

Call for Proposals Best Climate Practices Contest 2014

Best Climate Practices for Energy Poverty Alleviation

The International Center for Climate Governance (ICCG – www.iccgov.org) is a think tank active in the field of climate policy design and governance. Based in Venice, Italy, the ICCG was established jointly by the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei and the Fondazione Giorgio Cini, in collaboration with the Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change.

In the context of its Best Climate Practices observatory, the ICCG invites you to submit innovative proposals focusing on **energy poverty alleviation**.

The Best Climate Practices observatory

Launched in 2013, the “Best Climate Practices” (BCP - www.bestclimatepractices.org) is an observatory on the **best practices and initiatives for tackling climate change** that deserve attention for their **originality and effectiveness**. The platform was conceived to build a link between researchers, institutions, businesses and political actors, while providing useful information to the general public. All the best practices collected on the website have been chosen according to their capacity for implementation and potential for replicability. Each practice is analysed and evaluated by ICCG researchers for its effectiveness and implementability at a local, national and global level.

Why Energy poverty

The focus of the 2014 contest is **energy poverty alleviation**.

Currently, 1.3 billion people – one in five globally – have no access to electricity and energy infrastructures with adequate standards of quality and efficiency. Nearly 40 percent of the world population does not have access to clean cooking and heating facilities, and must rely on wood, coal, charcoal, or animal waste to cook their food on open fires and leaky stoves.

In addition to the health burden from smoke inhalation of health-damaging pollutants, burning solid fuels releases emissions of some of the most important contributors to global climate change (carbon dioxide, methane, ozone-depleting gases such as carbon monoxide, and short-lived sunlight-absorbing particles such as black carbon and brown carbon). Unsustainable wood harvesting also aggravates the already alarming problem of deforestation.

Besides the effect on both the environment and **climate change**, energy poverty is responsible for exasperating the condition of **extreme indigence** which affects large portions of the world's population: the evidence that over 95 percent of the people who lack of modern energy live in sub-Saharan Africa or in rural regions of the Asian continent highlights the fact that the world distribution of energy poverty largely coincides with the world distribution of overall extreme poverty.

ICCG is conscious of the importance of facing these challenges as soon as possible, as appropriate actions can lead to win-win situations that combine climate change mitigation/adaptation and socio-economic development. “**Best Climate Practices**” can therefore help reach the objective of alleviating energy poverty while tackling the challenge of climate change.

Objectives of the contest

The scope of the 2014 BCP Contest is to promote and support actions that can help to close the “modern energy gap” in an environmentally and economically sustainable way. To this end, the contest aims to:

- Increase the **spread of best practices**;
- Promote **collective innovation, brilliance** and **personal initiative**;
- Fight against climate change impacts through the **diffusion of best climate practices aimed at reducing energy poverty**;
- Support **sustainable development** worldwide and contribute to the diffusion of the **green growth** paradigm;
- Create a connection within **institutions, the public at large, enterprises, researchers and policy makers**, in an effort to implement the most promising practices.

Eligibility criteria

a) Who can participate

The contest is open to **anyone**, regardless of nationality or expertise in the field.

Proposals can be submitted by **individual users** or **teams**.

Submitters can be the authors of the practice or they can submit a third party’s practice. However, it is strictly forbidden to submit someone else’s practice/idea as one’s own.

Projects previously exhibited or published may be resubmitted, as long as they conform to the rules and the entry guidelines of the previous competition. For practices/ideas that have been exhibited or published elsewhere, we request to be informed through the **Note session** in the ad hoc web form.

b) Eligible practices

The contest is open to best practices **focusing on energy poverty alleviation and tackling climate change** through adaptation or mitigation actions.

Admitted practices can present:

- a **brand new idea** or
- an **already existing innovative project** (in its preliminary phase, under way or already concluded).

Proposals must refer to **concrete ideas or projects**: generic papers or dissemination initiatives will not be taken into account.

Practices must be submitted according to the rules explained in this call for proposals.

To understand what can be considered a **best practice** read the definition on the [About page](#).

Submission procedure and rules

In order to submit a proposal, go to the BCP website at www.bestclimatepractices.org and fill in the form on the [Submit a Practice](#) webpage. Participation in BCP contests requires users to be registered on the BCP platform. Log in or register [here](#).

Each registered user may submit one or more practices.

No application fee is required.

Timing

- **Proposals** submission: July 10, 2014 – October 15, 2014
- **Rate** phase by users: October 16, 2014 – October 31, 2014
- **Award** Ceremony: Think Forward Film Festival, Venice, December 12-13, 2014.

Awards

The 2014 BCP contest will assign two different awards.

The author¹ of the most voted practice through the BCP website, involving a voting method based upon quantitative rates, will receive the **Users' Choice Award**. A Panel of Experts will select the **Experts' Choice Winner**.

1) Experts' Choice Award

A panel of experts from international universities and organisations will assign the Experts' Choice Award.

The Experts' Choice Award winner will be given a valuable **artistic Murano Glass object** made by a famous Murano Master and will benefit from [ICCG's international communication and promotional channels](#). Moreover, ICCG will **connect the winner with institutions and potential investors/crowdfunders**.

Award Ceremony

The Experts' Choice Award winner, together with the Users' Choice Award winner, will receive the award during the fourth edition of the **Think Forward Film Festival 2014** (Venice, December 12-13, 2014), the ICCG film festival on climate change and renewable energies.

Evaluation procedure and criteria

The practices/ideas will be evaluated by the Panel of Experts according to the following criteria:

- **feasibility** of the actions proposed by the practice;
- **replicability** potential of the practice described;
- **originality** of the practice;
- likely **impact** on energy poverty alleviation, and climate change adaptation and mitigation actions;
- the best **costs/benefits** ratio.

2014 Panel of Experts:

- **Carlo Carraro**, ICCG and University Ca'Foscari of Venice;
- **Pippo Ranci**, World Access to Modern Energy & EXPO2015 Association (WAME);
- **Shonali Pachauri**, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA);
- **Saleemul Huq**, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED);
- **Raffaella Centurelli**, International Energy Agency (IEA).

[Visit the website](#) for the biographies of the Panel members.

2) Users' Choice Award

The Users' Choice Award winner will be awarded the production of a **promotional video of his/her practice**. The video will be of winner's property and will be advertised worldwide through [ICCG's international communication and promotional channels](#). Moreover, ICCG will **connect the winner with institutions and potential investors/crowdfunders**.

Award Ceremony

The Users' Choice Award winner, together with the Experts' Choice Award winner, will receive the award during the fourth edition of the **Think Forward Film Festival 2014** (Venice, December 12-13, 2014), the ICCG film festival on climate change and renewable energies. On that occasion, the promotional video of the winning practice will be screened for the first time to the Festival's audience.

Evaluation procedure and criteria

Users, through the BCP website, will be able to **rate the contestants' practices and share their favourites on the social networks**, contributing to make them famous and increasing their chances to win. Practices can be rated throughout a **quantitative poll** on the webpage of each submitted idea/practice. All contestants' practices can be viewed at the [Contest](#) webpage.

Voting is open to the public from October 16, 2014 to October 31, 2014.

In order to vote the practices, users need to be registered on the BCP platform. Log in or register [here](#). Each registered user has a single right of vote for each of the practices listed. The poll allows users to assign **from 1 to 5 "stars"** for each of the following criteria:

- **feasibility** of the actions proposed by the practice;
- **replicability** potential of the practice described;
- **originality** of the practice;



- likely **impact** on energy poverty alleviation, and climate change adaptation and mitigation actions.

Contacts

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ⁱ The author is to be understood as the physical person, the association or the organization that invented, created, designed the submitted practice.