

2023 Photo Contest and Essay Competition of UCLG ASPAC

Advancing Balanced
Economic Development for
Asia and the Pacific

9th UCLG ASPAC Congress Side Event



Introduction

The United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) is the largest regional section of United Cities Local Government (UCLG). Its members – representing cities and local governments and their associations across Asia and the Pacific – have set a high priority on implementing and achieving the SDGs by 2030 and have been working with partners from around the world to accelerate its localisation.

As a part of the 9th UCLG ASPAC Congress, a 2023 Photo Contest and Essay Competition will be held to promote the event and encourage economic development post-pandemic era. The competition is open to the public and the participants are requested to submit their entries virtually/online. A board of jury will review the open call submissions and select the winner for every category.

2023 Congress of UCLG ASPAC

UCLG ASPAC organises its 9th Congress in Yiwu, China from 13 to 15 November 2023. The theme of the Congress is Advancing Balanced Economic Development for Asia and the Pacific. The Congress will be attended by governors, mayors, senior official of cities and local governments and their strategic partners, representatives of the UN bodies, business companies, non-governmental organisations, academe etc.



Photo Contest

UCLG ASPAC invites the public to participate in the 2023 Photo Contest following the successful photo contest held in 2021. Under the main theme of the 9th UCLG ASPAC Congress

"Advancing Balanced Economic Development for Asia and the Pacific",

the Photo Contest will have four (4) categories with 1 (one) winner for every category and one (1) Favourite Winner.



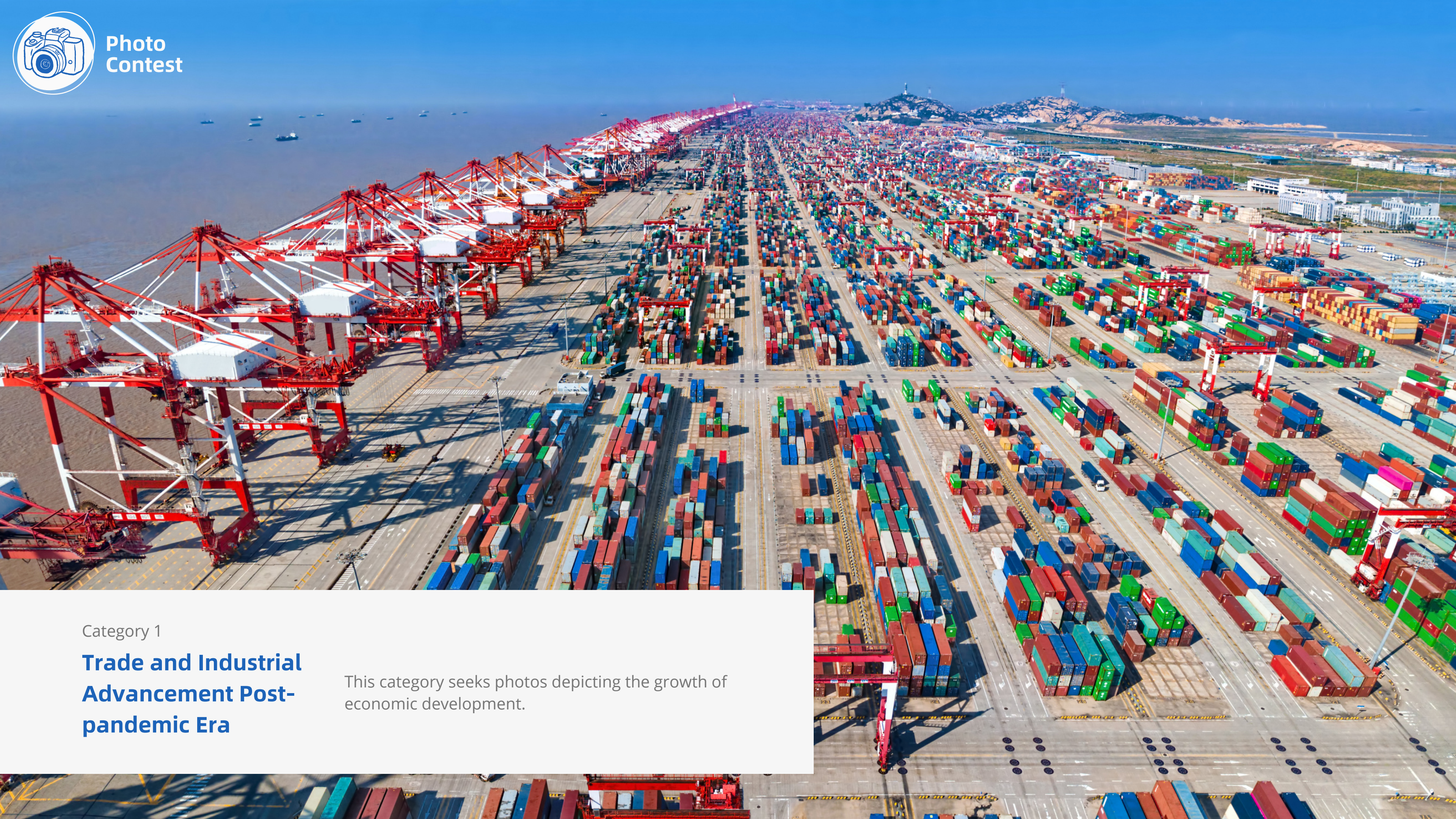


Photo
Contest

Category 1

Trade and Industrial Advancement Post- pandemic Era

This category seeks photos depicting the growth of economic development.



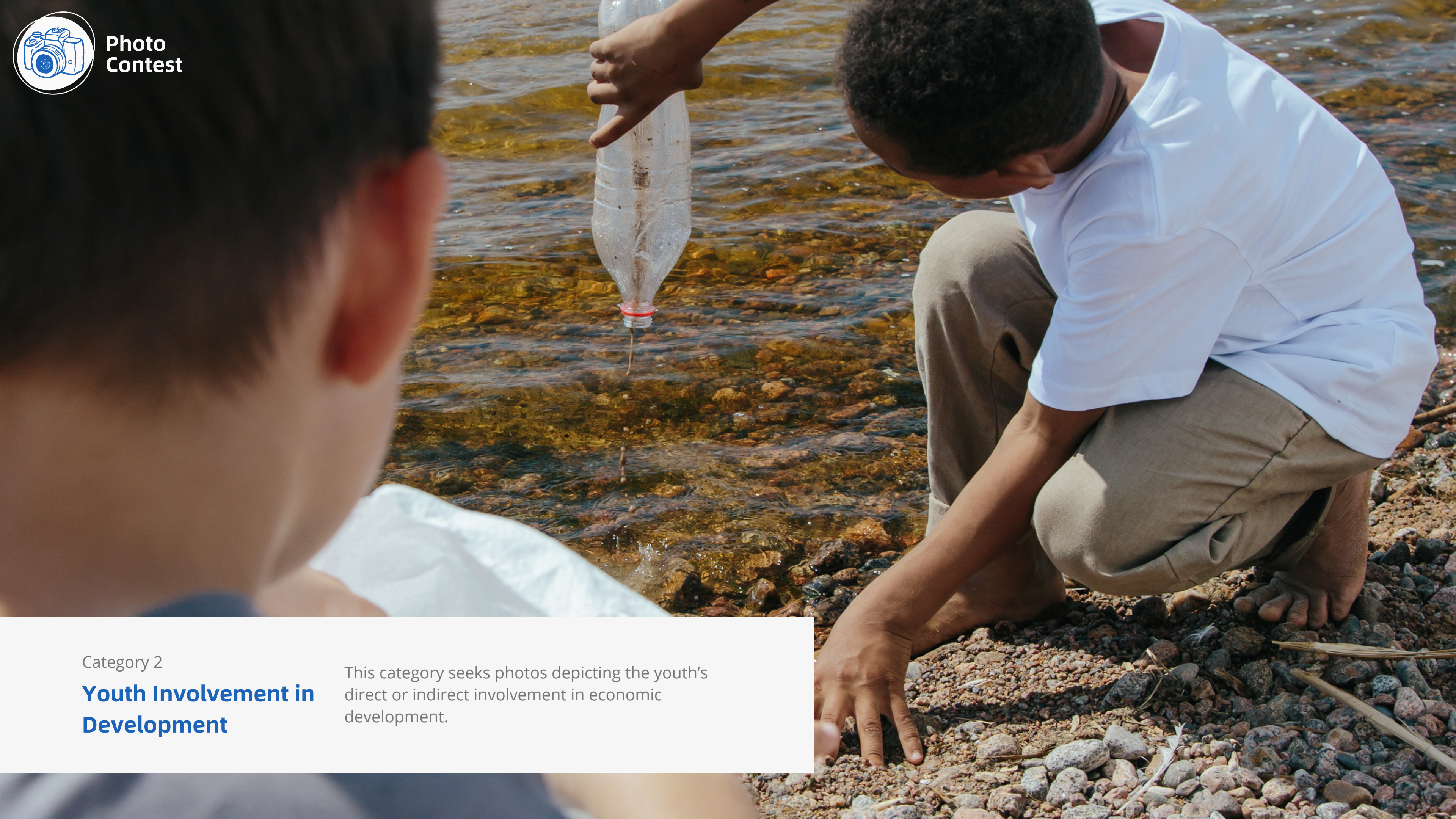


Photo
Contest

Category 2

Youth Involvement in Development

This category seeks photos depicting the youth's direct or indirect involvement in economic development.



Photo
Contest

Category 3

**Promoting
Innovative Local
Development**

The pandemic has affected almost every aspect of our daily lives. In one way or another, this condition has ignited the spark of creativity among people as they adapt their daily routines to the new normal. This category seeks photos portraying the 'creativity' of the realm of economic development.





Photo
Contest

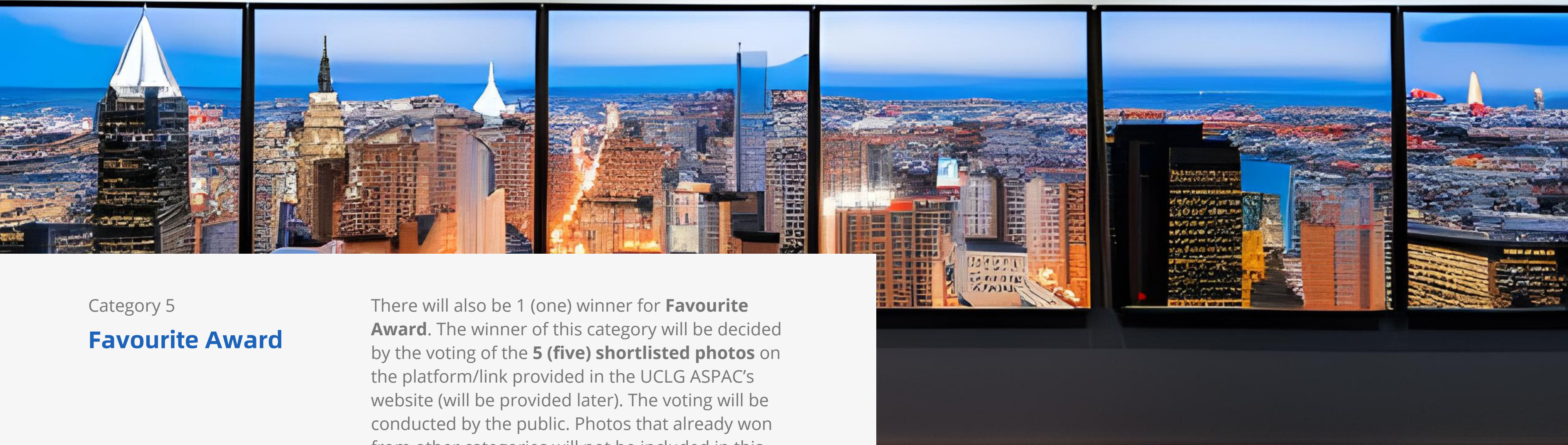
Category 4

Rural-urban Interconnectivity

This category seeks photos illustrating the importance of rural and urban areas and their linkages in the context of economic development.



Photo
Contest



Category 5

Favourite Award

There will also be 1 (one) winner for **Favourite Award**. The winner of this category will be decided by the voting of the **5 (five) shortlisted photos** on the platform/link provided in the UCLG ASPAC's website (will be provided later). The voting will be conducted by the public. Photos that already won from other categories will not be included in this Award.



Application & Submission Requirements

- All photos must be submitted via **email to info@uclg-aspac.org** with email subject: UCLG ASPAC Photo Competition_[Name of Applicants] no later than Saturday, **30 September 2023 at 23.59 PM** (Jakarta Time/GMT+7) (E.g., Email Subject: UCLG ASPAC Photo Competition_John Doe).
- Each participant (identified in by the email address and short bio provided) may submit a max of **3 (three) photos only**.
- Please provide the **description of each photo** in the body email (Max. 100 words/photo).
- Please enclose a **Short Bio** (Max. 450 words). This will not be provided to the Board of Jury.
- Photo description and participant bio must be in **English**.
- The photo/s should be submitted in **high quality** (Min. 10 MB) and in **JPG format**.
- If the submitted images include minors, or models/subjects incapable of explicitly consenting to being photographed, the applying participant may be required to provide written consent of the subject's parents/custodians to use the image, according to circumstances.

Rules & Regulation

- The photo/s must be original, created, and/or taken by the participant.
- The submitted photo/s must be free of any binding agreement with a third party that might hold UCLG ASPAC liable for payment to any individual or entity in connection with the images' copyright or their use.
- The submitted photo/s must not contain any symbol that represents any sensitive political issues.
- The applying participants accept the stipulations of the rules and regulations wholly and absolutely.
- UCLG ASPAC reserves the right to review the suitability of the participants to the criteria and to rule in any dispute that may arise at any time on this issue.

Awards

Each category will have one winner. Each winner will receive 500 USD and a certificate. Winners from the Photo Contest will be invited virtually to the Winners Gathering during the 9th UCLG ASPAC Congress Meeting.

Essay Competition

UCLG ASPAC calls young professionals and journalists to join the first ever Essay Competition. It has two (2) Categories of Essayist: Youth from any nationalities aged 15-25 and Accredited/Professional journalists. Aligned with the main theme of the Congress “**Advancing Balanced Economic Development for Asia and the Pacific**”, the essayists can choose the following five (5) sub-topics:



Industrial Upgrading

Level Up
Enhancing the business environment for local economic development



Trade Promotion

Link Up
Facilitating B2B Post-COVID



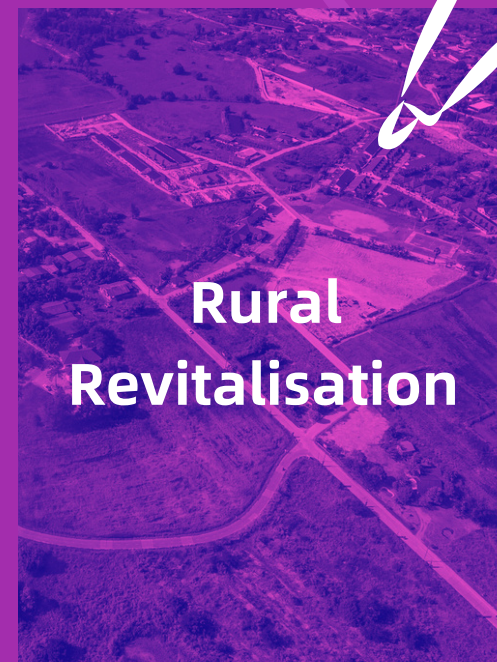
Youth Entrepreneurship

Top Up
Investing in human capital of the youth



Child-Friendliness

Rank Up
Shaping communities for a child-friendly future



Rural Revitalisation

Power Up
Harnessing the potential of the rural

Categories of Competition

The competition is open to 2 (two) categories to essayist:

Youth

from all nationalities aged 15-25

Journalist

Accredited/professional journalists internationally

Awards The following awards will be given in the Youth's category and Journalist's category respectively:

- A prize of USD 750, USD 600 and USD 500 for the first, second and third winners under the Journalist Category.
- A prize of USD 500, USD 400 and USD 300 for the first, second and third winners under the Youth Category.

Winners from the Youth and Journalists category will be invited to the Winners Gathering during the 9th UCLG ASPAC Congress Meeting to be held online.

Terms and Conditions

1. Essays may be submitted by anyone up to 25 years old (as of September 30, 2023) for the **Youth Category**.
2. There is no minimum age requirement for the **Journalists Category**. However, only journalists accredited by their Press Card could join the essay competition.
3. Entrants can only **choose one of the five themes** mentioned above.
4. Essays must be original/originally written by the entrant. Therefore, all sources must be cited and referred to the respective part in the essay as all entries will be tested for plagiarism.
5. **Only one essay entry** is allowed.
6. Essays must be unpublished.
7. Contents of the essay **must adhere** to the '**One China Policy**' (no mention of Taiwan), and most not contain or represent any sensitive political issues.
8. If you have any questions, please refer to the FAQs section.

Application and Submission Requirements

1

Essays must be **max. 1000 words in English**. Essays must be typed, with your name, institution (such as university, if entrants are still attending university), chosen theme and essay title included at the top of the first page.

2

There are no rules regarding formatting (font style, size, line space, etc.). However, essays must be submitted in either MS Word (DOC/DOCX) or PDF format.

**Note: Your name and essay title are not included in the word count limit.*

3

Your essay entries must be submitted via e-mail to info@uclg-aspac.org with the e-mail subject: *UCLG ASPAC Essay Competition_[Name of Applicants]* no later than **Saturday, 30th September 2023 at 23:59 PM** (Jakarta Time/GMT+7).

4

For journalists submitting their essay, please also attach a file of your Press Card in the e-mail.

Frequently Asked Question (FAQ)

Q1 - Are there any exceptions to the age limit for participating in the competition?

A1 - No, you must be 25 years old or younger as of September 30, 2023, which is the entry deadline date. On the other hand, for Journalists Category there is no minimum age requirement.

Q2 - Is there a fee for participating in this competition?

A2 - No, participation is free of charge.

Q3 - Do I have to be citizens of Asia or Pacific countries to join the competition

A3 - No, all nationalities can participate from anywhere in the world.

Q4 - My essay is a little over 700 words. Is it acceptable?

A4 - No, essay must be max. 1000 words to qualify. However, your name and essay title are excluded from the word count.

Q5 - Are my name and essay title included in the word count limit?

A5 - No, the 1000-word count limit is for the body of the essay only.

Q6 - Do I need a cover page for my essay?

A6 - No, a cover page is not required. Please just include your name and essay title at the top of the first page of your essay.

Q7 - Can I give any title to my essay?

A7 - Yes, you can give your essay an original title as long as the content is in line with the theme.

Q8 - Is there a specific format for the essay (font style, size, line space, etc.)?

A8 - There are no particular rules regarding formatting. However, your essay file should be in either MS Word (DOC/DOCX) or PDF format.

Q9 - Is there a specific style for the essay?

A9 - No. Essays may be in any style (thesis or prose, academic or literary), as long as the content is in line with the theme.

Frequently Asked Question (FAQ)

Q10 - Can I quote from books or websites? If so, where should I write the reference?

A10 - If you use quotations, please include the reference at the bottom of the essay. The reference should not be included in the word count.

Q11 - Can I add photos, images, or my biography to my essay?

A11 - No. Please send your essay only.

Q12 - Can I submit my essay via postal mail?

A12 - No, we do not accept entries by postal mail. Please submit your essay to **info@uclg-aspac.org**

Q13 - Can I submit a hand-written essay?

A13 - No. Please submit a typed essay in either MS Word (DOC/DOCX) or PDF format.

Q14 - Can I submit more than one essay?

A14 - No, only one entry per person is accepted.

Q15 - Can I submit my essay in my native language?

A15 - Essays are accepted in English only.

Q16 - Can we co-write and submit one essay as a team?

A16 - No. The essay must be written by one person. Co-authored essay are not accepted.

Q17 - I did not receive a confirmation email after submitting my essay. How can I make sure that my essay has been successfully submitted and received?

A17 - You will not receive a confirmation email after submitting your essay.

Q18 - Can I obtain a certificate of participation?

A18 - Yes, you can download your certificate of participation from the online registration page after submitting your essay. (Download is available until December 31, 2023.)

Rules & Regulations

- By participating in the Photo Contest and the Essay Competition, the participants accept de facto all the rules and regulation clauses.
- UCLG ASPAC reserves the right to change these dates, and to publish the new dates on the UCLG ASPAC website and/or social media, as well as to amend the jury members at its discretion.
- The decision of the board of jury is final and irrevocable.
- Choice of law, jurisdiction, arbitration - The clauses of these rules and regulations are subject to and interpreted under the Indonesian Law. Should any of the listed stipulations be canceled or declared impossible to enforce, all the other stipulations will remain unchanged and valid.

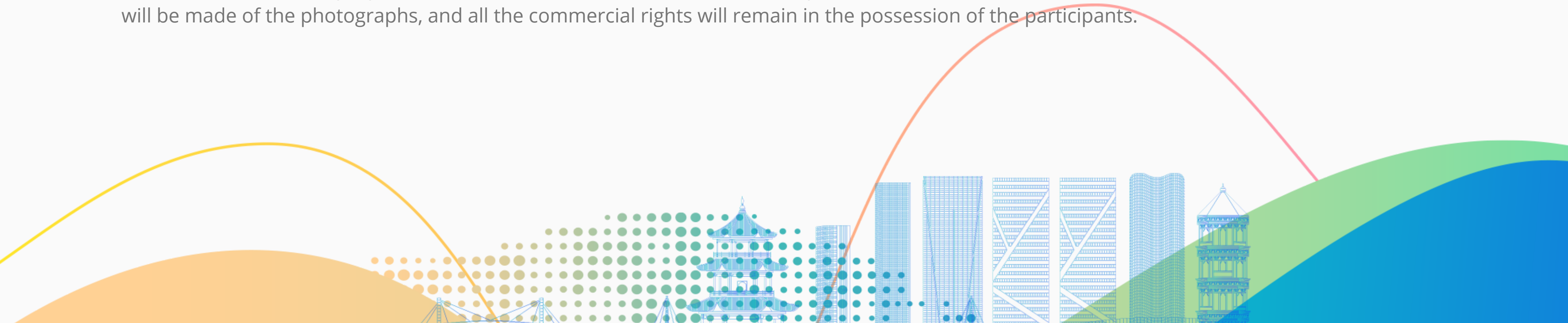
Relevant Dates

- Application for the Photo Contest and Essay Competition **opens on Wednesday, 9 August 2023**, and **closes at 23.59 on Saturday, 30 September 2023**, Jakarta time (GMT +7).
- Applying participants are responsible for determining the start and closing time of the competition in their time zone (insofar as they are outside Jakarta, Indonesia).
- Winner will be announced during the 9th UCLG ASPAC Congress.



Intellectual Property Rights

- The participant applying for the Photo Contest and the Essay Competition will maintain ownership rights of all the intellectual property (including ethical rights) related to the photo/s or essays, subject to the rules and regulations.
- The applicants give permission to UCLG ASPAC to publish the submitted photos or essays in any medium (such as the UCLG ASPAC website). Ownership of the photos or essay remains with the entrant and will be visible.
- Applicable for Photo Contest: The participants give UCLG ASPAC, and through it to any third parties involved in marketing (hereinafter "The Authorised Users") their irrevocable, non-exclusive, international, royalty-free permission, within legal bounds, to change, edit, copy, duplicate, and adjust the images to the format required for internet product pages and for marketing materials only, to advertise and use the photos and their content and components, including any name, place or portrait they may contain, in every type of media, including, but not limited to, digital and electronic media, computers and audio-visual media (present or future), in any language, worldwide, and in any way, without need to check, notify or receive approval, without any return or compensation. All the above is for the sole purpose of promoting and/or advertising the event(s) of UCLG ASPAC. Other than the purposes listed above, and other uses intended to promote the event, and the activities of UCLG ASPAC, no commercial use will be made of the photographs, and all the commercial rights will remain in the possession of the participants.



Privacy Policy

By joining the Photo Contest and Essay Competition, the participant agrees that personal details provided as part of the application process, including name, mailing address, and email, will be kept, processed, and stored by the UCLG ASPAC Secretariat, and may be used for other purposes related to the Congress. It is hereby stated that UCLG ASPAC may also use these data to verify the identity and personal details of the participants. If the applying participant has not provided full personal details during the application, the UCLG ASPAC Secretariat has the right to reject that participant's application. The participant undertakes to negotiate fully and exclusively any lawsuit or claim of breach by a third party resulting from the publication of the submitted images.

Websites

Further information:

- UCLG ASPAC: www.uclg-aspac.org
- The 9th UCLG ASPAC Congress: www.yiwu2023.uclg-aspac.org

Contact

Should you have any questions and/or clarifications, please contact info@uclg-aspac.org with the email subject:

- Photo Contest_Questions_[Name] | (E.g., Email Subject: Photo Contest_Questions_John Doe)
- Essay Competition_Questions_[Name] | (E.g., Email Subject: Essay Competition_Questions_John Doe)

