

2023 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation

REGULATIONS | Cultural Heritage Conservation

Article 1 – Objective

- 1.1 The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation (“the Awards”) recognize the achievement of the private sector and public-private initiatives in successfully conserving or restoring structures, places and properties of heritage value in the region.

Article 2 – Award and Frequency

- 2.1 The Awards, which are established for an indeterminate period, shall be awarded on an annual basis.
- 2.2 The Awards shall consist of a number of winners to be determined by the Jury in the following categories:
- Award of Excellence**, which demonstrates exceptional achievement in all criteria and has a major catalytic impact at the national or regional level;
 - Award of Distinction**, which demonstrates outstanding achievement in all criteria and has a significant impact at the national or regional level;
 - Award of Merit**, which demonstrates superior achievement in all criteria;
 - Special Recognition for Sustainable Development**, which demonstrates noteworthy achievement in all criteria and has a significant impact in contributing to sustainable development.
- 2.3 Each Award winner will receive a plaque.
- 2.4 Certificates of recognition will be presented to all parties included on the entry form.
- 2.5 The format and number of the Awards may be varied from time to time at the discretion of UNESCO and the Jury.
- 2.6 The Awards will be made out in the name stated in the project entry form.

Article 3 – Eligibility for the Awards

- 3.1 The following are eligible for consideration: residential, commercial and institutional buildings; religious properties; urban and rural settlements, historic towns and villages; archaeological heritage; cultural landscapes, parks and gardens; military properties; modern heritage; agricultural, industrial and technological properties; burial monuments and sites; cultural routes; vernacular architecture; and symbolic properties and memorials.
- 3.2 The project must be the result of private sector initiative or public-private partnership. The involvement of private individuals or organizations in terms of ownership, tenancy, financing or other contributions to the project should be clear. Projects that are financed, owned and undertaken wholly by government entities are not eligible.
- 3.3 The work must have been completed within the preceding 10 years at the time of submission. For buildings with a new use, the project must also have been occupied or put to viable use for at least one year at the time of submission.

- 3.4 Entries that have been previously submitted will not be eligible for resubmission unless invited to do so by the Jury, or unless substantial additional restoration has been carried out since the previous submission.
- 3.5 Projects that are submitted for consideration to the new design category of the UNESCO Heritage Awards in the same year are not eligible for submission for the conservation category. Projects submitted to both categories will be disqualified.

Article 4 – Criteria for the Awards

4.1 The Awards recipients will have conclusively demonstrated excellence in:

Understanding the Place:

- a. How well the project reflects a sound understanding of the significance of the heritage place (cultural, social, historical, architectural, scientific and spiritual).
- b. How well the project conveys the spirit of the place.
- c. How well the project communicates the significance of the place through appropriate interpretation, if necessary.

Technical Achievement:

- d. How well the project addresses technical issues of conservation/restoration.
- e. Application of appropriate building, artisan, and conservation techniques, including traditional building practices.
- f. Application of appropriate materials.
- g. How well added elements or technical solutions respect and/or enhance the significance of the place.

Sustainability and Impact:

- h. The engagement of the local community in the conservation process.
- i. Sustainable use and preservation of heritage place through appropriate use, adaptation, maintenance, and strategic and financial planning.
- j. How well the project contributes to environmental sustainability and resilience of the heritage place.
- k. How well the project contributes to the local community's socio-economic wellbeing, cultural continuum, and development needs.
- l. How well the project fosters local knowledge and living heritage.
- m. How well the project contributes to enhancing the quality of the urban, rural, natural setting and spaces.
- n. The influence of the project on conservation practice and policy locally, nationally, regionally or internationally.

Article 5 – Jury and Selection Process

- 5.1 The Awards recipients shall be selected on the proposal of a Jury composed of 5 to 7 international conservation experts in the Asia-Pacific region who are not current staff members of UNESCO.
- 5.2 UNESCO shall appoint the Jury for the full period of the Awards process.
- 5.3 UNESCO Field Offices in the Asia-Pacific region shall be involved in the nomination of Jury members and in screening the entries for conformity with the Awards eligibility requirements.

5.4 The Jury shall confirm the projects' conformity with the Awards eligibility requirements and assess projects against the Awards criteria during the annual Jury meeting.

Article 6 – Conditions of Entry

- 6.1 Entries may be submitted by the registered owner, registered tenant, or conservation consultant, architect or designer, any of whom would have had to be involved in the process, preferably throughout the entire project duration.
- 6.2 Entries must be submitted to UNESCO before **30 June 2023**.
- 6.3 UNESCO will announce the result in **November 2023**.
- 6.4 The wording of plaques and certificates will be based strictly on the details given on the entry form.
- 6.5 All submitting persons or firms will be responsible for the delivery of their respective entries. Entry materials will not be returned.
- 6.6 One or more entries may be submitted by the same individual or institution.
- 6.7 Entries from under-represented localities and countries are encouraged, to diversify the pool of best practices identified through the programme.
- 6.8 All the information provided in the entry materials must be accurate, to the best of the submitter's knowledge, as of the date of submission. Otherwise, entries can be disqualified.
- 6.9 The project being submitted must not be involved in any on-going legal dispute.
- 6.10 All entry materials provided must be the property of the submitter or have been provided with the full consent of the authors/original owners.
- 6.11 Submission of an entry will be taken to imply granting UNESCO the rights to use, publish, display or communicate all materials and particulars of the successful schemes, without charge to UNESCO.
- 6.12 The use of the UNESCO logo for any purposes related to the Awards requires prior written authorization from UNESCO.

Article 7 – Materials Required for Submission

Each entry must be submitted with the following documentation in full:

- 7.1 Official entry form (submit online)
- 7.2 Project dossier (post to UNESCO by mail):
 - 7.2.1 The Awards project description (using the provided official format).
 - 7.2.2 Occupant's comments
 - 7.2.3 Owner consent
 - 7.2.4 Rights authorization form (copyright for drawings, illustrations and photographs)
 - 7.2.5 Drawings, A4 format or A3 format
 - 7.2.6 Photographs (before conservation – in process – after conservation – in use/ current state)
 - 7.2.7 USB Drive (including all documents required in PDF format, drawings and photographs preferably in high-resolution files)
- 7.3 Conservation Management Plan should be provided, if applicable
- 7.4 Additional materials (articles, videos, etc.) may be provided, as per guidelines

Entries that do not fulfil the submission requirements will not be presented to the Jury.