

2016 Mariano Gago Ecsite Awards – Submission guidelines

After a first successful edition in 2015, the Mariano Gago Ecsite Awards are back!

Ecsite members will be competing for two prizes this year.

The **Ecsite Strategic Partnership Award** will recognise extraordinary collaboration between an Ecsite member and an external partner whose work together enabled them to achieve goals neither of them could have reached by themselves alone. The Jury will be looking for cross-fertilization, multiplier effects, mutual benefits and sustainable learnings.

The **Ecsite Political Boldness Award** will celebrate a member's science engagement initiative tackling contemporary societal issues. Topical reactivity, political courage and innovative dialogue techniques will be key criteria for this prize.

Prize

A representative of each winning member organisation will be receiving a trophy and diploma at the ceremony taking place during the Gala Ball at the Ecsite Annual Conference (Graz, Austria) on 9 June 2016.

One senior manager from each winning organisation will be invited to the 2016 Ecsite Directors Forum (16-18 November 2016, Granada, Spain) where they will share their experience in a workshop they will run for their peers. Ecsite will be covering registration, travel and accommodation costs.

Moreover, the winners will see their projects showcased on the Ecsite website for 6 months and will be interviewed in the June 2016 edition of Ecsite's online magazine, Spokes. The winning organisations will be able to use the Mariano Gago Ecsite Awards logo.

Eligibility

All Ecsite members in order of payment of their 2016 membership fee can submit an application.

Submissions are limited to one per organisation, all prizes included. Up to three Ecsite members can team up to submit a common application if they worked on a project together.

At least part of the featured project or initiative must have taken place in 2015 or in the first 2016 trimester.

Winning projects of previous years cannot be submitted again.

Selection process

Applications will be screened for eligibility upon submission. All the entries that meet the eligibility criteria will then be evaluated by an independent jury.

Jury members are independent and selected for their expertise across various practice areas relevant to the Awards.

The winner will be notified by email by 15 May 2016.

The decisions of the jury are final and binding. Entry in the competition implies acceptance of the jury's decisions and of these regulations. The winner accepts to disseminate its award-winning project or programme at the Ecsite Directors' Forum and for the action or programme to be communicated on all Ecsite communications channels.

The organisers reserve the right to modify these regulations; any changes will be communicated to participants in due course.

How to apply

Submit a pdf document in English containing the different elements listed below, for the relevant prize.

Send your document to communications@ecs site.eu by the end of **27 March 2016**, with header "Ecsite awards – Submission", clearly stating which prize you are applying for.

For files larger than 5 MB, use a transfer platform (e.g. wetransfer) and notify us by email.

Ecsite Strategic Partnership Award – Submission contents

*Please compile a pdf document with the following elements. The document should **bear the signature of your organisation's Director**.*

1. Contact details

Contact person for application

Name and job title of contact person for application (only one contact person even for joint applications):

Direct phone number:

Email address:

Information about your own organisation

Name of organisation:

Postal address of organisation:

Type of Ecsite membership:

Number visitors / reach per year:

Information about your partner organisation

Name of organisation:

Type of organisation (company, foundation, public body...):

Main activity:

Postal address of organisation:

2. Application questions

Please answer in the same order, 2,000 words maximum in total.

1. Briefly describe: what was your partnership about and what form(s) did it take?
2. How did you and your partner build on each other's capacities to reach goals you could not have achieved on your own? Please provide evidence of impact.
3. What did you learn from this partnership? What recommendations or tools can you share with science engagement peers?
4. What actions did you undertake to secure your partnerships' or project's long-term benefits and legacy?
5. How does your initiative celebrate Ecsite's values of cooperation, diversity, inclusiveness and active citizenship?
6. Tell us why you believe that this collaboration is extraordinary.
7. Why do you think you should win the Ecsite Strategic Partnership Award? How will the award be helpful to your organisation?

3. Supporting documents

- Mandatory: letter of support (1 page max) from your partner organisation. The letter should state what they gained from the partnership.
- Optional: up to 10 pictures illustrating your project
- Optional: a link to a website or video hosted on an external open access platform (in English, max. 2 minutes of footage)

Ecsite Political Boldness Award – Submission contents

*Please compile a pdf document with the following elements. The document should **bear the signature of your organisation's Director**.*

1. Contact details

Contact person for application

Name and job title of contact person for application (only one contact person even for joint applications):

Direct phone number:

Email address:

Information about your organisation

Name of organisation:

Postal address of organisation:

Type of Ecsite membership:

Number visitors / reach per year:

2. Application questions

Please answer in the same order, 2,000 words maximum in total.

1. Briefly describe: what was your initiative about and what form(s) did it take?
2. What engagement and dialogue techniques did you use? What results did you reach? Please provide evidence of impact.
3. Why is your initiative bold or courageous? Provide information about the context in which you took action and show how reactive you were.
4. What did you learn from this initiative? What recommendations or tools can you share with science engagement peers?
5. What actions did you undertake to secure your project's legacy?
6. How does your initiative celebrate Ecsite's values of cooperation, diversity, inclusiveness and active citizenship?
7. Why do you think you should win the Ecsite Political Boldness Award? How will the award be helpful to your organisation?

3. Supporting documents

- Optional: up to 10 pictures illustrating your project
- Optional: a link to a website or video hosted on an external open access platform (in English, max. 2 minutes of footage)