

THE INTERCULTURAL INNOVATION AWARD

APPLICATION GUIDELINES 2017
WWW.INTERCULTURALINNOVATION.ORG

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN
UNITED NATIONS ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS & BMW GROUP





THE INTERCULTURAL INNOVATION AWARD

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

2017

Since 2011, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the BMW Group have engaged in a historic partnership geared towards creating a new model for collaboration between the private sector and the UN system. Together, they have established the BMW Group Award for Intercultural Innovation, in support of the Alliance of Civilizations, under the auspices of the United Nations (otherwise known as The Intercultural Innovation Award), whose mandate is to select highly innovative grassroots projects that promote intercultural dialogue and understanding, making vital contributions to prosperity and peace.

With the objective of “helping people to help themselves,” both UNAOC and BMW Group mobilize their resources, time and networks to support the awardees. This new model of collaboration between the UN and the private sector creates deeper impact, as both partners provide their respective expertise to ensure the sustainable growth of each project.

Eligible to apply for the Intercultural Innovation Award are not-for-profit organizations managing projects focused on promoting intercultural dialogue and understanding, and who are willing to expand their range of action. Examples include projects in the fields of combating xenophobia, education for global citizenship, interfaith dialogue, migration and integration, prevention of violent extremism, as well as initiatives addressing the needs of specific groups in promoting intercultural understanding (e.g. faith-based, youth, women, media, etc.). Projects within this competition need to be sustainable.

The Intercultural Innovation Award **will be bestowed upon ten organizations.**

The main objective of the Intercultural Innovation Award is to identify and support innovative projects that are already being implemented and have potential for expansion and replication. The award is given to the organization that is implementing the project with the overall objective of helping the organization to expand and adapt the project to other contexts. Projects presented within this call must have shown successful outcomes during at least its first year of implementation.

Awardees will benefit from a comprehensive one-year program aimed at enabling the transfer of their project to other contexts. After one year, a detailed evaluation will be performed in order to assess the impact of the award on the recipients.

This one-year support program consists of funding, training and capacity building, customized support and mentoring, recognition and visibility, and membership to “Intercultural Leaders”. After the one-year support program, alumni of the IIA will still benefit from their Intercultural Leaders membership, which gives access to a unique community of change makers working in the field of intercultural dialogue.

THE AWARDS

FUNDING

Awardees will receive funding to be used for project expansion and/or replication of their project. The total amount of the funding pool is USD 100,500 distributed as follows:

1st	USD 40,000
2nd	USD 20,000
3rd	USD 15,000
4th	USD 8,000
5th	USD 5,000
6th–10th	USD 2,500

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

In order to increase the effectiveness of awarded organizations in their work to expand or replicate their project, UNAOC and BMW Group have developed an Intercultural Innovation Award training and capacity building program. Awardees will gather twice during the one-year of support to participate in a multi-day capacity building workshop addressing issues such as scaling up, financial sustainability, human resources management, communication skills, marketing and use of social media. Workshops will be facilitated by expert trainers as well as BMW Group associates. In addition, organizations will be offered the chance to participate in a series of webinars and other training opportunities in various topics of interest to them.

CUSTOMIZED SUPPORT AND MENTORING

Awardees will draw from one-year active support and consulting from UNAOC and the BMW Group in order to help them to become more efficient and to expand, as well as enable their transfer to other contexts or settings where relevant. A detailed needs assessment will be conducted with each of the awardees after the Intercultural Innovation Awards Ceremony. The specific support received will depend on the individual needs of the projects. UNAOC and the BMW Group will then mobilize additional resources to help those organizations achieve their goals. Based on experience by previous recipients, this support can be as diverse as connecting awardees to BMW Group local branches, facilitating agreements with local businesses, providing pro-bono translation, facilitating sponsorship agreements and connecting awardees to other international organizations and UN bodies.

In addition, the Intercultural Innovation Award pool of experts will offer project-related assistance and organizational development advice, in order to increase the effectiveness of awarded organizations in their work to expand or replicate their project.

RECOGNITION AND VISIBILITY

Awarded organizations will be invited to participate in the Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations attended by hundreds of Heads of States, ministers, media and civil society organizations (see a video of the Intercultural Innovation Awards Ceremony during the 7th UNAOC Global Forum here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NlsTlQdPpxU>).

Awarded organizations will also be supported in the development and implementation of a communications plan by BMW Group communications specialists.

Finally, awardees will be invited to participate in regional or global events that can serve as platforms to present their projects.

INTERCULTURAL LEADERS MEMBERSHIP

Awardees will become members of “Intercultural Leaders”, a project of UNAOC in partnership with the BMW Group. Intercultural Leaders is an exclusive skills and knowledge-sharing platform for civil society organizations and young leaders that work on addressing cross-cultural tensions. Through an innovative online system, Intercultural Leaders harnesses the solidarity of its members to maximize the impact of their work and help them foster cross-cultural understanding and cooperation. Intercultural Leaders allows its members to:

1. Be part of a unique community of change makers;
2. Connect with other organizations and individuals, learn about other projects, programmes and initiatives and collaborate with them;
3. Post their organization’s needs and receive effective help and advice from experts, including Responsible Leaders of the BMW Foundation and BMW Group associates, enabling organizations to maximize their impact;
4. Get notified of opportunities: competitions, grants, conferences, etc.

SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process for the Intercultural Innovation Award is guided by the principles of fairness, transparency and integrity. The steps outlined are intended to retain the integrity of the process whilst preserving a level of flexibility in the creation of an open and effective competitive procedure.

The selection process is composed of the following 4 steps:

ELIGIBILITY SCREENING

All submissions will be rigorously assessed using the eligibility criteria. Applicants must meet all eligibility criteria outlined below in order to be considered.

SHORTLISTING

Based on the written submissions and accompanying materials, a maximum of 50 applications will be short-listed by a pre-selection committee composed of the following: one member from UNAOC, one member from the BMW Group and two experts in the field of intercultural relations.

Shortlisted applicants will be required to provide further documentation, including but not limited to the organization's budget, draft budget for the use of funding and work plan (templates to be provided).

Only shortlisted applicants will be notified.

SELECTION OF FINALISTS

Ten finalists will be selected by an international jury of experts composed of scholars, practitioners and one member of both UNAOC and the BMW Group. Applications will be assessed using the comprehensive set of criteria outlined below.

Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed during the final stage of evaluations.

FINAL EVALUATION AND DECISION

The final decision of the international jury of experts regarding the ranking of award recipients will be announced during the Intercultural Innovation Awards Ceremony.



NASSIR ABDULAZIZ AL-NASSER

High Representative for the United Nations
Alliance of Civilizations



BILL McANDREWS

Vice President BMW Group Communications Strategy,
Corporate and Market Communications

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Organizations that submit a project to the competition need to fulfill each and every one of the following criteria to be deemed eligible:

ORGANIZATIONS' ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Status

Be registered as a non-for-profit organization such as a non-governmental organization, charitable organization, research and educational institution, labor union, indigenous group, faith-based organization, professional association, foundation and local or municipal branches of government.

Length of operation

Applying organizations must have been operational for a minimum of 2 years before April 2017; with funding base and project implementation (i.e. the organization must show registration as non-profit in their country of operation by April 2015 or earlier).

Field of action

Eligible to apply for the Intercultural Innovation Award are not-for-profit organizations managing projects focused on promoting intercultural dialogue and understanding. Examples include projects in the fields of combating xenophobia, education for global citizenship, interfaith dialogue, migration and integration, prevention of violent extremism, as well as initiatives addressing the needs of specific groups in promoting intercultural understanding (e.g. faith-based, youth, women, media, etc.)

Future work

The applying organization must have the willingness to expand the range of action of the project with UNAOC, the BMW Group and other partners.

Past UNAOC or BMW Group support

Organizations that have previously received any UNAOC support are not eligible to apply to the Intercultural Innovation Award. These other UNAOC distinctions include, but are not limited to, Living Together Peacefully in a Diverse World Prize, Youth Solidarity Fund, Entrepreneurs for Social Change, Create UNAOC and PEACEApp. Organizations that have previously received a BMW Group award for Intercultural Learning/Commitment are not eligible to apply to the Intercultural Innovation Award.

PROJECTS' ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Nature of project

Projects submitted by applying organizations to the Intercultural Innovation Award must implement new approaches and methods to intercultural understanding (to see what we understand for innovation, visit <https://interculturalinnovation.org/innovations/>).

Sustainability of the project

The Intercultural Innovation Award does not support one-time events (e.g. festivals, events, conferences. etc.).

Funding

The award does not provide base funding. The award does not fund projects that have not been implemented yet. Projects submitted within this call should have been launched for at least 12 months by April 2017 (i.e. projects submitted must have started on April 2016 or earlier).

Past UNAOC support

Projects that have been submitted to previous editions of the Intercultural Innovation Award and were not selected are eligible and encouraged to apply again. However, organizations that have previously received any UNAOC support are not eligible to apply.



2016 Awards Ceremony in Baku, Azerbaijan

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Shortlisted projects will be evaluated against a comprehensive set of criteria, scoring a maximum of 100 points. Shortlisted organizations will be requested to provide supporting evidence of meeting the criteria below. These criteria include three main categories:

THE PROJECT (60 POINTS)

Relevance (5 points): is appropriate for the targeted audience and in the local context where implemented.

Quality (5 points) - undertakes an in-depth analysis of problems/issues and set a consistent intervention strategy.

Clarity (5 points) - sets clear objectives and draws a logical connection between activities, outputs and outcomes.

Innovation (15 points) - pushes beyond typical approaches and excels in the use of original and novel methods (social media, arts, pedagogical approach, innovative training, etc.).

Measurability (10 points) - impact of the project is measurable (i.e. number of beneficiaries, polls on attitude change, assessment of behavioral changes, clear policy changes, etc.)

Sustainability (10 points) - demonstrates ability to be sustainable in the mid-long term.

Replicability (10 points) - has the capacity to be replicated and scaled-up in different settings. This is a key evaluation criterion.



2015 Capacity Building Training in Sao Paolo, Brazil



2014 Capacity Building Workshop in Munich, Germany

THE ORGANIZATION (30 POINTS)

Organizational structure (5 points) - is capable of achieving the goals set in the project.

Intercultural commitment (5 points) - has proven interest and commitment in intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation (e.g. past reports, reference letters, etc.).

Work plan and budget (10 points) - has set a realistic budget to replicate or expand the project.

Transparency (5 points) - has made genuine and demonstrated efforts to adopt a policy of transparency.

Equality (5 points) - has adopted equality and diversity policies as reflected in staff members, membership and activities.

THE APPLICATION TEXT (10 POINTS)

A total of 10 points will be awarded to applications which demonstrate clarity, conciseness and persuasiveness. The application text must show an effective communication of ideas and provides relevant examples, provide clear and concise responses to questions, and include insightful arguments and engaging narrative.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

CLICK HERE TO APPLY ONLINE
[Interculturalinnovation.org/the-award/](https://www.interculturalinnovation.org/the-award/)

Deadline for submissions is 31 May 2017 at 5:00 p.m. New York City time.

Please visit <https://www.interculturalinnovation.org/the-award/> and follow the instructions to apply. ONLY online applications are accepted.

PROJECT CONCEPT

Please reply to the following questions in a clear and succinct fashion. Only applications in English are accepted.

1. Explain your project in one sentence. (max 20 words)
2. Describe up to 5 main activities of your project and their outcomes/expected outcomes. Please provide qualitative and quantitative data that show your impact. (max. 50 words per activity and outcome, 250 words in total)
3. List up to 3 ways that your project innovates in the promotion of intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation. (max. 50 words per each way your project innovates, 150 words in total)
4. Provide up to 3 explanations as to how your organization would use the support received from UNAOC and the BMW Group to expand and replicate the project. (max. 50 words per each way your organization would use the support received from UNAOC and the BMW Group, 150 words in total)
5. Describe the issue(s) your project aims to address or the potential it has for impact. Why is your project necessary? (max. 250 words)
6. Why should your organization be selected as a finalist of this call for applications? (max. 250 words)

ATTACHMENTS

Applicants need to prepare some documents before they fill in the application form. Applicants are required to attach digital copies of the following documents:

1. Organization's proof of registration.
2. Statutes (or other document that states the goals, governance structure, etc.) of the organization.

If you have questions about the application process, you can visit the Frequently Asked Questions section of our website on

<https://interculturalinnovation.org/faq/>

If you have additional questions, please contact award@interculturalinnovation.org.

Only duly completed applications will be considered. Applicants may be requested to supply documentary evidence which supports the statements made above. Failure to do so can result in disqualification.

All personal data provided to UNAOC and the BMW Group is kept confidential. By clicking on the "Submit" button applicants agree to the publication of his/her name, the name of the participating organization, its address and other submitted materials on the interculturalinnovation.org website and any media now existing or subsequently developed, for any UNAOC-BMW Group purpose.



Velma Šarić of "Post-Conflict Research Center", Intercultural Innovation Awardee with former United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser

TIMELINE

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

WEDNESDAY 31 MAY 2017

AT 5:00 P.M. NEW YORK CITY TIME

We strongly encourage applicants to apply early, in order to minimize the risk of last minute applications. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

SHORT-LISTING

The pre-selection committee will select a shortlist of a maximum of 50 applicants. Short-listed applicants will be required to provide further documentation including a detailed budget and a detailed activity plan of the project (using templates to be provided).

EVALUATION

An international jury composed of renowned scholars, experts, and members of the BMW Group and UNAOC will evaluate short-listed applications.

INTERVIEWS

Short-listed applicants will be interviewed.

AWARDS CEREMONY

The final results (i.e. ranking of finalists) will be announced during the Intercultural Innovation Awards Ceremony.

THE INTERCULTURAL INNOVATION AWARD



DISCLAIMER

UNAOC and BMW Group reserve the right to not select any applicants or to cancel the next edition of the Intercultural Innovation Award for any reason. UNAOC and BMW Group accept no liability for cancelling the next edition of the Intercultural Innovation Award or for anyone's failure to receive actual notification of cancellation.

APPLY ONLINE

InterculturalInnovation.org/the-award/

MORE INFO

InterculturalInnovation.org

CONTACT US

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