is to outline the impact that the project has had on the workforce or the local community.
- ***Economic impact (10 points)***
The applicant is to outline the economic benefits (including the possible creation of new jobs) as a result of the implementation of the project.
- ***Energy and Water Nexus (10 points)***
Projects that address both energy and water are encouraged. The applicant is to describe how the project addresses this aspect.

² The overall energy consumption should be that of the year preceding the implementation of the project.

³ The overall water consumption should be that of the year preceding the implementation of the project.

3. The Application Process

All applications must be made on the respective project application form which can be downloaded from the Energy & Water Agency's website at:

<https://www.energywateragency.gov.mt/>

The applicant is to submit a brief report (not exceeding 1500 words) in English, highlighting how the selection criteria are being addressed. All applications must be completed in full, signed, dated and submitted by the applicant online to the following e-mail address: info@coe.org.mt

Project Presentation

Qualifying applicants will be requested to present their project to the selection board through a fifteen-minute presentation. Presentation of the projects may take place at a live event or may be held online. The format shall be communicated to qualifying applicants at a later stage.

4. The Eligibility Requirements

- i. An applicant may submit more than one project for consideration. However, in the case where the project has been designed and/or implemented by contractors or sub-contractors on behalf of a 3rd party enterprise, said contractors or sub-contractors applying for the Energy & Water Sustainability Award in their own name require the endorsement of their application by the enterprise on whose behalf the project has been designed and/or implemented. In this case, there shall not be another application submitted by the enterprise on whose behalf the project has been implemented for the same underlying project submitted by the contractor/sub-contractor.
- ii. The Project must have been implemented in Malta and completed within the four years preceding the closing date of the application.
- iii. Applications must be signed by an authorised signatory (i.e. an official representative in case of a company or joint venture). Applications bearing no signature or that of an unauthorised signatory may be rejected at evaluation stage.
- iv. Incomplete entries will not be accepted. Applicants may not submit additions or amendments to their application after the submission deadline.
- v. All applicants must be representing at least one enterprise registered in Malta.
- vi. Applicants who apply for the Chamber of Engineers Industrial Excellence Award may also apply for the Energy & Water Sustainability Award.
- vii. An applicant may submit a project that has been part-financed by EU funds or other locally managed schemes for consideration under the Energy & Water Sustainability Award.

Ineligible participants

- i. Enterprises part or wholly owned by employees of the Energy & Water Agency or their immediate family.
- ii. Enterprises not registered in Malta.
- iii. Non-private enterprises.
- iv. Enterprises in which the Government has shareholding.

5. Prize

The winning enterprise will be issued with a Voucher of four thousand €4,000 to be claimed from the Energy & Water Agency against Capacity Building in Sustainability for its employees. The Cash Voucher is subject to conditions in line with the following:

- i. The enterprise shall be free to choose any form/type of capacity building offered by reputable institutions that offer sustainability awareness/ability enhancement, including on-line or in-person courses, on-the-job training, design or purchase of self-learning modules, attendance to conferences & workshops (local or abroad), etc ;
- ii. The Agency has the right to refuse the reimbursement if it deems that the capacity building exercise is not in line with the intentions of this award. The enterprise shall seek confirmation from the Agency that the expenditure is eligible before making any commitments;
- iii. The enterprise shall have up to twelve (12) months from the date appearing upon the Cash Voucher to claim refund;
- iv. Provided that the expenditure is approved and claimed in the allocated twelve-month period, the amount may be directed towards one or more capacity building exercises.

The Chamber of Engineers and the Energy & Water Agency will promote the winning project on their social media platforms as well as the allocation of the sponsorship prize.

In addition to a training sponsorship for the winning project, a tree planting activity will also be sponsored by the Energy & Water Agency, in collaboration with Project Green. This event will include the enterprise that presents the winning project, as well as the first and second runner up to this award.

Additional Notes

1. The selection board reserves the right to refrain from selecting a winner if none of the submitted projects obtain at least 60 points.
2. The selection board reserves the right to request further information at a later stage.
3. Applicants are encouraged to include diagrams/drawings/photographs in order to support their application.
4. The submitted information must clearly highlight the implementation stages undertaken to achieve the results claimed.
5. The selection board shall consist of three (3) persons including the Chairperson.
6. The decision of the selection board shall be final and not subject to appeal.
7. Any queries are to be sent by email at info@coe.org.mt clearly referencing the “Energy & Water Sustainability Award” in the subject line;
8. The closing date for submissions is **27th October 2025 at 17:00-hrs**. **Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.**