



3rd edition

UIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT AWARDS 2026

SPONSORING

in partnership with the
Sustainable Development Foundation



Award ceremony:

September 2026,
Innotrans Berlin



The UIC Sustainability Impact Awards 2026

A prestigious competition organised by the International Union of Railways (UIC) in collaboration with the Sustainable Development Foundation. The aim of the awards is to honour and showcase outstanding achievements in the global railway sector, with a strong emphasis on sustainability.

Building upon the success of the previous editions, held in 2022 and 2024, the UIC Sustainability Impact Awards is continuing its mission to recognise and shine a spotlight on the best practices, innovative technologies, and effective management strategies from railway companies that contribute to making transport even more environmentally friendly, more efficient, and ethically responsible.

The International Union of Railways is the worldwide organisation for the promotion of rail transport at a global level and for the collaborative development of the railway system. It brings together **more than 200 members across all five continents**, including railway undertakings, infrastructure managers, and railway service providers.

UIC also maintains close cooperative links with all stakeholders in the rail transport domain around the world, including manufacturers, railway associations, and public authorities, as well as in other domains and sectors whose experience may be beneficial to rail development.

UIC's main tasks include understanding the business needs of the rail community, developing innovative programmes to identify solutions to those needs, and preparing and publishing documents, such as reports, specifications, guidelines, and IRSs that facilitate the implementation of these new solutions.

For more information

www.uic.org
  #UICrail



An award ceremony
organised during Innotrans,
the International Trade Fair for
Transport Technology



An opportunity to meet
as a community and highlight and
share the transformative action
being taken in rail



**5 different categories of
innovation and sustainability:**
from stations to rolling stock,
and from social outreach to cities
and the environment

BECOME A SPONSOR

Sponsor a unique international railway awards ceremony for sustainability

Seize this opportunity and:



Explore new partnerships, investments and innovative projects



Showcase your achievements and innovation in a targeted market segment



Demonstrate your leadership by presenting your outlook on the sector's development



Maximise the visibility of your brand during one of the most important events for the railway industry

Engage the audience and present your brand

The audience

- Political decisionmakers
- Railway undertakings & infrastructure managers
- Study & research institutes
- Key stakeholders in intermodal transport
- Industry representatives

Presentation opportunities

- In the Hospitality Area
- Onstage during the awards
- During networking breaks
- Award social campaign
- During the application process (website and brochure) open to all UIC members

Core sponsorship packages

Services included

sold subject to contract

PLATINUM PARTNER €35,000

One space only

- The opportunity to associate your image with the UIC event in a privileged way (reception of the awards on the company's stand at InnoTrans)
- Invitations to **all** the guests you want on the stand, during the ceremony
- Your logo placed prominently in the official programme
- A speech during the ceremony
- Your company video displayed during networking breaks
- Your logo and profile on the awards webpage
- Social media promotion
- Post event press release mentioning the sponsoring
- A video interview with top management, published on the UIC blog after the event

GOLD PARTNER €10,000

Two spaces only

- 5 invitations for your team and guests
- Your logo large size in the official programme
- 1 roll up exhibition in the ceremony area
- A speech during the ceremony
- An opportunity to present the best overall winner
- Your company video displayed during the networking breaks
- Your logo and profile on the awards webpage
- Social media promotion
- Post event press release mentioning the sponsorship

SILVER PARTNER €5,000

Three spaces only

- 2 invitations for your team and guests
- Your logo (smaller size to Platinum and Gold) in the official programme
- An opportunity to present a category trophy
- Your company video displayed during the networking breaks
- Your logo and profile on the awards webpage
- Social media promotion
- Post event press release mentioning the sponsorship

SME & Start ups PARTNER €3,000

Subject to availability

- 2 invitations for your team and guests
- Your logo (smaller size to Platinum, Gold and Silver) in the official programme
- An opportunity to present a category trophy (subject to availability)
- Your logo on your sponsored category trophy
- Social media promotion
- Post event press release mentioning the sponsorship

Award Categories

The UIC Sustainability Impact Awards 2026 categories recognise the range of innovation which is transforming the rail sector today.

The categories are divided into 5 macro-subjects, each devoted to a different aspect of sustainability. Each category aligns with the UIC 2030 vision “Design a better Future” and connects to a number of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

These categories celebrate the best of the best, and will be given to the projects, initiatives and individuals who have made the most notable contribution to sustainable development.

The projects submitted should be able to demonstrate that they had an impact in 2024-2025.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Accessibility, diversity and inclusion

Recognise projects and programmes that go beyond regulatory requirements to create an inclusive and accessible railway environment. This includes measures to improve physical accessibility and social inclusivity, provide assistance for passengers with additional needs, and implement policies that embrace diversity and inclusion for both passengers and staff.



Climate change adaptation and resilience

Recognise projects that actively contribute to climate change adaptation and resilience, ensuring that railway services can withstand and recover from the impact of extreme weather events and other climate-related challenges.

CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Modal shift

Recognise initiatives, strategies, and projects within cities and communities that successfully promote the transition of passengers or freight from traditional, less sustainable modes of transport to rail services.



Healthy cities and communities

Acknowledge efforts that enhance the quality of life in cities and communities by prioritising health. This can include measures to reduce air pollution, noise, and the overall environmental impact of transport.

SEAMLESS CONNECTIVITY

Acknowledge and celebrate partnerships that improve overall connectivity by enabling a seamless transition and efficient interchange between various modes of transport.



This encompasses initiatives aimed at enhancing accessibility, minimising transfer times, and offering passengers convenient and integrated travel options.

As part of this, improving accessibility involves integrating information, digitisation, and ticket sales, as well as physical connectivity, which all contribute to a more harmonious and connected travel experience.



INNOVATION



Energy and decarbonisation

Recognise projects and technologies that demonstrate a commitment to sustainability by lowering energy consumption, increasing the use of renewable energy sources, and actively participating in efforts to combat climate change within the railway industry.

Natural resources

Highlight projects and technologies that demonstrate a commitment to sustainable practices by minimising the depletion of natural resources, optimising the use of resources, and adopting environmentally friendly approaches, with a particular focus on promoting biodiversity and circular initiatives in railway development and operations.

GREEN COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN



Recognising communication initiatives that effectively promote sustainability in the rail sector, this category rewards campaigns that raise awareness, inspire behavioural change, and engage passengers, employees, or communities in supporting a greener future for transport.

Projects may include creative use of digital media, public relations, internal communication, or stakeholder engagement strategies that demonstrate a measurable and innovative impact in spreading sustainability messages. Central to this category is the use of credible data as a foundation for communication—initiatives that demonstrate transparency and reliability through data-driven storytelling will be especially valued for their role in building trust and driving meaningful change.



The importance of sustainability



The current climate emergency and the imperative need for global action underscore the critical need for railways to adopt sustainable practices



Taking action to transform the way we live, work and move has never been so urgent



Transport is at the core of environmental and social transition. Railways must play an even bigger role in creating a sustainable transport system



Awards Ceremony 2026 Edition

The final awards ceremony will take place during the InnoTrans trade fair, at the Alstom stand. In addition to being a celebratory event, it will also offer an opportunity to reflect on the central themes of transport sustainability and to network with companies and institutions from the sector.



A Look Back at the UIC Sustainability Impact Awards 2024

Celebrating Innovation and Impact in Rail Sustainability

On the evening of 25 September 2024, the UIC Sustainability Impact Awards Ceremony took place during the InnoTrans, at the event's Platinum Sponsor Alstom's booth, in partnership with the Sustainable Development Foundation. The event brought together a diverse group of participants from across the rail sector to celebrate outstanding sustainability achievements.

Out of all applications received from **12 countries across 4 continents, 17 projects were shortlisted**

for their innovative and impactful approaches. The ceremony welcomed over **100 participants**, creating a warm and celebratory atmosphere.

A standout moment was the recognition of the Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System by India's NCRTC, which was named

overall winner for its transformative approach to regional mobility, drastically reducing travel times and setting a benchmark for sustainable urban transit.

Presiding over the jury, Christian Kern, former Federal Chancellor of Austria, highlighted the rail sector's significant impact on sustainability, noting that its full potential is only beginning to be unleashed. His remarks underscored the tireless efforts and forward-thinking innovation that are propelling the industry toward a more sustainable future.

Looking ahead, the UIC Sustainability Impact Awards 2026 will again take place in Berlin in September, during InnoTrans, promising an evening full of appreciation for great efforts, inspiring stories, and meaningful connections across the rail community.

Platinum Partner **ALSTOM** | Silver Partner **AECOM**



Photo credit: Alstom



Innotrans is the world's leading trade fair for transport technology

and provides a comprehensive overview of the innovations in the mobility sector. With the segments "Railway Technology", "Railway Infrastructure", "Public Transport", "Interiors", and "Tunnel Construction", the event is an ideal business platform for both buyers and decision makers who represent transport companies, vehicle manufacturers and their suppliers.



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 #UICrail