

**Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award**  
A Joint Initiative of CMCC and Festival for the Earth

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**  
**“COMMUNICATING CLIMATE CHANGE THREATS AND OPPORTUNITIES”**

The **Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change** and the **Festival for the Earth** invite you to participate in the **Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award** and to propose innovative ideas and projects to communicate risks and opportunities of climate change effectively.

**KEY INFORMATION**

**Theme:** “Communicating Climate Change Threats and Opportunities”

**Submission deadline:** June 28, 2018 (5.00 pm CEST)

**Prize:** a cash prize of 3000 Euros<sup>1</sup>, co-sponsored by the **Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change** and the **Festival for the Earth**

**How to apply:** via the [online application form](#)

**Website:** [www.bestclimatesolutions.eu](http://www.bestclimatesolutions.eu)

Please read through the following to learn more about the 2018 Award.

---

<sup>1</sup> Gross amount subject to withholding tax.

**Best Climate Solutions** ([bestclimatesolutions.eu](http://bestclimatesolutions.eu)) is a web platform developed by the **Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change (CMCC)** for showcasing the most innovative and compelling efforts from around the world to build a climate-smart and resilient future. It aims to engage a community of local developers, innovators, business operators, researchers in supporting the scaling up of tools, technologies and models that tackle causes and consequences of climate change. Through an annual Call for Proposals, **Best Climate Solutions** selects and awards innovative projects and actionable ideas from across the world, which provide solutions to targeted climate change challenges. The **Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award** focuses on the challenge of “Communicating Climate Change Threats and Opportunities”, and it is organized by the **Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change** in partnership with the **Festival for the Earth**.

The **CMCC Foundation - Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change** ([cmcc.it](http://cmcc.it)) is the Italian-based no-profit center that develops international research on climate change. **CMCC**'s mission is to investigate and model our climate system and its interactions with society to provide reliable, rigorous, and timely scientific results to stimulate sustainable growth, protect the environment, and to develop science driven adaptation and mitigation policies in a changing climate. **CMCC** benefits from the extensive research experience of the Foundation's members: National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV); University of Salento; Italian Aerospace Research Center (CIRA S.c.p.a); Ca' Foscari University of Venice; University of Tuscia; University of Sassari, Politecnico di Milano.

The **Festival for the Earth** ([festivalfortheearth.com](http://festivalfortheearth.com)) is a 2-day international gathering aiming to propose to broader audiences possibilities of transformations, reflections and alternative modalities to reframe environmental issues. Knowledge access and information flows are highly important as actual environmental emergencies urge a radical change of perspective and practices. To this end the **Festival for the Earth** is conceived as an *art project for social transformation* that aims to instigate creativeness directed at positive transformation processes in science, humanities, economy, ecology and art. The conference's location is alternating between Venice and the Principality of Monaco, two cities that are already linked by strong historical ties, two symbolic places where the relationship between “water” and land (characterized by its scarcity) has shaped both the minds of their citizens and their history. In December 2018 the Festival's third edition will return to Venice and will be hosted in the prestigious location of Ca' Foscari University, a **Festival for the Earth's** partner together with **CMCC** and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

## Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award

### THE CHALLENGE: “COMMUNICATING CLIMATE CHANGE THREATS AND OPPORTUNITIES”

Communication is becoming an increasingly essential tool to inform and engage stakeholders and the public, as well as to build collaboration bridges, scale up and empower innovative solutions to the challenges posed by climate change.

The scientific evidence of climate change is mostly unquestioned. Impacts on ecosystems and communities are more and more observed and felt. Global climate policy reached a significant milestone with the adoption of the 2015 Paris Agreement. Experiences and examples are multiplying of people joining forces to make their communities more resilient, as well as of cities, countries and business models undertaking the path of low-carbon growth.

Although the reality of climate change is acknowledged, communicating solutions or strategies to act and address cause and impacts remains a difficult task. However, new digital communication strategies inspired by information sharing, cloud-based and mobile technology, virtual reality and advanced gamification provide powerful tools to reach, inform, and engage key audiences such as younger generations, as well as to build networks and connections to produce real change. Youth face a future where climate threats and impacts will be increasingly critical and are the ones that can make a significant shift in enhancing current and future response. The role of youth in combating climate change presents a tremendous untapped potential and could make the difference in local, national and global decision-making.

In the current highly connected and diversified world, there is no “one-size-fits-all” approach to win the challenge of climate change communication and no boundary to develop new ways of presenting climate change threats and opportunities.

For these reasons, the aim of the **Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award** is to showcase and promote the most creative and impactful initiatives designed to deliver engaging messages, raise awareness and trigger action in the audiences addressed, such as students, consumers, business or politicians. The **Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award** focuses on innovative ideas, methods and tools to communicate climate change in education, advocacy, media production and social engagement activities.

## ELIGIBILITY

The **Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award** is open to individuals, teams or organizations, regardless of nationality. Applicants can submit their idea or project, as well as a third party's idea or project with due reference to the author(s)<sup>2</sup>. Where an intellectual property owner's authorization is needed, it is the responsibility of the applicants to obtain such approval before submitting the final materials.

The **Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award** accepts submissions presenting projects, initiatives, tools, or ideas to communicate climate change in education, advocacy, media production and social engagement activities. Submissions not consistent with the **Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award** theme will not be considered. Eligible submissions can present: (a) a brand new idea or (b) an already existing project (in its preliminary phase, underway or already concluded). Eligible submissions must refer to actionable ideas or concrete projects.

Eligible submissions must be in English language and compliant with the application procedure described in this Call for Proposals.

Eligible submissions must be sent by June 28, 2018 (5.00 pm CEST). Submissions received after the deadline will not be considered.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

In order to submit an entry, applicants must [register](#) on the **Best Climate Solutions** platform and fill in the [online application form](#) by following the instructions given. Each registered applicant can submit one or more entry.

## TIMELINE

**Starting date for submissions:** April 23, 2018 (12.00 noon CEST)

**Submission deadline:** June 28, 2018 (5.00 pm CEST)

**Online polls:** September 24, 2018 – October 15, 2018 (5.00 pm CEST)

**Winner announcement:** December 4, 2018, at the [Festival for the Earth](#) 2018 in Venice

Any change in the above dates will be communicated in due course to applicants and disclosed on the **Best Climate Solutions** website.

---

<sup>2</sup> The author is to be understood to mean the physical person, the association or the organization that invented, created, designed the submitted project or idea. The prize of the Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award is awarded to the author(s) of the winning submission.

## EVALUATION PROCESS

The evaluation process includes the assessment by a high-profile Jury composed of experts from universities and international organizations, and online polls open to the online community of the **Best Climate Solutions** platform.

The international Jury performs its assessment according to the following criteria:

- viability;
- innovation (at technological, social, or organizational level);
- expected/observed impact;
- scalability

The list of members of the international Jury of the **Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award** will be disclosed in due course on the **Best Climate Solutions** website.

During the online polls, registered users on the **Best Climate Solutions** website can vote for the admitted candidates and share them on the social networks, increasing their chances to win.

The online polls are open from September 24 to October 15, 2018 (5.00 pm CEST).

In order to vote, users need to [register or log in](#) on the **Best Climate Solutions** platform.

Each registered user has a single right of vote for each candidate. Users can assign from one to five points for each of the following criteria:

- viability;
- innovation (at technological, social, or organizational level);
- expected/observed impact;
- scalability

All the admitted candidates will be shown on the **Best Climate Solutions** website at the close of the submission stage.

Admitted candidates are graded with a score combining the results of the online polls and the assessment by the international Jury. The author of the submitted project or idea receiving the highest score is awarded the prize. Submissions that do not meet the minimum score by the Jury cannot win the Award.

## PRIZE

The finalists and the winner of the **Best Climate Solutions 2018 Award** will be announced on December 4, 2018, at the **Festival for the Earth 2018** in Venice (Italy).

The author of the winning project will be invited to present the proposal during a high-level gala event featuring among the guests Nobel, Pulitzer, and Goldman Prize winners (keynote speakers at Festival for the Earth) and will receive a prize of 3000 euros<sup>3</sup>, co-sponsored by the **Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change** and the **Festival for the Earth**.

Any change in the above information will be communicated in due course to applicants and disclosed on the **Best Climate Solutions** website.

### Information and contacts:

[www.bestclimatesolutions.eu](http://www.bestclimatesolutions.eu)  
[info@bestclimatesolutions.eu](mailto:info@bestclimatesolutions.eu)

---

<sup>3</sup> Gross amount subject to withholding tax.