

## **Eni Award 2017 launched a new section dedicated to African young researchers**

### **The Debut in Research: Young talents from Africa**

Eni is one of the most important, vertically integrated energy companies in the world. It operates in the oil, natural gas, electricity production, engineering, construction and petrochemical products sectors. It is constantly committed in growing in research, production and transportation activities, as well as in the conversion and trading of hydrocarbons. Eni is also involved in several scientific research projects on renewable energies, particularly in the major areas of biofuels and solar energy. Operating in about eighty- five countries in a responsible way towards its stakeholders, Eni invests in people and their empowerment, and it takes part to development through the integration of social, environmental and cultural issues in the growth process, in full respect of rights and diversities.

Eni has always supported the application of science to the energy industry. In 2007, in recognition of this commitment, Eni launched the Eni Award, an international competition open to the best research projects relating to efficiency, sustainability and environmental protection.

The Eni Award aims to award research and technological innovation in the fields of energy and the environment, recognizing the best results from around the world in the field of hydrocarbon sciences, the environment and renewable energy, to promote a better use of energy sources and to stimulate new generations of researchers, a demonstration of the importance given by Eni to scientific research and innovation.

The selection process involves the most important scientific institutions in the world, as well as the company's own in-house laboratories. Eni vision is that it will come to be regarded as a sort of Nobel Prize for Energy – a wide-ranging initiative bringing together a network of first-class scientific researchers. Its particular focus is young researchers in the field of energy and the environment.

The prize over the years has become an international benchmark for research in the field of energy and the environment. In this edition the Prize has been completely redesigned in order to focus on technological innovation aimed at enhancing decarbonisation of the energy system, access to energy in developing countries and environmental protection and recovery.

Starting from this year The Eni Award Organizing Committee launched the new section:

### **The Debut in Research: Young talents from Africa**

The purpose of the Debut in Research: Young Talents from Africa Prize is to help new generations of African researchers to emerge, offering them the opportunity to attend a

post-graduate course (e.g. a doctoral course) in cooperation with prestigious Italian universities and research institutes and supporting their research and innovation on the various scientific topics promoted by Eni award: decarbonisation and energy transition, new energy frontiers and advanced environmental solutions.

The Prize is addressed to researchers holding a Master's degree, a postgraduate diploma or any equivalent academic qualification granting access to a doctoral course in an Italian university (the two scholarships consist, indeed, in financial support for the attendance of a post-graduate/doctoral course in an Italian university or research institute). In order to participate, the theses must have been defended at an African University during 2016 or 2015.

The Prizes will be assigned to the winning candidates, proclaimed by the Organizing Committee within May 2017.