

INTRODUCTION

AVEBIOM, the Spanish Biomass Association, organiser of Expobiomasa, announces as part of the exhibition, the call for **Innovation Award** to reward innovation in the sector in 2023. A double category award is established:

- Award to the Technology Innovation
- Award to the best Innovative Practice

This call is framed within a series of activities that Expobiomasa develops from its firm commitment of promoting the sector and the recognition of initiatives that contribute to boost economic development in Biomass sector. Additionally, the award to the best Innovative Practice is part of the BRANCHES H2020 project, which is implemented in Spain by CIRCE and AVEBIOM through its National Thematic Network INTERCAMBIOM, on Innovative Practices with biomass.

To participate, the applicants may agree the contest rules and fill in the requested information within the deadlines set.

Furthermore, with all the applications received, it will be made the **Dossier of Innovations of Expobiomasa 2023** that will be sent before the event to the **media partners**, and it will be published on the web www.expobiomasa.com to help to spread all the information about newest products, projects and services that are currently on the market. The applications which additionally participate in the award category on Innovative Practices, will be published in the website www.intercambiom.org.

This official call is made in accordance with the following **rules of participation**:

RULES OF PARTICIPATION

1. The organiser

The organiser, AVEBIOM, is responsible for administrating, financing and looking after the transparency and achievement of the aims marked in the awards.

2. Panel of judges

A panel of judges awards the prizes according to the candidates' worth, taking into account the merits required in the current rules. Such panel of judges is composed of four people:

- 1 representative of the organizer that will assume the role of secretary.
- 1 representative of Technology Centers recognized by their Biomass Energy work.
- 1 representative of association partners of Expobiomasa.
- 1 representative of the INTERCAMBIOM network

The panel of judges will intervene in the evaluation of the two award categories. Its evaluation will directly determine the winning applicant for the Award of Technology Innovation. For the Innovative Practice category, its evaluation will be averaged with a public vote, according to Point 7 of these bases. Details for participating as public jury and the voting rules and process will be provided on the web www.intercambiom.org.

3. Applicants

The announcement is open to any company or legal person that contributes with innovations to Biomass sector development and participates in the exhibition showing the innovation.

4. Awards

The category on Technology Innovation will be awarded with a prize totaling a 2000€ and two secondary awards of 500€ each. The category on Innovative Practices will get a promo pack as award.

5. Required papers

All applicants must submit 2023 Award Application Form filled in. This form will be provided by the organizer at the following link: <http://expobiomasa.com/en/registration-awards-innovation>.

The applications must reflect the following basic aspects:

- Name of the Company / Organisation, person of contact and email.
- Name of the product, service or project.
- Summary of the innovation (about 30 words or 350 characters)
- Description and/or technology used (150-200 words is required)
- 1 Picture or drawing

In order to apply for the best Innovative Practice award, applicants must indicate it on the form. Applicants will then be enabled to upload more pictures, and will have to further detail the following contents:

- Replicability potential
- Sustainability (economic, environmental and social)
- Links to references (users or pilot locations)

6. Submission of candidatures:

Candidatures must be submitted until 31st March 2023 to the website.

7. Awarding

The prizes will be awarded by the panel of judges and will be given within Expobiomasa framework. The awards ceremony will take place in the framework of Expobiomasa 2023. Awards are subjected to be voided by the panel of judges in case they considered that candidatures don't reach the required level. In order to assess the proposals, the panel of judges will take into account the innovative nature, creativity, energy efficiency and usefulness of the proposal. An application may be withdrawn from the competition if it does not meet a minimum level of innovation.

The Best Innovative Practice Award will also be judged on the replicability and sustainability of the practice in economic, environmental and social aspects. The award will take into account the jury's assessment, weighting 50%, and a popular and open vote of the candidatures, with the remaining weight of 50%. Voting will take place between 10th and 20th April through a form accessible from www.intercambiom.org.

8. Publication

Applicants authorize the organization to make public the candidature's information in digital and social media, through printing, offprints, PDF files, translations and secondary sources of information such as summary and regulation services, including databases. The documentation given could be edited in the **Dossier of Innovation Expobiomasa 2023** that will be available at www.expobiomasa.com

9. Acceptance of the rules

All submitted candidatures accept the rules of the contest, just by taking part in it. The organising committee reserves the right to interpret the rules and conditions of this official announcement, as well as the acceptance of candidatures.

10. Objections

Any objection against the rules and decisions resulting from the previous mentioned rules will be submitted to the interpreting of the organising committee. Nevertheless, there is no limit of objections that can be submitted to the committee. These objections will be settled by simple majority in a non extendable period of 3 days from the moment in which the objection was submitted. Objections against the resolution can be made in a period within 7 days after the awarding.

Note:

The category Award to the best Innovative Practice is part of BRANCHES H2020 project "Boosting Rural Bioeconomy Networks following multi-actor approaches" (www.branchesproject.eu), through its instrument in Spain, INtercamBIOM, the network to interexchange knowledge on innovative practices with biomass.