

GREEN GUARDIAN AWARDS

The Green Guardian Awards aims to foster a culture of environmental stewardship by recognizing, celebrating, and amplifying the efforts of Local Government Units (LGUs) in the Province of Iloilo - including municipalities, highly urbanized city (HUCs) and component city - as well as businesses in the Province of Iloilo.

The Awards serve as a platform to showcase best practices, inspire innovative solutions, and promote a collaborative approach to sustainable development, highlighting initiatives where communities are central and active partners.

PRIMARY GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

To identify and reward outstanding contributions to environmental preservation and sustainability from the public and private sectors. With the objectives to:

- To strengthen the partnership between LGUs, businesses, and communities in environmental protection.
- To establish a benchmark for excellence in sustainable practices.
- To raise public awareness and inspire wider adoption of eco-friendly habits and policies.
- To showcase innovative and replicable environmental projects.

CATEGORIES OF AWARDS

<u>Category 1: Local Government Units</u>	<u>Category 2: Private Sector</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All municipalities• Component City• Highly Urbanized City	Sub-categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprisesb. Large Corporations

MAJOR AWARDS

Business Sustainability Champion of the Year

Awarded to the business with the most impactful and holistic approach to sustainability.

LGU Sustainability Champion of the Year

Awarded to the LGU demonstrating the highest level of achievement across all criteria.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Entries will be evaluated based on the following framework:
Impact (40%): Measurable results. Quantifiable data on waste reduction, energy saved, carbon emissions avoided, number of people engaged, etc.
Sustainability & Replicability (25%): The long-term viability of the project without constant external funding and its potential to be successfully implemented in other localities or industries.
Community Engagement & Inclusivity (20%): The depth and authenticity of community involvement in the project's planning, implementation, and maintenance.
Innovation & Creativity (15%): The uniqueness of the solution, use of new technology, or a creative approach to a long-standing environmental problem.

CATEGORY 1: LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS

Eligibility Criteria & Guidelines

- Only municipalities, the highly urbanized city (HUC), and the component city within the Province of Iloilo are eligible to participate.
- Must have at least one implemented environmental or sustainability initiative aligned with the award category being applied for.
- The project or program must have been implemented for a minimum of three (3) years prior to nomination.
- The initiative must be currently active or institutionalized, not a one-time or discontinued activity.
- The nominated initiative must not have received recognition or awards from any regional, national, or international award-giving body.
- Only one initiative per award category can be submitted.
- A single initiative cannot be submitted in multiple categories.

Minimum Requirements

- Completed nomination form endorsed by the Local Chief Executive or authorized representative.
- Project description outlining objectives, implementation strategy, timeline, and outcomes.
- Proof of implementation, such as: Ordinances, Executive Orders, or Resolutions (if applicable), Program Reports or Monitoring Data, Photographs or Videos of On-ground Activities, Evidence of Community Involvement (MOUs, participation records), Testimonials or Certifications from Beneficiaries.
- Contact details of a focal person for validation and possible site inspection.

SPECIAL AWARDS

The LGU-Led Ecological Stewardship Award

This award recognizes an LGU-led initiative that effectively empowers and mobilizes its community as active partners in environmental protection. It honors projects that are designed and implemented by the LGU while fostering strong community engagement and co-ownership.

e.g. Sustained community gardens supporting food security, Citizen-led river, coastal, or watershed clean-up programs, Community-based environmental monitoring or enforcement groups

The Circular Economy and Waste Management Excellence Award

This award honors an LGU program or project that demonstrates innovation and effectiveness in solid waste management, moving beyond basic collection toward waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and circular economy practices.

e.g. High waste diversion or recycling projects, Composting and recycling systems, Partnerships with private sector or MSMEs for waste upcycling, Programs reducing or eliminating single-use plastics, Community-managed Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs)

The Green Infrastructure and Climate Action Award

This award recognizes LGUs that have implemented completed projects integrating climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable solutions into urban or rural planning, addressing climate risks while improving environmental quality and community well-being.

e.g. Protected bike lanes and pedestrian-friendly public spaces, Urban green belts, pocket parks, or mini-forests, Adoption of renewable energy in public facilities, Nature-based flood mitigation initiatives

CATEGORY 2: MSMEs & LARGE CORPORATIONS

Eligibility Criteria & Guidelines
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be a legally registered business operating in the Province and City of Iloilo.• MSMEs must have been in operation for at least two (2) years, while large corporations must have been in operation for at least five (5) years.• Business must be compliant with relevant environmental laws and regulations.• The nominated initiative must not have received recognition from any regional, national, or international award-giving body
Minimum Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed nomination form signed by an authorized company representative.• Business profile, including nature of business, years of operation, and scale (MSME or large enterprise).• Description of the sustainability initiative, including objectives, implementation approach, and duration.• Supporting documents, such as: Sustainability or CSR reports, Internal Policies, certifications, or audit summaries (if available), Photos, videos, or media features of the initiative.• Proof of impact, where applicable (e.g., resource savings, waste reduction data, number of communities engaged); Community or partner endorsements, if the initiative involves external stakeholders.• Designated contact person for validation, interviews, or site visits.
SPECIAL AWARDS
<p>The Sustainable Operations Excellence Award</p> <p>This award recognizes a business that has systematically integrated sustainability into its core operations, demonstrating measurable improvements in resource efficiency, responsible sourcing, and environmental management across its value chain.</p> <p>e.g. Significant reductions in energy and water consumption, Achieving zero-waste-to-landfill or near-zero waste operations, Ethical and sustainable sourcing of raw materials, Transition to environmentally responsible or low-carbon supply chains.</p>
<p>The Green Product/Service Innovation Award</p> <p>This award honors a business whose primary product or service delivers a direct environmental benefit, offering practical and innovative solutions to environmental challenges through its core business model.</p> <p>e.g. Development or production of biodegradable or eco-friendly packaging, Organic, regenerative, or climate-smart agricultural products, Sustainable tourism services that promote conservation and local livelihoods, Clean energy, energy-efficiency, or environmental technology solutions.</p>
<p>The Community Engagement for Environmental Impact Award</p> <p>This award recognizes a business that goes beyond traditional corporate social responsibility by actively partnering with communities to drive sustained environmental action, capacity-building, and shared environmental stewardship.</p> <p>e.g. Training and supporting communities to establish environmental enterprises (e.g., waste-to-craft or recycling livelihoods), Long-term environmental education programs in public schools, Adoption, rehabilitation, and stewardship of public spaces.</p>