IFLA ASIA-PAC LA Awards 2023

The IFLA Asia-Pacific region Landscape Architecture Awards, also known as the **IFLA ASIA-PAC LA Awards,** provide an international platform to showcase and promote the achievements and work of landscape architects in the Asia-Pacific region. These prestigious awards aim to create a continuous awareness and recognition of landscape architecture together with like-minded partners and professions that have played a key role in shaping our cities and environment towards a better future.

IFLA ASIA-PAC LA Awards Categories:
1. * Landscape Architecture Category: Built and Unbuilt Projects
   1.1. Built Projects
   1.2. Unbuilt Projects
2. Open Category – Built Projects

for Landscape Architecture Firms, submission only

1.1. Built Projects:

1.1 A) Cultural and Urban Landscape

Projects in this category vary from city to city. From urban plazas and riverfront promenades to historical sidewalks, streetscapes, play corridors or even under-utilised spaces in forgotten areas of the city like underneath a viaduct, a street corner or back alley, these projects aim to showcase great design interventions in cultural and urban settings with ingenious solutions for successful placemaking.

> **Recognises:** site-specific works of landscape architecture. Professional entries in this category must be built.

> **Typical entries include:** public, civic, urban, institutional, or private landscapes of all kinds (except residential—see residential category); park connectors, stormwater management, sustainable design; landscape art or installations; interior landscape design; and more.

1.1 B) Residential

Projects in the Residential category range from low to medium to high-density housing, in both private and public housing. These projects aim to showcase the varied cultural living conditions and experiences across countries and cities in the Asia-Pacific region. Entries here can serve as a reminder that not all residential projects have privilege and luxury with budgets and space; some may be more complex than meet the eye.

> **Recognises:** site-specific works of landscape architecture for residential use. Professional entries in this category must be built.

> **Typical entries include:** public or private housing projects; single or multi-family residential projects; low-cost or high-end housing; activity areas for cooking, entertaining, recreation, or relaxation; slum resettlements or village rejuvenation with full or phased completion; sustainable landscape applications; new construction or renovation projects; historic residential preservation and more. Projects should also

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include any interventions or improvements to poor living conditions of settlements, quarters or villages and highlight the role of landscape architecture in these aspects.

1.1 C) Parks and Open space

Projects in this category focus on the merits of how each park or open space is well designed with an absolute understanding of the site through analysis and feasibility studies. They need to demonstrate how the project vision and its realisation are aligned to elevate such spaces to become highly desired by the public and local communities.

Recognises: site-specific works of landscape architecture. Professional entries in this category must be built.

Typical entries include: public parks, botanic gardens, gardens of historic preservation, institutional or private open spaces and landscapes; theme Parks, integrated stormwater management and more.

1.1 D) Nature Conservation

Projects to protect nature, enhance biodiversity and improve the natural environment vary in scale and size. This category primarily focuses on strategies of site conservation and implementation by landscape architects where this centres on the significance of natural heritage, with emphasis in the areas of geology, ecology, biodiversity, etc. The category includes terrestrial and marine ecosystems and environments.

Recognises: site-specific works of landscape architecture. Professional entries in this category must be built.

Typical entries include: nature corridors, natural waterways and waterbodies; nature reserves; National Parks; nature trails, vegetation preservation, reclamation, conservation; design for revegetation and rejuvenation of forest and other environments; geology, habitat restoration; terrestrial to marine ecosystem enhancement and more.

1.1 E) Skyrise Greenery

Projects in this category look at landscapes at new levels and on different planes including subterranean and vertical green walls. These landscapes and planting schemes usually face challenges of loading, low light conditions, maintenance at height, adverse wind conditions and different weather changes across countries and regions. Innovative and creative solutions, coupled with good design, is key for this category.

Recognises: site-specific works of landscape architecture. Professional entries in this category must be built.

Typical entries include: public, civic, urban, commercial, mix-used, residential, institutional, or private landscapes of all kinds that are on decks, different levels or roof tops; green roofs, green walls; roof top gardens and more.

1.1 F) Green Infrastructure

Projects where inter-disciplinary collaboration is key for the successful integration of landscape with major infrastructure. This category often involves the partnership of landscape architects with allied professionals such as planners, engineers and building architects right from project initiation to implementation.

Recognises: site-specific works of landscape architecture. Professional entries in this category must be built.

Typical entries include: public, civic, military infrastructure including protected facilities with strong engineering and architectural integration; design for transportation, infrastructure with civic functions; bridges, dams, water treatment plants, integrated urban landscape installations and more.

1.1 G) Communities

Projects where landscape architects play a critical role in facilitating workshops, outreach and engaging communities and stakeholders to achieve the desired outcomes of community ownership, bonding and social cohesion within the context of the site. Projects to highlight the process of community engagement with clear milestones and deliverables.

Recognises: site-specific works of landscape architecture. Professional entries in this category must be built.

Typical entries include: public, private community gardens of all kinds, school backyard initiatives to village settlement and disaster response programmes.

1.2. Unbuilt Projects (Analysis & Master Planning)
- o Commercial and Institutions
- o Sports and Recreational Network
- o Residential
- o Agricultural
- o Parks and Environmental
- o Disaster response

The criticality of site investigation, analysis, feasibility studies with sound strategies and good planning aligned with a clear vision, objectives, and phased implementation, mark these master plans as enabling enhanced liveability, effective systems management and greater sustainability for our cities and environments.

Recognises: the wide variety of professional activities that lead to, guide, and explore landscape architecture design possibilities. Entries in this category are not required to be built.

Typical entries include: urban, suburban, rural, or regional planning work; development guidelines; cycling networks, transportation, town, or campus planning; plans for reclamation of brownfield sites; environmental planning in relation to legislative or policy initiatives or regulatory controls; cultural resource reports; natural resources protection; historic preservation planning; and more.

2.0. Open Category – Built Projects

This category aims to encourage submissions from, but not limited to, product or system suppliers, contractors, building architects, engineers, artists, developers, playground designers, graphic designers, and horticulturists; basically any specialists who are contributors to a landscape project. The following sub-categories embrace the importance of these professions and partners who have played an important role in successful projects where:

    i)   their role and scope of works may be limited but significantly integral to the outcome of the project; or

    ii)   their works and scope contributed to the landscape industry, urban landscapes, or to general and living environments.

This category is open to non-landscape architecture firms, although it is expected that the landscape architects would make a recommendation to their partners to support and encourage their submissions. This category is JUST for built projects, with entries encouraged in the following areas:

Courtyards & Small Gardens - quality turnkey projects in small landscape spaces, with a focus on the quality of intimate spaces created for user's experience.

Environmental Art & Sculpture - design by artists or authors who understand the design intent and context of place with the added mastery of his/her work.

Greenwall Design - implemented greenwall systems which ensure the quality of aesthetics and sustainability are well integrated. Context of the place, challenges and climate must be taken into consideration.

*Integrated Architecture - design by building architects, building contractors or implementors who worked closely with the landscape architects to ensure the holistic integration of built form with the landscape. *Please see note.*

*Integrated Engineering - design by engineers who made a key contribution to the success of the project. *Please see note.*

Lighting & Night Experience - creative lighting or effective light installations that enhance the night experience of the design intent for the place and project.

*Maintenance - quality of maintenance by contractors who have understood the design intent of the completed project and maintain or improve the finished quality of the project to the highest standards. *Please see note.*

Play & Playground Design - playscape and the use of appropriate play equipment or fun elements to enhance the quality of the space and experience of the users, targeting specific age groups or levels of physical ability.

Real Estate & Show Flats - design and execution of landscape projects for real estate and property showflats which meet or exceed the expectations of developers or residents.

Streetscapes & Planting - design and implementation of streetscapes including effective landscape strategy, appropriate planting palettes, and quality implementation.

Way-finding & Signage - creative design and effective way-finding strategies to enhance and complement the holistic approach of a project. The signage design and content should reflect the design intent and thoughts of the landscape architects or clients or the context of the place.

Note: **This sub-category submission under Open Category requires an accompanying letter of support/endorsement of quality by the client or the landscape architect. This support is to confirm the understanding of quality by both parties. The signature and endorsement stamp or company seal of the supporting company is mandatory.*

The Committee reserves the rights to make amendments to or cancellations of any category due to lack of participants or any unforeseen circumstances.

General Eligibility of Projects
All projects MUST be based in the core **Asia-Pacific countries of this region**.
Please refer to the following link for reference.
https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia-Pacific

IFLA retains the right to disqualify any entry that does not meet the entry requirements or presents a conflict of interest. It is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure the readability of the files and presentations. Submission scores may be penalised or affected due to file format error or enormous file sizes causing inaccessibility. In such cases, refunds will not be issued.

Submission Guidelines
For Built and Unbuilt Category – In order to enter the Built & Unbuilt Category, the official entrant must be a Corporate member of IFLA Asia-Pacific region. Any entrant who is not under IFLA Asia-Pacific region would be considered as a non-member.

For Open Category - A1 digital portrait poster submission at a minimum of 300dpi resolution AND a quality PowerPoint slide/ PDF presentation of no more than 20 slides with high quality images. All explanatory text must be clearly incorporated. Please note the requirements of supporting letters required for Integrated architecture, Integrated engineering & Maintenance categories

All entries completed with the Official Registration Form and Project must be submitted via IFLA Asia-Pac LA Awards Submission 2023 at Judgify:
https://www.judgify.me/IFLALAAwards2023

Each project must contain the following three folders:
- Project Binder [PPT/PDF presentation to be assessed by jury]
- Electronic boards [To be assessed by jury]
- Images

Submission: Materials in the submission must not reveal the organisation logo, names of the entrant and/or landscape architects, firms, other designers, students, schools, or photographer. Names of companies or organisations shall only be indicated in the registration forms.

Criteria for Built Projects: The jury will consider the quality of design and execution (for professional entries); design context; environmental sensitivity and sustainability; and design value to the client and to other designers.

Criteria for Unbuilt Projects: The jury will consider the quality of the analysis and planning effort; context; environmental sensitivity and sustainability; likelihood of successful implementation; and value to the client, the public, and other designers.

Project Title (to be included in the presentation deck): A submission must have a short, specific presentation title (containing no abbreviations) that indicates the nature of the presentation. **Note: Project title MUST be consistent with the entry forms. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification.**

Project Statement (to be included in the presentation deck): In 200 words or less, described the project and why it's award worthy. This statement may be used in promotional materials if the project is selected for an award.

Project Narrative for Built Projects (to be included in the presentation deck): Addressing the criteria for all the categories under Built Projects, describe in 1300 words or less the project location, scope and size, site and context investigation, design programme, design intent, materials and installation methods, environmental impact and concerns, collaboration with the client and other designers, and other significant issues.

Project Narrative for Unbuilt Projects (to be included in the presentation deck): Addressing the criteria for the Analysis and Master Planning category, describe in 1300 words or less the project's goals and objectives, what kinds of environmental and social data were collected and analysed, methods of investigation and analysis, how options were considered, how stakeholders were involved in the project, how design was used in the process, how the project was or would be implemented, and how the project is or will be administered and/or monitored, and other significant issues.

Electronic Boards: To facilitate the printing of A1 boards for the exhibition at the Awards Ceremony, participants are required to compose and include two layout boards. Each board should be in original A1 size, in landscape format and in high resolution of 300 dpi.

Images*: All images/photographs used in the Project binder and Electronic boards must be placed in the Image folder (high resolution) in .jpg, .zip format; technical drawings can be .pdf format. Project images must include at least one site plan and at least five but no more than ten total drawings and/or photographs not to exceed 20 MB each. Brief captions of no more than 40 words each are to be placed at the bottom of each image. NOTE: failure to submit images will lead to disqualification of entry.

Recognition: The Professional Awards Jury may each select one Award of Excellence and any number of Honor Awards in this category. The jury may choose to confer special awards or special titles, or recognition not stated in the awards categories.

*Entrants are responsible for clearing photographs with photographers for publication and reproduction by IFLA. IFLA will provide supplied photography and other project credits when using photos but will not assume responsibility for any copyrights or photography fees. IFLA retains the right to publish photos submitted in winning entries in any of its publications or associated information, or on the IFLA website, in promoting the awards programme, and in other products in conjunction with promoting landscape architecture.

<u>**Submission Guidelines on Judgify**</u>
All submission must be done in Judgify via the online link below. Entrant must take note of the following for submission in Judgify.

Language: The official language for LA Awards is English and entrant must be done in English. Any submission not done in English will be disqualified.

Mailing Address: Full mailing address with postal code / zip code must be provided.

Membership Verification: Do ensure to enter the membership identity.
For IFLA APR member, please enter the 6-digit membership number in GlueUp.

Measurement of area: All measurement should be indicated in square metre (m2) or square km (km2).

Submission of information in Judgify: Do note that the information submitted in Judgify entry form will be considered as final and the information collected will be use on the LA Awards publication and/or certificate should your submission win an award. The information includes project title, project statement (200 words or less), measurement of area (m2 / km2) and acknowledgement list (company / name).

Registration & Submission Fees – All Categories
Corporate Member Submission *US$300 per entry
Non-Corporate Member Submission *US$800 per entry
*Please note that there is a 7% admin fee in addition to the submission fee

If you wish to apply for a discounted rate for IFLA-APR Corporate Membership, which comes with many benefits, and take advantage of the Corporate Membership submission rate, please click on the following link: https://ifla-apr.glueup.com/membership/1603/apply/

Mode of Payment

- PayPal Judgify (Award Submission Platform)
- Currency: US$

Upon receipt of payment, you will receive a receipt generated from Judgify

Call for Entries
Commences on March 8th, 2023

Deadline for Submission
May 5th, 2023 at 11:00pm Singapore Time Zone (SGT), UTC +08

Acknowledgement of Submission
An electronic acknowledgement email will be sent to every successful entry submission. Entries received after the closing date will be declared invalid and the entry will be forfeited.

Details of Submission
All information entered into the submission will be considered final and shall be used in the publication / certificate where required. Amendment will not be possible, and any certificate change is subject to US$ 150/ pc.

Dates of Awards Ceremony
Recipients will be honoured at the awards presentation ceremony at the IFLA World Congress Gala and Awards Ceremony Dinner, held in conjunction with IFLA Regional Congress (https://ifla-apr2023.jp/) during November 15-17, 2023, in Tokyo, Japan.

Submissions Review

The Awards Jury will review all submissions in *April - May 2023. Final judging will be conducted in *June 2023

Please note that dates are subject to change. If there are any changes, entrants will be notified

Notifications

Entrants will be notified of the results shortly after the final judging.

Announcement of winners

The awards will be announced to the media following notification of and coordination with the recipients.

Digital Credentials

From 2023 onwards, the certificates will be awarded through online digital credentials. These credentials will offer the possibility to share your achievements with your network on many social media channels. This digital transformation also supports the long-term vision of IFLA to focus on sustainability by eliminating transportation emissions and printing materials.

Jury decision

The decision of the Jury is final and shall not be negotiated, contested, reviewed, challenged or appealed against by any party though any means or process whatsoever. The discretion of the Jury to make or withhold an award is absolute.

Publishing Rights

All Award entries are the property of IFLA and no entries will be returned to the participants. The organiser shall reserve the right to publish, display, exhibit, reproduce or otherwise publicise or communicate all entries submitted, subject to appropriate citation and acknowledgement of the authors without putting the organisers under any obligation whatsoever. Such right shall be exercisable by the organisers without payment, charges or fee whatsoever to any person.

Contact us

This award is professionally run and administered by a third party, MCI Group Asia Pacific, Singapore, engaged under IFLA Asia-Pacific region. Please do not contact the IFLA head office.

Any questions? Please kindly contact Mr Winston Lee / Mr Soben Kumar, IFLA Asia-Pac Awards Coordinator, at +65 6496 5503 or iflaapr.awards@mci-group.com

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10 Ways to Win it

1. Keep it clear and simple

It is important to provide a clear narrative for your projects and keep the layout and organisation of your images simple and straightforward. Highlight what makes the project unique, its environmental components, its long-term value, and how it raises the bar for the profession. The faster the jury understands your scheme and the better the level of its clarity, the higher chances of winning you have.

2. Leverage on your uniqueness

You would know your own strengths. Bring out these strengths and speak less of your weaknesses unless you have an impressive narrative that turns things around. Similarly for projects, there are those which are unique and there are others that are more mundane; select your projects wisely for submission based on quality and not attempt to try your luck based on quantity.

3. Different context, different strengths

Asia-Pacific is a region with many countries, cities and diverse cultures. Do not assume that your low cost residential housing project would pale against those exploring high end housing. The jury does not just look at pretty images; they would like to understand your context, constraints, the client's brief and the different challenges raised by the context. Leverage on the intrinsic values of the site, the strength of your response within a specific cultural context and make that obvious and clear to the jury. Also understand that some of the projects you may have, however common in your environment, may not be common in other places.

4. Prepare in advance

Do not leave things to the last minute and scramble to organise your drawings, photographs and text. Am awards submission requires careful planning and checking for any errors or mistakes made during rushed hours.

5. Multiply your chances

There are many sub categories in these awards. Very often your project has various strengths that could overlap and straddle across different sub categories. Be prudent in the sub category you select, at the same time, be confident to submit into more than one sub category if you feel your project has the edge to win more than one award.

6. Good photography

Pictures speak louder than words. Good images speak for themselves. Invest in good photography of your projects as this would potentially be your publicity in media coverage. Be prudent in how you select your images based on the narrative description and sub category you have submitted into. This is also a good chance to impress the jury on first impressions...

7. **Acknowledge your collaborators**

It would be wise to highlight any inter-disciplinary involvement and give credit to your collaborators. Ambitious projects are generally more complex and more demanding in many aspects, so impress the jury on how your landscape response has successfully integrated the expertise from various professions on different levels.

8. **Let it mature**

Do not rush to submit projects where plants are yet to establish and the project seems bare of vegetation. Let your plants and trees mature so that the images of your built project are impressive and reflect your design intent.

9. **Not always about the end product**

There are projects that deserve to win because of their processes and not necessarily the end product. Sometimes these processes are more valuable and serve a greater outcome than the finished product. Provide good images and clear narratives of these processes and do not under estimate their criticality.

10. **Be contactable**

Be prepared and be ready to be contactable once you have submitted. We do not want to simply disqualify any submission and would like to provide opportunities for rectification or request for any missing information. Hence it is wise that your company has someone ready to provide such information if called upon to do so.