Design With Nature

DESIGN CONTEST

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
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BUILD'S
building urban intelligent living design solutions

RESPONSIVE
CITIES DESIGN WITH NATURE
SYMPOSIUM

Design With Nature CONTEST

The Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia (IAAC) with the Advanced Architecture Group and the BUILD Solutions project partners are launching the **Design with Nature Contest**, a global platform to experiment and rethink urban environments in response to today's global challenges.

Despite cities having strengthened their economy, efficiency, and liveability over the last decades, they are still facing major issues such as contamination, rising inequities, and unemployment, among others. These already harmful conditions for the environment and society are furthermore aggravated by crisis events such as the current pandemic. New planning paradigms that recognize the importance of ecology to respond to these challenges are being developed, by integrating **living systems** in urban environments aimed at improving cities' socio-economic and environmental conditions.

Living systems integrated in cities are also known as **Nature-Based Solutions (NBS)**, defined as *"living solutions inspired by, continuously supported by, and using nature, which are designed to address various societal challenges in a resource efficient and adaptable manner and to provide simultaneously economic, social, and environmental benefits"* (European Commission, 2015). NBS can help address several challenges through the provision of multiple ecosystem services such as life support (soil formation and oxygen production); procurement (production of food, drinking water, raw materials or fuel); regulation (climate control and tidal waves, water purification, pollination); and cultural values, including the aesthetic, educational, and recreational values. Intelligent design strategies can help reintegrate nature in cities by transforming urban spaces into liveable, productive, and biodiverse systems.

Advances in digital technologies open new opportunities to facilitate the integration of NBS in the urban environment and to increase the number and the quality of the ecosystem services provided. Digital technologies, for instance, such as simulation tools, open the possibility to test in a virtual environment how the system performs, while digital fabrication allows for the production of non-standardized elements (like green facades, floor tiles, public space furnitures, etc) for a tailored integration of nature in cities. The convergence among biology, ecological sciences and information technology applied to landscape and urban design can create powerful synergies to address the current socio-economic-environmental challenges.

This Call aims to boost the reflection on how the integration of NBS in cities through technologies can generate innovative visions, methodologies, and solutions.

- Can the use of technologies support NBS integration in cities with the final goal to enhance the provision of ecosystem services?

- How can we strengthen social relations through the implementation of innovative NBS?

- Will the technology-mediated implementation of NBS in cities lead to the development of innovative business models targeted at addressing current urban challenges?

This Contest is looking for innovative visions for the city of the future where design optimized to integrate nature can **transform urban spaces into systems to live, produce, and restore the environment.**

ABOUT THE BUILD SOLUTIONS PROJECT

The Design With Nature Contest is organized within the framework of the BUILD Solutions Project, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Commission. **The project aims to develop new transdisciplinary educational models in the fields of Biology, Design, and Business.**

For more information visit:
www.build-solutions.org

WHO CAN APPLY

This Contest is oriented towards **students and professionals from all over the world** to make a design proposal.

It is targeted at professionals and students coming from all disciplines, including **design, engineering, landscape, biology, agronomy, business, and arts.**

HOW TO APPLY

The Registration is FREE, and the competition entries should be submitted digitally in PDF files via an online form (see below).

The proposals should comply with the following criteria:

- Being a design proposal, it should address one of the following scales: global, regional, urban, neighborhood, architectural, product design.

- Every proposal should be presented in three (3) vertical DIN A-3 panels. Download the template from the website **https://responsivecities2021.iaac.net/**

- The panels should contain the following information: title, short description, drawings. Optional: renders, pictures of prototypes.

- Proposals should be submitted in English.

- Panels should be anonymous. At the bottom right part of each panel you need to insert a code of six mixed letters and numbers (you will need to insert this code in your application form).

- Each panel should be submitted in PDF format. The size of each file must not exceed 1MB.

- OPTIONAL > Video: In addition to the 3 DIN A-3 panels, you have the option to submit a 1 minute (maximum) video to explain, in a few words, the key concepts of your proposal.

Please use English subtitles even if you are speaking English. (It is not mandatory to speak in the video, you may also use text, images, animation etc). To submit the video: First upload the video to YouTube, then paste the YouTube link to the video section of the submission.

SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY HERE:
https://apply.iaac.net/applications/view. php?id=128205

SELECTED ENTRIES

This Call is a great opportunity for students and professionals to showcase their talent:

- Selected projects will be published in a online ISBN publication

- The winning project will be offered a scholarship for the Master in Advanced Architecture 1 year program at IAAC, for the academic year of 2022/23, valued at 18.000 euros.

- The top 10 entries will be exhibited in the BUILDs final event exhibition to be held in November 2021. Moreover, they will be promoted in the BUILDs webpage and social media accounts and their authors will be included in the BUILDs talent network.

DEADLINES

- The Call will be open until **30 September 2021, 23:59h CEST.**
- Selected entries will be announced by **15 October 2021.**

DETAILED INFORMATION AND CONTACT

Please check our website regularly **www. responsivecities2021.iaac.net** for all the detailed and updated information on this Call.

If you have any specific question about this Call, do not hesitate to contact us at **euprojects@ iaac.net**

JURY

Jury members will be announced soon. Please check the Contest website for future updates.