



‘Habari za Maji’ prize for outstanding journalism for accountability in water Management

Initiated by Shahidi wa Maji and its partners in 2018, Habari za Maji Awards is an annual process whose main aim is to catalyze increased Tanzanian media to the attention of water resources management, climate change, and environment by way of rewarding exemplary water resource management, climate and environmental journalists in Tanzania. Effective and sufficient reporting on water resources management and the environment has the overall effect of guiding the development of strategies, policies, action plans and measures on water resources management. It adequately galvanizes the grassroots communities, development stakeholders and decision makers.

Purpose and Objective

The purpose of the Habari za Maji Prize is to:

1. Recognize and reward the important contribution from media professionals in increasing understanding of and driving solutions to the country’s water resource management challenges, and,
2. Stimulate increased, well-informed media coverage of the topic to improve public understanding and action.

‘The Habari za Maji award is a reminder to me to be more accountable as a journalist and editor in producing high quality stories which advocate sustainable use of water resources ’

Nuzulack Dausen – 2018 Habari za Maji award winner

HABARI ZA MAJI THEME FOR 2019: The ‘Private Sector and Water – successes and challenges’.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 18th October 2019

Aligned with the theme of the Multi stakeholder forum, “Bringing in key players in WRM”, the theme this year for the HwM awards focuses on “The private sector and water – successes and challenges’. Entries aligned to the theme will be given greater consideration in scoring. Entries could examine the negative or positive effects which business has on water resource management, which include media products that examine issues related to the following:

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
| ✓ Water quality and/or pollution | ✓ Flooding & droughts | ✓ Environmental impact assessments |
| ✓ Catchment degradation | ✓ Water scarcity | ✓ Water User Associations |
| ✓ Water conflict | ✓ Water use permits | ✓ WASH in the workplace |

The scope of the award is for articles and publications in any form of media which connect the water resource management issues facing citizens of Tanzania, with clear requests for action by the specific duty bearers with the statutory/legal responsibility to take action. Media entries should be focused on:

✓ **The impact & importance of the identified water resource management issues**

✓ **The need for action**
 ✓ **Identification of who should act**

✓ **Identification of which actions should be taken under which legislation and policy provisions**

Other eligibility criteria:

- Media products written, produced, and aired between **June 2018 and October 18th, 2019** can be submitted to the competition
- Articles must have been formally published in print or online media or aired on radio or television and seen/read by significant numbers of people.
- The competition is open to media professionals and aspiring media professionals.
- Submissions can be in English or Swahili.
- Multiple entries can be submitted across multiple award categories.

Entries and Award Categories:

Potential awardees will submit their work according to the application procedure outlined further below. An independent panel of judges carefully selected will review the entries and make a decision on the winners (and runners-up) for each award category. The judges will have the final word on who is to be awarded for each category outlined below.

Award category	Category description	Awards and benefits
A. Best use of existing material to drive accountable water governance	Most impactful use of existing evidence and materials. The article should use reliable secondary material, for example, evidence generated by the Uhakika wa Maji Programme to date. Stories and additional investigations/interviews based on our case studies and materials will also fall into this category.	<p>Winners will be awarded certificates of participation and a Habari za Maji Trophy.</p> <p>Articles/outputs and contacts of winning entrants and best runners up will be posted on our websites, circulated to our contacts on global news outlets/media networks at the BBC, UK Guardian, Circle of Blue and Ooska News.</p> <p>Note: Each category has only one winner.</p>
B. Best original journalism for a fair water future	Open category across all formats for best performing entrant fulfilling the media’s accountability role and displaying qualities of outstanding journalism. This category will award journalists who have taken their time to conduct an in-depth investigation and develop original stories in relation to water resources management for a fair water future.	
C. Best young journalist	Best performing entrant under age 28 for writing on Tanzania’s water crisis in connection with water resources management	
D. Best Media House/Publication coverage	Award for consistent and high-quality coverage on issues related to water resource management by a publication, channel, station or media house. OR, award to the media house that will have highest number of qualifying entries from its journalists.	
E. Best Photo- or video journalist	Award for consistent, compelling and creative photojournalists or video journalist whose work has highlighted the lack of accountability in water resources	

	management or expressed the beauty (results) of water resources if effectively managed.	
--	---	--

*****Entrants participate at their own risk and cost and take full responsibility for their actions, publications and programmes. In particular, they should ensure legal compliance and base claims or reporting on reliable and checked knowledge. The partners cannot be held responsible for any damages or financial, legal or other claims arising from participation in this competition.

How to apply:

All applications should be sent to mediaprize@shahidiwamaji.org with the exact heading in the email: 'Habari za Maji Prize submission' by **18th October 2019**. Multiple entries or media house entries should be included in a single email. Applicants who wish to be considered by the prize judges **should fill in the application form below also available in Shahidi wa Maji website, the form requires the following information;**

- i. Contact details and a clear indication of the category or categories you wish to enter (A, B, C, D, E)
- ii. A copy, scan or link to your published material(s), article(s), story (is), or digital copy (is) of your programme(s). (Note that media houses or publications entering in Category D should include all relevant articles or products aired within the qualifying period).
- iii. Details of the date published or aired, where and with whom and actual or estimated readership/audience size and location. Details of how figures on the readership/audience size have been established should be provided. Exaggerated data will lead to disqualification.
- iv. A brief note which describes how your submission meets the seven criteria set out above.

Any queries about the prize should be directed to Kennedy Mmari's email: kennedymmari@shahidiwamaji.org

To know more about Habari za Maji visit Shahidi wa Maji's website <http://www.shahidiwamaji.org/habari-za-maji-awards>

Judging criteria

The Habari za Maji Prize Judges will review entries and decide on the winners in the aforementioned categories. The pieces should demonstrate that the author(s) understand the issues outlined above. The main selection criteria for the pieces are:

- i) Accurate and truthful:** submissions must use reliable knowledge and evidence supported where possible by science, objective analysis, research and triangulation across sources. Quotes and references to official materials and laws must be accurate.
- ii) Ethical and responsible:** entrants must respect the principles of ethical and responsible journalism and should 'do no harm', avoid libel and be legally compliant. This should include protecting sources of sensitive information, and where possible seeking balance and comment from multiple sides of a debate/issue.
- iii) Public interest:** Submission must have a clear public interest and public benefit impact or intended impact i.e. it must work towards or contribute to improved wellbeing of Tanzanian citizens.
- iv) Compelling and creative:** Good journalism needs to be appealing and interesting to read, view or listen to and so submissions must reflect excellent production values, be innovative in how it attracts and informs the audience, use graphics and images effectively and show journalistic flair.
- v) Timely and relevant:** relatedly, submissions should be relevant to the readership and audience and must attempt to reflect contemporary and immediate events. For example, the publication could be tied in with key dates in the parliamentary or budget calendar or coincide with key meetings about the water sector.

vi) Tenacious and persistent: The fast pace of the media world often means that stories are published one day, forgotten the next. But, to drive change in behavior and policy, media coverage needs to see issues through, to stick with a topic to its successful resolution. Submissions should, therefore, reflect this requirement to doggedly pursue change, maintaining coverage and debate in the long term.

vii) Respect of the prescribed format: Submissions need to have adhered to the prescribed format.

Application form

Awards submission form

Required information		Description
Full names of the applicant		
Contact Details	Phone number	
	Email	
Category contested		
Title of the publication		
Date published, aired or broadcasted		
Link to your online published materials, or story or digital copy (if scanned, please attach under this form)		
Media outlet which published		
Audience Size/estimate readership if known		
Describe how your submission meets the winning criteria listed above		