



Ministry of Tourism and Culture

OPEN CALL



Open Call for Design of a Monument Commemorating the Abolition of Slavery

Ministry of Tourism and Culture has officially launched an Open Call for the Conceptualization and Design of a Monument to commemorate the Abolition of Slavery of Day, observed annually on 1st February.

This national initiative forms part of the Government's ongoing commitment to preserving and promoting Seychelles' historical memory, cultural heritage, and shared values. The proposed monument is intended to serve as a powerful and enduring symbol of remembrance, reflection, and education, acknowledging the profound impact of slavery on the nation's history and honouring the strength, resilience, and humanity of those who endured it.

The Open Call invites artists, designers, architects, and creative practitioners aged 18 years and over to submit original concepts and design proposals that thoughtfully interpret the historical, cultural, and symbolic significance of the abolition of slavery in Seychelles. Submissions are expected to demonstrate artistic excellence while engaging meaningfully with themes of freedom, dignity, resistance, and collective identity.

The selected design will be realized as a national monument, accessible to the public and intended to inspire dialogue, learning, and commemoration for present and future generations. Through this initiative, the Government seeks to create a space that not only memorializes the past but also reinforces the values of equality, justice, and unity that underpin the nation today.

The monument will stand as a lasting national tribute, reinforcing Seychelles' commitment to acknowledging its history with honesty and respect, while fostering a deeper understanding of the legacy of slavery within the broader narrative of national development and social cohesion.

Submission Details

Interested participants are invited to submit their proposals in accordance with the guidelines set out by the organising authorities. Entry forms will be available as from 1st February 2026 and may be collected from the following locations:

- National Library
- National Arts and Crafts Council (NACC)

An online submission form is available <https://www.seychellesculturalencounters.com> to facilitate wider participation.

The deadline for the submission of concept and design proposals is 1st April 2026. Submissions received after this date, or those that do not comply with the stated requirements, will not be considered.

Submission Requirements

1.1 Concept Statement

A detailed written concept statement outlining the artistic vision, historical and cultural references, symbolic framework, interpretative narrative, and the intended public message of the proposed national monument.

1.2 Design Proposal Documentation

Comprehensive design documentation, including but not limited to conceptual sketches, technical drawings, scaled plans, 3D visualisations, and/or digital renderings, sufficient to demonstrate the proposed form, scale, materials, spatial integration, and contextual relationship to the site.

1.3 Professional Profile of the Bidder

A curriculum vitae or professional profile of the artist/designer or design team, detailing qualifications, professional experience, and relevant portfolio of works, particularly in public art, monument design, architecture, heritage interpretation, or related fields.

1.4 Completed Entry Form

A duly completed and signed entry form, confirming acceptance of the competition terms and conditions and compliance with all eligibility and submission requirements.

1.5 Declaration of Originality and Non-Conflict

Participants shall submit a signed declaration confirming that:

The proposal is an original work and has not been previously commissioned, published, constructed, or submitted in any other competition or procurement process; and

There is no conflict of interest in accordance with the Public Procurement Act and applicable regulations.

2. Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Proposals shall be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee in accordance with the Public Procurement Act and applicable procurement regulations. Evaluation shall be conducted using a quality-based assessment framework, including but not limited to the following criteria:

2.1 Thematic Relevance and Historical Accuracy

The extent to which the proposal demonstrates alignment with the theme of the abolition of slavery and accurately reflects its historical, cultural, and social significance in the Seychelles and the wider Indian Ocean context.

2.2 Artistic Merit and Innovation

The artistic quality, originality, creativity, and conceptual strength of the proposal, including the uniqueness of the design approach and its contribution to contemporary cultural expression.

2.3 Symbolic and Narrative Clarity

The clarity, coherence, and depth of symbolism and narrative conveyed by the monument, including its interpretative capacity to communicate meaning to diverse audiences.

2.4 Technical Feasibility and Sustainability

The practicality of construction, structural integrity, durability of materials, environmental resilience, maintenance considerations, and overall sustainability of the proposed monument within the intended site context.

2.5 Suitability as a National Monument and Public Engagement Potential

The appropriateness of the proposal as a national monument, including its civic presence, accessibility, educational value, and potential to foster public engagement, reflection, and learning.

3.0 Jury

All submissions will be reviewed by a Selection Panel appointed by the Government of Seychelles, comprising representatives from relevant cultural, historical, artistic, and governmental and private institutions. The decision of the Selection Panel shall be final and binding.

3.1 Request for Clarification and Additional Information

The Selection Panel reserves the right to request additional technical documentation from shortlisted Participants, including but not limited to cost estimates, material specifications, structural considerations, implementation methodologies, and site integration studies.

3.2 Right to Reject or Accept Proposals

The Ministry reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, and is not bound to select the lowest-cost or any proposal, in accordance with the Public Procurement Act and national procurement regulations.

4.0 Intellectual Property and Use Rights

The Government of Seychelles shall have perpetual, irrevocable, and royalty-free rights to use, reproduce, modify, adapt, publish, and display the winning design for any governmental, educational, commemorative, or promotional purpose, in any medium, without further consent or compensation. The Ministry reserves the right to use submitted materials for evaluation, exhibition, and public communication purposes. No submissions will be returned.

5.0 Compliance with Laws and Regulations

Participants shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies of the Republic of Seychelles, including but not limited to procurement, heritage, environmental, and building regulations.

6.0 Award

The selected design will be awarded a cash prize of One Hundred Thousand Seychelles Rupees (SR 100,000), in recognition of artistic merit and contribution to national heritage.

Ministry of Tourism and Culture

OPEN CALL FOR THE CONCEPTUALIZATION AND DESIGN OF A MONUMENT

The Abolition of Slavery Day – 1st February

ENTRY FORM

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Reference No: _____

Date Received: _____

Receiving Officer: _____

SECTION A: APPLICANT DETAILS

1. Full Name (as per National ID/Passport):

2. National ID / Passport Number: (Attach a a copy of your ID)

3. Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

4. Nationality: _____

5. Postal Address:

6. Contact Number(s):

7. Email Address:

SECTION B: PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

8. Area of Practice:

☐ Artist ☐ Designer ☐ Architect ☐ Visual Artist ☐ Student ☐ Other:

9. Institution / Organisation (if applicable):

10. Brief Professional Profile (maximum 150 words):

SECTION C: PROPOSAL DETAILS

11. Title of Proposed Monument:

12. Concept Statement:

☐ Attached (mandatory)

13. Design Material Submitted (tick all that apply):

☐ Hand-drawn sketches

☐ Technical drawings

☐ Digital renderings

☐ Mixed media

☐ Other (please specify): _____

14. Proposed Materials and Indicative Dimensions (if applicable):

SECTION D: SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Please ensure that the following documents are included with this form:

- ☐ Completed Entry Form
- ☐ Concept Statement
- ☐ Design Proposal / Visuals
- ☐ Artist/Designer Profile or Curriculum Vitae

Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

SECTION E: DECLARATION

I hereby declare that:

- The information provided in this form is true and accurate
- The submitted concept and design are original and created by me
- The submission has not been previously published or submitted for any other competition
- I acknowledge and accept that all submitted materials become the property of the Government of Seychelles

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Submission Details

Submission Deadline:
1 April 2026

Method of Submission:

Physical Submission:

Hard copies may be delivered to:

National Library Reception

(Entrance facing the bus stop on Constitution Avenue)

Electronic Submission:

Soft copies may be submitted via email to:

sec@shf.sc

Further Information and Enquiries

For enquiries, , please contact:

Seychelles National Heritage Resource Council

Email: **ceo@shf.sc**

or call: **Tel: (+248) 4 225240**