



Global Prize Innovation in Desalination

TRL & Categorization Guidance

Do we choose the prize category or do you categorize applications?

You can choose the category in which to apply by self selecting your TRL based on the maturity of your technology.

If a technology fits into multiple categories, how should the applicant decide which category to apply to?

Applicants should assess their technology's TRL and apply to all relevant categories, maximizing alignment with criteria and potential impact.

Is it possible to apply for more than one Impact category?

Yes, applicants can apply for multiple Impact categories, allowing for flexibility based on project diversity or technological development.

Considering the significance of the TRL part, what makes the technical ambition the most crucial criteria in evaluation?

The technical ambition, particularly how it surpasses the State of the Art, is paramount in TRL evaluation as it measures the innovation leap and transformative potential of the technology, directly impacting its readiness for implementation and sector-wide impact.

How TRL 4-5 and 7-9 are perceived, especially when they approach the transitional stage between research and market readiness?

The shift from TRL 7-9 to TRL 4-5 marks the transition from experimental validation to market deployment. Adhering to European Commission TRL definitions guides project self-assessment, recommending TRL 4-7 for projects with proof of concept aiming for pilot stage and TRL 1-3 for those seeking experimental validation.

What specific areas do the jurors focus on during the evaluation process?

Jurors focus on technical proficiency, the strength of the business model (if applicable), ambition, and the impact in the society.

How does the review process accommodate the assessment of both technical excellence and social impact?

The review process robustly evaluates both technical excellence and social impact, ensuring a balanced assessment that aligns with the competition's objectives and drives transformative change.

Do you disqualify any application for lacking or missing information?

Applications are not disqualified for missing information; instead, we request additional details to ensure thorough evaluation by jurors, fostering a comprehensive review process and giving applicants an opportunity to provide any overlooked information.

What is the primary appeal for participants in the TRL 1-3 category?

Participants in the TRL 1-3 category are primarily drawn by the chance to gain strong validation and proof of concept, setting a foundational platform for nascent technologies and facilitating their progression towards market readiness.

What is the primary appeal for participants in the TRL 4-7 category?

Participants in TRL 4-7 value the opportunity to pilot their technology, driving real-world impact and advancement within the innovation community.