

# European Energy Transition Awards 2026: Criteria

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## *Company Awards*

### **1. Energy Transition Fund Manager of the Year**

Recognising the fund manager that has demonstrated exceptional leadership in raising and deploying capital towards energy transition assets, achieving strong financial returns while driving impactful decarbonisation.

### **2. Energy Storage Investor of the Year**

Awarded to the investor that has made the most significant contributions to advancing energy storage technologies through strategic investments, enabling grid resilience and increased renewable integration.

### **3. Developer of the Year**

Celebrating the developer that has led the way in delivering renewable energy and energy transition projects, demonstrating innovation, efficiency, and tangible impact on the energy landscape.

### **4. Diversity & Inclusion**

Recognising an organisation that has demonstrated meaningful progress in improving diversity, equity, and inclusion within the energy sector.

### **5. Remember the Name**

Highlighting an emerging or disruptive company that has made an outstanding impact in the energy transition space, setting new industry benchmarks, and showing strong growth potential.

### **6. Lender of the Year – Renewables**

Recognising the financial institution that has played a crucial role in funding renewable energy projects, offering innovative lending structures and demonstrating a deep commitment to accelerating the transition.

### **7. Lender of the Year – New Technologies**

Honouring the lender that has supported emerging energy technologies, such as hydrogen, CCUS, or advanced grid solutions, providing tailored financing that enables commercialisation and scaling.

### **8. Legal Adviser of the Year – Renewables**

Awarded to the legal firm that has provided exemplary counsel in renewable energy transactions, offering strategic solutions that have facilitated complex deals and industry growth.

### **9. Legal Adviser of the Year – New Technologies**

Celebrating the legal advisory firm that has delivered expert guidance on groundbreaking energy transition technologies, addressing regulatory challenges and structuring transformative deals.

### **10. Financial Adviser of the Year – Renewables**

Recognising the financial advisory firm that has played a pivotal role in structuring, negotiating, and closing major renewable energy transactions, ensuring successful capital flows.

### **11. Financial Adviser of the Year – New Technologies**

Awarded to the financial adviser that has supported innovative energy transition technologies, demonstrating expertise in deal structuring, capital raising, and market development.

**12. Technical Adviser of the Year – Renewables**

Honouring the technical consultancy that has provided best-in-class due diligence, engineering assessments, or operational insights to enable successful renewable energy projects.

**13. Technical Adviser of the Year – New Technologies**

Recognising the firm that has delivered industry-leading technical expertise in new energy technologies, enabling their deployment, de-risking investments, and supporting commercialisation.

**14. Software Provider of the Year – Renewables**

Awarded to the technology firm that has developed and deployed cutting-edge software solutions that optimise energy transition assets, enhance market intelligence, or streamline project operations.

**15. Software Provider of the Year – New Technologies**

Recognising the software provider that has developed solutions supporting emerging technologies, including optimisation, integration, or commercial operation of new energy systems.

## *Deal Awards*

**16. Deal of the Year**

Recognising the most outstanding transaction of the year that has set new precedents in energy transition financing, innovation, or impact, reshaping the market landscape.

**17. Outstanding Greenfield Deal**

Celebrating a landmark greenfield project that has set new standards for innovation, financing, and execution in renewable energy or emerging transition technologies.

**18. Outstanding M&A Deal – UK & Ireland**

Recognising a standout M&A transaction in the UK & Ireland that has reshaped the energy transition market, demonstrating strategic impact, financial excellence, and long-term value creation.

**19. Outstanding M&A Deal – Europe**

Awarded to a transformative M&A deal in the European energy sector that has driven industry consolidation, expansion, or market leadership in the energy transition space.

**20. Outstanding Offshore Deal**

Awarded to an offshore wind or marine energy deal that has set new industry benchmarks in financing, development, or operational execution, driving sector growth.

**21. Outstanding Onshore Deal**

Celebrating a leading onshore renewable energy transaction that has advanced wind, solar, or hybrid projects with exceptional financial and technical execution.

**22. Outstanding Solar Deal**

Recognising a standout solar energy transaction that has delivered significant impact in deployment, financing, or innovation within the European solar market.

**23. Outstanding PPA Deal – UK & Ireland**

Honouring a power purchase agreement (PPA) in the UK & Ireland that has demonstrated innovative structuring, long-term value, and meaningful impact in accelerating renewable deployment.

**24. Outstanding PPA Deal – Europe**

Recognising a landmark European PPA that has contributed to corporate decarbonisation, secured market-leading terms, or enabled a breakthrough renewable energy project.

**25. Outstanding New Markets Deal**

Honouring a transaction that has successfully pioneered energy transition investment in an emerging or underdeveloped European market, overcoming key barriers to deployment.

**26. Innovative Financial Structure Deal**

Awarded to the deal that has introduced a groundbreaking financial model, unlocking new capital streams and demonstrating best practices for sustainable investment in the energy transition.

**27. Outstanding Data Centre Deal**

Recognising a data centre-related energy transaction that demonstrates strong integration with energy infrastructure, including power sourcing, resilience, or decarbonisation strategy.

**28. Outstanding Deal Under 100MW**

Recognising a sub-100MW transaction that demonstrates strong execution, innovative structuring, or clear local system impact, highlighting the role of smaller-scale projects in advancing the energy transition.

**29. Breakthrough Innovation Deal**

Awarded to a transaction that has enabled the deployment or commercialisation of a breakthrough technology, business model, or solution, representing a meaningful step forward in the energy transition.

## *Individual Awards*

**30. Outstanding Contribution to the Energy Transition**

Honouring an individual who has made a sustained and significant contribution to advancing the energy transition.

**31. Innovator of the Year**

Honouring a leader whose work has advanced the energy transition and broadened participation in the sector, combining innovation, influence, and a commitment to more inclusive industry practices.

**32. Rising Star**

This award recognises individuals at an early or fast-rising stage of their career who have made a significant impact in the energy transition through professional achievements and influence.