



AWARDS
2026

RICS MENA Awards 2026

Categories & Criteria



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Awards Submission

Your submission should clearly explain the project, team or individual and demonstrate a connection to the judging criteria, highlighting a commitment to professionalism and ethics. This is where you want to make it clear to the judges exactly why your submission is deserving of the award. Please note that this will not be a PDF upload, you will need to complete free text sections within the online form, including an introduction and responses to each applicable element of the judging criteria (professionalism, outcome and achievement, teamwork, innovation, and sustainability). Word limits have been applied to each free text box in accordance with the criteria weighting.

Team Award Categories

Quantity Surveying / Cost Management Team Award

Awarded to a company, team or consortium responsible for delivering outstanding quantity surveying and cost management services on construction, infrastructure or development projects completed during 2025/2026. The award recognises excellence in cost planning, procurement, contract administration, commercial management and value engineering, demonstrating how professional expertise has contributed to successful project outcomes while achieving value for money and effective financial control throughout the project lifecycle.

Building Surveying Team Award

Awarded to a company, team or consortium delivering exceptional building & land surveying services during 2025/2026. The award recognises excellence in technical expertise, professional advice and surveying services supporting the acquisition, development, management, maintenance and protection of built assets and land.

Dispute Resolution Team Award

Awarded to a company, team or consortium demonstrating excellence in dispute avoidance and dispute resolution services within the built and natural environment. The award recognises outstanding achievement in arbitration, adjudication, mediation, dispute boards, expert determination and related services, where professional expertise has helped resolve complex matters fairly, efficiently and in accordance with recognised professional standards. Matters submitted should have concluded during 2025/2026.

Facilities Management Team Award

Awarded to a company, team or consortia responsible for the delivery of outstanding facilities management services. These services might ensure functionality, comfort, safety and/or efficiency of the built environment by integrating people, place, process and/or technology. The award is open to facilities management service providers or teams within property owner organizations who deliver services in-house.

Project Management Team Award

Awarded to a company, team, in-house team, service provider or contractor responsible for delivering outstanding project management services across construction, fit-out, refurbishment, infrastructure or development projects during 2025/2026. The successful applicant will demonstrate excellence in project planning, quality management, programme delivery, procurement, commercial management and stakeholder coordination to achieve outstanding outcomes for clients.

Property and Asset Management Team Award

Awarded to a company, team or consortium delivering outstanding property and asset management services across commercial, residential, industrial or mixed-use portfolios during 2025/2026. The award recognises excellence in portfolio performance, lease management, occupier engagement, operational efficiency and long-term value creation through professional asset management.

Valuation Team Award

Awarded to a company, team or consortium delivering outstanding valuation services across commercial, residential or mixed-use assets during 2025/2026. The award recognises excellence in valuation and professional standards, demonstrating how objective, reliable valuations have supported investment, lending, development and asset management while adhering to recognised international valuation standards.

Team Awards Assessment Criteria

Professionalism 20%	• Use of surveying knowledge and/or professional expertise in areas such as technical, financial, legal, environmental, building regulation, sustainability and restoration where applicable, to achieve outcomes. • Demonstrated adherence to RICS ethics. • Demonstration of using the most appropriate procurement method for engaging contractors / suppliers (if applicable). • Demonstration of the ability to resolve disputes. • Demonstration of how international standards have been adopted will be an advantage.
Teamwork / Collaboration 20%	• Effective coordination of skillsets among members of the team and with stakeholders. • A demonstrated commitment to diversity and inclusion within the firm/team and their work. How does the firm/team embrace diversity and contribute to a more inclusive profession? • Contribution of the team to social outcomes. • Demonstration of RICS Standards adopted.

Outcome and Achievement 20%	• Measurable success of team/project outcomes against predefined targets. • Client and or occupier/user or public satisfaction – including testimonials. • Team demonstrates best practices in appropriate profession (building surveying, valuation, facilities management, etc.). • Challenges overcome in the process relative to complexity. What were the difficulties or unique challenges? How were these challenges overcome? • Cost effectiveness. How was cost managed effectively against a predefined target? • Timely completion. Demonstration of how the project is managed effectively with respect to time.
Thought Innovation 20%	• Was an innovative approach used to deliver an outcome? What was this approach (technology, planning, procurement, construction) and why was this used over more conventional solutions? • How is the firm/team delivering an innovative approach which embraces new technologies? • Innovation in financing and viability. • Are innovative strategies embedded on projects or tasks that deliver a social impact? • Level of creativity in overcoming challenges. • How has the firm/team demonstrated resilience and adaptability?

Sustainability 20%	• Does the team demonstrate the adoption of sustainability principles (e.g. climate change mitigation and adaptation, waste reduction, biodiversity conservation, social value creation)? • Have the sustainability achievements of the team been quantified in numerical terms? Environmental impact: • Does the team make efforts to measure and reduce the carbon emissions of its projects? • Does the team make efforts to quantify and improve the biodiversity impact of its projects? Social impact: • Does the team engage meaningfully with the communities impacted by its projects? • Does the team promote and educate stakeholders about sustainability? • How is the team creating better places and spaces for future generations? Health and well-being: • How has the team actively contributed to people's health and well-being?
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Special Category Awards

Design Project of the Year

This category recognises an exceptional designer or design firm that has demonstrated outstanding creativity, innovation, and expertise in transforming interior spaces within real estate developments. This award honours the designer's ability to enhance the functionality, aesthetics, and overall appeal of interior spaces, creating environments that elevate the quality of life for residents, tenants, or visitors. The project should be completed in the 2025/2026 calendar year.

Design Project of the Year Award Assessment Criteria

Professionalism 20%	• Use of surveying knowledge and/or professional expertise in areas such as technical, financial, legal, environmental, building regulation, sustainability, and restoration where applicable, to achieve outcomes. • Demonstrated adherence to RICS ethics. • Demonstration of using the most appropriate procurement method for engaging contractors / suppliers (if applicable). • Demonstration of the ability to resolve disputes. • Demonstration of how international standards have been adopted will be an advantage.
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Teamwork / Collaboration 20%	• Effective coordination of skillsets among members of the team and with stakeholders. • A demonstrated commitment to diversity and inclusion within the firm/team and their work. How does the firm/team embrace diversity and contribute to a more inclusive profession? • Contribution of the team to social outcomes. • Demonstration of RICS Standards adopted.
Outcome and Achievement 20%	• Measurable success of team/project outcomes against predefined targets. • Client and or occupier/user or public satisfaction – including testimonials. • Team demonstrates best practices in appropriate profession (building surveying, valuation, facilities management, etc.). • Challenges overcome in the process relative to complexity. What were the difficulties or unique challenges? How were these challenges overcome? • Cost effectiveness. How was cost managed effectively against a predefined target? • Timely completion. Demonstration of how the project is managed effectively with respect to time. • What steps have been taken to ensure the building's future resilience?
Thought Innovation 30%	• Was an innovative approach used to deliver an outcome? What was this approach (technology, planning, procurement, construction) and why was this used over more conventional solutions? • How is the firm/team delivering an innovative approach which embraces new technologies? • Innovation in financing and viability. • Are innovative strategies embedded on projects or tasks that deliver a social impact? • Level of creativity in overcoming challenges. • How has the firm/team demonstrated resilience and adaptability?

Sustainability 10%	• Does the team demonstrate the adoption of sustainability principles (e.g. climate change mitigation and adaptation, waste reduction, biodiversity conservation, social value creation)? • Have the sustainability achievements of the team been quantified in numerical terms? Environmental impact: • Does the team make efforts to measure and reduce the carbon emissions of its projects? • Does the team make efforts to quantify and improve the biodiversity impact of its projects? Social impact: • Does the team engage meaningfully with the communities impacted by its projects? • Does the team promote and educate stakeholders about sustainability? • How is the team creating better places and spaces for future generations? Health and well-being: • How has the team actively contributed to people's health and well-being?
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Proptech Company of the Year

Recognising the start-ups, and aspiring entrepreneurs in the prop tech industry that have harnessed technological innovation to revolutionise the real estate industry, offering cutting-edge solutions, digital platforms, and disruptive technologies that enhance efficiency, transparency, and customer experience, while making a significant impact in the prop tech sector of real estate.

Proptech Company of the Year Award Assessment Criteria

Professionalism 20%	• Use of surveying knowledge and/or professional expertise in areas such as technical, financial, legal, environmental, building regulation, sustainability, and restoration where applicable, to achieve outcomes. • Demonstrated adherence to RICS ethics. • Demonstration of using the most appropriate procurement method for engaging contractors / suppliers (if applicable). • Demonstration of the ability to resolve disputes. • Demonstration of how international standards have been adopted will be an advantage.
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Teamwork / Collaboration 20%	• Effective coordination of skillsets among members of the team and with stakeholders. • A demonstrated commitment to diversity and inclusion within the firm/team and their work. How does the firm/team embrace diversity and contribute to a more inclusive profession? • Contribution of the team to social outcomes. • Demonstration of RICS Standards adopted.
Outcome and Achievement 20%	• Measurable success of team/project outcomes against predefined targets. • Client and or occupier/user or public satisfaction – including testimonials. • Team demonstrates best practices in appropriate profession (building surveying, valuation, facilities management, etc.). • Challenges overcome in the process relative to complexity. What were the difficulties or unique challenges? How were these challenges overcome? • Cost effectiveness. How was cost managed effectively against a predefined target? • Timely completion. Demonstration of how the project is managed effectively with respect to time.
Thought Innovation 30%	• Was an innovative approach used to deliver an outcome? What was this approach (technology, planning, procurement, construction) and why was this used over more conventional solutions? • How is the firm/team delivering an innovative approach which embraces new technologies? • Innovation in financing and viability. • Are innovative strategies embedded on projects or tasks that deliver a social impact? • Level of creativity in overcoming challenges. • How has the firm/team demonstrated resilience and adaptability?

Sustainability 10%	• Does the team demonstrate the adoption of sustainability principles (e.g. climate change mitigation and adaptation, waste reduction, biodiversity conservation, social value creation)? • Have the sustainability achievements of the team been quantified in numerical terms? Environmental impact: • Does the team make efforts to measure and reduce the carbon emissions of its projects? • Does the team make efforts to quantify and improve the biodiversity impact of its projects? Social impact: • Does the team engage meaningfully with the communities impacted by its projects? • Does the team promote and educate stakeholders about sustainability? • How is the team creating better places and spaces for future generations? Health and well-being: • How has the team actively contributed to people's health and well-being?
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Sustainability Award

This award demonstrates how innovation, design or construction techniques have been utilised by a team or client to address environmental challenges and improve the sustainability of the project outcome. The project should be completed in the 2025/2026 calendar year.

Sustainability Award Assessment Criteria

Professionalism 20%	• Recognised third party endorsements of the project as professionally outstanding. • Use of surveying knowledge and/or professional expertise in areas such as technical, financial, legal, environmental, building regulation, sustainability, and restoration where applicable, to achieve outcomes. • Demonstrated adherence to RICS ethics. • Demonstration of using the most appropriate procurement method for engaging contractors / suppliers (if applicable). • Demonstration of how international standards have been adopted will be an advantage.
Teamwork / Collaboration 10%	• Effective coordination of skillsets among members of the team and with stakeholders. • A demonstrated commitment to diversity and inclusion within the firm/team and their work. How does the firm/team embrace diversity and contribute to a more inclusive profession? • Contribution of the team to social outcomes. • Demonstration of RICS Standards adopted.

Outcome and Achievement 20%	• Measurable success of team/project outcomes against predefined targets. • Client and or occupier/user or public satisfaction – including testimonials. • Team demonstrates best practices in appropriate profession (building surveying, valuation, facilities management, etc.). • Challenges overcome in the process relative to complexity. What were the difficulties or unique challenges? How were these challenges overcome? • Cost effectiveness. How was cost managed effectively against a predefined target? • Timely completion. Demonstration of how the project is managed effectively with respect to time.
Thought Innovation 10%	• Was an innovative approach used to deliver an outcome? What was this approach (technology, planning, procurement, construction) and why was this used over more conventional solutions? • How is the firm/team delivering an innovative approach which embraces new technologies? • Innovation in financing and viability. • Are innovative strategies embedded on projects or tasks that deliver a social impact? • Level of creativity in overcoming challenges. • How has the firm/team demonstrated resilience and adaptability?

Sustainability 40%	• How does the project demonstrate the highest commitment to sustainability? • Has the environmental impact of the project been evaluated through an established methodology (e.g. lifecycle assessment)? Was any relevant certification achieved? • How does the project address the following categories of environmental sustainability? Climate change mitigation (i.e. carbon reductions) • Were the carbon emissions (embodied and/or operational) of the project (or the associated asset) measured and reduced? • How does the carbon footprint of the project compare to conventional practices? Climate change adaptation • How does the project increase asset resilience to climate change (e.g. extreme weather events)? • How does the project increase resilience to climate change? Resource efficiency and circular economy • Were efforts made to reduce resource use in comparison to conventional practices (e.g. material recovery/reuse)? • Were efforts made to ensure future activities (e.g. building demolition) can contribute to a circular economy (e.g. design for deconstruction)? Air, water and soil pollution • Did the project minimise (or reverse) the emission of pollutants to air, water and soil? Biodiversity • Did the project create the right conditions to increase the biodiversity of the local area? Water use • Were efforts made to quantify and reduce (fresh)water use Land use • Did the project deliver a change in land use that resulted in a positive environmental impact?
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Project / Development of the Year

This category recognises an outstanding project or development that has demonstrated excellence across planning, design, delivery, sustainability, innovation and long-term value creation. Open to projects completed during the 2025/2026 calendar year, the award celebrates developments that have delivered exceptional outcomes for clients, occupiers, communities and the wider built environment.

Eligible projects may include commercial, residential, mixed-use, infrastructure, hospitality, industrial, healthcare, education, refurbishment, heritage and conservation developments, as well as master-planned communities and environmental regeneration projects.

Project / Development of the Year Award Assessment Criteria

Professionalism 20%	• Use of surveying knowledge and professional expertise across technical, financial, legal, environmental and commercial disciplines to deliver successful project outcomes. • Demonstrated adherence to RICS ethics. • Appropriate procurement strategy and contract management. • Effective management of project risks and challenges. • Demonstration of how international standards have been adopted will be an advantage.
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Teamwork / Collaboration 10%	• Effective collaboration between clients, consultants, contractors and stakeholders. • Demonstrated commitment to diversity and inclusion. • Positive contribution to communities and end users. • Demonstration of RICS Standards adopted throughout project delivery.
Outcome and Achievement 30%	• Measurable success against project objectives. • Client, occupier and stakeholder satisfaction, including testimonials where applicable. • Successful management of project complexity and risk. • Delivery within agreed budget and programme. • Demonstrated long-term value creation for owners, occupiers and communities. • Evidence of future resilience and adaptability.
Thought Innovation 30%	• Innovative approaches to planning, design, procurement, construction or project delivery. • Adoption of digital technologies, modern methods of construction or smart infrastructure. • Innovation that enhances commercial viability, operational performance or user experience. • Creative solutions that overcome project challenges. • Demonstrated resilience and adaptability throughout the project lifecycle.

Sustainability 10 %	• Adoption of sustainable development principles throughout the project lifecycle. • Quantifiable environmental and social outcomes. • Reduction in carbon emissions, waste and resource consumption. • Contribution to healthier, more resilient and inclusive places. • Positive environmental and community legacy.
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Digital Innovation Award (BIM / AI / Digital Transformation)

This category recognises a project team or organisation that has successfully harnessed digital innovation to transform project delivery, asset management or client outcomes within the built and natural environment. The award celebrates excellence in the adoption of Building Information Modelling (BIM), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Digital Twins, ISO 19650, automation, data analytics and other digital technologies that improve collaboration, efficiency, decision-making and whole-life asset performance. Projects or initiatives should have been completed during 2025/2026.

Digital Innovation Award Assessment Criteria

Professionalism 20%	• Demonstrated application of professional expertise in implementing digital technologies. • Adherence to RICS ethics and recognised industry standards. • Effective governance of digital information and data management. • Demonstration of recognised digital standards, including ISO 19650 where appropriate. • Evidence of quality assurance and information management best practice.
Teamwork / Collaboration 20%	• Successful coordination across multidisciplinary teams. • Demonstrated commitment to knowledge sharing and digital capability development. • Promotion of collaborative working through digital innovation.
Outcome and Achievement 20%	• Measurable improvements in project delivery, productivity or operational performance. • Client satisfaction and measurable business benefits. • Demonstrated return on investment from digital implementation. • Successful management of implementation challenges. • Improved decision-making through digital information.

Thought Innovation 30%	• Innovative use of BIM, AI, Digital Twins, automation or advanced analytics. • Adoption of emerging technologies to improve project outcomes. • Creative digital solutions that transform traditional working practices. • Demonstrated leadership in digital transformation. • Resilience and adaptability in adopting new technologies.
Sustainability 10%	• Demonstrated use of digital technologies to support sustainable project delivery. • Reduction in waste, carbon emissions or resource consumption through digital innovation. • Improved operational efficiency and whole-life asset performance. • Contribution to more sustainable and resilient built environments.

Individual Awards

Construction Professional of the Year

Presented to an outstanding individual for excellence in quantity surveying, project management, land or building surveying or building control. The Construction Professional of the Year award recognises achievement in construction projects during 2025/2026. The successful candidate will demonstrate how their work has combined the highest professional, ethical and industry standards to deliver superior results and outcomes for clients and stakeholders.

Real Estate Professional of the Year

Presented to an outstanding individual involved in property management, facilities management, valuation or acquiring/selling or leasing a commercial, industrial or retail property. The Real Estate Professional of the Year award recognises achievement in real estate projects during 2025/2026. The selected professional will represent the highest professional ethics, demonstrate their use of standards in their day to day activities and embody the excellence expected of the recipient of such a prestigious award.

Woman of the Built Environment Award

The Woman of the Built Environment award recognises the outstanding contributions and achievements of women to our industry. The award celebrates inspirational role models to inspire the next generation of diverse professionals. Women from all disciplines of the industry are encouraged to enter.

Emerging Achiever of the Year

The future of our profession rests on the shoulders of emerging professionals. The Emerging Achiever of the Year award acknowledges one outstanding individual who has achieved excellence in their field. The individual selected will embody the highest standards of professionalism, be a role-model for their peers and be capable of making an outstanding contribution to the profession in the course of their future career. The Emerging Achiever of the Year must have less than 10 years' professional experience to be eligible.

Professional Development Champion of the Year

Presented to an outstanding individual who has made an exceptional contribution to the development of the surveying profession through mentoring, coaching, training and professional education during 2025/2026. The award recognises individuals who have demonstrated excellence in supporting APC and Fellowship candidates, delivering CPD, promoting lifelong learning and giving back to the profession through the development of others.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Recognising commitment to RICS and the wider profession, the Lifetime Achievement Award is the most prestigious award for built environment professionals. The presentation of this award is subject to the determination of the judging panel that the recipient is worthy of this significant honour.

Individual Awards Assessment Criteria

Nominations in the individual awards categories are assessed alongside two overarching criteria:

- Recognised outstanding performance and achievement in the workplace; and
- Recognised contribution to the profession and the wider community with a weighting against five categories, which are:

Professionalism 20%	• Recognised third party endorsements as professionally outstanding. How does the Individual demonstrate the highest standards of professionalism and service? • Use of surveying knowledge and/or professional expertise in areas such as, finance, legal, environment, and sustainability to achieve outcomes. • Demonstrated adherence to RICS ethics. • Adoption of international standards will be an advantage but is not essential. • How does the Individual's professional advice help deliver a positive impact on the environment?
Teamwork / Collaboration 10%	• Effective coordination of skillsets among members of the team and with stakeholders. • A demonstrated commitment to diversity and inclusion in their work. How does the individual embrace diversity and contribute to a more inclusive profession? • Contribution of the Individual to social outcomes. • Demonstration of RICS Standards adopted.
Outcome and Achievement 30%	• Measurable success of achieved outcomes against predefined targets. • Client and or occupier/user or public satisfaction – including testimonials. • Demonstrates best practices in appropriate profession (building surveying, valuation, facilities management, etc.).

	- Challenges overcome in the process relative to complexity. What were the difficulties or unique challenges? How were these challenges overcome? - Cost effectiveness. How was cost managed effectively against a predefined target? - Timely completion. Demonstration of how the project is managed effectively with respect to time.
Thought Innovation 20%	- Was an innovative approach used to deliver an outcome? What was this approach (technology, planning, procurement, construction) and why was this used over more conventional solutions? - How is the Individual delivering an innovative approach which embraces new technologies? - Innovation in financing and viability. - Are innovative strategies embedded on projects or tasks that deliver a social impact? - Level of creativity in overcoming challenges. - How has the Individual demonstrated resilience and adaptability?
Sustainability 20%	- Does the Individual demonstrate the adoption of sustainability principles (e.g. climate change mitigation and adaptation, waste reduction, biodiversity conservation, social value creation)? - Have the sustainability achievements of the Individual been quantified in numerical terms? Environmental impact: - Does the Individual make efforts to measure and reduce the carbon emissions of projects? - Does the Individual make efforts to quantify and improve the biodiversity impact of projects? Social impact: - Does the Individual engage meaningfully with the communities impacted by projects? - Does the Individual promote and educate stakeholders about sustainability? - How is the Individual creating better places and spaces for future generations? Health and well-being: - How has the Individual actively contributed to people's health and well-being?

