



**RULES**

**2019**

**INTERNATIONAL AWARDS**

**FOR CLIMATE-RELATED DISCLOSURES**

**BY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

## **Article 1 – Objectives**

The objective of the 2019 International Awards for Climate-related Disclosures by Financial Institutions (“2019 Awards”) is to recognize a number of good practices in climate-related reporting as well as build on the ongoing work of the European Commission (EC) and other governments and initiatives.

The 2019 Award will support the implementation of the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) Recommendations, the EU Non-Financial Reporting Directive and/or equivalent wider global reporting requirements and initiatives, as well as continue to support the implementation of the Article 173-VI of the Law on Energy Transition for Green Growth (LTECV) in France.

The awards are international, and not restricted to French and/or European institutions.

The 2019 Awards edition has three primary goals:

1. To reinforce awareness and promote the recent developments and good practices in climate-reporting;
2. To provide the opportunity for applicants to receive feedback on their current reporting; and
3. To highlight ongoing progress in reporting, build capacity, share expertise and identify key remaining reporting challenges.

## **Article 2 – Organisers**

This award is jointly organised by the French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME) and the General Commission for Sustainable Development (CGDD) of the French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, with the support of the European Sustainable Investment Forum (EUROSIF) and the European Commission Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union (DG-FISMA).

2° Investing Initiative (2°ii) is managing the day-to-day organisation of the event on behalf of ADEME and the CGDD.

The organisers, supported by 2°ii, are responsible for the general logistics, recruitment of the jury, preparation of the criteria, recruitment of applicants and support for their preparation and, where appropriate, the pre-evaluation of the applications submitted.

The Award will be awarded by the French Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, or representative.

## **Article 3 – Opening of the competition**

The official opening date of the competition will be confirmed on the website [www.climatereportingawards.org](http://www.climatereportingawards.org) no less than 4 months before the awards event.

The full application process and respective deadlines will be highlighted on the website.

## **Article 4 - Obtaining application forms**

Application forms will be downloadable free of charge from the website [www.climatereportingawards.org](http://www.climatereportingawards.org). Alternatively, the forms can be sent by email upon request to [info@climatereportingawards.org](mailto:info@climatereportingawards.org)

## **Article 5 - Submitting applications**

The application form is in electronic format; it must be sent to the following address [reportingawards@climatereportingawards.org](mailto:reportingawards@climatereportingawards.org) no later than the official deadline which will be confirmed on the website.

## **Article 6 – Composition of the Jury**

The Award will be granted by an independent jury, appointed by the Steering Committee and made up of four groups: International organisations and authorities, Investors coalitions, NGOs and Academics.

The full list of members will be made public before the end of the submission's period.

## **Article 7 – Undertaking by members of the Jury**

Members of the jury shall be subject to a strict duty of non-disclosure and shall not disclose to third parties the information of which they have knowledge in the applications or at the time of their deliberations. Furthermore, if a member of the jury is a related party, i.e. is (or was) in a professional or personal relationship with one of the investors submitting an application, he or she will declare this at the beginning of the jury's meeting.

## **Article 8 – Eligibility**

All financial institutions in the following categories are invited to apply:

- Lenders / Private Sector Banks (commercial, investment, universal)
- Asset Owners (pension funds, endowments, sovereign wealth funds, foundations and insurance companies)
- Asset Managers
- Development Banks (multilateral/regional, bilateral, national, sub-national or sub-regional)
- Central Banks

## **Article 9 – Undertaking by candidates**

Candidates undertake to provide genuine information that is as accurate as possible as part of their application.

If applicant organisations are subject to specific procedures by any administrative authorities, under which they may be reprimanded following any offences or breaches, they will inform the jury of the situation. The latter will assess the situation and will decide whether or not to retain their application depending on the nature and severity of the offences or breaches concerned.

## **Article 10 – Compiling the application file**

The application file shall include at least the following items:

- i. The institution's completed Applicant's Information Form (excel file) made available on the [www.climatereportingawards.org](http://www.climatereportingawards.org) website;
- ii. The institution's annual report;
- iii. Where appropriate, the responsible investment report and/or the sustainability report (or equivalent);
- iv. Where appropriate, a separate report on climate-related strategies including its scope, methods used

for assessing climate-risk and opportunities, and climate metrics integrated into their investing and lending activities;

- v. Where appropriate, the CSR report, and/or the sustainable development report or equivalent;

The applicant may choose to submit an application that only covers a part of the managed assets or all of the assets, though the scope of its announcement must be made clear in the application.

Clear criteria and application guidelines are available on the website.

## **Article 11 – Assessment process**

The applicant organisations will be strictly assessed on the basis of their application and documents provided with it and no other source of information will be reviewed.

An initial assessment will be conducted by 2°ii and validated by the Steering Committee in order to shortlist applications. The shortlist of candidates will be sent to the Jury for decision-making.

The applicant organisation will have the option of submitting a folder containing data that is not yet final or audited; however, it must undertake to publish an up-to-date and final version of its climate reporting within eight months following its application for the Award.

## **Article 12 – Evaluation criteria**

The evaluation criteria is framed around recent international climate-related reporting requirements, frameworks and initiatives, including the implementing decree of the French Article 173-VI, the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), the EU Non-Financial Reporting.

A previous version of the original evaluation criteria grid was subject to a consultation in June 2016 during the first edition of the Awards. The updated criteria underwent a period of public consultation in April-May 2019. The final assessment criteria will be made public ahead of the opening date for applications.

## **Article 13 – Pre-selection procedure**

The pre-selection procedure – or initial assessment - involves scoring all applications and providing a shortlist which represents the highest scores.

The shortlist will be sent to the Jury following validation from the Steering Committee. All reports and results (including those not on the shortlist) will be made available to the Jury.

A frequently asked questions (FAQ) system which will allow candidates to ask questions regarding the application process will be put in place with the answers made publicly available on the Awards website. The name of the candidate asking the question will not be made public.

No Steering Committee members may otherwise provide any feedback to applicants on their application until the closing date for the reception of submissions has passed.

## **Article 14 – Selection procedure**

The pre-selected applications, according to the procedure defined in Article 13 of these rules, will be submitted to the Jury, who will grant Awards in several categories.

The Jury will validate the final choice of award categories which will aim to promote good practices for the various dimensions and objectives of a number of international reporting requirements relating to climate change, including Article 173-VI in France and the implementation of the recommendations of TCFD.

The Jury reserves the right not to grant any award in a category, as well as multiple awards, if applicable.

The Jury's decisions may not be appealed. The Jury's decision may only be revoked if an error or deliberate deception is revealed in the statements of a company that is nominated or awarded, during or after the meeting of the jury concerned, or if an offence or breach is established.

## **Article 15 – Announcement of results**

The winners will be informed privately within three days of the Jury's decision.

The results will be announced in a press pack including information on the submissions of the organisations awarded on the day of the Awards ceremony. This information will also be published on the website [www.climatereportingawards.org](http://www.climatereportingawards.org) and the co-organisers' websites.

## **Article 16 – Communication rules**

After the award ceremony, the organisations awarded may mention it in their own communications, while observing the instructions provided by the organisers. Awards will be granted to the individual entities who apply and not parent companies

By participating and applying for an Award, organisations authorise the organisers to publish information on their work and to use their name, address and image (notably: logo, photographs, video report) as part of the results announcement and the award ceremony.

Winning organisations undertake not to disclose the award that they have obtained at the time of the Jury's decision to journalists, media outlets or other media until the day of the award ceremony.

In case of breach of this Article, the organisers reserve the right to revoke the award obtained by the company concerned.

## **Article 17 – Cancellation of or changes to the competition**

If a case of force majeure leads to the cancellation of, or changes to, the competition, the organisers may not be held liable.

## **Contact**

For any request for information related to these Rules please refer to:  
[info@climatereportingawards.org](mailto:info@climatereportingawards.org)