

hub.awards 2023

Rules

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The hub.awards reward Brussels companies that have a positive impact on society with six award categories:

	For whom?	Why?	To receive what?		How?
Start	Independent micro businesses/ SME less than three years old	Spotlight on your business. Rewards that will help your teams and allow you to extend your activities. A source of motivation for your staff. A source of inspiration for businesses established in the Brussels region. A recognised award.	A trophy and recognition of your activities; communication supports; visibility...	A cash prize of €5,000.	Complete the application form online : https://hubbrussels.awardsplatform.com/ Entries must be sent by 30 April at the latest
Bloom	Independent micro businesses/ SME over three years old				
Welcome	Any foreign business established in the Brussels-Capital region since 30 April 2018				
Export	Independent micro businesses/ SME that export goods				
Public	Any business entering one of the other categories				
Jury	All artisanal candidate companies.				



Presentation

hub.brussels, the reference public partner, intends to make the Brussels-Capital region the most attractive area in Europe for carrying out and developing economic activities.

The aim of hub.brussels is to contribute to the long-term development of the Brussels economy, with three missions:

- Advising, equipping and giving support to economic projects in Brussels and to those carrying them out in order to ensure their success in the Brussels-Capital region and abroad.
- Detecting, fostering, initiating and attracting new economic, technological and business opportunities, both in the Brussels-Capital region and abroad.
- Helping public authorities to formulate and implement a proactive economic policy and ensure a stimulating entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Context

hub.brussels is organising the second hub.awards ceremony that will take place on Thursday 22 June 2023, in Salle Henry Le Bœuf, Bozar.

This event follows on from previous events, which brought together more than 1,000 spectators who celebrated the first six winners of the competition, selected from nearly 150 applications. The ceremony is also broadcast live on BX1 and Bruzz.

This is an event for businesses in the Brussels Region. Its aim is to promote inspiring reference models of entrepreneurship in the Brussels-Capital Region and reward the most impactful companies from an environmental and social point of view.

By making these awards, hub.brussels also aims to emphasise the importance of entrepreneurial initiatives for the development of economic activities and employment in the Brussels-Capital region, and to highlight the means of support that the Region provides to businesses for this purpose.

This event focuses on the values that we wish to promote during the ceremony and when awarding the Innovation, Audacity, Inspiration and Brussels awards.



Scope of Application

The terms 'business,' 'autonomy' and the applicable thresholds for determining the size of a business are those used in the Commission's recommendation of 6 May 2003 (2003/361/CE), accessible via the following link:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32003H0361&from=en>

Salaried or independent entrepreneurs carrying out their economic activity within a cooperative dedicated to the individual socio-economic development of each member are also admitted. For example, DiES, SmartCoop.

In this case, the employee or independent contractor's file will include the following information and documents:

1. The business number of the supporting cooperative,
2. The reference or name of the department under which the contractor works within the cooperative
3. The financial and accounting information related to the activity of the candidate entrepreneur, as a minimum the profit and loss account and balance sheet or equivalent documents, making it possible to verify the economic viability of the activity. These internal documents, prepared in consultation with the supporting cooperative, must be validated by the person in charge (director or manager) of the cooperative. They are different from the documents concerning the financial statement of the cooperative as a whole.
4. A certificate proving the regular payment of the tax and social security contributions payable by the supporting cooperative.

Award categories

Six awards will be made during this first hub.awards event.

1. The 'Start' award, for businesses less than three years old.
2. The 'Bloom' award, for businesses over three years old.
3. The 'Welcome' award, for foreign businesses investing in the Brussels-Capital region.
4. The 'Export' award for businesses that export goods and services.
5. The 'Public prize' for all candidate businesses entering the other categories.
6. The "Jury Prize", intended for all artisanal candidate companies in the other categories

Submission of entries

To take part in the hub.awards 2023, the company:

1. The business goes to <https://hub.brussels/fr/blog/hub-awards-2022/> and reads the contest rules. In the first instance, the business assures that it fulfils the eligibility criteria set out in these rules and annexes for the award it hopes to win.



2. The business then refers to the application form (<https://hubbrussels.awardsplatform.com/>) to provide the required information. The application form may be completed in French, Dutch or English. The business can apply to one category only. The business entry will be entered for the public prize and the jury prize automatically if eligible.
3. When the business has duly completed and signed the registration form, it validates it directly online. The company may modify its entry before midnight on 30 April 2023.

hub.brussels reserves the right to analyse the financial results of candidate businesses in order to ensure their financial viability and to check that they are not in dispute with any government departments. Once the entry is complete, subject to verification of the eligibility criteria by hub.brussels, it is submitted to a panel which will deliberate on May 2023.

Jury

The panel comprises people broadly linked to the business world, able to make objective and conscious assessments of entries based on qualitative and quantitative aspects.

The panel will be presided by Evelyne Huytebroeck, President of the Board of Directors of hub.brussels. It will be supported by entrepreneurs and representatives from the specialist press and those connected with entrepreneurial support in the public and private sectors.

Entries will be evaluated based on the innovation demonstrated by the companies towards the environmental, social and economic aspects of their activity, as defined in these regulations and its appendices.

With the exception of the public prize and the jury prize, the panel alone is authorised to assess entries and allocate the awards according to the criteria set out in these rules.

Following deliberation by the panel, three nominees and one winner per category (excluding the public prize) shall be named.

For the public prize, all eligible candidates will be presented to the general public who will be invited to vote for the business of their choice. The three businesses that win the most votes will compete against each other during the evening of the event and the winner determined according to a vote by the guests in attendance.

For the Jury Prize, all the eligible entries for the Jury Prize will be presented to the Jury members, who will elect the nominated and winning companies of their choice.



All the eligible entries for the Jury Prize will be presented to the Jury members, who will elect the winner of their choice. The company that has shown particular innovation in its resilience in the face of the health crisis will win this category.

All nominees will be notified in advance of the event and contacted to produce a promotional video clip of their company to be used at the awards ceremony.

Each nominee and winner will receive a series of rewards at the end of the ceremony. These rewards are set out in the annexes relating to the different categories.

Confidentiality

Personal data collected for each entry shall be handled by hub.brussels in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

For further information about the management of personal data, please see the hub.brussels privacy policy at: <http://hub.brussels/legal/politiqueconfidentialite.pdf>.

For any question about processing and your rights regarding your personal data, please contact our representative for personal data at the following email address: compliance@hub.brussels

Adherence to the rules and participation

Participating businesses subscribe unconditionally to the provisions of these rules and annexes. More specifically, through their participation, the businesses undertake:

- If nominated, they must create, in the person of the founder, a video capsule before the event, on 6 June 2023, which will be financed by hub.brussels;
- to collaborate with the press with regard to interviews about the 'hub.awards';
- to be present or represented on the day awards are handed out (Thursday 23 June 2022);
- to be prepared to work on promotions that accompany the allocation and issuing of awards (e.g. symbolic issuing of award, whether or not before the media, at a given location). The businesses and people in question accept that their company name, logo, first name, surname and image may be used within a maximum of 18 months from the end of the hub.awards event for publicity and promotional purposes by and for hub.brussels, regardless of the media used (particularly on the hub.brussels social networks), without conferring upon the participants or their representatives any right to remuneration or any advantage whatsoever other than the issuing of the award;
- to communicate, in good time, honest, accurate and complete information necessary or useful to the correct execution of the rules and the conditions they convey;
- not to adopt, under any circumstances, behaviour that is inappropriate or that contravenes the interests of hub.brussels and bodies or entities that are the initiative of or associated with the hub.awards and not to behave in any way that could directly or indirectly be harmful to their legitimate interests.

The winner of each category that receives a hub.awards may mention this and place the 2023 event logo on all its communications materials.



hub.brussels reserves the right to change these rules at any point, without notice, without being obliged to justify its decision, and without being held responsible for the fact. These changes will be the subject of information by any appropriate means (website, social networks, etc.). Each candidate business shall be deemed to have accepted it by the simple fact of its participation, from the date the change comes into force. Each candidate business that rejects the change or changes made shall withdraw its entry.

hub.brussels reserves in all cases the automatic right to shorten, extend, suspend, modify or cancel the competition without justification. In no case shall hub.brussels be held liable and participants may not claim any compensation of any sort.

In particular, hub.brussels reserves the right, if necessary, to invalidate and/or cancel any or some of the competition if it appears that fraud or deception of any sort has occurred, particularly IT-related with regard to participation in the competition or selection of the winner(s).

Practical information

The hub.awards ceremony will take place on 22 June 2023 in Salle Henry Le Boeuf, Bozar, 23 rue Ravenstein, 1000 Brussels. The main doors will open at 19:00. The event will be broadcast live on the regional television channels BX1 and Bruzz. In order to ensure that the antenna is taken up in the best possible conditions, we ask guests to arrive by 7.30 pm maximum.

Candidate businesses must submit their entries before midnight on 30 April 2023. No new entries or updates will be accepted after this deadline.

For further information you can contact Thibault Deffrennes by email at hub.awards@hub.brussels or by phone on 0473/71 54 94.



Annex 1

Information specific to the ' Start ' award category.

This award is for a business less than three years of age whose place of business is located in the Brussels-Capital region and that offers innovative goods or services, is successful and has strong growth potential.

Eligibility criteria

The candidate business must:

- have had a place of business in the Brussels-Capital region for at least five years on 30 April 2023;
- have a business registration number;
- be an independent micro, small or medium enterprise under European definitions.
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32003H0361&from=en>
- Also open to salaried or self-employed entrepreneurs engaged in economic activity within the context of a cooperative that supports its members in their socioeconomic development. For example: DiES, SmartCoop.

In this case, the application dossier of the salaried or self-employed entrepreneur must include the following documents:

1. the business number of the supporting cooperative;
2. the reference or name of the department of the coop within which the entrepreneur works;
3. financial and accounts information for the candidate entrepreneur's business, as a minimum, the profit and loss account and balance sheet or equivalent documents, demonstrating the economic viability of the business. These internal documents, produced in conjunction with the supporting cooperative, must be approved by the person responsible (director or manager of the cooperative). They must not be the financial accounts of the cooperative as a whole;
4. a certificate proving regular payment of tax and social security contributions due by the supporting cooperative.

Assessment criteria

Entries will be evaluated based on the innovation demonstrated by the companies towards the environmental, social and economic aspects of their activity.

These aspects are shown below as an example. Each candidate company identifies the elements it wishes to highlight to support its application by using the examples cited or any other element it deems appropriate.



Environmental aspect

This involves designing products or services that are compatible with the availability of resources in the short, medium and long term and have no negative externalities. This includes the rational and efficient use of material resources; the rational and reasoned use of resources; a mobility strategy; waste reduction; relevant management of spaces and contribution to a low-carbon economy.

For example:

You reduce your energy consumption - You have implemented a mobility strategy in your company - You promote soft mobility For you, your employees, your customers and your suppliers - You have reduced your CO2 emissions - You have changed your business model in relation to climate change ...

You use material resources in a rational and efficient way - You make sustainable, local and/or circular purchases for your activity - Your company prefers eco-design (modularity, disassembly, multi-functionality, rental) - You share, pool or reuse resources - You reduce your waste - You optimise your logistics ...

You produce sustainable energy - You have carried out an energy diagnosis and applied measures (water, heating, electricity) ...

Your work spaces are multifunctional - You develop green spaces - You cohabit with bees - You contribute to a decarbonised economy - You consider your district in the development of your activities ...

Social aspect

This involves putting people at the heart of organisations through a participatory and inclusive process. This can be expressed in terms of social purpose, creation of quality jobs, training and governance. It can also involve creating sustainable activities that meet the needs of a territory.

For example:

You fight against discrimination and inequalities - You respond to major societal issues through your activity - You work to promote the well-being and health of individuals and groups - You ensure professional integration ...

You create sustainable and local jobs with fair remuneration - You train your employees and allow them to develop new skills - You develop centres of excellence - You promote sandwich training ...

You are active in the democratic and social sector - You implement governance strategies that motivate your employees and partners - You have chosen a cooperative legal form ...

You improve the territory in which you work - You have a fair value distribution strategy - You ensure the financial accessibility of your products and services ...



Rewards

The three nominees in this category will be rewarded with:

- A promotional video clip about their company
- Media exposure before, during and after the hub.awards ceremony

The winner of this category will also receive:

- A trophy
- A media presence in the media of our partners BX1 and Bruzz, worth €5,000.
- A cash prize of a minimum of €5,000.



Annex 2

Information specific to the ' Bloom ' award category.

This award is for a business over three years of age whose place of business is located in the Brussels-Capital region and that offers innovative goods or services, is successful and has strong growth potential.

Eligibility criteria

The candidate business must:

- have had a place of business in the Brussels-Capital region for at least five years on 30 April 2023;
- have a business registration number;
- be an independent micro, small or medium enterprise under European definitions.
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32003H0361&from=en>
- Also open to salaried or self-employed entrepreneurs engaged in economic activity within the context of a cooperative that supports its members in their socioeconomic development. For example: DiES, SmartCoop.

In this case, the application dossier of the salaried or self-employed entrepreneur must include the following documents:

5. the business number of the supporting cooperative;
6. the reference or name of the department of the coop within which the entrepreneur works;
7. financial and accounts information for the candidate entrepreneur's business, as a minimum, the profit and loss account and balance sheet or equivalent documents, demonstrating the economic viability of the business. These internal documents, produced in conjunction with the supporting cooperative, must be approved by the person responsible (director or manager of the cooperative). They must not be the financial accounts of the cooperative as a whole;
8. a certificate proving regular payment of tax and social security contributions due by the supporting cooperative.

Assessment criteria

Entries will be evaluated based on the innovation demonstrated by the companies towards the environmental, social and economic aspects of their activity.

These aspects are shown below as an example. Each candidate company identifies the elements it wishes to highlight to support its application by using the examples cited or any other element it deems appropriate.



Environmental aspect

This involves designing products or services that are compatible with the availability of resources in the short, medium and long term and have no negative externalities. This includes the rational and efficient use of material resources; the rational and reasoned use of resources; a mobility strategy; waste reduction; relevant management of spaces and contribution to a low-carbon economy.

For example:

You reduce your energy consumption - You have implemented a mobility strategy in your company - You promote soft mobility For you, your employees, your customers and your suppliers - You have reduced your CO2 emissions - You have changed your business model in relation to climate change ...

You use material resources in a rational and efficient way - You make sustainable, local and/or circular purchases for your activity - Your company prefers eco-design (modularity, disassembly, multi-functionality, rental) - You share, pool or reuse resources - You reduce your waste - You optimise your logistics ...

You produce sustainable energy - You have carried out an energy diagnosis and applied measures (water, heating, electricity) ...

Your work spaces are multifunctional - You develop green spaces - You cohabit with bees - You contribute to a decarbonised economy - You consider your district in the development of your activities ...

Social aspect

This involves putting people at the heart of organisations through a participatory and inclusive process. This can be expressed in terms of social purpose, creation of quality jobs, training and governance. It can also involve creating sustainable activities that meet the needs of a territory.

For example:

You fight against discrimination and inequalities - You respond to major societal issues through your activity - You work to promote the well-being and health of individuals and groups - You ensure professional integration ...

You create sustainable and local jobs with fair remuneration - You train your employees and allow them to develop new skills - You develop centres of excellence - You promote sandwich training ...

You are active in the democratic and social sector - You implement governance strategies that motivate your employees and partners - You have chosen a cooperative legal form ...

You improve the territory in which you work - You have a fair value distribution strategy - You ensure the financial accessibility of your products and services ...



Rewards

The three nominees in this category will be rewarded with:

- A promotional video clip about their company
- Media exposure before, during and after the hub.awards ceremony

The winner of this category will also receive:

- A trophy
- A media presence in the media of our partners BX1 and Bruzz, worth €5,000.
- A cash prize of a minimum of €5,000.



Annex 3

Information specific to the 'Welcome' award category.

This award is for a foreign business established in the Brussels-Capital region over the last five years, that has made the best contribution to the economic development of Brussels.

Eligibility criteria

The candidate business must:

- Be established and have had its place of business in the Brussels-Capital region for the last five years (on 30 April 2023);
- have a business registration number

Assessment criteria

Entries will be evaluated based on the innovation demonstrated by the companies towards the environmental, social and economic aspects of their activity.

These aspects are shown below as an example. Each candidate company identifies the elements it wishes to highlight to support its application by using the examples cited or any other element it deems appropriate.

Environmental aspect

This involves designing products or services that are compatible with the availability of resources in the short, medium and long term and have no negative externalities. This includes the rational and efficient use of material resources; the rational and reasoned use of resources; a mobility strategy; waste reduction; relevant management of spaces and contribution to a low-carbon economy.

For example:

You reduce your energy consumption - You have implemented a mobility strategy in your company - You promote soft mobility For you, your employees, your customers and your suppliers - You have reduced your CO2 emissions - You have changed your business model in relation to climate change ...

You use material resources in a rational and efficient way - You make sustainable, local and/or circular purchases for your activity - Your company prefers eco-design (modularity, disassembly, multi-functionality, rental) - You share, pool or reuse resources - You reduce your waste - You optimise your logistics ...

You produce sustainable energy - You have carried out an energy diagnosis and applied measures (water, heating, electricity) ...



Your work spaces are multifunctional - You develop green spaces - You cohabit with bees - You contribute to a decarbonised economy - You consider your district in the development of your activities ...

Social aspect

This involves putting people at the heart of organisations through a participatory and inclusive process. This can be expressed in terms of social purpose, creation of quality jobs, training and governance. It can also involve creating sustainable activities that meet the needs of a territory.

For example:

You fight against discrimination and inequalities - You respond to major societal issues through your activity - You work to promote the well-being and health of individuals and groups - You ensure professional integration ...

You create sustainable and local jobs with fair remuneration - You train your employees and allow them to develop new skills - You develop centres of excellence - You promote sandwich training ...

You are active in the democratic and social sector - You implement governance strategies that motivate your employees and partners - You have chosen a cooperative legal form ...

You improve the territory in which you work - You have a fair value distribution strategy - You ensure the financial accessibility of your products and services ...

Rewards

The three nominees in this category will be rewarded with:

- A promotional video clip about their company
- Media exposure before, during and after the hub.awards ceremony

The winner of this category will also receive:

- A trophy
- A media presence in the media of our partners BX1 and Bruzz, worth €5,000.
- A cash prize of a minimum of €5,000.



Annex 4

Information specific to the ' Export ' award category.

This award is for the Brussels business that offers innovative goods and services and that is successful in overseas markets.

Eligibility criteria

The candidate business must:

- have a place of business in the Brussels-Capital region;
- have a business registration number;
- be an independent micro, small or medium enterprise under European definitions
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32003H0361&from=en>
- export (sell) its goods and services to at least one country other than Belgium.
- Also open to salaried or self-employed entrepreneurs engaged in economic activity within the context of a cooperative that supports its members in their socioeconomic development. For example: DiES, SmartCoop.

In this case, the application dossier of the salaried or self-employed entrepreneur must include the following documents:

1. the business number of the supporting cooperative,
2. the reference or name of the department of the coop within which the entrepreneur works
3. financial and accounts information for the candidate entrepreneur's business, as a minimum, the profit and loss account and balance sheet or equivalent documents, demonstrating the economic viability of the business. These internal documents, produced in conjunction with the supporting cooperative, must be approved by the person responsible (director or manager of the cooperative). They must not be the financial accounts of the cooperative as a whole.
4. a certificate proving regular payment of tax and social security contributions due by the supporting cooperative.

Assessment criteria

Entries will be evaluated based on the innovation demonstrated by the companies towards the environmental, social and economic aspects of their activity.

These aspects are shown below as an example. Each candidate company identifies the elements it wishes to highlight to support its application by using the examples cited or any other element it deems appropriate.



Environmental aspect

This involves designing products or services that are compatible with the availability of resources in the short, medium and long term and have no negative externalities. This includes the rational and efficient use of material resources; the rational and reasoned use of resources; a mobility strategy; waste reduction; relevant management of spaces and contribution to a low-carbon economy.

For example:

You reduce your energy consumption - You have implemented a mobility strategy in your company - You promote soft mobility For you, your employees, your customers and your suppliers - You have reduced your CO2 emissions - You have changed your business model in relation to climate change ...

You use material resources in a rational and efficient way - You make sustainable, local and/or circular purchases for your activity - Your company prefers eco-design (modularity, disassembly, multi-functionality, rental) - You share, pool or reuse resources - You reduce your waste - You optimise your logistics ...

You produce sustainable energy - You have carried out an energy diagnosis and applied measures (water, heating, electricity) ...

Your work spaces are multifunctional - You develop green spaces - You cohabit with bees - You contribute to a decarbonised economy - You consider your district in the development of your activities ...

Social aspect

This involves putting people at the heart of organisations through a participatory and inclusive process. This can be expressed in terms of social purpose, creation of quality jobs, training and governance. It can also involve creating sustainable activities that meet the needs of a territory.

For example:

You fight against discrimination and inequalities - You respond to major societal issues through your activity - You work to promote the well-being and health of individuals and groups - You ensure professional integration ...

You create sustainable and local jobs with fair remuneration - You train your employees and allow them to develop new skills - You develop centres of excellence - You promote sandwich training ...

You are active in the democratic and social sector - You implement governance strategies that motivate your employees and partners - You have chosen a cooperative legal form ...

You improve the territory in which you work - You have a fair value distribution strategy - You ensure the financial accessibility of your products and services ...



Rewards

The three nominees in this category will be rewarded with:

- A promotional video clip about their company
- Media exposure before, during and after the hub.awards ceremony

The winner of this category will also receive:

- A trophy
- A media presence in the media of our partners BX1 and Bruzz, worth €5,000.
- A cash prize of a minimum of €5,000.



Annex 5

Information specific to the ' Public Prize ' award category.

This award is for the Brussels business, in any category and sector, that is most representative, in the eyes of the public, of the vitality of entrepreneurship in the Brussels-Capital region.

Eligibility criteria

The candidate business must have applied to one of the other categories and meet the related eligibility criteria.

Rewards

The three nominees in this category will be rewarded with¹:

- A promotional video clip about their company
- Media exposure before, during and after the hub.awards ceremony.

The winner of this category will receive:

- A trophy
- A media presence in the media of our partners BX1 and Bruzz, worth €12,000.
- A cash prize of a minimum of €5,000.

¹ These awards cannot be combined if a company nominated for the Jury Prize is also nominated in one of the other five categories. A company nominated twice will only receive the awards for the nominations once.



Annex 6

Information specific to the ' Jury Prize ' award category.

This prize is awarded to a company of a craft nature offering products or services that are representative of Brussels know-how. It is distinguished by the quality and durability of the materials used, and favours short circuits and local production.

Eligibility criteria

The company must be a candidate in one of the other categories and meet the related eligibility criteria.

In addition, to be eligible, the company must meet the FPS Economy's definition of a craft industry, i.e.: "A natural or legal person active in the production, transformation, repair, restoration of objects, provision of services whose activities have essentially manual aspects, an authentic character, developing a certain know-how based on quality, tradition, creation or innovation" (according to the law of 19 March 2014).

Rewards

The three nominees in this category will be rewarded with²:

- A promotional video clip about their company
- Media exposure before, during and after the hub.awards ceremony.

The winner of this category will receive:

- A trophy
- A media presence in the media of our partners BX1 and Bruzz, worth €5,000.
- A cash prize of a minimum of €5,000.

² These awards cannot be combined if a company nominated for the Jury Prize is also nominated in one of the other five categories. A company nominated twice will only receive the awards for the nominations once.

