



The Human Rights Recognition Awards –HRRRA 2023

“Women Championing Environmental Rights”

Concept Note

Why the Human Rights Recognitions Awards was initiated?

Every year on December 10th, [International Human Rights Day](#) is observed in remembrance of the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. This declaration was a landmark achievement in the history of human rights as it established the fundamental rights that should be enjoyed by all individuals irrespective of their race, gender, religion, or nationality.

In 2021, the Geneva Centre established the [Human Rights Recognition Awards \(HRRRA\)](#) to mark the occasion of International Human Rights Day. The Awards are a tribute to the tireless efforts of individuals that work to promote and protect human rights worldwide. This year's edition of the HRRRA Awards is even more special as it celebrates the [75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) and its fundamental rights of Equality, Freedom & Justice for All.

Theme for 2023

Women Championing Environmental Rights




The focus of the 2023 HRRRA will be on "Women Championing Environmental Rights". This theme is intended to acknowledge and pay tribute to women who have exhibited remarkable skills, abilities and innovation in the realm of environmental protection, conservation, and sustainability. These include but are not limited to, safeguarding natural resources, championing renewable energy, advocating for climate justice, promoting sustainable agriculture, and implementing waste reduction measures.

The primary objective of the 2023 HRRRA is to encourage and empower more women to assume leadership positions in the domains of environmental protection and sustainability, and thereby robustly promote and defend environment-related human rights. By recognizing the exceptional accomplishments of women in these fields, the awards aim to amplify their voices, raise awareness of their work, and inspire others to follow their lead.





Selection Process and Criteria

There are two ways to apply for the HRRRA: through public calls or by invitations. All applicants are required to complete the application form via the designated website. A distinguished and impartial international jury, which includes experts in environmental rights and a former HRRRA awardee, is responsible for selecting the recipients. The jury evaluates nominations based on the following criteria:

-  Nominees must align with this year's theme, "Women Championing Environmental Rights," and have been involved in the related, mentioned activities for at least two years.
-  Nominees must provide evidence-based proof that their work benefits the local community. To support their nomination, they will complete a Selection Form that includes external documentation, such as references and support materials from partners, beneficiaries, media, or other external stakeholders. The nominee must also outline how the financial contribution of the award will be used to advance their ongoing project or a new initiative.
-  Nominees are expected to be actively engaged in related activities at the time of nomination.

Nomination Process

A shortlist of nominees will be submitted to the Awards jury on the basis of a pre-selection by the Geneva Centre. Following the application deadline, the jury will review this shortlist and select the four awardees. The process will then proceed as follows:

-  Contacting the shortlisted nominees.
-  Those selected to receive the 2023 HRRRA will be informed of their selection at the latest by the beginning of December, followed by an online award ceremony on Friday 8th December 2023, since the 10th falls on a Sunday.

Award Categories



Award of Environment Rights Champion: A financial award of 1000 USD will be presented to each of the three finalists.



Award of Honor: The Honorary Award will be presented to one finalist (no monetary award included).

All awardees will receive a *Certificate of Recognition* after the Award Ceremony.

Key Dates



Selection of Nominees: November 2023



Finalists Announced: 1st December 2023



Awards Ceremony: 8th December 2023

Award Ceremony

An online ceremony for the HRRRA awards will take place on Friday, December 8th. The ceremony is expected to be attended by several interested parties, including former HRRRA 2021 & 2022 awardees, representatives from Permanent Missions, international and Geneva-based partners, academic institutions, various international organizations, NGOs, the media and members of the public.

About the Geneva Centre

Established in Geneva in 2013, the Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement & Global Dialogue (GCHRAGD) is an independent think-tank and advocacy institution committed to promoting a universal human rights system based on values of non-discrimination, equity, inclusivity and solidarity. In 2017, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) granted the Centre special consultative status. The Geneva Centre's mission is to identify and actively promote human rights and contribute to efforts to address the main challenges, as well as encourage those who work in this field.