

Yidan Prize
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Making a nomination for the 2025 Yidan Prize

The Yidan Prize is the most significant accolade in education. Tell us about the individuals and teams with the greatest potential, and we could support them on their way.

“The Yidan Prize recognizes that education can change lives: for individuals, and collectively as a society.”



Andreas Schleicher

Head, Judging Panel, Yidan Prize for Education Research
Director for the Directorate of Education and Skills, OECD

“This is a completely open and inclusive prize: everyone can apply for it. The most important element is that your work should demonstrate impact — that you have a solution that can make a positive difference to people’s lives.”



Dorothy K. Gordon

Head, Judging Panel, Yidan Prize for Education Development
Board Member, UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education

In this guide

Thank you for your interest in the Yidan Prize. This guide is for anyone who'd like to understand our nomination process better, whether you're a nominee, a nominator, or a supporter – someone supporting a nomination.

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If you'd prefer this guide in another language, check our website

This guide is also available in French, Portuguese, Simplified Chinese, and Spanish – visit our website at yidanprize.org/the-prize-and-nominations/nominations for all versions. [Let us know](#) if there's another language you think we should add in the future. If there is any inconsistency or ambiguity between the English version and the translated versions, the English version shall prevail.

Scan the QR code to view our nomination webpage.



Dates for your diary

Our nominations close on

31 March 2025

at 12 noon HKT (GMT+8)

We'll announce the laureates in

September 2025

And present the awards to the laureates in

December 2025



Getting to know the Yidan Prize

We launched the Yidan Prize Foundation in 2016 for one reason: to create a better world through education. Where learning flourishes, so does society, and we're here to champion the people making that possible.

An all-encompassing education accolade

Each year, we award the Yidan Prize to individuals and teams in two areas:



Education Research

The theory of learning — science, psychology, statistics — that can help educators gain a more methodical understanding of their approaches.



Education Development

The practice of learning — new methods, ways to make education more widespread — so we can champion techniques that work.

A prize that goes beyond project funding

We award each year's laureates a gold medal and a total sum of HK\$30 million — half is a cash prize to recognize their contribution to the sector (shared equally for teams); the other half is a project fund distributed over three years to support the laureate's work. They could use this latter half to expand their reach into a new region, begin a new project, or keep doing more of the same brilliant work. We'll be by their side throughout, supporting them to evaluate how they're progressing and mapping their impact.

Crucially, we also create connections: from our laureates to our [Council of Luminaries](#), to the wider pool of people who attend our events. We're building a community — one with the power to change the way the world learns.

We've deliberately chosen these awards to inspire change and conversation

We see these prizes — and the events and networks surrounding them — as a way to bring bright minds together to exchange ideas. That's why the two prizes work in harmony: to build a network of educational experts who're as strong in research as they are in practical application, in classrooms across the world.

For example: we awarded our first Education Research Prize to Professor Carol Dweck: her leading-edge work in growth mindset underpins and inspires practice. And as our 2020 Education Development laureates at CAMFED (the Campaign for Female Education) work with marginalized girls in sub-Saharan Africa, they partner with research institutes to track what's most effective, who's benefiting, and the costs.

Where any individual or team's work covers both research and development, we welcome two submissions: one for research and one for development.

Collaboration is key — so we also encourage nominations from teams

Complex problems need bright minds working together to solve them, and our prizes are open to teams of up to three. That could be a research group working on a project together, or even several people contributing to the same idea from separate organizations or locations. If you want to nominate a larger team, choose up to three representatives.

If a team does win either award, they'll each get their own individual medal and certificate, and split the cash prize and project fund. We're heartened to see more team nominations every year, and look forward to welcoming more teams to our laureate family.



Meet our Founder, Dr Charles CHEN Yidan

Charles has cherished education since his school days

Today, he recognizes the doors that have opened for him have done so because of his lifelong love for learning. “My grandma was illiterate,” Charles once wrote. “She lived through war, famine, and poverty; she raised my father alone — the first college graduate in the village.”

“She always encouraged me to study, too: boiling red eggs for luck on my first day of school, sitting with me as I did my homework. I call her an illiterate educator: ordinary as she was, she taught me the value of education — and showed me it should be open to everyone.”

The Yidan Prize exists for this reason: to open education for everyone

The best way to do that is through connections and conversation. By recognizing and bringing together the brightest minds in educational research and practice — and building a global community around them — we’ll be able to exchange ideas faster, and improve access and quality of learning across the world.

We also follow this spirit of openness in our nomination process. We take a meticulous approach to choosing laureates fairly: appointing an impartial, independent judging committee of experts, working to [set criteria](#) and welcoming nominations from many different nations and sectors.

Who can make nominations for the Yidan Prize?

We welcome all nominations; our process is open to everyone. You don't need to be invited to nominate a team or individual for either the Education Research or Education Development prize.

That said, we do have the following guidelines to make sure nominations stay fair.

Can you speak to what impact the team or person has had?

Officially, you need to be a 'credible witness' to their impact: you need to have a thorough understanding of the work. As such, most of our nominators tend to be members of government bodies, non-governmental organizations, or professional associations. Otherwise, they're professional educators, respected figures in the sector, or work in the same organization or sphere as the nominee(s). But you don't have to tick one of those boxes: we welcome nominations from all.

Can you help find other supporters?

Our strongest nominations include five supporter letters, which is the maximum number you can include (you must add at least two). To give our judges a holistic view, we ask that you include a mix of different external supporters. They might be partners, collaborators, donors, or colleagues, each with a unique perspective on your nominee(s) work. You can include **at most one** supporter from this person or team's organization.

You are allowed to nominate yourself — you'll just need at least three supporters instead of two. We consider self-nominations in exactly the same fair, unbiased way, so there's no advantage or disadvantage to nominating yourself.

Remember: if you're nominating a person or team, you can't also be a supporter of them. That doesn't stop you from also being a supporter of an unrelated nomination.

Can the same nominee appear in more than one nomination?

Yes — they can be nominated more than once in the same category, or they can be nominated in both categories if their work spans both research and development.

Having more than one nomination in one category doesn't increase the nominee's chances. If you know others who are also interested in nominating the same person or team, consider choosing one nominator between you, and asking everyone else to be a supporter. It'll probably make a stronger application overall.

There's a handful of exceptions

You can't make a nomination (or support one) if:

- you'd like to recognize your immediate family member(s)
- you'd like to recognize — or you are — one of our current board directors, or on our current judging or advisory committees
- you'd like to recognize someone posthumously*.

* In the sad event that an individual nominee passes away during the judging process, we'll withdraw their nomination. If they were part of a team, we'll still consider the rest of the team's nomination.

How do I make a nomination?

Here's the process to follow: we just ask for all your documents and descriptions to be in English.

To get you started, we've included sample forms for Education Research and Education Development.

1. Register for a nominator account at nomination.yidanprize.org

We'll need to take your full name, email address, postal address, phone number, organization, and your role at this point.

2. Share your nominee's (or nominees') biography

Or your biography, if you're self-nominating. This should be 200 words or fewer; we'll use it in our announcement if they win.

3. Explain why they deserve this accolade

Write up to 500 words to explain the work of the person or people you're nominating and the achievements or outcomes their projects have created. You can include both the impact their work is having now and what you think they could achieve with the help of the prize funding.

4. Tell the judges how your nominee(s) meet the criteria

When our Judging Committee assess nominations, they're particularly looking for nominations that meet [our four criteria](#). Please write a maximum of 1,000 words under each.

5. Upload a two-minute video from the nominee(s)

The nominee(s) (or you, if you're self-nominating) should say in their own words how they'd use the HK\$15 million project fund. If you're a team, we'd like to see all nominees on screen and speaking to the camera so we can understand each of your unique roles in this project.

For our judges, this is one of the most helpful parts of the nomination. And don't worry: they're not swayed by expensive edits or any particular appearance. They're watching for authentic passion, commitment, and great ideas for getting the most impact out of the prize funds.

The video must be an MP4, MOV, AVI, or M4V format under 200MB, ideally with 1920 x 1080 (1080p) dimensions. If you struggle to upload your video, you can link to it instead. Please make sure the link remains valid until September 2025. And if for any reason your nominee(s) would find it difficult to give a verbal presentation, let us know at nomination@yidanprize.org.

6. For Education Research, share the nominee's (or nominees') relevant publications

Please share at least two published work (or up to five). While we accept books, book chapters, articles, teaching materials, presentations, and digital media (such as videos), you should include at least two peer-reviewed research articles. Most people upload them as PDFs but we can also accept links.

7. For Education Development, you can share independent reviews

We strongly encourage you to upload any external or internal evaluation that will show our judges the impact and potential of the nominee's (or nominees') work.

8. Upload the [supporters' letters](#)

The maximum word limit for each letter is 5,000 words, but you don't have to reach it; most letters are one to two pages long. We need at least two (or three if you're self-nominating) and at most five. You can either scan in these letters (on official letterheads, please), or paste the text into the text box. Either way, we'll need contact details for each supporter.

Supporters give our judges an all-round view of the nominee's work and impact from people outside their organization. You can include at most one letter from the nominee's colleague.

Re-submissions

We welcome re-submissions, and since 2020, we've kept all nominations on our system so you can resubmit for any future years. We'll prompt you when the next round opens so you can log back in, make updates, and submit again. Or you can let us know you're not planning to submit this year.

You don't have to edit the form if it's all up to date. But of course you can add new evidence or supporter letters. You can use the same letters as before, as long as the supporter is happy with that. We'll send them a confirmation and might get in touch for more information, so you should always check with them.

Using the nomination platform

We only accept nominations submitted online, using our platform. If you've never used it before, here's what to expect:

1. Once you've [created an account](#), we'll send you a confirmation email. Please open this when it arrives — you'll need to click the link to activate your account.
2. Once that's done, you can start your nomination straight away. You can complete the form in any order, and come back to edit as often as you like before submitting. Save as you go, so you don't risk losing any work.
3. When you're ready, press 'Preview'. Check it through and make any edits you need. Once you're happy, hit 'Submit'. You can download a PDF of your nomination, and we'll email you to say we've got it.
4. After submission, you can still make changes if you need to — our judges don't look at anything until after the deadline.

That's everything. If you have a question for us later on, get in touch with our Secretariat at nomination@yidanprize.org, quoting your 'form ID' (it's on your nomination form). But please don't send any extra information by post or email — we can't review it.

Don't forget to have everything to hand before you get started. It's a lot easier and quicker that way. There's a [checklist](#) at the end of this guide to help you.

Meet our Judging Committee

Chairman, Judging Committee, Yidan Prize



Dr Koichiro Matsuura

Chairman, Judging Committee,
Yidan Prize

Former Director-General, UNESCO

The Judging Committee is made up of a diverse group of independent experts, appointed by invitation from our Board of Directors.

It's their role to review nominations and decide on each year's laureates, and as they do, they hold themselves (and are held) to the highest standards of fairness, openness, and non-bias. The Committee is led by the Chairman and consists of two panels – one for research and one for development – they make final decisions on both awards collectively.

Judging Panel, Yidan Prize for Education Research



Andreas Schleicher

Head, Judging Panel, Yidan Prize for
Education Research

Director for the Directorate of
Education and Skills, OECD



Dr Felice J. Levine

Executive Director, American
Educational Research Association
(AERA)



Dr Faisal Bari

Chairman, Institute of Development
and Economic Alternatives (IDEAS)



Professor Svein Sjøberg

Professor Emeritus in Science
Education, Oslo University



Dr Elizabeth M. King

Non-resident Senior Fellow,
Brookings Institution



Professor Zhang Min-xuan

Director, Teacher Education Centre
under the auspices of UNESCO

It's a meticulous process, designed to recognize the most worthy recipients. For that reason, we ask that you don't contact any of our judges directly about your nomination.

You can see the full judging committee below, or [visit our website](#) to find out more about them.

Judging Panel, Yidan Prize for Education Development



Dorothy K. Gordon

Head, Judging Panel, Yidan Prize for Education Development
Board Member, UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education



Dr Suzanne Grant Lewis

Chair of Education Science and Policy, Education.org



Warren Ang

Founder and CEO, Voyage



Kiran Bir Sethi

Founder and Director, Riverside School



Vicky Colbert

Founder and Director, Fundación Escuela Nueva



Professor José Weinstein

Director, School Leadership Program, Diego Portales University

What are the judges looking for?

To make the process impartial, the judges assess nominations against a set of four criteria: to what extent is the nominee's work future-oriented, innovative, transformative, and sustainable?

Although those headlines are broadly similar for both the Education Research and Education Development prizes, their specific criteria are different.

We don't look for particular themes, regions, or types of project – our judges review every submission on its own merits.

| Education Research | Education Development |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Future-oriented | |
| <p>We're looking for evidence that it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> addresses one or more critical issues in education has results that already have (or look likely to have) a wide global impact could meet new challenges and spread inclusive and fair education for all has the potential to shape the future of education. | <p>We want to understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> if their work addresses one or more critical issues in education if their work has results that already have (or look likely to have) a wide global impact how far ahead are they looking for challenges and opportunities in education through their work how they are creating an improved education system for a brighter future if they can meet new challenges and spread inclusive and fair education for all if they have the potential to shape the future of education. |

“We are looking for people who can show us how their work links education theory to practice. Generally, that is not a person or team working in isolation. Our laureates tend to be expert networkers and collaborative partners. This increases their impact.”

Dorothy K. Gordon

Head, Judging Panel, Yidan Prize for Education Development
Board Member, UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education

Across the board, impact matters most

Our judges want to know what difference the nominee’s (or nominees’) work makes, or could make, to education systems around the world.

Your nominee’s work doesn’t have to have global reach yet — just tell us how it has potential to be expanded or replicated in other regions.

Education Research

Education Development

Innovative

We’re looking for evidence that it:

- is original, ground-breaking research
- sets the bar for high quality, scientific method
- shows new, creative approaches to education
- could help us develop skills, knowledge, and self-awareness to shape society for the better.

We’re looking for evidence that their work:

- is ground-breaking
- disrupts the usual way of doing things
- shows new, creative approaches to education
- could help us develop skills, knowledge, and self-awareness that shape society for the better.

Transformative

We’re looking for evidence that it:

- has influenced leading educators’ thinking
- can influence the global education community
- looks likely to build a better world through education.

We want to understand:

- how their work can change systems or ways of working — in part or as a whole
- if they are influencing the wider education community and inspire collaboration
- what impact their work has already had or is having on education systems.

Education Research

Education Development

Sustainable

We're looking for evidence that it:

- has already sparked change in some settings – and could spread to many more
- has the potential to create the kind of long-lasting change that makes the world better.

We want to understand:

- how their work has grown so far – and its potential to work across borders and regions
- the governance model of their work – is it transparent and accountable?
- if there's a business model for their work, and whether it's been financially stable so far
- if there are legal or regulatory threats to their work.

Final considerations

What is the potential impact?

- what does the nominee hope to achieve in three years?
- what are the key areas of focus?

How does this person or team's work resolve needs?

We want to understand:

- how serious and widespread the problem they're addressing is – now and in future
- how many people it impacts
- their unique roles in ensuring the success of their organization's work.

“High-quality research is transformative. It’s rigorous. And it helps us identify the crucial education questions of our time — so we can anticipate and build towards better future. We’re looking for work that has real impact for education practice and for public policy.”

Andreas Schleicher

Head, Judging Panel, Yidan Prize for Education Research
Director for the Directorate of Education and Skills, OECD

Tips for your nomination

Individual contributions are important – including in teams

If you're nominating a team of two or three nominees for their collaborative work, share with us how they work together in achieving their goals – each of their unique roles and contributions, how their expertise complements one another, and how their work fulfills our judging criteria as a team.

Provide as much evidence as possible

We're looking for evidence that demonstrates the impact of the nominee's (or nominees') work. In addition to describing their achievements, please insert web links or upload any documents that can help judges understand the scale of their impact.

The online nomination form lets you upload any extra documents that you think would be helpful for our judges to see, so do make the most of this – for example, is there any external press coverage you'd like to share? Are there independent evaluation reports about their work? Or you can add any additional recommendation letters.

If any of these aren't available in English, please include translations (or subtitles on videos).

Making the most of the video upload

This is a chance to speak straight to the judges – it's especially important because we don't have an interview stage. So it's not only a good moment for the nominee to talk through their plan for the HK\$15 million project fund; it's also an opportunity to show their enthusiasm. While we don't need a detailed budget breakdown, it's helpful to understand how they plan to bring their vision into reality, considering:

- project stages
- project sites
- key milestones
- the final outcome(s) and what impact they hope to achieve.

Remember, they only have two minutes – whether they're a person or a team. If they're a team, we'd like to see all members on screen and speaking to the camera, so we can understand each of their roles in this project.

Don't worry about the production quality or adding visual effects. The judges are interested in the video's content, not style. The nominee is welcome to record in their native language – in fact, sometimes that can make it easier to show passion – we just ask you to add English subtitles or provide a transcript, too.

We only use this video for judging. We won't circulate it or publish it without permission.

Writing a letter of support

If you're writing a letter of support (or asking someone else to), it's up to you how you'd like to explain the impact of the nominee's (or nominees') work – you might have felt that impact personally, or observed it in action. We already ask for details on their idea and work, so think of this as a time to add a human touch. How has this nominee changed lives (or how could they change lives) with their work?

If you're supporting a team, don't forget to describe how their work together – not only their individual achievements – makes them a good candidate for a prize.

You should address the letter to the Yidan Prize Judging Committee.

Make your response easy to read

Our judging panel won't take presentation or formatting into account, but it always helps to present your answers clearly. Avoid jargon and technical terms and break up longer paragraphs with sub-headings to make them easier to read. Signposting changes in your updated nomination can also make it easier for the Judging Committee to know what has changed since your last nomination.

When you're ready, have everything to hand

It's much quicker to upload your nomination if you've already got all the materials and details you need. [Our checklist](#) at the end of this guide will help.

If your internet is unstable, consider drafting your responses first

You can download our nomination form templates for Education Research and Education Development and draft your responses offline. When you have everything ready, simply copy and paste your responses to the nomination platform.

Don't forget you can save as you go

You can fill in your nomination form in any order, and save as you go without submitting. We recommend you save every time you finish a section, just in case.

Sometimes, we won't consider a nomination

It's rare, but we occasionally withdraw a submission from the judging process. That happens if:

- **it includes false information:** such as a fake supporter letter, inaccurate bio, or any results or claims that aren't backed up by evidence
- **the form's not filled out in English:** our judges can only review submissions in English at the moment. That includes the video: it must have an English transcript or subtitles
- **we can't be sure the nominee led the work:** for example, if the work is for an organization, the organization's leader would usually be one of the nominees; if not, they must show they endorse the submission by being the nominator or a supporter
- **there aren't any external recommendations:** we want to hear from supporters outside of the nominee's (or nominees') organization about the impact of their work. You can include at most one supporter from the nominee's (or nominees') organization
- **the nominee(s) are nominated or supported by direct family members:** to avoid any conflict of interest, we don't consider nominations from direct family members, and we disregard letters of support from family
- **you've nominated someone who's on our Board of Directors, Advisory Committee, or Judging Committee:** to make sure we maintain our rigorous, independent judging process, direct members of our organization aren't eligible for our prizes
- **the nominee has sadly passed away since submitting:** we don't award posthumous prizes because our prizes include a project fund towards the next three years of a laureate's work. But if they were part of a team, we'll continue considering the rest of the nominees.

We also strongly discourage you from contacting any of the judges about your nomination during the process.



Funding you can use where it matters most

The neuroscience of language learning. A digital platform for mentor training and development. Phone calls that helped parents keep infants learning and thriving through lockdowns.

We don't set a specific theme for our prizes, so our laureates work on a vast spectrum of projects. Other than improving education, the only common thread is the openness of our unrestricted funding.

That's because we trust our laureates to be the best judges of where funding can have the greatest impact. As long as they can show how their projects meet our criteria for scalable, long-term transformation, we can keep supporting them if priorities shift.

Learn more about our laureates and their work at yidanprize.org/laureates/



“The Yidan Prize goes beyond rewarding past work. Determining how one can use the project funding to maximize influence and impact is critical.”

Dorothy K. Gordon

Head, Judging Panel, Yidan Prize for Education Development
Board Member, UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education

Just a few of the projects supported by prize funds

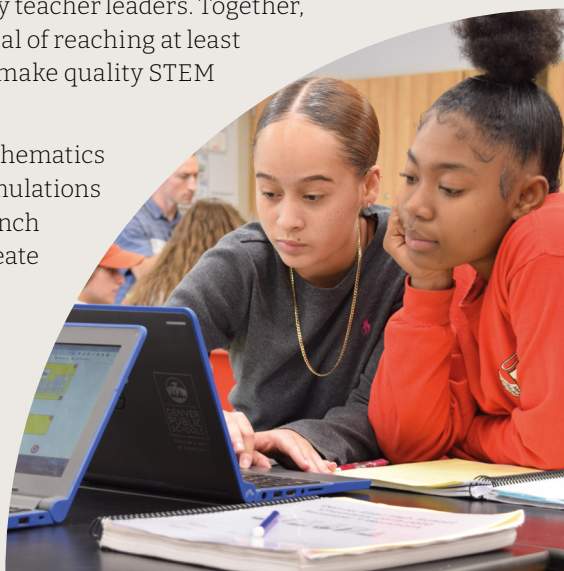
2020 Yidan Prize for Education Research

Professor Carl Wieman's work is transforming STEM teaching and learning

Carl's brainchild, PhET Interactive Simulations, has been enriching STEM classrooms and empowering teachers and learners for 20 years. With some of his prize funds, he and his team have launched the PhET Fellowship to nurture a generation of local changemakers. Recruited from across Africa and Latin America, the fellows are secondary and tertiary teacher leaders. Together, they're building robust teacher communities, with the goal of reaching at least 3,400 teachers across two continents – who in turn will make quality STEM education available to thousands of young people.

Carl's also applied some of his funds to research into mathematics and science sensemaking. And with PhET Interactive Simulations available in 120 languages, he's used a portion to help launch and expand African and global translator networks to create more evidence-based simulations in local languages.

Photo credit: PhET Interactive Simulations



2019 Yidan Prize for Education Research

Professor Usha Goswami is revealing the roots of language learning

Through language-based tasks and brain imaging, Usha and her team are uncovering the roots of language acquisition – and making it possible to spot developmental language disorders earlier so we can develop effective therapies.

It's a hands-on project, so school lockdowns became a stumbling block. We extended the project beyond three years to allow more time for recruiting families for studies. Some tasks which needed a facilitator in the room also became impossible – but our flexible support left room for the team to adapt some of the research tasks so they could be carried out over video calls.

For Usha, another big advantage of working with philanthropic funds is being able to attach projects together – and widen the scope of research. She has a number of PhD students working alongside her such as a Gates scholar with their own funding, exploring therapies in primary schools.



2020 Yidan Prize for Education Development

Angeline Murimirwa and Lucy Lake of CAMFED backing African women in charge of their own destinies

Over 30 years, CAMFED has grown from a scholarship program for girls in Zimbabwe, to a network of women empowering women through education across sub-Saharan Africa. A central part of their success is CAMFED's flagship Learner Guide program, through which young women who were once supported by CAMFED volunteer in their local secondary schools as mentors and role models for girls at risk of dropping out. For vulnerable girls, it's a lifeline of academic, social, and emotional support. For the volunteers, it's a pathway to leadership. They gain access to interest free loans and business training, and can earn a BTEC qualification to use as a stepping stone to teacher training or employment.

Lucy and Angeline have invested their prize funding in developing a Learner Guide Hub. It's a digital platform CAMFED can use to train more guides systematically through resources and information sharing, as well as keep Learner Guides closely connected to the CAMFED team for support and follow-up.

Photo credit: CAMFED/Eliza Powell



2019 Yidan Prize for Education Development

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed's BRAC and the power of play-based early learning

BRAC's project plans were agreed just as the events of 2020 unfolded. As people around the world retreated to their homes, BRAC sprang into action to develop the Pashe Achhi model — a mobile-based outreach project supporting parents with early learning activities through regular 20-minute phone calls. Since we don't tie funds strictly to specific projects, they were able to direct resources where they were most needed.

BRAC has used the majority of its prize funds to develop its Play Lab models in Bangladesh, Uganda, and Tanzania. In Bangladesh, the project helps local people — generally women — launch daycare businesses, and gives training in early childhood development and play-based learning. In Uganda, local teams are working with 25 government primary schools and 10 humanitarian Play Labs in refugee settlements. And in Tanzania, the team is supporting efforts to offer quality early learning through government schools.

Photo credit: BRAC



Unsure about something?

We understand that there's a great deal of detail to take in when you're nominating someone or being nominated. Here's where to find more information.

To learn more about the Prize's philosophy and processes, visit yidanprize.org

You'll find a wealth of information about our founding story and structures for keeping our nominations fair. You can also find links there to our social media pages where we share videos and articles that might help you understand the prize better, like speeches from previous awards presentation ceremonies and project work from our current laureates.

We often update our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page

So we'd recommend treating that as your first port of call if you have issues with your nomination, or need to check any of the requirements. We cover both the broader responsibilities of the Foundation as well as the specifics — like documents and dates — of submitting a nomination.

If you have any other questions, reach out to our Secretariat

We have a team dedicated to keeping the nomination process ticking along, so if you have questions or concerns about your application, email nomination@yidanprize.org.

Start your nomination

Begin by registering for a nominator account at nomination.yidanprize.org



Don't forget there's a [checklist](#) at the end of this guide to help you get started.

Checklist — what to have ready when you submit a nomination

2025 Yidan Prize

You'll find it quicker and easier to nominate if you have everything to hand before getting started, including a list of items to collect from your nominee(s) and supporters.

Don't forget to check that:

Everything, including the two-minute video, is in English. If it isn't, please include an English translation or subtitles.

All together, the files you upload to support your nomination are less than 40MB in file size. That doesn't include the two-minute video, which can be up to 200MB on its own.

All web links you provided are accessible until September 2025.

Remember: you don't have to fill in the form in any particular order. Just save as you go and submit at the end.

If you realize you need to make a change afterwards, just log in and edit at any time up to 31 March 2025. Our judges won't look before then.



Note: if you're nominating a person or team for their work with an organization, the organization's leader should be among the nominees, the nominator, or a supporter (to show they endorse the nomination).

From the nominee(s), we need:

- Their personal details: full name, date of birth, position, and organization; home address; cell phone number; and email
- Their CV(s)
- A biography for each nominee (up to 200 words)
- A two-minute video where they explain how they would use the project funding (file size under 200MB, in one of these file formats: MP4, MOV, AVI, or M4V). Whether they are a team or a person, we only need to see one video
- A list of up to ten key countries or regions where they are conducting their work.
- For the Education Research prize, we also need:** At least two and up to five most relevant publications. While we accept books, book chapters, articles, teaching materials, presentations, and videos, you should include at least two peer-reviewed research articles. Ideally, they are in PDF format (though we also accept links)

If you submit a link, please make sure the publication isn't behind a paywall and that it goes directly to the piece.

- For the Education Development prize, we also need:** External independent or internal evaluation reports on their work. These are optional, but we encourage them to include any if available.

From supporters, we need:

- Separate recommendation letters from up to five supporters (up to 5,000 words for each). Most people include five, but you need to include at least two. If you're nominating yourself or your team, you'll need at least three. You can include at most one supporter from the nominee's organization
- All supporters' personal details: full name, position, and organization; postal address; cell phone number; and email.

From the nominator, we need:

- A personal statement on why the nominee(s) should be a Yidan Prize laureate (up to 500 words)
- Up to 1,000 words on each of the judging criteria, explaining how the nominee(s) and their achievements are future-oriented, innovative, transformative, and sustainable.
- For the Education Research prize, we also need:** An explanation of the nominee's (or nominees') future plans.
- For the Education Development prize we also need:** An explanation of how the nominee's (or nominees') work resolves needs — how serious and widespread the problem they're tackling is, and who it impacts
- A description of the education themes of the nominee's (or nominees') work. You can choose one or more from: education in emergencies; equity, access, and diversity; policymaking and systemic change; foundational learning; learning or teaching methods and environments; social emotional learning; technology; lifelong learning
- Any other supporting documents for this nomination. These are optional, but we strongly recommend that you share any other relevant information that will help our judges see why the nominee(s) should be a Yidan Prize laureate.

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