

## 2021 WISE Awards Guidelines

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This document addresses the following questions:

- 1 – What are the WISE Awards?
- 2 – Who can apply/nominate a project for the WISE Awards?
- 3 – What type of project is eligible?
- 4 – What is the submission process and timeline?
- 5– How are the projects selected and evaluated?
- 6 – Acknowledgement of general terms and conditions

### 1 - WHAT ARE THE WISE AWARDS?

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Each year, the WISE Awards recognizes and promotes six innovative projects that address global education challenges and transforming communities. The selected projects are models of excellence that serve as an inspiration for others to improve education through innovation and creative action.

Each WISE Awards winning project will receive US\$20,000, and will benefit from increased public interest through media exposure and other channels. **The WISE Awards is not a grant scheme aimed at supporting projects, nor is it intended to be a source of funding for new and untried ideas.** Any such applications or nominations will not be considered.

### 2 - WHO CAN APPLY/NOMINATE A PROJECT FOR THE WISE AWARDS?

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The 2021 WISE Awards submission procedure accepts **both** applications and nominations.

Ongoing/existing education projects run by any type of organization such as colleges, universities, academic networks, schools consortia, civil society and community organizations, governments, international agencies and private-sector companies working in the field of education are invited to apply or nominate.

Projects can also belong to **any education sector** such as pre-primary, primary, secondary, tertiary, vocational training, higher education, special needs education, education for people with disabilities, informal learning, and distance-based, non-formal and lifelong learning.

Finally, projects from any part of the world can apply or be nominated for the WISE Awards.

#### **APPLICATIONS**

Applications should be for original works and projects, and should be submitted by a representative working within the project. All applicants should therefore guarantee that their organization, or they themselves, originated the project, and should not hold WISE liable for any action or claim from a third party with respect to the project submitted.

## **NOMINATIONS**

Nominations can be submitted by persons external to the organization running the project, this could be a beneficiary, partnering organization, government agency...etc. Nominators will be requested to identify themselves in the submission form, although this information will be kept confidential by WISE, **nominators may or may not request information from the project in order to best fill out the nomination form.** However, WISE will contact nominated projects if they are shortlisted for the Pre-Jury evaluation.

## **PREVIOUS APPLICANTS**

Anyone who has submitted a previous application to the WISE Awards can submit a new application for the same – or for a different – project.

## **PREVIOUS WINNERS**

Previous recipients of the WISE Awards are **not eligible** to apply for the 2021 WISE Awards. Moreover, others involved in the projects and/or activities that have received previous WISE Awards are not eligible to apply on behalf of the same project or activity.

## **3 - WHAT TYPE OF PROJECTS ARE WE LOOKING FOR?**

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The WISE Awards recognize innovative educational projects that have already demonstrated a transformative impact on individuals, communities and society.

**The ideal project would be an ongoing, innovative and impactful education initiative that:**

- Has an excellent record of proven success
- Is financially sustainable
- Has a clear plan indicating the project's future objectives and future development
- Is scalable
- Is replicable in other contexts and regions of the world
- Has a clear understanding and knowledge of:
  - o its innovative nature;
  - o its distinctiveness within its sphere of action, and;
  - o the type and depth of its impact on its beneficiaries.

## **MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS**

Only **one** application can be submitted for a single educational activity or project. This condition applies in instances where different organizations submit similar applications for the same educational activity or project, in this case **all applications will be deemed ineligible.**

Individuals may only submit a single application. Other individuals working for the same organization are allowed to submit different applications for different educational activities.

## **MULTIPLE NOMINATIONS**

Several nominations from different individuals may be submitted for the same project, although **this has no bearing on the judging process.**

The same nominators may submit several nominations for different projects.

## **LANGUAGE**

The language for applications to the 2021 WISE Awards is **English**. Whilst the quality of written English is not a criterion for assessing applications, it is strongly recommended that applicants pay particular attention to ensuring that their applications can be properly understood in English.

## **4- WHAT IS THE SUBMISSION PROCESS AND TIMELINE?**

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### **ELIGIBLE SUBMISSIONS**

It is possible to **apply** for a WISE Awards on behalf of your own project, or to nominate another project for the WISE Award.

**In order for the application/nomination form to be eligible, your submission must:**

- Be entered into the official form on the online system (curriculum vita or other forms of documents will not be considered)
- Be complete and accurate
- Be submitted in English
- Be submitted online by the official deadline at <https://programs.wise.org.qa/>
- In the case of an application, the form must include the contact details of two supporters (e.g. former donors, local governments, other NGOs, etc.)

### **TIMELINE**

- The deadline for submission of applications is **December 20, 2020, 13.00 GMT**.
- The Pre-Jury will review shortlisted eligible applications.
- The shortlisted Finalists will be announced in April 2021.
- An Innovation Assessment will be organized, as described below.
- The Jury will review the finalists based on the submitted forms and the due diligence conducted remotely.
- Announcement of the six winners mid-September 2021.
- The six winners will be celebrated in person or virtually in the WISE 2021 Summit.

## **5- HOW ARE THE PROJECTS SELECTED AND EVALUATED?**

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### **INNOVATION ASSESSMENT**

In the event that your project is amongst the finalist projects, applicants agree and allocate time for a remote innovation assessment. This assessment will be conducted virtually from a distance between February and May of 2021.

## **PRE-JURY**

A Pre-Jury of education experts will be responsible for evaluating the initial applications or nominations and will propose a shortlist of finalists based on the criteria and the information provided in the application forms. WISE will approve the selection of around 15 finalists.

## **JURY**

The shortlisted applications of the finalists will be reviewed by a Jury composed of prominent educational figures drawn from government, civil society, the private sector, international organizations, universities and social entrepreneurs. The Jury will select the six winning projects.

Prior to any decision by the Pre-Jury and the Jury, and during the entire selection process, WISE and/or the Pre-Jury or the Jury reserve the right to ask for clarification or supplementary information or documentation from the applicants. Additionally, information provided on the submitted forms will be reviewed and, in the event of any false or inaccurate information, the application will be deemed invalid.

## **6 - ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

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### **PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE**

In the case of an application, initial applicant will receive the Award on behalf of the project. Teams should select **one** project representative to apply and be the recipient of the Award.

In the case of a nomination, the project will be asked to select one project representative, should the project reach the finalist stage.

### **COMMUNICATION**

WISE reserves the right to publicize the finalists and the winning projects by means of any kind of communication (internal and/or commercial advertising), through any promotional media (press, magazines, catalogues, websites, etc.) and all over the world.

This communication may be in the form of pictures, recordings (audio and video) and texts supplied by each of the Finalists and winning projects.

By reaching the finalist stage of the WISE Awards, contestants agree to provide photos and descriptions of their projects at the time of the Awards and for a period of at least two years following the Awards. They also acknowledge the right of the WISE initiative to use this material.

Finalists and winning projects agree to provide the WISE initiative with information on any developments related to their projects that may be a result of, or linked to, the WISE initiative and the WISE Awards.

The representatives of the winning projects also agree to give full access and facilitate, when necessary, the film production and innovation assessment conducted by a third party assessor.

### **DATA PROTECTION**

By taking part in this competition, applicants agree that their personal details will be included in a database owned by the WISE initiative, which will be the exclusive custodian of the said details for the purpose of managing the specified competition. The WISE initiative will not sell or distribute applicants' personal data to third parties.

Applicants have the right to access and modify any personal data concerning themselves. Applicants also have the right to refuse to be included in a database and may exercise these rights at any time by making the appropriate request in writing to [awards@wise.org.qa](mailto:awards@wise.org.qa).

### **LIABILITY**

WISE reserves the right to modify the conditions of the call for projects and/or the Awards at any time.

WISE shall not be liable if the call for projects is extended, shortened, modified or cancelled, or if problems arise with the website or due to loss of materials in e-mail and/or postal services.

Applicants cannot dispute the choice of Finalists or the winning projects nor can they dispute the allocation of the Awards.

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

WISE owns the intellectual property rights for texts, photos, films, documentaries, etc. made for the WISE initiative and also for the trademarks and logos appearing in various supporting media. Consequently, the applicants cannot use them, in whole or in part, unless they have received specific authorization from the WISE Team.

### **GOVERNING LAW – JURISDICTION**

These rules for the WISE Awards are governed by Qatari law and, in the event of a dispute regarding their interpretation or performance, such a dispute shall be submitted to the exclusive jurisdiction of the competent courts in Doha, Qatar.

### **INFORMATION AND QUERIES**

To access the application system and for further information about the 2021 WISE Awards please visit the official website: <http://www.wise-qatar.org/wise-works/wise-awards>. For any queries, please contact the WISE Team through the website or by email: [awards@wise.org.qa](mailto:awards@wise.org.qa).

### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES OF “THE 2021 WISE AWARDS”**

Applying for the 2021 WISE Awards implies full acceptance of and respect for these rules by the applicants.

Interpretation of these rules falls within the exclusive competence of WISE.