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**GLOBAL AWARD  
FOR SUSTAINABLE  
ARCHITECTURE™**

## **GLOBAL AWARD FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE™ 19<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE**

### **The Scientific Committee of the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ Announces the Launch of Its 19<sup>th</sup> Cycle**

The unseen economic, ecological, social, and cultural challenges facing contemporary societies are being addressed by architects and planners as they search for a new definition of progress and the right balance between man and the environment. The understanding of design as a collective process based on shared ethics, methods, and experiments has been rewarded since 2007 by the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™, an honor created by the architect and scholar Jana Revedin in partnership with international universities as scientific partners.

Since 2011, the Global Award Symposium is placed under UNESCO's patronage. In 2024, the Award received the endorsement of the UIA. Rather than offering financial rewards, a community based on dialogue and the exchange of knowledge and visions has been created—a think tank that, over time, has become a “do tank” and driver of change.



The purpose of the Award is to honor annually five living architects, urban or landscape designers who are moving toward sustainability.

Their work offers clear insights into the search for an ecologically responsible contemporary architecture which is:

- fully in step with the ethical, civil, and social concerns of today
- innovative in the areas of ecology, energy, materials, and technology
- progressive in its search for new standards for both public and private facilities.

## The Global Award Community as a Driver of Change

The Global Award Community in 2025 consists of 90 contemporary architects, urban and landscape designers from around the globe who have received the Award. It works toward sustainable architectural ethics and fosters research, experimentation, and transmission in the fields of sustainable architecture, urban renewal, and academic social responsibility. It defines architecture as an agent of empowerment, self-development, and civic rights.

“Dare, transmit, federate” is its motto.

As a symbol of its pioneering role, it is notable that five architects who have received the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ have since been honored with the Pritzker Architecture Prize: Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi (Global Award 2007, Pritzker 2018), Wang Shu (Global Award 2007, Pritzker 2012), Alejandro Aravena (Global Award 2008, Pritzker 2016), Anne Lacaton & Jean-Philippe Vassal (Global Award 2018, Pritzker 2021), and Diébédo Francis Kéré (Global Award 2009, Pritzker 2022).

Other architects whom the Global Award is also proud to have supported include Carin Smuts (Global Award 2008), Rural Studio (Global Award 2008), Bijoy Jain (Global Award 2009), Anna Heringer (Global Award 2011), Teddy Cruz (Global Award 2011), Salma Samar Damluji (Global Award 2012), Al Borde (Global Award 2013), Talca University (Global Award 2015), Marta Maccaglia (Global Award 2018), Boonserm Premthada (Global Award 2018), Rozana Montiel (Global Award 2019), Werner Sobek (Global Award 2019), Anupama Kundoo (Global Award 2022), Dorte Mandrup (Global Award 2022), Xu Tiantian (Global Award 2023), Mette Ramsgaard Thomsen (Global Award 2023), Marina Tabassum (Global Award 2024), Klaus K. Loenhardt (Global Award 2024) and IW-Lab (Global Award 2024).

## Organizing Body

The Organizing Body of the Global Award is its Scientific Committee, and is composed of the following universities: Ecole Spéciale d'Architecture, Paris; Ljubljana University; Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul; and Università IUAV di Venezia. Our partners include: Saint-Gobain (Official Partner), ArchiTangle (Publishing Partner), and Graitec (Private Partner).

## **The 2026 Theme: “Architecture Is Transformation”**

After having investigated the sources of architectural and urban innovation with “Architecture Is Experimentation” in 2023, the possible transdisciplinary transmission of sustainable design goals with “Architecture Is Education” in 2024, and courageously innovative and adaptive scenarios of building processes with “Architecture Is Construction” in 2025, the Scientific Jury of the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ has decided to become even more visionary in 2026. How can architecture welcome, embrace and foster transformation? How can we transform the existing built environment, protected or not, transform urban and rural infrastructures, architectural materialities and immaterialities? How can collective intelligence, cutting edge technological tools and experimental design processes emancipate our clients and users, all in the service of equality?

We invite all architects, designers, urban and landscape designers around the world to submit entries for studied or built projects, for work related to research, writing, and experimentation, which demonstrates innovation and design quality and plays a significant role in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) defined by the United Nations.

The Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ recognizes a nominee’s professional, scientific, social, and political engagement, not individual projects.

## **Frequency of the Award, Stages and Categories**

The Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ follows a single stage, open award procedure. There is only one category, with a previously defined theme, and five global winners. There is no regional award or selection.

## **Terms of Eligibility, Participation and Submission**

Participation is open to all architects, urban and landscape designers around the world, and submissions must be written in English. They can nominate themselves or be nominated by a colleague, expert or critic. The nominator will provide the consent of the nominated in written form.

Members of the Organizing Body, the Jury and their associates, business partners, employees and close relatives are not allowed to submit entries. Any person who has been involved in the preparation of the Award at any point in time is not eligible to participate or to assist any participant.

Submissions must be sent using the template provided through the Global Award submission platform. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

## Timetable

- Award Launch: World Architecture Day, **October 7, 2024**
- Deadline for questions: **October 28, 2024**
- Deadline for answers: **November 4, 2024**
- Deadline for submissions: **January 20, 2025**
- Jury meeting: **May 5, 2025**. Winner will be contacted by May 31, 2025.
- Announcement of winners: **Spring 2026** (date to be announced) at the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture Symposium

## Jury Members

- The Scientific Jury is chaired by **Prof. Dr. Jana Revedin**, architect and Founding President of the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™, Venice, Italy
- **Marie-Hélène Contal**, architect, Dean of the Ecole Spéciale d'Architecture, Paris, France
- **Prof. Dr. Jacopo Galli**, architect, Università IUAV di Venezia, Venice, Italy
- **Prof. Dr. Spela Hudnik**, architect, Ljubljana University, Slovenia
- **Prof. Dr. Deniz Incedayi**, architect, Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul, Turkey
- **Prof. Dr. James Steele**, architecture historian, PSU University Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- The UIA juror **Prof. Dr. Ashraf M. Salama**, architect, Co-Director of the UNESCO-UIA Education Council
- The UIA alternate juror (without vote) **Prof. Nuno Soares**, architect, Co-Director of the UNESCO-UIA Validation Council

Each year, two Global Award winners from former years, who are also experts in the chosen yearly theme, are invited to join the Jury. For “Architecture Is Transformation” we are pleased to welcome:

- **Prof. Marta Maccaglia**, architect, Lima, Peru
- **Prof. Boonserm Premthada**, architect, Bangkok, Thailand

All Jury Members have approved this brief and their participation in the Jury prior to the launch.

## Awards

The Jury selects five global winners who receive a diploma and will be invited to the yearly Global Award Symposium in Venice, including the travel and accommodation costs. Part of the recognition is our yearly monographic publication (ArchiTangle) and the entry into the Global Award Community, a think-tank that has become a do-tank, by researching, experimenting, teaching, militating, exposing, writing and building together worldwide.

## Evaluation Criteria

**Innovation:** How can architectural research and experimentation innovate our practice and transform the existing? Which “open work” design processes can lead to a conscious and responsible use of data, mappings, surveys and participatory design practices? Can the “situated project”, including nature and all living beings, become the architectural evolution of our times?

**Transdisciplinarity:** How can architectural transformation promote collaboration among technical and creative explorers, designers, artisans, artists, and scientists from different fields to elaborate innovative and inclusive designs that address complex contemporary challenges efficiently?

**Adaptability:** How can architectural transformation develop scenarios of flexibility and adaptability, following the changing ways and rhythms of life of our societies?

**Regeneration:** How can architectural transformation invent the intelligent and joyful re-use of “What is already there”? How can it foster a harmonious coexistence between the built and natural environment, its cultural and environmental identity, and future needs?

**Empowerment:** How can architectural transformation become an agent of emancipation, fostering design processes “with and by the people”, also through recent 3D and AI tools? Which methods and processes of architectural evolution lead to democratic access to essential services and amenities?

## Conditions, deliverables and submission

Please download the template for your digital submission on our award platform <https://submissions.globalawardforsustainablearchitecture.com>, where you will find all instructions for providing the required documents, including deliverables, format, and limitations, as well as questions & answers. The Jury will review and discuss all entries and respect the evaluation criteria.

## Evaluation

The Jury will convene in person or meet virtually, permitting interaction and exchange of opinions among jurors. The evaluation process is protocolled in the Jury report.

## Author and publication rights

All submitted material may be used for the express purposes of examination by the Jury, and in the case of being selected as a Laureate, used to promote the Award via the ceremony, website, social media accounts and associated books. The author of any entry retains the copyright and the author's rights of the submitted work. Award participants must be the authors of the submitted project/work and not infringe upon the intellectual property rights of third parties.

Publication rights: The candidate authorizes, in case of being selected as one of the five Laureates, to grant - free of charge - the Compagnie de Saint-Gobain, a company existing under the laws of France (RCS Nanterre 542 039 532), ArchiTangle GmbH, a company existing under the laws of Germany (HRB 206856 B), and Jana Revedin Founding President and organizer of the Award, and the International Union of Architects, an entity existing under the laws of France (SIRET number 78426371700026), (hereafter, the Beneficiaries) to use, represent, and reproduce his/her photographs, images, and texts, including a short biography and a description of his/her work, on any known or as yet unknown medium, in their entirety or in part, particularly on paper, magnetic, optical, electronic and digital media and/or any similar media currently in existence or which may exist in the future, whatever the number of reproductions and the type of representation, for all countries and for 10 (ten) years, for purposes of promotion of the Award, research, and internal or external communication by the Beneficiaries.

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The Laureate will not be able to claim any payment to the Beneficiaries for the exercising of the rights granted by this authorization.

## Exhibition and Award Ceremony

The Award entries and winners, including the Jury report, will be exhibited virtually on the Award website. The UIA will also present the winners on its website and in its newsletter. All candidates with complete submissions for the Award will receive notice of the time and place of the Award Ceremony.

## Binding conditions

By submitting an entry, participants accept all conditions of the Award and decisions of the Jury in matters of evaluation. Jury decisions are binding for the Organizer and participants.

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