

**OLAM PRIZE FOR
INNOVATION IN FOOD SECURITY**

**Terms and Conditions
and
Further information for applicants**

2021 Edition

Introduction

This year Agropolis Foundation has launched the fourth edition of **Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security** in partnership with global agri-business Olam International, which will be judged and awarded in conjunction with the fifth edition of the Agropolis Fondation, Louis Malassis International Scientific Prize for Agriculture and Food.

[Olam International](#) is a leading agri-business operating across the value chain in 66 countries. From first procuring cashews in Nigeria 29 years ago, Olam has evolved to have a direct sourcing and processing presence in most major producing countries in the Northern and Southern hemispheres, and now holds leadership positions in many of its businesses including rice, cocoa, coffee and edible nuts.

The **Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security** (hereafter referred to as ‘the Prize’) aims to recognise an outstanding innovation for its potential impact on the availability, affordability, accessibility and adequacy of food. The Prize will support the innovation’s further development and contribution to global food security, in support of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goal #2: *End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture*.

The Prize funds will be given to a research project for an outstanding innovation with a significant impact on food security focusing on any region, environment, crop or part of the supply chain.

Outline of the Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security

1. About the Prize

- a. The Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security will be made to a research project in recognition of an outstanding innovation for its achieved or potential impact on food security.
- b. Olam defines food security as the 4 As: the Availability, Affordability, Accessibility and Adequacy of food.
- c. The Prize is intended to help take existing research project to the next phase of development or to scale up innovations with a practical application that will enhance global food security.
- d. The winner of the Prize will receive US\$ 75,000 (including VAT where applicable) which is to be spent on furthering the research project and/or scaling up its impact
- e. The winning team will also have the potential to work with Olam to develop the practical application of their innovation in the company’s supply chains or with Olam’s R&D teams. This is at the discretion of Olam and the winning team, and will not affect the eligibility of the Applications.

2. Eligibility

- a. Research projects in plant science, soil science, nutritional science, agricultural sciences or other field of scientific research impacting food security will be considered for the Prize.
- b. Applicants will be considered from academic or research organisations, civil society organisations and the private sector.

- c. The research can be based anywhere in the world, and can be focussed on innovation for food security in developed and/or developing countries.
- d. The research project **must be ongoing**, and have enough evidence of achieved or potential impact to fulfill the judging criteria.
- e. Research into the genetic modification of organisms is not eligible for the Prize.
- f. Olam employees are not eligible for the Prize.

3. Purpose of the Prize

- a. The Prize is to be spent on the research project as detailed in the Application Form.
- b. The Prize is to be spent on a research project that has the potential to continue for 12 months or longer after the receipt of the award.
- c. The Prize is designed to help further knowledge and understanding towards food security and scale up innovation and progress towards Sustainable Development Goal #2 *End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture* (more information on SDG 2 here: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?page=view&nr=164&type=230&menu=2059>).

4. Jury and Judging process

- a. The jury for the Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security will also be judging the Agropolis Fondation Louis Malassis Prizes.
- b. The Chairman of the Board of Agropolis Fondation appoints jury members. The independent jury is composed of internationally recognised individuals acclaimed for their contribution to agriculture and food as well as knowledge of international issues confronting the sector.
- c. The Applications are judged on merit against the evaluation criteria provided, and there will be no positive or negative discrimination based on gender, race, background or nationality.
- d. The jury deliberates and collaboratively selects the winner of each category. It has no obligation to justify or defend its choice. Its decision is final and irrevocable.

5. Confidentiality

- a. Members of the jury and all persons with access to the submitted Application Forms commit themselves in keeping any information provided confidential.
- b. Members of the jury agree not to disclose the results of their deliberation prior to the announcement of the winners.

6. Marketing and communications for winning and shortlisted projects

- a. By entering the Olam Prize, you agree to being included in marketing and communications materials should you reach the shortlist.
- b. Shortlisted projects will have the opportunity to write a short blog to be featured on the Olam website and media partner's site, subject to editorial review.
- c. The winner of the Prize is required to provide a quote for inclusion in a press release, and may be asked to speak to the media about their project and the Olam Prize.

- d. The winner is required to submit a progress report of their research project 12 months after receiving the award, a summary of which may be published on Olam's website (confidential details will be excluded and the copy will be approved by the winner).

7. Conditions and payment of the Prize

- The Prize will be made in one payment on acceptance of the Prize to the institution overseeing the research project, as specified on the Application Form.
- A representative of the winning research project is required to accept the Prize in person at the Award Ceremony. The organisers will cover the costs of transport and accommodation for one representative to attend the Award Ceremony.
- The organisers reserve the right to not award the Prize if it is deemed by the jury that there are no suitable applications of a high enough standard.

All entries must be submitted electronically on or before the specified deadline via the Application submission platform <https://agropolisfondation.optimytool.com/en/> (Note: Applicants need to create an account)

REVISED Timeframe

DATES	ACTION
29 June 2020	2021 Prize Launch Agropolis Louis Malassis International Scientific Prize for Agriculture and Food Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security SHIFT Prize for transformative agroecological research for development
15 March 2021, midnight	Deadline for submission of Nomination/Application Forms Submission in English; Online submission
16 – 19 March 2021	Eligibility check and distribution of dossiers to Jury Members
March – April 2021	Individual evaluation by Jury Members
Week of 03 May 2021	Meeting of the International Jury in Montpellier Background/Reference check of winners <i>Winners will be held confidential at this stage and will be contacted by the Foundation</i>
Week of 10 May 2021	Interviews/videos/articles Travel arrangements (Awardees)
End-May 2021	Finalize results/Press Release
June/July onwards	Award ceremony – tbc