

**AFRICA REBORN EXCELLENCE AWARD (AREA) POLICY DOCUMENT**

**Executive Summary**

The Africa Reborn Excellence Award (AREA) is a continental initiative established by Arise and Shine International Ministries (ASIM) in partnership with Vision for Africa Organization (VFA), to recognize and celebrate Head of States and Government, Leaders and Individuals who demonstrate outstanding commitment to governance, peacebuilding, economic transformation, and social impact. The award promotes values aligned with sustainable development, ethical leadership, and community empowerment. This policy document provides the framework and guiding principles for identifying, nominating, and honoring exemplary performance globally.

**Table of Contents**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Executive Summary ..... 1

Foreword ..... 2

1. Introduction ..... 3

2. Purpose and Objectives.....4

3. Scope and Coverage ..... 4

4. Governance and Oversight ..... 5

4.1 Composition of the AGC..... 5

4.2 Mandate and Responsibilities..... 5

4.3 Strategic Oversight .....	6
5. Award Criteria and Categories .....	6
5.1 Core Criteria .....	7
5.2 Award Categories .....	7
1. Award for Excellence in Governance .....	7
2. Peace and National Reconciliation Award .....	7
3. Social and Economic Transformation Award .....	8
4. Youth and Gender Equality Leadership Award .....	8
5. Environmental Stewardship Award .....	8
6. Cultural Preservation Award .....	8
7. Agricultural Innovation and Food Security Award .....	8
8. Wildlife, Birds, and Biodiversity Conservation Award .....	8
9. Sports Leadership and Continental Unity Award .....	8
10. Innovation and Digital Transformation Award .....	9
7. Eligibility Requirements .....	9
8. Award Benefits .....	9
9. Conclusion .....	11

## Foreword

*By Bishop Patrick R. Mutware*

**Founder, Arise and Shine International Ministries, Vision for Africa, Africa Reborn  
Excellence Award**

The Africa Reborn Excellence Award was birthed from the deep conviction that African continent and beyond, there are leaders, visionaries, innovators, and servants who quietly shape

nations, transform lives, and uphold the values that bind our societies together: dignity, patriotism, justice, and integrity.

Having served in ministry, community development, and leadership for decades, I have witnessed firsthand the need for platforms that recognize not just political success, but moral courage, social sacrifice, and generational impact. My calling has always been to raise up a new generation of faith-driven leaders committed to both spiritual and societal transformation.

Through this award, we affirm the idea that excellence is not accidental; it is cultivated, mentored, and magnified. It is our duty to spotlight those who lead with vision, serve with compassion, and build with integrity.

This policy document is a blueprint for fairness, transparency, and global inclusion. It reflects our unwavering commitment to honoring those who carry the mantle of change, and to inspiring many more to rise and serve.

Let this be more than a document. Let it be a declaration that the world is rising through its people, its values, and its vision for a just and flourishing future.

**With honor and purpose,**

**Bishop Patrick R. Mutware**

Founder, ASIM, Vision for Africa, AREA

## **1. Introduction**

The **Africa Reborn Excellence Award (AREA)** is a prestigious global recognition initiative conceived under **Arise and Shine International Ministries (ASIM)** in partnership with **Vision for Africa Organization (VFA)**—a registered charitable organization under the Rwanda Governance Board (Charity No. 655 of 31/11/2011). The award is designed to honor and inspire transformational leadership, innovation, and community-centered service globally.

Established in response to the pressing need for ethical, forward-looking leadership and inclusive development, the AREA serves as a unique platform to elevate Head of States and Government, leaders and individuals who exemplify the core values of dignity, unity, peace, patriotism, and

self-reliance. Since its inception, the award has recognized achievements that contribute meaningfully to peacebuilding, good governance, economic empowerment, cultural preservation, and environmental stewardship.

The award stems from a broader vision to **“transform lives for a better future,”** and is aligned with ASIM’s mandate to renew mindsets, encourage responsible citizenship, and promote sustainable development. With liaison offices in **Kigali (Rwanda), Bukavu (DRC), and Lilongwe (Malawi)**, ASIM fosters a global network focused on nation-building through mentorship, education, and public engagement.

The Africa Reborn Excellence Award is not just an accolade, it is a call to action. It challenges leaders, change-makers, and institutions to rise above mediocrity and embrace excellence as a standard. The award ceremony serves as a unifying event where awardees meet global recognition, and where the voices are celebrated on international stage.

This policy document outlines the criteria, procedures, and guiding principles that govern the award process to ensure fairness, transparency, and the preservation of its high standards.

## **2. Purpose and Objectives**

The award aims to:

- Celebrate excellence in leadership and innovation.
- Inspire future generations to embrace values of patriotism, dignity, and accountability.
- Promote good governance, peace, and socioeconomic transformation.
- Foster global cooperation and development.
- Recognize contributions toward poverty eradication and gender equity.

## **3. Scope and Coverage**

This policy applies to:

- Leaders and professionals in public service, private sector, civil society, and academia.
- Individuals contributing to sustainable global development
- Individuals promoting peace, education, innovation, and inclusive growth.

#### 4. Governance and Oversight

The **Africa Reborn Excellence Award (AREA)** operates under the strategic direction and ethical stewardship of the **Award Governance Committee (AGC)**, a multi-disciplinary body established to ensure transparency, credibility, and long-term impact of the award program.

##### 4.1 Composition of the AGC

The AGC is comprised of:

- Senior representatives from **Arise and Shine International Ministries (ASIM)**, the founding institution.
- **Independent thought leaders**, policy experts, and influencers across sectors.
- **Stakeholders** actively involved in governance, youth empowerment, and sustainable development.
- **Representatives from partner organizations**, including regional and international institutions, academia, and development agencies.
- **Observers or advisors** from neutral entities to enhance credibility and global best practice alignment (as necessary).

This diverse composition ensures that the award maintains a **balanced, global perspective** and remains free from political or commercial bias.

##### 4.2 Mandate and Responsibilities

The AGC is entrusted with the strategic and operational oversight of the Africa Reborn Excellence Award. Its core responsibilities include:

- **Establishing eligibility and selection criteria** based on the evolving development priorities

- **Appointing an independent Selection Panel** made up of experts in relevant fields such as governance, peacebuilding, environmental science, gender advocacy, and entrepreneurship.
- **Ensuring transparency and accountability** throughout the nomination, evaluation, and awarding processes.
- **Managing the integrity of the award** by enforcing ethical standards and conflict of interest policies.
- **Facilitating regional representation and inclusivity** in candidate selection and stakeholder engagement.
- **Conducting reviews and strategic evaluations** to refine award categories, criteria, and delivery.
- **Overseeing partnerships, sponsorships, and external relations** to protect the independence and prestige of the award.
- **Monitoring post-award engagement and impact tracking** to ensure continued alignment with AREA's mission.

#### 4.3 Strategic Oversight

To ensure long-term sustainability and continental relevance, the ASIM collaborates with **policy institutes, leadership academies, and other Global Agencies** to align the award's vision with international development frameworks. Additionally, the ASIM may convene **advisory forums** with external stakeholders to gather feedback and innovate the program's approach.

### 5. Award Criteria and Categories

The Africa Reborn Excellence Award seeks to honor leaders and individuals whose work exemplifies integrity, innovation, and impact in transforming global socio-political and economic landscape. Each nominee is assessed not only for their accomplishments but also for their embodiment of the values that AREA promotes.

## 5.1 Core Criteria

Nominees will be evaluated based on the following fundamental principles:

- **Visionary Leadership:** Demonstrating a clear moral compass, strategic foresight, and the ability to mobilize people and resources toward a sustainable vision for global transformation.
- **Measurable Impact:** Tangible and sustainable contributions to the social, economic, environmental, or governance systems of global communities, institutions, or nations.
- **Promotion of Values:** Consistent advocacy for unity, self-reliance, cultural preservation,
- **Justice, Democracy, and Human Dignity:** Championing human rights, democratic participation, inclusion, and non-discriminatory practices.
- **Innovation and Adaptability:** Introduction of creative, context-specific solutions that address global challenges
- **Transparency and Accountability:** Demonstrating governance or leadership that resists corruption and operates within a framework of public trust and lawfulness.

## 5.2 Award Categories

These ten prestigious awards are designed to recognize excellence in leadership, governance, innovation, conservation, cultural preservation, and societal transformation. The titles are crafted to inspire participation and honor both emerging and established global changemakers.

### 1. Award for Excellence in Governance

Awarded to national leaders or individuals demonstrating outstanding performance in public service, anti-corruption, policy reform, and ethical governance. This award affirms the power of integrity in building resilient states.

### 2. Peace and National Reconciliation Award

Honors those who lead peacebuilding, post-conflict recovery, reconciliation processes, or dialogue-based conflict resolution at national or community levels. It celebrates unifiers and peace architects.

### **3. Social and Economic Transformation Award**

Recognizes individuals or organizations that drive comprehensive development, combining social upliftment with economic innovation, empowering communities, creating jobs, and increasing access to services.

### **4. Youth and Gender Equality Leadership Award**

Awarded to advocates, leaders, or institutions that champion youth inclusion, women's empowerment, and gender justice. It highlights leadership that opens space for the next generation and eliminates inequality.

### **5. Environmental Stewardship Award**

Celebrates outstanding contributions in environmental conservation, green technology, sustainable development, or climate resilience. It honors custodians of global natural

### **6. Cultural Preservation Award**

Recognizes cultural leaders, traditional institutions, educators, or artists promoting African heritage, indigenous knowledge, local languages, and patriotic pride. It honors guardians of identity in a changing world.

### **7. Agricultural Innovation and Food Security Award**

Awarded to visionaries in sustainable agriculture, food production, agri-entrepreneurship, and rural transformation. This award champions self-sufficiency and the dignity of the farmers.

### **8. Wildlife, Birds, and Biodiversity Conservation Award**

Honors those working to protect endangered species, migratory birds, wildlife habitats, and ecosystems through conservation science, activism, or policy. It recognizes defenders of biodiversity.

### **9. Sports Leadership and Continental Unity Award**



Recognizes individuals, athletes, coaches, institutions, or initiatives that use sports to promote national pride, unity, youth development, and international representation. It celebrates sports as a force for peace and power.

## **10. Innovation and Digital Transformation Award**

Awarded to leaders or individuals advancing Africa's future through technology, digital inclusion, artificial intelligence, smart infrastructure, or tech-enabled education and health solutions.

## **7. Eligibility Requirements**

To maintain high standards of credibility and honor, all nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Must have a record of leading positive change with measurable results.
2. Should apply creative or innovative solutions to local or national challenges.
3. Must uphold transparency, integrity, and accountability.
4. Should contribute to economic growth or empowerment in their community or sector.
5. Must promote national pride, unity, or preservation of national culture.
6. Should respect and defend human dignity and social justice.
7. Must support or advocate for women and youth inclusion
8. Should have contributed to reducing poverty or promoting social equity.
9. Must engage in or support environmental sustainability or conservation.
10. Should mentor others or help build self-reliant communities.

## **8. Award Benefits**

Recipients of the Excellence Awards receive far more than a trophy, they gain a platform that enhances leadership, builds influence, and creates lasting transformation for themselves, their communities, and their countries.

Each benefit is aligned with the award category and designed to recognize and elevate leaders whose actions contribute to the advancement of citizens' people, values, and future.

**Award Benefits Include:**

- **Official Trophy and Certificate of Excellence**

Honorees receive a distinguished award trophy and certificate, symbolizing continental recognition in their area of excellence, presented at the official Awards Summit.

- **Recognition Tied to Award Category**

Each recipient's benefit and visibility are aligned with their specific award category (e.g., governance, innovation, agriculture, peace, sports, etc.), ensuring strategic acknowledgment in their sector of influence.

- **Continental and International Media Exposure**

Awardees are profiled through media campaigns across Africa and globally, including interviews, features, and documentaries that highlight their work and legacy.

- **Annual Feature in Regional and Continental Reports**

Recipients are showcased in the annual Impact and Leadership Report distributed to African governments, regional blocs, development partners, and global institutions.

- **Institutional and Career Elevation**

The award raises the profile of individuals and institutions, often leading to invitations for policy advisory roles, institutional leadership, and increased government or international recognition.

- **Publicity Throughout the Award**

Honorees receive continued promotion through ASIM and partner platforms, with their achievements shared in events, conferences, newsletters, and digital media

- **Networking and Strategic Partnership Opportunities**

Recipients engage directly with business leaders, policymakers, development agencies, and investors, opening doors for cross-border partnerships, funding, and market expansion.

- **Participation in High-Level Policy Forums**

Awardees are invited to exclusive forums, roundtables, and summits with African

presidents, ministers, ambassadors, and global institutions, offering opportunities to influence regional development agendas.

- **Involvement in Post-Award Programs**

Selected honorees may be invited to serve as mentors, speakers, or advisors in ASIM/VFA programs across Africa, supporting training, leadership development, or project implementation.

- **Individual and Societal Transformation**

The award leads to personal elevation (fate and fame), but more importantly, contributes to population well-being, stronger governance, and national development through the recipient's expanded influence.

- **Promotion of Bilateral and Global Collaborations**

Through the award platform, leaders gain access to international markets, entrepreneurship networks, and global development partners interested in African-led solutions

## **9. Conclusion**

The Africa Reborn Excellence Award (AREA) represents more than an accolade, it is a movement that uplifts integrity, innovation, and inclusive leadership across Africa and the world. As this policy outlines, the award process is structured to be transparent, rigorous, and values-driven, ensuring that recipients are not only recognized for what they have achieved, but also for who they are and how they lead.

This initiative stands as a beacon for emerging and established leaders to emulate excellence, inspire future generations, and drive sustainable transformation in their societies. AREA does not merely celebrate success, it catalyzes it. From agriculture to governance, peacebuilding to digital innovation, each category of recognition plays a vital role in building a prosperous and united global community.

Through this award, Arise and Shine International Ministries and its partners commit to a future where honor is earned, dignity is defended, and leadership is anchored in service. We invite

leaders across the continent and the globe to join us in this noble mission to rise, to shine, and to lead Africa and the world into a new era of purpose and progress.