



# *The* **SASAKAWA** **AWARD**

*Recognizing excellence in reducing disaster risk  
for a safer, more sustainable world.*

## **Recognizing excellence in reducing disaster risk for a safer, more sustainable world.**

*We are pleased to announce a call for nominations for the 2017 United Nations Sasakawa Award for Disaster Risk Reduction, under the theme “Reducing disaster mortality.”*

### **Background**

Together with the World Health Organization Sasakawa Health Prize and the UN Environment Programme Sasakawa Environment Prize, the United Nations Sasakawa Award for Disaster Risk Reduction is one of the three prestigious prizes established in 1986 by the founding Chairman of the Nippon Foundation, Mr. Ryoichi Sasakawa. The United Nations Sasakawa Award for Disaster Risk Reduction is awarded to an individual or institution that has made active efforts to reduce disaster risk in their community and advocates for disaster risk reduction.

### **Theme**

The year 2017 is critical to revitalize the energy created towards the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which was adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in March 2015. The Sasakawa Award aims at further promoting inclusive and resilient approaches in disaster risk reduction, echoing the fact that inclusiveness and resilience are the key words in the Sendai Framework. The Sendai Framework also sets seven global targets for risk reduction. Given that this year’s edition of International Day for Disaster Reduction on 13 October will focus on the first target of the Sendai Framework, which is to “substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030”, the Nippon Foundation and UNISDR have decided to align the theme of the Sasakawa Award to this. They will therefore honour practices and efforts made by institutions, individuals and groups that have best contributed to reduce disaster risk and mortality.

The Sasakawa Award will showcase life-saving measures that help build resilience to disasters and serve communities which are most at risk. The Award(s) will be issued during a ceremony at the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction in Cancun, Mexico, in May 2017, spotlighting concrete examples of prevention and disaster risk reduction solutions that have helped save lives and reduce the number of people killed or missing in disasters, especially among vulnerable groups.

## What does this Award recognize?

The Sasakawa Award will recognize selected candidates (individuals, groups, organizations, local authorities, etc.) through an award accompanied by a grant. Candidates are advised to have had some engagement with UNISDR-related processes or initiatives, such as the National Platforms, Regional Platforms and Global Platforms, the One Million Safe Schools and Hospitals or Making Cities Resilient” campaigns, and the voluntary commitments by relevant stakeholders, as outlined in paragraph 37 of the Sendai Framework. In addition, the Sendai Framework highlights the importance of “a more people-centered preventive approach to disaster risk”, as well as “inclusive and accessible” disaster risk reduction practices, both of which are promoted by the Sasakawa Award.

Primarily, the selection of candidates should be among individuals or groups who are already working in the field of disaster risk reduction and are able to present their achievements. However, it is also important to note that future activities and visions will also be taken into consideration in the selection process. In addition to recognizing individuals or groups for their achievements, the Sasakawa Award also seeks to encourage and support them to continue their good work with the grant and the visibility which it brings.

## Awards

The winners of the Sasakawa Award receive a prize accompanied by a grant up to a combined maximum amount of US\$50,000. The amount of the grant shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. It is anticipated that the grant will be in the range of US\$1,000 to \$10,000 at a time, per individual or institution.

## Key dates

- Early October 2016** Official start of the Sasakawa Award nomination process.
- 31 January 2017** Final deadline for submissions.
- February 2017** Start of Evaluations
- May 2017** Winner(s) announced at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction



## How can I nominate an individual or organization?

Your nomination letters should tell us what your nominee is doing to reduce disaster risk whether at the national, local or community level.

### Nominees should demonstrate:

- A distinguished track record.
- An understanding of impacts of disasters and how to manage the risks we face.
- The ability to transmit new insights and knowledge to the wider community on how to build resilience to disasters and live sustainably.
- The vision and charisma to engage the wider community in activities that help strengthen society's ability to be resilient.
- The talent for making clear proposals and recommendations to influence disaster risk reduction policy based on evidence.
- The potential to contribute to the future of how disaster risk is prevented, reduced and managed.

You may nominate individuals, community groups, civil society organizations, government agencies at local or national level, NGOs or private sector entities for this Award. Previous winners cannot be nominated again; and you cannot nominate yourself or your own institution.

### Here are some examples of past nominees

- A project by an individual to mitigate the impact of climate change at national level.  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pf-iOy2ywl](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pf-iOy2ywl)
- A local government initiative which brings citizens together to agree on new ways to reduce the impact of floods and other risks.  
[youtube.com/watch?v=aaCgxNt2Wc8](http://youtube.com/watch?v=aaCgxNt2Wc8)
- A innovative local community project to increase the resilience of persons living with disabilities.  
[youtube.com/watch?v=OD6hYie3788](http://youtube.com/watch?v=OD6hYie3788)
- A public enterprise reduces risks during the development of critical infrastructure to provide energy and drinking water.  
[youtube.com/watch?v=vsBM219tJIE](http://youtube.com/watch?v=vsBM219tJIE)
- A costal community protecting itself by drills, risk monitoring and public announcements.  
[youtube.com/watch?v=Bq0UX\\_dqLpA](http://youtube.com/watch?v=Bq0UX_dqLpA)
- An entire village that worked collaboratively to relocate to higher ground in order to avoid future floods.  
[youtube.com/watch?v=mx4vtc\\_YCg](http://youtube.com/watch?v=mx4vtc_YCg)
- A local government that passes knowledge to the next generation.  
[youtube.com/watch?v=DDtRyV8htmA](http://youtube.com/watch?v=DDtRyV8htmA)

(You can see more examples at: [unisdr.org/we/campaign/sasakawa](http://unisdr.org/we/campaign/sasakawa))

## How to nominate candidates

Nominations, which consist of a nomination letter and completed questionnaire (attached at the end of this package) should be sent by mail to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) Office in Japan, the administrator of the Sasakawa Award, which will then submit the proposals to an independent jury of eminent persons from the field of disaster risk reduction. Please also send a scanned copy of the nomination letter and questionnaire via email.

### Postal address

UNISDR Office in Japan  
DRI-East 5F, 1-5-2 Wakinohama-Kaigan-dori,  
Chuo-ku, Kobe-City, Hyogo, Japan 651-0073  
Email: isdr-sasakawa@un.org

## We accept nomination letters from

- Former United Nations Sasakawa Award Laureates.
- Individuals that are part of the UNISDR thematic platforms and other networks and campaigns (this may include national or local government officials, NGOs, academic institutions, the private sector, regional organizations and those who took part in sessions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction, National Platforms, One Million Safe Schools and Hospitals, and Making Cities Resilient).
- Representatives of institutions dealing with disaster prevention and mitigation.
- United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and United Nations resident coordinators.
- Permanent Missions to United Nations offices around the world.

## Steps to follow to complete a nomination

1. Prepare letter of nomination. (Tip: the letter should tell us what your nominee is doing to reduce disaster risk whether at the national, local or community level and also tell us who you are.)
2. Complete “questionnaire for those submitting nominations” which is attached at the end of this package.

### When answering the questionnaire ask yourself

- Was the content and language inspiring?
  - Have I made clear how the nominee’s efforts will help shape a safe, healthy, wealthy and resilient future?
  - Have I included statistics, anecdotes or other elements that might make the nomination even more real?
  - Is there a clear link between the nominee’s actions and the wider society?
  - After reading your answers, would someone be able to easily describe your nomination to their friends?
3. Your letter should be followed by a package of supporting documentation from your nominee.

## How to send supporting documentation

In addition to your nomination letter and questionnaire attached at the end of this package, supporting documents from the nominee are mandatory in order to be considered for the Sasakawa Award. Nominees have until 31 January 2017 to submit supporting documentation after their nomination letters and questionnaire have been submitted.

## What are supporting documents?

*There is one mandatory essay with two parts.*

## Part I

Nominees must describe, in less than 800 words, the results of the initiative they are undertaking to reduce the impact of disasters in general and avoid loss of life in particular; and build disaster resilience; who is involved; and the level of outreach. Please indicate the significance of achievements (e.g. relative reduction in disaster mortality), state the challenges confronted and the solution proposed.

## Part II

Nominees must describe in less than 400 words, the financial implications of the initiative that has been nominated. The nominee must describe what level of funding has been invested so far and if they win the prize how the award money would be used to support the continuation of the initiative. If the nominee does not intend to use the award money for this purpose, that nominee must state how it is planned to be used.

*Supporting documents for the Award shall be sent by mail to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) Office in Japan. Please also send a scanned copy of supporting documents via email.*

### Post address

UNISDR Office in Japan  
DRI-East 5F, 1-5-2 Wakinohama-Kaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe-City, Hyogo, Japan 651-0073  
Email: isdr-sasakawa@un.org

*Please note it is your responsibility to ensure the supporting documents to arrive by both mail and email by 31 January 2017.*

## OPTIONAL SUPPORTING MATERIAL

Nominees might consider sending the following supporting material but it is optional

Item	Format	We prefer to receive this information
Photos	.jpg	Via Dropbox, WeTransfer or YouSendIt, addressed to: isdr-sasakawa@un.org
PowerPoint slide	.ppt	
Video	.mpg	
Books	Digital only	
Character references	.pdf, .doc	
Posters, pamphlets and similar printed material (excluding books)	Hard copy	Via post to UNISDR Office in Japan DRI-East 5F, 1-5-2 Wakinohama-Kaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe-City, Hyogo, Japan 651-0073

*If you are submitting any optional supporting materials, please note it is your responsibility to ensure the arrival of all materials by 31 January 2017.*

## Criteria Review

In general, jury members will focus on evidence of concrete performance and material advances, rather than on new ideas of which origins and impacts are difficult to trace.

When evaluating the received nominations, the jury will use a following set of questions along with the theme “Reducing disaster mortality”.

### 10 Questions for the theme “Reducing disaster mortality”

- Is the nominee in full knowledge of the causes or agents of human mortality (in the local setting)?
- Has the nominee introduced or followed methods of mitigating the impacts of such causes or agents?
- Has the nominee developed methods for determining the most vulnerable groups in society exposed to the vagaries of the local threats? (e.g. residents of some locality, children, women, elderly, people with disability, dependent people)
- Has the nominee developed proposals, methods or procedures of reduction of disaster mortality, for both pre-disaster and post-disaster circumstances?
- Has the nominee actually applied and determined the effectiveness of such methods?
- How significant (%) are these measures in terms of total population exposed?
- Does the applied measure have potential to trigger new research, findings, or new methods?
- Does the applied measure or model have potential to be applied elsewhere?
- Does the applied measure have potential to employ technology?
- Does the applied measure have potential to promote local community to coordinate and organize their own means of protection and self-help?

In addition to the above set of theme specific questions, the jury will be on the lookout for the distinguishing characteristics along with the 10 Criteria that include

### 10 Criteria

- Innovating and Acting Ahead
- Overcoming Adversity and Uncertainty
- Effective Operational Coordination
- Inclusiveness and Equality
- Contributing to Sendai Framework for DRR
- Building Sustainability and Resilience
- Enhancing Community Empowerment
- Improving Social Protection Measures
- Reducing Exposure to Hazards
- Analysis and Understanding of Risk

(Please see the examples for these 10 criteria at: <https://www.unisdr.org/we/campaign/sasakawa>)

### Prize-giving ceremony

The prize will be awarded at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, which will take place in May 2017 in Cancun, Mexico.

**We look forward  
to receiving your nominations!**



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## Questionnaire for those submitting nominations

*Please note: Once you have nominated an individual or institution for the award, your nominee must provide supporting documenting in order to be considered.*

**Please fill out this section *only* if you are nominating an *individual***

Nominee's name \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Education \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Present position of nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Current job description of nominee \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's previous posts and functions \_\_\_\_\_

**Please fill out this section *only* if you are nominating an *institution***

Institution name \_\_\_\_\_

Address of headquarters \_\_\_\_\_

Address of nominated institution if different from headquarters \_\_\_\_\_

Date of creation \_\_\_\_\_ Main fields of activity \_\_\_\_\_

Size \_\_\_\_\_ Organization structure \_\_\_\_\_

Annual budget and sources of income \_\_\_\_\_

Name and title of chief executive officer \_\_\_\_\_

**For those submitting nominations, please provide your details**

Nominator's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Present position \_\_\_\_\_

Previous posts and functions \_\_\_\_\_



**Which UNISDR conferences or initiatives have you (who are submitting the nomination) participated?**

<p>UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> The First World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Yokohama 1994 <input type="checkbox"/> The Second World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Hyogo 2005 <input type="checkbox"/> The Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai 2015	
	<p>Please describe your mode of participation</p>	
<p>Global Platform</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> 2007 <input type="checkbox"/> 2009 <input type="checkbox"/> 2011 <input type="checkbox"/> 2013 <input type="checkbox"/> 2015	<p>Please describe your mode of participation</p>
<p>Regional Platform</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Arab States <input type="checkbox"/> Asia <input type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific	<p>Please describe your mode of participation</p>
<p>National Platform</p>	<p>Which country?</p>	<p>Please describe your mode of participation</p>

*Please specify the name of UNISDR campaigns and initiatives you have been involved including “Making Cities Resilient: My city is getting ready!” and “One Million Safe Schools and Hospitals”*

Name of campaign/initiative	Your mode of participation

*Please specify any other UNISDR conferences or initiatives participated if not included in the above categories*

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In less than 400 words, please describe the remarkable and innovative effort carried out by the nominee to reduce the impact of disasters and build disaster resilience under the theme “Reducing disaster mortality.”

In less than 100 words, please describe how the nominee’s work is funded.