



ABOUT THE AWARD

The Emine Erdoğan Zero Waste International Award (ZWIA) is an initiative under the directive of Mrs. Emine Erdoğan, First Lady of the Republic of Türkiye and the Patron of the zero-waste movement as a core function of the Zero-Waste Foundation. The Foundation was established subsequent to the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly .. resolution A/RES/77/161 on 14 December 2022, to promote zero-waste initiatives to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and recognize the best practices with positive impact on improving the living environment. The above resolution designates 30 March as International Day of Zero Waste, to be observed annually.

At the request of the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution A/RES/77/161, the Secretary-General has set up an Advisory Board of eminent persons, based on voluntary contributions, selected on the basis of their knowledge, experience and expertise and with due regard to gender balance and equitable geographic representation, in consultation with Member States, for a period of three years. The resolution also aims to promote local and national zero-waste initiatives through, inter alia, the dissemination of best practices and success stories, based on the work of, and without duplication, with relevant existing regional and global platforms, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), within their respective mandates.





ABOUT THE AWARD

The Award reflects the policy and commitment of the Zero-Waste Foundation towards sustainable development of human settlements and protection of the environment on the basis of mutual international cooperation.

This prize seeks to acknowledge and honor remarkable accomplishments in the realm of zero waste. Its overarching goal is to inspire and motivate individuals, organizations, and communities globally implementing zero waste practices. The Zero Waste Foundation which is established in Türkiye, has a mission to advocate for and implement zero-waste practices on a global scale. The Foundation underscores its commitment to collaboration with UNEP and UN-HABITAT to enhance and expand its efforts. Recognizing UNEP and UNHabitat. extensive global reach on the living environment, expertise in sustainable urban development, and proven success in solid waste management and promoting zero-waste initiatives, the Foundation has identified UNEP and UN-Habitat as an important partner in the implementation of the Zero Waste Prize.

One of the most important outcomes of the above-mentioned Resolution is the establishment, the Zero-Waste Foundation by Mrs. Emine Erdoğan, First Lady of the Republic of Türkiye to establish guiding principles and distinctive criteria to recognize the best practices worthy of recognition and propagation in zero waste.





ABOUT THE AWARD

Best practices are outstanding contributions to improve the living environment. They are defined by the United Nations and the International Community at large as successful initiatives which:

- Have a demonstrable and tangible impact on improving people's quality of life;
- Are the result of effective partnerships between the public, private, and civic sectors of society;
- Are socially, culturally, economically, and environmentally sustainable.

Best practices and initiatives to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are promoted and used by the United Nations and the International Community as a means of:

- Improving public policy based on what works;
- Raising awareness of decision-makers at all levels and of the public of potential solutions to common social, economic, and environmental problems;
- Sharing and transferring knowledge, expertise, and experience through networking and peer-to-peer learning;
- Initiatives that have a positive impact on the intended beneficiaries.





SELECTION PROCESS

While the specifics of the process are still being finalized, an outline of the general framework that will be followed includes:

Selection Process Overview

The award selection process is structured in two key steps:

1. Technical Advisory Committee Review

The first step involves the review of all submissions by a Technical Advisory Committee. This committee will evaluate the submissions based on predetermined criteria and will compile recommendations for the next phase of the process.

2. Jury Selection

The second step involves a Jury of eminent individuals, who will assess the recommendations made by the Technical Advisory Committee. The Jury will ultimately make the final decision on the selection of the winners.

FOR BEST PRACTICES IN PROMOTING INITIATIVES TO ADVANCE
THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS
IMPROVING THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

