



Award Categories

To ensure the awards reflect Eswatini's unique context and environmental priorities, the 2026 Temvelo Awards will feature both existing and newly introduced categories. To reinforce this year's theme, the following awards have been introduced. These additions are designed to reflect emerging environmental focus areas while honouring the nation's commitment to grassroots participation, sustainable development, and innovative leadership and leaving a legacy for the next generation.

Environmental Sustainability Categories

1. Green Parastatal

Who can apply: Parastatals under government

What this award is looking for:

The winner should demonstrate: parastatals that champion environmental stewardship through policy innovation, operational sustainability and large scale green initiatives. From renewable energy adoption to eco-friendly public infrastructure, we celebrate entities proving that government institutions can drive transformative climate action.

2. Green Municipality (Voting)

Who can apply: Local Municipalities

What this award is looking for:

- Waste minimization
- Water management / efficiency
- Conservation / green gardens
- Tree planting / beautification
- Public participation / community empowerment
- Leisure facilities

The winner should demonstrate: best practices implemented by local municipalities in environmental protection.

3. Ecosystem Restoration Leadership Award

Who can apply: Individuals

What this award is looking for:

Recognizes an individual who has done initiatives or research focused on restoring ecosystems and protecting biodiversity.



The winner should demonstrate:

- *Active restoration or conservation work within 2024–2025*
- *Measurable environmental impact (land restored, species protected, etc.), research published, awareness increased*
- *Community involvement or co-management approaches*
- *Long-term sustainability of the intervention, research implemented in communities.*

4. Young EcoHero (Voting)

Who can apply: *Individuals (youth)*

What this award is looking for:

This category recognizes a young person who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to environmental sustainability through leadership, advocacy, or hands-on action.

The winner should show:

- *Active involvement in environmental initiatives over the past two years (2024–2025)*
- *Ability to influence and inspire peers or communities*
- *Practical contributions (projects, campaigns, school or community initiatives)*
- *Strong understanding of environmental issues in Eswatini*

5. Environmental Journalist (Voting)

Who can apply: *Individuals (journalists)*

What this award is looking for:

This award honours an individual who has used media platforms to effectively communicate environmental issues and drive awareness or action.

The winner should demonstrate:

- *Published or broadcast work within 2024–2025*
- *Consistent, accurate, and impactful environmental storytelling*
- *Ability to translate complex environmental issues into accessible content*
- *Evidence of public engagement or influence.*



Green Economy and Innovation Categories

6. Green Business SME Award (Voting)

Who can apply: Small and Medium Enterprises

What this award is looking for:

Recognizes SMEs that integrate sustainability into their operations.

The winner should demonstrate:

- *Adoption of green practices within 2024–2025*
- *Innovation in products, services, or processes*
- *Reduced environmental footprint*
- *Business viability alongside environmental responsibility*

7. Climate Change Champion

Who can apply: Individual, leaders, Farmer, teacher

What this award is looking for:

Recognizes individuals.

The winner should demonstrate:

- *Implementation within 2024 – 2025 cycle*
- *Climate-resilient farming practices*
- *Improved productivity alongside environmental protection*
- *Benefits to food security and local communities*

8. Green Manufacturing Award

Who can apply: Companies, industrial operations

What this award is looking for:

Recognizes environmentally responsible manufacturing practices.

The winner should demonstrate:

- *Adoption of cleaner production methods (2024–2025)*
- *Efficient resource use (energy, water, materials)*
- *Waste and emissions reduction*
- *Compliance and innovation beyond minimum standards*



Community and Social Impact Categories

9. Green Inkhundla (Voting)

Who can apply: Inkhundla administrations, community groups

What this award is looking for:

Recognizes the cleanest and most environmentally active Inkhundla.

The winner should demonstrate:

- *Visible cleanliness and environmental management*
- *Active community-led projects within 2024–2025*
- *Waste management, greening, or conservation initiatives*
- *Strong community participation*

10. Green High School

Who can apply: All swazi registered High schools

What this award is looking for:

Recognizes secondary schools with strong environmental programmes.

The winner should demonstrate:

- *Active environmental clubs or programmes (2024–2025)*
- *Student involvement in sustainability initiatives*
- *Integration of environmental education into day to day operations*
- *Practical projects (gardens, recycling, conservation activities, energy efficiency, water management and etc.)*

11. Green Primary School

Who can apply: Primary schools

What this award is looking for:

Recognizes primary schools promoting environmental awareness and action.

The winner should demonstrate:

- *Age-appropriate environmental initiatives*
- *Active participation by learners*
- *Visible projects implemented within 2024 - 2025*
- *Promotion of environmental values at an early stage*

12. Green Inclusive Institution Award

Who can apply: Institutions, NGOs, organizations

What this award is looking for:

Recognizes initiatives that promote inclusion in environmental sustainability.



The winner should demonstrate:

- *Inclusion of persons with disabilities or marginalized groups*
- *Equal participation in environmental programmes (2024–2025)*
- *Social impact alongside environmental outcomes*
- *Innovative approaches to accessibility and inclusion*

National Recognition

13. Environmental Lifetime Achievement Award

Recognizes individuals who have made long-standing contributions to environmental protection and sustainability in Eswatini.

4. Eligibility Criteria

- Open to individuals, businesses, NGOs, schools, and government entities in Eswatini.
- Initiatives must demonstrate measurable impact (2024–2025).

5. Selection Process

1. Call for Nominations: Public nominations, individual applications.

2. Public Voting Component (New for 2026)

In an effort to enhance public participation and increase national engagement with the Temvelo Awards, the 2026 edition will introduce a **public voting component** for selected categories.

A number of categories (indicated above as “Voting”) will be open to public voting following the shortlisting of nominees by the technical panel.

The voting structure will be as follows:

- **70%** of the final score will be determined by the **Technical Judging Panel**, based on established evaluation criteria such as impact, innovation, sustainability, and alignment with the theme.
- **30%** of the final score will be determined through **public voting**, allowing citizens to actively support and recognize initiatives they find most impactful.



This hybrid approach ensures that:

- Technical credibility and fairness are maintained through expert evaluation
- Public voice and national participation are meaningfully incorporated
- Greater awareness and visibility are created around environmental initiatives across the country

Public voting will be conducted through approved network providers at a charge with clear guidelines to ensure transparency, integrity, and equal opportunity for all nominees.

3. Screening: Expert panel shortlists candidates based on:

- Innovation, scalability, and community impact.
- Alignment with the theme.

3. Evaluation: Field verification of shortlisted entries.

4. Jury Decision: Winners selected by an independent technical judges.