

> C40 and Siemens call for entries to the 2014 City Climate Leadership Award

Melbourne, Feb 19, 2014

Siemens and the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) announced the second annual cycle of the prestigious City Climate Leadership Awards, opening up the application process for global cities demonstrating excellence in urban sustainability. The focus of the 2014 competition is on recognising innovative and environmentally impactful city projects as well as "hidden champions" - high-performing urban projects achieved in spite of financial constraints or difficult economic environments.

Melbourne took out the award for Energy Efficiency Built Environment at last year's awards, with the City of Melbourne being recognised for its commitment to the sustainable future of the city through the 1200 Buildings Program.

"It was a great honour to receive this prestigious award. City leaders understand the role of our cities as engines of economic growth and national productivity. We know that the ability of nations to compete in today's global economy rests on the health, vitality and prosperity of cities. I encourage city leaders to showcase their projects through this international platform," said Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Robert Doyle.

"The C40 & Siemens City Climate Leadership Awards are dedicated to the idea that cities are leading the way in addressing the risks posed by climate change. The success of our inaugural event in September 2013 made it easy for us to not only continue our efforts but expand on them by creating an open application process.

And through the Awards process, we are creating a valuable platform to catalogue and share the most innovative on-the-ground city driven solutions so that they can be recognised and emulated by others," said President of the C40 Board of Directors, Michael R. Bloomberg.

"We have launched our inaugural City Climate Leadership Awards with a big bang a few months ago. Now, for our Awards 2014, we are again looking for the gems of sustainable city projects worldwide. We want those trailblazing projects to serve as examples for other cities. Because it is in the cities that the fight against climate change is decided in," said Roland Busch, CEO of Siemens' Infrastructure & Cities Sector.

More than 140 of the world's major cities - both C40 Cities and those in the Siemens and Economist Intelligence Unit's "Green City Index" - can apply, finding details on eligibility, categories and criteria at <http://cityclimateleadershipawards.com/>. Projects and initiatives may also be nominated by leading organisations in the climate and urban development sectors.

The deadline for the submission of completed applications is March 31, 2014. The projects put forth by applying cities must be actively operating within the past two years.

An independent, seven-member judging panel consisting of former mayors, architects, representatives from the World Bank, as well as the C40 and Siemens will nominate around 30 finalists and select the ten winners. The Awards will be given in September 2014.

The 2013 inaugural awards honoured ten cities from around the world for excellence in urban sustainability and leadership in the fight against climate change; an additional city won the "Citizen's Choice Award" - a digital media campaign that asked the public to vote for their favourite nominated project. The awards recognised cities whose performance in climate action will serve as a platform for other cities to learn from and benefit.

The City Climate Leadership Awards are part of a broader collaboration between Joint Press Release by Siemens and C40 (Cities Climate Leadership Group) Siemens and C40. The partnership includes making Siemens' technical expertise directly available to C40's network of cities, enhancing the ability of both organizations to help cities accelerate their climate action efforts.

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