



A Celebration of Bold Ideas In Water Innovations Happening at Water Loss Asia 2026

Submit Now

20 - 22

October 2026

Physical Event

**World Trade Centre
Kuala Lumpur**

Introducing the inaugural NextWave Innovation Awards 2026 – a dynamic industry platform for the water sector by PROTEMP, proudly chaired by UTM-IPASA, dedicated to spotlighting innovations and technological solutions that address critical water challenges.

Held in conjunction with the Water Loss Asia 2026 (WLA 2026), this groundbreaking initiative aligns with the broader national vision of Water Sector Transformation 2040, aimed at positioning Malaysia as a leading regional water hub.

The NextWave Innovation Awards 2026 is more than just an awards program, it is an industry solution provide for changemakers, innovators, and disruptors who are revolutionizing the water sector with meaningful solutions.

WHY WATER INNOVATION MATTERS

Water innovation is critical to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), climate resilience, and economic progress. From access to clean water to smart infrastructure and water reuse technologies, innovation drives efficiency and empowers communities.

This prestigious new award will shine a spotlight on the trailblazers who are driving groundbreaking solutions to the world's most urgent water challenges. Whether it's leveraging smart technologies, pioneering circular economy models, or advancing climate resilience, the NextWave Innovation



Awards 2026 will honor those who are shaping the future of water in profound and transformative ways.

From smart technologies to sustainable reuse, we are spotlighting the brightest solutions transforming the global water landscape.

SPECIAL AWARDS



AWARDS CATEGORIES



AWARDS CHAIR

Prof. Ts. Dr. Zainura Zainon Noor, FASc



Prof. Zainura Zainon Noor is a prominent expert in environmental sustainability and green technology with over 20 years of experience in research, policy development, and capacity building. She serves as the Director of the Centre for Environmental Sustainability and Water Security (IPASA) at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), where she leads interdisciplinary efforts in climate resilience, water governance, and sustainability innovation.



IMPORTANT DATES

30 JUL 2026	5 OCT 2026	7-8 OCT 2026	14 OCT 2026	16 OCT 2026
CALL FOR ENTRIES OPENS ONLINE SUBMISSION	SUBMISSION DEADLINE	ONLINE EVALUATION	PHYSICAL EVALUATION (AT WLA 2026)	AWARDS CEREMONY (AT WLA 2026)

JUDGING CRITERIA

All innovations will undergo physical evaluation by the Awards Committee, comprising members of the jury, including academics and industry subject matter experts as below criterias:

Innovation & Originality ■ Creativity and novelty of the solution ■ Technical ingenuity and uniqueness	Sustainability & Market Readiness ■ Commercial potential ■ Environmental sustainability and resource efficiency
Impact & Relevance ■ Addressing a clearly defined water challenge ■ Potential for positive environmental, social, or industry-wide change	Technical & Scientific Merit ■ Sound scientific or engineering foundation ■ Methodology and measurable outcomes
Feasibility & Development Stage ■ Development maturity and scalability ■ Practical application and ease of adoption	Presentation & Communication ■ Clarity of visuals, pitch, & supporting materials ■ Ability to communicate across diverse audiences

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

01 ▼ Researchers & Academics	02 ▼ Start-ups & Entrepreneurs	03 ▼ Public Utilities & Water Authorities	04 ▼ NGOs & Community Groups	05 ▼ Government Agencies & Municipal Bodies	06 ▼ Technology Companies & Industry Innovators
---	---	--	---	--	--

Package

POSTER PANEL (1 side poster)

RM1600 | USD469 per awards entry

This package includes the following:

- 1m display panel
- 1 no. of spotlight
- 1 Awards Entry

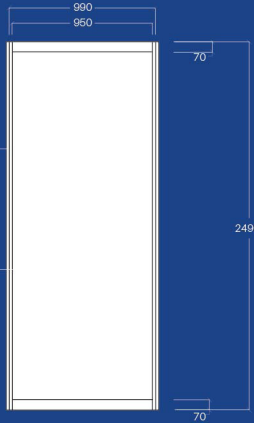
Epoxy white aluminium frame section. (Octanorm equivalent)

3mm thickness white laminated panel.

AWARDS ENTRY FEE

RM850 | USD269 per awards entry

*Above rates are subject to 8% Sales & Service Tax.



TERMS & CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Bank Transfer (For Ringgit Malaysia only)

Payable to : PROTEMP Exhibitions and Conferences Sdn. Bhd.
Bank Name : Malayan Banking Berhad
Bank Address : B01 & B02, Sunway Giza Mall,
No 2, Jalan PJU 5/14, Kota Damansara,
47810 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia
Account No. : 5127 5430 3702
Swift Code : MBBEMYKL
***Note** : Please email a copy of the remittance slip to
water@protempgroup.com with your full name,
company name and contact details written clearly on the slip.

Telegraphic Transfer (For USD only)

Payable to : PROTEMP Exhibitions and Conferences Sdn. Bhd.
Bank Name : United Overseas Bank (Malaysia) Berhad
Bank Address : Kota Damansara Branch, No. 48, Jalan PJU 5/8,
Dataran Sunway Kota Damansara,
47810 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.
Account No. : 185-900-895-5
Swift Code : UOVBMYKLXXX
***Note** : Please email a copy of the remittance slip to
water@protempgroup.com with your full name,
company name and contact details written clearly on the slip.

01. An innovation must be new unless substantial improvements have been done to it since it was first competed in any other award. All innovations can be submitted either an idea or tangible form.
02. All entries must be submitted to the online awards submission system. The content can be expressed in words, image, sound or a combination of any, to enable efficient delivery of the critical messages to the judges. Each submission must include items (a) to (d) as explained below:
 - Synopsis of work/innovation (250 words – MS word document)
 - Minimum one video (HD 1080p, max 5 mins). A Youtube link is recommended.
 - Photo (minimum 1 – jpg format, max 2mb)
 - Detailed written description of the innovation (PDF - about 500 words)
 - The online awards submission system allows participants to submit additional supporting documents such as powerpoint presentations and other documents.
 - Each group is limited to a maximum of 15 members.
03. An innovation may be submitted for evaluation in more than one Category. However, it is important that you select the correct category. If you require any clarification, you can contact the Organisers by email (water@protempgroup.com). If the incorrect category is selected, the Awards Committee reserves the right to disqualify the entry.
04. If you wish to enter your innovation in more than one category, you will need to repeat the online submission process for every category that you choose. For example, if you are submitting one innovation for 3 different categories, you will be required to make 3 online submissions.
05. An entry is qualified for evaluation when:
 - a. All required fields of the online submission forms are completed.
 - b. All requirements of above item 2 are fulfilled.
 - c. Supported by full payment. Full payment must be made by **5 October 2026**.
 - d. Entries which are incomplete or submitted without full payment shall be disqualified and will not be evaluated.
 - e. The participant is solely responsible for ensuring that their submission is complete.
06. By confirming your participation, you have agreed that you will be fully responsible for any violation of intellectual property rights should it happens. PROTEMP Exhibitions and Conferences Sdn. Bhd. and all stakeholders for this event assumes no liability for such infringement.
07. Entries must be submitted online latest by **5 October 2026 – 23.59 (GMT +8)**. There will be no extensions granted under any circumstances.
08. Award entries, including all submission materials mentioned in item (2) above shall be submitted in English.
09. The Organisers reserves the right to the use of photos, videos, synopsis, and write-ups which you have provided in the online awards submission system for the purpose of the promotion of WLA2026 and publicity of your innovation and participation.
10. WLA2026 restricts content that involves nudity or is sexually suggestive in nature. This restriction is due to the diversity in age and cultural backgrounds of our global community. All content must be appropriate for a general audience. Content which are sexually explicit or suggestive, or contains pornography, nudity, sexual violence and exploitation, cruelty of animals, and all kinds of violence are strictly prohibited.
11. The jury will evaluate entries submitted in the online submission system. Jurors may request for more information at any time to support validation which might include online interviews, emails, or telephone calls.
12. Interviews and communications between participants and jurors will be conducted in English.
13. Results will be announced at the expo and on the digital platform, the exact date and time will be advised closer to the event.
14. WLA2026 will take place physically over 3 days. During this period, participants can chat and network with visitors from all across the globe and grow their contacts and network.
15. Participation fees must be made in full upon submission of entries, and the latest deadline for payment is **5 October 2026**. Payment is non-refundable.
16. All medals and certificates will be shipped to the participants.
17. A security service will operate during the whole period of the Exhibition. However, the Secretariat accept no responsibility for loss, theft, damage due to fire or other cause to invention / innovation during the Exhibition or in transit.
18. By this formal application to participate in the award, each inventor/innovator undertakes to ensure the delivery of his invention/innovation before **11:59pm – 12 October 2026** and to allow it to remain on display during the whole Exhibition. Any inventor/innovator withdrawing his/her invention/innovation before closure shall render himself/herself liable to pay damages and shall forfeit any award given to him.
19. The inventor/innovator or his representative is required to be at the exhibit booth at all times, throughout the Exhibition. Failure to comply may cause the forfeiting of any award given to him/her.
20. The decisions of the judges are final. Any complain will not be entertained.

For any enquiries, please contact

PROTEMP Exhibitions and Conferences Sdn Bhd (SSM No. 199901017179)

Follow us on

+603 6140 6666
www.waterlossasia.com

+6012 8260 998
water@protempgroup.com

