

ESD Okayama Award 2026

The **ESD Okayama Award 2026**, for which the call for applications is now open.

This global award, organized by the City of Okayama and partners including UNESCO, recognizes **outstanding Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) initiatives** that contribute to sustainable communities and can serve as models of good practice.

I would strongly encourage you to **identify and support eligible institutions within your respective countries** to apply, particularly those implementing innovative and impactful ESD programmes aligned with priorities such as:

- Environmental sustainability and climate action
- Community development
- Cultural heritage and indigenous knowledge
- Diversity, inclusion, and social cohesion
- Youth engagement and learning for sustainable livelihoods

Key details:

- Eligibility: Organizational ESD projects running for at least 3 years (as of April 2026)
- Award: USD 3,000 (one or two winners)
- Deadline: 14 May 2026 (17:00 JST)
- Award Ceremony: 14 November 2026 (Okayama, Japan – travel supported for one representative per winning project)

Application information:

- Guidelines and application:
<https://www.city.okayama.jp/kurashi/0000070653.html>
- News and previous awardees:
<https://www.city.okayama.jp/kurashi/category/1-9-9-8-3-0-0-0-0-0-0.html>
- Past ceremonies and presentations:
<https://www.youtube.com/@esd7141>

This represents a valuable opportunity to **showcase Eastern Africa's innovative ESD practices globally**, strengthen visibility, and promote cross-regional learning.

