



The 4th Annual ECOCLUB.com Ecotourism Awards - Call for Submissions

Each year, on the 1st of July, to celebrate the founding anniversary of ECOCLUB[®], we fund micro-projects initiated & implemented by our Members, which improve local well-being and protect the environment according to the principles of Ecotourism and the aims of ECOCLUB[®] (<http://www.ecoclub.com/philosophy.html>)

We hereby announce our 4th Annual Awards, to be held on **July 1, 2007**, the **8th founding anniversary** of ECOCLUB. Building on the experience & successes of [previous years](#) and on Member feedback we have introduced the following changes: the Awards are now open to **all Members**, the total prize funds have been raised to **Euros 3,000** (approx USD 4,000) and they will be **shared equally** by **three winners**.

Please find full details below:

Awards Terms & Conditions

1. Award Scope:

The Awards will fund three projects (each to receive up to **Euros 1,000**) compatible with the ECOCLUB Philosophy and directly relevant to any or all of our five Ecotourism criteria as detailed at <http://www.ecoclub.com/philosophy.html>. The projects should be initiated, conducted and completed by ECOCLUB Members between **July 1, 2007** and **December 1, 2007**.

2. Project Guidelines:

We accept new, independent, realistic, implementable projects, which benefit the local community, reduce poverty, minimize environmental damage and increase knowledge. Projects should have been duly researched (legal, technical aspects) and should not depend on the performance of 3rd parties, or on factors outside your control. **Members can only submit projects that cost up to Euros 1,000** (approx. USD 1,350) to fully implement, including all costs, fees, wages, and materials. Projects *should not* be already under way, *should not* be part or funded through other projects, or in any way depend on other projects. Please only submit realistic projects and only if you can commit the time & resources required.

3. Eligibility:

The 2007 Awards are open to all paid [ECOCLUB Members](#) (Members, Sponsors) and to Ecologde Members. Members can only apply on behalf of their company / organisation, and not on an individual basis. ECOCLUB S.A. will be the sole & final judge upon eligibility matters. If approved, projects will be posted by us at our dedicated Awards forum: <http://www.ecoclub.com/c/index.php?showforum=14>

4. Application Procedure:

To apply please complete the Application Form, at the end of this communication. Optionally, you may attach textual and photographic supporting materials.

All project submissions should be sent by email to awards@ecoclub.com

by ~~Friday 25th of May, 2007 23:59 GMT.~~

Tuesday 5 June, 2007 23:59 GMT (NEW Deadline)

ECOCLUB S.A. will not in any way change, edit or enhance such information (apart from spell-checking), so as to be fair to all participants.

5. Winner Selection:

The winners will be determined in a democratic fashion by all Members through a **secret online vote**. Candidates can vote for their own project. Each Member has 1 vote, and the three projects which receive most votes will win.

6. Awards Timetable:

(a) At the end of this call is an Application Form that candidates need to fully complete and return by email to awards@ecoclub.com by Tuesday **5 June, 2007**, at the latest. Early submission is encouraged in case a project needs modifications in order to become eligible.

(b) On Wednesday **June 6, 2007** eligible project proposals will be posted online at the dedicated ECOCLUB.com Ecotourism Awards Forum, <http://www.ecoclub.com/c/index.php?showforum=14>

The Forum will only be accessible by Members, who can ask questions about candidate projects so as to determine potential issues with a project at an early stage. Candidates should be ready to reply to such questions in a timely manner, and hopefully convince the electorate! **This Question time period will last from June 7 to June 21, 2007. There will be no more questions and answers after June 21, so that voting is not influenced.**

(c) Voting will last **8 days**. It will open on Friday **June 22, 2007** and close on Friday **June 29, 2007** at **13:00 GMT**.

(d) Winners will be notified by email late on **Friday June 29, 2007** and will be asked to provide a short winning statement.

(e) On Sunday **July 1, 2007**, the **8th anniversary of ECOCLUB**, the three Winners will be announced. All winning projects will be considered equal, although they will be listed according to votes received.

(f) Winning projects must be initiated immediately and completed by **December 1, 2007**. Implementation will be covered at www.ecoclub.com and in our monthly e-Magazine.

7. Winning Project Responsibilities & Schedule:

(a) Winners will be sent a Winning Project Confirmation Form on **July 1, 2007**, which they should sign and return by Fax by July 15 at the latest. If this Form has not been received by **July 16, 2007**, the Winner will forfeit both their Win and the opportunity to fund their project. Instead the 1st runner-up will be given a week to decide if they wish to implement their own project. If they are also unable, the 2nd runner-up will be asked, and so on.

(b) Winners will receive **up to Euros 1,000** depending on the actual cost of the Winning Project, as detailed on the invoice that they will provide. The winners will be deemed to be providing services to ECOCLUB S.A. and invoicing ECOCLUB S.A. for these services.

(c) To claim the Award funds, the winner's company / organisation should be able to sign a legal agreement and issue a legal invoice to ECOCLUB S.A., detailing project costs in an analytical manner and to provide all original payment receipts.

(d) Winners should submit a First Progress Report, by email to awards@ecoclub.com, by **August 15, 2007** providing fresh, textual and photographic evidence of project implementation. Subsequent progress reports should be submitted every 30 days thereafter, and until project completion.

(e) If adequate proof – in the opinion of ECOCLUB S.A. – is provided through the First Progress Report, to be received by August 15, 2007, that the winning project is under way, the Winners will obtain an advance, non-refundable, payment covering up to 30% of the total cost of the project. This aims to encourage early implementation of the winning project.

(f) All projects must be completed by **December 1, 2007** at the latest. For a Winning Project to be deemed complete by ECOCLUB S.A., the Winners should have provided satisfactory evidence by email and by post (photographic, video, original receipts) documenting both the implementation **and** completion of the project, with precise dates. **Projects that are deemed incomplete by ECOCLUB S.A. on December 1, 2007, will forfeit the prize!** If an advance payment was made to the Winners, it **does not** need to be refunded to ECOCLUB S.A.

(g) If ECOCLUB S.A. deems a Winning Project as complete, a Private Agreement will be then signed between ECOCLUB S.A. and the Winner, which will detail payment details and that the project has been completed, once the project has been completed. Winners should sign and return this Agreement by Fax, no later than **December 15, 2007**. The Prize funds payment will be sent by ECOCLUB S.A. within 60 days of the date of the Private Agreement. Payment will be made by PayPal or by Bank Transfer.

(h) Winners should use the following expression to describe their win in any literature they produce related to their win: "Winning Project, ECOCLUB.com Ecotourism Awards 2007". A graphic/ logo will be provided for online use.

(i) Winners should use the following expression to describe their project in any literature they produce related to the project: "Project funded by ECOCLUB S.A. through the ECOCLUB.com Ecotourism Awards 2007". A graphic / logo will be provided for online use.

(j) Where feasible/appropriate, the above expressions (h, i) should be inscribed / included on the product(s)/outcome(s) of the winning project. The inscription cost can be included in the budget, but should not exceed 10 Euros.

(k) When a Winning Project is deemed complete by ECOCLUB S.A., a certificate will be provided to the Winner explaining that the project was funded by ECOCLUB S.A. and fully implemented by the Winner, following a democratic vote by ECOCLUB Members.

8. Acceptance of these Terms

Applying for the ECOCLUB.com Ecotourism Awards 2007, indicates acceptance of the above Terms & Conditions and constitutes a legal agreement. Any dispute arising from this Agreement will be referred to the Law Courts of Athens, Greece, according to the Greek Laws.

We look forward to receiving your application.

If you have any queries about the Awards, please do not hesitate to email awards@ecoclub.com



ECOCLUB.com Ecotourism Awards 2007 - APPLICATION FORM

*Please number your replies and add them below the questions.
Please return by email to awards@ecoclub.com by Tuesday, 5 June 2007*

01. Your Company's / Organisation's Official Name
02. Your Name & Official title at this Company
03. Name & Contact details of person responsible for coordinating your project & communicating with ECOCLUB S.A., if different from yourself
04. Project Title (up to 5 words)
05. Project Summary (up to 30 words)
06. Project Description (up to 300 words)
07. Total Project Budget (maximum Euros 1,000)
08. Project Budget Breakdown in as much detail as possible. Budget should include all costs including materials, fees and wages as required.
09. Is this project already under way?
10. Project Completion Schedule with dates (must end by December 1, 2007)
11. Who or what will mostly benefit from your project?
12. Do you have experience with similar projects in the past?
13. Have you consulted the local authorities and local people about their real needs and feelings about this project? Please clarify and provide evidence if you can.
14. Have you examined all legal, tax and technical aspects of this project? Please clarify and provide evidence if you can.
15. Are there any other unknown or uncertain parameters about this project? Does it depend on any external factors?
16. Who will actually implement this project? (organisation employees, local volunteers, tourist volunteers, local workers, others?)
17. If you do not win, will you still go ahead with this project?

By completing this Application Form you accept to be bound by all the ECOCLUB.com Ecotourism Awards 2007 Application Terms & Conditions, as stated at <http://www.ecoclub.com/awards2007.pdf>