

Waterborne Awards

Call for Submissions: European Projects in Waterborne Transport

As part of the *Waterborne Days* event, taking place from 4-5 February 2025, the Waterborne Technology Platform jointly with the European Commission will be hosting an awards ceremony, celebrating the success of European projects, with a particular focus on innovation, sustainability, and market uptake or potential market uptake of a project. The *Waterborne Days* bring together key stakeholders, experts, and innovators from across the entire sector including European industry leaders as we aim to delve into the cutting-edge advancements shaping the future of waterborne transport.

An initial screening of relevance will be conducted to ensure alignment with the eligibility criteria and overall themes for the awards. An independent panel of judges from the European Institutions, academia and Industry will then judge the nominations based on the defined evaluation criteria. A maximum of three projects per category will be nominated for the short list. Out of the projects nominated, **four winners** of the awards will be crowned during the event.

To submit your project for consideration, please fill out the [following form](#) by November 22 2024 at the latest.

Submission Period

Submissions will open via our [online form](#) on October 22 and will close on November 22, 2024.

Themes

The Waterborne Awards recognise and reward the endeavour of European projects which contribute to an innovative European waterborne transport sector. Applicants can choose to participate in one, two, and/or the three following categories when filling out the online form:

- **Environmental Impact & Climate Change**
- **Innovation**
- **Economic Viability**

Those choosing to participate under all three categories will also participate in the category “outstanding innovation” award, which considers the contribution of the project to the three categories together.

Eligibility

Submissions must fulfil all eligibility criteria to be considered.

Format: Only submissions received via our [online form](#) are accepted, any other form of submission will not be permitted and will not be considered.

Topic: All submissions must be able to demonstrate a viable impact in one of the three themes. In addition to this, all submissions must be related to the waterborne transport sector.

Language Requirements: All applications must be submitted in English.

Funding Instruments:

To be considered, the project must be funded by a European funding instrument, such as, but not limited to:

- Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020
- LIFE
- Connecting Europe Facility
- Innovation Fund

Available results: Projects must have produced results, which should be demonstrated through the projects' public deliverables or other means of verification.

The project did not win a Waterborne Award in the previous edition.

The application will include:

- Description of the relevant solutions developed and where applicable tested and/or deployed, or.
- Description of foreseen relevant results and solutions.
- Explanation on how each of the described solutions tackles each of the evaluation criteria.
- Explanation on how the combination of solutions and results developed under the project will push forward the state of the art in its field.

The applicants must include with their submission evidence supporting the aforementioned. In the description and explanation, the projects must make reference to where the explanations can be found in the supporting documents. However, please be as concise as possible, and avoid the use of hyperlinks.

Awards will be announced in Brussels on the 04 February 2025.

Prizes

The winners of the awards will get media coverage, and will receive a dissemination package aimed at promoting the impact of the project, provided by the organizers. They will also receive a symbolic award and publicity via the available communications channels. No financial award will be made.

Evaluation Criteria

Each of the evaluation main criteria will be rated on a scale of 0-5 based on the impact demonstrated and subject to the verification of any claims. The additional criteria will be rated according to what is specified in each area.

1. Environmental Impact & Climate Change:

CRITERIA:

- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction:** Evaluate the project's carbon footprint reduction potential, measured in CO₂ equivalent (e.g., tons of CO₂e).
- **Air and water pollution:** Quantified reduction of air and water pollutants (URN included)

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

- **Energy Efficiency:** Assess energy consumption and efficiency improvements, quantifying energy savings in kilowatt-hours (kWh) or percentage. (0-2)
- **Climate Resilience:** Assess the project's preparedness and resilience to climate change impacts, quantifying indicators such as flood protection measures or heat stress reduction. (0-1)
- **Lifecycle and end-of-life approaches.** (0-1)
- **Waste Management:** Measure waste reduction, recycling rates, or waste diversion percentages. (0-1)
- **Safety aspects:** projects coming up with innovative solutions improving safety in waterborne transport, contributing to the safe use of mature and/or innovative technologies and contributing beyond/apart setting standards or safety measures. (0-2)

2. Innovation

- **Originality:** The innovation should demonstrate uniqueness and novelty, introducing something new or different to the market or field.
- **Value Creation:** The innovation should have the potential to create value for customers or end-users, addressing their needs, preferences, or solving their problems.
- **Impact:** The innovation should have a significant impact, either by disrupting existing practices or by bringing about substantial improvements or advancements.

ADDITIONAL CRITERION

Safety aspects: projects coming up with innovative solutions improving safety in waterborne transport, contributing to the safe use of mature and/or innovative technologies and contributing beyond/apart setting standards or safety measures. (0-2)

3. Economic Viability:

- **Cost-effectiveness:** Assess the project's return on investment (ROI), net present value (NPV), or cost savings achieved.
- **Economic Benefits:** Quantify the economic benefits for local communities, such as increased GDP, job income, or tax revenues generated.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

- **Safety aspects:** The results of the project can be deployed within the currently binding safety regulatory framework and/or has developed prenormative research contributing to set safety measures and standards in the short term that will allow the project to deploy its results in a safe manner. (0-2)
- **Resource Optimization:** Measure resource efficiency improvements, such as reduced material usage, circularity or optimized supply chain processes. (0-2)
- **Market Uptake or Potential Market Uptake showcasing EU added value:** Has there been a demonstrable interest in or confirmation that the project will be taken up by the market showcasing EU added value after its conclusion. (0-2)

4. Outstanding innovation

- Addition of the final score achieved in the previous categories.

Copyright & Privacy

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