

Frontiers Planet Prize 2022



What is the Frontiers Planet Prize

The Earth's system is rapidly approaching and exceeding its planetary boundaries, and the broad consensus is that human activities are the cause. The international scientific community is becoming acutely aware that the time window to reverse the trend is slipping away and we must act now.

In response, the [Frontiers Research Foundation](#) is sparking a race for those breakthroughs in sustainability science that will accelerate the development of solutions to restore and ensure a healthy planet.

The Foundation hopes to achieve this mission by sponsoring a new international competition that will award three prizes of CHF 1 million each to recognise the importance of those breakthroughs.

The Frontiers Planet Prize will recognize, encourage, and reward exceptional scientists whose work have a measurable potential to help humanity stay within the planetary boundaries.

More specifically, the prizes will be awarded to research that has the greatest potential global impact on one or more of the nine planetary boundaries detailed by [Professor Johan Rockström](#), Co-Chairman of the [Earth Commission](#), and [Owen Gaffney](#), in their book and documentary on [Breaking Boundaries](#).

The nine planetary boundaries



Climate change



Loss of biodiversity



Biogeochemical flows



Ocean acidification



Land use change



Overuse of freshwater



Stratospheric ozone layer



Atmospheric aerosol loading



Novel entities

How the competition works

Can your work restore planetary health?

We want to boost sustainability research globally by fostering a passionate national and international competition, much like the Olympics, but between scientists, universities, and nations to fund and develop science that provides real solutions to the global environmental threats we face.

Institutions acting as National Nominating Bodies for the Frontiers Planet Prize will reach out to its most promising sustainability scientists and invite them to apply with a standard application form in order to enter the competition. The deadline for sending the application is 31 October.

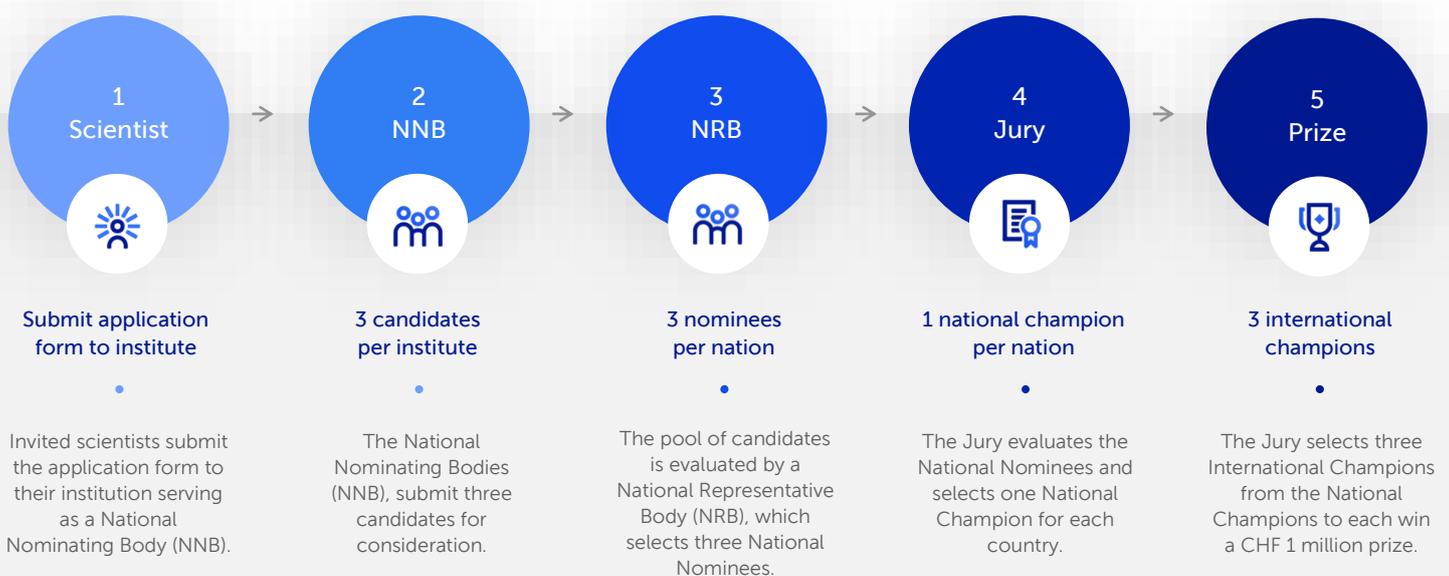
From the applications received, the National Nominating Body will select and forward its top three candidates to the national academic institution serving as its National Representative Body. The window for the submissions is 1 November to 1 December 2022.

From this pool of candidates, the National Representative Body will select three National Nominees to submit to the Planet Prize Jury.

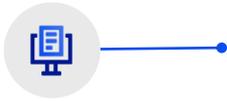
The international Jury of 100 sustainability scientists, chaired by Professor Johan Rockström, will evaluate these applications based on the importance and relevance of a recently published article.

The Jury will vote for one National Champion from each participating country, and then vote for three International Champions to win the 2022 Frontiers Planet Prizes.

The National Champions will be announced in February 2023. The International Champions will be announced on Earth Day, 22 April. And the Award Ceremony will take place on 27 April in Montreux, Switzerland.



Timeline



Now

National Nominating Bodies select and invite top scientists in their community to apply. Once selected, applicants submit a 2 page application form to enter the competition.

Deadline: 31 October 2022



November – December

Each National Nominating Body submits 3 Nominations to their country's National Representative Body

Between 1 November and 1 December



December

Each National Representative Bodies selects 3 National Nominations and submits them to the Jury

Deadline: 15 December 2022



January – March

The Jury reviews the applications and votes to select first the National Champions and from among those, the International Champions



February

The National Champions are announced publicly



22 April

The 3 International Champions are announced publicly on Earth Day



27 April

The Award ceremony takes place in Switzerland

How to enter the competition

Eligibility

The Frontiers Planet Prize will be awarded to the best research published in established scientific journals, with robust peer-review and transparent publication procedures, within the past 2 years (date of acceptance: 1 November 2020 to 31 October 2022).

The CHF 1 million prize will be given to the host institution of the winning researcher to advance the scientist's breakthrough research. Institutions are not allowed to deduct overheads.

In cases where the winning research is conducted by a group of scientists, the prize will be awarded to the lead scientist who will acknowledge the team in the application and at later stages.

Winners must be scientists conducting on-going sustainability-related research under the management of an established Government or Corporate Research Institution.

Scientific criteria

The Prize welcomes research across all sciences and is open for contributions that focus on one or all planetary boundaries. Research focusing on cross-scale interactions (e.g., from local to global) is eligible.

The guiding principles to judge potential impact are scientific excellence, applicability and global scalability.

The following criteria must be met through for all contributions to be considered for the Frontiers Planet Prize:

- The research should clearly contribute to solutions for humanity's ability to navigate the future of the world on planet Earth in the Anthropocene.
- The research must explicitly (analytically) connect (explore implications) to one or several Planetary Boundaries at the Earth system scale (global scale).
- While research can be focused on single planetary boundaries, or single human dimensions of how to develop within a stable and resilient planet, research that explores interactions/relations between at least two or more planetary boundaries should be prioritized.
- Social science contributions are eligible if they emerge from a clear understanding of all the planetary boundaries and their scientific challenges (i.e., reducing risks in the Anthropocene, bending the global curves in the Great Acceleration, avoiding loss of life support systems and crossing tipping points)

Put your work forward

If you have been invited to apply and you are interested to enter the competition, please put forward your work by filling in the application form and returning it to your institution.

The deadline for submission is **31 October 2022** but there will be a rolling evaluation of applications and it is recommended you apply as soon as possible.

Please talk to your host institution for more information.



Let's trigger a global race **for scientific breakthroughs**