Article 2 – Award and Frequency

The 2016 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Heritage Conservation have been introduced to recognize and promote exemplary heritage conservation achievements in the Asia-Pacific region. The Awards are presented annually for projects that demonstrate excellence in the field of heritage conservation.

Article 3 – Objectives

The objectives of the Awards are:

a. To promote the conservation of cultural and natural heritage and to recognize outstanding contributions to the field of heritage conservation.

b. To encourage public-private initiatives in successfully implementing heritage conservation projects.

c. To help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

d. To foster partnerships and collaboration among governments, institutions, and civil society organizations in the conservation and management of heritage sites.

Article 4 – Criteria for Selection

Projects eligible for the Awards shall be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Technical Excellence: Demonstrates a high level of technical and professional expertise in the field of heritage conservation.

2. Public Impact: Demonstrates significant impact at the national level, including public awareness about heritage conservation and appreciation of cultural and natural heritage.

3. Cultural Significance: Demonstrates the cultural significance of the heritage site or project and its relevance to local communities.

4. Sustainability: Demonstrates commitment to sustainable heritage management practices and the integration of heritage conservation into local development plans.

5. Public Involvement: Demonstrates the involvement and participation of local communities and stakeholders in the heritage conservation process.

6. Conservation Impact: Demonstrates the conservation impact of the project on the heritage site or property.

Article 5 – Selection Process

The Selection Committee, comprising experts from UNESCO, will evaluate the nominations and select the recipients of the Awards. The Selection Committee will consider the following factors:

1. Technical excellence of the project

2. Public impact of the project

3. Cultural significance of the project

4. Sustainability of the project

5. Public involvement in the project

6. Conservation impact of the project

The Selection Committee will submit its recommendations to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee for approval.

Article 6 – Presentation of Awards

The Awards will be presented annually at an official ceremony. The recipients of the Awards will be invited to participate in the ceremony and will be recognized for their contributions to heritage conservation.

Article 7 – Material Required for Submission

Each entry must be submitted with the following materials:

1. A thorough description of the heritage project

2. Photographic documentation

3. Architectural drawings, in A3 format

4. Any supplementary materials, such as articles, videos, or other documentation

The materials shall be submitted in PDF format, together with hard copies of the drawings and photographs.

Additional materials (articles, videos, etc.) may be provided, as per guidelines on the Awards website.

Entry materials must be submitted electronically through the Awards website.

Projects which are new structures built as historic replicas, built against historic facades and historic theme parks will not be considered within the scope of the Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts.

Projects which are submitted for consideration to the conservation category of the UNESCO Heritage Awards in the same calendar year will not be eligible for submission for the Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts.

Projects which are jointly submitted will be disqualified.

Finalists and winners will be announced in May 2017.

Jury citations.

Quotes are excerpts from the official jury deliberations.
Article 1 – Objective

The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation recognize and promote exceptional conservation and management projects in the Asia-Pacific region.

Article 2 – Award and Frequency

The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation will consist of a bronze plaque for a selected number of entries. The Award winners span a wide range of conservation projects from private, government, and civil society organizations.

Article 3 – Eligibility for the Awards

3.1 The Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts will be given at the discretion of the Jury. The Jury will, through its special Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts, recognize newly built structures that demonstrate outstanding design well-integrated into historic contexts.

3.2 Other categories of Conservation, Commendation, and Innovation are given in addition to the conservation award categories.

3.3 Projects must have been completed within the preceding 10 years at the time of submission. The project must also have been occupied or put to viable use for at least one year.

3.4 Eligible for consideration are new structures such as bridges, conservation project or should be located within or adjacent to a historic area whose essential elements are more than 50 years old.

3.5 Conservation projects must have been undertaken within the framework of a larger conservation project or should be located within or adjacent to a historic area whose essential elements are more than 50 years old.

3.6 Article 3.1 is given in addition to the conservation award categories.

Background

Established in 2005, a special Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts is given in addition to the conservation award categories. The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation recognize and promote exceptional conservation and management projects in the Asia-Pacific region. The Awards set technical and social benchmarks for cultural heritage conservation in the region.

The Awards have been made possible through the generosity of the Government of Japan, whose financial support is gratefully acknowledged.

In 2005, UNESCO launched the Jury for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation to ensure that the Awards attract the highest quality nominations and projects.

Since 2000, UNESCO has received 598 entries from 24 countries. A total of 10 projects have received the Award for exemplary conservation efforts, while 10 projects have received the Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts. In 2005, UNESCO launched the Jury for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation to ensure that the Awards attract the highest quality nominations and projects.


The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation recognize and promote exceptional conservation and management projects in the Asia-Pacific region.

UNESCO’s Mission

UNESCO recognizes that cultural heritage is of benefit to current and future generations. It is a source of inspiration for private individuals and institutions in conserving cultural heritage. The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation encourage private sector involvement and public-private collaboration in conserving heritage sites.

UNESCO is the United Nations agency with a mandate in cultural heritage. UNESCO promotes the stewardship of cultural heritage in all its manifestations, including intangible cultural heritage, in Asia and the Pacific. UNESCO promotes the stewardship of cultural heritage in all its manifestations, including intangible cultural heritage, in Asia and the Pacific.

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Deadline for Submission

Submission deadline for the 2016 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation is 31 March 2016.

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