

**Indian National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of Higher Education**

UNESCO has called for applications for the UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in Education for the year 2023. The Relevant details are on the next page.

The applications should be submitted to the Indian National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO (INCCU) latest by 7th January, 2024, at the following address for further consideration and onward transmission to UNESCO.

**Ms. Madhu Bala Soni
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of Higher Education
Room No. 203-A 'C' Wing
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi - 110001
Contact No.: +91-11- 2338 4442
E-mail: inc.edu@nic.in**

Ref.: CL/4459

Subject: Call for nominations – 2023 UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Education

Dear Minister,

I am pleased to inform you that nominations are now open for the 2023 edition of the UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Education.

Established in 2005 with support from the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Prize rewards projects that use new technologies to enhance learning and teaching.

The 2023 edition of the Prize will focus on the theme “**Digital learning for greening education**”. It will be awarded to initiatives that use digital technology to develop innovative and inclusive climate pedagogies. Selected programmes must give learners the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, values and skills to tackle climate disruption and promote sustainable development.

By encouraging synergies between public digital learning and green education, and by showcasing best practices in this field, this edition of the Prize addresses several objectives of the Transforming Education Summit that took place in 2022.

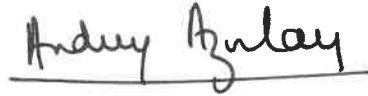
Two prize-winners will be chosen based on the recommendations of an international jury. Each laureate will receive a diploma and a monetary award of US \$25,000.

Applications must be submitted online in English or French by **5 February 2024** at the latest. UNESCO encourages Member States to set up a national selection process and present up to three candidates via their National Commission.

More information about the theme of the 2023 edition and application procedures are available at the following link: <https://www.unesco.org/en/prizes/ict-education>. The Statutes of the Prize are attached for your reference and are available online.

The Secretariat of the Prize (tel.: +33 1 45 68 23 42; e-mail: ictprize@unesco.org) remains at your disposal for any queries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Audrey Azoulay", written over a horizontal line.

Audrey Azoulay
Director-General

Enclosure: Statutes of the UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Education

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO
Field Offices of UNESCO
UNESCO Category 1 Institutes for Education

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 (ICT) 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 (ICT) to enhance learning, teaching and overall educational performance. The objective of the Prize is in conformity with UNESCO's mandate and policies and with the Organization's Strategic Objectives 1, 2, and 9, as laid out in the Medium-Term Strategy for 2014-2021. In line with SDG 4 – Education 2030 as well as the Qingdao Declaration and Beijing Consensus on Artificial Intelligence and Education, the Prize advocates for the ethical use of technologies to accelerate the achievement of inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all.

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 (ICT) 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 2021 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 (ICT) 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 14 days after the completion of the deliberations of the Jury.

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 15 October 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. It is understood that the deadline may be adjusted to take into consideration unprecedented crises or emergencies.

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 or online based on the agreement with the Government of Bahrain no later than 31 March, 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, any unspent balance of funds shall be returned to the donor unless otherwise agreed, 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 Statutes of the Prize

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

UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Education

2023 Guidelines

Theme: Digital learning for greening education

The deadline for nominations: 5 February 2024

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2023 theme

The 2023 edition of the Prize will focus on the theme “**Digital learning for greening education**”. It will be awarded to initiatives that use digital technology to develop innovative and inclusive climate pedagogies. Selected programmes must give learners the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, values and skills to tackle climate disruption and promote sustainable development. By encouraging synergies between public digital learning and green education, and by showcasing best practices in this field, this edition of the Prize addresses several priority areas identified at the Transforming Education Summit that took place in 2022.

Who can apply?

Individuals, institutions, non-governmental organizations or other entities

Eligibility criteria

- The project is in line with the objectives of the Prize and is relevant to the theme of the year
- The project should be ongoing for at least 1 year
- The project and its organization should not be affiliated with UNESCO or receive any funding from UNESCO

- The project should be public and free of charge

Selection criteria

- **Appropriateness of digital solutions:** The project is backed by needs assessment and applies fit-for-purpose technologies to provide safe, inclusive and robust tools
- **Pedagogy innovation:** The project adopts pedagogical methodologies adapted for climate education to facilitate digital learning and learner engagement
- **Inclusion and equity:** The project should advance inclusion and equity in education while taking into account marginalized groups, minorities, and learners with different abilities
- **Evidence of impact:** The project should provide evidence of impact on learners reached and pre-set learning outcomes
- **Potential for replicability and scalability:** The project should show evidence that it can be replicated in other contexts or have the potential to further optimize and scale its impact

NOTE: The Prize is not a grant scheme to support new projects or organizations. The Prize is aimed at recognizing already implemented projects and activities or individuals/institutions/organizations for the creative use of technologies in education, teaching, and learning.

For Candidates: How to submit an application and ask for a nomination?



1. **Contact nominating entity:** If your project/programme meets the criteria, please get in contact as soon as possible with an appropriate nominating entity to inform about your interest in applying for the Prize.
 - [List of National Commissions for UNESCO](#)
 - [List of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO](#)

2. **Create your account:** Request a user account and indicate through which entity you will apply at : www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize/register
3. **Go to the online platform** accessible at www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize and start filling in the online application form in **English** or **French**.
4. **Present your project/programme** in a clear and structured way, following the instructions given in the form and respecting the indicated word limit. All supporting materials (e.g. publications, photos, videos) must be transmitted electronically through the online system.
5. **Ensure that your project is nominated**

If you want to be nominated by your country's National Commission	If you want to be nominated by an NGO in official partnership with UNESCO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fill in the application and submit it via UNESCO online platform for review and possible nomination of the concerned National Commission ➤ If selected, the National Commission will provide the nomination via UNESCO online platform and submit it to the Prize Secretariat ➤ Please note that a National Commission can nominate only up to 3 submissions <p>We strongly recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Contact your country's National Commission already while filling in the application * Some countries may have the national selection process and internal deadlines for submission. This is why it is essential to get in contact with the relevant National Commission from the very beginning of the application process in order to submit your application in line with the National Commission deadline and guidelines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify an NGO in official partnership with UNESCO ➤ Provide this NGO with information about your project and ask for a nomination ➤ Receive a nomination (in form of a letter) and attach it to your online application ➤ Submit the application to the Prize Secretariat via UNESCO online platform

Please note that **self-nominations cannot be considered**. Any submission form **not nominated** by the National Commission or an NGO in official partnership with UNESCO will not be accepted by the Secretariat.

Difficulties in reaching an appropriate nominating entity: please contact the Prize Secretariat.

For Nominating Entities - National Commissions for UNESCO and NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO: How to nominate?

1. **Screen your candidates:** Inform all involved stakeholders and set up a selection committee or panel to screen the candidates.
2. **Nominate up to three candidates:** Select the three best candidates, whose projects are in line with the theme. You are encouraged to work with the candidates to prepare their submission forms.

National Commission for UNESCO	NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO
<p>➤ National Commissions can access the platform with their generic UNESCO accounts. To access the nomination form, the National Commission should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the link provided to the application or access the online platform here: www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize • On the login page, enter the username (natcom.yourcountryname@natcom.unesco.org) • Enter the password associated with the UNESCO account of the National Commission. <p>➤ A National Commission can also initiate the process of nomination and submit an application on behalf of a candidate</p> <p>➤ To nominate a candidate, the National Commission should edit the online form by entering a written recommendation in the appropriate fields, in English or French, and explain why the project of the candidate deserves the Prize (max 350 words).</p> <p>* If due to technical problems, the National Commission cannot access the online platform to provide the nomination, it can issue a nomination letter or inform the Prize Secretariat by email.</p>	<p>➤ If solicited by a candidate and wishing to submit the nomination, you should provide a nomination letter to be attached by the candidate to the online form</p> <p>➤ An NGO can also submit an application on behalf of a candidate. To create and fill in the application, please see the guidelines for candidates.</p>

Should you require any clarification regarding the application or nomination process, please directly contact the Secretariat of the UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of ICT in education at UNESCO: ictprize@unesco.org

We look forward to receiving your nominations!