SPARK CHANGE AWARDS JUDGING PROCESS

1. **About The Spark Change Awards**

The Wheel, Trinity College Dublin and the Environmental Protection Agency are delighted to announce the inaugural **National Spark Change Awards**. The National Spark Change Awards ceremony will take place during the summer of 2019 (date and venue TBC).

The aim of the Spark Change Awards is to demonstrate how community and voluntary activity is contributing to Ireland's commitments to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. We will celebrate the projects and communities of Ireland who are taking steps to improve social, environmental and /or economic sustainability.

2. **Eligibility Criteria**

   To qualify for the Spark Change Awards, participating projects must complete the Spark Change Challenge. To complete the Challenge, entrants will have had to:

   - completed the expression of interest form (closed 31 January 2019)

   - completed project survey 1 (this online survey will have been emailed to participants between October 2018 and February 2019)

   - complete project survey 2 (this online survey will have been emailed to participants between (this online survey will have been emailed to participants in April 2019)

   - choose at least one of the seven award categories to compete in, and

   - agree to the Spark Change Awards' terms and conditions.

   Only projects that have met all of the above criteria will be considered for shortlisting.

3. **Categories**

   We will endeavour to make an award in each of the following seven categories (on the condition that there are at least three eligible projects entered in any given category). If there are fewer than three eligible projects entered in a category, we reserve the right not to make an award in that category.

   Projects can choose to enter between one and seven categories. Note that the categories for the Spark Change Awards mirror the categories of the UN's SDG Action Awards.

   The seven categories are:

Mobilizer	The project/team that demonstrates the greatest successes with mobilizing individuals, organizations or networks for collective action for the SDGs
Storyteller	The most impactful or innovative project to capture powerful human stories to help communicate the interconnectedness of the SDGs in people's lives through different mediums.
Campaigner	The most impactful or innovative communications campaign (local/national/international) to raise public awareness about the SDGs and/or people's role in SDG action.
Visualizer	The most impactful or innovative initiative using visual or creative representations of data to influence decision-makers and the public of the importance of the SDGs
Creative	The most impactful or innovative initiative that harnesses artistic expression to spur SDG Action and awareness through creativity, empowering and connecting people
Connector	The team/project that demonstrates innovative or impactful ways to engage multiple stakeholders or build networks to generate the transformational change needed to make the SDGs a reality.
Includer	The project/group that makes the most innovative and impactful effort to ensure that excluded groups become part of the SDG dialogue and decision making in their community or at international levels. Leave No One Behind!

4. Shortlisting

Three projects will be shortlisted in each of the seven award categories. Assessment will be based on two sets of criteria:

a) category specific criteria, and
b) impact and SDG-related criteria.

The weighting between the two sets of criteria will be: category specific criteria (60%) and impact and SDG-related criteria (40%).

The shortlisting will be carried out by the Spark Change Project Team.

a) Category specific criteria (60%)

This information will be collected in project survey 2. Participating projects will be asked to select one or more award category to compete in. Based on their selection, they will be presented with category specific questions.

Category	Criteria	Scoring
Mobilizer	How successful has the project been in mobilising volunteers or staff?	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely successful and 0 being unsuccessful.
	How successful has the project been in mobilising other people in the community (apart from volunteers or staff?)	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely successful and 0 being unsuccessful.
Storyteller	Please rate the quality of the stories submitted.	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely high quality and 0 being poor quality.
	How well did the project's story/stories communicate the importance of the SDGs?	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely well and 0 being not at all.
Campaigner	How innovative or impactful are the project's communications?	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely well and 0 being not at all.
	How well did the communications raise awareness of the SDGs?	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely well and 0 being not at all.
	How effectively did the project's communications reflect people's voices?	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely effective and 0 not effective.

Visualizer	Rate the effectiveness of the data visualisation.	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely effective and 0 not effective.
Creative	How well did the project use creative and artistic expression?	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely well and 0 not well.
Connector	How innovative or impactful was the project in bringing together multiple stakeholders?	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely innovative and impactful and 0 not effective.
	How effective was the network established by the project?	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely effective and 0 not effective.
Includer	How effectively did the project include excluded groups in dialogue (e.g. events, consultations etc.)? Excluded groups could include socially excluded groups, minorities or disadvantaged people.	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely effective and 0 not effective.
	How effectively did the project include excluded groups in the SDG actions y (e.g. project implementation or activities)? Excluded groups could include socially excluded groups, minorities or disadvantaged people.	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely effective and 0 not effective.

b) General SDG criteria (40%)

Each project will also be assessed against the following general criteria. Scoring will be based on an overall impression of the project. The assment will be based on the following materials,

- expression of interest form

- project survey 1(project specific information only)

- project survey 2 (project specific information only)

- other information received by the project researcher (this information will be collected by the project researcher based on interactions with your project).

1. In your view, how much of an overall impact has the project made?	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely impact and 0 no impact
2. How relevant was the projects objectives and outputs to the selected SDG/SDGs?	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely relevant impact and 0 no relevant
3. Please rate how well the project engaged with the community.	Rate between 0 and 5: 5 being extremely engaged and 0 not engaged

5. Judging

A panel of independent judges will select a single winner in each of the seven categories.

The judges will score each shortlisted entry against the same criteria used in the shortlisting process. The highest scoring entry in each category will be the category winner.

The judges will base their assessment on a judging pack containing the following:

- background on each shortlisted project from expression of interest forms
- relevant answers to the category specific questions in survey 2
- an short assessment note from the project researcher (based the researcher's assessment of your project).

The judges will meet on 30 May 2019 to compare and collate their scores, and determine the winner in each category.

The winner in each category will be announced at the Spark Change Awards (date to be announced).

For more information email info@sparkchange.ie.