



MERLIN INNOVATION AWARDS 2023

Call for companies with innovative products or services for freshwater ecosystems,
powered by the MERLIN project

Are you a company with an innovative product or service for freshwater ecosystems?

If yes, apply now for the MERLIN Innovation Awards 2023
in one of the two categories:

- Product of the year 2023
- Service of the year 2023

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MERLIN seeks **new** and **widely applicable solutions** for restoring or enabling financial benefit for freshwater ecosystems. **If your innovative product or service is market-ready**, you are eligible to apply.



MERLIN INNOVATION AWARDS 2023

Benefits

- Unique opportunity to pitch your product or service to 17 European freshwater restoration project managers and many other decision makers and stakeholders
- Chance to be part of the systemic transformative change of our society and economy
- Recognition within the European freshwater ecosystem community with your product or service featured on the widely read Freshwater Blog
- Automatic inclusion in the MERLIN Marketplace if your application is accepted for the MERLIN Innovation Awards 2023



Selection process

Applications will be pre-evaluated by Connectology and the MERLIN coordinators/steering group. The selected companies will then be pitching online in front of a jury based on the following criteria: level of innovation, cost-benefit (financial and ecological) and potential impact evaluation of their product or service.

The jury (more than 10 members) will be composed of freshwater restoration managers and other relevant freshwater community stakeholders.

When will the MERLIN Innovation Award take place?

The selected companies will be invited to present their innovative freshwater product or service in a 3 minutes presentation with additional 2 minutes of Q&A. The MERLIN Innovation Award competition will take place online in January 2023 on a date to be announced. The winners will be awarded in an online ceremony on a date to be announced in February 2023.

How to apply?

In case your company owns the rights to commercialise the product or service, you can [apply here](#) until the 22nd of December 2022 (17:00 CET). We encourage applications to be submitted as early as possible to allow for any correction of missing data.

Further information:
project-merlin.eu/events-news/mia

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About the MERLIN community

MERLIN (Mainstreaming Ecological Restoration of freshwater-related ecosystems in a Landscape context: INnovation, upscaling and transformation) is a flagship project of the European Commission, endowed with 20 million Euros, that advocates for transformative ecosystem restoration and incorporates Nature-based Solutions for the urgent systemic change of our society. EU funding also goes to 17 case study areas from Finland to Israel, where streams, rivers as well as bogs and other wetlands are currently being restored to a near-natural state. These major projects will be expanded, upscaled and developed into European-wide models.

Through collaborations with local communities and key economies, MERLIN will co-develop win-win solutions spearheading systemic economic, social and environmental change.

More information and a list of all MERLIN partners – including universities, research institutes, nature conservation organisations as well as stakeholders from business, government and municipalities – can be found on the website: www.project-merlin.eu

www.project-merlin.eu

[euMERLINproject](#) [in merlin-eu](#) [@freshwaterblog.net](#)



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