Idea of the Prize:

Prince Talal International Prize for Human Development carries a financial reward of US$1,000,000, awarded annually by the Arab Gulf Programme for Development (AGFUND) with the aim of inciting and encouraging innovation and creativity in human development. The idea of the Prize is stemmed from AGFUND’s approach to enhance development performance and support key development projects in order to achieve the goal of sustainability and investment in people.

Since its establishment in 1999, the prize has been known as AGFUND International Prize for Pioneering Human Development Projects. Following the passing away of His Royal Highness Prince Talal bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, founder of AGFUND, in December 2018, the AGFUND’s Board of Directors decided to rename the prize after the late Prince Talal. This decision was taken to commemorate his lifelong dedication to the service of human development and poverty alleviation through AGFUND and the other institutions he established. Hence, the prize new name is “Prince Talal International Prize for Human Development”.

The Prize has become a leading mechanism to identify successful human development projects, reward them and disseminate their innovative ideas to best contribute human development, with special emphasis on the most prominent factors that militate against development and affect the vulnerable groups, particularly women and children in developing countries. These include poverty, social exclusion, socio-economic marginalization, education and health. The Prize is now AGFUND’s incubator of distinctive projects.

Prize objectives:

Prince Talal International Prize for Human Development aims to:

1. Support the distinguished efforts aiming at the promotion and enhancement of human development concepts.
2. Disseminate the successful project experiences.
3. Highlight the best practices, which aim to improve the living conditions of the poor and disadvantaged with particular emphasis on women and children.
4. Enhance the exchange of experiences and develop better mechanisms to find solutions to the problems of poverty, marginalization and socio-economic exclusion of vulnerable groups.

Who can nominate?

No one can nominate his/her or its project. However, each of the following entities is eligible, as third party, to nominate for the Prize; UN organizations, regional, international and national NGOs, governments agencies, public institutions, universities and research centers, syndicates and experts in the field.
Nomination conditions:

1. Nomination of a development project for Prince Talal International Prize constitutes a moral engagement between the nominator and AGFUND.
2. Nomination for Prince Talal International Prize for Human Development shall be made by filling out the online Nomination Form on AGFUND website: https://agfund.org
3. The nomination documents should contain the documents listed in the item number (17) below.
4. Non-winning projects in a given year may not be resubmitted before three years from the date of their first submission.
5. For Profit projects shall not qualify for Prize.
6. The nominators may not nominate the projects in the implementation or funding of which they have participated.
7. The nominator shall submit an official Nomination Letter explaining the reasons which justify the project’s nomination.
8. The nominator should be an agency or a qualified expert who is thoroughly aware of the project.
9. Projects dealing with themes or topics other than the specified one shall be disregarded.
10. Only the completed and evaluated projects, or the ongoing projects with a completed
and evaluated phase are eligible to compete for the prize.

11. Nominations including all supporting documents shall be submitted in English.

12. For the Third Category i.e. government projects “ministries and public institutes”, the eligible projects are those which have been conceived, designed, established, funded and implemented through pure national efforts, without participation of any international organizations or foreign governments.

13. All sections of the Nomination Form should be properly filled out by providing the required information. In case any of the required information is not available or is irrelevant, it should be clearly indicated as “not available or not applicable”.

14. Each winner will be asked to sign a Letter of Intent, prepared by AGFUND in coordination with the winner, on how to use the proceeds of the Prize, since the said proceeds are meant to finance the efforts aimed to supporting the expansion, sustainability and/ or replication of the project.

15. The winning organizations shall confirm their commitment to post, on their websites, news and information about their projects’ winning of the Prize.

16. The winning organizations shall confirm their participation in the award ceremony by their highest officials to receive the Prize:

- The chairperson of the organization in the case of international organizations, social business enterprises and NGOs.
- The concerned minister or the head of the concerned public agency in the case of government projects.
- The founder of the project in the case of individual projects.

17. The Required Documents as listed below should be submitted with the Nomination Form:

- Official Letter of Nomination by a third party.
- Official Letter (s) of Recommendation by a third party.
- Project document in full, with annexes if any (including, work plan, implementation schedule, budget and financial information etc....)
- Projects budget and financial statements if not contained in the Project document.
- project completion reports.
- project Evaluation report.
- For ongoing projects completion and evaluation reports of phase one or any other phases.
- Latest Annual Report of the implementing agency (if available).
- CV of the implementing person (in case of individual projects).
- Any documents that highlight the activities of the project (photograph, videos, printed materials).

Before starting to fill out the Nomination Form, please make sure that you have the Required Documents ready for uploading. Otherwise the project may not be evaluated. However, if these are too large to be uploaded with the form, they could be sent by e-mail: (rewards@agfund.org).

**Evaluation process:**

The nominated projects are evaluated by an International Team of Evaluators selected based on their international experience in development projects evaluation, their thorough knowledge of the theme of the Prize and indeed for their objectivity and fair assessment. The composition of this Team may vary each year, depending on the thematic focus selected for each year. Eligible nominations of all categories are evaluated in accordance with specific criteria dealing with the elements of creativity in the project, the efficiency and effectiveness of its management as well as the impact of the project. The evaluation shall be conducted based on the information provided in the Nomination Form, all documents sent in support of the nomination and on field visits to the project site if the need arises.
Periodicity:
The Prize shall be handed over to the heads of the winning organizations in an annual ceremony, to which representatives of the local and international development organizations located in the hosting country, development experts and specialists, diplomats, and media representatives are invited.

The Prize Committee:
The Prize Committee is chaired by HRH Prince Abdul Aziz bin Talal bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud

Her Majesty Queen Sofía (Kingdom of Spain) Executive President of the Queen Sofia Foundation and Honorary President of the Royal Board on Education and Care of Handicapped Persons of Spain. Representing Europe.

Signora Mercedes Menafra de Batlle (Republic of Uruguay) President of Honor, HECHO ACA - Todos Por Uruguay, Representing Latin and North Americas.

Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Ali (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) former President of the Islamic Development Bank Group. Representing the Arab Region.

Professor Muhammad Yunus (Bangladesh) Noble Peace Prize Laureate, Founder of Grameen Bank and Chairman of Yunus Centre for Social Business, Representing Asia.

Dr. Y. Seyyid Abdulai (Nigeria) Former Director-General of the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID). Representing Africa.

Former Chairman and members of the Prize Committee:
HRH Prince Talal bin Abdul Aziz, Founding President of AGFUND, Chairman of the Prize Committee (1999-2018).


Dr. Federico Mayor, Former Director-General of UNESCO (1999-2004).

PRIZE IN BRIEF:

An annual prize, carries a financial reward of US$ 1,000,000, established in 1999 with the aim of identifying the projects that best contribute to sustainable development in the least developed countries, reward them and disseminate their innovative ideas. Prince Talal International Prize for Human Development laureates since its inception until 2018 totaled 67 projects. The number of the projects nominated for the Prize since its inception until 2018 totaled 1614 projects:

Since its inception, the Prize put forward several development themes in the following areas:

- Ensure access to water and sanitation for all.
- End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
- Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning.
- Health.
- Education.
- Training.
- Childhood development.
- Women development.
- Water and environment.
- Fighting deadly diseases and disability
- Fighting negative social problems and phenomena.
- Voluntary work.
- Development of agriculture.
- Development of remote and rural areas through ICT.
- Youth Empowerment.
- Food Security for the Poor.
- Fighting the phenomenon of street children.
- Marketing of homemade products.
- Alleviating unemployment among youth
- Empowerment and Social Integration of Refugees and Internally Displaced people.

PRIZE PROCESS:

1. Selection of the Prize subject
2. Call for nominations
3. Screening the nominations
4. Evaluation of nominations
5. The Prize Committee Meeting (Selection of Winners)
6. The Award Ceremony
7. Dissemination & Scaling-up