



Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity

2025 EDITION

The €1 million Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity recognises individuals and organisations leading society's efforts to tackle the single biggest challenge facing humanity today: climate change. It recognises outstanding contributions to climate action and climate solutions that inspire hope and possibility.

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation was established in 1956 as the lasting legacy of Calouste Sarkis Gulbenkian. The Prize is a manifestation of its commitment to put sustainability at the heart of everything it does.

The Prize for Humanity enables people to make huge advances in tackling climate change. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded €5 million to different approaches to tackling climate change. The Prize money is being used to support people facing the worst impacts of climate change – including smallholder farmers, mainly women, switching to organic farming in India; international exchange of research

scientists and scholars, between the CFAES Rattan Lal Center for Carbon Management and Sequestration in United States and institutions located in Asia and Africa; a network that enables farmers to switch to regenerative biodynamic practices in Egypt; empowered indigenous communities in Borneo, grass-roots organisations in Brazil, and women-led mangrove restoration projects in Cameroon and helping flooding victims in India and Bangladesh. The Prize funding is also helping cities in Sub-Saharan Africa achieve a green transition and is scaling the work of organisations highlighting the threats of climate change and biodiversity loss.

The Prize aims to strengthen communities facing the effects of climate change, helping them to adapt and build resilience at a local level. It supports scalable solutions that will have real impact nationally and globally.

[Read more](#)

Call Conditions

1. AREAS OF RECOGNITION

The Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity jury and Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation seek nominations that demonstrate:

- Evidence of transformative solutions and the potential for long-term change.
- Clear, scalable solutions with real impact and proven environmental and social benefits.
- Work that inspires and demonstrates active leadership.
- Ideas that meet today's needs and anticipate tomorrow's challenges.

Since the Prize was launched in 2020, the independent Jury has recognised different approaches to tackling climate change, including youth mobilisation, coalition building, local solutions, scientific research, ecosystem restoration and sustainable agriculture. **Read about the previous winners.**

2. PRIZE FUNDING

The Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity, granted yearly, is worth **1 million euros**. In the event of more than one laureate being distinguished, the award will be equally divided.

The Prize should be used in a way that maximizes the impact of the recipient's work. It is not intended as a 'lifetime achievement' award, nor is it intended to be seed funding.

The Prize recognises work that has the capability to scale and to benefit communities at both the local and global levels.

By accepting the Prize, the winner will sign a protocol with the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation confirming the acceptance of the prize and agreeing on the allocation of funds, communication and activities related to the Prize.

3. SELECTION CRITERIA

The Jury is responsible for selecting the nominations according to the following criteria:

- **Innovation:** demonstrate innovative solutions and/or potential for long term transformational change.
- **Impact:** demonstrate widespread benefits for global environment and society and/or be scalable with potential for long-term impact.
- **Inspiration:** ability to serve as a model, show active leadership, or inspire others.
- **Relevance of the nomination:** timely, that is, taking into consideration the contribution it will make to address critical issues and challenges ahead.

4. CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY

The Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity is open to nominations of any individuals, organisations, or groups of people and organisations from around the world. They must be making a significant contribution to the development of solutions to tackle climate change. Nominations must demonstrate the reach or potential reach of outstanding results and provide highly relevant evidence of future impact.

Nominations must come from a third party.

The prize cannot be granted posthumously or to an organisation after ceasing its activity, nor to former members of the Jury of the Prize.

5. NOMINATIONS

Applications should be submitted by third parties; **self-nominations are not permitted.**

An organisation may nominate a candidate from within its own networks **if it is not a member of the board of trustees or decision-making bodies.**

All nominations should be submitted using the digital form available at gulbenkian.pt in accordance with the instructions provided. Nominations close on **31 January 2025 at 5PM GMT.**

The Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity team may request further information in addition to the documents submitted in the application page.

6. SELECTION

The selection process is independent and is carried out in three stages by a jury of internationally recognised experts in science, technology and politics. The President of the Jury is former Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Firstly, the Scientific Council will evaluate all nominations to ensure that they meet the selection criteria and will draw up a consolidated list of candidates. Secondly, the Jury will deliberate to identify the top 3 ranked nominations.

The final decision will be taken by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation's Board of Trustees, based on the proposal presented by the Jury.

Appeals cannot be made against the decision taken by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation's Board of Trustees.

7. KEY DATES

Nomination deadline
– **31 January 2025 (5 pm GMT)**

Winner announcement
– **The winner will be announced and broadcast via a ceremony in July 2025** (date to be announced).

8. DATA PROTECTION

All personal data of the Data Subjects made available by the nominators will be processed exclusively for the purpose of managing the attribution of the **Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity** by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, as the entity responsible for processing the data.

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation can be contacted regarding any issues related to the processing of data carried out in this context and for these purposes at <https://gulbenkian.pt/en/contact-us/>.

The personal data of the Data Subjects will be kept for the period of time necessary for the attribution and management of this Prize, except in cases where another period is required by the applicable legislation.

Some data (namely, the name of the person responsible for the application, date of application and personal data potentially included in the works and publications delivered, as well as the data collected in the award ceremony, will be kept indefinitely by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, for archiving purposes in the context of its activity of management and conservation of its cultural, intellectual and artistic collection.

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation guarantees to the Data Subjects the exercise of their rights in relation to their data, such as the right of access, rectification, erasure, objection, restriction of processing and portability, in accordance with the applicable legislation.

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation implements all necessary and adequate security measures to protect the personal data of the Data Subjects, either when the data is processed directly by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, or when the data is processed by entities subcontracted by it.

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation may process the personal data collected in this context directly and /or through subcontracting entities for this purpose (Processors), and appropriate contracts will be signed with such Processors, under the terms and with the content provided for by the applicable legislation.

Within the scope and for the purposes of the attribution of this Prize, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation may communicate the data of candidates to partner entities, for the purposes of managing publications and institutional communications. These entities may be located within the territory of the European Union or outside, and in the latter case, appropriate mechanisms will be employed at all times, under the applicable legislation, to safeguard the security of the processed personal data.

Candidates will be able to make a complaint to the Portuguese Data Protection Authority (“CNPD”) if they consider that there is a breach of the legal provisions regarding data protection by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.