

The Zero Project announces the 2024 Zero Project Shortlist on Inclusive Education, and Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

164 Innovative Solutions from 62 countries on 6 continents made it to the coveted Shortlist this year!

Vienna, Austria, August 22, 2023: The Zero Project is committed to support the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) around the world. As such, the 2024 Zero Project Call for Nominations is centered around Article 24 of the UN CRPD, which is dedicated to the theme of Inclusive Education and ICT-based solutions.

The nomination process spanned from May to early July 2023 and sought to identify innovative solutions from Civil Society, the Public Sector, the Business Sector, and the interdisciplinary ICT sector.

Overall, the Zero Project has received 523 nominations from 97 countries.

Results of the 2024 Zero Project Shortlist

From the end of June to end of August, the peer-review process defined the Shortlist for the Awardees of the Zero Project, based on its three main criteria: innovation, impact, and scalability. The result of this peer-review process is the #ZeroCall24 Shortlist, which consists of 164 nominations from 62 countries:

- 115 nominations from Civil Society;
- 7 nominations from the Public Sector;
- 10 nominations from the Business Sector and;
- 32 ICT innovations.

164 Practices and policies – 62 countries – 6 continents

Discover the breakdown of the #ZeroCall24 Shortlist that encompasses and represents innovative solutions towards creating a world with zero barriers:

- Africa 15
- Asia & Pacific 45
- Australia & Oceania 3
- Europe 56
- Latin America & Caribbean 24
- North America 21

Top countries shortlisted

1.	United States	18
2.	India	10
	Austria	10
3.	Israel	7
	Spain	7
4.	Brazil	6
	United Kingdom	6
	Chile	6



5. Japan	5
Kenya	5
Turkey	5

All 164 shortlisted nominations will receive the Zero Project Shortlist badge, certifying their achievement of reaching the Shortlist stage in the 2024 Zero Project Call for Nominations.

Moreover, all the nominees will receive an exclusive invitation to the annual Zero Project Conference 2024, which will be hosted at the United Nations Office in Vienna from February 21 – 23, 2024.

Next steps in the selection process

Starting from late August, 2023 the Zero Project's ecosystem and network will be given the opportunity to engage with – and vote – on the 2024 Shortlist of Innovative Solutions. Based on these votes, the Zero Project team will announce the 2024 Awardees on December 3, 2023, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

The overall aim is to select innovative solutions, to be published in the 2024 Zero Project Report on Inclusive Education, and ICT and to award these during the annual 2024 Zero Project Conference – #ZeroCon24.

#ZeroCon24 will be hosted at the Vienna International Centre within the premises of the United Nations Office in Vienna and will be organized as a hybrid event from February 21 -23, 2024.

Find the full list of shortlisted nominations here:

<https://zeroproject.org/news/article/meet-your-zerocall24-shortlist>

About the Essl Foundation

The Essl Foundation MGE gemeinnützige Privatstiftung is an Austrian Foundation established in 2007 by Martin and Gerda Essl, and their children, for social purposes and scientific research. Its mission is to support social innovation, social entrepreneurship and persons with disabilities.

About the Zero Project

The Zero Project's mission is working for a world with zero barriers. Worldwide, the Zero Project finds and shares solutions that improve the daily lives and legal rights of all persons with disabilities, as intended and encouraged by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

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