

ISBT Award for Developing Countries 2022



The ISBT Award for Developing Countries will be awarded to a Blood Service/Centre from a Developing Country that has made a significant contribution in strengthening Blood Transfusion Practice within the Country.

1. Objectives

The purpose of this award is to:

- Encourage Blood Services/Centres in Developing Countries to further develop Blood Transfusion activities.
- Recognise and acknowledge Blood Services/Centres in Developing countries for their achievements in strengthening Blood Transfusion.
- Create awareness among the global Blood Transfusion community of challenges faced by Developing Countries
- Enable ISBT to achieve its strategic objective of linking developed and developing countries

2. Eligibility

1. Applications for the ISBT Developing Country Award are only open to organisations providing Blood Transfusion Services, Departments of Transfusion Medicine within medical institutions and Blood Centres in Developing Countries.
2. Qualifying Developing Countries will be those that have a Low or Medium Human Development Index (HDI) according to the UNDP.
3. The application must complete all relevant documents and be submitted to ISBT by due date.

3. About the Award

1. The ISBT Award for Developing Countries was established in 2011.
2. The award will be granted in each year in which an International Congress is held and only one award will be made.
3. The winner will be presented with the award at the Opening Ceremony held during the International Congress.
4. ISBT reserves the right not to grant the award if there are no suitable applications.

4. Award Proposal

The award will be in the form of Sponsorship to attend the ISBT international congress, organize an education symposium and/or potential short scholarship to visit a centre of excellence

5. Award Details

- Full sponsorship for two delegates from the Blood Centre to attend the ISBT International Congress (airfares, registration, accommodation and per diem) (approximately Euro 6,000)
- Opportunity to present a talk at the ISBT congress by invitation of the ISBT Board
- Certificate presented at the ISBT Opening Ceremony
- Sponsorship of one Education Symposium in the country of the winning applicant (value Euro 10,000)

6. Regulations

1. Only Blood Services/Centres from Qualifying Developing Countries are eligible to apply for the award.
2. The Award will be made to an Organization. An ISBT selection committee will make a recommendation(s) to the ISBT Board/Executive committee who will make the final decision. In the event that the selection committee deems that two applicants are closely matched, the ISBT Board/Executive committee will make the final decision on which Organisation is the winner.
3. The decision of the ISBT Board/Executive Committee is final and no correspondence will be entered into with applicants that were unsuccessful.
4. The procedure for submitting applications shall be as follows:
 - a. ISBT will announce "Request for Applications" on its website and via other correspondence.
 - b. Qualifying applicants can complete all the relevant application forms on the ISBT website.

- c. All forms must be duly completed in English by the designated person (CEO/Medical Director) of the organisation. This individual will represent the Organisation and all correspondence by ISBT will be with this individual.
 - d. References, publications, and data that support the submission must accompany the application.
 - e. Certified copies of all documents comprising the application must be submitted by the due date. Late applications will not be accepted.
 - f. A member of the ISBT Board shall not be entitled to be the designated representative of an organisation making an application
5. The procedure to select the winner and award the prize will be as follows:
- a. ISBT will appoint a selection committee comprising of five (5) members to assess the applications. The committee will be chaired by the ISBT President. If a member of the selection committee has a conflict of interest, he/she may not participate in evaluating the applications.
 - b. The committee will evaluate each application against pre defined “Award Criteria”
 - c. The committee will develop a recommendation on the recipient of the award. The committee may also identify an additional 1-2 applications which are suitable for receipt of a ‘commendation’ which will be recognised by a certificate during the relevant ISBT congress. Recommendations from the committee will be sent to the Executive Director for consideration by the Board/Executive Committee.
 - d. The ISBT Board/Executive Committee will make the final decision and inform the winner and where appropriate applications that will be recognised as ‘commended’. Where the selection committee recommends more than one applicant for the main award, the decision will be based upon which applicant gets the majority of votes from the ISBT Board.
 - e. If a member of the ISBT Board has a conflict of interest, such as being an employee of the organisation being considered, the individual will need to recuse himself/herself from the discussion and voting process.
 - f. The Executive Director of ISBT will inform the Award winner at least three months in advance of the Award ceremony and advise that a representative of the organisation must be present at the international congress to receive the award.

7. Award Criteria For Blood Services/Centres (For Use by the Selection Committee)

The award aims to identify blood centres and/or blood services that have made significant developments during the three years immediately preceding the application. Successful applications will likely demonstrate improvements in a range of areas. Emphasis will be placed on demonstration of improvement in the overall capability and capacity of the centre/service and on provision of evidence to show the impact that the centre/service has made on improving overall provision of transfusion services in both the local community which it serves and more widely within the country or region in which it is situated.

Applications will be assessed against a number of criteria. These are listed below and additional information is provided in the table.

Section 1: Details of the Organisation (qualifier section – no points allocated)

- a) All questions to be answered and sufficient information provided to make an informed assessment
- b) Organisation must be from Country with low or medium HDI status

Section 2: External Funding and Technical Assistance (0 to a maximum of minus 30 points allocated). Applicants must provide sufficient information to enable an informed assessment to be made by the selection committee. In the event that insufficient is provided in any section then the minimum number of points will be allocated

- a) Points will be allocated according to the level of external assistance provided. The number of points will decrease with the level of support from 0 (no funding) to a maximum of -30 for total external assistance. Points allocated in this section will reduce the overall score for the applicant.

Section 3: Achievements of organisation (70 points) – points will be allocated as shown in the table. Applicants must provide sufficient information to enable an informed assessment to be made by the selection committee. In the event that insufficient is provided in any section then the minimum number of points will be allocated for the section.

Section	Information to be provided	Point Allocation
1. Organisation details	<p>A brief overview of the organisation must be provided. This must include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The type of service(s) provided and whether the organisation is public or private. This should include information on who owns the organisation and how funding is obtained and the population served by the organisation. For blood collection facilities this should include information on the number of hospitals supplied and the basis of cost recovery. National and regional organisations should provide information on the distribution of collection, processing, testing and distribution of blood components across the geographic covered by the organisation. Private or corporate organisations must provide information on the level of access for the local community to the services provided. 	0
2. External funding and assistance (minus 30 points)	<p>Detailed information on the level of external financial and technical support received by the organisation during the previous 5 years must be provided. This should include the amount of external funding received, how this has been used and the plans that have been developed to reduce reliance on the external funding. Technical support may include provision of equipment and consumables, external consultants and seconded staff involved in the organisation.</p> <p>Private and corporate applicants must provide information on how their institution is funded. This information will be used to assess the number of points, if any, that are applicable in this section.</p> <p>The number of points awarded will increase with the level of external support provided. Points awarded in this category will reduce the total score. The maximum score will be allocated in the event that insufficient information is provided for the judges to make an informed decision.</p>	0 to minus 30
3. Achievement of organization (100 points)		
3.1 Blood Collection	<p>Information must be provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of blood donations collected in the each of the previous 3 years The proportion of voluntary non remunerated donations in each of the previous 3 years The key steps that have been put in place to enable any increase to be achieved. Information on specific initiatives that the applicant considers to be of merit 	20
3.2 Blood Processing & Cold Chain	<p>Information must be provided on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proportion of whole blood donations processed into components in each of the previous 3 years including information on the types of components produced. For national or regional organisations information on the level of access to components outside of the main centres Any new technologies implemented over the previous 3 years Information on specific initiatives that the applicant considers to be of merit 	10
3.3 Donation Testing	<p>Information must be provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The range of mandatory tests undertaken on each donation. This should include information on the type of test kit used (ELISA versus rapid test versus NAT) The proportion of all donations collected in each of the previous 3 years were fully tested for each of the markers The total number of donations tested in each of the previous 3 years (including testing undertaken for 	10

Section	Information to be provided	Point Allocation
	<p>other organisations Blood Centres)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any new technologies implemented over the previous 3 years • Information on specific initiatives that the applicant considers to be of merit 	
3.4 Blood product supply	<p>Information must be provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of blood components distributed or issued in each of the previous 3 years (by component type) • The geographic coverage of the service and the extent to which needs were met across this. • An assessment of the extent to which the number of components distributed in each of the previous 3 years met the clinical needed of patients in the hospitals served. • Information on specific initiatives that the applicant considers to be of merit 	10
3.5 Service Provision to Hospitals	<p>Information must be provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The range of services provided to hospitals during each of the previous 3 years • Any new technologies implemented over the previous 3 years • Information on specific initiatives that the applicant considers to be of merit 	10
3.6 Haemovigilance systems	<p>Information must be provided on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of any involvement in haemovigilance activities (donor and or patient) and how this has changed over the last few years • A summary of the results of the haemovigilance system over the 3 year period. 	10
3.7 Education and Training Activities	<p>Information must be provided on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number and range of internal and external training initiatives provided by the organisation in each of the previous 3 years. This must include information on the number of people undergoing training in each year, the topics covered and the methods used to assess the effectiveness of the training. • The source of funding for the training activities • Information on specific initiatives that the applicant considers to be of merit 	10
3.8 Quality Systems and Regulatory Framework	<p>Information must be provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of the quality and regulatory systems and how these have changes during the previous 3 years. • The outcomes of internal and/or external audits and how issues identified have been addressed • Information on specific initiatives that the applicant considers to be of merit 	10
3.9 Publications, Presentations, Regional and Global Collaborations, Research	<p>Information must be provided on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level of involvement in research activities at a local, regional, national or international level and the role played by staff of the organisation in this. • The nature of any external research collaborations and what these have achieved over the preceding 3 years. Information should be provided on how these were funded and the extent to which competitive external funding was acquired • The number of publications achieved in each of the previous 3 years (full citations required) 	10
4. Score		Maximum Total= 100