



CALL FOR **THREE AWARDS** FOR THE BEST DOCTORAL
RESEARCH PROJECTS
**“INSTM - WOMEN IN MATERIALS SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY 2026”**

THE AWARDS

The awards have been established by the INSTM National Interuniversity Consortium of Materials Science and Technology as part of a **continuous supportive action for Gender Equality**, as specifically indicated in the “[Gender Equality Plan 2025-27](#)”. The awards are intended to reward⁽¹⁾ the **best PhD project in the field of Materials Science and Technology by female researchers** who defended the PhD thesis during the year 2025 or by 11 February 2026. The call will be published during the “[International Day of Women and Girls in Science](#)”.

(1) See Art. 12 of [Regolamento per l'assegnazione e la gestione di borse di studio, premi, collaborazioni, prestazioni e consulenze del Consorzio INSTM](#).

INSTM'S COMMITMENT TO GENDER EQUALITY

The INSTM Consortium published **your first Gender Equality Plan (GEP) in 2021**. The GEP is the instrument envisaged by the European and Italian regulations to go in the direction of achieving the objectives established by the United Nations 2030 Agenda in relation to gender equality, emancipation (empowerment) and self-determination of women and girls. Gender equality (GE) is just **one aspect of the wider mission of contrast to any sort of discrimination**, by ethnicity, religion, language, sexual orientation, or gender identity. **INSTM intends to offer its contribution** in the direction of minimizing any potential deficiency in the equal opportunity-equal outcome objective.

REGULATIONS

Art. 1 | DEFINITION AND QUANTIFICATION

The call is open to female Researchers who defended the PhD thesis in INSTM affiliated Universities **during the year 2025 or by 11 February 2026**. The PhD projects must concern the topics of materials science and technology, with particular emphasis on issues of environmental sustainability and on research characterized by social impact. Three prizes will be awarded: **a first prize with a total net value of € 2000**, excluding taxes, will be awarded for the best research project and **two prizes with a total net value of € 1000 for the second and third place**. The three classified projects will be presented by the candidates during the [XV INSTM Conference on Materials Science and Technology](#) to be held in Genoa from 7 to 10 June 2026. Awarding of prizes is subject to a minimum number of 5 applications.

Art. 2 | EVALUATION COMMITTEE

INSTM President and Director, upon mandate from the Executive Board, will define the composition of the Evaluation Committee by selecting the members among the INSTM affiliated researchers, considering any potential conflict of interest⁽²⁾. The composition of the Evaluation Committee will be published on the INSTM website (www.instm.it) after the deadline of the call.

(2) See [Codice Etico](#).

Art. 3 | CANDIDATES EVALUATION

Prizes will be awarded on the basis of the evaluation of a short video (either in Italian or in English) of presentation of the research project, with a maximum duration of 5 minutes, of the Candidate's curriculum vitae and of any publication relating to the project itself, according to criteria of originality, innovation, and rigor and with special reference to the possible relevance of environmental sustainability and social impact. The Committee's judgment is unquestionable.

Art. 4 | SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

The application, complete and edited according to the form attached to the call, must be submitted by **April 13, 2026** by sending an e-mail to premio@instm.it specifying in the subject "Application for Women in S&TM 2026 Award" attaching the video presentation of the research project (also by means of file transfer services), any relevant publications in pdf format and a curriculum vitae.

Art. 5 | AWARD ASSIGNMENT

The Committee will formulate the final ranking indicating the first three classified and notifying the latter of the results of the evaluation by **May 20, 2026**. The award will be presented during the XV INSTM Conference on Materials Science and Technology, to be held in Genoa from 7 to 10 June 2026. The winners must confirm their acceptance of the award and their attendance at the XV INSTM Conference by **May 27, 2026**.

Art. 6 | PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

According to art.13 of EU Regulation 679/2016 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, the personal data provided by candidates will be processed for the purposes related to the procedure for awarding the prize and the subsequent management of related procedural activities. The Data Controller of personal data is the National Interuniversity Consortium for the Science and Technology of Materials (INSTM), with operational headquarters/fiscal domicile in via Giuseppe Giusti, 9, 50121, Florence. The contacts are: segreteria@instm.it, instm@pec.it.

**APPLICATION FORM
FOR THE AWARD “INSTM - WOMEN IN MATERIALS SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY 2026”**

Name	
Surname	
Place and date of birth	
PhD in	
University	
Date of defense of the PhD thesis	
Title of the PhD Project	
Tutor	
E-mail	
Phone	

PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

According to art.13 of EU Regulation 679/2016 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, regarding the protection of privacy, we inform you that the personal data provided by completing this form will be used to register your participation in the Award and will be included in a database for sending any announcements about the Award and/or for information on future similar initiatives. By ticking the box below, you grant the INSTM Consortium your consent to the processing, communication and dissemination of the personal data contained in this form.

I agree:

DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____