



# ISGAN Award of Excellence Nominations Now Open

## The Award Opportunity for Global Recognition

The International Smart Grid Action Network (ISGAN) Award of Excellence and the Global Smart Energy Federation (GSEF) – Best Smart Grid 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 GSEF invite nominations of projects that exemplify excellence in Flexibility for Grid Resilience for the 10th ISGAN Award of Excellence.

## Theme: Excellence in Flexibility for Grid Resilience

In this era of climate change, 'Flexibility for Grid Resilience' becomes a vital theme. The rising unpredictability of weather patterns due to climate change calls for grid systems that are both resilient and adaptable. Facing frequent and severe events like storms and extreme temperatures, these grids must rapidly adapt. Renewable energy sources, crucial for sustainability, thrive with flexible grids that can efficiently manage their variable supply. The strength of grid resilience is in its ability to withstand, recover, and adapt to disruptions, thus securing the reliability of our energy infrastructure. Grid flexibility also encourages the incorporation of diverse energy sources, moving towards a sustainable and adaptive energy ecosystem. Smart grid technologies are key, offering real-time responses to climate-related energy changes. Emphasizing grid flexibility is essential for a robust and reliable energy grid, capable of navigating climate change impacts. This is why ISGAN and GSEF have chosen 'Flexibility for Grid Resilience' as the 2024 ISGAN Award of Excellence theme, highlighting their commitment to a resilient and sustainable energy future.

## 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-isgan.org/award2024>. The deadline for nominations is **24 May 2024**.
- Projects entered into this competition are also eligible to win the complementary GSEF Best Smart Grid Project Award.
- The focus of this competition is to recognize one or more projects that exhibit excellence in the application of Flexibility for Grid Resilience successfully in the electricity sector and demonstrated results in any of the areas described below:

### 1. Enhancements in Grid Infrastructure and Technology

- Temporary Islanding and Distributed Black Start Technologies using Energy Storage Systems
- Advanced Grid Control Systems for Real-Time Monitoring and Control of Generation and Loads
- Implementation and Operation of Grid-Forming Inverters
- Microgrids

### 2. Consumer Involvement and Distributed Energy Integration

- Demand Response Programs
- Flexible Loads
- Virtual Power Plants (VPP)
- Electric Vehicles (EVs) Integration
- Local Energy Markets/Local Clean Energy Communities

- The project should be in operation for a minimum of one year as of February 1, 2024. ISGAN is encouraging applications by electric utilities, power system operators, renewable energy generators, technology providers, universities, research labs, and other stakeholders in the electricity domain.
- Submissions will be judged by a jury of international experts organized by ISGAN and the GSEF. 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 June 2024. They will receive prestigious recognition during an awards ceremony at the Fifteenth Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM15) in October in Brazil. They will be also recognized in ISGAN and GSEF products and events, affirming them as global exemplars of excellence.

Nominations Period Opens	Nominations Period Closes	Winners Notified	CEM15 Award Ceremony
5 February 2024	24 May 2024	June 2024	October 2024

**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 27 countries from five continents and the European Commission to advance the global deployment of smarter, cleaner, more flexible electricity grids.

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