



dena Energy Award 2026

With this award, the German Energy Agency (dena) honours projects that show how climate neutrality and the transformation of industry can be achieved.

Application

Companies of all sizes from the public and private sectors worldwide may participate. Projects or concepts for energy and carbon dioxide savings may be submitted in three categories. Applications must be submitted via an online form found on the homepage of the dena Energy Award.

The application deadline is June 5th, 2026.

Panel of judges

The selection of nominees and award recipients in their respective categories is carried out by an independent panel of judges. In each category, three nominees are chosen, including the final winner.

This panel is made up of high-calibre representatives from BMW, the media, industry, academia and dena.

Award & Award Ceremony

Nominees and award winners of all categories will be honoured on [November 9th, 2026](#), at the dena Kongress in Berlin. In cooperation with the award winners, professionally produced video clips will be produced, which showcase their projects and may be used for corporate communications. The [audience award](#) for small and medium enterprises is endowed with a prize of 5,000 euros. The winner of the audience award is selected via an online vote and by the attendees of the dena Kongress.

Good Practice Label

Among all applications, five to ten entries will be selected and honoured as examples of good practice. The selected companies receive labels designating them as [Good Practice Companies](#) that they may use for their corporate communications and are featured on the dena Energy Award homepage.

We are happy to help with your application!

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A project by

dena

Three Award Categories and One Audience Award

Move forward!

Integrated Strategies and Measures for Climate Neutrality



The ideal candidates submit holistic climate action plans with concrete projects that significantly improve decarbonisation efforts and work towards the goal of climate neutrality.

Examples may include:

- Systemic measures
- Process optimisation
- Electrification and sustainable process heat
- Resource efficiency and circular economy
- Primary energy savings
- Renewable hydrogen and derivatives
- Decarbonisation of the supply chain

Go smart!

Energy Efficiency via Technologies and Digitalisation



Innovative energy efficiency technologies, which open measurable saving potentials, are recognized in this category. This may include

advanced technologies for the measurement and control of systems. Further examples are:

- Digitalization and digital transformation
- Cross-sector energy-efficient technologies
- Software solutions (such as AI or data analysis)
- Waste heat utilisation and heat recovery
- Smart automation solutions
- Flexibility solutions and energy storage

Act together!

Cooperation for Effective Energy Efficiency and Climate Action Projects



This category honours exemplary cooperation in energy efficiency and climate action projects. The focus is on cooperative project developments, contracting solutions, and sustainable infrastructures, such as:

- Efficient heating networks /municipal heat transition
- Innovative leasing and hire purchase systems
- Cooperation and support of networks
- Innovative funding solutions
- Inclusion of energy and utility providers
- Energy and climate management

Pioneer

Audience Award for Small and Medium Enterprises



The commitment of small and medium enterprises who, despite limited resources, recognise the challenges of the energy transition as an opportunity and lead the way, are at the forefront in this category.

The panel of judges nominates three projects out of all entries for the award categories. The nominees present their projects as a live pitch on stage during the award show. The winner is chosen through an online vote, which starts in October 2026.

Supported by:



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