

UNEP Young Champions of the Earth Prize

September 26, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

UNEP YOUNG CHAMPIONS OF THE EARTH PRIZE



CHAMPIONS OF THE EARTH

UNEP Young Champions of the Earth Prize Latest News

Recently, three entrepreneurs from India, Kenya and the United States have been awarded the UN Environment Programme's 2025 Young Champions of the Earth prize.

About UNEP Young Champions of the Earth Prize

- It is the UN Environment **Programme's** flagship initiative on **youth engagement**.
- It was **established in 2017, relaunched in 2025** in partnership with Planet A.
- **Eligibility:** The annual prize **recognises individuals under 30** for pioneering solutions to the planet's most **pressing environmental challenges**.
- **Prize money:** Each winner **receives \$20,000 in seed funding**, mentoring and access to a global platform to scale their ideas.
- **The 2025 Young Champions of the Earth are:**
 - **Jinali Mody** (India): Founded **Banofi Leather**, which produces leather alternatives made from banana crop waste. This reduces water use, toxic waste, and CO₂ emissions.

- **Joseph Nguthiru** (Kenya): Started **HyaPak company** converts the invasive **species hyacinth** in **Lake Naivasha** into packaging bags **and biodegradable seedling wrappers**.
- **Noemi Florea** (US): She has **founded Cycleau**, a compact water reuse system, in consultation with dozens of marginalized communities. The company transforms greywater into drinking water.

What is the UN Environment Programme?

- UNEP is the leading global **voice on the environment founded in 1972**,
- It has served as a **neutral convener** of Member States, civil society, the private sector and UN agencies to address humanity's most pressing environmental challenges.

Source: DTE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/unep-young-champions-of-the-earth-prize/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.