**Award Categories**

1. **Best Women in Maritime Business** – An entrepreneur that has successfully penetrated in the industry and is empowering and mentoring SMME’s and mentees.

*Selection criteria:*

- *Number of successful projects*

*- Putting maritime sector on the map in other sectors (collaborates with other sectors outside maritime)*

1. **Making waves as a newcomer** – A newcomer in the industry that is making an impact within the sector and changing the status quo.

*Selection criteria:*

*- Novel contribution to the sector*

*- Newcomer with the most successful project*

*- Not more than 5 years in the sector*

1. **Leading entity in Women Empowerment** – The organization that is leading in employing, mentoring and empowering women.

*Selection criteria:*

*- Organization with the most women empowering projects*

*- Organization with more than 50% women employed*

*- Organization with women empowerment as a known goal*

1. **SHEROES in the sector** – Recognising phenomenal women who are devoted to the sector with 15+ Years of service.

*Selection criteria:*

*- Woman with 15+ Years of service*

*- More than 5 successful projects*

*- Focuses on women empowerment*

1. **Most influential** – The woman who is most influential, who advocates for change, diversity and the inclusion of women.

*Selection criteria:*

- *Woman with the most women empowering projects*

*- Social media presence (For the purpose of advocating for women empowerment)*

*- Should speak about empowering women in the maritime sector*

1. **Best mentor** – Demonstrating a positive attitude, acting as a positive role model and willingness to share skills, knowledge and expertise.

*Selection criteria:*

* *A person with the most mentees*
* *A person with more than 10 years in their field*
* *A person that advocates for youth development*

1. **Star performer** - Recognition of consistent outstanding commitment, professionalism, passion and exhibiting enthusiasm in the field

*Selection criteria:*

* *More than 10 years of experience in the field*
* *Contributed positively in their field*
* *Noticed a weakness in the field and brought about change*

1. **Woman in Maritime Research** – Honouring excellence in the maritime industry through research, knowledge generation and publications.

*Selection criteria:*

- *Number of publications*

*- Most contributor in maritime research*

*- More than 10 years in the field*

*9.* ***Maritime Tech Innovator of the Year***

* **Impactful Innovations:** The nominee should have introduced groundbreaking technological innovations in the maritime industry
* **Leadership and Vision:** The nominee should demonstrate exceptional leadership qualities in driving technological change and inspiring others in the industry.
* **Sustainability Focus:** If the innovations contribute to sustainable practices and environmental stewardship
* **Problem Solving:** innovations that addresses significant challenges or gaps in the maritime industry, providing practical solutions and enhancing overall industry competitiveness.