



# **EMAS Awards**

## **Application Form & Factsheet**

### **EMAS as a driver of change**

---

**More information:**

**[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/emas/emas\\_for\\_you/emas\\_awards\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/emas/emas_for_you/emas_awards_en.htm)**

---

# FACT SHEET

## Introduction

The European EMAS Award is the most prestigious award in environmental management and has been presented to EMAS registered organisations nearly every year since 2005. Since 2015 the Awards take place every two years, alternating with the European Business Awards for the Environment (EBAE). The EMAS Awards were established by the European Commission and reward top environmental performance of EMAS registered organisations.

## This year's topic

For this year's edition of the EMAS Awards, the Forum of Competent Bodies and the European Commission have decided to acknowledge the achievements of EMAS registered organisations that implemented **EMAS as a driver of change** towards sustainable transition through a long-term holistic vision for a positive impact on sustainable development as a whole.

**EMAS is an important environmental policy instrument that contributes to the achievement of the Paris Agreement Goals as well as to the Sustainable Development Goals.** With their systematic environmental management processes, EMAS registered organisations are well-placed to take pioneering steps in making a sustainable transition reality. That is why the EU wants to identify the best strategies and measures taken by EMAS registered organisations and boost their visibility to promote their replication across the EU.

## Eligibility

EMAS registered organisations in the **following categories can apply**:

1. Private micro and small organisations
2. Private medium-sized organisations
3. Private large organisations
4. Public micro and small organisations
5. Public medium-sized and large organisations

Nominees from each of these categories are selected at national level by the national Competent Bodies.

Organisations who have won an EMAS Award in the most recent edition of the EMAS Awards cannot apply for the EMAS Awards 2019.

Applications are eligible provided that the organisation is able to demonstrate that:

- their sustainable transition-oriented initiatives and measures have been ongoing during the time that they are EMAS registered. An organisation is eligible even if these initiatives and measures were initiated before their EMAS registration
- a conclusive reference is made to the sustainable transition initiatives and measures, or to the overall plan that includes these initiatives and measures within the environmental statement.

Since the concept of a sustainable transition is a relatively new ambition in practice the EU is looking for early but promising efforts and initiatives on the path towards this sustainable change. We therefore invite you to **fill in the criteria below that you deem relevant to the activities of your organisation**. You do not need to address all criteria, but please bear in mind the distribution of points as indicated below.

## **Jury**

The EMAS Award nominees from the Member States will be evaluated by an independent EMAS Awards Jury, consisting of renowned experts in the field of EMAS and Sustainable Transition. A representative of one of the organisations that has recently won an EMAS Award will also be a member of the jury.

# Award criteria for circular economy measures related to environmental performance

When filling in the application form, please make reference to the page(s) in your environmental statement where the initiative or achievement you would like to highlight is covered.

The following main and supportive criteria for the EMAS Awards focus on different aspects of a Sustainable Transition in the context of an EMAS implementation:

## EMAS Award criteria for EMAS as driver of change (max. 100 points)

### 1. Development and implementation of a strategy to foster sustainable change (max. 25 points)

Under this award criterion please explain how and to what extent your organisation has implemented a strategy contributing to making the operations or the business model of your organisation more sustainable and contributing to a sustainable change of your business environment. A business model identifies a company's value proposition, target customer types, distribution channels, customer relationships, core capabilities, partner network; and cost and revenue structure. Companies and other organisations that have changed their business model as a result of environmental and sustainability considerations and opportunities are role models for others.

Can be related to one or more of the following questions addressed by your organisation:

- How has your organisation taken into account principles/vision addressing sustainable change?

#### *Examples*

- *The organisation has enshrined principles of sustainable change into its Corporate Strategy; Code of Conduct or Principles of Cooperation*
- *Do the organisation's principles/visions refer to international frameworks or initiatives such as the UN Global Compact, Sustainable Development Goals, Paris Agreement, OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises?*

- Do you have a corporate strategy/ guidelines/ rules which include aspects of sustainable transformation process? Are you considering reducing the environmental impacts of your organisation in future? Are you considering how environmental issues can influence the future of your organisation/business model? Are aspects of resource efficiency and effectivity (through EMAS) included in your strategy?

*Examples*

- *The organisation's Corporate Strategy aims at reducing the environmental impact by 25% in the next five years (see environmental statement, page X)*
- *A Business Development Plan aims at restructuring the organisation's core business until 2025 in order to divest from non-renewable business practices*
- *Workshops aim at involving employees into the organisation's sustainable Corporate Strategy by training them to integrate the organisation's sustainable change indicators into their work routine*
- *The organisation's Code of Conduct (referring to the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, UN Global Compact, etc.) requests suppliers and business partners to comply with the following environmental standards...*

- How important is EMAS for your core business? Which role does EMAS play for your core business? Did the environmental management system help you to improve also other indicators in your organisation besides EMAS core indicators? Does EMAS influence your corporate strategy?

*Examples*

- *Especially for service providers and public administration the impact of EMAS is less visible than the impact of EMAS in the manufacturing sector. One example for EMAS influence on public administration would be that EMAS helped to choose in the process of public procurement more environmental friendly (or even also EMAS registered) contractors, suppliers or partners*
- *Applicants receive extra points in the public administration's public procurement application system for implementing an environmental management system, ranking EMAS highest*
- *EMAS standard of continuous improvement of an organisation's environmental performance has changed the corporate's strategy in order to fulfil this requirement*

- Does your organisation implement actions in order to reduce the organisation's resistance to change? Please describe. To which extent does the initiative(s) match your organisation's environmental vision and policy as developed in the context of EMAS? Please explain.

*Examples*

- *The organisation conducts workshops with employees, environmental representatives and external consultants to identify action fields for sustainability*
- *The organisation promotes specific working groups to implement the identified measures for change*

## **2. Positive environmental/sustainable impact of the initiative(s)/projects (max. 40 points)**

Under this award criterion please explain how and to what extent you have developed or implemented initiative(s)/projects that have generated a positive environmental impact or have been a driver for sustainable change.

Can be related to one or more of the following questions addressed by your organisation:

- What was the reason of implementing the initiative/project? Was the idea of the initiative/project driven top down or bottom up in your organisation? What was the initial goal of the initiative/project? Did the goal change during the implementation?
- Was the initiative/project new/unique? What was special about the initiative/project?
- Where the employees and stakeholder involved in the planning and implementation of the initiative/project? How? Which capacities are needed to implement the initiative/project?
- What was the positive impact on your organization achieved by the initiative/project? What has been the positive impact outside your organisation?
- Did the initiative/project have had a positive impact on the evolution of your EMAS core or sector-specific indicators? Please explain how and to which extent.
- Has the initiative/project contributed to CO<sub>2</sub> reduction objectives, Sustainable Development Goals, Circular Economy or other relevant sustainable developments/policies in your organisation or in your region? Please quantify if possible.

## **3. Impact on interested parties and relevance of the initiative(s) (max. 35 points)**

Sometimes, the major positive impact that an organisation can have is to involve others in order to collaborate, work together, be aligned in order to pursue a major change in a sector, the neighbourhood, society, etc.

Under this award criterion please explain how and to what extent the initiative(s) have generated a positive impact in stakeholders, how it has influenced stakeholders' behaviour, consumption/production's model or approach to sustainability issues.

When considering its relevance, you should take into account the capacity of the initiative(s) to create a new perspective, to activate transformation and to provide added value to the society as a whole.

- How has your organisation implemented actions in order to reduce the resistance to change of interested parties? You can consider one or more stakeholders accordingly to the initiative (providers, contractors, employees, customers, neighbours, etc.).

*Examples*

- *The organisation has co-founded an industry dialogue to foster sustainable change in its sector*
- *An alliance with a competitor aims at reducing the environmental impact of both organisations*
- *Workshops show customers how to use the organisation's products in a way to minimize the environmental impact (longevity, efficiency, choice of higher quality products, etc.)*
- *product test campaigns are supposed to assure customers of the environmental quality of the products*
- *The organisation has introduced a contest between its departments (resource-efficiency, best environmental improvement, etc.) and grants bonuses to the best department*

- How has the initiative changed the organisation's culture?

*Examples*

- *The initiative has created a culture of pro-activeness in employees which has allowed the organisation to change its environmental management governance*
- *The initiative has developed new communication and participation flows and strategies (see specific workshop / working group)*
- *The new code of conduct has initiated a dialogue with critical stakeholders that were normally excluded, creating a joint transparency approach*

- What has been the impact on the stakeholders?

*Examples*

- *The organisation's providers have improved the product/service they offer to the organisation and to other customers*
- *Customers have adapted to the new product/service/business model*
- *Competitors have followed up to the initiative introduced by the organisation*

- Are you promoting EMAS or the performance improvement on the core indicators of EMAS? Do you have capacities to influence stakeholder on the way to sustainable change?

*Examples*

- *The organisation promotes EMAS on their homepage and provides information about EMAS to stakeholders*
- *The organisation is inviting or guiding other organisations/partners to implement EMAS*

- Have you been a source of inspiration for others? Please describe how.

*Examples*

- *The organisation has actively disseminated the initiative in order to influence others, business associations, competitors or other organisations*
- *Competitors have implemented similar actions based on your experience*
- *The organisation has been able to reach schools or education institutions in order to influence young people and increase their awareness in relation to EMAS itself or the environmental challenge related to your initiative*

- Have you been able to contribute to a local, regional or global (environmental) challenge? Please describe how.

*Examples*

- *Local programmes have been successfully implemented because of the organisation's contribution*
- *A regional environmental problem has been solved or its negative trend has been stopped*
- *The organisation has been able to attract the attention on an environmental prob-*



# APPLICATION FORM

(with max. 3-5 pages descriptive supportive info (ARIAL 11))

## INFORMATION ON THE NOMINATED ORGANISATION

Please indicate in which of the following EMAS Awards categories you want to be nominated

Per country, one organisation of each of the following three categories can be nominated by the national Competent Body (Bodies).

### Organisations from the private sector:

- Private micro and small organisations:** micro or small organisations - employing fewer than 50 persons and having an annual turnover not exceeding 10 million €.
- Private medium organisations:** medium-sized organisations - employing fewer than 250 persons and having an annual turnover not exceeding 50 million €, and/or an annual balance sheet not exceeding 43 million €.
- Private large organisations:** large organisations - employing more than 250 persons and having an annual turnover exceeding 50 million €, and/or an annual balance sheet exceeding 43 million €.

### Organisations from the public sector:

- Public micro and small organisations:** micro or small organisations - governing less than 10.000 inhabitants and/or employing fewer than 250 persons and having an annual turnover not exceeding 50 million €, and/or an annual balance sheet not exceeding 43 million €.
- Private medium and large organisations:** medium-sized or large organisations - governing 10.000 or more inhabitants and/or employing more than 250 persons and having an annual turnover exceeding 50 million €, and/or an annual balance sheet exceeding 43 million €..

Name of the organisation:

Name of the contact person:

E-mail:

Telephone:

Address:

Country:

EMAS Registration number:

Please specify if you have already participated in the EMAS Awards before:

Yes                       No

If yes, please indicate the year/s in which you participated: \_\_\_\_\_

Award category/ies: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, what status was the organisation granted at the national level competition?

- Winner
- Nominee

**Stages that your organisation is contributing to (you can select more than one stage):**

- Procurement and sourcing of sustainable services/ products
- Development, production and provision of sustainable services/ products / business models
- Resource efficient production and distribution processes
- Waste management, recycling and industrial symbiosis

# **DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION ON THE AWARD CRITERIA**

*Please make reference to the page(s) in your environmental statement where the initiative or achievement you would like to highlight is covered.*

## **Main EMAS Award criteria (max. 100 points)**

### **1. Development and implementation of initiative(s) fostering sustainable change (25 points)**

English description of how and to what extent you have implemented a strategy contributing to making the operations or the business model of your organisation more sustainable and contributing to a sustainable change of your business environment, for example by implementing a corporate strategy, code of conduct, principles of cooperation, business development plans, workshops for employees on sustainable change. Please also include additional informative descriptions you consider useful to elucidate the actions of your organisation in relation to this award criterion.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

(Please use (a) separate page(s) when necessary and limit your contributions to around 1000 words)

### **2. Positive environmental/sustainable impact of the initiative(s)/projects (max. 40 points)**

English description of how and to what extent you have developed or implemented initiative(s)/projects that have generated a positive environmental impact or have been a driver for sustainable change, as well as additional informative descriptions you consider useful to elucidate the actions of your organisation in relation to this award criterion. The initiative(s) should not only consider internal processes but also practices of external stakeholders such as suppliers, clients or dismantlers.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

(Please use (a) separate page(s) when necessary and limit your contributions to around 1000 words)

### **3. Impact on interested parties and relevance of the initiative(s) (max. 35 points)**

English description of how and to what extent the initiative(s) have generated a positive impact in stakeholders, how it has influenced stakeholders' behaviour, consumption/production's model or approach to sustainability issues, as well as additional informative descriptions you consider useful to elucidate the actions of your organisation in relation to this award criterion.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

(Please use (a) separate page(s) when necessary and limit your contributions to around 1000 words)