



# Commonwealth Education Good Practice Awards 2018



The Commonwealth

## Call for nominations and submissions

Nominations and submissions are invited for the Commonwealth Education Good Practice Awards 2018.

Awards will be presented to winners at the 20th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers in 2018.

Awarded and commended examples will be promoted on the Commonwealth website and/or other media.

**We strongly invite you to provide a 3 to 4-minute video using a smartphone or similar device presenting your initiative (no professional productions please!).**

The Commonwealth Education Good Practice Awards showcase the innovative and successful education and learning initiatives that are being conducted in Commonwealth countries.

By recognising excellence and innovation, we hope to support member countries in their endeavours, highlight the great work of education professionals and signal the key role of education and learning in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

We are particularly interested in highlighting initiatives that remove barriers and facilitate access to quality education and learning and build resilience, especially for disadvantaged groups.

There are **five categories** for 2018; **please ensure your initiative falls under one of them**. Three to five winners will be selected across the five categories.

### **Category 1: Eliminating gender disparities in education, especially for girls and women.**

Advancing education and learning for girls and women.  
Fostering empowerment and eliminating gender based violence through education.

### **Category 2: Delivering quality education and learning in difficult circumstances.**

Delivering education in difficult environments and providing education and learning against all odds. Reconfiguring the financing of education for people living in difficult situations.

### **Category 3: Education and learning to improve employment opportunities for young people.**

Education initiatives that provide learning and training experiences that increase employment opportunities for young people. These can include science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) initiatives.

### **Category 4: Education as a powerful response to climate change.**

Equipping learners for the inevitable changes in the climate (adaptation) while encouraging a greater understanding of and responsibility for the environmental consequences of human actions (mitigation).

### **Category 5: Education and pathways to peace.**

Educating for peace, preventing conflict and promoting a culture of peace and good citizenship through education. Building a fair and inclusive Commonwealth that embraces diversity.

## Who can enter the Good Practice Awards?



Any organisation, whether public or private, including Commonwealth ministries of education, educational institutions and civil society organisations advising in or delivering education and learning in Commonwealth countries can nominate themselves or be nominated. The formal and non-formal education sectors span from early childhood education to adult education, including primary, secondary and tertiary education, technical and vocational education and training, and skills development.

Good Practice Awards nominations and submissions for individuals will not be accepted.

**There are five categories for 2018, please ensure your initiative falls under one of them. If your initiative falls under more than one category, please complete a separate entry form for each category.**

## What makes good practice?

A good practice submission must be a policy, programme, project or strategy that has made a positive difference to learners, whether children, young people or adults, or to the education system of a Commonwealth member country in respect of one or more of the five categories for 2018.

## What is the entry process?

Organisations are asked to complete all sections of the application form, available on [www.thecommonwealth.org/education](http://www.thecommonwealth.org/education).

We strongly invite you to provide a 3 to 4-minute video using a smartphone or similar device presenting your initiative (no professional productions please!). Although not part of the selection criteria, the video that is submitted may be included on the Commonwealth Secretariat website and/or other media. You may also wish to upload additional material to support your application (for example links to websites, news articles, video/audio content).

Submissions must be sent by email and/or post to:

The Co-ordinator  
Commonwealth Education Good Practice Awards  
Health and Education Unit  
Commonwealth Secretariat  
Marlborough House, Pall Mall  
London SW1Y 5HX  
United Kingdom

Email: [educationawards@commonwealth.int](mailto:educationawards@commonwealth.int)

The Commonwealth Secretariat reserves the right to reproduce, without limitation, submitted materials including the good practice description and any attachments, for distribution to member countries, partner organisations, Commonwealth newsletters and in communication with the general public (printed and electronic).

**Deadline: 15 March 2017**

- Submissions and nominations received after this date will not be considered.
- Commonwealth small states are particularly encouraged to submit applications.

## Criteria for the Good Practice Awards

Entries will be judged using the following criteria:

- **Relevance:** Contextual, socio-cultural and economically appropriate responses to the challenge of education delivery in a specific country.
- **Innovative:** Displaying innovation in its approach, methods or outcomes.
- **Measurable Impact:** Evidence that it has been independently evaluated and its impact assessed e.g. through qualitative and quantitative indicators.
- **Sustainability:** Demonstrates its capacity or potential in delivering sustainable benefits for society, and in making substantial contribution to the education sector.
- **Efficiency and Effectiveness:** Demonstrates efficient and cost effective use of resources in its implementation.
- **Knowledge Exchange and Participation:** How it contributes to knowledge exchange, successfully communicates its objectives, approaches and findings to stakeholders, and encourages community and civil society participation, ownership or contribution.
- **Replication:** The extent to which the initiative is replicable in other Commonwealth countries and can advance good practice within the sector and/or influence policy agendas promoting good practice

Reminder: Entries should be clear and comprehensive, and should clearly describe how good educational and learning policies or practices have been implemented and what has been achieved.

## Guidance notes for completing the application form

The numbers below correspond to the questions on the application form.

1. The country must be a member of the Commonwealth.
13. 'The Beneficiary' refers to individuals who have directly benefited from the good practice.
14. 'People participating' means the individuals who have been involved in running and delivering the good practice.
15. The good practice must fit into one of the award's five categories. The categories are:

**Category 1:** Eliminating gender disparities in education, especially for girls and women.

**Category 2:** Delivering quality education and learning in difficult circumstances.

**Category 3:** Education and learning to improve employment opportunities for young people.

**Category 4:** Education as a powerful response to climate change.

**Category 5:** Education and pathways to peace.

16. The Executive Summary should be a brief description of the good practice. Please include simple statements about its aims and objectives, and tell us what actually happens in the good practice.
17. The Description could cover, but not be limited to:
  - The context of the good practice.
  - How the good practice was designed.
  - Who was involved in designing it.
  - Who was involved in implementing it.
  - A detailed description of the good practice itself.
  - Who benefits from it, and how they benefit.
  - The cost of the good practice, and where the money came from.



18. The following criteria should be adhered to carefully in submissions as they provide the basis for selection. You need not answer every question in each criterion. However, try to give as much evidence as you can to support your application.

Please note that entries should be clear and comprehensive and should clearly describe how good educational and learning policies or practices have been implemented and what has been achieved. Please be clear about the good practice, remembering that others will not know the details of your organisation, how the education system works in your country, or the details about its culture.

- **Relevance:** Contextual, socio-cultural and economically appropriate responses to the challenge of education delivery in a specific country.

Consider how appropriate and suitable the submission is to the context of the country?

What specific education issue is the good practice addressing or has the good practice addressed?

How does it take into account socio-cultural and economical factors and constraints?

Does the submission reflect why it is a suitable response to the realities and environment in which it operates?

- **Innovative:** It displays innovation in its approach, methods or outcomes.

What are the innovative factors of the good practice?

How does it differ from existing practices?

What is its added value?

- **Measurable Impact:** Evidence that it has been independently evaluated and its impact assessed e.g. through qualitative and quantitative indicators.

What positive impact has the good practice made to the lives of people?

What impact has the good practice had on the organisation or the education sector?

Is there data that shows the value and benefit of the good practice?



How many persons/students/teachers/schools/community members etc. has the good practice positively impacted?

What do beneficiaries of the good practice say about it?

What are the main conclusions and/or recommendations of evaluation reports of the good practice?

- **Sustainability:** Demonstrates its capacity or potential in delivering sustainable benefits for society, and in making substantial contribution to the education sector.

Will the good practice be here today and gone tomorrow?

Will the good practice be in operation in three to five years, for example? If so, how would it have changed/evolved?

Is the positive impact of the good practice sustainable over a period of time?

How will the sustainability of the good practice be ensured?

- **Efficiency and Effectiveness:** Demonstrates efficient and cost effective use of resources in its implementation.

In what ways has the initiative saved on costs or built in efficiencies?

Have cost-saving measures been implemented in any way?

How creatively and effectively have resources been used, so as to minimise cost and optimise results?

Can the good practice be repeated at a lower cost?

- **Knowledge Exchange and Participation:** How it contributes to knowledge exchange, successfully communicates its objectives, approaches and findings to stakeholders, and encourages community and civil society participation, ownership or contribution.

Has there been any contribution and/or participation by the community where the good practice is located? If yes, how has the community been engaged? If no, how could the good practice improve engagement with the community? And are there plans to engage the community in the future?

How effectively have the good practice's objectives, approaches and findings been communicated to stakeholders? What has been their response?

What mechanism is used to engage with the stakeholders?

Are the stakeholders involved in making specific contributions to the initiative? How often and through which mechanism?

- **Replication:** The extent to which the initiative is replicable in other Commonwealth countries and can advance good practice within the sector and/or influence policy agendas promoting good practice.

Does the good practice lend itself to transfer to another country in another cultural context?

Can the essentials of the good practice be repeated?

Has any aspect of the good practice been copied, replicated or identified for replication by another organisation, ministry or country? If not, what issues/elements of the good practice can be easily replicated in other countries?

What are the cost and resource implications?



## History of the Good Practice Awards

In 2006, the Commonwealth Secretariat introduced the Good Practice Awards to identify, highlight, and share positive and promising practices in education throughout the Commonwealth. The Good Practice Awards have been held triennially since 2009 to coincide with the Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers.

The fourth round of the awards was presented at the 19th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers in The Bahamas in June 2015. A total of 89 applications from 20 countries from across the Commonwealth were received and initiatives addressed issues including numeracy and literacy, conflict, access to education, teacher training, inclusive education, dropout rates and student assessment.

## Good Practice Awards 2015 Finalists

### Brunei Darussalam

Young Creative Thinkers

### Cyprus

Developing Positive & Accepting Attitudes towards Others

Give Peace a Chance

### India

Design for Change

Jodo Gyan – Connecting Knowledge Through an Innovative Teaching Approach to Maths in Foundational Classes

### New Zealand

Hobsonville Point Schools Public-Private Partnership (PPP)

### Rwanda

Parents, Step In!

Supporting Teachers' English through Mentoring

### Singapore

Holistic Assessment to Support Student Learning and Development in All Singapore Primary Schools

### South Africa

Taking Quality Education to where it matters through Webcasting

**For more information, contact:**

The Co-ordinator  
Commonwealth Education  
Good Practice Awards  
Health and Education Unit  
Commonwealth Secretariat  
Marlborough House  
Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5HX  
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