

# Applicant guidance note



## Eligibility self-check

Before applying, please confirm:

- The action is led by, or implemented in close partnership with, a local or regional government
- The action goes beyond a single project or site and contributes to systemic change
- The action is implemented (or coordinated) at local or regional level
- The action demonstrates clear sustainability benefits
- The action has delivered results or institutional changes (or is well underway)
- The applicant is able to provide evidence of impact

If you can tick most or all of these boxes, your action is likely eligible for the *Local Sustainability Award*.

For questions, applicants are encouraged to contact the ICLEI Europe awards team before submitting: [award-europe@iclei.org](mailto:award-europe@iclei.org).



## What makes a strong LSA application?

The *Local Sustainability Award* recognises systemic transformation, not isolated projects. Strong applications demonstrate how local action changes the underlying systems shaping sustainability outcomes.

### Key principles for applicants

- **Think systemically**
  - Describe how your action changes rules, governance, incentives or behaviours – not just what was built or delivered.
- **Show integration**
  - Explain how your action delivers benefits across multiple sustainability dimensions (e.g. climate, social inclusion, economy, nature).
- **Demonstrate durability**
  - Highlight how results are embedded in long-term policies, plans or institutions.

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