

# EU|BIC Excellence Award 2025: Green Transition

Celebrating the most impactful entrepreneurship support programmes in the Green Transition

Table of content	
<b>CALL FOR APPLICATIONS</b> .....	<b>2</b>
EU BIC EXCELLENCE AWARD 2025: GREEN TRANSITION .....	2
CALL APPLICATION .....	3
PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND SELECTION .....	3
<i>Eligibility criteria</i> .....	4
<i>Assessment Criteria</i> .....	4
USEFUL INFORMATION .....	5

# Call for Applications

## EU|BIC Excellence Award 2025: Green Transition

**This year, EU|BIC Excellence Awards will recognise the work EU|BICs play at the intersection between technological advancement and sustainable development of startups and SMEs.**

EBN is looking for innovation and entrepreneurship support programmes and tools addressing green innovation and green transition in startups and SMEs.

In this second edition of the EU|BIC Excellence Awards, EBN is showcasing the efforts the EU|BIC Community to promote and support the transition towards a more sustainable future, either by promoting and supporting the green transition of existing companies or enabling the development and uptake of innovative green solutions.

What's the role of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Support Organizations in tackling the climate and environmental challenges the world is facing today? How do they work together with startups and SMEs transforming such challenges into new opportunities and making [the green transition](#) just and inclusive for all?

***Are you a business support organisation committed to achieving sustainability goals through dedicated services and programmes for startups and SMEs?***

*EBN is excited to announce the search for the most innovative and impactful business support programme implemented by the EU|BIC community members contributing to your catchment area's green transition.*

*This year with a novelty: we would like to also hear the story of one of your successful clients who benefitted from such support programmes and services.*

**The 5 finalists will be on stage at the 2025 EBN Congress to pitch their programme.** The EU|BIC community will vote to decide the winning programme which will be awarded during EBN Congress 2025 in Barakaldo, Spain.

The winner will be **featured in next EBN publications and events**, showcasing achievements and best practices, and will have the opportunity to further connect with fellow business support organizations, potential partners, and entrepreneurs during exclusive EBN event – EBN Techcamp 2025. The winner will benefit of **2 free tickets for their presence at EBN Techcamp 2025, taking place 19 – 21 November in Nivelles, Belgium.**

## Call application

The call for applications opens on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2025 and closes on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

### [You can find the application form here](#)

The following information is requested:

- General information about your organisation
- Description of the need/challenge
- Description of the programme (overview of the programme with a focus on its innovative elements and the green transition dimension)
- Implementation of the programme (more info on tools, methodologies, the structure of the programme, staff involved etc)
- Innovative approaches of the incubation programme
- Impact (with a focus on green transition and stakeholders' engagement)
- Success stories from the programme
- Sustainability and transferability of the programme

Check [this document](#) to see how the application form is structured and the required information for each section.

## Proposal Evaluation and Selection

All proposals submitted before the deadline will pass an eligibility check (see eligibility criteria) and will go through the following evaluation process:

### 1. Assessment by EBN team

Each entry meeting the eligibility criteria will be assessed by 2 EBN team members who will individually evaluate the proposal according to a standardised scoring system mirroring the evaluation criteria described below. Average scoring of all assessed proposals will result in a ranking list that will be confirmed in a collective review meeting where the 5 finalists will be confirmed.

The 5 finalists will be announced on the EBN website and EBN Congress website by the end of April 2025.

## 2. EU|BIC Community Decision

The top 5 innovative initiatives will have the chance to pitch their programme on stage at the 2025 EBN Congress. They will be able to promote their work and “campaign” for votes. Among the 5, the winner will be selected by the audience present in Barakaldo and the award will be given during the networking dinner on 19 June 2025.

Communication between the EBN team and applicants during the application assessment process will be carried out primarily via email.

### Eligibility criteria

In order to be eligible to apply and participate, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. **EU|BIC Membership:** Only EU|BIC Community member organisations are eligible to participate.
2. **Participation at the 2025 EBN Congress: Only submissions from EU|BIC community members attending EBN Congress are considered.**

### Assessment Criteria

Once the eligibility check is performed, the EBN team will review and evaluate the nominations using the following criteria and scoring:

1. Description of the need/challenge > this criterion considers the context in which the programme was developed and implemented, the need they detected and the identified target beneficiaries. (15 points)
2. The innovative business support programme description > this criterion assesses the overall programme, with special attention to the **innovative** approaches that have significantly contributed to the green transition (the activities, tools, methodologies, structure of the programme, staff involved, focus on digitalization, focus on skills, etc). (35 points)
3. Impact > this criterion assesses the impact generated by the programme looking at its economic, social and environmental outcomes, including diversity and inclusion and stakeholders’ engagement. It also considers a concrete success story of a client who benefitted from the service. (30 points)
4. Sustainability & Transferability > this criterion considers the sustainability of the programme and its transferability to other members of the EU|BIC community. (10 points)
5. Communication > This criterion assesses the slide-deck submitted by the applicant to briefly present the programme – max 15 slides in English – and other supporting documents such as video, brochure or other comms materials developed for the programme itself. (10 points)

100/100 is the max scoring.

## Call timeline

Timetable and deadlines	
Contest launch	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
Applications due	17 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
Evaluation	Throughout April 2025
Finalists announced	End of April 2025
Pitching session & Award ceremony	19 June 2025

## Useful information

- For any clarification you might need, please email: [Chiara.Davalli@ebn.eu](mailto:Chiara.Davalli@ebn.eu). Please specify “EBN Award 2025” in the email subject.
- [Online Application Form: https://forms.office.com/e/PGnvbm17Jz](https://forms.office.com/e/PGnvbm17Jz)

Join us in celebrating the champions of business support and entrepreneurship for the Green Transition!

 Empowering Entrepreneurs, Igniting Innovation – EU|BIC Community 

---

This year, the EU|BIC Award 2025 counts on the support of the [EU-funded project RESOURCE](#) for the communication and dissemination of the results.

