

## **NEW**

### **Best Paper Competition**

We are pleased to announce that SPIL'25 Conference and its parent PRISE Foundation (<https://prise-know.science/foundation/>) have partnered with the SDEWES Centre ([www.sdwes.org](http://www.sdwes.org)) to secure a Special Issue in the Journal of Sustainable Development of Natural Resources Management ([JSNAREMA](http://jsdnarema.com)). The provisional title of the Special Issue is "Sustainable Stewardship of Natural Resources".

Under the PRISE sponsorship, SPIL'25 Conference has set up a competition for Best Paper. The conditions are as follows:

- Eligible for the award is any article submitted to the JSNAREMA journal before July 1, 2025 which also has a counterpart entry for presenting the corresponding work at the SPIL'25 Conference.
- All abstracts submitted to the SPIL'25 Conference until July 1, 2025 are eligible for the competition, as long as the manuscripts are submitted to JSNAREMA by the deadline.
- Abstracts for both online and in-person presentation modes are eligible.
- The application package must include the manuscript submitted to (or accepted by) JSNAREMA, optionally also adding a PDF copy of the presentation/poster prepared for the conference.
- The authors who wish to take part in the competition should email the application package to the secretary of the Conference Chair before the conference start date on the following emails:
  - To: "Dr Sin Yong Teng" <[sinyong.teng@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:sinyong.teng@maastrichtuniversity.nl)>
  - CC: [SPIL.Secretary@prise-know.tech](mailto:SPIL.Secretary@prise-know.tech)

The corresponding author of the selected Best Paper will be awarded a conference fee waiver for SPIL'26 to be held in the year 2026. This covers any of the conference modes – online or in-person. The award voucher will be handed over at the award session during the SPIL'25 Gala Dinner or posted to the winner.

The evaluation procedure will follow the workflow of peer reviews as follows:

- (1) The award committee will be formed, as listed next.
- (2) Each application package will be sent to 3 of the award committee members for review.
- (3) The reviewers will deliver substantiated assessments for each application, ranking it in the range 1..100 (1 meaning poor and 100 outstanding).
- (4) The application collecting the highest ranking score wins the prize. In the case of more than one application collecting the highest ranking score, the award committee will convene in full and select the winner after reviewing the submitted materials and voting.

The evaluation criteria to be applied by the award committee include:

- Importance, relevance and novelty of the article topic and goals;

- Degree of innovation – novel formulations, concepts, ideas, algorithms, models;
- Clarity of presentation – including reasonable explanations, substantiation of the statements by reasoning and references, and reader guidance;
- Significance of the results for the state-of-the-art, decision-makers and other stakeholders.