rise
in the city
2018

Affordable Urban Housing Competition Design Brief

rise in the city 2018 - LESOTHO affordable urban housing design competition is now OPEN.

in loco

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Calling all Architecture students and alumni who graduated in the past 5 years to apply.

The competition aims to attract a global audience to design a low-income urban housing prototype for Maseru, Lesotho's capital.

The competition organizers [rise International](#) are collaborating with [BOND events](#), Lesotho's Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Habitat for Humanity, UNDP, Alliance Francaise and various academic institutions to contribute to solve the housing problem as stipulated in the country's [National Housing Policy](#).

We are inviting all innovative problem solvers in the built environment to design an affordable housing prototype in an effort to curb Lesotho's housing problem in an environment challenged by: increased urban migration, climate change and scarcity of resources, limited accessible land due to its topography - Lesotho is just 30,000 square kilometers and is mostly highlands and mountains.

If you are looking for an opportunity to showcase your skills and talent on a global scale which could kick-start a rewarding career, then this is the competition for you.

Who can participate?

Students, as well as recent graduates from an Architectural background, who have completed their studies within the last 5 years, are welcome to participate.

There are only 100 entries available. Applications will be approved based on the following:

- Area of study = Architecture
- Year of graduation = has to be within the last 5 years
- Geographical location = depending on the uptake we will try to adhere to the following geographical spread of 25 entries from Lesotho, 25 from other African countries and the remaining 50 from the rest of the world.

Who is the design for?

The housing unit which we are challenging you to design should be of approx 48 sqm (517 sqft) and able to accommodate a small household with two bedrooms, a bathroom, living and eating area, yet be affordable for a family with a combined annual income of LSL24,000.
The total house cost should fall under LSL50,000 / $3,750.

Basic electricity and connection to sewage or septic tank available at each plot.

(1LSL = 1ZAR = USD$0.075c).

What's the selection criteria for the winner?

The judges will look favourably upon innovation, use of locally sourced materials, sustainability and aesthetic appeal with cultural relevance.

Sustainability and Energy Efficiency, are a particular important part of the competition given Lesotho's very cold winters and hot summers.

You are encouraged to think about housing that might mix with other types and population, so as to avoid an isolated ghetto of tiny houses.

Credit will be given to designs that give suggestions as to how the designs can scale up, be aggregated into larger buildings, or row housing, or even be planned so that one family can make incremental improvements to their home.

Densification is a key factor to take into consideration in order to reduce the consumption of land and the impact on the landscape.

What's the prize?

There will be a shortlist of the top 10 entries which will be featured in an exhibit in Maseru, Lesotho and be featured online.

Out of these 10, an overall international winner (outside of Lesotho) will be selected as well as a national winner (from Lesotho).

The international winner will receive a one-week trip to Lesotho and engage with the local built environment sector and the national winner to see the feasibility of the construction of their designs.

The national winner from Lesotho will get to participate in a one-week built workshop in Africa to learn transferable skills that can be brought back to the built environment in Lesotho.

Everyone who participates will be awarded a certificate of participation upon request.

How to Apply?

1. Visit www.riseinthecity.com and select one of the 100 blocks, click on "Sign up for Competition", complete and submit the online application form. You will then be informed if your application has been accepted.

2. Please note that a preliminary submission will be required before you enter your final entry. This submission will be critiqued by the architectural firm who is taking up virtual residency of your Maseru block. They will try and assist you in shaping your ideas for the final submission.

3. All entries must be in English.

4. View submission requirements and adhere to them.

5. Preliminary submissions should be sent to: info@riseint.org which will then be forwarded to the architectural firm for feedback and critique.

6. Once design is revised, final entries must be uploaded in PDF format (max file size 128MB) on www.riseinthecity.com go to "Competition" and click on "Submit Architecture Competition Entry" and enter the same email you used to apply for the competition.

Important dates:

September 30, 2018 - Ensure you have registered and selected your block
October 15, 2018 - Deadline for Questions to be sent by email to inloco@riseint.org
October 25, 2018 - Responses to Questions published on competition website

November 15, 2018 - Deadline for submitting your preliminary entry to architectural firm for feedback
November 30, 2018 - Deadline for feedback from architectural firms
December 15, 2018 - Final Submission deadline

January 15, 2019 - Shortlist announced.
January 15 - 30, 2019 - Exhibit of top 10 entries at Alliance Francaise in Maseru, Lesotho
January 30, 2019 - Winners announced at end of Exhibit.

Tips for Applying:

1. Complete application online
2. Double check timelines and stick to them!
3. Adhere to Submission requirements

SUBMISSION DESIGN REQUIREMENTS: AFFORDABLE HOUSING DESIGN

Submission Deliverables - **Please note that all competition entries must be anonymous**

1. **Concept design submission**: Maximum six A3 horizontal (Tabloid 11" x 17") pages including the cover page. This booklet must explain the key concepts of your project and how it aims to solve the issue of low cost housing for Lesotho, and include a Project description with a maximum of 500 words, references, materials, moodboard, spatial arrangement or bubble diagrams, sketches of design process, final sketches of ideas. Text on these pages must be typed using Arial font 11.

2. **100 word statement** summarising the entry and a short explanation of the concept that will be used as descriptive text in media releases.

3. **Project Cost Estimate**: One A4 (8.5" x 11") page showing the main project budget breakdown in LSL.

4. **Presentation Board**: One A1 (23.4" x 33.1") presentation board which must include a site plan 1:200 scale, floor plan dimensioned with indication of finishes at 1:100, elevations a 1:100, 3D impression of exterior, 2 sections 1:100, and indicative construction details (1:20) of how you propose to build your design.

To assist you with preparing your designs the following resources are available:

1. [Existing weather context conditions](#)
2. [Local Building Regulations](#)
3. [National Housing Policy](#)

What is the long-term vision for the project?

The winning designs will be submitted to the Government of Lesotho for the potential construction of a prototype if sufficient funds are raised from the competition. This would form an integral part of the Government's initiative to promote appropriate design and construction methods.

In addition the shortlisted 10 designs will be displayed at an exhibit in Maseru, Lesotho in January and will be made available to the public as samples of good designs from which they can build their homes.

Terms and conditions

Entrants must agree that **rise** reserves the right to reproduce all entries on the competition website.

rise has the non exclusive reproduction rights to all entries for advertising, promotion, exhibition, print publication, and Internet purposes related to the competition.

By submitting an entry, a team or individual acknowledges that all work is their own, and does not infringe the intellectual rights of any third party. No entries may breach the copyright, trademark or design right of any party not listed in the entrant's registration. The entrants take responsibility for all intellectual property and copyright.

If selected as a finalist, the winning entrants must be willing and able to first develop their design and provide construction documents for its implementation, should enough funds be generated from the competition to build a prototype. The construction documentation would have to be completed by March 30, 2019.

RISE IN THE CITY COMPETITION ENTRY SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

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☐ 100 word statement: summarising the entry and a short explanation of the concept that will be used as descriptive text in media releases.

☐ Project Cost Estimate: One A4 (8.5" x 11") page showing the main project budget breakdown in LSL.

☐ Presentation Board: One A1 (23.4" x 33.1") presentation board

☐ Ensure that your name or reference to your block number does not appear anywhere in your entry.

Book your block at: www.riseinthecity.com