



EUROCITIES awards 2015 - call for entries

The EURO CITIES awards recognise outstanding achievement by EURO CITIES members in the delivery of local activities or practices that improve the quality of life for citizens. The awards are judged in the context of the theme of the annual conference by an independent jury of seven members. The jury represents the host city, academia, EU institutions, media and the third sector. Jury members change every year.

Living cities - Sustainable urban growth and quality of life

In Europe, 72% of the population live in cities - that's 359 million people. It is people that give cities the creativity and dynamism that makes them centres of learning, technical and cultural development, and research and innovation. But the density of cities and growing populations put pressure on resources and public services, and threaten our European model of well managed urban concentration. In the context of the European Commission's 'new start' for Europe, and the impact of recession and austerity in many EU countries, we need to change the way we approach economic growth, job creation and our citizens' quality of life. Cities have a leading role to play in setting a new EU urban agenda and confronting future challenges.

The EURO CITIES awards 2015 will showcase best practices on sustainable growth and quality of life. We are looking for entries in three categories: **cooperation, innovation and participation:**

cooperation - projects and activities demonstrating collaboration between citizens, businesses, NGOs and local authorities to produce original solutions for more and better jobs, in particular sustainable, quality jobs

innovation - projects and activities demonstrating innovative ways of achieving modal shift in urban transport, and/or improving the quality of air in urban areas, in particular projects initiated and driven by citizens

participation - projects and activities involving local authorities, businesses and civil society in developing partnership models to increase quality investments into cities, in

particular projects that show effective, long term partnerships

Eligibility criteria

1. All full and associate members of EUROCITIES are eligible to submit an entry.
2. The conference host cities (Malmö and Copenhagen) and the president and vice-president of EUROCITIES are not eligible to submit an entry.
3. Winners from previous year's awards ceremony are not eligible to submit an entry.
4. Associate partners and associate business partners are not eligible to submit an entry but could be partners in projects submitted by full and associated members of Eurocities.
5. The submitting body must be a local government authority.
6. An entry cannot be submitted if the same activity or practice has previously won a EUROCITIES award.
7. Each city may submit a maximum of one entry per category.
8. Cities can enter all three categories but can only win a maximum of one category.
9. Applications must be submitted in English.
10. Applications must be made by completing the entry form.
11. Applicants should be aware that all shortlisted entrants will be asked to produce a short film about the activity or practice and that the winners' films will be screened at the awards ceremony.

Evaluation criteria

General criteria

1. A clear and positive impact on the everyday life of the city for a minimum of six months before the time of award entry.
2. Transferability of the concept of the activity or practice internationally between cities.
3. Initiative taken in the planning and implementation of the activity or practice, independent of regional and national government.
4. Efficient use of available resources and long-term financial sustainability.
5. Direct relevance to the theme of the annual conference
6. The benefits are measurable and demonstrated

Tips for a good entry

- ✓ Stand out.
Concentrate on the specific strengths of your project. Emphasise creative and innovative ideas that stand out from other competitors
- ✓ Be specific.
Demonstrate the success of your approach with facts and figures. Include media coverage, if available.
- ✓ Be concise.
Your submission should be memorable for the jury. Short, concise and insightful descriptions and a focus on the essentials are key to success.
- ✓ Be honest.
Tell the jury about the difficulties and challenges you faced while initiating and implementing the project. Don't hide setbacks and failures, but work them into the description of how you achieved your goals.
- ✓ Use visuals.
Your submission should contain an image or figure that reflects the essence of your project and creates the desire with the jury to learn more.

Calendar and deadlines

Deadline for submission of awards entry forms	5 June
First vote of the jury panel to select a shortlist from the entries (by email)	26 June
Notification of cities who have been selected for the shortlist	6 July
Deadline for submission of a film about the entry by shortlisted cities	16 October
Final meeting of the jury panel to select the award winners	4 November
Awards ceremony - announcement of winners and presentation of awards	4 November

Contact

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