



GSMA Foundry Excellence Awards 2027 - General Information and FAQs

General information

1. What are the GSMA Foundry Excellence Awards?

The annual GSMA Foundry Excellence Awards provide us with an opportunity to recognise some of the most innovative and significant Foundry projects completed within January – December 2026, across three key categories outlined below.

For more information, please contact us at excellenceawards@gsma.com

Any inquiries for potential sponsorship opportunities please contact us on excellenceawards@gsma.com.

2. What are the categories?

- *Excellence in AI & Intelligent Technologies*
- *Excellence in 5G/6G & Connected Innovation*
- *Excellence in Trust, Security & Resilience*

For more details about these awards categories please refer to [our Excellence Awards webpage](#).

Please contact excellenceawards@gsma.com if you have any further questions about the awards categories.

3. Who won in 2026?

Here's a [recap](#) on the winners from the 2026 GSMA Foundry Excellence Awards. You will also be able to see video highlights of 2026 [here](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Who's eligible to enter?

The GSMA Foundry Excellence Awards 2027 are open to any company operating in, or adjacent to, the telecoms industry worldwide, **who have completed a Foundry project / initiative within 2026** – entries can be submitted for Foundry initiatives/projects that are still in progress and completed no later than December 31, 2026.

If you have an existing Foundry project, service, or initiative in progress, let us know quickly, and we'll determine whether it can be incorporated and counted as a Foundry project.

We retain the right to withdraw any submitted applications whose project, service or initiative has not been complete by the 31st of December 2026.

2. When do entries open?

Wednesday 23rd September 2026, at 00:00 BST



3. When is the submission deadline for entries?

Friday 27th November 2026, at 00:00 GMT

4. Can multiple entries be submitted?

Each project may be submitted to one award category only. Applicants should select the category that most closely reflects the project's primary objective and outcomes. Where a project spans multiple areas, the category should be selected based on where the project demonstrates its strongest alignment and impact.

Joint entries by service providers and customers are welcome. .

5. How an entry must be submitted?

To enter, please ensure all submissions are in English and use our [online form](#).

Each entry should include:

1. The project title
2. A detailed description of the project, including the challenge it addresses, the solution developed, how it was delivered, and the outcomes achieved (max. 1000 words).

Supporting materials are welcome but ensure your main entry includes all critical information within the 1000-word limit.

Please note: Once submitted, entries cannot be edited. Please review all information carefully before submission.

6. What information should be submitted?

First and foremost, winning entries will showcase exceptional success. Innovative solutions to industry challenges are highly favoured, and providing tangible evidence of customer benefits, technical performance, overall impact and sustainability is even more advantageous. Specific case studies and examples of client success, along with relevant metrics, are excellent ways to illustrate a successful solution.

Historically, all our award winners have set new levels of benefit / performance / impact and helped shape the future direction of the industry.

7. What are the judges looking for?

Entries will be evaluated against five criteria:

- **Impact – 30%:** Evidence of measurable business, operational, industry, societal or customer outcomes.
- **Execution & Delivery – 25%:** How effectively the project has moved from idea to implementation and demonstrated tangible results.
- **Collaboration – 20%:** How effectively organisations have worked together to deliver the project and its outcomes.



- **Replicability & Scalability – 15%:** The potential for the approach to be scaled or replicated across other organisations, markets, industries or use cases.
- **Innovation – 10%:** The originality of the approach and how effectively technology or new thinking has been applied to address the challenge.

Additional Information: Provide any other relevant information, statistics, facts, and figures that will help us better understand the project. You can email us on excellenceawards@gsma.com

8. What is the judging process?

All qualifying entries are examined, discussed, and voted on by the GSMA Foundry Excellence Awards panel of independent judges.

To ensure the process is completely unbiased and objective, judges are not allowed to comment on or vote for, entries from their own institutions.

9. When will the shortlist for the GSMA Foundry Excellence Awards be announced?

The shortlist will be publicly announced by Friday 5th February 2027.

10. When will the winners for the GSMA Foundry Excellence Awards be announced?

The winners will be announced during MWC Barcelona 2027, where we will host an Awards Ceremony, followed by a networking event. Date and venue to be announced soon on [our webpage](#).

11. Is there an entry fee?

There is no entry fee.

12. Are the applications confidential?

We reserve the right to publish brief details of all shortlisted entries. This will be an "entry synopsis" of up to 100 words included on all entry forms and they should be written in a form that it is publicly shareable. We will retain the right to disclose the number of applications we receive.

All other information provided in the entry will be treated with the strictest confidence, for more information on how we use and protect your personal data please [see our privacy notice](#).