2026 United Nations Public Service Awards
Application Form (English)

Thank you for your interest in the United Nations Public Service Awards (UNPSA) programme. The UNPSA aims to recognize creativity and innovation within public institutions to enhance effectiveness, transparency, and inclusiveness. It seeks initiatives that inspire, innovate and deliver high-quality public services to ensure no one is left behind.

Please note that only public institutions are eligible to apply. In the case of public-private-partnerships, the application must be submitted by the public institution. Otherwise, it will not be considered.

Please fill in this questionnaire and submit your application **by 30 March 2025**.

For this cycle, initiatives should align with one of the following four categories:

- Delivering inclusive and equitable services to leave no one behind
- Gender-responsive public services
- Transparent and accountable public institutions to achieve the SDGs
- Participation and public engagement for inclusive decision-making

You will be asked to choose one of these categories when filling the form.

Once you begin, you will have to finish the application in one sitting. We encourage you to prepare your response in a separate document before starting the application. Have your response ready to cut and paste into the appropriate

response box and have your supporting documents ready.

The preview of application and general guideline for applicants can be found at bit.ly/ApplyUNPSA

Institutional Information

1. Country *

2. Institution name *

3. Institution website *

4. Administrative level *

○ National

○ Sub-national (State, Province, etc.)

○ Local

○ Other

5. I give consent to the UNPSA team to use the data entered in this form and contact relevant persons and entities to inquire about the initiative for validation purposes. *

In order to be considered, submitted initiatives must include consent for the UNPSA team to use the information provided in the application form and to contact relevant individuals and organizations for validation purposes. Data related to the institution and initiative will also be included in the UNPSA database, which will be made publicly accessible after the end of the 2026 cycle to facilitate information exchange and peer learning.

○ Yes

Initiative information

6. Name of initiative *

[   ]

7. When was the initiative first implemented? *

[📅   ]

8. Initiative website

[   ]

9. Is this a public sector initiative? *

Eligible initiatives must be designed and implemented by a public institution. For public-private-partnerships, the applicant must be a public institution.

○ Yes

○ No

10. Is this a public private partnership? *

○ Yes

○ No

11. Has the United Nations or any UN agencies been involved
in this initiative? *

○ Yes

○ No

12. Which UN organization was involved? *

List all the UN organizations involved

[   ]

13. Please explain the role of the UN organization(s) in the
initiative.

[   ]

14. Has the initiative been submitted to the UNPSA in past
years? *

○ Yes

○ No

15. In which year was the initiative submitted? *

16. Please list any other awards that the initiative has won.

17. How did you hear about the UNPSA?

○ Government Ministry

○ UN websites (UN DESA, UNPSA, etc.)

○ Search engines (Google, Bing etc.)

○ Social media (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn etc.)

○ Local news (Newspaper, Radio, TV, online news)

○ Referral

○ Other

Common Questions

18. Please briefly describe the initiative, the issue it aims to address, and specify its objectives (200 words maximum) *

Please enter at most 1200 characters

19. Please specify which SDGs the initiative supports. (max 3) *

Please select at most 3 options.

☐ SDG 1 - No Poverty

☐ SDG 2 - Zero Hunger

☐ SDG 3 - Good Health

☐ SDG 4 - Quality Education

☐ SDG 5 - Gender Equality

☐ SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation

☐ SDG 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy

☐ SDG 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth

☐ SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

☐ SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities

☐ SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities

☐ SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production

☐ SDG 13 - Climate Action

☐ SDG 14 - Life below Water

☐ SDG 15 - Life on Land

☐ SDG 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

☐ SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals

20. Please explain how the initiative has addressed a significant shortfall in governance, public administration or public service within the context of your country or region. (200 words maximum) *

21. Please describe who the target group(s) are and briefly explain how the initiative improves outcomes for these target groups. (200 words maximum) *

22. Did the initiative introduce a new idea, concept, or approach that had not been tried before, and does it potentially lead to transformative change? Please explain. (100 words maximum) *

23. Please describe, if relevant, how the initiative drew inspiration from successful initiatives in other regions, countries and localities. (100 words maximum) *

Please enter at most 600 characters

24. Please describe how the initiative was implemented, including key steps and the chronology. (300 words) *

Please enter at most 1800 characters

25. Innovation often involves taking risks, and its implementation may require experimentation and face obstacles of a political, technical or institutional nature. Please explain whether the initiative faced obstacles and how those were overcome. (200 words) *

26. Please describe how the initiative is situated in the relevant institutional landscape (for example, how it interacts with relevant government agencies and other actors). (200 words maximum) *

27. Please describe the resources (i.e. financial, human or others) that were used to implement the initiative. (300 words maximum) *

Please enter at most 1800 characters

28. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development puts emphasis on collaboration, engagement, partnerships, and inclusion. Please describe which stakeholders were engaged in designing, implementing and evaluating the initiative and how this engagement took place. (200 words maximum) *

29. Please describe the monitoring system that was put in place to track the results of the initiative. (100 words maximum) *

30. What are the main metrics or indicators used to measure the performance and impact of the initiative? (100 words maximum) *

31. In which category are you applying? *

Please choose the category that best reflects the nature and objectives of the initiative.

○ Delivering inclusive and equitable services to Leave No One Behind

○ Gender-responsive public services

○ Transparent and accountable public institutions to achieve the SDGs

○ Participation and public engagement for inclusive decision-making

32. How were the target groups for this initiative identified, and what services were developed to respond to their specific needs? (200 words maximum) *

33. How does the initiative ensure that the services are accessible and affordable to the target groups? (100 words maximum) *

34. If applicable, how are the target groups engaged in the design, implementation and monitoring of the initiative? (100 words maximum)

35. How has the initiative strengthened access to public services for its target groups? Please describe the results and impacts of the initiative. (200 words maximum) *

Please enter at most 1200 characters

36. What specific needs of women and girls does this initiative address? How were those needs identified, and how are they addressed? (200 words maximum) *

37. How has this initiative contributed to improving gender equality and women's empowerment? Please describe the results and impacts of the initiative. (200 words maximum) *

Please enter at most 1200 characters

38. What specific channels, mechanisms and tools (legal, regulatory, institutional, process-related, etc.) were used to enhance transparency and accountability? (200 words maximum) *

39. How has the initiative improved transparency and accountability? Please describe the results and impacts of the initiative. (200 words maximum) *

Please enter at most 1200 characters

40. Please explain which groups of the population the initiative sought to engage, how those were identified, and how they were reached. (200 words maximum) *

41. How does the initiative make participation accessible to all its target groups? (for example, by using digital and hybrid methods) (100 words maximum) *

42. How are the inputs from public participation used in decision-making? Please provide concrete examples. (100 words maximum) *

43. How has this initiative enhanced participation and engagement? Please describe the results and impacts of the initiative. (200 words maximum) *

Please enter at most 1200 characters

44. Has the initiative been formally evaluated internally or externally? If so, how was it evaluated and by whom? (100 words maximum) *

45. What were the main findings of the evaluation (e.g. adequacy of resources mobilized for the initiative, quality of implementation and challenges faced, main outcomes, sustainability of the initiative, impacts) and how was this information used to modify the initiative's implementation? (200 words maximum) *

46. To your knowledge, has the initiative been transferred or adapted to other contexts (e.g., other cities, countries or regions) If so, please provide details. (100 words maximum) *

47. Please explain what makes the initiative sustainable over time, including in financial and institutional terms. (100 words maximum) *

Please enter at most 600 characters

48. Please describe the key lessons learned, and how your organization has used those to improve the initiative. (200 words maximum) *

Please enter at most 1200 characters

Documentation

49. Required documents (1 of 2) *

- Please submit up to two (2) required documents, such as news articles, featured stories, case studies or publications such as audit and evaluation report which confirm the validity of the initiative.

- Please enter the link to the document below.

[   ]

50. Required documents (2 of 2)

Please enter the link to the document below.

[   ]

51. Optional documents (1 of 3)

- Please submit up to three (3) optional documents such as videos, outreach materials, project documents, etc.
- Please enter the link to the document below.

[   ]

52. Optional documents (2 of 3)

Please enter the link to the document below.

[   ]

Please enter a URL

53. Optional documents (3 of 3)

Please enter the link to the document below.

Please enter a URL

Personal information

54. Honorific *

○ Mr.

○ Ms.

55. Full name *

[   ]

56. Position *

[   ]

57. Work address *

Please provide the full address where we can contact your organization.

[   ]

58. Email address *

Please enter an email address

[   ]

Please enter an email

59. Additional email (if any)

[   ]

Please enter an email

60. Phone number *

[   ]