TRANSPARENCE 17.0

INDIA'S BIGGEST DESIGN CONTEST FOR BUDDING ARCHITECTS & DESIGNERS

SAINT-GOBAIN

LIGHT IS RIGHT

Be Responsible, Be Sustainable

ARCHITECTURE CATEGORY

Event supported by ? ethos !!
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SAINT-GOBAIN

ABOUT SAINT-GOBAIN

Saint-Gobain, is a world leader in creating sustainable habitats. Operating in 75 countries, the company manufactures and distributes glass materials and glass solutions for our daily life. These glass solutions bring comfort, enhance performance, and add safety while addressing the challenges of sustainable construction. Saint-Gobain India Private Limited (SGIPL) - Glass Business, manufactures a variety of float glass products and offers solutions that continue to shape the Indian construction industry. The company produces a wide range of float glass products - Clear Glass, Tinted Glass, Mirrors, Lacquered Glass, Energy Efficient Performance Glass, and Glass for High-performance applications including Fire Safety. With over 20 years of presence in India, and a unique pan-India manufacturing footprint with plants in Bhiwadi (Rajasthan), Jhagadia (Gujarat) and Sriperumbudur (Tamil Nadu), today, our growth is guided by our purpose, "MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER HOME", which responds to the shared ambition of all men and women of the Group, to act every day and make the world a more beautiful and sustainable place to live in.

For more details, visit: www.in.saint-gobain-glass.com

? ethos ™ !!
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ABOUT ETHOS

Ethos was founded in 2002 by Ar. Gita Balakrishnan to raise awareness about our built environment, provide more opportunities to aspiring professionals, and establish a platform and network of future decision-makers among young designers and civil engineers. With time, Ethos has evolved into a link between students and the professional world, sensitising them to the culture and the ethos that their designs would need to respond to. The effort to equip students to be change-makers, leaders, and contributors to building a harmonious society has been facilitated by the creation of Acedge - an online platform to provide education outside classrooms.

An initiative under the Ethos Foundation, Ar. Gita introduced Arcause as a platform for acknowledging, enlisting, and actualizing Social Responsibilities of Architects, Designers, Engineers, and other members of the ACED Fraternity. The Walk for Arcause campaign celebrates Ethos completing 20 remarkable years in June 2022, and celebrates the spirit and architectural splendour of India after 75 years of independence.
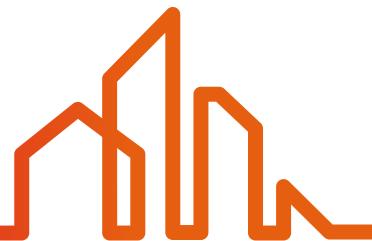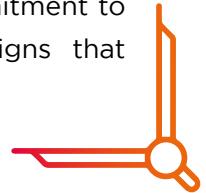
THE CURATOR

Ar. Madhav Raman

Madhav is an architect and urbanist. He co-founded an architectural practice in partnership with Vaibhav Dimri after they graduated from the School of Planning and Architecture Delhi in 2001. Formally established in 2004, Anagram Architects is internationally recognised as amongst the top emerging practices in the world with a commitment to delivering deeply contextual designs that encourage sustainable lifestyles.

THE CURATOR

Ar. Madhav Raman

Over the years, the practice has garnered much international acclaim, including a nomination for the Aga Khan Award in 2010 and inclusion in the Wallpaper* Magazine's "Architects Directory 2009". Its work has been permeated at the Architectural Review's World Emerging Architecture Awards 2007, the Cityscape Architectural Awards 2008, 2010 & 2016, the Wienerberger Brick Awards 2010, the SAIE Bologna 2010, 2011, and 2012, the Holcim Award for Sustainable Construction 2011, Asia Pacific Design Awards 2012, the International Design and Architecture Awards 2013, the Institute of Indian Interior Designers Awards, National Winner 2017 and the Indipool India's Best Design Studio Award 2017.

Anagram Architects has also featured in the International Architecture Biennale 2010 in Rotterdam and Biennial of Design (BIO23) 2012, held in Ljubljana, Slovenia. They have been included in the Architectural Digest's list of the most influential South Asian designers for 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

LIGHT
IS
RIGHT

Be Responsible, Be Sustainable

Can Architecture foster growth and harmony while revering the Environment?

As conscientious designers, our designs should tread lightly on our Earth as they make a statement. The 17th year of Transparence encourages you to celebrate Nation Building through your designs and ideas. We look forward to holistic solutions on buildings that foster growth and harmony, like socio-cultural institutions, libraries, centres for health and well-being, nature interpretation centres, ecological field stations, scientific learning or anthropological research premises, museums and beyond. Students and Colleges (through their studios) are encouraged to question the permanence of architecture and design by exploring responsive and reversible buildings. Your design should aim at carbon and energy neutrality by generating a positive impact on the environment and biodiversity at the site.

Lean and light are an approach to the construction process that increases the project value by reducing waste of resources, time, and work. Many experts have hinted at lean construction systems being the future in the building industry. For many leading firms across the world, the light and sustainable approach represent a smart business practice and social responsibility at the same time.

PREMISE

Treading Lightly | Resilience and Reversibility

Through its evolution over several centuries and the desire to leave a mark, architecture tends towards permanence, often ignoring the actuality of the physical world and the current challenges. When a building has been unoccupied or abandoned, do we consider its lifespan to have ended? What do we do with the materials - demolish the structure and let it go to waste or reuse and repurpose the materials as well as the structure itself? How do we build structures that are reversible or rather think of their afterlives? What is temporality in architecture?

We try to explore these ideas through "Light is Right" and think of ways to address the issues of the life and afterlife of materials in the design process. With the thought of lean and light construction practices - reducing wastage of resources, time, and work while increasing project value at its base and a focus on minimal impact on the site, this theme tries to investigate avenues for low-impact, reversible architecture.

Climatically resilient, responsive, and responsible designs that are carbon and energy neutral can generate a positive impact on the environment and their users' lives. In fact, it's part of our social responsibility to build wisely and limit our impact on the ecosystem as the realities of climate change become harsher. Short-term, reversible architecture can be an effective tool to incorporate designs that focus on the assembly and disassembly of a structure on site, and how materials are treated after the structure's intended tenure is over.

The proposed sites, airstrips and refueling stations from the colonial and World-war II eras, were an asset to our country once. Precious parcels of land, now several of them lie defunct and abandoned, with little to no development but plenty of potentials. When we select brownfield sites like these, we acutely minimise the footprints of architectural and construction activities as compared to such activities on a greenfield site. In turn, developing these sites can help local communities and help enliven these places once again, while demonstrating outstanding models for treading as light as we can.

With this outlook, the brief calls for intervention on one of the listed sites developed according to the context as well as an environmental sensitivity and the needs of the local communities for a period of 10 years. The aim is to intervene as minimally as possible while fulfilling the functional requirements of the programme, and when the function of the building has come to an end after a decade of occupation, to leave it with minimal traces.
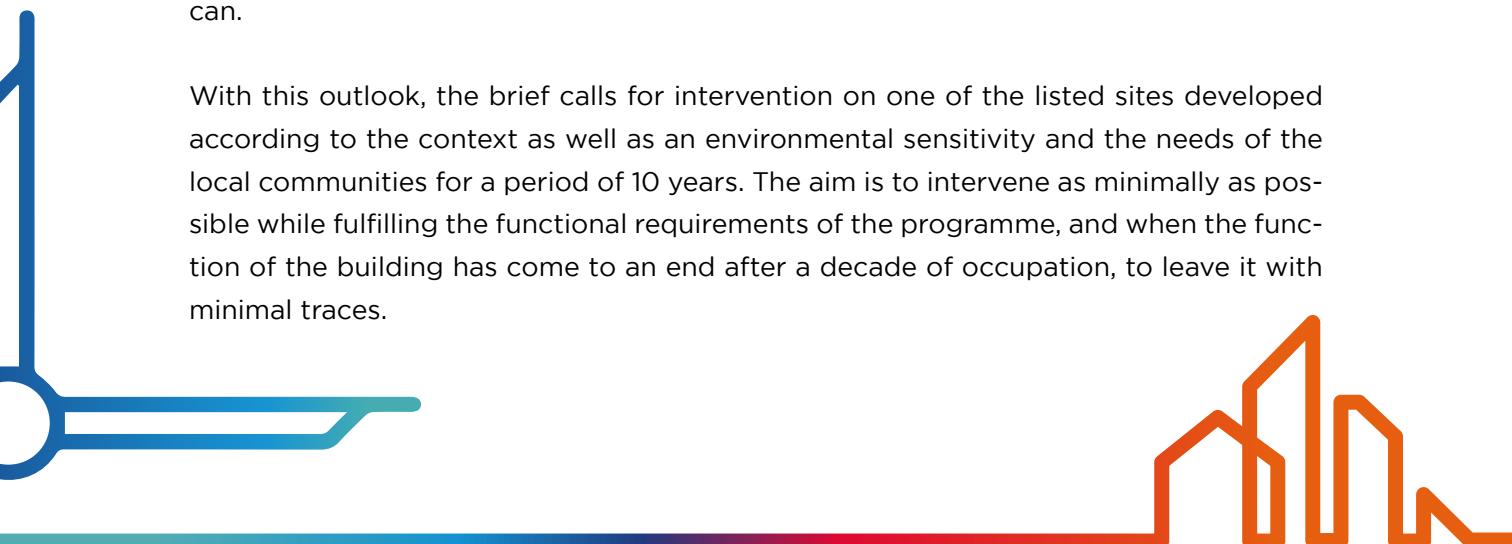
SITE AND CONTEXT

There are about 400+ defunct airstrips and airports according to a 2016 list released by the Government of India. A number of these sites were taken up for redevelopment under the UDAN scheme, but a few of these sites still remain abandoned and undeveloped. It presents us with a unique opportunity to develop our projects and programmes on these airstrips while keeping up with the theme of low-impact, conscious architecture.

This competition offers the choice of a site to the participating teams from the list provided here.

The list contains the names of seventeen, now defunct, World War II era airstrips in India that lie abandoned and unused today. These sites lie in varying geographical regions, climatic zones, and human contexts. As a result, they put forward exciting challenges and opportunities for diverse socially relevant and responsible interventions.

a.   The sites lie in different contexts and in different regions of India: possibilities vary from urban, semi-urban, rural and eco-sensitive zones.

b.   Many of these defunct airstrips have some degree of built structures in varying states present on site, which needs to be included and addressed in the proposed designs.

c.   Pick a land parcel between 2 to 4 acres incorporating the existing built structure.

d.   The total built-up area must be between 15,000 sq. m. and 40,000 sq.m. (including the existing built-up, if any on the site), with F.A.R. above 1.5.

e.   Setbacks around the building – 18.0 m on all sides. No building projections are permitted within setbacks.

f.   Ground coverage- 20-40%

g.   No height restrictions.

h.   Designated Green Space >20% of Site Area.

Deviations from the above in the design schemes presented are not desirable.

Programme | Design Intent (Architecture):

Participants are advised to take up the following types of interventions as part of their larger programmes as well as by themselves as the whole programme. They are also encouraged to further develop their area programme on their own, as per their research into local conditions and contexts. By including one of the below typologies in the functional programme, participants are encouraged to explore suitable combinations of additional functions and ancillary activities. The final programme is to be developed by the participating teams themselves within the given footprint parameters.

The local community and their needs should be addressed, along with the context and the location, and the fact that there is a 10-year limit to the lease on the land. The new structure should acknowledge the existing structure(s) on the site and focus on lean and light construction methods. Please do address one of the below typologies in your designs:

a. Socio-Cultural

i.   That essentially engages with cultural practices that may be endangered.

ii. These may include research and educational facilities, skill development facilities, museums, archives and repositories to preserve and propagate cultural heritage, music, linguistics, crafts and rare books libraries, etc.

iii. These centres can be located in rural, proto-urban and small-scale urban locations.

b. Healthcare and Well-being

Temporary or short-term field hospitals or clinics and sample collection centres which could include a centre for medical and long-term care.

i.   These can include emergency response facilities, dedicated recovery and long-term care centres for communities afflicted with particular diseases or cyclical health crises, TB centres, Cancer-care facilities, etc.

ii. These may also include specialist diagnoses, pathology/disease data collection and coordination/management of patient logistics and care between visits to bigger city hospitals.

iii. These centres can be located in rural, proto-urban and small-scale urban locations.
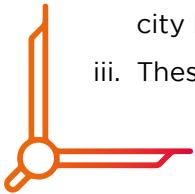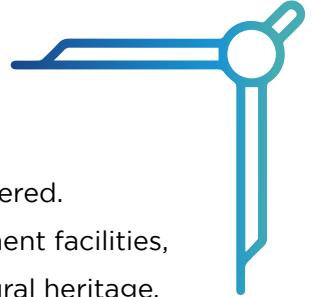
c. Climatic response and disaster relief

Disaster mitigation and prevention facilities.

i.   These may include research facilities, disaster education and awareness schools/facilities, weather stations, disaster relief package storage facilities, etc.

ii. These centres can be located in rural,proto-urbann and eco-sensitive locations, where incidence of natural and climate-change disasters is higher.

d. Ecology and Anthropology

Observatory/field station for Biological/Ecological/Anthropological studies.

i.   These may include learning/research facilities, sample collection, storage, and processing facilities, food and lodging facilities for researchers, specialised facilities for sensitive items storage, educational facilities, interpretation centres, science museums etc.

ii. These can be located in any of the given locations, subject to the appropriateness of the programme proposed.

MATRIX of sites and typologies -
Linked here.
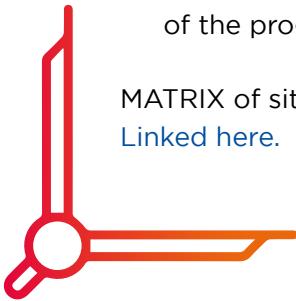
COMPETITION FORMAT

- Transparence 17.0 is open to undergraduate students of architecture and design. Recent graduates from 2022 are also eligible to participate

- Teams should comprise a maximum of three members. You are allowed to make teams with students from different batches or even different colleges.

- It is a two-stage competition: -

  First Stage: Regional Juries - in the North, South, East and West zones each. Teams will be shortlisted by an online regional jury. The top two teams from each region would be invited to the Grand Finale to make a presentation before a selected panel of jurors.

  Second Stage: The Grand Finale. The shortlisted teams compete before the jurors.
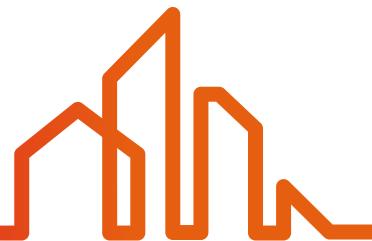
SUBMISSION FORMAT

- It is an ONLINE SUBMISSION. Plan your content to be viewed accordingly.

- A maximum of twelve A3 sheets are to be submitted (in landscape orientation), with a readable scale of the drawing and legible text. Please compile all your sheets into a single PDF of 20 MB maximum.

- Your name and identification should not appear on any of the sheets.

- Your PDF file should be named in the format abc xyz, where abc is the participants' first names, and xyz is the name(s) of the institution. In the case that abc is sending multiple entries, the subsequent files will be named as "abc1_xyz", "abc2_xyz", and so on. We will assign ID numbers to each submission to ensure anonymity.

- Restrict the word limit for your text per sheet to 100-150 words.

- DON'T FORGET to put the North arrow and a graphic scale on all your sheets

- Include a summarised area statement of your design with reference to the bylaws on no more than a single A4 sheet.

- Please include a scanned copy of your Student ID/college bonafide with your entry.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Site selection and programmatic justification.
- Concept and Evaluation of the Design.
- Addressing temporality through design and choice of materials, technology, etc.
- Response to the site and context according to the theme of the competition-research into the need for a particular type of intervention.
- Bespokeness, reversibility, sustainability, climate resilience, and thought to create minimal impact on site.
- Originality and innovation.
- Clarity and comprehensibility of the Design.
- Design delivery and presentation - appropriate graphics, the scale of drawings and visual communication with technical information.
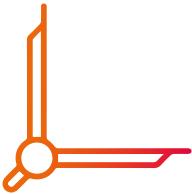
AWARDS

- National Winner: ₹ 75000/- per team, a trophy, and a certificate.
- National First-Runner-Up: ₹ 50000/- per team, a trophy and a certificate.
- National Second-Runner-Up: ₹ 25000/- per team, a trophy and a certificate.

ANNEXURES
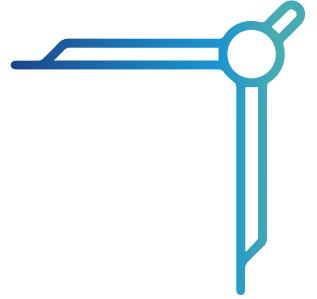
- Annexure 1 : List of Sites and Programmes

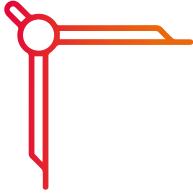- Annexure 2 : Suggested Readings and References

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IMPORTANT DATES

Registrations begin: 1st August 2022
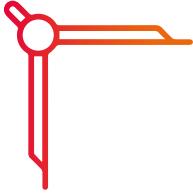
Registrations end: 20th December 2022

Last date for submissions: 10th January 2023

For any queries, write to us at : info@ethosempowers.com

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