UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education

Explanatory note for the 2025 call for nominations

A. Background

Since 2000, there has been real progress made in advancing girls' and women's access to education at all levels. But far too many girls face persistent barriers to their education, particularly those in emergencies and in conflict-affected and fragile states.

Girls face particular challenges that prevent them from reaching their full potential, even when they have access to education. These include inadequate sanitation facilities, gender-based violence in and around school, child marriage, and gender norms and discrimination inside and outside of the classroom. Women make up 63% of the world's illiterate adults.

Educating a girl is one of the best investments her family, community, and country can make. Educated girls are more likely to be healthier, better paid in the workplace, and more empowered to participate in social, economic, civic and political affairs. This transformative effect contributes to a better world for us all.

The UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education rewards outstanding practices of individuals, institutions, non-governmental organizations and other entities advancing girls' and women's education. Established by the Executive Board of UNESCO at its 197th session and launched in 2016 with support from the government of the People's Republic of China, the Prize awards two laureates US$ 50,000 each to continue their work. The Prize contributes to two Sustainable Development Goals: "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all" (Goal 4) and "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" (Goal 5).

B. Nominations

Nominations can be made by Governments of UNESCO Member States via their Permanent Delegations to UNESCO, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in official partnership with UNESCO. Nominations must focus on an established project or programme designed to advance girls' and women's education. Each Permanent Delegation or NGO can make up to three nominations for any edition of the Prize. Self-nominations are not accepted. *See submission procedure below.*

C. Selection criteria

The two Prize laureates will be selected by UNESCO's Director-General on the basis of recommendations made by the Prize's independent International Jury which is made up of five experts in the field of girls' and women's education, representing all geographical regions.

The nominations will only be considered if the project/programme:

- has a clear focus on advancing girls' and women's education, the promotion of gender equality in and through education, and contributes to one or more of the five priority areas of the Prize:
  1. **Participation:** Supporting girls to transition from primary education to lower-secondary education and to complete full basic education
  2. **Literacy:** Supporting adolescent girls and young women to acquire literacy skills
  3. **Environment:** Supporting the creation of a gender-responsive and safe teaching-learning environment
  4. **Teachers:** Engaging teachers to be change agents with gender-responsive teaching attitudes and practices
  5. **Skills:** Supporting girls and women to acquire knowledge/skills for life and work
- has already been running for at least two years at the time of nomination (for example a project nominated in 2025 must have been active since May 2023);
- shows evidence that it may be replicable, scalable and/or provide significant learning potential for initiatives in other contexts.

Once it has passed the basic eligibility requirements, the project/ programme of the candidate will be assessed by the Jury based on the following three criteria:

1. Impact

The project/programme's impact should be qualitatively and/or quantitatively measureable and deliver tangible results relative to the invested resources. This can include demonstrable changes in:

- attitudes, beliefs and practices in favour of girls' and women's education.
- girls' educational participation, attendance, completion and learning outcomes; and/or
- removing barriers to girls' and women's education, such as gender bias and stereotypes.

2. Innovation

The project/programme stimulates, and/or draws on, innovative approaches advancing girls' and women's education. This includes new ways of working where "business as usual" has failed, and transformative "out-of-the-box" thinking and actions. The project/programme can demonstrate innovation in terms of:

- the themes covered;
- the methodology employed;
- the channels used to create change for girls' and women's education;
- the specific knowledge mobilized about gender-related aspects of girls' and women's education in order to elaborate innovative solutions; and/or
- other aspects, such as tools and products advancing girls' and women's education.

3. Sustainability

The project/programme has taken steps, ideally from its design or implementation phases, to ensure it will have a lasting impact on girls' and women's education beyond the project lifecycle. This may include efforts to ensure the:

- continuation of local action in favour of girls' and women's education;
- institutionalization of approaches, tools and products, to advance girls' and women's education;
- sustainable ways to ensure stakeholders' mobilization; and/or
- generation of further initiatives to advance girls' and women's education as a result of the project/programme.

D. Submission procedure

(1) Nominations must be submitted online in English or French by a nominating entity (Permanent Delegation to UNESCO of the concerned Member State, or by an NGO in official partnership with UNESCO).

(2) Permanent Delegations to UNESCO may access the online submissions platform through their official UNESCO account using the following link: http://unesco.org/gwe.

It is possible for National Commissions for UNESCO to also access and complete the online form using their official UNESCO email account. However, any nomination by a National Commission will need to be reviewed and submitted by the Permanent Delegation to UNESCO of the respective Member State.

(3) NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO can request access to the platform by contacting the Secretariat at GWEPrize@unesco.org.

(4) If a nominating entity wishes that the candidate complete the online nomination form directly, UNESCO can create an account for each candidate. A request should be sent to GWEPrize@unesco.org **before 10 May 2025**. After completion of the online form by the candidate, the nominating entity will be required to review and validate it.

(5) Attention should be paid to presenting the project/programme of the candidate in a clear and structured way, following the instructions given in the form and respecting the indicated character limits. All supporting material (e.g. action plans, publications, videos) must be attached and transmitted electronically through the online system.

(6) Nominations must be submitted and validated via the online platform by the concerned Permanent Delegations to UNESCO or NGO in official partnership with UNESCO by **midnight, 12 May 2025** (UTC+1, Paris time). Kindly note that each Permanent Delegation or NGO may not submit more than three nominations. Any additional nominations will not be taken into consideration.

For any question regarding the UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education or the submission process, please contact the Secretariat of the Prize at the Section of Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality at GWEPrize@unesco.org.

Nomination form / Formulaire de candidature

Note: The following form is for information purposes only. The nomination form must be completed online in English or French via a platform accessible through the UNESCO website at: http://unesco.org/gwe. Submissions using the paper version will not be accepted.

Note: Ce formulaire n'est fourni qu'à titre d'information. Toutes les candidatures doivent être soumises exclusivement en ligne en anglais ou en français via une plate-forme accessible sur http://unesco.org/gwe. Les soumissions sur papier ne seront pas acceptées.

CANDIDATE / *CANDIDAT*	
Type of candidate *Type de candidat*	☐ Organization / *Organisation* ☐ Individual / *Individu*
Name of the candidate * *Nom du candidat*	
Type of organization *Type d'organisation*	☐ Government / *Gouvernement* ☐ International organization / *Organisation internationale* ☐ Civil society organization / *Organisation de la société civile* ☐ Private sector or business / *Secteur privé ou organisation commerciale* ☐ Media / *Médias* ☐ Academic or research institution / *Institution d'enseignement supérieur ou de recherche* ☐ Education institution / *Institution d'éducation* ☐ Other/ Autre: Specify / *Préciser*
Name of the contact person *Personne à contacter*	
Title of the person *Fonction de la personne*	
E-mail *	
Telephone number *Numéro de téléphone*	
Mobile phone number *Numéro de téléphone portable*	
Postal address of candidate *Adresse postale du candidat*	

Candidate's country * *Pays du candidat*	
Description of the candidate* *Description du candidat*	Please provide a summary description of 1,000 characters maximum. / *Veuillez inclure un descriptif sommaire en 1 000 caractères maximum.*
Affiliations*	Please indicate any affiliations to other organizations or institutions (for example, a country office of a larger organization). / *Veuillez indiquer toute affiliation à d'autres organisations ou institutions (par exemple, un bureau national d'une plus grande organization).*
Website *Site internet*	

PROJECT / *PROJET*
Name of the project / *Intitulé du projet* *

Project website *Site internet du projet*	

Abstract / *Résumé* *
How has your project advanced girls' and women's education? Explain its objectives, methodology and key results in maximum 1,000 characters. / *Comment votre projet a-t-il promu l'éducation des filles et des femmes ? Expliquez son objectif, sa méthodologie et les résultats clefs en 1 000 caractères maximum.*

Specific contribution to the advancement of girls' and women's education * *Contribution spécifique à la promotion de l'éducation des filles et des femmes*

☐ **Participation:** Supporting girls to transition from primary education to lower secondary education and to complete full basic education

Participation : Aider les filles dans la transition du primaire au secondaire ainsi que dans l'accomplissement d'un cycle complet d'éducation de base

☐ **Literacy**: Supporting adolescent girls and young women to acquire literacy skills

Alphabétisation : Aider les adolescentes et les jeunes femmes à acquérir des compétences d'alphabétisation

☐ **Environment:** Supporting the creation of a gender-responsive and safe teaching-learning environment

Environnement : Appuyer l'instauration d'un environnement d'apprentissage et d'enseignement sûr et tenant compte du genre

☐ **Teachers:** Engaging teachers to be change agents with gender-responsive teaching attitudes and practices

Enseignants : *Encourager les enseignants à être vecteurs de changement avec des attitudes et des pratiques pédagogiques tenant compte du genre*

☐ **Skills:** Supporting girls and women to acquire knowledge/skills for life and work

Compétences : *Aider les filles et les femmes à acquérir des connaissances/compétences pour la vie et le travail*

Project duration / *Durée du projet* *

Indicate start and expected end date. Please note that only projects having been running for **at least TWO years** will be considered. / *Indiquez la date de début et la date de fin prévue. Notez que seuls les projets opérationnels depuis **au moins DEUX ans** seront pris en considération.*

Target group(s) for the project / *Groupes cibles pour le projet*

☐ Governments (national/sub-national/local) / *Autorités (nationales/régionales/locales)*

☐ Intergovernmental organizations / *Organisations intergouvernementales*

☐ Civil society organizations / *Organisations de la société civile*

☐ Private sector or business / *Secteur privé ou organisations commerciales*

☐ Media / *Médias*

☐ Academia or research institutions / *Institutions d'enseignement supérieur ou de recherche*

☐ Education institutions / *Institutions d'éducation*

☐ Educators / *Éducateurs*

☐ Parents or caregivers / *Parents ou gardiens*

☐ Girls / *Filles*

☐ Women / *Femmes*

☐ Boys / *Garçons*

☐ Men / *Hommes*

☐ Other / *Autres* Specify / *Préciser*

Geographical coverage / *Couverture géographique*

☐ International / *Internationale*

☐ Regional / *Régionale*

☐ National / *Nationale*

☐ Sub-national / *Sous-nationale*

☐ Local / *Locale*

Covered countries / *Pays couverts**

Number of beneficiaries to date/ *Nombre de bénéficiaires jusqu' à présent* *

Indicate the number of beneficiaries to date. If the project targets multiple age groups, please provide age-disaggregated data. If the project includes interventions that also engage men

and/or boys, please provide sex-disaggregated data. / *Indiquez le nombre de bénéficiaires à ce jour. Si le projet cible plusiers groupes d'âges, veuillez founir des données ventilées par tranche d'âge. Si le projet comprend des interventions avec l'engagement des hommes et/ou des garçons, veuillez fournir des données ventilées par sexe.*

Source(s) of funding / *Source(s) du financement* *

Indicate the funding source(s) (current and planned). / *Expliquez la ou les source(s) de financement (actuelle(s) et prévue(s)).*

Annual project budget / *Budget annuel du projet*

Please indicate 2024 costs in USD/ *Précisez le montant pour 2024 en USD.*

Number of staff / *Effectifs*

Specify the number of staff involved in the project in 2024 (part-time or full time). / *Effectifs du personnel participant au projet en 2024 (à temps partiel ou à temps plein).*

Achievements and impact / *Accomplissements et impact* *

Please describe the major achievements and impact of the project on girls' and women's education, using concrete information such as feedback from participants, project scale up and expansion or number of site visits to the project website. Please also briefly outline key findings of your monitoring and evaluation exercises, noting how data is collected and disaggregated as well as examples of indicators used in maximum 2000 characters/ *Expliquez les réalisations majeurs et l'impact du projet sur l'éducation des filles et des femmes à l'aide d'informations de concrètes tels que les commentaires des participants, la mise à l'échelle et l'élargissement du projet ou le nombre de consultations du site Web du projet. Veuillez également décrire brièvement les principales conclusions de vos exercices de suivi et d'évaluation, en indiquant comment les données sont collectées et ventilées, ainsi que des exemples d'indicateurs utilisés dans un maximum de 2000 caractères.*

Innovation / *Innovations* *

Please explain how the project innovative in terms of themes, methods, channels used, or how it is generating gender-specific knowledge, tools and products to advance girls' and women's education, in maximum 900 characters. / *Précisez en quoi le projet est novateur en termes de thèmes, méthodes, canaux utilisés ou comment il génère des connaissances, des outils et des produits spécifiques au genre, pour faire progresser l'éducation des filles et des femmes, en 900 caractères maximum.*

Sustainability / *Durabilité* *

Please explain what measures the project is taking to ensure it is sustainable (e.g. addressing institutionalisation, stakeholder engagement, capacity-development) to achieve a lasting impact on girls' and women's education, in maximum 900 characters. / *Précisez les mesures prises par le projet pour assurer sa durabilité (par exemple, institutionnalisation, engagement*

des parties prenantes, développement des capacités) afin d'avoir un impact durable sur l'éducation des filles et des femmes, en 900 caractères maximum.

Outline the future strategy of your project / *Décrivez la future stratégie du projet*

Describe the follow-up plan of the project, indicating information such as scale-up strategy, target groups, duration and budget, in maximum 900 characters. / *Décrivez le plan de suivi du projet, en donnant des informations telles que la stratégie de passage à grande échelle, les groupes cibles, la durée et le budget, en 900 caractères maximum.*

Use of Prize money / *Utilisation de la récompense du Prix*

Indicate how the US $50,000 Prize money would assist in the achievement of this strategy. / *Indiquez comment le Prix de 50 000 dollars des États-Unis contribuerait à la réalisation de cette stratégie.*

SUPPORTING MATERIALS (e.g. action plans, publications, videos, websites, evaluations, reviews or other documents outlining results and impact)
DOCUMENTS D'APPUI (par ex. plans d'action, publications, vidéos, sites internet, évaluations, bilans ou d'autres documents décrivant les résultats et l'impact)

Provide up to 10 links, with a brief description. To upload documents that are not available online, please use the "Attach" function on the left corner above. / *Donnez jusqu'à 10 liens pertinents, avec un bref descriptif. Pour télécharger des documents d'appui non disponibles en ligne, utilisez la fonction "Attacher" du coin supérieur gauche.*

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Please upload the Word/PDF version of this nomination form, if available. / *Veuillez télécharger la version Word/PDF de ce formulaire de nomination, si disponible.*

PERMISSION / *PERMISSION*

The candidate and the nominator agree that, even if the nominated project is not selected as one of the two Prize laureates, a project summary and any photos provided via this form can be published on the UNESCO website as good practices on girls' and women's education. / *Le candidat et l'auteur de la soumission acceptent, même si le projet nommé ne figure pas parmi*

les deux lauréats sélectionnés, qu'un sommaire du projet et toutes les photos jointes à ce formulaire puissent être publiés sur le site web de l'UNESCO afin d'illustrer les bonnes pratiques dans le domaine de l'éducation des filles et des femmes.

☐ Yes/ Oui
☐ No/ Non

SUBMISSION / *SOUMISSION*
Form completed by / *Formulaire rempli par**
☐ Permanent Delegation / *Délégation permanente* ☐ NGO in official partnership with UNESCO / *ONG en partenariat officiel avec l'UNESCO* ☐ National Commission / *Commission nationale* ☐ Candidate / *Candidat*
Country / *Pays*
[List of Member States in English / *Liste déroulante des Etats membres de l'UNESCO en français*]
Transmit to the National Commission for validation / *Transmettre à la Commission nationale pour validation*
Transmit to the Permanent Delegation for submission / *Transmettre à la délégation permanente pour soumission*
NOMINATING ENTITY / *L'AUTEUR DE LA SOUMISSION*
Member State / *Etat membre*
[List of Member States in English / *Liste déroulante des Etats membres de l'UNESCO en français*]
Non-governmental organization (NGO) / *Nom de l'ONG*
[List of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO in English / *Liste déroulante des organisations non-gouvernementales (ONG) partenaires officiels de l'UNESCO*]
Name of submitting person / *Nom de l'auteur de la soumission* *
Function / *Fonction*
E-mail *
Telephone / *Téléphone*
Supporting statement by the nominating entity / *Déclaration d'appui de l'auteur de la soumission**
Please complete the following sentence, in maximum 300 characters "The candidate deserves to receive the UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education because…" *Merci de compléter la phrase suivante, en 300 caractères maximum: « Le candidat mérite de recevoir le Prix UNESCO pour l'éducation des filles et des femmes parce que…»*

ED/E30/IGE/2023/01 Rev.3