



Women in Climate Action Award

Celebrating Women Leading the Way to a Sustainable Future

Zonta International District 22 is proud to introduce the Women in Climate Action Award — recognising outstanding women who are making a tangible difference in addressing climate change. This award celebrates leadership, innovation, and measurable impact, while highlighting the essential role of women in building a sustainable, equitable future.

This initiative supports Zonta International's 2024–2026 global campaign 'Zonta Says NOW to Gender-Equal Climate Action.'

About the Award

The Zonta International District 22 Women in Climate Action Award honors a woman whose leadership and achievements have made a meaningful contribution to tackling the challenges of climate change.

The annual award recognises women who are leading practical, innovative, and collaborative efforts to create a more sustainable future. This may include advancing research or policy, developing new technologies, driving organisational change, or engaging communities to take effective climate action.

Climate action can take many forms — from reducing emissions and building resilience to promoting education, advocacy, and behaviour change. Whatever the approach, this award highlights the essential role of women's leadership and perspectives in shaping inclusive and lasting climate solutions.

The award aims to:

- Recognise women whose leadership and achievements are advancing climate action in Queensland and the Northern Rivers region.
- Highlight the diverse and powerful ways women contribute to achieving a sustainable, net-zero future.
- Inspire other women and girls to pursue opportunities to lead in science, policy, education, and community initiatives.
- Strengthen Zonta's commitment to gender equality and environmental sustainability through action, recognition, and example.

Award value: AUD \$10,000

Applications open: 1 January – Midnight AEST JUNE 26 2026

Eligibility: Women residing in District 22 (Queensland and Northern Rivers NSW)

Who Can Apply

Applicants must:

- Identify as a woman
- Be a resident of Zonta District 22. May be from District 22 (provide proof of residence) but be temporarily studying interstate or currently resident in District 22 for purpose of study or work.
- Have demonstrated leadership or innovation in climate action through research, policy, practice, business, education, or community engagement.
- Not be a current member of Zonta International

Projects or achievements may relate to:

- Emissions reduction or clean energy transitions
- Sustainable agriculture or industry
- Climate adaptation and resilience initiatives
- Community education, advocacy, or behaviour change
- Innovative technologies, systems, or partnerships addressing climate impacts.

Selection Criteria with weighting

Leadership & Vision 20%

Demonstrates leadership, initiative, and commitment to achieving meaningful climate outcomes.

Impact & Outcomes 30%

Shows evidence of measurable results, influence, or community benefit.

Innovation & Initiative 20%

Introduces or applies innovative ideas, technologies, or approaches to advance climate solutions.

Collaboration & Influence 20%

Builds partnerships across sectors and contributes to broader systemic change.

Gender-Equal Climate Action 10%

Advocates for the inclusion and empowerment of women and girls and demonstrates awareness of social and human dimensions of climate change.

What to Submit

Your application must include

1. Personal details — name, address, date of birth, educational qualifications, and résumé.
2. Written submission (up to 1000 words) describing your work or achievement in climate action, alignment with award objectives, measurable outcomes, and leadership. Give an indication of how you will spend the award funds.

3. Short video MP4 format (up to 3 minutes) introducing yourself and summarising your contribution and its impact.
4. Two written references and contact details of the referees who can verify your role and achievements (name, contact details, relationship).

Submit applications by email to zontad22climateaction@gmail.com by midnight AEST 26 June 2026.

Selection Process

A panel appointed by Zonta International District 22 will judge according to award criteria. Their decision is final. The award recipient will be invited to speak at a Zonta event (online or in person).

All applicants will be notified of outcome with the winner's name and achievements announced on August 2 2026 on the Zonta International District 22 website and social media.

About Zonta International District 22

Zonta International is a global organisation building a Better World for Women and Girls.

District 22 covers Queensland and the Northern Rivers region of New South Wales. For more information, visit <https://www.zontadistrict22.org/>

Zonta International District 22 ABN 77 612 963 194

Registered Office: 1104/14 George Avenue, Broadbeach Qld 4218

Women in Climate Action Award- Application Form

Please complete all sections of this form. Applications must be submitted by midnight AEST on 26 June 2026 to zontad22climateaction@gmail.com .

Ensure you include all the information requested and attach your resume and optional short video.

1. Applicant Information

Full Name:	
Date of Birth:	
Address:	
Email:	
Phone Number:	

Attach your full resume as a separate document.

2. Written Submission (maximum 1000 words)

Please describe your work or achievement in climate action. Explain how it aligns with the award objectives and selection criteria, highlighting measurable outcomes, innovation, and leadership. Indicate how you will spend the award money to further your work?

[Insert your written submission here or attach as a separate document]

3. Short Video Summary (Optional)

Provide a short video MP4 format (up to 3 minutes) introducing yourself and summarizing your contribution and its impact. Attach a link or file name below.

Video link or file name: _____

4. Referees

Please provide details for two referees who can verify your role and achievements.

Referee Name	Relationship to Applicant	Contact Details (email/phone)

5. Declaration

I declare that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I agree to the use of my name and achievements in publicity on the Zonta International District 22 website and social media.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit this completed form, resume and optional short video to:

Email: zontad22climateaction@gmail.com

Deadline: Midnight AEST, 26 June 2026

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