

afa

الإتحاد العربي للأسمدة
Arab Int'l Organization
هيئة عربية دولية
Arab Fertilizers Association

About Us

The Arab Fertilizer Association (AFA) is a non-governmental organization that brings together companies and experts across the fertilizer industry in the Arab region. It aims to promote sustainable development, knowledge exchange, and technological advancement in fertilizer production and use.

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AFA

Annual Awards

2026

The Arab Fertilizer Association Sponsors Two Award Schemes, one for the member companies and the other for individuals or teams

Sustainability Excellence for Companies

The AFA Sustainability Excellence Award 2026 recognizes companies excelling in sustainability, operational excellence, enhancing environmental, health and safety (EHS) performance and improving resource efficiency. The Award aims at highlighting the leadership role in fostering responsible practices within the fertilizer industry.

Applied Research for Individuals and Teams

The AFA Applied Research Award 2026 recognizes applied research papers that advances efficiency, safety, and sustainability in the fertilizer industry, driving innovative practical solutions to industry challenges

Introduction

The Arab Fertilizer Association (AFA) is committed to recognizing exceptional achievements in sustainability within the Arab fertilizer industry. The AFA Sustainability Excellence Prize Awards aim to honor companies that have demonstrated outstanding leadership in operational excellence, sustainability performance, health, safety, and environment (EHS) initiatives. These awards celebrate the companies that have implemented innovative practices to reduce their environmental footprint, enhance resource efficiency, and contribute positively to their communities. As part of the 2026 awards, companies are invited to submit comprehensive applications that showcase their accomplishments in various aspects of sustainability. Each submission will be evaluated based on clearly defined criteria, designed to highlight the efforts of organizations in driving sustainable growth, ensuring safety, and improving their overall operational performance



**Where Innovation
Meets Sustainability**

**Celebrating Innovation
for a Greener Future**

**AFA
Sustainability
Award**

Evaluation Criteria for Sustainability Award (Companies Award)

Operational Excellence (25 Points)

- **Efficiency Improvement Initiatives (10 Points):** Companies must demonstrate substantial efforts to improve operational efficiency. This could include process optimization, reduction of resource consumption, or enhanced productivity. Points will be awarded for initiatives that have yielded measurable improvements in output, cost reduction, and resource use.
- **Innovation and Technology Adoption (5 Points):** Innovation plays a key role in driving sustainable change. Companies should highlight the adoption of cutting-edge technologies, such as digital transformation, automation, or other innovations that have positively impacted their operations.
- **Resource Management (5 Points):** Efficient management of raw materials, energy, and water resources is critical for sustainability. Companies will be assessed on their ability to minimize resource waste and improve their material management systems.
- **Quality Management Systems (5 Points):** Strong quality management systems ensure consistent operational performance. Companies should demonstrate their adherence to international standards, certifications, and quality improvement initiatives.

Sustainability Performance (35 Points)

- **Environmental Impact Reduction (15 Points):** This criterion focuses on the tangible efforts made by companies to lower their environmental impact, including reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, waste, and effluents. Companies that showcase specific data and case studies on their environmental initiatives will score higher.
- **Sustainable Supply Chain Management (10 Points):** Companies are expected to integrate sustainability into their supply chains by working with responsible suppliers and reducing the environmental and social risks throughout their value chains. Points will be awarded based on the depth of sustainable practices implemented.
- **Renewable Energy Usage (5 Points):** The shift towards renewable energy sources is vital for sustainability. Companies should demonstrate their usage of renewable energy, such as solar or wind and others, and how it has contributed to their overall sustainability goals.
- **Community Engagement and Social Responsibility (5 Points):** Sustainability extends beyond environmental performance. Companies that engage with local communities and invest in social responsibility programs—such as education, health, or social welfare—will be recognized for their holistic approach to sustainability.

Evaluation Criteria for Sustainability Award (Companies Award)

EHS Performance (30 Points)

- **Safety Performance and Record (10 Points):** Safety is paramount in any industrial operation. Companies will be evaluated based on their safety records, including lost-time injury rates and proactive safety measures. High scores will be given to companies with a proven track record of safe operations and effective safety management systems
- **Health Programs (5 Points):** Employee health and well-being are essential components of a company's EHS performance. Companies should demonstrate the implementation of health programs, such as wellness initiatives, health screenings, and mental health support.
- **Environmental Compliance (10 Points):** Compliance with local and international environmental regulations is mandatory. Companies must provide evidence of compliance with legal requirements, including emissions limits, waste management, and water use regulations. Companies going beyond compliance through voluntary certifications will earn additional points.
- **Training and Development (5 Points):** Continuous training is crucial for maintaining high safety and environmental standards. Companies should provide examples of training programs for employees, focusing on EHS issues and the development of sustainable skills.

Adequacy and Content of the Submission (10 Points)

- **Completeness and Clarity (4 Points):** Submissions should be clear, concise, and well-organized, providing all the necessary information to enable a thorough evaluation. Incomplete or unclear submissions will lose points.
- **Supporting Documentation (3 Points):** Companies should include supporting documents such as graphs, statistics, certifications, and case studies to back up their claims. The presence of strong supporting evidence will be essential for gaining higher scores.
- **Alignment with Award Criteria (3 Points):** Submissions will be assessed on how well they align with the stated award criteria. The closer the alignment, the higher the score.

Evaluation Criteria for Sustainability Award (Companies Award)

Note: All submissions must be accompanied by supporting documents or certificates to validate the claims made by the candidate (e.g., ISO 14001-Environmental Management Systems, ISO 26000-Social Responsibility, or specific sustainability certifications, Lost Time Accidents (LTA), Recordable Accident Rate (RTA) related to the fertilizer industry.

Submission Deadline: June 30, 2026

All submissions should be directed to: afa@arabfertilizer.org



Introduction

The Arab Fertilizer Association (AFA) is proud to present the Applied Research Award 2026, an initiative aimed at fostering innovation and enhancing knowledge within the Arab fertilizer industry. This award recognizes individuals and teams who have contributed exceptional research that drives improvements in operational efficiency, production, safety, and sustainability. The Applied Research Award is designed to spotlight research that has practical applications in real-world industrial contexts, offering solutions that address the pressing challenges faced by the fertilizer sector. The focus is on research that not only advances scientific understanding but also leads to tangible outcomes—improving processes, optimizing resource use, and fostering sustainability in fertilizer production and application. The AFA Applied Research Award encourages innovative contributions across critical fields, including agriculture. As a subject eligible for applied research submissions, agriculture presents vast opportunities for researchers to develop novel ideas that can advance sustainable practices and innovations. This focus is integral to the fertilizer industry's mission to support productive, resilient agricultural systems. We hope this inclusion will inspire researchers in the agriculture sector to bring forward groundbreaking projects that align with and enhance the goals of the industry. Element 2. Clear Research Problem or Objective By celebrating these contributions, the AFA aims to encourage further innovation across the industry and inspire a new wave of research-based advancements that benefit the environment, agricultural productivity, and the overall performance of Arab fertilizer companies.



**Driving Innovation
from Lab to Field**

**Turning Knowledge into
Sustainable Solutions**

AFA Applied Research Award

A prize of 3000 USD for The Winner

Evaluation Criteria for Applied research Award (Individual / Team Award)

Originality and Innovation (20 Points)

- The research must be original and innovative, offering new insights, solutions, or improvements. Copied, replicated, or obsolete research will be disqualified and will not be considered for evaluation.

Clear Research Problem or Objective (10 Points)

- Identify a specific, well-defined problem or challenge with practical relevance and significance. The research objective should be focused on addressing this problem in a measurable and realistic way.

Literature Review (5 Points)

- Conduct a thorough review of existing literature to understand what has been done, identify knowledge gaps, and justify the need for the research. The review should demonstrate that the proposed solution is novel or improves upon existing approaches.

Hypothesis or Research Questions (5 Points)

- Present a clear hypothesis or research questions directly related to the problem. These should be practical and aimed at solving real-world challenges.

Methodology (10 Points)

- Clearly define and choose appropriate research methods, data collection techniques, and tools. The methodology should be robust and capable of generating reliable and actionable results.

Results & Analysis (10 Points)

- Systematically analyze the data using appropriate techniques (e.g., statistical or qualitative analysis). The results should clearly indicate whether the hypothesis was confirmed or disproved and provide practical implications.

Application of Results (10 Points)

- Explain how the research outcomes can be implemented in real-world scenarios. The solution should be feasible, cost-effective, scalable, and have a direct impact on the industry or field of study.

Evaluation Criteria for Applied research Award (Individual / Team Award)

Conclusion and Recommendations (5 Points)

- Summarize the key findings and their practical impact. Provide specific recommendations for implementing the findings and suggestions for further research or improvements.

Evaluation and Validation (10 Points)

- Include processes to validate the solution in real-world conditions. This may involve pilot projects, prototypes, or trials. Clearly explain how the solution was tested and validated in practical settings.

Documentation and Reporting (5 Points)

- Provide thorough documentation of all research procedures, data, and findings. Use clear and organized reporting, including visual aids like graphs and tables, to allow others to review and replicate the research.

IMPORTANT NOTE, Originality and Innovation: A research submission must be original and innovative. Any research found to be copied, replicated from previous studies, or considered obsolete will not be eligible for evaluation. This is a crucial criterion, and failure to meet it will result in disqualification.

Submission Deadline: June 30, 2026 All submissions should be directed to: afa@arabfertilizer.org



Conclusion

The AFA Awards stand as a symbol of excellence, innovation, and commitment within the fertilizer industry. By recognizing outstanding achievements in research, sustainability, safety, and technological advancement, the Arab Fertilizer Association aims to inspire continuous progress and encourage organizations and individuals to contribute to a more efficient, responsible, and sustainable fertilizer sector across the Arab region and beyond.

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