

20-22 JUNE 2023

EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY WEEK

Accelerating the clean energy transition - towards lower bills and greater skills



EUSEW 2023 Info session: Tuesday 29 November 10.00 CET

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General information

When and where can we register for the event on 20 – 22 June 2023?

Registrations for [European Sustainable Energy Week \(EUSEW\)](https://ec.europa.eu/eusew) will open in April 2023 via the website ec.europa.eu/eusew.

Where can we find the guidelines?

The guidelines for each component of EUSEW are available on the corresponding section of the [website](#) when each call opens.

What are the deadlines for applications?

The calls for the different components are open as follows:

- [Policy sessions](#) 22 November 2022 – 1 February 2023
- [Energy Fair](#) 22 November 2022 – 2 March 2023
- [EUSEW Awards](#) 6 December 2022 – 9 February 2023
- [Sustainable Energy Days](#) 14 February – 15 June 2023.

Is it possible to propose hybrid events, and what kind of support will there be?

Policy sessions can be in a hybrid format, and support will be available for any technical aspects, such as remote speakers, etc. We do, however, encourage speakers and participants to participate onsite, where possible, in order to make the most of the [networking activities](#).

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You may host [Sustainable Energy Days](#) in a hybrid format but will be responsible for all technical aspects, as these events are independently organised.

Can we have more than two applications if we are not the lead organisation?

You should not organise more than two sessions, but you may speak in additional sessions where you are not the organiser. This is because we value diversity in terms of including a broad range of stakeholders. Many people want to participate, and this makes it very competitive, so we want to give as good a chance as possible to all applicants. This also means that organisations are fully invested in and committed to the sessions they do appear in.

The overarching theme is 'Accelerating clean energy transition – towards lower bills and greater skills'. Could you explain what you mean by 'skills'?

How you interpret 'skills' is up to you as an applicant. We accept a wide definition, which could involve upskilling or reskilling workers but also skills for households to identify what they can do to save energy. We recommend that you focus on a specific area and concentrate on bringing the right stakeholders on board.

If we apply for a Sustainable Energy Day, can we also apply for a policy session and an Energy Fair stand during EUSEW 2023 in June?

Provided you meet the eligibility requirements stated in the guidelines, you are welcome to apply to as many different elements of EUSEW as you wish.

Does the 'two applications per organiser' rule apply to all applications (e.g. for policy sessions, the Energy Fair and Sustainable Energy Days), or does it refer only to policy session applications?

This refers only to policy sessions: you can apply wherever you would fit across the different components and, for example, appear in the Policy Conference and have a stand at the Energy Fair. However, please remember that while we try to accommodate as much as possible, we also value diversity in terms of having a wide variety of different groups represented.

Can applicants from EU-associated countries participate in all aspects of the conference (including Awards and the Energy Fair, etc.) without entering into partnership with applicants from EU countries?

Yes, but as per the [guidelines](#), you must team up with other organisations, and one of the organisations must be from the EU. You can also organise a Sustainable Energy Day in your local area or hold a stand at the Energy Fair. However, the Awards are limited to member states and EEA countries.

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Who are the evaluators? How are they selected, and by whom? Is there any special call for experts to be involved?

Evaluation takes place internally at the European Commission by our experts on the different topics, there is no call for experts.

Why is there not a single deadline for all applications? This would be easier to remember than several.

While we aim to simplify the application process as much as possible, we are currently in a period of transition following the pandemic, and returning to the traditional month of June for EUSEW 2023 means we are working with tighter deadlines than usual. The calls are therefore staggered to ensure that the evaluation team has time to assess applications and give applicants as much time as possible to apply to the different calls.

Do you have information on the participants of the Policy Conference? Who is participating apart from session organisers and Energy Fair participants?

The EUSEW Policy Conference attracts energy experts and agencies, policymakers, private companies, NGOs, industry associations and the media. The goal is to engage everyone with a stake and interest in helping the EU meet its energy and climate goals, including energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions.'

Policy Conference

What are the conditions for organising a panel at the Policy Conference?

We advise you to [consult the guidelines](#) for a full explanation of the eligibility conditions.

Is there a minimum number of partners needed to submit the joint proposal?

The [guidelines](#) state that a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 5 partners are required for a policy session application.

Is it relevant for EU regions to hold a policy session?

Yes. Before submitting your application, please make sure you meet the eligibility criteria listed in the [guidelines](#). In addition, please note that we encourage individual regions to partner with others in order to submit session applications that cover a diverse perspectives.

Can Ministries also apply as the main organiser for policy sessions?

Yes. Before submitting your application, please make sure you meet the eligibility criteria listed in the [guidelines](#).

How can we put ourselves forward to join a relevant panel at the policy conference?

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We encourage organisers to connect and team up to propose sessions. There is no specific framework to connect with other possible organisers, but you are welcome to contact other organisations on social media to find partners.

Generally, what is the acceptance rate of policy session applications?

The number of available slots changes every year. We are trying to make the 2023 edition bigger in terms of sessions, but there is no specific number yet.

How many policy sessions will there be in total?

The total number of policy sessions is not confirmed, but it will be between 40 and 50 in addition to plenaries.

Will the preference to organise a policy session be given to the projects that focus on skills?

Since skills are one of the five key themes of the Policy Conference, some preference will be given to such topics, but we will not only have sessions focused on skills.

Are the assessors of policy session applications from the European Commission's DG ENER?

[DG ENER](#) and [CINEA](#) create a task force that will evaluate all applications, we do get support from some external evaluators, however, this is a second step to ensure good variety.

Can we select a preferred day to organise a policy session?

If there is a real reason to organise your session on a specific date, please indicate this in your application, but this is not guaranteed to be taken into account. We have several thematic blocks that will structure the programme across the different days of the conference. You will be informed of your slot will be three months ahead of time, which should be sufficient.

Are hybrid policy sessions encouraged?

Hybrid sessions, in the sense of a session that is more or less the same online or onsite, are possible. While we do try to have as many speakers onsite as possible, you can indeed have remote speakers.

Are there translation services available in order to increase participation in virtual sessions?

We do not plan to provide translation however, if this is very important for your session, please flag it in the application form.

Are there any best practices for creating interactivity in the room?

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As stated in the [Policy Conference guidelines](#), interactivity is the key to success for policy session applications, and we recommend boosting participant involvement by addressing polls and questions to the audience. For onsite participants, you may wish to ask them questions directly, while for remote participants, you may make use of Slido or other (GDPR-compliant) tools.

Will you provide us with tools like Slido? Or do we bring our own tools that work for an online and offline audience?

If your session is accepted, we will look at what kind of interactivity you would like, and the technical team at VO will be in touch with you to understand your needs and assist you with Slido or other tools as needed.

Is it possible to include videos, graphics, and virtual tours in both digital and live presentations? This would be in addition to Slido etc.

It is indeed possible to include videos and graphics during presentations. In terms of virtual tours, it would depend on what is meant by this, but it is also technically possible.

Energy Fair

Is it possible to present several projects on one big stand?

This will depend on the available space, but it is possible. The only limiting factor is the number of standholders that can be at the stand at the same time.

Can private companies apply to participate and have a stand at the Energy fair?

Private companies are welcome to participate in the Energy Fair, but, as stated in the [guidelines](#), nothing must be sold at the stand, which should be a place to inform attendees about your services or what you are doing. If you have something innovative and original to show as a private company, and you make a case for it in your application, then you may be selected.

Is there any participation fee for the Energy Fair?

There is no participation fee for the Energy Fair or any other element of EUSEW.

How many stands are available, what are the available sizes and the costs related to this?

The number of stands has not yet been confirmed, as we are still determining how the space will be organised. The last edition had over 30 stands onsite with high chairs, a table, a screen and space behind for roll-up. There are no costs for you except for materials like roll-ups that you want to display.

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Do we still need to liaise with the EUSEW team for the logistics of onsite matchmaking meetings once approved? Should these be taking place at the stand or in separate rooms?

Yes, these meetings will take place at your stand, and if you are accepted for the Energy Fair, you will liaise with the organisation team to confirm the logistics at your stand.

EUSEW Awards

Who can apply for the Awards? Can a city or municipality apply for the Local Energy Action, for example, or is the Award only open to citizens?

In principle, citizen energy projects led by public authorities can indeed apply. However, please note that the guidelines for the different [Award](#) categories will be published on 6 December and you will need to make sure your project meets the eligibility criteria.

For the Awards, can it be individual submissions by organisations/companies, or do you prefer joint applications involving several partners (if from industry)?

Except for the individual award category (Women in Energy), Award applications should include the key stakeholders implementing the activities, projects or actions put forward. If the action/project is implemented by a group of organisations, a collective application is to be submitted. If the action is implemented by a single company, a single organization/company can apply.

Will there be only three prizes? Or will more be added?

There will be three prizes, one for each of the Award categories: Innovation, Local Energy Action, and Woman in Energy.

Sustainable Energy Days

What will be involved in the Sustainable Energy Days?

[Sustainable Energy Days](#) (March – June 2023) are independent, locally-organised events and activities that take place worldwide and promote renewable energy and energy efficiency. You will benefit from additional visibility through the EUSEW communication channels that will promote Sustainable Energy Days. The call will open on 14 February.

Will we receive more information later about the Sustainable Energy Days?

Indeed, the call for the Sustainable Energy Days opens on 14 February, and the guidelines and application forms will be shared then. Make sure you [subscribe](#) to the EUSEW newsletter to receive updates when the call opens.

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Is there EU funding available, i.e. through the Fit for 55 programme, so that local stakeholders, grassroots and civil society groups can participate in the Sustainable Energy Days and cover their expenses?

We do not have the budget to support the travel and accommodation costs of participants as such, but if you apply through an EU-funded project, you may discuss this with your programme's project officer.

Why not create an additional award for the best Sustainable Energy Day? As a way to promote participation and reporting back to the Commission.

That is a very good idea, and the EUSEW team will look into it. Feel free to fill in the feedback form at the end of the event so we can make even more improvements for the next edition.