



Call for Proposals Best Climate Practices 2017 Contest

Building local resilience to climate disaster risk

In the context of its Best Climate Practices observatory, the International Center for Climate Governance (ICCG – www.iccgov.org) invites you to submit innovative proposals focusing on **Building local resilience to climate disaster risk**.

Founded in 2009, the International Center for Climate Governance (ICCG) is a joint initiative of Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM) and Fondazione Giorgio Cini. The ICCG's mission is to disseminate scientifically-based, socio-economic research in the fields of climate change mitigation and adaptation to policymakers, business leaders, academics and the general public. This call is part of the activities of the **Best Climate Practices** observatory, a project promoting the development of new ideas to address climate change and climate-related challenges.

The Best Climate Practices observatory

The Best Climate Practices (BCP - www.bestclimatepractices.org) surveys and incentivises **practical projects and initiatives tackling climate change** that deserve attention for their **originality and effectiveness**.

The platform is designed to build a **network among researchers, institutions, businesses and political actors, while providing meaningful information to the general public**. All the best practices collected on the website have been submitted and/or chosen on the basis of their capacity for implementation and potential for replicability.

With the aim of harnessing the brilliance of the public at large and promoting the most valuable proposals, every year the Best Climate Practices observatory organizes an **international contest dedicated to innovative best practices** tackling climate change or addressing a related challenge.

In 2017 the Best Climate Practices contest reaches its fifth edition, after the successful experiences of the “Expanding access to climate financing” competition in 2016, the 2015 contest on “Climate Change and Water Availability for Food Production”, the 2014 edition on “Energy Poverty Alleviation” and the first edition in 2013 on “Urban Resilience”.



The challenge: Building local resilience to climate disaster risk

The focus of the 2017 contest is “**Building local resilience to climate disaster risk**”.

Floods, drought, heat waves and other extreme weather and climate events pose threats to persons and communities: losses in life and health, economic damages, displacement, and compromise access to basic needs and services, such as water, food, energy, transport, communication or education.

Strategies and actions to cope with climate-related disasters and bounce back quickly are urgently needed. The World Economic Forum’s Global Risks report of 2017 identified extreme weather events as the single most prominent global risk both in terms of likelihood and impact¹. According to the latest IFRC annual review of global disasters, 108 million people were affected by natural disasters in 2015, around half of whom were hit by drought, a third by floods and 10 percent by storms². Despite broad recognition that investing in resilience can save lives and money, IFRC analyses revealed that only 40 cents of every 100 US dollars spent on international aid is invested in preparedness and measures to reduce disaster risk.

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) entails systematic efforts to reduce those factors that amplify the impacts of natural hazards. It includes such actions as building more resilient infrastructures, investing in disaster preparedness and early warning systems, providing education, training and capacity building, taking advantage of mobile and communication technologies, and developing new tools such as micro insurances and nature-based solutions.

Disaster risk reduction, with its aim to strengthen the resilience of communities to all hazards, is an **essential piece of the sustainable development agenda**. The Hyogo Framework for Action, which guided disaster risk reduction efforts from 2005 to 2015, already identified the need to integrate DRR and climate change adaptation efforts. The 2015 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction reiterated the relationship between DRR measures and climate change adaptation and emphasized the need for coordination and coherence in the DRR, climate change, and sustainable development agendas. Out of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, 10 are strictly tied to the struggle for reducing disaster risk and building resilience³.

By choosing the theme of the 2017 Contest, the Best Climate Practices observatory focuses the attention on core aspects of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - contributing, among others, to Goal 1 (End poverty in all its forms everywhere), Goal 2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture), Goal 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages), Goal 11 (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable), and Goal 13 (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts).

¹ World Economic Forum (WEF), Global Risks Report 2017

² International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), World Disasters Report 2016

³ UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015)



Although disaster risk reduction efforts are underway, **climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events**. Low-income countries and small islands are the most endangered by climate change impacts, but **local communities in both cities and rural areas are exposed to disaster risk** in the richest and most developed countries as well. Environmental degradation and socioeconomic factors like poverty and urban population growth contribute to increase communities' vulnerability to natural hazards.

For these reasons the 2017 Best Climate Practices Contest aims to award and promote actionable ideas and concrete projects designed to support urban and/or rural communities in preparing and responding to climate disasters, improving local resilience through enhanced preparedness (ex-ante) and/or recovery (ex-post) capacity.

Eligibility criteria

Who can participate

The contest is open to **anyone**, regardless of nationality, age or qualification.

Proposals can be submitted by **individual users, teams or organizations**.

Submitters can be the authors of the practice or proponents of a third party's practice. However, it is strictly forbidden to submit someone else's practice/idea as one's own. Where an intellectual property owner's authorization is needed, it is the responsibility of the submitter(s) to obtain such authorization prior to submitting the final materials.

Projects previously exhibited or published on the Best Climate Practices platform may be resubmitted, as long as they conform to the rules and the entry guidelines of the competition. For practices/ideas that have been exhibited or published elsewhere, it is requested to provide clear details through the **Note section** in the *ad hoc* web form.

Eligible practices

The contest is open to practices (projects, initiatives, tools, or ideas) designed to **increase the capacity of urban and rural communities to prepare and respond to climate-related disasters**.

Submissions not consistent with the 2017 BCP Contest theme, even if commendable projects in and of themselves, will not be taken into consideration.

Admissible practices can present: i) a **brand new idea** or ii) an **already existing project** (in its preliminary phase, under way or already concluded).

Proposals must refer to **actionable ideas or concrete projects**: research papers or dissemination initiatives will not be taken into consideration.

Practices must be submitted according to the rules explained in this call for proposals and following the [accompanying guidelines](#) published on the Best Climate Practices platform.

To understand what is considered a **best practice**, read the definition on the [About page](#).



Submission procedure and rules

In order to submit a proposal, participants have to register on the BCP platform at www.bestclimatepractices.org. Once logged in, please fill in the entry form on the **Submit a Practice** webpage by following the instructions given. Complete the application by uploading the **Privacy Consent form** in the "Upload Document" section at the end of the entry form.

Each registered user may submit one or more practices.

No application fee is required.

Contest Dates

- **Start date for submissions:** March 13, 2017 (12 noon CET)
- **Submission deadline:** May 31, 2017 (5.00 pm CEST)
- **Online polls:** June 15, 2017 – July 17, 2017 (5.00 pm CEST)

Any change in the above deadlines will be communicated in due course to the contest participants and posted on the Best Climate Practices website. Submissions and votes received after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

Evaluation procedure and criteria

Admitted practices are graded with a score equally weighted between the results of the public online poll and the assessment by the international Expert Panel. However, proposals that do not meet the minimum score by the Expert Panel cannot receive the award.

The author⁴ of the practice receiving the highest score is awarded the prize.

Stage one: Expert Panel Assessment

The practices/ideas submitted will be evaluated by a Panel composed of five high-profile experts from international universities and organisations, chaired by ICCG Director Carlo Carraro.

The list of members of the Expert Panel for the 2017 Best Climate Practices contest will be published in due course on the Best Climate Practices website.

The Panel performs its assessment according to the following criteria: i) **feasibility** of the practice proposed; ii) **replicability** potential of the practice; iii) **originality** of the practice;

⁴ The author is to be understood to mean the physical person, the association or the organization that invented, created, designed the submitted practice.



iv) **potential or proven impact** of the practice in enhancing the preparedness and recovery capacity of the communities involved.

Particular attention will be paid to the economic sustainability of the actions proposed and to the vulnerability dimensions addressed (environmental, infrastructural, social, economic).

Stage two: public online poll

Registered users on the Best Climate Practices website can rate the contestants' practices and share them on social networks, increasing their chances of winning.

In order to vote for the practices, users need to register and/or log into the BCP website.

Each registered user has a single right of vote for each practice and can assign from one to five points for each of the following criteria: i) **feasibility** of the practice proposed; ii) **replicability** potential of the practice; iii) **originality** of the practice; iv) **potential or proven impact** of the practice in enhancing the preparedness and recovery capacity of the communities involved.

All the practices admitted to the competition will be shown on the **Contest** webpage at the close of the submission stage (see Contest Dates section).

Award

The winner practice of the 2017 BCP contest will be awarded 3000 euros⁵.

The winner(s) and best shortlisted candidates will be invited to present their projects to a selected audience of experts, researchers, policy-makers and investors during a web-conference organized by ICCG.

The winner will be announced in October 2017. Further details about the winner announcement and the final web conference will be communicated in due course to the contest's participants and posted on the Best Climate Practices website.

ICCG will promote the winner and other deserving projects in competition through its communication channels.

Contacts

International Center for Climate Governance (ICCG)
Island of San Giorgio Maggiore 8
I-30124 Venice, Italy
Mail: info@bestclimatepractices.org

⁵ Gross amount subject to withholding tax.