

## 2019 Ashden Awards

(Available in French, Spanish, Portuguese and Chinese on [www.ashden.org/apply](http://www.ashden.org/apply))

**Please note this is a copy of the information available online at <https://apply.ashden.org> which is where you must fill in the application form.**

### Introduction

Before starting your application for an Ashden Award, make sure you have read the information below and that your work is eligible for the one of the 2019 Ashden Awards. You may also find it helpful to read some of the case studies of previous winners on our website ([www.ashden.org](http://www.ashden.org)) before applying.

If you would like a preview of ALL the questions in this form, there is a [copy of the form](#) here. Note that not all of these questions will appear when you complete the actual form online, as some are shown or hidden based on your answers to earlier questions (for example, which award(s) you are applying for). The copy of the form is for reference only – the form must be completed online for your application to be considered.

If you want to discuss whether your work is relevant to the Ashden Awards, or have questions about the application process, please contact the Awards Coordinator on +44 (0) 20 7410 7023 or [apply@ashden.org](mailto:apply@ashden.org)

All information submitted may be seen by the Ashden team (including [judges](#) and assessors). All our judges and assessors are required to sign a confidentiality agreement before viewing any application materials.

It is a condition of your entry to the 2019 Ashden Awards that Ashden has the right to publicise your involvement through its communications channels (including but not limited to its website, social media platforms and Ceremony programme). All shortlisted applicants, and particularly winners, may be required by Ashden to participate in publicity opportunities such as media interviews.

If you decide not to complete your application for any reason then please withdraw using the 'Withdraw Application' button in the right-hand column of the dashboard.

**Applications must be received by Tuesday 06 November 2018, 23:59 GMT.**

### Information for applicants

The Ashden Awards reward innovative enterprises and programmes that deliver, or play a key part in enabling the delivery of sustainable energy systems and through this bring social, economic and environmental benefits. In 2019, we will make **up to 10 awards**, seven with an international focus and three focused on the UK. The **winners** will receive prize funds of **£10,000 or £20,000** each, depending which Award they win.

#### The benefits of winning an Ashden Award include:

- Kudos of winning a prestigious Ashden Award. Our application and assessment process is known for being rigorous.
- Membership of the Ashden alumni network of Ashden Award winners, which facilitates learning and opportunities to create productive partnerships.
- Opportunities to present your work to large and influential audiences at the Ashden Awards Ceremony and other Ashden events.

- The Ashden communications and PR team work with winners and finalists to maximise publicity around the Award and topical news agenda during the Awards process where relevant and newsworthy, targeting local, national, international or trade press.
- We will work with winners after their Award to help promote future announcements from them and to produce articles, provide quotes and provide case studies and stories when relevant issues arise in the news.
- Ashden will produce marketing materials including photographs, print materials and a broadcast quality one-minute video documenting each Award-winning project.
- Where it can have material impact, tailored support from our programme team to grow or replicate your work: this can include professional mentoring, training, help raising finance and investment, and media and communications support.
- Where it can have material impact, introductions to influential policy and decision makers, and an opportunity to make your voice heard.

### **Who can apply for the different Ashden Awards?**

Businesses, NGOs, government organisations, and social enterprises (both for-profit and not-for-profit, including community groups) are all eligible. The paragraphs below explain where the work submitted must be happening for the different Awards.

### **International Ashden Award for Clean Cooking, International Ashden Award for Financial or Business Model Innovation, International Ashden Award for Powering Business, International Ashden Award for Sustainable Mobility, International Ashden Award for Sustainable Energy & Healthcare, International Ashden Award for Sustainable Cities and Buildings**

- The work must be delivered in at least one of the UN's developing regions of Africa, Caribbean, Central America, South America, Asia (excluding Japan) and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand) and can be in rural or urban areas. High-income countries in these regions, as defined by the World Bank, are not eligible to apply. See [here](#) for a list of eligible countries.\*

### **International Ashden Award for Cooling for People**

The work submitted must be delivering benefits in one or more of the following countries:

- Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Republic of the Congo, Cote'd Ivoire, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Republic of the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uganda, Vietnam, Yemen.\*

\*Ashden reserves the right to exclude applicants from the assessment process at any stage if FCO guidelines advise against our assessors travelling to that region.

### **Impax Ashden Award for Energy Innovation, UK Ashden Award for Sustainable Buildings, UK Ashden Award for Clean Air in Towns and Cities**

Applicants for these three Awards must submit either:

- Work that is being carried out in the UK. The applicant may be headquartered outside the UK.
- For the Energy Innovation and Clean Air Awards, we will also consider work that is being carried out in Europe, that the applicant desires to bring to the UK market or is willing to see replicated in the UK. In these cases, the purpose of the Award would be to help the applicant raise their profile in the UK and bring their work here, and the prize would need to be spent in support of this goal. Please note that the UK Sustainable buildings award is only open to work that is being carried out in the UK (not Europe).

### **What are we looking for this year?**

In 2019, we will be awarding work that fits into the following categories and also meets the key criteria listed on the following pages. When completing your application, please indicate the specific

category/categories you feel are most relevant to your work. We will consider your application in categories other than the ones you have indicated if we feel they fit your work more closely.

<p><b>The Ashden Awards are a showcase. We want to reward leading work that is delivering, or enabling the widespread use and delivery of, sustainable energy. Please apply if you are doing innovative work in this area.</b> If you feel your work doesn't fit into any of the categories listed below, please contact <a href="mailto:apply@ashden.org">apply@ashden.org</a> to discuss your eligibility.</p>	
<p><b>International Ashden Award for Clean Cooking</b> (£20,000 prize)</p>	<p>We are seeking organisations that are working to accelerate the uptake of clean and efficient cooking solutions which reduce indoor air pollution, improve health and protect the environment. We are especially interested in work that tackles barriers to the uptake of clean cooking solutions by improving affordability and financially-viable distribution, and by demonstrating successful approaches to women's empowerment, user-centred design and long-term behaviour change to reduce 'stove stacking'.</p> <p>Any organisation doing relevant work (and meeting's Ashden's general criteria) may apply but we will prioritise solutions that meet the performance guidelines for 'clean' and 'efficient' <a href="#">as specified by the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves:</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stoves/Fuels that meet Tier 2 or higher for efficiency.</li> <li>- Stoves/Fuels that meet Tier 3 or higher for indoor emissions.</li> <li>- Stoves/Fuels that meet Tier 3 or higher for overall emissions.</li> </ul> <p>(Note: These guidelines are based on the <a href="#">IWA framework</a>, which rates cookstoves on four indicators - efficiency, indoor emissions, total emissions, safety - each along 5 Tiers - 0: lowest performing to 4: highest performing).</p>
<p><b>International Ashden Award for Sustainable Energy &amp; Healthcare</b> (£20,000 prize)</p>	<p>We are looking for organisations providing and/or using sustainable forms of energy and/or energy efficiency to support the provision of healthcare services, including solutions for health centres, hospitals, mobile, emergency and humanitarian contexts, cold-chain and other ecosystem needs. We are interested in contexts where there has previously been no access to sustainable, affordable electricity, or unreliable access. Evidence for improvements in health-related outcomes will be required. We are especially interested in work demonstrating innovative approaches to system barriers such as financing and affordability, business models, partnerships and long-term sustainability.</p>
<p><b>International Ashden Award for Financial or Business Model Innovation</b> (£20,000 prize)</p>	<p>We are looking for organisations or programmes improving access to energy through innovations in financial mechanisms and business models. The work must be benefitting those in areas where energy access rates are low and the market for sustainable energy products and services is underdeveloped.</p> <p>Work can be in one or more of the following areas: 1) Innovative financial mechanisms or business models which make products more affordable and accessible for customers and/or end-users (e.g. use of innovative payment mechanisms and end-user/distributor finance); 2) Innovations which improve the financial viability of enterprises to bring <i>affordable</i>, sustainable energy products and services to market (e.g. process efficiencies, tertiary business services, structured access to finance); 3) Innovations which reduce risk and cost of capital</p>

	<p>associated with investing in underdeveloped markets (e.g. innovative early-stage finance and support, market-building and information services, interventions to reduce policy-side risk).</p> <p>Work can be taking place in any of Ashden’s eligible countries but must demonstrate sustainable approaches to reaching the hardest-to-reach (or ‘last-mile’) in underserved regions and contexts. This could include communities suffering from energy poverty due to reasons that include socio-economic conditions, geographical remoteness, political challenges, social exclusion and/or weak enabling environments. Work must be creating a strong social impact.</p>
<p><b>International Ashden Award for Powering Business</b> (£20,000 prize)</p>	<p>We are looking for enterprises or programmes providing and/or using sustainable energy or energy efficiency in the provision of goods and services to produce income or value. The work should enhance income-generation and productivity for the people undertaking it. It must be improving quality of life and local resilience, especially in contexts where the lack of sustainable energy for productive activities was previously a barrier to sustainable livelihoods. The work can be in a range of sectors including, but not limited to, agriculture, manufacturing, retail, services, and rural enterprise. Large, industrial-scale initiatives are not eligible.</p>
<p><b>International Ashden Award for Sustainable Mobility</b> (£20,000 prize)</p>	<p>Innovative enterprises or programmes that are improving access to sustainable transport and mobility services for those who currently have inadequate access, and having a measurable impact on greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution or congestion. Eligible work could be enabling the use of more sustainable modes of transport, technologies, software/apps and fuels, or reducing travel distances through improved regional planning. We are particularly interested in work that overcomes barriers that have traditionally slowed the development of sustainable transport systems (such as financing, information, or barriers to adoption by the public) as well as work which integrates with the wider transport network and built environment and has the potential to scale and be replicated across cities and regions.</p>
<p><b>International Ashden Award for Sustainable Cities and Buildings</b> (£10,000 prize)</p>	<p>We are looking for organisations working in the built environment to rapidly decarbonise urban buildings and districts, including retrofitting existing buildings, as well as the design and construction of new buildings. The work submitted must be more than a single building – either a project working with multiple buildings or a district within a city, or the entire work of an organisation, such as an architectural practice or engineering company. The work submitted may have technical and non-technical elements (such as community and public realm development, behaviour change and market mechanisms). Applications may relate to physical projects and buildings, but also to financial and legislative programmes, toolkits and learning networks that drive change. In all cases, evidence of significant reductions in carbon emissions, clear social benefits and an ability to deliver large-scale change will make a stronger application.</p>
<p><b>International Ashden Award for Cooling for People</b> (£20,000 prize)</p>	<p>We are looking for organisations that are delivering work that alleviates heat stress for those spending time outdoors in hot climates, whether for work or while travelling. Solutions could include (but are not limited to) provision of shading from the sun, increasing air flow (by fans or other means), direct cooling for individuals, clothing that helps people stay cool or evaporative cooling. Any energy used in the alleviation of heat stress must come from sustainable sources, and there must be evidence for impact in terms of improved comfort, health or productivity. The work submitted for an Award must be delivering</p>

	benefits in rural or peri-urban areas in one of the eligible countries, although the applicant can be based elsewhere, and the work might be applicable to other countries even though they are not a direct focus.
<b>Impax Ashden Award for Energy Innovation (£10,000 prize)</b>	We would like to receive applications from businesses that have developed innovative technologies, products or services to deliver sustainable energy. These must be on the market, have the potential to scale up and result in significant CO <sub>2</sub> savings, for example by decarbonising heat, reducing energy consumption or increasing renewable energy generation.
<b>UK Ashden Award for Sustainable Buildings (£10,000 prize)</b>	We are looking for applicants working on either retrofitting existing buildings to reduce energy use or on the design and construction of new buildings with energy use significantly lower than what's legally required. The embodied energy or carbon in products and buildings can also be taken into account where relevant. Applications are welcome from architects, building engineers, developers and also businesses supplying products or services to reduce energy use in buildings.
<b>UK Ashden Award for Clean Air in Towns and Cities (£10,000 prize)</b>	We are looking for applications from organisations, projects or programmes that have found innovative ways to reduce air pollution in urban areas by making transport more sustainable, while providing social and economic benefits to local residents and businesses. The winner will have the potential to scale up to work across wide areas, and/or to be replicated in other towns and cities. All sustainable forms of mobility and goods transport are eligible, as are policies put in place by local authorities. We are particularly interested in work to reduce the need for transport, promote non-car forms of mobility and encourage behaviour change in the use of transport.

### Key eligibility criteria for the Ashden Awards

To be shortlisted and win an Award, the applicant must:

1. **Have products or services currently available for customers, clients or beneficiaries.** We do not reward pilot or demonstration projects.
2. **Be delivering, or helping to deliver, significant social and economic benefits to individuals, communities or businesses.** For example, in the UK, urban or rural regeneration; improving working and living conditions; reducing fuel poverty; creating jobs and improving business practice; or improving energy security. In developing countries, we need to see evidence of benefits, for example in terms of quality of life, health and welfare, educational facilities, food security, improving livelihoods and creating job opportunities. Eligible organisations must demonstrate fair and equitable organisational practices, including working towards gender equality. Work must respect local culture and customs.
3. **Be delivering, or helping to deliver, demonstrable benefits to the environment.** We need to see evidence of the energy generated or saved, greenhouse gas emissions avoided/mitigated and any other benefits.
4. **Show an innovative approach to sustainable energy.** Many Award winners use established technologies, but there must be innovative aspects to the work as a whole. These could include innovative approaches to marketing and distribution; improved financing mechanisms, training and skills development; introducing a technology to a different country or region; innovative business models. Award-winning work must add something to what past winners have shown.
5. **Have the capacity to create significant impact.** We are looking for winners that have the potential to create significant impact in terms of sustainability, and are willing to work with Ashden after winning an Award.

6. **Be working towards financial sustainability.** We are looking for efficient use of funds and evidence that future funding is being sought, whether from sales, grants or any other source. Organisations can be for profit or not-for-profit.
7. **Be able to demonstrate capacity and commitment to make the use of sustainable energy more widespread.** Award-winning organisations must demonstrate good governance and management, an established and continuing commitment to sustainable energy, and a willingness to work with partners, such as finance organisations and training providers.
8. **Be able to contribute to Ashden's mission,** which is to encourage the growth of sustainable energy systems to tackle climate change and bring social and economic benefits to millions.

### **What will happen if you are longlisted**

If your organisation is longlisted, we will get in touch in late November to ask for the following, to better understand your work and assure ourselves of your financial viability:

1. Answers to some additional questions about your work.
2. A copy of your published accounts for the past two years.
3. A copy of your draft accounts for the current financial year.

We will also follow up the referees you have given us, and we will publish a list of longlisted organisations in early January 2018. Please do not publicise the fact that you have been longlisted before the list is published.

### **What will happen if you are shortlisted**

If you are shortlisted we will get in touch to arrange a visit to assess your work. For applicants based in the UK or Europe, the judging visit usually lasts most of a day, and involves one or two people from Ashden and sometimes a representative from the funder of the Award. For applicants with work based in other countries, the visit usually lasts one to three days, and involves one or two assessors from the Ashden team. The visit will include meetings with key staff such as your chief executive, financial officer, the person in charge of the work submitted for an Award, and other employees. It will also include seeing the work submitted in operation, usually through site visits, and meeting customers/clients. Applicants that are chosen to be visited will be credited as runners-up if they do not become winners.

### **What will happen if you win an Award**

As an Ashden Award winner, you will:

1. Travel to London at Ashden's expense to take part in the Awards Week events between 10 and 14 June (12-13 June for UK-based applicants). **Winning an Ashden Award is contingent on taking part in the Awards Week activities.**
2. Receive a visit from our video producer and in some cases a photographer.
3. Be expected to participate in media interviews that we may be able to arrange.
4. Agree with Ashden what you will spend the prize fund on and any business support you may receive.
5. Provide monitoring data about the progress of your work after one year, two years and three years.
6. You will be invited to join our global alumni network of over 200 past winners, which creates opportunities for learning and collaboration with other winners.

## Awards process and timetable for the 2019 Ashden Awards

23:59 GMT, 6 November 2018	Deadline for receipt of online applications.
Late November 2018	Approximately 40-50 applicants will be selected to provide additional information, financial accounts and references. All other applicants will be notified that they have not been successful.
Early December 2018	Deadline for receipt of additional information, audited accounts and references.
January/early February 2019	Judging panels meet to shortlist approximately 20 applicants. All other applicants will be notified that they have not been successful.
February and March 2019	Assessors visit the shortlisted applicants.
March/April 2019	Judging panels meet to select up to 10 Award winners. All other shortlisted applicants will be notified of the outcome.
April to June 2019	Preparation of publicity materials about all shortlisted applicants. Detailed case studies written about winners' work and visit from our video producer.
10-14 June 2019	Awards week: winners in London for Awards Ceremony and related events. (Note, UK winners usually only required for 12-13 June)

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