

## Category Environment & Climate

Does your idea contribute to sustainably managing our resources? Does it take action to combat climate change?

You can register for the Innovation Award 'Environment & Climate' 2025 if your idea addresses affordable and clean energy, sustainable cities and communities, responsible consumption and production, climate action, life below water and/ or life on land.

Below, we give a short introduction to each UN Sustainable Development Goal in this category.

[Source and more information](#)

### 1. Development Goal: Affordable and Clean Energy

Your idea falls into the category 'Environment & Climate' if it contributes to investments in solar, wind and thermal power, improving energy productivity, and ensures energy for all.

Although one out of 10 people still lacks electricity, most of them living in rural areas of the developing world, energy is by far the main contributor to climate change. Expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology to provide clean and more efficient energy in all countries will encourage growth and help the environment. This goal aims to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

### 2. Development Goal: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Your idea falls into the category 'Environment & Climate' if it makes cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

The rapid growth of cities has led to a boom in mega-cities, especially in the developing world, and slums are becoming a more significant feature of urban life. This goal aims to make cities sustainable. This means creating career and business opportunities, safe and affordable housing, and building resilient societies and economies. It involves investment in public transport, creating green public spaces, and improving urban planning and management in participatory and inclusive ways.

### 3. Development Goal: Responsible Consumption and Production

Your idea falls into the category 'Environment & Climate' if it contributes to decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation, increasing resource efficiency and promoting sustainable lifestyles.

Worldwide consumption and production rest on the use of the natural environment and resources in a way that continues to have destructive impacts on the planet. This goal aims to achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources, reduce and sustainably manage all wastes, encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices and develop tools to monitor sustainable development.

### 4. Development Goal: Climate Action

Your idea falls into the category 'Environment & Climate' if it takes action to address the climate emergency and strengthens countries to deal with climate change.

Climate change is affecting every country on every continent. It is disrupting national economies and affecting lives. This goal aims to strengthen resilience to climate-related disasters, integrate climate change measures into policies, improve education on climate change and promote mechanisms for raising capacity for climate change related planning in poor countries, focussing on marginalized groups.

#### **5. Development Goal: Life Below Water**

Your idea falls into the category 'Environment & Climate' if it contributes to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources.

The world's oceans drive global systems that make the Earth habitable for humankind. This goal aims to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems from pollution, as well as address the impacts of ocean acidification.

[Source and more information](#)

#### **6. Development Goal: Life on Land**

Your idea falls into the category 'Environment & Climate' if it contributes to Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Nature is critical to our survival, but it is under increasing stress. This goal aims to reduce the loss of natural habitats and biodiversity, take action against trafficking protected flora and fauna and promote fair sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources.

[Source & more info.](#)