Annex 2

UNESCO/Japan Young Researchers' Fellowships Programme Cycle 2026

5 Research Areas and 28 Indicative Sub-areas

Research Areas	Code	Indicative Sub-areas
Heritage Conservation and Management	CLT-1	Promotion and conservation of cultural heritage for sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions, with a focus on entrepreneurship and youth
	CLT-2	Cultural heritage protection in conflict situations, with a particular focus on recovery and specific support to communities
	CLT-3	Sustainable cultural tourism and heritage conservation
	CI-1	Preservation and Accessibility of Digital Documentary Heritage
AI for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Climate Action	SC-1	AI for water resources modelling, flood and drought forecasting, groundwater assessment, and decision support systems
	SC-2	AI supported ecosystem monitoring, biodiversity assessment, and biosphere reserve management
	SC-3	AI applications in geohazard assessment, land degradation, and sustainable use of geological heritage
	SHS-1	Social dimensions of AI-driven climate and resource decisions, including impacts on livelihoods and equity
	SHS-2	Integration of indigenous and local knowledge with AI-based environmental data and models
Ethical, Inclusive, and Human-Centred AI for Sustainable Development	SC-4	Responsible use of AI in scientific research, data sharing, transparency, and reproducibility
	SC-5	Trustworthy AI use and capacity building in science and technology systems at the national level
	SHS-3	Operationalisation of ethical principles, human rights, inclusion, and fairness in AI systems
	SHS-4	Social impacts of AI, governance models, and policy responses
	SHS-5	Addressing algorithmic bias, digital divides, and unequal access to AI benefits
	CI-2	AI and the rule of law

AI for Sustainable Cities, Infrastructure, and Societal Resilience	SC-6	AI for sustainable urban water management, sanitation, and resilience
	SC-7	Use of AI for hazard prediction, impact modelling, and resilience planning
	SC-8	AI-supported monitoring of air, water, and soil pollution
	SHS-6	Human-centred AI applications for urban planning, mobility, housing, and service delivery
	SHS-7	Participatory and accountable governance models for AI-enabled urban systems
	SHS-8	Community, youth and citizen engagement in AI-supported local solutions
AI and Education	ED-1	AI and pedagogy, curriculum and the sciences of learning
	ED-2	AI competencies for teachers, students and policymakers
	ED-3	AI and higher education, research and the future of knowledge
	ED-4	AI governance, regulation, ethics and sovereignty in education
	ED-5	AI-enabled learning for sustainability and climate action
	ED-6	Green AI literacy and sustainable AI education policy
	ED-7	AI, media and information literacy, and information integrity for ESD