

Buildify: Unlock the Potential of Bottom-Up Architecture

Buildify connects global professionals with local, community-driven architecture initiatives in need of support. Submit your project today!

Buildify - Architecture in Development's new initiative [<http://architectureindevelopment.org/buildify>] is seeking new projects that aspire to improve the lives of rural or urban communities. Buildify supports community-driven architecture projects, helping them connect to the expertise and resources needed to upscale their impact.

Since 2011, Architecture in Development (AiD) [<http://architectureindevelopment.org/>] has been crowdsourcing best practices and promoting bottom-up and community architecture projects. AiD has recently launched its Buildify pilot to encourage multidisciplinary collaboration between community-driven architecture projects and AiD's growing global network of more than 40,000 professionals. Buildify matches projects with much needed resources and re-connect people and communities to the process of making architecture.

Nowadays, architectural media is dominated by sleek images with little social relevance. Hardly any attention is being paid to the process and operational model of the practice and the people behind an initiative. The same counts for the early stages of a project, even though these are often the most challenging. Buildify chooses to follow a project's complete process rather than just focusing on the end result.

Buildify is more than a competition.

Submitting your project to Buildify

[<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1qGeVCrGIHHlmtSggixfMKwd6WyWDOdyM18DserLh2B4/viewform>]

means you might get connected to a global network of social designers, innovators, thought leaders and other collaborators to upscale the impact of your community initiative.

"We believe architecture is primarily about people and their collective process of creating space that enhances a sense of identity and belonging for the community."

- Rob & Changfang, founders of Architecture in Development.

Submit your project today!

Use the submission form

[<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1qGeVCrGIHHlmtSggixfMKwd6WyWDOdyM18DserLh2B4/viewform>] to submit or nominate project(s) by **August 20th**, and have a chance to:

- Be featured on AiD's social media channels with more than 40,000 followers.
- Get introduced to the Buildify Global Alliance [<http://architectureindevelopment.org/partners.php?t=8>] which provides the necessary expertise and resources to boost the development of selected projects.

“We are very aware that the battle for a better built environment is a collective effort that will require everybody’s force and knowledge.”

- Alejandro Aravena, curator of 2016 Biennale di Venezia

Eligibility

Projects need to be initiated and reinforced by the community. The team should be multidisciplinary and at least include one community representative who will take ownership of the design and building process.

Please make sure the project corresponds to the following selection criteria:

- Urgency: Responds to an urgent social need.
- Architectural added value: Contributes to a community’s sense of pride and identity.
- Capacity building: Aims to build long-term development capacity of the community.
- Feasibility: Has a viable development model regarding its specific context.
- Community engagement: The team encourages strong engagement of the community.

Submit or nominate project(s) [<http://architectureindevelopment.org/buildify>] that - with the right support - could become an exemplar of community architecture. We know our global community and experts would love to hear from you!

{Press images}

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<Buildify-poster-1.png>

courtesy of [a.go.ra architects](http://a.go.ra): lifting up the a roof frame for [Kwel Ka Baung Migrant School in Mae Sot, Thailand](#).

<Buildify-poster-2.png>

courtesy of [PICO](#): view of the System of Service Infrastructures. Sports fields self-constructed by the community youth in Canaima-Los Frailes favela in Caracas, Venezuela. Photo credit: Jose Alberto Bastidas.

<project-little-dream-Thnouh school.jpeg>

courtesy of [Project Little Dream](#): view from veranda to the classroom, Thnouh school in Takeo, Cambodia. <http://www.architectureindevelopment.org/project.php?id=433>

<LEVS_Gangouroubouro_2.jpg>

courtesy of [LEVS](#): outdoor view of the Primary School Gangouroubouro, Gangouroubouro, Mali. <http://architectureindevelopment.org/project.php?id=437>

<PICO_SISTEMA DE EQUIPAMIENTOS COMUNALES.jpg>

courtesy of [PICO](#): view of the System of Service Infrastructures, public squares, library and community amphitheater in nocturnal activity. Canaima-Los Frailes favela in Caracas, Venezuela. Photo credit: Jose Alberto Bastidas.