

## UNESCO International Literacy Prizes

The current UNESCO International Literacy Prizes are:

- **UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize**  
*Supporting literacy in multilingual contexts*
- **UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy**  
*Supporting literacy in rural areas*

Every biennium, the United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD 2003-2012), focuses on a specific theme:

- 2003-2004 Literacy and Gender
- 2005-2006 Literacy and Sustainable Development
- 2007-2008 Literacy and Health
- 2009-2010 Literacy and Empowerment
- 2011-2012 Literacy and Peace

Candidatures should take into account the theme of the UNLD while also considering the specificity of each Prize.

## Promoting excellence and innovation for a literate world

## UNESCO International Literacy Prizes



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация  
Объединенных Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للترجمة والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织



Every year, the **UNESCO  
International Literacy Prizes**

reward excellence and innovation in the field of literacy throughout the world. By honouring the work of institutions, organizations and individuals through these Prizes, UNESCO seeks to support effective literacy practices and encourages the promotion of dynamic literate societies.

## Call for candidatures

Every year, UNESCO invites Member States and International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs)\* maintaining formal consultative relations with the Organization to solicit and submit candidatures to the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes.

## Who can apply

Institutions, organizations or individuals promoting literacy through effective and innovative programmes or projects.

## How to apply

The candidatures must be submitted to the Director-General either by Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions for UNESCO, or by International Non-Governmental Organizations maintaining formal relations with UNESCO. Each nomination must be accompanied by a written recommendation. A self-nomination cannot be considered.

Each government or INGO is entitled to nominate only **two candidates per year**.

The files must be in English or French only.

## Selection process

The selection of prizewinners is made by an International Jury appointed by UNESCO's Director-General which meets in Paris once a year. The Prize is normally awarded at an official ceremony held for that purpose at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on the occasion of International Literacy Day (8 September).

\* The list of International Non-Governmental Organizations maintaining formal relations with UNESCO is available at <http://erc.unesco.org/ong>

## The application process

### A complete application should include:

1. The questionnaire duly completed.
2. The written recommendation by the Government of a Member State or by an International Non-governmental Organization (INGO) maintaining formal relations with UNESCO.
3. Accompanying supportive material.

The submissions should reach the secretariat either electronically or via regular mail. Candidates are encouraged to download the questionnaire from the UNESCO web site, complete it and send it electronically to the following e-mail: [literacyprizes@unesco.org](mailto:literacyprizes@unesco.org)

To download the questionnaire, go to: [www.unesco.org/education/en/literacy/prizes](http://www.unesco.org/education/en/literacy/prizes)

Alternatively, candidates can refer to the questionnaire attached to this guide.

The accompanying supportive material should be sent by regular mail to the following address:

**Literacy Prizes Secretariat**  
United Nations Literacy Decade Coordination Unit  
Division for the Coordination of United Nations Priorities in Education  
UNESCO Education Sector  
7, place de Fontenoy,  
75 352 PARIS 07 SP, France

Tel.: + 33 1 45 680 952

Fax: + 33 1 45 68 56 26/27

E-mail: [literacyprizes@unesco.org](mailto:literacyprizes@unesco.org)

[www.unesco.org/education/en/literacy/prizes](http://www.unesco.org/education/en/literacy/prizes)

**DEADLINE FOR RECEPTION OF APPLICATIONS:  
30 JUNE**

**Learn more:**

[www.unesco.org/education/en/literacy/prizes](http://www.unesco.org/education/en/literacy/prizes)

