**AEN International Ecotourism Awards 2025**

**(AIEA 2025)**

To apply please address the questions below and submit along with any Supplemental materials file to [asianecotourismnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:asianecotourismnetwork@gmail.com)

(DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS – 31st JULY 2025)

**Application Form for DESTINATIONS**

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| 1. **APPLICANT PROFILE** | |
| Applicant Name\* *(Applicant name here means the name of your accommodation/destination)* |  |
| Country\* |  |
| Complete Address\* |  |
| Associated Protected Area (if any) |  |
| Website Link/ social media links\* |  |
| Primary Contact for the Application\* |  |
| Telephone Number\* |  |
| Email Address\* |  |
| Which of the following representations best suit you for the award consideration *(''ecotourism stakeholder representation for the Award")*  Choose any one from below :  *Public Sector; Community; Tourism Business; NGO; Individual; Others (Please Specify)* |  |
| **2) APPLICANT OVERVIEW**\*  Provide a summary description of the applicant and why the applicant should be considered for the AEN International Ecotourism Award *(300 words maximum).* |  |
| **3) AUTHENTIC ECOTOURISM EXPERIENCE**\*  Describe whether the applicant set-up addresses the ecotourism pillars of beneﬁt to environment, beneﬁt to community and interpretations? *(300 words maximum)* |  |
| **4) VISITORS EXPERIENCE\***  Describe how the applicant has incorporated and integrated aesthetics, sustainable design elements within the local community (considering ethical engagement) in terms of nature-cultural heritage and traditions to present an authentic ecotourism experience to its visitors *(300 words maximum).* |  |

**‘DESTINATIONS’**

**AWARD SPECIFIC QUESTIONS**

**AIEA 2025 AWARD CATEGORIES**

Kindly ﬁll in the details for the award category applied, while referring to the guidelines

**AWARD CATEGORY 1** - **DESTINATION GOVERNANCE** \*

Describe the Involvement of stakeholders in the decision making process.

Criteria Reference – GSTC D A1 Destination management responsibility; Governance between Public and Private Sector (includes business, communities, civil societies and NGO’s)

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**AWARD CATEGORY 3** - **COMMUNITY BENEFIT**\* \*

Describe whether the functioning of accommodation-setup also supports capacity building-training/education, other types of contributions to community.

Awardee – Destinations (Public Sector only)

*Criteria Reference -* GSTC D B4(Support for community); Training, ecotourism business building support, connecting with industry for product sales or employment, etc.

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**AWARD CATEGORY 4** – **CLIMATE ACTION**\*

Describe the initiatives and efforts performed towards minimizing climate related impacts while also offsetting your carbon footprint (Low carbon, Carbon-zero, Maximizing renewable energy use, Ecofriendly transport)

Awardee – Destinations (including communities)

*Criteria Reference -* GSTC D A10 (Climate change adaptation), D10 (GHG emissions and climate change mitigation), D5 (Energy conservation), D6 (Water stewardship), D11 Low-impact transportation; Renewable energy production; Supporting communities’ renewable energy facilities installment; Green public transport network; Walking path expansion

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**AWARD CATEGORY 5** – **BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION**\*

Describe how the initiative has considered the natural environment and applicant’s layout within the wider landscape to preserve ecosystems and minimize disruption of biodiversity (300 words maximum). Also emphasize efforts performed towards conservation of aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity (as per your nature-based setting)

***Description* – Aquatic biodiversity conservation**

Awardee – Destinations including communities providing mainly marine ecotourism experience

*Criteria Reference –* GSTC D1 (Protection of sensitive environments) (d, e); Marine biodiversity conservation project/activities

***Description* – Terrestrial biodiversity conservation**

Awardee – Destinations including communities providing mainly marine ecotourism experience

*Criteria Reference* - GSTC D1; Terrestrial biodiversity conservation project/activities

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**AWARD CATEGORY 6** – **WASTE MANAGEMENT**\*

Describe initiatives performed to manage plastic and food waste (Zero waste management. More ambitious achievement required)

Awardee – Destinations including communities

*Criteria Reference* - GSTC D9 (Solid waste) – policy and practices; Solid waste management policy; Solid waste reduction/reusing/recycling project/activities/engagement and support of stakeholders; Achievement of waste reduction/reuse/recycle

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**AWARD CATEGORY 7** – **ECOTOURISM PROMOTION**\*

Describe Responsible materials, sustainable delivery mode, responsible

promotional video/brochure/website, stakeholder consultation in developing promotional contents

Awardee – Destinations including communities

Criteria Reference - GSTC D A7; Responsible promotion following green claim guidelines; Respecting communities and environment

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**AWARD CATEGORY 9** –  **INNOVATIVE ECOTOURISM**\*

Describe the ecotourism practices reﬂecting innovation in design, facility, tour, interpretation, etc. (reﬂecting wow factor)

Mention the aspects of the accommodation that are most innovative, and least found among peer accommodations; the innovative technology utilized in the design of the building, its amenities, site water management, renewables, or

related operations (300 words maximum, technical speciﬁcations and

metrics can be submitted separately in the supplemental material; bullet points allowed).

Awardee – No specific target. Open to all stakeholders

*Criteria Reference* - GSTC D A4(c), B3(a); AESA VI (6.5-4, 6.5-5); Innovation keeping/enhancing sustainability in addition to authenticity; Responsible consumption

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**AWARD CATEGORY 10** –  **INNOVATIVE ECOTOURISM**\*

Describe the Community-led activities including business development/management, or community-led initiatives for environmental conservation (Recognizing collaborated community activities)

Mention the aspects of the accommodation that are most innovative, and least found among peer accommodations; the innovative technology utilized in the design of the building, its amenities, site water management, renewables, or

related operations (300 words maximum, technical speciﬁcations and

metrics can be submitted separately in the supplemental material; bullet points allowed).

Awardee – Communities and destinations

Criteria Reference – GSTC D B2(c), B3(c); Strong community leadership at conservation, product development, and governance

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# **Supplemental Information for Award Consideration**

In addition to the criteria above, each entry can submit additional detail their exemplary and quantiﬁable sustainable development practices according to

the award category criteria so the judges can make informed and appropriate assessments.

Supplemental information must adhere to the guidelines in the award description:

* File Format and Size : Microsoft Word, PowerPoint or PDF (NOT exceeding 10MB)
* Font: No smaller than 12 point
* Language: English
* Please do not use acronyms or abbreviations unless explicit explanation is provided
* Please feel free to use bullet points where appropriate
* Please include photos/images as visual support in illustrating core components of your hotel’s entry
* Data charts, tables, and calculations are accepted within the supplemental material.

Files submitted:

**Any related query**