

# International Gold Event 2017 Czech Republic

Engaging a younger generation in our sustainable future



INTERNATIONAL GOLD EVENT  
CZECH REPUBLIC 2017



# Welcome to the International Gold Event

The International Gold Event (IGE) is a global leadership programme for the immediate next generation of key decision makers and influencers within The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award worldwide.

It brings together participants from all over the world to develop character and leadership skills and provides opportunities to contribute to the development of policy and practice throughout the Award family. The IGE helps participants to facilitate their own contribution to the Award and gives them the chance to meet, to exchange ideas and to establish sustainable networks of emerging leaders who will contribute to the development of the Award locally, nationally and internationally.

If you are reading this, then hopefully you are going to be part of this experience – as a delegate, staff member, or in some other way.

The IGE 2017 marks the first time that two countries have worked together to stage the event. Welcome to what we all hope will be an experience that you'll count as one of your life's milestones.





# History

In 1967, Canada hosted what it called a Commonwealth Gold Expedition. The idea was to provide the opportunity for Award participants from a variety of countries to do their Gold expedition (Adventurous Journey). The success of that first event, and the enthusiasm of its alumni that others should benefit from the experience, led to additional events being organised. Over time, these have evolved from an expedition for participants to something quite different – an opportunity to bring together the immediate next generation of key decision makers and influencers within the worldwide Award family, to equip them to undertake ongoing leadership roles regionally, nationally and globally.

What started as a youth event has now moved to something that is aimed at people who are described as ‘emerging leaders’. IGE participants may be young people, or they may be up to the age of 35. What they have in common is that they have been identified by others as people to watch; the individuals who will drive forward the Award’s growth and development in the coming years.

The previous 14 International Gold Events have been organised by the following countries:

Host NAO	Year	Delegates	Countries
Canada	1967	27	14
Kenya	1971	34	16
Hong Kong	1974	57	19
Australia	1979	62	23
Mauritius	1983	52	16
Caribbean	1987	72	18
New Zealand	1990	51	12
Indonesia	1995	64	21
Ireland	1999	75	25
Canada	2002	81	30
Hong Kong	2005	89	39
Mauritius	2008	100	29
Kenya	2011	103	51
Rep of Korea	2014	75	32

In November 2015, as accepted by The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award Association International Council, The Czech Republic supported by the Award in Slovakia, successfully bid to host the IGE 2017.



# Purpose of IGE

## Purpose of IGE:

1. To provide participants with the opportunity for personal development and to facilitate their contribution to the development of the Award both nationally and internationally;
2. To provide opportunities to meet, exchange ideas and establish sustainable networks of emerging leaders who will contribute to the development of the Award locally, nationally and internationally.
3. To elect Emerging Leader representatives to the International Council (IC).

The proposed IGE 2017 Czech Republic programme will provide participants with the opportunity:

- To develop professional skills
- To consider a sample of issues faced by young people in the Czech Republic and Slovakia
- To contrast those issues and their possible solutions with those found in their own countries or organisations
- Participation in 2017 will enable participants to develop broader horizons, with a greater ability to thrive in multiple cultures

## Expected Outputs

For participants:

- Capacity building – networking, relationship-building and succession planning for Award Leaders
- Leadership development – leadership skill development for a new generation
- Social inclusion – explore how all young people can be more involved
- Technology – showcase motivational tools for sustainable growth and future development

For the Award:

- Recognition development – governmental and business engagement and recognition
- Social inclusion – ensure all agencies understand how they can benefit from the Award
- Financial sustainability – identify resource needs for future growth





# Selection process

## Attendees

Candidates wishing to attend must apply to their National Award Operator (NAO) or in the case of candidates from Independent Award Centres (IAC), to their regional office.

Applicants will be assessed based on certain criteria. They must be between the ages of 20 and 35 and be able to demonstrate:

- Achievement, or active engagement in gaining their Gold Award (or equivalent);
- Commitment to their local/National Award programme through active engagement;
- Success in their professional/student career, volunteering life and civil society;
- Potential and desire to rise to the highest levels of volunteer or professional leadership within their NAO

The selection process is led by the NAO / regional office and differs from country to country according to local need and custom. The total number of spaces available is limited to 100 participants, including international staff, and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis, bearing in mind the need for diversity in attendance.

Every NAO has the right to at least one space. Countries with larger and longer-established Award programmes, and consequently large pools of Gold Award holders, may be allocated additional spaces. The Foundation may also allocate spaces to other operators who can provide delegates who satisfy all the requirements of a delegate. All delegates should be selected on their potential to be future Award champions in their country and organisation.



The host NAO is entitled to extra places, but should not account for more than 10 % of the overall total. Likewise, other large country delegations must not account for more than 5% of the overall total. This is to ensure that the unique diversity of the IGE is maintained.

Once chosen, candidates will sign an agreement with their NAO/regional office agreeing suitable expectations of each party for the IGE and the three years following it.



# Preparing for IGE 2017 Czech Republic

Once attendees have been finalised, they will be sent login details to The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation's Online Learning Hub where they will be able to access further information on the event. This will be updated regularly with details about accommodation, travel and other arrangements. Further information on IGE 2017 Czech Republic, including the programme of activity, will be available on our site from July 2017. Participants will be required to complete various forms concerning travel and health details and these will be available online.

Participating in the IGE should be a three year commitment. Attendees continue to work towards the goals and projects started during the IGE. On their return home, attendees are expected to debrief with their NAO and to finalise their agreed goals for the next three years.

The IGE is an exciting but intense event and the better prepared attendees are the more enriching their experience will be.

We encourage attendees to try and find out the following information about the Award before arriving at the IGE:

- The history of the Award programme.
- How decisions are made within their NAO such as National Boards, Committees and Youth Panels.
- How the Award is funded in their country.
- How many young people are doing/have done the Award.
- Who is doing the Award, including those from minority groups, young offenders or those with additional needs.
- National and local partnerships including the Boys Brigade, Scouts, Rotary and YMCA.
- Communications strategies used nationally, including, for example, use of social online networks like Facebook and Twitter.

- Materials and resources available such as promotional publications and training.
- Existence of training and assessor panels.
- Existence of an Award Holders' Association.
- The long-term development strategy of the NAO.
- The NAO's licensing status with the International Award Foundation.
- The NAO's strengths and weaknesses.
- The NAO's constitution and Adventurous Journey regulations.

It might also be helpful to find out about The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation and its regional offices including:

- What the Foundation does, its global impact and where it is based.
- Who your regional team is.
- Which other countries in your region have NAOs.

The proposed IGE 2017 programme will provide participants with:

Training and experience in leadership – help equip participants professionally and with their volunteering.

Thought leadership and issues – give an opportunity to consider a sample of issues faced by young people in the Czech Republic and Slovakia and contrast with issues found in their country and within their organisation or community.



*“The enthusiasm and passion that IGE participants bring to the table and their insights into the delivery of the Award are very special and the International Council (IC) benefits enormously from these contributions. The task of reflecting these going forward as the IC performs its vital consultative role now falls to you and I look forward to continuing to welcome this contribution as vital to the growth of the Award in new and exciting ways. I am also looking forward to participating in what will be a challenging and exciting experience for us all. Thank you for your own individual contributions to making the Award what it is. As Award holders you represent simply the very best in youth achievement. Onward and upwards!”*

**The Rt Hon The Lord Boateng PC DL  
Chairman of the International Council**

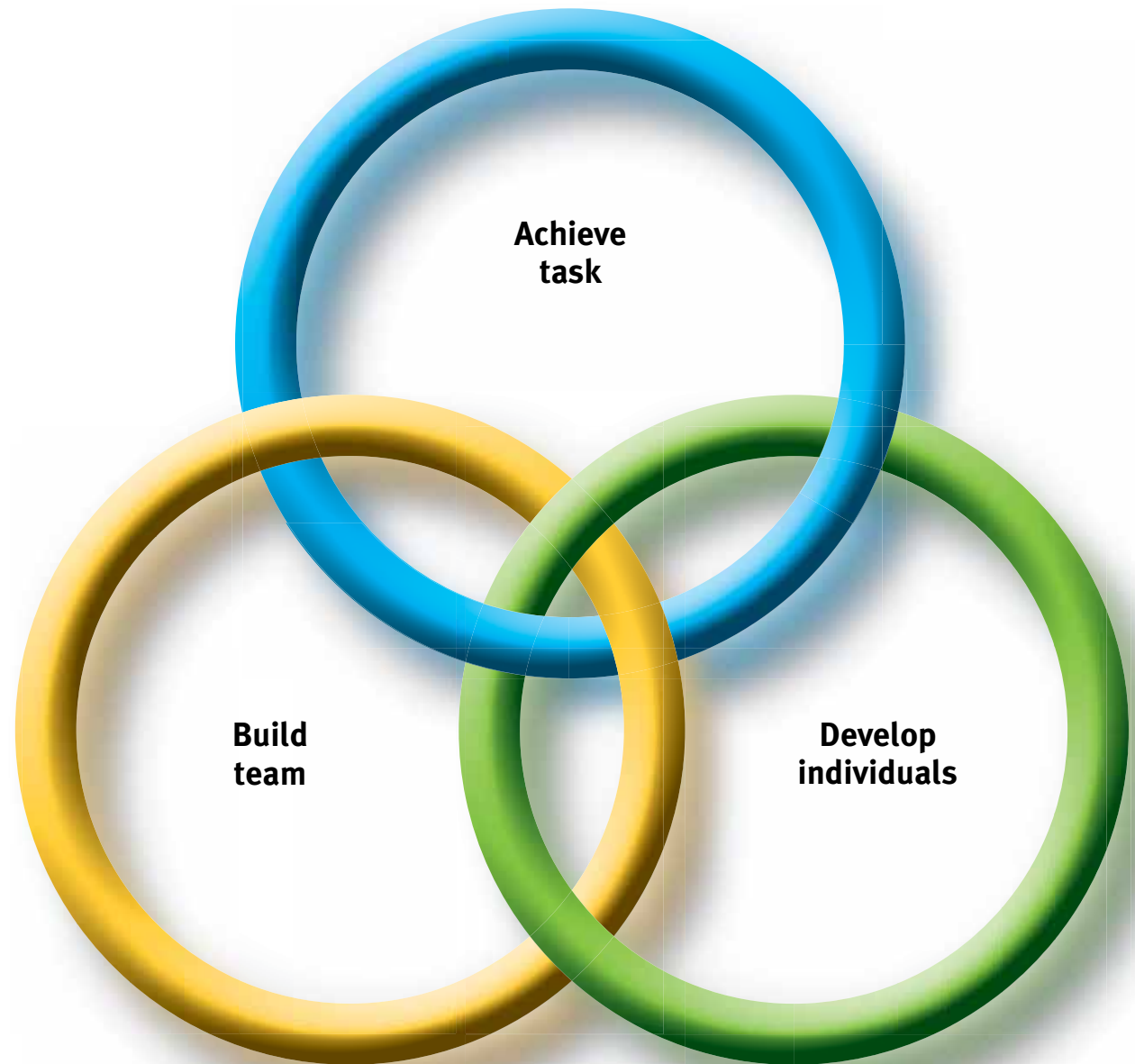
# The IGE 2017 Czech Republic experience

The IGE experience will provide experiential learning for participants, allowing them to immerse themselves in the culture of the host country and to explore real-life complex challenges faced by society within that culture. Participants will examine the role of the Award in helping to meet those challenges. They will reflect on their learning in the light of the challenges and opportunities faced by society and the Award back home.

The IGE 2017 Czech Republic will provide the opportunity for all participants to discuss the challenges facing them, young people in society and the application of the Award for a sustainable future within their local, national, regional and global communities. Participants will engage in presentations, discussion and networking. They will receive briefings from speakers and session facilitators to explore what leadership means for decision makers and influencers today and build a model of leadership based on John Adair's "Action Centred Leadership model."

The IGE will be based around three dimensions:

- Team/group – small group work/multi-country teams. Group dynamics (8-10).
- The task – each group will be given an area of interest/issue facing young people. Task is to prepare a presentation comparing and contrasting their experiences to a Youth Forum audience. A series of field visits will be organised aligned to our impact framework.
- Individual – opportunities for personal development.



John Adair's 'Action Centred leadership model



Participants will also be introduced to, and begin working in, their event teams – small multinational groups of participants that will make up the “laboratory” for the experiential learning about leadership that will form the core of the IGE experience.

Participants will divide into event teams to make field visits to communities and workplaces from the public and private sectors, as well as civil society – places such as prisons, businesses, schools, hospitals, police stations and production plants. During these on-site visits, participants will meet leaders in their environment to discuss the challenges they face, and the strategies and solutions used in meeting these challenges. Participants will be challenged to investigate, question, research and develop solutions to the problems faced by the people they meet, so gaining insight into how the host culture operates and how the skills and experiences gained through participating in the Award can be used to solve real problems and challenges in the workplace.

These visits are an opportunity for dialogue and for participants to be exposed to the diverse challenges faced by leaders within Czech and Slovakian society. At the end of the field visits, each group will endeavour to reach a common understanding of what they have seen and its wider context and implications.

Finally, the IGE will reconvene for its closing presentations. Each study group will have limited time to prepare a presentation on what they have observed and learned for the plenary, The Chairman of the IC, IC members and invited guests. The Forum will also elect its 8 representatives to serve on the IC for the next three years.

It provides an opportunity for delegates to use what they have learned at the IGE, discuss proposed future projects that have been identified through the experience with the Award family and be part of the future of the Award.

It is also an opportunity for the IC to hear emerging leaders’ views on Award issues. It is an important component of the IGE, as it helps cement and wrap up the discussions that have been taking place throughout the IGE on issues that matter to attendees.

Throughout the IGE and afterwards, participants will have access to the Online Learning Hub where they will be able to develop a global peer group which allows them to continue to support and challenge each other when applying their newfound knowledge, skills and behaviours to issues in their respective NAOs and communities.



*“The International Gold Event provides a unique opportunity and experience for anyone interested in staying engaged and involved in The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award. This is a chance to develop your leadership skills amongst a group drawn from all over the world, to broaden your understanding of the extraordinary community of which you as an Award Holder are now a part and to become recognised as one of our valued emerging leaders.*”

*“We are truly grateful to the Czech Republic for hosting this year’s IGE and I know that they will be arranging a stimulating and enriching programme, set in one of Europe’s more remarkable countries with the most fantastic history and heritage, epitomised by the enigmatic city of Prague. I look forward to meeting with you all at the Emerging Leaders’ Forum.”*

**HRH The Earl of Wessex KG GCVO**  
**Chair of Trustees**  
**The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award Foundation**



# About The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation

The Foundation drives and supports the Award's global growth, so more young people can undertake the world's leading youth achievement award.

Working through our network of Award Operators in more than 140 countries and territories, we are creating new ways and places for young people to do the Award, using innovative online tools. We lead the Award's entry into new countries, ensuring consistency around the world. We work to increase global awareness of the value of non-formal education. This in turn creates demand for the Award, which is one way that young people's development outside the classroom can be recognised worldwide.

## **Ambition**

By creating opportunities for young people to develop skills, get physically active, give service and experience adventure, the Award can play a critical role in their development outside the classroom. It also allows their achievement to be consistently recognised worldwide, giving young people unique international accreditation of their experiences.

Our ambition is to ensure that the Award is available to every young person aged 14-24 in the world. We are working to increase access to the Award, especially for those that are "at risk and marginalised"; we are working to increase the reach of the Award; and we are working hard to improve the quality and impact of the Award, in particular ensuring more young people complete their Award.

We have a long way to go to achieve this ambition but by learning from the commercial world, while staying true to our fundamental belief in social justice and the potential of non-formal education to change lives, we think that we can introduce business practices that will help us reach our ambition.

## **Governance**

The Foundation is a registered charity and relies on the support of individuals, companies, trusts and foundations. They work with us to create empowered and forward thinking young people, giving them access to a world of opportunity.

## **The regions**

NAOs and IACs around the world are supported through four regional offices:

- Africa
- Americas
- Asia Pacific
- Europe, Mediterranean and Arab States (EMAS)

Various meetings and events are organised to promote and support Award activities in each region and on a global basis.



# The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Association (The Association)

The International Award Association is made up of 68 national Award bodies and 385 Independent Award Centres (IACs) in more than 140 countries and territories. The objectives of the International Award Association are to: **Foster collective ownership in the Brand; share responsibility for development; encourage mutual cooperation.**

## The International Council (IC)

The IC is established as a representative group of the Association intended to act for the Association between Forums and gives effect to decisions taken at Forums.

## Meetings

The IC meets once a year, either at the Forum, the International Gold Event or at a specific International Council meeting. The next IC meeting will take place at the IGE 2017 in the Czech Republic.

## Members

The IC consists of the Trustees and the Secretary General of the Foundation plus 12 regional representatives who were elected at Forum 2015 (three per region to represent the interests of NAOs and IACs in their region) and eight emerging leader representatives who were elected at the IGE in 2014. The IC is chaired by one of the Trustees of the Foundation, currently The Rt Hon Lord Paul Boateng.





# About The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award in the Czech Republic

## The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award in the Czech Republic

The Award was first introduced in the Czech Republic in 1995 by a Czechoslovakian Golf Champion Lady Louise Abrahams. With the support of the Ministry of Education the first independent Award Operator was established in Zlin, Bata town. The Czech Republic was made a member of the International Award Association in 2003 and was granted a full licence by the Foundation in May 2015.

The Award in the Czech Republic is delivered by The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Czech Republic Foundation, and is run by an excellent nine person staff team and a very dedicated board of trustees chaired by Jiří Zrůst, a member of the International Council of the Foundation. The Award in the Czech Republic is supported by many important corporate and individual donors and has four Czech World Fellows and 1 Czech Benefactor. The main office is based in Prague and delivers the Award with the support of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the British Embassy in the Czech Republic and Parliament of the Czech Republic – Senate. Many famous Czech celebrities also actively support the Award in the Czech Republic.

In 2016 over 2000 participants were doing their Award in more than 125 Award units across the country. Approximately 430 new volunteers and teachers were trained to deliver the Award in their institutions including elementary and high schools, orphanages, youth centres and NGOs.

The Award in the Czech Republic is actively involved in the EMAS region, helping to develop and test the new Online Record Book and supporting the development of the newest NAO in the region, Slovakia.

## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Award in the Slovak Republic

The Award was first introduced in the Slovak Republic by British International School in Bratislava in 2007 and the National Office was granted an accredited conditional licence for 3 years by the Foundation in March 2016. The office is based in Bratislava and is endorsed by the

Ministry of Education and UK Embassy Slovakia.

In its first year, the Award was supported by the President of the Slovak Republic, Mr. Andrej Kiska. In 2016 over 1200 were participating in more than 80 Award units across the Slovak Republic and 185 volunteers and teachers were trained to deliver the Award.



# What happens next

Award holders bring a wealth of knowledge, experience and energy to the Award and future Award achievers. The IGE is the ultimate platform to bring together these young people who are proof of the Award's impact and provides them with the opportunity to deepen their own influence through the Award and in their communities. It begins with learning about ways to get involved with your country's Award programme. Staying connected with other Award holders and regional directors is an excellent way to learn about the impact of the Award, the exciting achievements happening around the world and working together to make a lasting difference in the lives of young people everywhere. **Award holders are the Award's future.**

Volunteering is not the only way to remain involved in the Award family, many young people are setting up (or joining) Award Holders' Associations in their country or region. These bring Award holders together to share experiences, to support the Award and to address the many social issues around them.

Award holders are encouraged to contact their NAO who will know about the opportunities available within their country. It is always useful to keep in touch with the friends made at the IGE and to get to know the regional directors who will be glad to guide anyone through the process of understanding the international dimension of the Award. Attendees should never be afraid to ask. The IGE is an exciting step in the lifetime journey of an Award holder and we look forward to welcoming you for the IGE 2017 Czech Republic.

Please visit our website at [intaward.org](http://intaward.org) to find out more.



**Tori James, Gold Award holder and Award Leader**

*"On completion of my Gold Award I realised that part of my success was due to the brilliant leaders I had around me; people who were able to teach me new skills, offer encouragement and advice and, above all, enable me to grow in confidence and self-belief. I wanted to continue to work with them and support other young people to complete their Awards. I started by gaining my Basic Expedition Leader Award and later my Mountain Leader (ML) award. Over the last 16 years I have supported numerous Gold expeditions internationally. I had no idea that I would have the chance to participate in the IGE 2002 in Canada and expand my Award network around the globe. Staying involved with the Award beyond achieving your own Award certainly has a triple benefit in terms of developing yourself, developing others and helping to create communities in which young people aspire to achieve."*



**Al-Karim Khimji, Emerging Leader (2011-2014), Canadian National Board member (2012 - present), Alberta, Northwest Territory, Nunavut Division President (2013 - present)**

*"The unique experience of the IGE showed me the common goals and values we share as an international family and the amazing things that we can do together. The opportunities after Gold are endless - as a volunteer, a leader, a team member, a supporter, a board member. I started as a volunteer in my Division's office and after the IGE, as an Emerging Leader on the International Council where I strengthened the Award in the Americas and the way young people are involved after their Gold Award globally. I am now serving on the Canadian National Board and am the youngest Canadian Division President. The Award is a platform for self-development and its impact is community building. I want to give back, and ensure that as many young people as possible can experience and enjoy the Award as I do."*



**Matt Burfield, Emerging Leader and Gold Award holder**

*"I first learnt about the Award after finishing university and went to work for a company that happened to be developing the Online Record Book for the Award. After hearing other people's Award stories and what the Award was about, I decided to do my Gold Award as well."*

*Three years ago I was chosen as one of two delegates to represent Australia at the IGE in South Korea. Seeing it as a real privilege to attend, I tried to approach everything with an open mind and a determined attitude to push my boundaries and step outside my comfort zone. At times, my experience at IGE was challenging, and I was definitely tested, but overall it was an amazing experience and well worth the effort. I learnt a great deal about myself and others, and have made some lifelong friendships. My time as an Emerging Leader has been an exciting one. It's given me the opportunity to experience things that I never would have had the opportunity to experience otherwise and I'm really pleased I continued to be involved with the Award after achieving my Gold."*



**Pavlina Mullerova, Gold Award holder and President of the Award Alumni Club in the Czech Republic**

*"Korea October 2014 was a date that changed my life and my way of thinking went from a Czech one to an International one! meeting 79 devoted, inspiring and talented individuals from 34 countries in 12 days was an unforgettable experience. I thought it would be the only chance I had to experience such an event. But with the upcoming IGE 2017 in Prague, I have got such an opportunity once again. As President of the Award Alumni Club in the Czech Republic, which I have been involved with since the IGE 2014, I am proud that the Award in the Czech Republic will welcome all of you, our Award friends, from all over the world. I am excited to start building new friendships experiences and memories."*





*“As we set about the task of bringing the Award to many more young people around the world, we need to ensure that the immediate next generation of decision makers and influencers in the Award family are properly prepared for and enthused about the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. This International Gold Event provides us all with an excellent opportunity to plan for growth in our various countries, to ensure that we reach as diverse a range of participants as possible, to help young people effect real impact for themselves and their communities – and to set up the peer networks that we will need to make all this happen. I look forward to meeting all participants in Prague and to working with them as we develop our plans for future work.”*

**John May**  
**Secretary General**  
**The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation**

**The Duke of Edinburgh's  
International Award Foundation**

Our vision is to reach more young people from diverse backgrounds and equip them as individuals to succeed in life. We license operators around the world to deliver The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. We aim to be empowering, diverse, connected and progressive.

Find out more on our website at [www.intaward.org](http://www.intaward.org)  
Or contact us at [info@intaward.org](mailto:info@intaward.org)

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Registered charity in the UK number 1072453  
Company limited by guarantee number 3666389

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