

IAPH 2021 Sustainability Awards

Terms of Reference

1. Introduction

The IAPH World Ports Sustainability Program (WPSP) aims to demonstrate global leadership of ports in contributing to sustainable development. The program is based on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations and is structured along five themes:

1. Resilient infrastructure
2. Climate and energy
3. Safety and security
4. Community outreach and port-city dialogue
5. Governance and ethics

The World Ports Sustainability Program's project portfolio has become the most coherent and up-to-date global database of port related projects on sustainable development. Using the portfolio, ports worldwide can raise awareness about their ongoing work on sustainability, share their experiences and provide inspiration.

IAPH's 'World Ports Sustainability Awards' are open to all members. An international jury will evaluate the project awards and the shortlisted projects will be put to a public online vote. The Awards are handed out during the gala dinner of the annual IAPH World Ports Conference, which will next take place in Antwerp, 24 June 2021.

2. Who participates?

Any port that is a regular member of IAPH or any associate member acting on behalf of an IAPH member port as client, partner or collaborator, which has started or completed a sustainability project that has a demonstrable positive impact.

Collaborative projects involving several member ports are encouraged.

The project must correspond to one of the five WPSP themes and the specific focus area for each theme set out in these terms of reference.

The project must have been submitted to the WPSP portfolio between 16 January 2020 (day following the closing date of the 2020 Awards) and 31 March 2021, using the online project form: <https://sustainableworldports.org/submit-your-project/>

An audiovisual guide to filling this form is available [here](#)

3. WPSF themes and focus areas

The project entries for the awards must correspond to one of the five themes of the World Ports Sustainability Program. The table below identifies and illustrates the focus area of each theme with potential topics.

| WPSF theme | Focus area | Potential topics |
|---|--|---|
| Resilient infrastructure | <p>Digital optimisation of infrastructure: innovative and cost-efficient use of digital applications to handle major infrastructural and service challenges in ports.</p> <p>Climate change adaptation: increasing the resilience of port infrastructure against the effects of climate change</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Optimal use of existing port capacity - Just-in-time arrival of ships - Handling of increasing ship sizes - Process and documentation flows - Intra-port and hinterland mobility - Digital innovation and adaptation in response to COVID-19 crisis ... - Preparation for extreme weather events - Incorporating climate resilience in infrastructure development projects ... |
| Climate and energy | Facilitation of energy transition in ports: striving towards CO ₂ -neutral ports to help achieving global climate goals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy efficiency - Renewable energy sources - Circular and bio-based economy - Provision of clean marine fuels - Clean ship incentives ... |
| Safety and security | Safety and security as integrated part of business: matching efficient port operations and accessible port areas with high safety and security standards. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion of health and safety culture - Ensuring safety of personnel and port visitors during the COVID-19 pandemic - Innovation in controls and inspections - Secure but accessible port areas - Working in automated environments - Cybersecurity measures - ... |
| Community outreach and port-city dialogue | Community support for port development: aligning and integrating port and community objectives for the betterment of both. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Port expansion in urban environments - Managing externalities of operations - Sustainable cruise tourism - Community engagement programmes (focusing also on support during the COVID-19 crisis) - Education and employment initiatives - ... |
| Governance and ethics | Leadership of port authorities in adhering to principles of good corporate governance and promoting them in the wider port community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparency and reporting - Equal rights and opportunities - Business ethics - Fair trade / responsible supply chains - Anti-corruption - Dealing with crew changes and addressing the humanitarian crisis resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic |

4. Selection criteria

The jury will evaluate the entries for the awards against the following criteria:

- Achieving sustainability objectives and addressing relevant UN SDGs
- measurable impact of the project on the sustainability of the port and its environment;
- collaboration with commercial stakeholders to ensure a solid business case;
- engagement and buy-in of societal stakeholders;
- cooperation with other ports (where relevant);
- original and innovative character of the project;
- vision and leadership deployed by the senior management of the port authority;
- overall presentation.

5. Process

Projects submitted between 16 January 2020 (day following the closing date of the 2020 Awards) and 31 March 2021 are admitted to the 2021 Awards. Entries must be submitted through the online form on the WSPSP website: <https://sustainableworldports.org/submit-your-project/>

Following a pre-selection based on the eligibility criteria outlined in sections 2 and 3 of these terms of reference, an international jury consisting of independent experts will evaluate the entries for all award categories against the selection criteria outlined in section 4 of these terms of reference. The jury may ask candidates to provide additional information on their projects.

The process then runs as follows:

- each jury member will give all projects a score based on the selection criteria;
- the three highest scoring projects in each thematic category will be nominated for the award in that category;
- the jury will announce the nominated projects by 23 April 2021 at the latest;
- the nominees may be asked to provide additional material/information and their updated project profiles will be posted online for a public vote;
- the online public vote will be open from 3 to 28 May 2021;
- the outcome of the public vote will count for 30% in the overall evaluation;
- the winners will be announced during the World Ports Conference Gala Dinner, held in Antwerp, Belgium, on 24 June 2021.

5. The awards

The winners of the awards will:

- receive a symbolic statue and certificate;
- be interviewed for an exclusive feature in the IAPH magazine Ports & Harbors;
- have a dedicated story on the WSPSP website.