



Green Cities Europe Award - 2024

Successful, ambitious, inspiring and innovative
green infrastructures projects

GUIDE FOR PARTICIPANTS

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Compelling projects for Greener Cities in Europe!

Price winning projects that let green excel in its positive impact on urban welfare

The Green Cities Europe Award is one of the highlights in the “More Green Cities for Europe” campaign. Every year it rewards the most inspiring green urban project selected out of 13 top candidates representing each of the 13 European participating countries*. Winners are announced at a dedicated Award ceremony.

The Green Cities Europe Award started in 2020 with a first edition in The Netherlands. Belgium was the host in 2021. In 2022, the Award Ceremony took place in Paris, France. In 2023 the ceremony took place in Brussels and in 2025 the ceremony will take place at the IPM in Germany.

* Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, The Netherlands and Sweden

Rewarding compelling green infrastructures projects

The Green Cities Europe Award challenges and encourages successful, ambitious, inspiring and innovative green infrastructures projects.

What projects participate?

All inspiring projects that make optimum use of the added value of green infrastructures in the living environment can participate.

For imaging some examples:

- Interior planting of a school
- A new residential area with public gardens
- A business garden with workplaces
- A hospital with green treatment rooms
- A new city park with sports and play facilities
- A green renovated industrial estate

Participating projects need to be fully realised and put into use no more than 5 years ago.

Who is the participant?

Any person involved in the project can initiate an application. The official submitter is ultimately the party that financed the project.

Any costs?

Participation in the competition is free of charge. If you incur costs yourself, for example for submitting your project or for your presence at the prize-giving ceremony, these will be at your own expense.



Green Cities Europe Award 2023 in Brussels



1st prize 2022 Alkmaar © Paul Weidema



1st prize 2023 Basecamp Lyngby Denmark © Kragh & Berglund_Skovbry

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Join the European contest for Greener Cities!

The process with timeline

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 16 August, 2024 | Start national competitions (website, press release and submitting form updated) |
| 30 September, 2024 | End of (national) submitting period* |
| 4 October, 2024 | Verified entries submitted to jury (national) * |
| 18 October, 2024 | The National winners are selected and announced * |
| 18 October, 2024 | Each country has submitted their winning project to the organisation |
| 25 October, 2024 | Submit documentation competing projects to international jury |
| 29 November, 2024 | Judging forms submitted by all members of the jury |
| 6 December, 2024 | Winning international project selected by organisation and president of the jury |
| 29 January, 2025 | International Award ceremony at the IPM in Germany |

All the dates are fixed except for the marked (*) dates. They are an advisory and only apply when the country concerned organises its own national competition.

The judging process

- The application forms of the 13 nominated projects are shared with all the members of the jury
- Based on the supplied information and the public available information about the project, every member of the jury individually rates the judging criteria with 0-10 points (higher is better), including a short rationale for the scores. **(Judging Criteria – see page 4)**
- The members of the jury are allowed to request more information from the participants
- The members of the jury may visit projects and consult with each other. This is not compulsory.
- After all scores are submitted, the organising country will share the scores with all members of the jury.
- The project with the highest score will be selected as a winner. In the situation that two projects score the same, the jury will vote for the winner.

Award ceremony

The winner will be announced at the award ceremony, which will take place on 29 January at the IPM in Germany.

The prize

The prize consists mainly of honour. A lot of attention for the project in the (printed and social) media is expected. In addition, the winning project receive a 'trophy'.

Who to contact?

If you have any questions, or need more details, don't hesitate to contact the organisation. Each participating country also has a local contact. The members of the jury cannot be contacted unless they ask for it.

Central organisation: GreenCitiesAward@enaplants.eu (In English)

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| Greece: Karlos.Alexandros@gmail.com | Portugal: info@apppfm.pt |
| Hungary: info@diszkerteszek.hu | |

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The judging criteria

- **Greenery (A double weighting shall be applied to this criterion!)**

The greenery will be assessed on the right assortment for this application. Quality and diversity are taken into account. Special and unique applications may contribute to a higher appreciation.

- **The overall design (landscape and optional associated buildings)**

The most important point of assessment is the integral design in which the elements in the project match each other, and how the project connects to its surroundings. The uniqueness of the design is an added advantage.

- **The contribution to the well-being of users**

Depending on the type of project, visitors, patients, students, residents or employees benefit from the added value like welfare, productivity and social cohesion. The size of the expected effect and the size of the group of profiteers determine the rating.

- **The impact on the climate**

For the valuation, the impact of the project is estimated on the following components: Rainwater collection and discharge and temperature regulation.

- **The impact on the environment**

Materials used are assessed for environmental impact during production and for circularity. If the project has a logical effect on the perception of noise nuisance and on the capture of CO₂, NO_x and particulate matter, this may be taken into account, as well as an expected impact on biodiversity.

- **The impact on economic factors**

For the assessment, an estimate is made of the relationship between the investment (construction and maintenance) and the revenues. This may include an estimate of the effect on property value in the surrounding area and positive impact on local economy (for shops, restaurants...).

- **Construction materials used**

It will be assessed on the right product choice for this application. Quality is taken into account. Special and unique applications may contribute to a higher appreciation.

- **Innovativeness and reproducibility**

Innovativeness is appreciated. A good reproducibility of the entire project, or parts of it, improves the score.

Important remark!

The set-up of the award does not allow all criteria to be fully researched and factually substantiated. These cases are judged subjectively by the judges on the basis of their insights and experience and on the basis of the information provided by the participant. Only the jury chooses the winner. No correspondence is possible outside the jury about the content of the assessment process.