**BSBF 2022**

**Women in Big Science Recognition Award**

The purpose of this initiative is to recognise, celebrate and encourage successful actions by organisations and projects aiming to advance gender equality and diversity in the Big Science - ecosystem. In particular, increase the proportion of women amongst staff and users of research facilities, across all leadership and decision-making positions in the private and public organisations active in big science. The Women in Big Science Recognition Award will be handed out at the Big Science Business Forum (BSBF), on 4 October 2022 in Granada, Spain.

**Why is the BSBF Recognition Award needed?**

Women remain under-represented and mostly unrecognised in big science. Some research facilities, industrial, and academic partners have put remarkable effort to ensure that women have the same opportunities as men to advance their careers and shape the mission of big science. A stronger, Big Science ecosystem with the commitment to achieve gender equality is now needed. The aim of the BSBF Women in Big Science Recognition Award is to endorse the emerging best practices and encourage others to make improvements in their own organisational settings and cultures. The objective of this award is to follow up best practices and monitor the evolution with time at each BSBF.

## Award criteria

The BSBF Recognition Award recognises and celebrates the achievements of organisations, programmes, and teams in creating gender bias-free institutional cultures, where women can thrive on equal terms to men. Given the fact, that organisations may differ in the scope of their activities to advance gender equality, three levels of achievement are recognised: Level 1 celebrates advances in Organisational Culture, Level 2 in Collaborative Partnerships, and Level 3 in Societal Impact:

* Level 1 Advances in Organisational Culture recognises achievements by putting in place institutional practices, processes, and cultures. For example, conducting gender audit and setting targets for recruitment and progression
* Level 2 Collaborative Partnerships recognises achievements on collaboration between two or more organisations jointly taking actions on gender equality and diversity, on inter-institutional improvements. For example: adopting internal gender equality targets as a benchmark for ensuring equal access to resources, bias-free recognition of talent in projects consisting of many partners.
* Level 3 Societal Impact recognises achievements that combine intra- and inter-institutional improvements with societal impact. For example: creating career progression opportunities for the ‘trailing spouse’ by sharing employment opportunities with partner organisations and providing social support to help in relocation, sponsoring graduate scheme for girls in higher education.

## How to apply

Organisations can apply to be recognised in Level 1, and depending on the level of maturity to Level 2, Level 3.

Level 1 is mandatory. The spirit behind the three levels is to encourage candidates to progressively improve and qualify for more levels in the years to come.

As a starting point, all candidates need to demonstrate a proven track record in areas covered by Level 1. If the candidates can demonstrate that they have undertaken initiatives beyond the scope of Level 1, and of relevance to Level 2, then they can apply for Level 2. Similarly, to qualify for Level 3, they would need to demonstrate a proven track record in the previous two levels, plus that of level 3.

Applications should be submitted through [**https://www.bsbf2020.org/**](https://www.bsbf2020.org/) following the instructions for the Poster section. Applicants would need to provide details regarding the relevant activities, achieved outcomes, impact, and on-going commitment. Participation to the awards is limited to organisations registered to the BSBF.

The posters will be displayed at the BSBF event exhibition in Granada. Submissions will be evaluated by an independent panel of experts. The successful applications will be announced at BSBF 2022 and publicised through multiple communication channels.

**Deadline for submitting applications:** 18 September 2022 (12:00 CET)

More information regarding the award can be found on the BSBF website

## Contact

For more information, contact **wbsbf@f4e.europa.eu**