



ASWAN FORUM

Fifth Edition of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development

# The Aswan Forum Award for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development

## Concept Note





## BACKGROUND

Achieving Africa's prosperity requires sustained investment in the continent's peace and development, the promotion of innovative homegrown solutions, and a strong sense of ownership over Africa's future and resources. Realizing these aspirations calls for concerted and collective efforts, including leveraging the revised African Union (AU) Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy to establish a stronger foundation for sustainable peace, security and justice. It also entails implementing comprehensive initiatives and programs that consolidate peace, promote sustainable development, and foster growth and renewal in countries and regions emerging from conflict.

In the context of H.E. President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi's championship of Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) in Africa, Egypt launched the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development, during its presidency of the African Union in 2019, to amplify Africa's voice and advance sustainable peace and development across the region. Moreover, in recognition of the conflict-ridden African context, there is a pressing need for platforms that showcase, and support pioneering PCRD efforts in Africa, not only to celebrate innovation but more importantly, to affirm Africa's leadership of PCRD efforts.

The Fourth Edition of the Aswan Forum launched the **"Aswan Forum Award for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD)"** to recognize African-owned innovative solutions and initiatives to the continent's most pressing challenges. In 2024, the Neem Foundation, a Nigeria-based community-centric crisis-response organization, received the inaugural award for its unwavering commitment to rebuilding lives and restoring hope in conflict-affected regions of Nigeria through mental health support, educational programs and other initiatives tailored to the local context.



## SECOND ASWAN FORUM AWARD

**"A World in Flux, A Continent in Motion: Navigating Africa's Progress amid Global Shifts"** — the theme of the Fifth Edition of the Aswan Forum scheduled to take place in Aswan on 19-20 October 2025— frames the Forum's commitment to recognizing African excellence in PCRD. Building on this commitment, the Forum is honored to launch the **Second Aswan Forum Award for PCRD**. This Award highlights and elevates African-led, innovative solutions to the continent's most pressing needs, reaffirming the Forum's dedication to celebrating African leadership and innovation in peace and development.

The Aswan Award distinguishes a pioneer— an individual, organization, initiative, project, or prize—for its tangible contributions to advancing peace, security, and development in Africa. In doing so, the Award, as an extension of the Forum, not only honors achievement but also bridges the gap between ideas and action, ensuring that Africa's voices and practices help shape the path forward.

## TARGET GROUP & ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Eligibility for the Aswan Forum Award for PCRD extends to contributions made within the past year, from July 2024, following the conclusion of the previous edition of the Forum. Eligible initiatives must demonstrate tangible impact within the humanitarian-development-peace

nexus by addressing critical challenges to peace and security. This includes initiatives that operationalize the AU PCRD Policy and its nine pillars while advancing one or more of the following areas: conflict prevention, peacebuilding, PCRD, governance, security, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, counterterrorism, transitional justice and reconciliation, humanitarian and emergency assistance, or environmental action.

Eligible initiatives should also embody the principles of African leadership; national and local ownership; inclusiveness; equity and non-discrimination; cooperation, collaboration, coordination and cohesion; and investment in conflict prevention through capacity building for sustainability.

Special consideration will be given to efforts that integrate gender and youth-sensitive perspectives, reflecting the Forum's commitment to inclusive and sustainable peace. By honoring such initiatives, the Award seeks not only to recognize excellence but also to inspire continued innovation and leadership toward a peaceful and prosperous Africa.

## **HOW TO APPLY?**

Nominations for the 2025 Aswan Forum Award for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) are now open. Candidates who meet the eligibility criteria may nominate themselves or their institutions by completing the nomination form provided below. Nominations must be submitted by email to [secretariat@aswanforum.org](mailto:secretariat@aswanforum.org) by 15 September 2025.

## **SELECTION PROCESS & ANNOUNCEMENT**

All nominations will undergo an initial review by the Aswan Forum Secretariat, which will prepare a shortlist of finalists. The finalists will then be evaluated by a distinguished selection committee comprising prominent African and international officials, public figures, and experts, who will determine the Award recipient.

The Award will be conferred during the Fifth Edition of the Aswan Forum in Aswan, providing the recipient with the opportunity to present their work or initiative before a wide audience of leaders, policymakers, and practitioners. Beyond recognition, the Forum offers a platform for the Award recipient to advance their initiatives through strengthened partnerships, increased visibility, and access to technical support from the Aswan Forum Secretariat and its partners.





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