



NOTIFICATION
Clearing-House Mechanism Awards 2024

Dear Sir or Madam,

In its decision [15/16](#), paragraph 9, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity requested the Executive Secretary to continue the process of granting awards for national clearing-house mechanisms until 2030.

In response to this request and in keeping with previous practice, the awards for 2024 will be granted at a special event to be held at the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in Cali, Colombia, in October this year. The modalities for the award, developed in consultation with the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation, are contained in the annex to this notification.

Parties are invited to submit their applications to be considered for the award by completing the online questionnaire available at: <https://forms.office.com/e/FaEpE7zHPA> as soon as possible but no later than **20 August 2024**.

For any further information or assistance in completing the questionnaire, Parties may contact the CHM Team by e-mail at chm@cbd.int.

I look forward to your participation in the process and wish good luck to all applicants.

Please accept, Sir, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed) Astrid **Schomaker**
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

To: CBD and CHM national focal points

Annex
Modalities for the Clearing-House Mechanism Awards 2024

Purpose

The purpose of the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM) Award is to formally recognize Parties that have made the most significant progress in the establishment or further development of their national clearing-house mechanism including its portal (website) and governance and institutional processes. The award includes a trophy and a certificate signed by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Participation

All Parties are eligible to participate in the award process by completing and submitting the questionnaire available at: <https://forms.office.com/e/FaEpE7zHPA> .

Assessment and selection

A jury will be established by the Executive Secretary to assess the submissions and identify the winners across the different categories. The jury will comprise up to four panel members, including members from the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation, to guide and aid the selection process. Each submission will be assessed based on the following criteria:

Aspects	Criteria
CHM governance and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategy and roadmap to maintain and improve the national CHM - Clear institutional roles and responsibilities for the national CHM - Dedicated resources (staff, funding, etc.) for the national CHM - Coordination committee - Level of national collaboration - Degree to which technical and scientific cooperation is facilitated - System(s) in place to mobilize/gather information from various sources
CHM portal/website management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Features and functionality of the portal - Number of active contributors - Use of biodiversity related taxonomies, terminology and metadata - System(s) in place to gather and analyze statistics (based on reports provided) - Interoperability with other national and global websites/databases. - Content approval workflow
Content	<p>Type and amount of information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biodiversity in the country - Progress towards national and/or Global Biodiversity Framework targets - Corresponding implementation activities in the country - National and applicable regional legislation - Regional or international cooperation, collaboration, and networking - Scientific and technical references - Case studies, assessments, reports - News and events - Links to other national websites

Categories of awards

The award will have the following three categories (there can be more than one winner per category):

1. The gold award for the winner.
2. The silver award for the second position.
3. The bronze award for the third position.