



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

Global Development Awards and Medals Competition

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Q: What is the Global Development Awards and Medals Competition?

A: One of the largest international competitions for research on development, the Global Development Awards and Medals Competition is open to researchers who are citizens of developing and transition countries, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) headquartered in these countries. The emphasis is on recognizing and supporting promising young talent and innovation in the field of development research, and development projects capable of significantly impacting the local communities.

The competition is held in three categories:

Category 1: Japanese Award for Most Innovative Development Project (MIDP): This Award is for exceptional, innovative **on-going development projects** by NGOs that have been able to implement activities with a high potential for development impact to exceptionally marginalized and disadvantaged groups located in developing and transition countries.

Category 2: Japanese Award for Outstanding Research on Development (ORD): This Award is for researchers seeking to explore any of the three competition themes (listed below) through their **research proposals** in an original, innovative and policy-relevant way.

Category 3: Medals for Research on Development (Medals): These medals are given to researchers for their **completed research papers** of outstanding nature on any of the three competition themes (listed below).

Q: Can I submit an application on any research topic?

A: No you cannot. Applications for **ORD and Medals** should focus on the following three **competition themes**:

1. Inequality
2. Social Protection and Social Policies
3. Inclusive Growth

Please note that these **themes do not apply to MIDP** applications.

Q: Is *MIDP* open to development projects in developing and transition countries?

A: Yes, *MIDP* is open to all development projects being implemented low income countries and low middle income countries in Africa, Asia, Commonwealth of Independent States, Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, Pacific Islands, and the transition economies of Eastern Europe and Central Asia. The project must

be managed by an NGO with its headquarters in a country in one of the above regions. The project must have started before **January 01, 2012**. Applications concerning a more recently implemented project, or only a project idea, or a feasibility or baseline study will not be considered. Applications for funding conferences will also not be considered.

Q: Are *ORD* and *Medals* open only to citizens of developing and transition country?

A: Yes, *ORD* and *Medals* are open only to citizens and permanent residents of developing and transition countries. Citizens of developing and transition countries temporarily residing in a developed country for no more than five years are eligible to apply.

Additionally, in the case of *ORD*, the principal investigator of the research proposal must currently reside and be a permanent resident of a developing or transition country. In case of more than one researcher, at least half of the research team (including the principal investigator) must currently reside in a developing or transition country.

Q: How can I submit my application?

A: Application along with the documents specified in the guidelines (available online: <http://www.gdn.int/amc>) should be submitted as **electronic files** only through the Online Proposal Appraisal (OPA) system (<http://opa.gdn.int>). Please note that we do not accept hard copy of applications or those sent through post. On successful submission of application, you will receive an automated e-mail confirming your application 'tracking code' and 'password' which you can then use to update your application. If you are unable to submit your application through OPA, please contact us at awards@gdn.int with the subject line: 'MIDP/ORD/Medals–Application Request.'

Q: Can I edit the application that I have submitted online and/or attach relevant documents to it?

A: Yes, you can. To edit your submission, go to OPA (<http://opa.gdn.int>) and follow these steps:

1. Click on '**Update Entry**'
2. Enter your '**Tracking Code**' and '**Password**'
3. Click '**Submit**'

You can now edit or attach the required documents in support of your application using the options available.

Q: Is there a format in which I should submit my application?

A: Yes, submissions for **MIDP and ORD** are accepted only in the **prescribed application templates** (available online: <http://www.gdn.int/amc>). There is **no template for Medals**.

Submissions must be in English language and should follow the prescribed format specified in the guidelines.

Q: Is there any age limit?

A: The upper age limit for researchers applying for **ORD and Medals** is **45 years** as of March 11, 2013.

Q: What is the last date for submitting an application?

A: The last date for submitting your application is:

- **March 11, 2013** (Indian Standard Time 6:00 PM) – for development projects, research proposals and research papers.

For more information on the competition, the complete eligibility criteria and selection process please read the guidelines (available online: <http://www.gdn.int/amc>). **Please note that applications that do not follow the guidelines will NOT be considered.** If you have further question(s) which are not addressed through the guidelines and this FAQ, please feel free to write to us at awards@gdn.int.