

# 2023 Ashden Awards - application form

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*This copy is for reference only (please complete and submit your application via our online portal). It includes all questions that may be seen, but when completing online only relevant questions for your application will be shown.*

## 1. Basic information

1.1 The themes for the 2023 Ashden Awards are listed below. You can select *up to two* themes in which you would like your work to be considered.

Please refer to our website for more information on these categories. If you are not sure about which award theme to apply for, contact us at [apply@ashden.org](mailto:apply@ashden.org).

Skills in Sustainable Land Management (UK)

Energy innovation in the UK

Community Nature Adaptation (UK)

Energising Refugees and Displaced People (International)

Energising Agriculture (International)

Skills Powering Energy Access (International)

Natural Climate Solutions (International)

Integrated Energy Africa (International)

## 1.2 Your organisation

Legal name of your organisation

Any other names used

Website

When was your organisation established?

What is the legal status of your organisation?

- for-profit business
- social enterprise
- Charity/NGO
- Community group
- government/public sector
- other

Describe your organisation's legal status

### Address of headquarters

Building name or number

Street 1

Street 2

City

Post code

Country

### 1.3 Contact details for administration

We have saved the contact details from your Expression of Interest form for this person:

This will be the primary person we will contact regarding this application.

### 1.4 Contact details for the applicant

The applicant should be the person leading the work submitted for an award, and with most knowledge of it. This will normally be the person responsible for developing and managing the work. If this is not the administration contact named above, please fill in details of the applicant here:

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr, etc.)

First name

Last name

Role in organisation

Email address

Phone number

Ashden may use the above contact details to get in touch regarding your application for an award. Would you also be happy for us to contact you about other opportunities and events?

- Yes
- No

**1.5 Short description of the work you are submitting for an award (max. 200 words)**

Summarise as simply as possible the work that you would like to be considered for an award.

*Please note that if you would prefer to answer this question with a video recording, you can do so at the end of this form. If you do this, just type 'video' as your answer here.*

**1.6 When was the work submitted for an award first offered to customers, clients or the public?**

\_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (YYYY/MM/DD)

**1.7 Where is the work submitted for an award carried out?**

Please list the countries where your work is carried out.

**1.8 How many full-time equivalent staff and volunteers are involved in the work submitted for an award?**

Full-time equivalent estimates the number of full-time staff that would be required to do the work submitted, which could be currently done by volunteers/part-time staff/contractual employees.

### 1.9 Approximately what percentage of your employees and volunteers identify as female?

### 1.10 Is this a joint application from two organisations?

- No - single organisation
- Yes - two or more organisations

### 1.11 Main partner organisation details

Name of partner organisation

Country where partner organization is based

What is the legal status of the partner organisation?

- for-profit business
- social enterprise
- Charity / NGO
- Community group
- government/public sector
- other

Describe the legal status of the partner organisation

### Contact details for partner organisation

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr, etc.)

First name

Last name

Role in organisation

Email address

Phone number

Ashden may use the above contact details to get in touch regarding your application for an award. Would you also be happy for us to contact you about other opportunities and events?

- Yes
- No

## 2. The work submitted for an award

This must be work that is already in progress, not proposed or future work. Do not list achievements or sales numbers here, you will be asked about them later.

### 2.1 Describe the problem you are solving with this work. (max. 200 words)

Make clear how the problem/challenge affects your end-users or beneficiaries.

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### 2.2 Explain in detail how your solution works (Max 350 words).

For example, how do you find the people that use this solution, how do you engage with them, what do you offer them and how is it delivered in practice? If your work involves manufacturing, distribution, installation, maintenance or training, please say a bit about how this work is done.

If you work in multiple countries, where does most of your work take place?

If this is a joint application from more than one organisation, please make clear what the role of each is.

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### 2.3 Describe any technical features of the work you are submitting for an Award. (max. 200 words)

If your work makes use of a particular technology or technologies, please give technical details, such as design, specifications and manufacturers of the technology used. Focus on any aspects that are particularly innovative

. If your work does not involve the use of technology, please move on to the next question.

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### 2.4 How big is the market you serve, and what are the opportunities for growth? (Max 200 words)

How many people benefit at the moment, and how many could benefit in the future? Is there a growing need for what you do? List other organisations that are engaged in solving the same problems or challenges as you, and say whether you view them as competitors or partners.

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### 2.5 How much do people pay for your product/service, or how is your work funded? (Max. 100 words)

If your application is about products or services, please include brief details on the price, including subsidies, and how people pay, i.e. up-front, through loans, through a pay-as-you-go system, etc. If your work is not a product or service, for example a community programme or local government project, please explain how it is funded. **All information submitted will be treated in complete confidence, and used only by the judging panel, specialist assessors and Ashden staff.**

Please note that if you would prefer to answer this question with a video recording, you can do so at the end of this form. If you do this, just type 'video' as your answer here.

## 2.6 Additional questions for specific award themes

The following questions allow you to give us more information for specific award themes.

Please note that if you would prefer to answer any of these questions with a video recording, you can do so at the end of this form. If you do this, just type 'video' here for your answers.

### Energising Refugees and Displaced People:

1) How does this solution lead to skills, employment or jobs (max 200 words)

2) Do you partner with other organisations (max 100 words)

3) How do you include women and youth? (max 100 words)

### Energising Agriculture:

1) How is your work strengthening the livelihoods of smallholder farmers, producers and/or local vendors? (max. 100 words)

Please explain what is innovative about your approach, and what role renewable energy plays in this.

**2) How does your work bring the agricultural sector and the energy access sector together? (max. 100 words)**

For example, does your work feature cross sector collaboration or help break down sector silos?

**Skills powering Energy Access:**

**1) How do you measure success? (max 100 words)**

**2) How is your work widening access to training and skills development for marginalised and/or low-income communities? (max. 100 words)**

**Natural Climate Solutions (International)**

**1) How does your work improve the lives and livelihoods of local communities? (max 350 word)**

**2) How does your work protect and/or restore ecosystems? (max 350 words)**

**Integrated Energy Africa (International)**

**1) How does your work bring different energy services together? (200 words).**

How are multiple energy services, such as transport, space cooling, cold chain services, and other productive uses of energy integrated in this solution.

2) How does your solution provide value to the wider energy systems as well as direct users? (350 words) Do system managers benefit from cheaper grid connections, is there better visibility of demand, improved demand side response, or other services that are useful to the wider energy system.

#### Skills in Sustainable Land Management (UK)

1) Explain the extent to which you are involving local colleges, other education providers and/or local authorities in the work you are submitting for an award

2) How you track the impact of your land-based training; how do you evaluate success? (Max. 200 words))

3) What evidence do you use for the climate impacts of the regenerative practices you teach? (max 200 words)

4) How do you describe the trade-offs between biodiversity, carbon and productivity of land to learners? (Max. 200 words)

## **Energy innovation in the UK**

**1) Describe any intellectual property that you own, relating to the work submitted. (Max. 100 words)**

Please mention any patents applied for or granted.

**2) What is the carbon balance of your operations and what is a meaningful unit for you i.e. cost per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> saved/embodyed carbon per kWh? (150 words)**

## **Community Nature Adaptation (UK)**

**1) Which type of extreme weather/climate impact does your work adapt to and how can success be measured? (max 200 words)**

**3. Outcomes, results and benefits of the work that you are submitting for an award**

We want to know about what has already been achieved - please focus on the existing outcomes you have evidence for.

**3.1 What difference have your products, services or programmes made for end-users/beneficiaries? (Max. 100 words)**

Have they saved people money, helped them earn more money, reduced air pollution, warmed homes, encouraged them to take action on environmental issues, enabled easier access to transport, etc. Please don't give sales numbers here.

Please note that if you would prefer to answer this question with a video recording, you can do so at the end of this form. If you do this, just type 'video' as your answer here.

**3.2 Please quantify the impact your work has had.**

Please summarise the most important outcomes of your work, using data wherever possible.

Use whatever figures best communicate your impact, for example products sold, systems installed, energy saved or generated, volume of materials, campaigns run, people engaged or trained, jobs or livelihoods created, income generated for beneficiaries, square metres of floorspace, hectares of forest conserved, etc.

Focusing on the most important two or three measures, please tell us the impact your work has had:

Cumulative impact (since your work started):	
Impact in the current year	
Impact last year	
Impact two years ago	

**3.3 Please tell us the total number of customers/beneficiaries/end-users you have served since the work you are submitting for an award started**

Direct beneficiaries (i.e. the primary end-users)

The proportion of women and girls amongst the direct beneficiaries

## 4. Ashden assessment criteria

The following core criteria are used by the Ashden judging panels to assess all applicants. We do not expect applicants to be able to satisfy all of the criteria below, please just provide as much information as you can for the questions that are relevant to your work.

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### 4.1 Decarbonisation and environmental protection. (150 words)

**For applicants in the UK:** we want to know how you are contributing to real and rapid reductions in fossil fuel use, land based GHG emissions, overall energy use and raw material consumption. Please give us estimates of current annual reductions resulting from your work, including relevant calculations and assumptions.

**For applicants in developing countries:** we recognise your priority will be enabling people to achieve a decent standard of living, but if you are also reducing fossil fuel use, please give estimates of your annual saving here. If you are delivering natural climate solutions, how do you calculate the carbon balance?

**All applicants:** tell us how your work, or your ways of working, protect or enhance the environment. Let us know what environmental due diligence processes you use, and how you ensure the sustainability of your supply chains.

### 4.2 Resilience and adaptation. (100 words)

Describe how your work builds community resilience against climate change impacts and economic shocks, through the creation of livelihoods and adaptation efforts to enable people to live and work more sustainably, while contributing to a just and inclusive transition.

### 4.3 Boosting green skills and work. (100 words)

Describe how you are helping people make a decent, secure, dignified living, in line with the [ILO definition](#). This may include enabling people to gain or improve skills that are useful in a future sustainable society and economy, supporting the creation of paid and voluntary work that contributes to a fair transition away from fossil fuels, or enabling people to have sustainable

livelihoods. Please also tell us how you pay attention to the position of women, vulnerable or under-represented groups in the work that you do.

**4.4 Reducing inequality. (150 words)**

Tell us about how you are reducing inequality within your own organisation, and also reducing inequality in local communities (nationally or globally) including through your supply chains.

**4.5 Participation. (100 words)**

Tell us how you promote participation, for example by involving local communities, customers, beneficiaries or employees/workers in decision-making, or by enabling shared ownership of your organisation or the equitable distribution of benefits.

**4.6 Communications potential. (100 words)**

We are looking for applicants that have developed an innovative product, service or business model that will inspire others to replicate, invest in or enable the work to be scaled. The solution will need to have the potential to be effectively communicated to a broad audience using words, film and images to tell powerful, people-centred stories of change and impact. Please use your answer here to identify staff, customers or beneficiaries who have a story to tell about the impact of your work on people’s lives. You do not need to give names, but please give us some background information on the people and 2-3 examples of the kind of stories they might be able to tell about how your work has improved their lives.

**5. The future**

This section is about the future and should not describe current or past activities.

## 5.1 Describe your plans and goals to expand, replicate or diversify the work you are submitting for an award over the next three years (max. 100 words)

Please note that if you would prefer to answer this question with a video recording, you can do so at the end of this form. If you do this, just type 'video' for your answer here.

## 6. Basic financial information

We ask for basic financial information at this stage. If you are selected to proceed to the next stage of the awards process, you will be asked to supply your accounts for the last three years, an estimate for the current year, and forecasts for at least one further year. **All information submitted will be treated in complete confidence, and used only by the judging panel, specialist assessors and Ashden staff.**

### 6.1 What is your annual revenue?

We need to know this to see the scale of your operations.

Currency and units used (e.g. US\$, thousands or millions)

Last financial year

Current financial year (estimate)

Next financial year (forecast)

### 6.2 List up to three main sources of income for your organisation in order of importance and with approximate percentages.

eg earned income 80%, government grant 15%, charitable donations 5%.

Source of income	Percentage
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1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**6.3 What is the end date of your current financial year?**

\_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (YYYY/MM/DD)

**6.4 Is your work financially sustainable? If not, what measures are you taking and when do you expect to reach sustainability? (Max 100 words)**

For businesses, say whether the work is currently profitable, and if not when it will break even. For other organisations, comment on how secure your sources of funding for the work are, and if there is a shortfall explain how it is being met.

**6.5 What currency are you using for financial figures?**

**6.6 Add any comments or explanations you want to give to explain your finances (optional) (max. 200 words)**

E.g comments on the information above or details of recent debt or equity raises or other investment.

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## 7. Visit from an Ashden assessor

If you are shortlisted, we expect an Ashden assessor or an Ashden representative to visit your organisation in May or June 2023, and videoconference interviews may also be used. For applicants working in the UK, the visit will take one day, and for applicants working elsewhere the visit will take one to two days. During this visit, the assessor(s) will need to meet with your senior management team, see the work you have submitted for the award in action, and meet end-users. The assessor will write a report and make a presentation to the judging panel, which will play an important part in the judging process.

### 7.1 List any dates when it will NOT be possible for us to visit you in May and June 2023

### 7.2 What location(s) will need to be visited?

List specific areas/towns/cities/countries, and bear in mind the need to meet both the senior management and end-users, and see the work in action.

## 8. Video submission of answers to questions

For any of the long-answer questions in this form you have the option of recording a video to respond, rather than providing a written answer. Please only record a single video, and answer all the questions you wish to in it.

Unfortunately we can only accept video submissions in English language due to translation costs.

If you would like to submit a video, please record it and make it available via a file-sharing service (such as Google Drive or Dropbox) or via a video platform (such as YouTube or Vimeo). If using a video platform, we suggest you make your video 'unlisted', so that only people with the link can view it.

If you are submitting a video recording, please copy the link to it and paste it in here:

## 9. Data protection

Information submitted by shortlisted applicants will be retained by Ashden for future use, but will not be released to third parties without written permission from the winning applicant.

**9.1 For applicants that do not become finalists, if permission is given by the applicants, the information they submit will be retained by Ashden for up to three years. This is to enable potential 'fast-track' re-applications by those applicants during this period. If permission is not given and you wish to reapply, you will need to fill in the application form again. Do you give permission for Ashden to retain the information you submit for up to three years if you do not win?**

- Yes
- No