

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

## 2020 Guidelines

**Theme: The Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to enhance the continuity and quality of learning**

**The deadline for nominations: 18 December 2020**

### Contents

<b>2020 theme</b> .....	1
<b>Who can apply?</b> .....	1
<b>Criteria</b> .....	1
<b>For Candidates: How to submit an application and ask for a nomination?</b> .....	3
<b>For Nominating Entities - National Commissions for UNESCO and NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO: How to nominate?</b> .....	5

### 2020 theme

Technology innovations fuelled by Artificial Intelligence (AI) have the potential to locate and reach excluded and marginalized groups and provide relevant learning programmes for learners who are in crises and emergencies; accurately analyze difficulties faced by students studying in a language other than their mother tongue and facilitate the learning of foreign languages; and facilitate cost-efficient access to quality learning opportunities for large numbers of learners with physical and cognitive disabilities. Moreover, they can support teachers with a better diagnosis of learning problems and personally adaptive feedback to improve pedagogical responses.

In 2020, the Prize will award scalable AI-powered solutions or technology innovations that have proven effective in improving learning outcomes of marginalized groups while ensuring ethical and equitable use of these technologies in education. Special attention will be given to projects that provide education in remote areas or aim to improve the availability and affordability of connectivity for education and learning.

### Who can apply?

Individuals, institutions, non-governmental organizations or other entities

### Criteria

#### Eligibility criteria

- The project should be ongoing for at least for 1 year

- The project and its organization should not be affiliated to UNESCO or receive any funding from UNESCO
- The technology solutions used by the project should be designed completely for public good or for charitable purposes, meaning that they should not be the free parts of commercial applications or application packages that only offer limited functions free of charge while requesting users to pay for advanced functions

#### **Selection criteria**

- **Relevance to the Thematic Focus:** The project is in line with the objectives of the Prize and is relevant to the specific theme of the year
- **Innovation:** The project applies innovative technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enhanced solutions or blends AI and conventional technologies in a new innovative way
- **Evidence of Impact:** The project should provide evidence of improved learning outcomes of the targeted beneficiaries
- **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
- **Inclusion and Equity:** The project should use AI or innovative technologies to advance inclusion and equity in education, while taking into account marginalized groups, learners in crises and emergencies contexts and learners with physical or cognitive disabilities

The Prize is not a grant scheme aimed at supporting new projects or organizations. The Prize is aimed at recognizing already implemented projects and activities or individuals/institutions/organizations for the creative use of new 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.

Check out: [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](http://www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize/register)
3. **Go to the online platform** accessible at [www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize](http://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
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fill in the application and submit it via UNESCO online platform for review and possible nomination of the concerned National Commission</li> <li>➤ If selected, the National Commission will provide the nomination via UNESCO online platform and submit it to the Prize Secretariat</li> <li>➤ Please note that a National Commission can nominate only up to 3 submissions</li> </ul> <p>We strongly recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Contact your country's National Commission already while filling in the application</li> <li>* 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Identify an NGO in official partnership with UNESCO</li> <li>➤ Provide this NGO with information about your project and ask for a nomination</li> <li>➤ Receive a nomination ( in a form of a letter) and attach it to your online application</li> <li>➤ Submit the application to the Prize Secretariat via UNESCO online platform</li> </ul>
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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 2020 edition 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"> <li>• Follow the link provided to the application or access the online platform here: <a href="http://www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize">www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize</a></li> <li>• On the login page, enter the username (natcom.yourcountryname@natcom.unesco.org)</li> <li>• Enter the password associated with the UNESCO account of the National Commission.</li> </ul> <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](mailto:ictprize@unesco.org)

**We look forward to receiving your nominations!**