



KING HAMAD PRIZE FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

2021-2023





Introduction

The fourth edition of King Hamad Prize for Agricultural Development has been launched under the auspices of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al- Khalifa, Wife of the King of Bahrain, President of the Consultative Council of the National Initiative for Agricultural Development (NIAD), to create a positive competitive environment among agricultural entrepreneurs or projects, Bahraini farmers as well as researchers in a way that contributes to preserving agricultural sector, developing it and ensuring its sustainability. Bahrain is the cradle of Dilmun, Tylos , and Awal, the “land of eternity” and the “island of a million palm trees”. Although Bahrain is one of the small island states located within the dry lands, it has productive ecosystems and fresh groundwater on land and sea and thus making it a base for successive civilizations for thousands of years. Throughout the ages, the agricultural sector has continued to be an essential element in diversifying Bahrain's economies, supporting the stability of its population, and the basis for achieving sustainable development and economic balance.



Strategic Objectives of the Prize

King Hamad Prize for Agricultural Development aims to achieve tangible objectives, including the following:

- Preserve agricultural ecosystems, increase agricultural production and increase its contribution to the GDP.
- Ensure relative food security, taking into consideration the safety of the product.
- Promote innovation and use of modern agricultural techniques.
- Encourage investment in the agricultural sector and entrepreneurship in small and medium agricultural enterprises.
- Motivate the farmers and create a competitive environment that attracts young and qualified Bahraini workers.
- Encourage scientific research in the agricultural field to contribute to the development and sustainability of the sector.
- Consider the interrelated economic, social, and environmental dimensions of the agricultural and food systems.

Prize Categories

King Hamad Prize for Agricultural Development is divided into three categories:



**BEST AGRICULTURAL
PROJECT**



**BEST BAHRAINI
FARMER**



**BEST AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH AND STUDIES**

General Conditions

1. The applicant may apply for only one category of King Hamad Prize for Agricultural Development.
2. The winner may apply again to the same category after the elapse of two cycles (four years) from the date of winning the Prize, except for the Best Agricultural Project category; the winner may apply again provided that the Project's activity is different.
3. The applicant fills the application form accurately and provide all required documents for each category on time.
4. The decision of the Judging Committee is final.



CATEGORY 1

BEST AGRICULTURAL PROJECT



A. Best Agricultural Production Project

The Prize has been introduced for the Best Productive Agricultural Project (food crops or ornamental plants) that supports the national economy and achieves food security. The Prize honours the projects that use modern agricultural techniques and methods, follow effective and intelligent means to market their products and work to raise standards of health and environmental protection. The Prize also honours the projects that contribute to the transfer and localization of technology, attract and raise the capabilities of Bahraini cadres and enhance their participation in the agricultural sector.

B. Best Agricultural Supporting Project

This Prize has been introduced for the Best Agriculture Support Project, and this is in recognition of the active role they play in supporting and sustaining productive agricultural projects, thereby enhancing the agricultural sector's contribution to the national economy, increasing the diversity of products and number of workers in this sector and contributing to the attainment of relative self-sufficiency.

This Prize dedicated to projects that provide support services for agricultural production, such as engineering consultancy, agricultural consultancy, training, design, irrigation and

water conservation systems, greenhouses, seed production and preservation, fertilizers and nutrients, agricultural pest control, and renewable energy applications, in addition to food industries relying primarily on local produce.



Judging Committee

Dr. Fuad Al-Ansari	University of Bahrain	Head
Mr. Rashad Ridha Faraj	Economic Development Board	Deputy Head
Ms. Ebtisam Essa Bin Butti	University of Bahrain	Member
Mrs. Maryam Bahram Rahimi	Tamkeen	Member
Mr. Nabil Ibrahim	Bahrain Development Bank (formerly)	Member
Mrs. Asma Mohamed Ali	NIAD	Rapporteur
Mrs. Fatima Bucheeri	NIAD	Secretary



The Award Prize

The first-place winner from both categories will each be granted a cash prize of 10,000 BD (Ten Thousand Bahraini Dinars), a commemorative plaque, and a certificate of appreciation.

Application Conditions

- The applicant may apply only to one category of this Prize according to the activity of the Project.
- The applicant enterprise must have a valid commercial registration in the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- The activity of the enterprise should serve the Kingdom of Bahrain.

- The applicant should allow the judging Committee to visit their Project at any time the Committee deems appropriate.
- The absence of any financial or procedural violations against the Project or its owner.
- The main activity of the enterprise should not be raising, exporting, importing, or selling livestock, poultry, and fish.
- The winner may apply to each cycle, provided that the Project's activity is different.

Criteria

- Size of investment in human resources and the percentage of Bahraini employees in the Project.
- Trademark, general appearance, and marketing channels of the product.
- Percentage of sales and net profits.
- Use modern and innovative agricultural methods and techniques and introducing new products to the local market.
- Knowledge of the targeted customers, marketing requirements, and competitive prices.

How to apply

Fill up the application form on the website of the National Initiative for Agricultural Development www.niadbh.com attached with the documents and information below:

- A copy of the valid commercial registration.
- A copy of the smart card for the project owner and employees.
- A copy of the educational qualification of the project owner and employees. (if possible)
- A copy of the Bahrainization certificate issued from the Labor Market Regulatory Authority.
- A copy of the lease/ownership contract for the project premises.
- A copy of the latest audited financial statements for the project accounts or the internal accounts.
- A copy of the training courses held or attended by the project owner and employees.
- Evidence of selling and marketing the product.
- Any supporting items explaining the uniqueness of the Project.
- Sample of packing and trademark.
- Photos and evidence of the social role the Project plays in the Kingdom of Bahrain.


Note: Forms that do not fulfil all the above required documents will be excluded.



CATEGORY
2

BEST BAHRAINI FARMER

This Prize is awarded to the best Bahraini farmer for their distinction and appreciation for their efforts and contribution to the development of the agricultural sector in the Kingdom of Bahrain. This Prize aims to increase the number of professional Bahraini farmers of different age groups and encourage them to innovate, apply modern technologies and compete for better agricultural output. It also aims to raise the Bahraini farmer's knowledge and technical skills and use their experience and skills to increase



local production and economic return in the agricultural sector to achieve sustainability in agricultural production and food security. It also aims to increase farmers' awareness of the importance of preserving Bahraini agricultural traditions and environmental issues.



Judging Committee

Dr. Thuraya A. Almansoori	University of Bahrain	Head
Eng. Fuad Habib Khalifa	Bahrain Agricultural Engineers Society	Deputy Head
Mrs. Asya Abdullah Rashdan	Ministry of Education (formerly)	Member
Eng. Sadiq Issa	Undersecretariat of Agriculture & Marine Wealth	Member
Dr. Layla Hazeem	University of Bahrain	Member
Mrs. Mai Al-Ghatam	NIAD	Rapporteur
Mrs. Maryam Al-Mehza	NIAD	Secretary

The Award Prize

Two farmers of highest scores will be awarded a cash prize of 5,000 BD, a commemorative plaque, and a certificate of appreciation.

Application Conditions

- The applicant should be a Bahraini citizen.
- The applicant must hold an "Agricultural Identity Card" from the Undersecretariat of Agriculture & Marine Wealth under the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs, and Urban Planning.
- The applicant must allow the judging Committee to visit their farm when deemed appropriate more than once, with or without prior notification, if required.

- The applicant must attend the personal interview and be present in the farm at the time of visit determined by the Committee.
- The farmer who won the Best Bahraini Farmer Prize is not eligible to apply again for this axis before two full cycles of the award have passed.
- If more than one farmer competing for the Prize has equal evaluation, the Prize shall be awarded based on the personal interview.

Criteria

- Years of experience and accumulated knowledge of the farmer.
- Proficiency of the farmer, sustainability, and the quality of the product.
- Innovative agricultural practices.
- Preserving agricultural ecosystem and human health.
- Post-harvest practices.
- Farmer's skills and experience in growing palm trees and their products.

How to apply

Fill up the application form on the website of the National Initiative for Agricultural Development www.niadbh.com attached with the documents and information below:

- Personal photo.
- A copy of the applicant's smart card.
- A copy of the "Agricultural Identity Card" from the Undersecretariat of Agriculture & Marine Wealth under the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs, and Urban Planning.
- A copy of the educational qualifications and certificates of workshops or training courses (if any)*.
- Farm address certificate issued by the Central Informatics Organization (if any).
- A valid land lease contract or a land ownership certificate from the Survey and Land Registration Bureau (if any).

** Documents marked with an asterisk are only for applicants with academic qualification and have attended courses or workshops.*

Note: Forms that do not fulfil all the above required documents will be excluded.



CATEGORY 3

BEST AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND STUDIES



The Agricultural Research and Studies prize aims to support and motivate researchers in the agriculture sector to enhance their efforts towards raising their scientific research in agricultural development. The Kingdom of Bahrain is one of the small island states located in the dry tropical region where the agricultural sector faces several challenges, including the scarcity of irrigation water and its poor quality, the limited fertile land, and the dry climate; beside the global challenges such as climate change, deterioration of natural resources, food security issues, epidemics, and the like. Despite these challenges, the Kingdom of Bahrain has sought to preserve and promote

the agricultural sector by protecting agricultural lands, supporting agricultural inputs, raising the capabilities of Bahraini farmers, and considering the interrelated economic, social, and environmental dimensions of their agricultural and food systems.

Undoubtedly, research, technology, innovation, data, and human capital are the most critical factors that help overcome local and global challenges facing the agricultural sector. Therefore, the launch of the King Hamad Prize for Agricultural Development in its fourth edition and its global scope represents an incentive to direct the scientific research compass towards

sustainable agricultural development and food security issues in dry areas in general and small island countries in particular. It aims to shift to more efficient, comprehensive, resilient, and sustainable agricultural and food systems, and create a scientific information base that documents studies and research, and exchange experiences and transferring distinguished knowledge in the agricultural field and the associated natural resources for better production, better nutrition, better environment, and better life, without leaving anyone behind.



Judging Committee

Prof. Asma Ali Aba Hussain	University of Bahrain / Arabian Gulf University (formerly)	Head
Dr. Abdelhadi Abdelwahab	Arabian Gulf University	Deputy Head
Dr. Salwa Al Thawadi	University of Bahrain	Member
Dr. Mohamed Etman	Undersecretariat of Agriculture & Marine Wealth (formerly)	Member
Mrs. Asma Mohamed Ali	NIAD	Rapporteur
Mrs. Fatima Bucheeri	NIAD	Secretary

The Suggested Research and Studies Topics are

1. Palm tree researches.
2. Safe use of treated wastewater in agricultural production (food safety, treated wastewater quality).
3. Ecological Restoration of Agricultural Land in dry areas and preserving the environment, agricultural biodiversity, and genetic resources.
4. Innovation in agricultural technologies.
5. Crop protection, agrochemicals, and integrated pest management.
6. Agriculture and climate change in dry areas and the development of crops commensurate with the local conditions and adapt to future challenges.
7. Post-harvest practices and agricultural waste management.

The Award Prize

Two winners will be awarded a cash prize of 5,000 BD, a commemorative plaque, and a certificate of appreciation.

Application Conditions

1. The research should be innovative and of high importance to agricultural development in dry lands.
2. The research has been published or accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed international scientific journal during the past four years.
3. The research should be in Arabic or English language.
4. The applicant should not have received a prize for the submitted research from any other entity.
5. If the research is jointly done, a letter holding the signature of all authors should be submitted indicating their approval to submit the research to the competition by the person/ researcher applying for the Prize.

6. The researcher who won the Best Agricultural Research and Studies Prize must not apply again for this category of the prize before the lapse of two complete cycles of the Prize.

**Agricultural researchers from all around the world can apply for this Prize.*

Criteria

1. Applicability of the research in the Kingdom of Bahrain.
2. The contribution of the research is to overcome the challenges associated with agricultural production in dry lands.
3. The contribution of the research to achieving food security, preserving natural resources and achieving sustainable development.
4. The contribution of the research to facing the challenges of climate change and restoring agricultural ecosystems.
5. The ranking of the journal or book in which it was published, and the number of citations for the research.



How to Apply

Fill up the application form on the website of the National Initiative for Agricultural Development www.niadbh.com attached with the documents and information below:

- An electronic copy of the research in Arabic or English.
- Abstract of the research in both Arabic and English.
- Curriculum vitae of the researcher and those who participated in the research.
- A copy of the passport.
- A recent photograph of the researcher, size 5 x 4 cm.
- Written approval from the principal researcher signed by all other researchers participating in the research on the conditions of the Prize.
- An acknowledgement from the researcher not to submit the research to other prizes.

Note: The application forms that do not fulfil all the above-required documents and papers will be excluded. The National Initiative for Agricultural Development will have the right, after announcing the results, to publish the researches submitted for the prize on its website or its agricultural data platform.



Partner Research Facilities

In the event that the researcher wishes to communicate with research or educational institutions to complete their scientific researches, NIAD can assist in addressing some institutions to facilitate the use of laboratories for conducting the necessary analysis and experiments.



Prize Privileges

The winner of each category is awarded a cash prize and a commemorative plaque at a ceremony held under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, wife of the King of Bahrain, and the President of the Consultative Council of the National Initiative for Agricultural Development. The winners may use the prize logo on promotional and marketing materials and their publications. The winners will be recognized through various mass media, social media, and the National Initiative for Agricultural Development website.

Prize Schedule



Best Agricultural Project

Date of Applying: August 2021 – August 2022
Date of Judging: September 2022 – January 2023
Award Announcement: March 2023

Best Bahraini Farmer

Date of Applying: August 2021 – September 2021
Date of Judging: October 2021 – October 2022
Award Announcement: March 2023

Best Agricultural Research and Studies

Date of Applying: August 2021 – September 2022
Date of Judging: September 2022 – January 2023
Award Announcement: March 2023





For More Information

National Initiative for Agricultural Development (NIAD)

P.O Box: 38885, Al Riffa, Kingdom of Bahrain

Phone: +973 32111603 / +973 32111604

Fax: +973 17003652

Email: khpad@niadbh.com

Website: www.niadbh.com