



unesco

Global Network of
Learning Cities

The UNESCO Learning City Award 2024

Application form for cities

Introduction

The triennial UNESCO Learning City Awards recognize UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC) members who have demonstrated significant progress in enhancing education and lifelong learning opportunities for all. Only one city per country can receive the UNESCO Learning City Award in any given award round. The next UNESCO Learning City Award will be conferred in December 2024 during the sixth International Conference on Learning Cities (ICLC 6). A concept note with more details on the selection criteria is available [here](#), as well as a shorter [brochure](#).

Please note that the UNESCO Learning City Award 2024 is open to all UNESCO GNLC member cities with more than 12 months of membership in the network. Past awardees will not be eligible for the award for a period of six years following the receipt of a UNESCO Learning City Award.

Consequently, the cities that received the award in 2019 and 2021, as well as those which joined the network in 2024, are ineligible this cycle.

GNLC members wishing to apply for the UNESCO Learning City Award 2024 must submit the following documents to their country's National Commission for UNESCO by **31 May 2024**, copying in the coordination team of the GNLC (learningcities@unesco.org):

- The award **application form** and **consent form**;
- **Five high-resolution photos** (original, uncompressed and not resized) depicting learning city actions. Each photo must be accompanied by a short description as well as copyright information;
- **Key documents and other materials providing evidence of examples detailed in the application and** included as clearly labelled annexes as specified later in this form.

All complete applications need to be submitted to UNESCO National Commissions, copying the GNLC coordination team (learningcities@unesco.org). National Commissions will then conduct an initial evaluation and nominate a **maximum of two cities** from each country for the award. They should send the award nomination form along with the city's award application and consent form (and any supporting documents) to the coordination team of the GNLC (learningcities@unesco.org) by **28 June 2024**. Please note that any incomplete applications will be disregarded. An independent jury will then evaluate all nominated applications.

Please also note that National Commissions and the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) may request additional documents and records from your city if necessary.

Should you have any questions, please contact the coordination team of the GNLC at learningcities@unesco.org.

The UNESCO Learning City Award 2024
Application Form

For official use

Date received:

Part 1: Basic information about your city

Your city

Name of city: Click or tap here to enter text.

Name of country: Click or tap here to enter text.

Official city website address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Year of joining the UNESCO GNLC: Click or tap here to enter text.

Mayor

☐ Ms ☐ Mr ☐ other

First name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Surname: Click or tap here to enter text.

Full official title: Click or tap here to enter text.

City hall postal address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Postcode: Click or tap here to enter text.

Email address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Contact person for correspondence regarding the UNESCO Learning City Award 2024

☐ Ms ☐ Mr ☐ other

First name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Surname: Click or tap here to enter text.

Full official title: Click or tap here to enter text.

Organization: Click or tap here to enter text.

Postal address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Postcode: Click or tap here to enter text.

Telephone number (including country code): Click or tap here to enter text.

Email address: Click or tap here to enter text.

For the remaining sections 2–5 of the application, please refer to the UNESCO GNLC's [Guiding Documents](#) to aid reflection on your city's advances. As far as possible, the information you include should be corroborated by official data from city authorities and concrete figures and/or references to online sources that share supporting information (i.e. websites, publications, etc.).

Key evidence should be compiled and included as annexes to the completed application form. Depending on your context, this evidence may include learning city strategies, frameworks for intersectoral coordination, dedicated budgets for lifelong learning, core documentation for major projects and practices, materials produced for information campaigns and celebratory events etc. Please be selective in including only relevant, concrete and precise evidence and ensure all annexes are labelled with reference to corresponding sections of the application.

Your answers should be based on actions that have taken place during your city's period of GNLC membership exclusively. Efforts made prior to this will not be considered.

Part 2: Strengthening frameworks for learning city development

1. Advancement of a learning city plan (max. 400 words)

- A. What concrete steps has your city taken to develop and implement well-grounded, participatory policies and strategies to promote lifelong learning for all?
- B. Outline the medium- and long-term objectives of your learning city plan. Provide concrete details on how your city has progressed towards these goals.
- C. Please share concrete and measurable evidence that showcases the impact the implementation of your learning city plan has had on citizens.

Click or tap here to enter text.

2. Advances in stakeholder coordination and partnerships (max. 400 words)

- A. What steps has your city taken to facilitate intersectoral coordination among key stakeholders (i.e. governmental actors, non-governmental organizations, higher education institutions and private-sector bodies, among others) to enhance lifelong learning opportunities?
- B. What strategies and/or mechanisms have been adopted to drive stakeholder mobilization in your city, to support the provision of lifelong learning opportunities and ensure cohesive learning city development?

- C. Please detail any committees, alliances and/or networks constructed in your city to promote stakeholder coordination.

Click or tap here to enter text.

3. Progress in mobilizing and utilizing resources (max. 400 words)

- A. Has your city's budget for promoting lifelong learning increased? If so, please share the percentage of additional funds that have been allocated. In your response, please make explicit reference to the sources from which your city derives financial support to sustain its learning city initiatives.
- B. What steps has your city taken to increase the mobilization and utilization of monetary and non-monetary resources (e.g. public spaces, community centres, volunteer organizations, cultural venues, etc) to support its development as a learning city, particularly through its engagement in partnerships involving public- and private-sector stakeholders and/or civil society? Please provide at least two concrete examples.
- C. Outline the advancements your city has made to promote the effective use of resources to facilitate lifelong learning. You may wish to reference innovative methods it has adopted to map and utilize human, financial and cultural capital, among other resources.

Click or tap here to enter text.

4. Progress in monitoring and evaluation of learning city development (max. 400 words)

- A. In what ways has your city taken action to monitor and evaluate its progress as a learning city? You may choose to reference efforts involving an evaluation team, qualitative or quantitative reporting, consultative meetings and/or external evaluation, among others.
- B. What are the key performance indicators/mechanisms your city uses to measure its provision of lifelong learning opportunities for all? How do they relate to the [Key Features of Learning Cities](#) and/or the UN Sustainable Development Goals?
- C. Please provide detailed information on any major initiatives that have positively impacted the areas or metrics that your key performance indicators are designed to measure. Elaborate on the specific improvements achieved through these initiatives.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Part 3: Promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all

5. Advances to ensure learning is accessible to all citizens (max. 400 words)

- A. Describe at least two major initiatives, policies, strategies, partnerships, projects and/or approaches your city has initiated or strengthened that have:

(1) improved access to lifelong learning;

- (2) responded to the learning needs of diverse groups, including members of marginalized communities; and
- (3) addressed local barriers to participating in learning opportunities.

Please specify the target group and number of beneficiaries engaged in each example you provide. You are strongly encouraged to focus on programmes that have sought to address one or more of the following areas:

- financial assistance to disadvantaged groups;
- early childhood education and care;
- adult education;
- vocational training;
- inclusive curriculum development;
- language support;
- support to learners from linguistic/ethnic minorities and disadvantaged backgrounds;
- support to senior citizen learners (aged 65 years and older).

- B. What innovative methods has your city developed to keep citizens informed about the learning opportunities available to them? Examples may include the use of community-based learning spaces, maps pinpointing the locations where learning opportunities are provided or digital technologies, like mobile applications, among other efforts. Please provide at least two concrete examples.

Click or tap here to enter text.

6. Advances to foster a culture of lifelong learning (max. 400 words)

- A. How has your city strengthened its efforts to foster a culture of learning throughout life? Please detail any innovative, celebratory events your city has organized to promote the active engagement of groups and individuals in learning (including members of vulnerable communities, like women and youth). These may include:
- learning festivals;
 - library, community and museum events;
 - activities in sports/cultural/community centres, parks and other learning spaces.

For each event you reference, please specify the activities it involved and the total number of participants it engaged.

- B. Outline how these events have contributed to your city's progress in becoming a learning city, providing concrete numbers to illustrate this. You may wish to reference how far these events have increased participation rates in learning, enhanced skills acquisition and/or improved community cohesion.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Part 4: Thematic projects and practices

7. Impact of innovative thematic practices

- A. What are the flagship, innovative projects or good practices that have illustrated your city's commitment to lifelong learning and the principles of the GNLC? Please choose one comprehensive example which aligns with one of the following themes:
- lifelong learning for health and well-being;
 - digital skills development;
 - active and global citizenship;
 - educational planning, monitoring and evaluation at the local level;
 - peace education;
 - lifelong learning for employment and training.
- B. Please provide detailed and relevant documentation for this project or practice, including references to online sources that include supporting information (i.e. websites, publications, etc.), as well as concrete data that illustrate the impact of the projects or practices you have included.

(max. 100 words for each section)

Name of the initiative	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Thematic priority <i>Please choose one of the themes presented above.</i>	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Background/description	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Objective	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Main beneficiaries <i>Who are the main beneficiaries of the initiative? How many people have been impacted by this initiative?</i>	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Local government engagement	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Stakeholder/civil society/private sector involvement <i>Who are the people involved? Are they part of the local community? Who oversees the project; what are the responsibilities undertaken by each stakeholder?</i>	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Funding source <i>How is the project financed? Do the funds come from local authorities? Is the project part of a broader national/international strategy?</i>	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Main challenges associated with the initiative <i>Clarify how these have been addressed</i>	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>

Main achievements	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Evaluation <i>Detail the evaluation method used to measure the initiative's progress/impact. Share any relevant data on the impact the initiative has had.</i>	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
The initiative's potential for adaptation in different contexts	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
The initiative's contribution to the UN SDGs	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Future directions/next steps <i>What are the future, potential directions of your project, both in the short- and long-term? How do you plan to continue working on this initiative over the next few years?</i>	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>

8. Spotlight on Education for Sustainable Development and climate action

- A. The major theme for the GNLC in 2024, culminating in the Sixth International Conference on Learning Cities, is Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and climate action. What is your city's most significant, impactful and innovative project or good practice illustrating commitment to environmental protection and sustainable development?
- B. Please provide detailed and relevant documentation for this project or practice, including references to online sources that include supporting information (i.e. websites, publications, etc.), as well as concrete data that illustrate the impact of the projects or practices you have included.

(max. 100 words for each section)

Name of the initiative	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Background/description	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Objective	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Main beneficiaries <i>Who are the main beneficiaries of the initiative? How many people have been impacted by this initiative?</i>	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Local government engagement	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Stakeholder/civil society involvement	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>

<i>Who are the people involved? Are they part of the local community? Who oversees the project; what are the responsibilities undertaken by each stakeholder?</i>	
Funding source <i>How is the project financed? Do the funds come from local authorities? Is the project part of a broader national/international strategy?</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.
Main challenges associated with the initiative <i>Clarify how these have been addressed</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.
Main achievements	Click or tap here to enter text.
Evaluation <i>Detail the evaluation method used to measure the initiative's progress/impact. Share any relevant data on the impact the initiative has had.</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.
The initiative's potential for adaptation in different contexts	Click or tap here to enter text.
The initiative's contribution to the UN SDGs	Click or tap here to enter text.
Future directions/next steps <i>What are the future, potential directions of your project, both in the short- and long-term? How do you plan to continue working on this initiative over the next few years?</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.

Part 5: Wider promotion of learning city development

9. Contributions to GNLC activities (max. 400 words)

- A. What are the main contributions your city has made to the activities of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities? Please provide examples of significant actions such as participation in thematic activities, contributing presentations to or hosting webinars and workshops, organizing meetings with other members of the network, sharing knowledge and practices with the wider network etc.
- B. Please detail any actions your city has taken to promote national, regional and/or international networking among current and/or aspiring learning cities. These may include forming or supporting the creation of smaller networks or sub-networks of learning cities, as well as other collaborative engagements with GNLC member cities to promote lifelong

learning (i.e. through national and/or international partnerships, mentorship and/or peer-to-peer learning). Provide at least one concrete example.

Click or tap here to enter text.

The UNESCO Learning City Award 2024

Consent Form

For use and distribution of materials

For official use

Date received:

To: The UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL)

On behalf of my city, I agree as follows:

- I. The reports and photos I have submitted may be shared with others and presented on the internet and in publications and other materials, on the understanding that they will be fully acknowledged and credited to my city.
- II. UIL has my city's permission to use any statements and quotes my city makes in its entry for the award, during the award ceremony or in any other materials related to the award and the promotion of lifelong learning.
- III. UIL will not be liable to my city for any distorting or misleading effect resulting from the publication of my city's name, picture, report or likeness.
- IV. No fees or revenues are payable by UIL to my city or any third party in connection with the above granting of rights.
- V. Any materials submitted will not be returned.
- VI. This agreement does not oblige UIL to use any of the materials I have submitted.

In my capacity as mayor/municipal representative, I warrant to UIL that:

- I. The report submitted is original and reflects the real situation of my city.
- II. The statements made in the submission, interview, filming or other recording pursuant to this agreement are expressions of my city's current experience and belief. I agree to notify UIL of any changes in this regard.
- III. To the best of my knowledge, the materials and ancillary materials of my city's entry will not violate any right of, or duty owed to, any third party.
- IV. I am under no legal or contractual disability to grant the rights above on behalf of my city.
- V. I accept that the jury's decision is final.

I hereby release UIL and UNESCO subsidiaries, affiliates, licensees and assignees of all liability to my city of any nature arising out of any use or uses of the material.

Date:

Signature of city's mayor or official representative:

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