GNDR Excellence Award: Celebrating the Successes of Our Members

Context:
With a vision of creating “a world of resilient communities where vulnerable people are able to prepare for, mitigate against, recover from and adapt to hazards and a changing climate” the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR) was officially launched in Geneva during the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in June 2007. Since its inception, membership has been growing steadily and at the moment GNDR stands as the largest international network of organisations committed to working together to improve the lives of people affected by disasters world-wide. Our current membership spreads across more than 140 countries worldwide, in excess of 850 organisations and 1,400 individuals coming from all the regions.

Most of these member organizations are grass-root level, small-scale CSOs that within their limited resource and capacities have been working with communities at risk for years. Despite various challenges and struggles these organisations are subject to, they are relentlessly working to reduce the vulnerability of their working communities and to increase their resilience. Often their selfless efforts go unnoticed; and except within the communities they are working for, remain unrecognized.

GNDR wants to make a small effort to recognize the invaluable contribution these organizations are making towards creating tomorrow’s resilient world. Therefore, at the Global Summit 2018, GNDR will introduce four awards for members (either organizations or individuals) in four different categories. These awards will take place every two years, based on received nominations, and will be judged by an independent jury of internationally renowned DRR professionals.

Timing:
This biennial award program will be announced and introduced at GNDR’s Global Summit 2018.

For the first year, the nominations will be received during June – August 2018 and the final awardee will be announced in September 2018. Going forward, this award program will be timed so that the announcement of the awardee can be made at the GNDR Global Summit.

Categories:
The awards will be given in four categories. These will be:

- ‘Excellence in Collaboration’ Award
  Recognising excellence in co-operative and joint working across sectors, actors and scales. This could include examples of:
- work that exemplifies the principles of mutual respect, cooperation and collaboration and improves the knowledge and skills of others;
- joint working across and between the governments, departments, or Local Authorities that is empowering communities and boosting growth;
- successful project, policy or public service delivery achieved through effective leadership, negotiation and collaboration with others.

‘Excellence in Innovation’ Award
Recognising a team or individual that has sought new and better ways of doing things and taken sensible risks to improve outcomes and successfully address an issue or challenge. This could be through:

- using innovative approaches to policy-making and delivery, such as open policy-making, behavioural insight or alternatives to regulation;
- challenging the status quo, trying something new, adapting and refining when things have not worked well, and learning in the development of policy or services;
- taking an approach that has resulted in a step-up from the usual approach and delivered real benefits.

‘Excellence in Inspirational Leadership’ Award
Recognising an individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in delivering results. This award is open to all, regardless of grade or role. Nominees should be:

- inspiring others about GNDR’s mission through setting direction, valuing professionalism and embracing innovation;
- inclusive and confident in engaging others, communicating clearly and collaborating successfully for local and community resilience;
- empowering through openness and a commitment to diversity, recognising and helping others fulfil their potential to enjoy the benefits of people-centered sustainable development.

‘Excellence in Stakeholder Engagement’ Award
This award will be completely reserved for National/Local Governments (or, any of their departments, ministries or representatives). The award can go to a certain agency of the government or an individual working for it. Nomination can be submitted by any GNDR member working in that country. If no nomination is submitted in a given year or information provided is not adequate/cannot be validated, the award may not be granted.

The award will be given based on the success of any particular government to engage different stakeholders (CSOs in particular) in developing different policies and implementing those at the local level. The jury will judge to what extent government was open in inviting different stakeholders to the discussion table and how it provided them with options for participation. For the award cycle of 2018 and 2020, particular attention will be given to successful implementation of target E of SFDRR.

Eligibility:
The scope of the award program will be restricted to full members of GNDR. If a person is nominated for her/his individual achievement, s/he must be an affiliate member (professionally attached to a full member organisation) of GNDR.

To be noted, no staff members (either current or previous) and members of the current global board will be eligible for nomination. However, board members who served
previously and currently have no relationship with GNDR’s operation or strategic direction, can be nominated for the awards.

Nominations:
Nominations can only be submitted through an official application form. Nomination can either be self-nomination or one member can nominate another fellow member. All the mandatory fields of the form need to be completed with the best available data or a reasonable estimate.

Assessment Criteria:
Selection criteria will vary depending on the award and will be decided by a jury and included in the application form. However, from a broad perspective, all the awards will be judged against the below criteria (non-exhaustive, indicative list):

- Originality of the initiative
- Level of impact
- Use of local resource/capacity/knowledge
- Medium and long term effect on reducing vulnerability/increasing resilience
- Inclusivity of the actions – Gender mainstreaming and participation of the vulnerable groups.

Assessment Process:
GNDR Secretariat will collate all the submitted nomination forms and compile these in a tabular format against different assessment criteria and respective weightage (previously agreed). Based on this assessment, the Secretariat will populate an initial recommendation to be submitted to the jury panel for their final approval.

Jury Panel:
The jury panel that will make the final decision on the awards will consist of at least 3 individuals. Efforts will be made to ensure the panel be gender balanced, selected from different regions. They will ideally not be associated with GNDR for minimizing any possible bias but will be internationally recognized DRR professionals working in the field for a long period.

Award value:
Every awardee will receive:

- One award certificate
- One award trophy/memento
- A trip to UNISDR’s next Global Platform

In addition, all the awardees and their short profile will be placed in the GNDR Hall of Fame – a page on GNDR’s web-site.
Dispute and Discord with award decision:
The jury panel will try to select the most deserving candidates for the award to the best of their ability and understanding. However, as the award decision is subjective, their decision will be reserved as ‘final’ and cannot be challenged.

How to apply:
For submitting nomination please visit https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/4362424/GNDR-Award-Nomination-Form

For further information visit http://bit.do/GNDR-Award or contact abdur.rouf@gndr.org