



Global Development Awards Competition 2017

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Q1. What is the Global Development Awards Competition?

One of the largest international competitions for research on development, the Global Development Awards Competition is open to researchers who are nationals and citizens of developing and transition countries, and to development practitioners from Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) headquartered in these countries. The emphasis is on supporting promising young talent in the field of development research, and rewarding innovative development projects capable of significantly impacting the local communities in the developing world.

The competition comprises of two categories:

- **Category 1: Japanese Award for Outstanding Research on Development (ORD):**
This Award is for early-career researchers from developing and transition countries who are seeking to explore any of the three competition themes (listed below) through their **research proposals** in an original, innovative and policy-relevant way.
- **Category 2: Japanese Award for Most Innovative Development Project (MIDP):**
This Award is for exceptional, innovative **on-going development projects** by NGOs that have been able to implement activities with a high potential for development impact to exceptionally marginalized and disadvantaged groups located in developing and transition countries. Interested NGOs can apply in any of the same three competition themes listed below.

Q2. What are the research themes for the ORD and MIDP 2017?

Research Proposals will be considered in following three sub-themes:

1. Skilling for Agriculture
2. Skilling for Manufacturing
3. Skilling for Digital Technology

Please note that **these themes apply to both ORD and MIDP applications.**

Q3. What is the grant amount for the two categories under the Awards?

- **Category 1: Japanese Award for Outstanding Research on Development (ORD):**
The grant amounts for the winners of the ORD program are the following:
First Prize: **US\$ 30,000**; Second Prize: **US\$ 10,000**; Third Prize: **US\$ 5,000**
- **Category 2: Japanese Award for Most Innovative Development Project (MIDP):**
The grant amounts for the winners* of the MIDP program are the following:
First Prize: **US\$ 30,000**; Second Prize: **US\$ 10,000**; Third Prize: **US\$ 5,000**

*The first prize winner is also eligible to compete under the Japan Social Development Fund for an additional grant of up to US\$ 200,000 to scale up their innovative work.

All finalists for each of the competition categories will receive travel grants to GDN's next conference in December 2017. The travel grant will be for one person representing the shortlisted submission.

Eligibility

Q4. What are the eligible countries for the Most Innovative Development Project category?

The MIDP is open to all **development projects being implemented in low-income countries and lower-middle-income countries** as per the World Bank classification¹. The project must be managed by an NGO with its headquarters located in an eligible country.

Q5. What are the eligible countries for the Outstanding Research on Development category?

The ORD is open only to **researchers from low-income and middle-income countries** as per the World Bank classification¹, with the requirement that they need to be nationals, citizens and current residents of any of these countries. Citizens of eligible countries currently residing in a non-eligible country are also eligible to apply only if they have been living in the non-eligible country for no more than five years as of **16 July, 2017**.

Q6. Is there any age limit to apply for ORD?

The upper age limit for all applicants of ORD is **45 years as of 16 July, 2017**. Individuals (including co-researchers) above 45 years of age as of 16 July, 2017 are not eligible to apply.

Q7. Are previous winners and finalists eligible to apply?

- **For ORD:** Past ORD winners and finalists are not eligible to apply with the same or similar research proposal. Additionally, winners are not eligible to apply for a period of 3 years subsequent to the end of their agreement with GDN.
- **For MIDP:** Previous MIDP winners are not eligible to apply.

Q8. Are past and current GDN employees eligible to apply?

Previous and current employees of GDN (*Including interns and members of evaluation teams*) or its Regional Network Partners are not eligible to apply **up till 5 years** from the completion of their tenure.

¹ <http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-and-lending-groups>

Q9. Can I apply under more than one theme?

Yes. An applicant may apply under more than one theme with different proposals, but only one proposal per theme is accepted.

Q10. Where can I submit my application?

For both categories, you can access the **online submission platform** from GDN's website using the following internet link: www.gdn.int/awards2017

Q11: What is the application process?

The application along with the documents specified in the guidelines (available online: www.gdn.int/awards2017) should be submitted as **electronic files** only through the online submission platform. Please note that we do not accept hard copy of applications or those sent through post.

Q12: What is the last date for submitting an application?

The last date for submitting your application for ORD and MIDP is **16 July, 2017**

For more information on the competition, the complete eligibility criteria and selection process please read the guidelines (available online: www.gdn.int/awards2017). **Please note that applications that do not follow the guidelines will NOT be considered.** If you have further question(s) which are not addressed through the guidelines and this FAQ, please feel free to write to us at awards@gdn.int.