

## THE WINNERS OF THE UNESCO PRIZE 2016 FOR LITERACY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

On September 1, 2016, during the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the [International Literacy Day](#), the UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova awarded the International Literacy Prizes to five innovative programs from India, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand and Viet Nam in a ceremony at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.

The awards were attributed to projects in line with the 'Innovation' theme of this year's International Literacy Prizes. The prizes recognize literacy work with vulnerable and marginalized groups. Each of the five prize winners receives a medal, a diploma and US\$20,000.

Since 1967, UNESCO International Literacy Prizes have rewarded excellence and innovation in the field of literacy. Over 475 projects and programs undertaken by governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals around the world have been recognized. Through these prestigious Prizes, UNESCO seeks to support effective literacy practices and encourages the promotion of dynamic literate societies.

In particular, the UNESCO Kink Sejong Literacy Prize, established in 1989 with the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea, gives special consideration to the development and use of mother-tongue literacy education and training. In 2016 this Prize was awarded to:

- the Center for Knowledge Assistance and Community Development's programme [Books for rural areas of Viet Nam](#)
- the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia of the Mahidol University in Thailand for its [Patani Malay-Thai Bi/Multilingual Education Project](#).

The UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy, established in 2005, with the support of the Government of the People's Republic of China, gives special consideration to literacy amongst adults in rural areas and out-of-school youth, particularly girls and women. In 2016 this Prize was awarded to:

- the South African Department of Basic Education's [Kha Ri Gude Mass Literacy Campaign](#)
- the Jan Shikshan Sansthan organization in Kerala, India for its programme, [Vocational and Skill Development for Sustainable Development](#)
- the Directorate of Literacy and National Languages in Senegal for its [National Education Programme for Illiterate Youth and Adults through ICTs](#)

### To know more

[Information in UNESCO website](#)

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[International Literacy Day](#)

