2024 UN SDG Action Awards

(Self-)Nomination Guidance for the Changemaker Award

About the 2024 UN SDG Action Awards

The UN SDG Action Awards, a signature programme of the UN SDG Action Campaign, champions initiatives and committed individuals who are wielding the power of creativity and innovation to bring us closer to a more sustainable, equitable and peaceful world.

Anyone can mobilize action and achieve impact, even in the most challenging places and times. The campaign is committed to showcasing heroes changing the world, and sending a message of hope and infinite possibilities.

Each year, a high-level Panel of Judges and a technical review team consider over 5,000 applications and nominations from 190 countries. They select Finalists and then the Winners.

All Finalists (three for each award category) are invited to a one-day Induction Programme prior to the Ceremony offering creative workshops, skills development sessions and networking events. The UN SDG Action Awards Ceremony unveils and celebrates the winners with music, art and inspiring messages from leaders from all backgrounds and regions of the world.

The 2024 Induction Programme and Awards Ceremony will take place at the end of October in Rome, Italy. It will reach global and national audiences through UN WebTV and television and radio broadcasts in partnership with Rai, Italy’s public national broadcaster, which provides artistic, editorial and production support.

The UN SDG Action Awards programme is made possible by the generous financial support of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) and German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

About the Changemaker (Self-)Nomination Category:

CHANGEMAKER AWARD: We are looking for exceptional individuals who have made a difference in their communities and societies. They are the movers and the shakers but also the people quietly working behind the scenes to make a difference. A changemaker imagines a new reality, and then acts and collaborates with others to make it happen. A changemaker stands up for equality, justice and human rights, and leads movements to rewire our world and light up the SDGs. Changemakers are identified through nominations or self-nominations.

Inspiring Examples:

“Srishti Bakshi” walked over 3,800 kilometres across India to bring visibility to the issue of violence against women and inspire women to be agents for change.

“Nery Santaella” has empowered Venezuelan migrants by making available tools and information enabling them to a life with dignity.
How to Apply

To (self-)nominate to the Changemaker Award please prepare a response to each section of the application form. All sections and questions are mandatory, except for those marked as ‘optional’. Only complete applications will be considered by the selection committee.

Applications are to be submitted electronically through the SurveyMonkey apply platform. In order to submit an application or nomination, applicants can login to create a SurveyMonkey Apply account via an existing Facebook, X, Google account OR can create a new account with an email address. If applicants already have an existing SurveyMonkey Apply account, they can use their existing account.

For applicants encountering challenges with access to the internet, this form can be completed and sent in by post. Please see the instructions at the end of this document if you need to submit a postal application.

Section 1: Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focal Point Name:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Focal Point Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Is this a self-nomination?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Name of ‘Changemaker’:
(for those who are not self-nominating)

Email of ‘Changemaker’:
(for those who are not self-nominating)

If you are nominating the Changemaker, how do you know them? (50 words max)
Section 2: General Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country/Countries where the nominee is active:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/cities where the nominee is active:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Media handles of the nominee:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facebook:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X (formerly Twitter):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instagram:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linkedin:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TikTok:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>please identify which platform</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link to nominee’s website and/or other digital platforms:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How did you hear about the UN SDG Action Awards?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ Social Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ UN SDG Action Campaign Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ UN SDG Action Campaign Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Recommendation from a colleague/partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Newsletter from a network you are a part of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Word of mouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If you answered “recommendation from a colleague/partner” to the previous question, please share the source of the recommendation with us: (optional)

How is the nominee a good fit for the selected category for this award? (100 words max)

Which of the SDGs does the nominee’s work focus on? (multi-select)

☐ SDG 1: No Poverty
☐ SDG 2: Zero Hunger
☐ SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
☐ 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
☐ All SDGs
Have you already received any awards and/or other recognitions?

☐ Yes
☐ No

If you answered ‘yes’ to the previous question, please list all awards and/or recognitions received below: (optional)

Section 3: Changemaker Overview

Describe briefly why the nominee is a changemaker:

(WHAT is their vision? and HOW is their initiative implemented?)

(50 words max)

Will the nominee be able to attend the in-person UN SDG Action Awards Ceremony and Finalist Induction Programme in Rome in October 2024?

Kindly note that one changemaker from each finalist initiative will be invited (travel and accommodation costs covered) by the UN SDG Action Campaign to join us in Rome for the Finalist Induction Programme and the UN SDG Action Awards Ceremony.

☐ Yes
☐ No
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Bio:</strong> Please provide a short professional bio of the nominee. (200 words max)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Headshot:</strong> Please share an open-source link to a high-resolution headshot of the nominee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(.jpg or .png, minimum 1000px * 1000px):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Section 4: Review Criteria

**Impact:** What is the tangible and measurable impact of the nominee in improving people’s lives and accelerating progress towards the achievement of the SDGs?

Successful impact includes measurable results in shifting people’s behaviors and public perceptions and/or influencing public policies and/or budgetary allocations towards the acceleration of the SDGs.

Successful impact also indicates remarkable improvements in social, economic and environmental conditions including gender equality, health, capacity development, inclusion, economic stability, food security, climate adaptation and/or mitigation, environmental protection, and/or peace. (200 words max)

**Novelty/Innovation of the Approach:** How innovative is the nominee’s approach? How does the nominee build upon a breakthrough idea? (200 words max)
**Scalability/Replicability:** How does the nominee's initiative have the potential to be scaled up and/or be replicated in other contexts to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs? Has it already been scaled up and/or replicated? (200 words max)

---

**Why should the nominee be awarded a UN SDG Action Award?** (200 words max)
Section 5: High-Resolution Photo and Videos

To bring the above sections of your nomination to life, please share open-source links to 5 to 10 high-resolution videos and/or photo footage to show your campaign/initiative’s impact and action on the ground. If selected as a Finalist, photo and video footage may be edited into a 1-minute compilation video trailer to be used for communications and promotion purposes.

Select photos or videos that communicate effectively the scope and impact of your campaign/initiative. Photos and videos should tell a story, have good framing and lighting, and focus on people and things that are eye-catching and dynamic.

Footage Format:

Photo: 1980x1080 resolution, .png or .jpg
Videos: 1980x1080 resolution, .mp4 or .mov Format, 4K, maximum duration of 10:00 minutes.

Requirements:

Photos and video footage should NOT have any branding, subtitles, text. Existing audio will not be used in the edited version.

Photos and video footage should be shared to an open file sharing service, such as Google Drive, with a viewable link that does not expire.

Please note: If sharing your video through a YouTube link, you will need to provide the full URL.

By submitting your photo and video footage, you confirm that you own all applicable legal rights for all media included in your entry.

Please share open-source links to 5 to 10 high-resolution videos and/or photo footage to show your nominee’s impact and action on the ground:
### Section 6: High-Resolution Photo and Video Description

**Please provide a description for all photos and videos shared in the previous section.** (200 words max)

---

### Section 7: Reference and Supporting Documentation

**Supporting Documentation:** Please share open-source links (or attach printed copies) of articles, social media feeds, and other third-party public documentation that highlights the scope and the results of the campaign/initiative.

Or share articles, recognition or public comments that attest to the campaign/initiative's impact.
**Recommendation Letter:** Please provide us with one recommendation letter, attached to this application, from a partner who can confirm the scope and results of the campaign/initiative. All recommendation letters should be a maximum of 1 page in length and include the name, position, signature and contact information of the referee. Please use official letterhead. Please request that your referee address some or all of the following points in their recommendation letter:

- In what capacity do you know the applicant, and for how long?
- Describe the applicant’s impact towards the SDGs.
- Is the approach innovative? Is the initiative being scaled up or replicated already?
- Why are you supporting this initiative?

**Section 8: Terms and Conditions**

I consent to my personal data being stored and processed for the purpose of UN SDG Action Awards program. The contents submitted in this form may be used for public promotion, however personal data will be protected. I also consent to my data being used by the UN SDG Action Campaign for establishing contact. I will be given the option to unsubscribe from future mailings unrelated to the UN SDG Action Awards. My data will not be used for commercial purposes. I may withdraw my consent to the use of my personal data at any time by contacting support@sdgactioncampaign.org.

☐ By submitting this form, I agree to the above-stated Terms and Conditions.

Offline applications may be submitted in cases where individuals are experiencing bandwidth limitations.

**To submit an offline application** please send all documentation by post to the address below before the application deadline. Only applications which are postmarked on or before the application deadline will be considered by the selection committee. Please note that all postal fees are the responsibility of the applicant.

**Application Deadline:** 30 June 2024, with the application portal closing at 23:59 EST.

**Application Mailing Address:**

United Nations SDG Action Campaign  
UN SDG Action Awards  
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1  
53113 Bonn, Germany