



**NET-ZERO
INDUSTRIES**
MISSION



**NET-ZERO
INDUSTRIES
AWARD**

2024

THE 2024 NET-ZERO INDUSTRIES AWARD CELEBRATES THE WORLD'S BEST INNOVATIONS IN GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL DECARBONISATION EFFORTS.

ARE YOU INVOLVED IN R&D FOR DECARBONISING INDUSTRY SECTORS SUCH AS METALS, CHEMICALS, OR MINERALS?

WE INVITE YOU TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY NOW IN THE CATEGORIES OUTSTANDING PROJECTS, YOUNG TALENTS, AND FEMALE INNOVATORS.

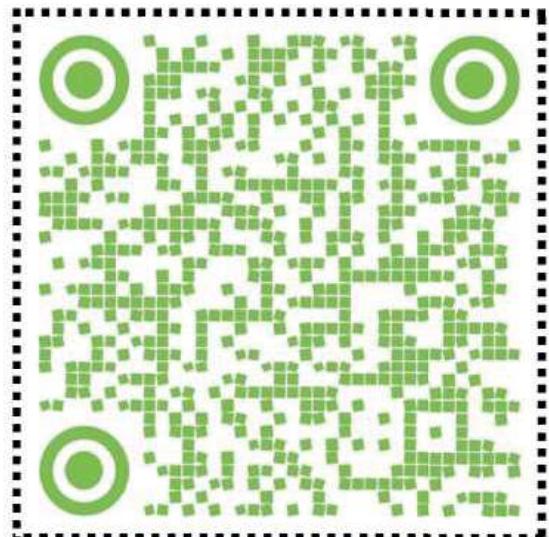
THE WINNERS OF THE NET-ZERO INDUSTRIES AWARD 2024 WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN A CEREMONY. IT IS CURRENTLY PLANNED TO HOLD THE AWARD CEREMONY AT THE 2024 UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE (COP29) 11– 22 NOVEMBER IN BAKU, AZERBAIJAN.

SUBMIT NOW!

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
1st of Sep. 2024, 24:00 CEST

CONTACT US

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ABOUT

Countries worldwide face the challenge of reducing CO₂ emissions from industry. Both highly industrialised and emerging economies encounter numerous similar obstacles, and also have specific challenges to overcome. The Net-Zero Industries Mission (NIM) and its collaboration partners recognize that technology transfer, knowledge sharing, and learning are strategies of mutual interest in achieving climate neutrality.

To honour the trailblazers spearheading this transformation, the NIM established the Net-Zero Industries Award as the first global competition for outstanding work on industrial decarbonisation. We are excited to announce the second edition of this prestigious award.

WHAT IS THE NET-ZERO INDUSTRIES AWARD AND WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The 2024 Net-Zero Industries Award is the first global competition for industrial decarbonisation and is carried out by Mission Innovation's Net-Zero Industries Mission. Submissions are open to companies, research institutes, universities, as well as students, special interest groups and societies, campaign groups, and private citizens. We accept already implemented projects and projects with guaranteed funding, inspiring pilots for projects as well as studies and works of research which promote the decarbonisation of heavy industries like steel, cement, chemicals, and other hard-to-abate sectors. The awards will be presented in three categories:

- (1) Outstanding projects**
- (2) Young Talents and**
- (3) Female Innovators**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

1st of Sep. 2024, 24:00 CEST

Submit under: [NET-ZERO INDUSTRIES MISSION – Mission Innovation \(mission-innovation.net/missions/net-zero-industries-mission\)](https://mission-innovation.net/missions/net-zero-industries-mission).



“Join the Net-Zero Industries Award and become a part of the global movement driving industrial decarbonisation through groundbreaking innovations.”

ELVIRA LUTTER, MISSION DIRECTOR

INDUSTRIAL DECARBONISATION REQUIRES RADICAL INNOVATIONS

How can industrial sectors be put on a pathway to net zero emissions by 2050? Can net-zero industrial production be economically efficient and be designed environmentally sound? What can industrial clusters do to organise themselves climate friendly? Which definitions, methodologies and reporting guidelines do we need to assess net-zero industrial production?

We are looking for submissions on the following topics:

- Process optimisation and energy efficiency, e.g., additive manufacturing; sensors; measurement and control technology.
- Electrification of end use activities, e.g., iron ore electrolysis; electrification of kilns; sintering and ovens.
- Carbon capture utilisation & storage (CCUS) including energy-efficient separation; O₂-generation and (in-plant) use of greenhouse gas emissions
- Digitalisation & flexibilisation, e.g., process control and automation; temperature upgrade of excess heat.
- Circular economy and sector coupling including industrial symbiosis; demand-side response; chemical recycling.
- Definitions, methodologies, and reporting guidelines to assess net-zero industrial production.
- Infrastructure transition enabling decarbonisation of industry including clean hydrogen, green electricity and CO₂ transport and storage.
- Definitions, methodologies, and reporting guidelines to assess net-zero industrial production or roadmaps for industrial decarbonisation infrastructure transition.

CATEGORIES OF THE AWARD

In its second edition, the Net-Zero Industries Award 2024 again recognises the extraordinary efforts made by individuals and organizations in three categories:

OUTSTANDING PROJECTS

We are seeking projects that revolutionise industries, disrupt the status quo, and set new benchmarks for decarbonisation in energy-intensive industries.

FEMALE INNOVATORS

Women play a pivotal role in shaping our society and have immense potential to lead the change towards a net-zero future. We want to honour exemplary women who have broken barriers and are driving change in industries. Your contributions are invaluable, and this is your moment to be acknowledged for your remarkable achievements.

YOUNG TALENTS

We firmly believe that the power to drive change lies within young minds, brimming with fresh ideas and unwavering determination. We want to celebrate the young trailblazers, the visionaries of tomorrow, who are already making remarkable strides towards a sustainable world. If you are a young professional or a student, this is your opportunity to be recognised as a driving force in the fight for industrial decarbonisation.

SPECIAL PRIZE FOR INTERNATIONAL ADVANCEMENT IN INDUSTRIAL DECARBONISATION

The transition to net-zero emissions demands concerted efforts from every corner of the globe. By acknowledging outstanding contributions from the global south, the Net-Zero Industries Mission (NIM) recognises that this challenge is a collective endeavor. Encouraging and highlighting innovation and progress in industrial decarbonisation across diverse regions ensures a more equitable and effective transition. The Special Prize for International Advancement in Industrial Decarbonisation not only celebrates achievements but also catalyses collaboration, knowledge sharing, and policy alignment. It reinforces the idea that our collective journey toward net-zero emissions knows no geographical boundaries and requires global collaborative efforts.

The best submission from the global south across all categories will be awarded the Special Prize for International Advancement in Industrial Decarbonisation.

WINNING PROJECTS WILL BE AWARDED

All submissions in the three categories will be evaluated by a jury of esteemed experts. After the evaluation of all submissions by an independent expert jury, all applicants will be notified of the results.

The winners in each category of the Net-Zero Industries Award 2024 will be announced in a ceremony. It is currently planned to hold the award ceremony *at the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) 11– 22 November in Baku, Azerbaijan*. However, please note that this is subject to final confirmation. The Net-Zero Industries Mission will provide flights and accommodation expenses.*

Winners and all other submitters will be informed about the outcome of the evaluation at the latest 3 weeks before the award ceremony.

NATIONAL NET-ZERO INDUSTRIES AWARDS

The best project submission from each Net-Zero Industries Mission core mission member country will be awarded: Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Finland, Germany, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States. The Net-Zero Industries Award will showcase the outstanding innovations in each country.

* Reasonable limits apply

OUTSTANDING PROJECTS WILL BE PRESENTED IN THE NIM KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM

Participating projects get the opportunity to be presented to the NIM network of key policymakers and get the opportunity to act as an exemplary projects on industrial decarbonisation in the upcoming NIM Knowledge Management Platform.

SUBMISSION EXAMPLES FOR THE NIM AWARD

in the projects and solutions category:

- Scaling up first-of-a-kind demonstrations plants from pilot scale to commercial or semi-commercial scale, like:
 - a low carbon steel project that involves producing steel using hydrogen instead of coal as a reducing agent.
 - a bio-energy CCS project that involves capturing CO₂ from a biomass-fired combined heat and power plant and storing it in a nearby geological formation
 - a low carbon cement project that involves producing cement clinker using innovative technologies such as calcined clay, activated belite and carbon capture.

In the Young Talents AND Female Innovators category:

- Scientific papers on definitions, methodologies, and reporting guidelines to assess net-zero industrial production.
- Master or Doctoral thesis on all matters of industrial decarbonisation
- Specific roles and responsibilities that young talents and women took over in their company, in public administration or in an international initiative in which they stood out through special commitment or achievements

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Submissions in all categories must address the decarbonisation of heavy industry in the iron & steel, cement & lime, chemical & refining or other energy-intensive and hard-to-abate sectors. In the **Outstanding Projects** category, we accept submissions from companies, research institutes, universities, and project consortia on implemented projects and projects with secured funding, inspiring pilot projects and research work. This includes all technology readiness levels, from initial lab tests to prototypes to demonstrations and solutions available to consumers.

The **Female Innovators** category is open to women in all their diversity. We accept submissions from individuals. It is about your performance, not that of your employer or company. The award recognises women working on breakthrough innovations to decarbonise heavy industry and it celebrates women innovators who are making a difference through their work, whether in research, corporate leadership, public administration, or an international initiative.

In the **Young Talents** category, we accept submissions of scientific works (e.g. thesis, dissertation, journal article, scientific publication) with thematic relevance for the above-mentioned sectors. Participation is limited to individuals not older than 35 years (the age of 36 must not be reached by 31 December 2024).

TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN RECOGNITION FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING EFFORTS IN INDUSTRIAL DECARBONISATION!

Together, let's build a sustainable future for generations to come. Submit your entry now and make a difference.

PLEASE RECOMMEND PROJECTS FOR THE NIM AWARD

Do you know any outstanding projects, young talents, and inspiring women that we should invite to participate in the NIM Award 2024? Please contact us via e-mail

Netzeroindustriesaward@ait.ac.at or phone T +43 50550-6041.

We will also be pleased to provide you with further information on the submission process.

ABOUT THE NET-ZERO INDUSTRIES MISSION

The Net-Zero Industries Mission launched in 2022 and is the first ever global innovation coalition with the goal of developing and demonstrating cost-competitive solutions to create a net-zero industries future. The Mission is led by Austria and Australia, in collaboration with Canada, China, the European Commission, Finland, Germany, the Republic of Korea the UK and the USA, and will deliver at least 50 large-scale demonstration projects around the world by 2030. The Net-Zero Industries Mission members alone are responsible for 50% of global industrial emissions and USD \$13.45B in annual research, development and demonstration investments in 2021. Since its launch, the Mission has released an innovation roadmap titled 'Towards Net-Zero Industries', as well as the recent Action Plan which outlines the actions needed to reach Mission goals.

ABOUT MISSION INNOVATION

Mission Innovation is a global initiative to catalyse action and investment in research, development and demonstration to make clean energy affordable, attractive and accessible to all within this decade. This will accelerate progress towards the Paris Agreement goals and pathways to Net-Zero.

MI brings together 24 governments in an agile and flexible way, focusing on a small number of high impact initiatives. These initiatives – called Missions – are harnessing the power of the international organisations, major companies, investors, incubators and innovators to deliver on their objectives.



2024

**#NIMAward2024 #NetZero #NIMAward #NIM
#SustainableSolutions #ClimateAction #Innovation
#WomenInSTEM #YoungLeaders #Decarbonisation**