



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
**ACTION
CAMPAIGN**



**SDG ACTION
AWARDS**

HEROES OF TOMORROW

(Self-)Nomination Guidance for the Changemaker Award

About Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards

The Heroes of Tomorrow: [UN SDG Action Awards](#), a signature programme of the [UN SDG Action Campaign](#), champions initiatives and committed individuals who wield the power of creativity and innovation to bring us closer to a more sustainable, equitable and peaceful world. Through the Awards, the Campaign is committed to showcasing the heroes of tomorrow while sending a message of hope and possibilities.

Each year, a [high-level panel of judges](#) and a technical review team consider over 5,500 applications and nominations from 190 countries, selecting finalists and then the winners.

Finalists are invited to the **Heroes of Tomorrow: [UN SDG Action Awards Ceremony](#)** which unveils and celebrates the winners with music, art and inspiring messages from leaders from all backgrounds and regions of the world.

The 2025 UN SDG Action Awards Ceremony will take place on Wednesday 29 October 2025 in Rome, Italy. It will reach global audiences – with over 5 million viewers for the 2024 edition - through UN WebTV, Deutsche Welle, and RAI, Italy's public national broadcaster.

About the Changemaker (Self-)Nomination Category:

CHANGEMAKER AWARD: This Award honours **exceptional individuals** who have made a lasting impact in their communities and societies. They are the movers and the shakers but also people working quietly behind the scenes driving change. A changemaker envisions a new reality, takes action and collaborates with others to bring that vision to life. A changemaker stands up for equality, justice and human rights, leading movements to transform our world and illuminate the path towards sustainable, fair, peaceful societies. Changemakers are identified through nominations or self-nominations.

Inspiring Examples:

[“Suvarna Raj”](#), an international para-athlete and disability rights advocate from India, influenced policies on inclusion and raised awareness of accessible elections.

[“Srishti Bakshi”](#) walked over 3,800 kilometers 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.

All applications and nominations are assessed according to their impact, the novelty of their approach and their scalability/replicability.



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 (formerly Twitter), 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

Information you provide in this section will not be visible to the public.

Nominator's Name:	
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Nominator's Email:	
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Is this a self-nomination?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> No

Name of the nominated changemaker (for those who are not self-nominating): (optional)	
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Email of the nominated changemaker (for those who are not self-nominating): (optional)	
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If you are nominating a changemaker, how do you know them? (50 words max)



Section 2: General Information

Countries/territories where the nominated changemaker is active:	
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City/cities where the nominated changemaker is active:	
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Social Media handles of the nominated changemaker:	
Facebook:	
X (formerly Twitter):	
Instagram:	
LinkedIn:	
TikTok:	
Other – please identify which platform:	

Link to the nominated changemaker's website and/or other digital platforms:	
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How did you hear about the Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Media
<input type="checkbox"/>	UN SDG Action Campaign Newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/>	UN SDG Action Campaign Website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Word of mouth
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommendation from a colleague/partner
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter from a network you are a part of
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - please identify where:



If you answered “recommendation from a colleague/partner” to the question above, please share the source of the recommendation with us: (optional)

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 1: No Poverty
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 2: Zero Hunger
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 4: Quality Education
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 5: Gender Equality
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 13: Climate Action
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 15: Life on Land
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals
<input type="checkbox"/>	All SDGs

Has the nominated changemaker already received any awards or other recognitions?

☐ Yes

☐ No

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



Section 3: Changemaker Overview

Describe briefly the nominated changemaker's vision and their initiative. (50 words max)

Will the nominated changemaker be able to attend the in-person Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards Ceremony and Finalist Induction Programme in Rome in October 2025?

Kindly note that finalists 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 Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards Ceremony.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Bio: Please provide a short professional bio of the nominated changemaker: (up to 200 words max)



Headshot: Please provide a high-resolution headshot of the nominated changemaker (minimum 1000px * 1000px):

LinkedIn: Please provide a link to the nominated Changemaker's LinkedIn profile. (optional)

**Disclaimer:*

As part of the evaluation process, the UN SDG Action Campaign may contact the nominated changemaker for an informal interview about their initiative.

Section 4: Review Criteria

Impact: What is the measurable impact of the nominated changemaker's initiative, in accelerating the achievement of the SDGs, and/or towards more sustainable, peaceful, and inclusive societies?

Impact entails shifts in behaviours, public perceptions, policies, and/or budgets towards the SDGs, and/or significant improvements in social, economic, and environmental conditions including gender equality, health, inclusion, economic stability, food security, climate action, environmental protection, and/or peace.

(200 words max)



Novelty/Innovation: How innovative is the nominated changemaker's approach? How does the nominated changemaker build upon a breakthrough idea?

(200 words max)

Scalability/Replicability: How does the nominated changemaker's initiative have the potential to be scaled up and replicated in other contexts, to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs, and/or towards more sustainable, peaceful and inclusive societies? Has it already been scaled up and/or replicated?

(200 words max)



Why should this campaign/initiative be awarded with a Heroes of Tomorrow: 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 5 to 10 high-resolution videos and/or photos that highlight the nominated changemaker'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 the nominated changemaker. 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: HD quality, with a resolution of 1920 x 1080, .jpg/.png format

Video: HD quality, with a resolution of 1920 x 1080, mp4 format, maximum duration of 10:00 minutes

Requirements:

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

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



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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 the nominated changemaker'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: References and Supporting Documentation

Supporting Documentation: Please share links to articles, videos, social media feeds, and other third-party public documentation that highlights the scope and the results of the nominated Changemaker's initiative.

Please upload articles, recognition or public comments that attest to the nominated Changemaker's impact.

Section 8: Terms and Conditions

I consent to my personal data being stored and processed for the purpose of the Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards programme. 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 Heroes of Tomorrow: 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.

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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/Nomination Deadline: Please visit the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page to view the deadline.

Application Mailing Address:

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