

MESHA

HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE JOURNALISM AWARDS 2026

CALL FOR ENTRIES

TARGET: Journalists affiliated to MESHA (Kenya); HEJNU (Uganda), TAMWA (Tanzania), JournAIDS (Malawi), MESICA (Zambia) and Health Communicators Forum (Zimbabwe).

DEADLINE: March 2, 2026 at 4pm Kenyan Time

The Media for Environment, Science, Health and Agriculture (MESHA) with support from the International Development Research is looking for journalists with outstanding stories which demonstrate clearly **the nexus of health and climate change** published from January 1, 2025 to February 5, 2026. The stories must be evidence based, clear, engaging and accurate; impactful and innovative.

This call is MAINLY for regular Science Media Café attendees and hence those who attend the cafes should submit their stories. We will also consider stories from those who do not attend the cafes regularly but have drawn their published story ideas from the science media cafes. We are looking for stories that portray the nexus of health and climate change. So do not submit a story on health as a standalone topic or climate change as a stand alone topic.

About the Awards and attendance of science cafes: The MESHA Health and Climate Change Journalism Awards recognize excellence in reporting on the nexus between health and climate change. We encourage stories to cover areas such as cholera, HIV and climate change. These awards aim to incentivize and motivate journalists to attend the Media science cafes, produce accurate, engaging, and impactful research-based stories. Through these awards, MESHA seeks to strengthen the awards to institutionalize recognition for quality science reporting across the Consortium whose membership is drawn from HEJNU (Uganda), TAMWA (Tanzania), JournAIDS (Malawi), MESICA (Zambia) and Health Communicators Forum (Zimbabwe).

Eligibility:

- Open to journalists who regularly attend the Media Science Cafes across the Consortium ie MESHA, HEJNU (Uganda), TAMWA (Tanzania), JournAIDS (Malawi), MESICA (Zambia) and Health Communicators Forum (Zimbabwe).
- The journalists must have published or broadcast stories which clearly show the connections between diseases such as HIV, cholera, malaria etc and climate change.
- Stories must be evidence-based and demonstrate a clear understanding of the subject matter ie the nexus between health and climate change.
- We accept multi-media stories including podcasts, radio and TV pieces broadcast/printed in English and Kiswahili

Submit your story link or copy + short description (100 words max) with your name, country and media house to: info@meshascience.org

Celebrate excellence. Inspire others. Be part of MESHA's story.

NEW DEADLINE: March 2, 2026 at 4pm Kenyan Time