Transition Zero Award 2018 – The Young Professionals Event

Which team develops a smart sustainable solution that contributes best to the energy transition in urban areas?

For a long time, we have treated natural resources as if they were infinite. With a world population that is predicted to grow considerably, the demand for energy and resources is likely to increase and not diminish. In 2050, 80% of the world population will be living in a city. We want our cities to be places of high quality, where people can live and work, all within the earth's carrying capacity. In the smart sustainable city of the future, people strive to live and work in a healthy, social and entrepreneurial climate that is energy neutral.
The Dutch Platform Urban Energy believes, that students are the professionals of the future, who have to find solutions to related challenges. They can make the difference. Therefore, students from higher educational institutes are invited to compete in the International Smart Sustainable City Competition for the Transition Zero Award 2018. The finalists will participate and present their solutions at the international conference 'Resilient and Responsible Architecture & Urbanism 2018', during the Young Professionals Event (YPE). The winning team will receive a prize of €3.000 and a commemorative award. For the second and third places, there are prizes of €1.500 and €500 respectively.

The Challenge

Develop a solution that contributes in a new way to the energy transition in urban areas. The energy transition has to deal with many aspects: design issues, environmental issues, social issues, economic issues, technical issues, health issues, ecological issues and governance issues. Therefore, solutions with a broad scope and with a special focus are equally welcome. E.g. solutions that help with efficiency of energy usage, solutions that generate cleaner energy, solutions that stimulate the use of alternative or renewable energy or solutions for energy

storage, but also solutions addressing mobility issues, circular economy or particularly smart solutions. How will your solution make a contribution to the energy transition?

Who can participate?

- Student groups consisting of at least three persons and studying at a University of Applied Sciences (in Dutch: hogeschool). Students from abroad are explicitly invited to submit their projects.
- Projects that are part of the regular curriculum (for instance in a minor) can be submitted, but extracurricular or honours projects are welcome as well.
- The challenge is, by its nature, particularly suitable for multidisciplinary student groups.

Requirements for the project document

We invite you to send in new or recent work, e.g. from an assignment during a curriculum course.

- The report is in English or Dutch and accompanied by an executive summary in English (max 2 pages) using the format in appendix 1.
- Use the format, in appendix 2, to explain and argument how your work meets the award criteria, also in English.
- The report has a maximum length of 30 pages excluding appendices, table of contents and executive summary.
- Pages are numbered and references are in APA style.
- The report is in PDF format (please reduce file size!).

Submission of the project document

- To compete in the challenge, the project document has to be sent by email, (no later than 28 February 2018) to: caroline.maessen@hu.nl with the following information:
    - Subject header: RRAU18 – <your team name>
    - Group information: names and affiliation of all team members, name of the Educational Institution, name of the contact person and email address for contact.
    - Title of your project, total number of pages of the document.

Promotional video

- The project should be accompanied by a promotional video about your contribution to the energy transition, to compete for the wild card (read below).
- The length of the video does not exceed 1 minute.
- Please use the commonly used format mp4.
- Videos will be placed online by the organization, and only by the organization, on 2 March, for people to vote for the best contribution.

Selection process and selection criteria[1]

- Review of the project by the jury, including a check on meeting the minimum standards and (in case of a large number of applicants) selection of the 5 nominees for the YPE: 13 March 2018.
- One extra wildcard (6th nominee) will be selected by public voting via the promotional videos.
- The jury will assess the projects by looking through three lenses: desirability (needs of people), viability (requirements for business success) and feasibility (possibilities of technology). Your project documents must provide enough information for the jury to assess these criteria:
    - The level to which the plan addresses genuine values and needs of the people involved
    - The extent to which there is a fit to people's lives (social, cultural and health factors) and to which extent this is tested
    - The level to which it shows added value to the energy transition
    - The credibility of the market potential in the business case
    - The extent to which state of the art knowledge is used, grounded in literature
    - The extent to which proof is given of accuracy and validity of the choices and calculations

[1] All results are final. No correspondence will be entered into.

- The applicants will be notified on March, 15th 2018, whether their project has been accepted for the YPE during the RRAU18 conference. If you are nominated to pitch, you will receive further instructions and pitch criteria.
- Presentation of the project on April 11th, 2018:
    - Presentation of the project at YPE during RRAU18. Presentation by means of a poster (A1) presentation and an elevator pitch (maximum 3 minutes) that both contain: challenge and ambition, description of the offered solution, and support of the claim in realizing the ambition.
    - Selection by the jury and presentation of the Transition Zero Award 2018 to the winning team at the main stage of RRAU18.

Important deadlines

- 15 December: start of the submission for the competition (project documents)
- 28 February: deadline submission project documents
- 2 March: start online public voting (project videos) for nominee wildcard
- 12 March: end of online public voting (project videos) for nominee wildcard
- 13 March: review by the jury of project documents (result: 5 nominees) & result public voting (nominee- wildcard)
- 15 March: notification of the submitters (including 5 nominees and nominee-wildcard)
- 11 April: pitches & poster presentations 6 nominees at RRAU18

Information

If you have any questions about the Young Professionals Event – Transition Zero Award 2018, please contact Caroline Maessen:

E caroline.maessen@hu.nl

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APPENDIX 1 – executive summary (max 2 pages)

Write your summary on each section in the gray areas of the format. Give the corresponding pages in your document where the jury can find a more elaborate explanation.

Section	**Described on pages (xx – yy)**
• Description of the challenge in terms of ambition: what will be the contribution to energy transition?	
• Description and definition of the borders of the system (chosen building/area) and, if applicable, of the subsystems.	
• Description of the offered solution and means of realization to the challenge and support to the claim on realizing the ambition.	
• Description of research methods that are used (survey, measures, calculations).	

APPENDIX 2 – explanation on criteria (max 2 pages)

Explain and argument in the gray areas how your solution meets the award criteria.

Award criteria	
Desirable (needs of people)	
1	The level to which the plan addresses genuine values and needs of the people involved
2	The extent to which there is a fit to people's lives (social, cultural and health factors) and to which extent this is tested
Viable (requirements for business success)	
3	The level to which it shows added value to the energy transition
4	The credibility of the market potential in the business case
Feasible (possibilities of technology)	
5	The extent to which state of the art knowledge is used, grounded in literature
6	The extent to which proof is given of accuracy and validity of the choices and calculations