

HOW TO APPLY – GUIDELINES AND CHECKLIST

THE UNESCO KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL-KHALIFA PRIZE FOR THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICTs) IN EDUCATION

- Established in 2005, sponsored by the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain
- Consists of a sum of US\$50,000 (a cheque and a diploma) to be equally divided between two prize winners

WHO CAN ENTER?

The Prize is awarded to individuals, institutions, other entities or non-governmental organizations for excellent models, best practice, and creative use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to enhance learning, teaching and overall educational performance.

Presentation of candidatures and submission of nominations

Candidatures must be presented by the government of a Member State of UNESCO or an international non-governmental organization, maintaining formal consultative relations with UNESCO and active in the relevant fields covered by the Prize. Each government or international non-governmental organization is entitled to nominate only three candidates per year. A self-nomination cannot be considered.

Eligibility criteria

The Prize shall be awarded to individuals, institutions, other entities or non-governmental organizations in recognition for projects/activities demonstrating effective and innovative use of ICTs, which:

- have a multiplier effect at local, national or regional level by reaching the greatest possible number of learners and raising the quality of teaching and learning;
- result in the development of original teaching and learning materials/products which promote a learner-centred pedagogy and encourage collaboration and networking in an open and flexible environment;
- mainstream the use of technologies in education and their seamless integration into the curriculum at all levels and across disciplines;
- promote the development, adaptation, dissemination and reuse of open educational resources;
- encourage research and development to facilitate accessibility of technologies for all, including marginalized, disadvantaged and vulnerable people;
- address major digital and gender divide issues at local, national or regional level.

ANNEX I

STATUTES OF THE UNESCO KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL-KHALIFA PRIZE FOR THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN EDUCATION

Article 1 – Purpose

The purpose of the UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Education is to reward projects and activities of individuals, institutions, other entities or non-governmental organizations for excellent models, best practice, and creative use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to enhance learning, teaching and overall educational performance. The objective of the Prize is in conformity with UNESCO's policies and is in line with the Organization's Strategic Objectives 1, 2, and 9, as laid out in the Medium-Term Strategy for 2014-2021, namely: "supporting Member States to develop education systems to foster high quality and inclusive lifelong opportunities for all"; "empowering learners to be creative and responsible global citizens"; and "promoting freedom of expression, media development and access to information and knowledge".

Article 2 – Designation, amount and periodicity of the Prize

2.1 The Prize shall be entitled "UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Education".

2.2. The Prize shall be funded by the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and shall consist of a one-time contribution sum of US \$758,600, which shall cover both the monetary value of the Prize and the costs of administering the Prize. Any interest that may accrue will be added to the overall contribution. As determined by the Director-General and in consultation with the Donor, the Prize shall consist of a sum of US\$ 50,000 to be equally divided between two prize-winners.

2.3 All funds received and the interest accrued thereon shall be kept in a special interest-bearing account for the Prize (see Financial Regulations in Annex II).

2.4 The full staff support and operating/management costs of the Prize, including all costs related to the award ceremony and public information activities, estimated at a maximum of US \$458,600, shall be fully covered by the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain. To this end, the Director-General shall determine a mandatory overhead cost amount to be applied and charged against the funds in the Special Account, which is to be established under the Financial Regulations of the Prize.

2.5 The Prize shall be awarded every year for a six-year period, starting from the 2015 edition of the Prize, it being understood that this period may be adjusted to take into consideration fluctuations in administration costs.

Article 3 – Conditions/Qualifications of candidates

Candidates shall have made a significant contribution to the creative use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to enhance learning, teaching and overall educational performance. Prizes may be conferred upon individuals, institutions, other entities or non-governmental organizations.

Article 4 – Designation/Selection of the prize-winners

The two prize-winners shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of the assessments and recommendations made to her by a jury.

Article 5 – Jury

5.1 The Jury shall consist of five independent members, being personalities with a recognized reputation in the field covered while also taking into consideration the need for equitable geographical distribution, gender equality and the principle of non-payment of honoraria. They shall be appointed by the Director-General for a period of two-years, eligible for re-election for a maximum term of three consecutive two-year periods. Representatives and alternates of Members of the Executive Board cannot be appointed as jurors. Jurors involved in a real or potential conflict of interest shall recuse themselves from further deliberations or be asked by the Director-General to do so. The Director-General may replace members of the Jury for reason.

5.2 The Jury shall elect its own Chair and Deputy Chair. Members shall receive no remuneration for their work, but will receive allowances for travel and accommodation, where required. A quorum of three jurors present will be required for Jury deliberations to proceed. The working languages for deliberations by the Jury shall be English and French.

5.3 The Jury shall conduct its business and deliberations in conformity with these Statutes, and shall be assisted in the performance of its task by a member of the UNESCO Secretariat designated by the Director-General. Decisions shall be taken by consensus to the extent possible, and otherwise by secret ballot until a simple majority is obtained. A member shall not take part in a vote concerning a nomination from his or her country.

5.4 The Jury shall meet once every year.

5.5 The Jury shall send an assessment of nominations and accompanying recommendations to the Director-General of UNESCO no later than 20 November of the year of the Jury's meeting.

Article 6 – Nomination of candidates

6.1 When UNESCO has received the funding of the Prize, as indicated in Article 2 above, the Director-General of UNESCO shall officially invite the submission of nominations to the Secretariat of the Prize by 30 September every year from the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, as well as from the non-governmental organizations maintaining official partnerships with the Organization and active in the field covered by the Prize.

6.2 Nominations shall be submitted to the Director-General by the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, and by non-governmental organizations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO. A self-nomination cannot be considered.

6.3 Each nomination shall be accompanied by a written recommendation, which shall include, in English or French, *inter alia*:

- (a) a description of the candidate's background and achievements;
- (b) a summary of the work or the results of the work, publications and other supporting documents of major importance, submitted for consideration;
- (c) a definition of the candidate's contribution to the Prize's objectives.

Article 7 – Procedure for the awarding of the Prize

7.1 The Prize shall be awarded by the Director-General at an official ceremony held for that purpose at UNESCO Headquarters in January, the date to be mutually agreed upon. UNESCO shall present to the prize-winners a cheque for the amount of the Prize as well as a diploma. UNESCO shall officially announce the names of the prize-winners.

7.2 If a work being rewarded has been produced by two or more persons, the Prize shall be awarded to them jointly. In no case may a prize amount be divided between more than three persons.

7.3 The prize winners, if possible, shall give a lecture on a subject relevant to the work for which the Prize has been awarded. Such a lecture shall be organized during or in connection with the Prize ceremony.

7.4 The work produced by a person since deceased shall not be considered for the Prize. If, however, a prize winner dies before he or she has received the Prize, then the Prize may be presented posthumously.

7.5 Should a prize winner decline the Prize, the jury shall submit a new proposal to the Director-General.

Article 8 – Sunset clause – mandatory renewal of the Prize

8.1 Six months prior to the agreed end of the term of the Prize, the Director-General of UNESCO together with the donor will undertake a review of all aspects of the Prize and decide about its continuation or termination. The Director-General will inform the Executive Board of UNESCO about the results of this review.

8.2 In case of termination of the Prize, the use of any unspent balance of funds shall be determined by the Director-General, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Prize.

Article 9 – Appeals

No appeals shall be allowed against the decision of UNESCO with regard to the award of the Prize. Proposals received for the award of the Prize may not be divulged.

Article 10 – Amendments to the Statues of the Prize

Any amendment to the present Statutes shall be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

In addition, the criteria below shall be taken into consideration:

- duration of projects/activities must be of at least a year to permit an assessment of results and proof of success;
- contribution to local, national and/or regional education priorities and challenges;
- innovation and openness of content and tools;
- collaboration and networking potential;
- leveragability of the project/activity by players in other regions;
- evidence of sustainability for mid- to long-term application;
- success/impact of the respective technology on transforming a particular aspect of education on a small or large scale;
- the project/activity should be a first time nomination for a Prize of this kind.

Selection process

The two prizewinners shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of the assessments and recommendations made to him by an international jury. The jury, appointed by the Director-General of UNESCO for a renewable period of two years, shall consist of five independent members, of different nationalities and gender.

HOW TO APPLY?

Applications are made by national governments or international non-governmental organizations, maintaining formal consultative relations with UNESCO, which are requested to consider the following steps:

- widely inform all stakeholders involved in ICT-enhanced educational activities about the Prize (public/private educational institutions; local newspapers, radio and TV companies; private companies);
- set up a selection committee or panel to screen the candidates;
- select the most deserving candidates and work with them to prepare their files for submission to UNESCO.

Each nomination shall be accompanied by the submission form.

Deadline for submission: 10 November 2015

Checklist for governments and international non-governmental organizations

Before sending your submission to UNESCO, please check that the following are included:

- the submission form accompanied by its supplementary documents (item 11);
- a letter of endorsement from the government or international non-governmental organization.

WHERE TO SEND THE NOMINATIONS?

The nominations should be sent through your permanent Delegation to UNESCO or your organization to the address below, which can be contacted for any further information:

UNESCO

Unit for ICT in Education

(Secretariat for the UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of ICTs in Education)

Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems

Education Sector

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