



# ISGAN Award of Excellence Nominations Now Open

## The Awards Opportunity for Global Recognition

The International Smart Grid Action Network (ISGAN) **Award of Excellence** and the Global Smart Grid Federation (GSGF) **Best Smartgrids Project Award** showcase leadership and innovation in smart grid projects around the world and highlight the tremendous value of smarter, more flexible electric grids.

ISGAN and GSGF seek projects that exemplify **excellence in smart grids for flexibility** to apply to this fourth ISGAN Award of Excellence competition. Nominations are open now through 13 October 2017.

## Smart Grids for Flexibility

Electricity supply and demand must be kept in constant balance in power systems. Yet, both supply and demand are becoming more variable with increasingly frequent fluctuations, expected and unexpected. The reasons are many, including more renewable energy and distributed energy resources being brought onto the grid and growing markets for electric vehicles and other connected devices. **Flexibility** refers to the capacity of a power system to adapt – reliably, quickly and cost-effectively – to sudden shifts in electricity generation (supply side) and consumption (demand side), regardless of cause. Modern grid technologies and approaches provide a key tool for creating more flexible and responsive power systems, helping keep electricity supply and demand in balance, increasing grid reliability, and saving money.

## Competition Details

- The official rules of this ISGAN Award of Excellence competition and detailed application guidance can be found on the ISGAN website, <http://www.iea-iscan.org/award2018>. The deadline for nominations is 13 October 2017.
- Projects entered into this competition are also eligible to win the complementary GSGF Best Smartgrid Project Award.
- Eligible projects include pilot, demonstration, and deployment projects as well as established programs that demonstrate excellence in employing modern smart grid systems and approaches to improve power system flexibility.
- Eligible projects can be focused primarily on another objective, such as grid automation, *as long as they employ smart grids and improve grid flexibility*. For this competition, both *smart grids* and *flexibility* are defined broadly, recognizing significant differences among nations' circumstances, objectives, and approaches.
- Submissions will be judged by a jury of international experts organized by ISGAN and the GSGF. The jury will select one or more winning projects using three primary criteria (*potential impacts, economic rationale, potential for replication or adaptation*) and two secondary criteria (*level of innovation, other benefits*).
- Winners will be contacted in early 2018. They will receive prestigious recognition during an awards ceremony at the Ninth Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM9) in Europe in May 2018. They will also be recognized in ISGAN and GSGF products and events, affirming them as global exemplars of excellence.

Nominations Period Opens  
8 June 2017

Nominations Period Closes  
13 October 2017

Winners Notified  
Early 2018

Awards Ceremony  
May 2018

**About ISGAN:** Launched in 2010, the International Smart Grid Action Network is a Clean Energy Ministerial initiative and International Energy Agency Technology Collaboration Programme that brings together 24 countries from five continents and the European Commission to advance the global deployment of smarter, cleaner, more flexible electricity grids.

**About GSGF:** Established in 2010, the Global Smart Grid Federation links leading national and regional smart grid organizations from around the world, each representing a variety of private sector, academic, and other stakeholder interests.