



2026 Global Innovative Climate Finance Awards-Official Application Guidelines

1. 2026 WSIS+20 Forum Official Background & Highlights

2026 marks the inaugural year of the post WSIS+20 review era, representing a pivotal milestone in the global governance of digital transformation and sustainable development. Endorsed by the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/80/173, the WSIS process has been officially extended to 2035, with the 2026 WSIS Forum serving as the core implementation platform for translating WSIS+20 consensus and the Global Digital Compact (GDC) into actionable global practices. Centered on the core principle of **people-centred, inclusive, and equitable digital transition**, the forum prioritizes bridging global digital divides, eliminating development asymmetries between developed and developing economies, and integrating digital technology dividends with global climate governance and green financial reform.

Different from previous sessions, the 2026 WSIS Forum features three distinctive transformative highlights. First, it strengthens the deep integration of **digital technology, AI innovation and climate sustainable development**, focusing on solving structural bottlenecks such as fragmented global carbon market rules, insufficient cross-border capital liquidity, and inaccurate carbon asset accounting. Second, it prioritizes **inclusive digital just transition**, systematically advancing capacity building, technical empowerment and financial resource inclination for developing economies to narrow the global climate investment gap. Third, it builds a new multi-stakeholder global governance mechanism, uniting UN agencies, international financial institutions, multinational enterprises, industry authoritative organizations and academic institutions to jointly formulate standardized rules for digital climate finance and cross-border carbon asset management.

This series of official awards is launched in conjunction with the WSIS 2026 Official Side Event — *Innovative Climate Finance & Investment High-end Roundtable Forum*, aiming to recognize global benchmark practices and leading contributions in AI-driven climate finance innovation, carbon market standardized governance, and inclusive green transition, and support the practical implementation of WSIS+20 action lines and global sustainable development goals.

2. Award Ceremony Information

Award Date: July 6, 2026



UN GLOBAL LEADERSHIP & ESG PROGRAMME
联合国全球领导力与ESG发展中心
PROGRAMME DE LEADERSHIP MONDIAL ET ESG DES NATIONS UNIES

Award Venue: ITU Headquarters Building, Geneva

Official Session: WSIS Official Side Event — Innovative Climate Finance & Investment High-end Roundtable Forum

3. Organizers & Co-Organizers

Host Organizations :

United Nations Global Leadership & ESG Programme (UNGLEP)

U.A.E 2031 Global Strategic Partnership

Social Impact Investment Foundation (SIIF)

Co-Sponsors :

Global Ecological Sustainable Development Union (France)

ESG Committee of the Multinational Corporation Carbon Neutrality 50 Forum (MNC50)

4. Official Award Categories (2026)

The 2026 Global Innovative Climate Finance Awards consist of four authoritative categories, recognizing outstanding leadership, institutional practice, individual innovation, and multilateral international contributions in the fields of climate finance, carbon market governance, ESG assurance, and inclusive green transition, in alignment with the WSIS+20 Action Lines and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

A. 2026 Innovative Climate Finance Award for Distinguished Leadership of Special Contributions

For top leaders and decision-makers who have delivered strategic innovation, industry influence, and exemplary leadership in climate finance and low-carbon industrial transformation.

B. 2026 Innovative Climate Finance Institutional Award for Special Outstanding Achievements

For outstanding institutions, financial organizations, listed enterprises, technology platforms and industrial institutions that have achieved innovative and practical results in climate investment, carbon asset management, ESG digital governance and green industrial empowerment.

C. 2026 Innovative Climate Finance Individual Award for Special Outstanding Achievements



For outstanding industry practitioners, researchers, technical experts and project pioneers who have made innovative contributions to climate finance practice, ESG disclosure, carbon market application and sustainable industrial development.

D. 2026 Award for Outstanding Contributions to Multilateral Climate Cooperation & Empowerment of Developing Economies

For institutions, projects and senior experts committed to global climate governance, cross-border green cooperation, digital just transition, climate investment gap bridging, and technical capacity building for developing economies, with priority given to initiatives that directly support the WSIS+20 mandate and GDC implementation.

5. Eligibility & Application Scope

Applications are open to global eligible individuals, enterprises, financial institutions, technology organizations, industrial platforms, academic institutions and international cooperation bodies with outstanding practical achievements or theoretical contributions in the fields of climate finance innovation, carbon market governance, ESG system construction, green investment, multilateral climate cooperation and sustainable industrial transformation.

Eligible Applicants:

- Senior leaders, industry pioneers and institutional executives engaged in climate finance, green economy and ESG governance
- Securities institutions, investment institutions, asset management organizations, carbon trading platforms and green financial service providers
- Listed companies, pre-listed enterprises, technology firms and industrial organizations practicing ESG digital transformation and low-carbon upgrading
- International institutions, regional cooperation platforms and project teams promoting South–South climate cooperation and developing economy empowerment
- Academic experts, technical researchers and practitioners contributing to climate financial innovation and ESG system standardization

6. Core Application Requirements

- Applicants must possess **authentic, verifiable and innovative practical achievements** in climate finance, carbon market development, ESG governance or



multilateral climate cooperation.

- All submitted cases must reflect **industry innovation, practical value, social impact and sustainable development benefits**.
- Institutional applicants shall have standardized operation systems, public social credibility and stable sustainable development capabilities.
- Individual applicants shall demonstrate professional influence, industry contribution and exemplary leading value in relevant fields.
- All application materials must be true, accurate and complete; falsified information will result in immediate disqualification.

7. Official Evaluation & Review Process

The award review adopts a standardized multi-stage evaluation mechanism jointly organized by UNGLEP, SIIF and international co-sponsor expert committees, ensuring impartiality, professionalism and international authority.

Stage 1 — Preliminary Qualification Review

The organizing committee verifies applicant eligibility, material completeness and basic compliance, eliminating incomplete or non-compliant applications.

Stage 2 — Professional Expert Evaluation

International experts, ESG governance scholars, climate finance researchers and industry senior advisors conduct quantitative and qualitative scoring based on innovation, practical contribution, social impact and industry demonstration value.

Stage 3 — Final Committee Review & Confirmation

The joint international jury conducts final deliberation, confirms the final list of winners, and verifies global public interest contribution and industry influence.

Stage 4 — Official Release & Award Ceremony

The official award list is publicly released, and certificates and honors are presented at the international summit ceremony.

8. Required Application Documents

- Official Award Application Form (standard template provided by the organizer)
- Applicant profile / institutional introduction



- Achievement introduction and innovation case description (climate finance practice, ESG system construction, carbon market innovation or multilateral cooperation achievements)
- Supporting certification materials: project reports, honor certificates, published research results, institutional qualification documents, social impact proof materials
- High-quality official photo / institutional logo (for ceremony and official publication)

9. Evaluation Dimensions

- **Innovation**: model innovation, technological innovation, mechanism innovation in climate finance and ESG governance
- **Practical Contribution**: actual industrial value, project landing effect and low-carbon transformation results
- **Social & Global Impact**: public benefit value, industry demonstration effect, cross-border cooperation significance
- **Sustainability**: long-term replicable value for global sustainable development and just digital transition
- **Leadership & Influence**: strategic vision, industry driving force and public welfare demonstration value

10. Application Timeline & Deadline

Application Opening Date: April 1, 2026

Official Application Deadline: June 20, 2026 (24:00 GMT)

Final Shortlist Announcement: June 30, 2026

Official Award Ceremony: July 6, 2026 (ITU Headquarters, Geneva, during WSIS official side event)

11. Important Notes & Regulations

- **Authenticity Responsibility:** All application materials submitted by individuals and institutions must be true, legal, and valid. The organizing committee reserves the right to verify relevant qualification certificates and achievement proofs. Any fraud, falsification or



misrepresentation will result in immediate disqualification and permanent rejection of future applications.

- **Non-Fee Principle:** This international public welfare award is fully non-commercial. The organizing committee will never charge any application fee, review fee, service fee or other related fees from applicants. Any false charging behavior is unrelated to the official organizing team.
- **Intellectual Property & Publication Authorization:** By submitting the application, applicants automatically authorize the organizing committee to use their application cases, introduction materials, award honor information and related achievements for official public welfare promotion, summit publication, media release and industry academic exchanges without additional commercial purposes.
- **Final Interpretation Right:** All matters not specified in these guidelines shall be subject to the final interpretation of the joint organizing committee of the 2026 Global Innovative Climate Finance Awards.
- **Award Attendance Regulation:** Winners are expected to attend the official WSIS side-event award ceremony held at the ITU Headquarters on July 6, 2026. The organizing committee will issue official award certificates and honors only during the official ceremony.
- **Compliance Requirements:** Applicants and winning entities shall abide by international industry norms, sustainable development concepts and public welfare ethics, and shall not use the award honor for false publicity, illegal commercial speculation or improper market promotion.

12. Official Contact Information

Official Contact Email: info@ungelp.org

All application submissions, consultation inquiries and material deliveries shall be completed via the official email address above.