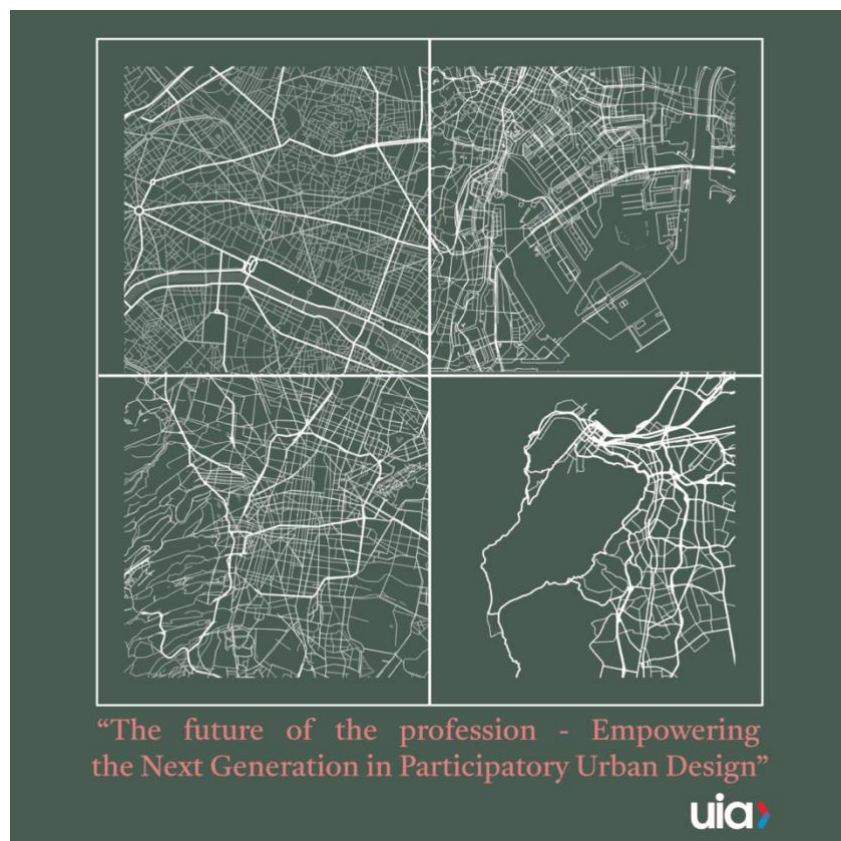International Union of Architects

The Future of the Profession - Empowering the Next Generation in Participatory Urban Design

International single stage open ideas competition for young architects

"The future of the profession - Empowering the Next Generation in Participatory Urban Design"

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
31 January 2025

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

According to section "II. REGULATIONS", point "7. Questions and answers" of the competition brief, the competition organiser reserves the right to address similar questions together.

1. REGISTRATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS

1. **How can I register?**
2. **How do I register?**
3. **How do I apply for the competition?**
4. **Please provide the links to the competition brief and registration form.**
5. **Comment faire pour participer au concours?** *(How can I participate in the competition?)*

   Participants can register on the UIA competition platform. The registration page is available here. All requirements are outlined in the competition brief available for download on the UIA website and can be accessed here. Below is a presentation of the page with details explaining the requirements for each field.

REGISTRATION: THE FUTURE OF THE PROFESSION –
EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION IN PARTICIPATORY
URBAN DESIGN

Competitor/Concurrent *

> Name

Team leader/Chef(fe) d'équipe *

> Name

Team members/Membres de l'équipe

> Names, one by line

Academic institution/Établissement d'enseignement *

> Name

Year of registration/Année d'inscription *

> Year

Country/Pays *

> ▼

Email *

> E-mail address

☐ I confirm meeting the eligibility criteria stipulated in the competition brief/Je confirme remplir les conditions d'éligibilité detaillées dans le réglement du concours

> REGISTER

6. **Is there a fee for entry?**
7. **Is registration free?**
   There are no fees required for registration or participation in the competition.

8. **What does "Year of registration" refer to in the form?**
9. **What does the "Year of registration" refer to? Does it refer to my registration year in my Academic institution or the year I got registered as an architect?**
10. **For "Year of registration/Année d'inscription", I have put in the graduating year for the team lead. Is this accurate?**
    The term "Year of Registration" refers to the following:
    - For countries where the title of "architect" is protected, it is the year in which the young architect, serving as the team leader/author of the competition entry, was officially registered as an architect;
    - For countries where the title is not protected, it is the year the young architect completed their studies in architecture.

11. **What does "Academic institution" mean?**
12. **Lors de votre inscription, posez-vous des questions sur l'institution académique? Voulez-vous savoir dans quelle université j'ai étudié ou quelle école d'architecture?** *(When you register, are you asking about the academic institution? Do you want to know which university I attended or which school of architecture?)*
13. **Does the Academic institution have to be a design institute? Can it be a university? (Leader works with college, part-time design institute)**
    "Academic institution" refers to the institution that granted the qualification enabling the young architect, serving as the team leader, to use the title of "Architect."

14. **Can I modify my team after registration?**
    Yes, but only before submission. Team members may be added or removed after registration has closed; however, the author(s) or team leader(s) cannot be changed. Modifications can only be made at the time of submission of entries, but this information must be provided separately from the entry submission.

15. **What do I have to put in the first column for Competitor/Concurrent?**
16. **What is meant by "Competitor/Concurrent" in the first field? I have put in the name of the team lead, is that accurate?**
    "Competitor/Concurrent" refers to the name of the registering entity, which can be either an office name; the name of the author in the case of an individual; or the name of the team leader in a team that is not established as an office.

17. **Could you explain the registration form we submitted and let us know if all are correct and if they can be updated?**
    Participants are responsible for complying with the information required for registration. In case of technical issues, applicants can contact the UIA Secretariat via competitions@uiaarchitectes.org.

2. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

General clarification

The competition is open to young architects (individual or in teams) from all over the world - including countries that are not members of the UIA. All participants must be born on or after 1 January 1989. Students are not eligible to participate.

> **Team Leader**
> The team leader must have the right to use the title of "architect" in their country of origin or residence, in accordance with the title protection rules in those countries, where applicable.

> **Team members and authors**
> Only individuals that have the right to use the title of "architect" in their country of origin or residence (in accordance with the title protection rules in those countries, where applicable) can register as authors.
> Architects who have completed their studies may participate as team members, even if they do not have the right to use the title of "Architect". However, they cannot be team leaders or authors.
> Landscape architects, urban designers, and urban planners may register as co-authors, while team members from other disciplines can participate as collaborators or consultants.

Details about eligibility can be found in the Competition Brief, under section II - Regulations.

18. **Can students participate in this competition?**
19. **Can architecture students participate or only architects who have already graduated?** *(Est ce que les étudiants en architecture peuvent participer ou bien que des architectes diplômés?)*
20. **Can I participate alone as a student?**
    No. Students are not eligible. Details about eligibility can be found in the Competition Brief, under section II - Regulations.

21. **Can students who are members of the UIA Council compete?**
    No. Students and/or UIA Council Members are not eligible.

22. **Bien que je n'aie pas encore de diplôme professionnel, puisque je suis en train de terminer ma formation académique, j'ai l'expérience, la capacité et l'engagement pour mener à bien ce projet avec mon entreprise. Ce serait un honneur d'avoir votre soutien pour pouvoir participer à ce concours, car cela me fournirait une excellente opportunité de démontrer mon potentiel en tant que jeune architecte.** *(Although I do not yet hold a professional degree, as I am in the process of completing my academic training, I possess the experience, ability, and commitment to successfully carry out this project with my company. It would be an honour to have your support to participate in this competition, as it would provide me with an excellent opportunity to demonstrate my potential as a young architect.)*
23. **Can young graduates not yet registered with the order of architects participate?**
24. **As an undergraduate student can I create my own team where I am alone?**
    No, students are not eligible to participate. Architects who have completed their studies may take part, even if they do not have the right to use the title of "Architect." However,

the team leader and authors must hold the right to use the title of "Architect" in their country of origin or residence, in accordance with the title protection rules in those countries, where applicable. For further details on eligibility, please refer to the [Competition Brief](#), Section II – Regulations.

25. **Is this competition only for students?**
The competition is open to young architects born on or after 1 January 1989. Students aren't eligible.

26. **What cadre of young architects can compete?**
All participants must be born on or after 1 January 1989.

27. **I am an interior architect and also studying bachelor of architecture. Is it possible to participate in the competition as an architecture student?**
The competition is open to young architects, either individually or in teams, as long as they comply with the eligibility criteria, namely: they must have been born on or after 1 January 1989 and they can only be team leaders/ authors if have the right to use the title of architect in their country of origin or residence. Team members from other disciplines, including Interior architecture, can register as collaborators or consultants. Details about eligibility can be found in the [Competition Brief](#), under section II - Regulations.

28. **Team leader eligibility criteria?**
29. **Is it necessary to have a registered architect from the country of domicile as the team leader?**
The team leader must hold the right to use the title of "Architect" in their country of origin or residence, in accordance with the title protection rules in those countries, where applicable, and must be born on or after 1 January 1989. Details about eligibility can be found in the [Competition Brief](#), under section II - Regulations.

30. **What are the eligibility criteria?**
Please refer to the *general clarification* about participation and eligibility at the beginning of this section. Details about eligibility can be found in the [Competition Brief](#), under section II - Regulations.

31. **I am not registered with the national order of architects, and therefore I am not entitled to use the official title of "architect." However, I hold a diploma in architecture and meet the requirements to be registered with the order of architects. Could you please confirm whether I am eligible to participate in the competition?**
32. **We would like to know if young architectural graduates who have not yet joined the order of architects in their countries can participate.**
33. **My incomprehension is at the level of the conditions of eligibility for the new competition launched. I graduated in Architecture in a school recognized in my country Cameroon and even internationally, but I am not yet registered in the national order of Architects of Cameroon because the diploma is recent. I would like to know if I am eligible to compete.**
Architects who have completed their studies may take part, even if they do not have the right to use the title of "Architect." However, the team leader and authors must hold the right to use the title of "Architect" in their country of origin or residence, in accordance

with the title protection rules in those countries, where applicable. Please refer to the *general clarification* about participation and eligibility at the beginning of this section. Details about eligibility can be found in the [Competition Brief](), under section II - Regulations.

34. Does the architect title mentioned in the entry document refer to the nationally recognized architect's document? (The translation of the word title varies greatly in Chinese).

The use of the title "Architect" might be reserved in some countries. Only architects that are legally entitled to use that title in their countries of origin or residence may register as team leaders. Please refer to the *general clarification* about participation and eligibility at the beginning of this section. Details about eligibility can be found in the [Competition Brief](), under section II - Regulations.

35. If the team leader has the title of architect and the team members do not have the title of architect, can they continue to enter the competition?

Yes. Please refer to the *general clarification* about participation and eligibility at the beginning of this section. Details about eligibility can be found in the [Competition Brief](), under section II - Regulations.

36. Do team members necessarily have to be licensed professionals and exclusively architects?

No. However, only architects can serve as team leaders. Please refer to the *general clarification* about participation and eligibility at the beginning of this section. Details about eligibility can be found in the [Competition Brief](), under section II - Regulations.

37. Can architects from all countries in the UIA participate?

Yes, architects from countries all over the world can participate, including countries that are not members of the UIA.

38. Can I participate with my thesis project completed in 2022?

No, as the project is already public, it would compromise the required anonymity.

39. I was born in 1983. I would like to know if I can participate in the competition in a team with other younger architects?

No, all participants must be born on or after 1 January 1989.

40. How do I register as an individual? The registration page clearly requires team leader and teammate names.

To register as an individual, the young architect must enter the name in the field "Team leader". The "Team Members" field is optional and can be left blank if the leader is participating individually.

41. Je voudrais avoir le document du concours dans lequel est détaillé les conditions d'éligibilité. *(I would like to have the competition document detailing the eligibility conditions.)*

All information regarding the competition is available [here]() on the UIA website. The [Competition Brief]() details all aspects of this Competition.

42. Is there a limit for team members?
43. How many members are in the team?

Applicants may list as many team members as they wish.

44. **If someone on the team were a public employee (e.g., working in municipal or regional offices), could they participate?**
Yes. Public sector employees can participate as long as they comply with the eligibility criteria. Please refer to the *general clarification* about participation and eligibility at the beginning of this section. Details about eligibility can be found in the Competition Brief, under section II - Regulations. The participants are responsible for identifying conflicts of interest that would prohibit them from participating in the competition.

45. **Could you provide us more information on how to present our date of birth?**
The participants are responsible for identifying any causes for ineligibility that would prohibit them from participating in the competition. During registration they are asked to tick the box indicating "I confirm meeting the eligibility criteria stipulated in the competition brief".

46. **Is there any platform we can use to attach our academic certificate & professional license (the title of architect)?**
The participants are responsible for confirming they meet the eligibility criteria stipulated in the competition brief, by ticking the box available when registering.

47. **Regarding the members of the project team, do they still have to be born from 1989 onwards? Or is it enough that the member is consistent with the requirements?**
48. **Do all team members have to be born in 1989 or later? Or can one person be older?**
All participants must have been born on or after 1 January 1989.

49. **Is there a need to participate in person?**
50. **Is there a need to participate in person during any stages of the competition or will the presentations and awards ceremony be conducted online?**
Submissions will be conducted online. The award ceremony and the round table discussion will take place in person, in Venice. Each prize winner will also receive an additional €1.000 for travel expenses to attend the awards ceremony and round table discussion in Venice.

3. COMPETITION RESOURCES

51. **How can I obtain the competition brief?**
52. **A detailed ToR would be invaluable in clearly outlining the objectives, expectations, and design parameters for the competition. To ensure the accuracy and alignment of my submission, I kindly request your prompt assistance in providing or guiding access to these critical resources.**
53. **Comment faire pour obtenir plus amples informations à propos du concours nouvellement lancé?** *(How can I obtain more information about the newly launched competition?)*
54. **Bonjour, y a-t-il un domaine spécifique que j'essaie de comprendre? Existe-t-il une liste spécifique d'exigences?** *(Is there a specific area I should focus on understanding? Is there a specific list of requirements?)*
55. **Quero saber, será que devemos já começar o projecto? Quais são as regras?** *(I'd like to know, should we start the project already? What are the rules?)*

56. **Je souhaite prendre des informations nécessaires liées aux TDR du concours. (***I would like to gather the necessary information related to the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the competition.)***

57. **J'aimerais bien avoir le cahier de charge du concours mais le lien qui m'a été envoyé était invalide.** *(I would like to have the competition's terms of reference, but the link that was sent to me was invalid.)*

58. **How can I obtain the competition file?**

59. **Is there a site to be exploited and also there is a programme for the urban project?** The brief is available for download on the UIA website and can be accessed here.

60. **Where can I find sitemaps or context information?**
    Participants must independently research their chosen UNESCO designated site, referring to the official World Heritage List from the UNESCO website.

61. **Can you provide the French version or Spanish?**

62. **Can you provide us with the French version of the terms of reference (TOR) for use.**
    The brief is available in English only. Entries and all documents submitted during the procedure must be submitted in English.

63. **Precise mapping or location information necessary for understanding the design scope and physical context.**
    As the participants select the site themselves, no documents will be provided to the competitors. Participants are advised to study relevant information pertaining the chosen site and provide the jurors with the necessary documents that will enable them to assess the proposal. A number of helpful links are provided in the Appendices of the Competition Brief for further information and inspiration.

64. **Additional relevant data such as land use, environmental conditions, or existing site features to inform effective design strategies.**
    As the participants select the site themselves, no documents will be provided to the competitors. Participants are advised to study relevant information pertaining the chosen site and provide the jurors with the necessary documents that will enable them to assess the proposal. A number of helpful links are provided in the Appendices of the Competition Brief for further information and inspiration.

65. **Are there specific constraints, such as local regulations or environmental considerations, that we should be aware of?**
    Participants must independently research this information. As the participants select the site themselves, no information about local regulations will be provided. Participants are advised to study relevant information pertaining to the chosen site. They can refer to the competition brief for resources.

4. COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS AND DETAILS

66. **About "The Future of the Profession – Empowering the Next Generation in Participatory Urban Design" can you provide further information for what we are asked to do, if there are terms or a programme defined for this competition.**

67. **What are the requirements for "The Future of the Profession – Empowering the Next Generation in Participatory Urban Design"?**

All requirements are outlined in the competition brief available for download on the UIA website and can be accessed here.

68. Are technical details available?
Programme and regulations are outlined in the Competition Brief.

69. What documents are required for submission?
Requirements for submission are outlined in the Competition Brief.

70. Do you think it's enough "single A1 panel Portrait Format" could you make it flexible?
Applicants are required to submit one single A1 panel (portrait format) in PDF format, containing all relevant information necessary to understand the proposal. Requirements are outlined in the Competition Brief, under section II - Regulations, 12. Submission requirements and deliverables.

71. Can you clarify the presentation criteria, such as a preferred format, use of colors and balance between visual and technical detail presentations?
Applicants are required to submit one single A1 panel (portrait format) in PDF format, containing all relevant information necessary to understand the proposal. Requirements are outlined in the Competition Brief, under section II - Regulations, 12. Submission requirements and deliverables. All mandatory elements are listed in the Competition Brief. Balance of the presentation is at the competitors' discretion.

72. What level of detail is expected in the submission, particularly for sections like plans, elevations, or material specifications?
There are no specific requirements for scale or level of detail. The proposal must be comprehensively presented in A1 format (one), incorporating plans, sketches, images, and a written description of the concept. Requirements are outlined in the Competition Brief, under section II - Regulations, 12. Submission requirements and deliverables.

73. Is there a necessary font to use, dimension or something like that?
There are no specific requirements for fonts. The proposal must be comprehensively presented in A1 format (one), incorporating plans, sketches, images, and a written description of the concept. Requirements are outlined in the Competition Brief, under section II - Regulations, 12. Submission requirements and deliverables.

74. What kind of outcome is required?
All specific requirements are outlined in the competition brief available for download on the UIA website and can be accessed here.

75. What are the technical details?
All relevant information is outlined in the competition brief available for download on the UIA website and can be accessed here.

76. J'aimerais connaître l'objectif du concours et en quoi consiste le travail. *(I would like to understand the objective of the competition and what the work involves.)*

77. J'aimerais avoir plus de précisions sur les documents à présenter pour être admis au concours. *(I would like more details on the documents required for admission to the competition.)*

78. **J'aimerais en savoir plus sur le concours des jeunes architectes, comme j'aimerais aussi en faire partie.** *(I would like to know more about the Young Architects Competition, as I would also like to take part in it.)*
Participants can register on the UIA competition platform. The registration page available here.
Applicants are required to submit one single vertical A1 panel (portrait format) in PDF format, All requirements are outlined in the competition brief available for download on the UIA website and can be accessed here.

5. SITE SELECTION AND URBAN CONTEXT

79. **What is the recommendation for participants whose countries of origin do not have heritage sites in urban contexts? Some countries may have heritage sites but they are located in territories far from the urban centre or disconnected from the urban grid. In this case, is it valid to select the site or should one look in another country?**
80. **So we can select any World Heritage site within our Locality?**
81. **Could you kindly provide any guidelines or specific criteria for selecting a World Heritage site for the competition? Are there any preferred factors or restrictions when choosing a site, such as cultural vs. natural sites, specific regions, or historical contexts?**
82. **Is the site selection limited to a specific region?**
The [Name of the Site], specifically the sites of the city of [name of the city] [nr. of inhabitants] and [name of the city] [nr. of inhabitants], are these sites eligible for designing the visitor center requested by the competition?
Participants are free to select a World Heritage Site situated within an urban context. Participants may choose a site from their home region (with reference to the 5 UIA Regions) or any other site of their preference. Sites that have urban characteristics and historical or cultural ties to urbanisation may also be selected. Further information is available in the Competition Brief. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List

83. **Can I select a site on the World Heritage Tentative Lists of the State Parties to the World Heritage Convention?**
Sites on the Tentative Lists are not World Heritage sites.

84. **Is it possible to choose any Unesco site or is there a list of selected sites?**
No, the competition requires the site to be officially designated as a World Heritage site. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.
85. **What qualifies as "urban context"?**
86. **What constitutes an urban context? Would a small town be considered an urban context?**
87. **What do you understand as an urban context? Is a small town considered urban, as the soil is legally considered urban. Or by urban you mean a city**
88. **I would like to clarify the competition guidelines about selecting a World Heritage Site. Does "urban context" mean the site must be inside a city, or can it include urban areas like towns or suburbs?**
89. **The site I am considering for the competition is the [name of the site], a World Heritage Site located [distance] km from [name of the city] municipal town. Given its proximity to the town, I am unsure if this site would qualify as being within an "urban context." Does the term "urban context" strictly require the heritage site**

to be under the jurisdiction of a municipal corporation, or would a site like this, situated near a smaller urban settlement, also be eligible?

90. **In the competition brief it is stated that "Participants may choose to engage with a local site or any other Heritage Site that is set within an urban context". I would like to make sure that I understand correctly if this requirement would therefore eliminate any World Heritage site that is located in a rural or secluded area. An archeological site that is secluded in a natural context, outside the city would not qualify for the competition, right? What about a monument located not in a city, but a village? (this meaning, to my understanding, a peri-urban or maybe even rural context).**

    The selected World Heritage site must be situated in or closely linked to an urban area. Urban context refers to any urban or peri-urban area, as opposed to rural areas. Sites that have urban characteristics and historical or cultural ties to urbanisation may also be selected. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

91. **Can desert sites qualify if they have urban features?**

    Yes, if they demonstrate urban characteristics and historical or cultural ties to urbanisation. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

92. **Can sites in desert environments, such as AlUla or Petra, qualify if they have urban features or historical and cultural ties to urbanization?**

    Participants are free to select a World Heritage Site situated within an urban context. Urban context refers to any urban or peri-urban area, as opposed to rural areas. Sites that have urban characteristics and historical or cultural ties to urbanisation may also be selected. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

93. **Can the proposal extend beyond the listed site?**

    Participants are free to propose innovative visions for a new visitor centre to a World Heritage site of their choosing, situated within an urban context. A "visitor centre" is defined as any physical facility within a site management system that facilitates the presentation, interpretation, access, and sustainable visitation of World Heritage designated sites. These centres may take various forms and names, such as "site museums," "interpretation centres," "information centres," "community centres," "houses," or "gateways," but they all share similar purposes. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

94. **Are the World Heritage sites that can be considered only those listed in the Heritage list?**

    Yes. Participants may choose to engage with a local site or any other Heritage Site that is set within an urban context. Sites that have urban characteristics and historical or cultural ties to urbanisation may also be selected. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List..

95. **Does the site have to be strictly a cultural heritage site or can it also be Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks?**

    The site must be a World Heritage Site that is set within an urban context. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

96. **Should the project be limited to a single location, or can it extend across multiple sites in the city?**

Participants are free to propose innovative visions for a new visitor centre to a World Heritage site of their choosing, situated within an urban context. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

97. **We have chosen to focus our project on the city of [name of the city]. Given the current political situation and instability in the region, we would like to know if this choice is still viable for the competition.**
Participants are free to select a World Heritage Site situated within an urban context. Urban context refers to any urban or peri-urban area, as opposed to rural areas. Sites that have urban characteristics and historical or cultural ties to urbanisation may also be selected. Participants should refer to official World Heritage List.

98. **Does the project have to include the entire Unesco site or is it possible to consider only a portion of it?**

99. **Should I choose the location of the visitors center within the parameters of the chosen World Heritage site, or near it? Is there an area limitation for the project?**
Participants are free to propose innovative visions for a new visitor centre to a World Heritage site of their choosing, situated within an urban context. A "visitor centre" is defined as any physical facility within a site management system that facilitates the presentation, interpretation, access, and sustainable visitation of World Heritage sites. These centres may take various forms and names, such as "site museums," "interpretation centres," "information centres," "community centres," "houses," or "gateways," but they all share similar purposes. The total area of the proposal is at the competitors' discretion, taking into account the task and criteria outlined in the Competition Brief. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

100. **I have identified an element inscribed in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity with a deeply spatial urban manifestation. This site offers not only critical urban challenges, but also challenges of temporality that impacts the city where its held spatially, functionally and economically. I would like to take up this challenge in the competition, choosing a critical location of its manifestation to situate the proposed visitors centre. Would this be an acceptable approach or would one need to select only physical World Heritage Sites?**
Intangible Cultural Heritage elements listed by UNESCO are not eligible. Participants are free to select a World Heritage Site situated within an urban context. Urban context refers to any urban or peri-urban area, as opposed to rural areas. Sites that have urban characteristics and historical or cultural ties to urbanisation may also be selected. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

101. **The brief mentions that the site should be a World Heritage location, and I was wondering if it would be acceptable for the project to be located in my local area, as there are several World Heritage sites near my city that are rich in cultural heritage. Would it be possible to select one of these sites for the competition?**
Participants are free to select a World Heritage Site situated within an urban context. Urban context refers to any urban or peri-urban area, as opposed to rural areas. Sites that have urban characteristics and historical or cultural ties to urbanisation may also be selected. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

102. **We would like to know if the 'name' can be realised by reusing an existing building/structure in a state of disrepair. It would be repurposed through the**

project and returned to the community. If so, should the selected building be publicly owned or can we imagine the reuse of a private property?

Participants are free to propose innovative visions for a new visitor centre to a World Heritage site of their choosing, situated within an urban context. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

103. **If a World Heritage site already has a Visitor Centre, can a team submit a proposal for a new one or an extension to the existing one?**
104. **Can a site with an existing visitor centre be redesigned?**
105. **If the chosen site already has an existing visitor center, are we allowed to propose a new one, or does this disqualify the site from selection?**
106. **If a World Heritage site already has a visitor center, is it permissible to propose a new visitor center, or should the design focus on enhancing or complementing the existing infrastructure?**

    Yes. Participants can propose innovative designs for existing visitor centres, addressing site-specific challenges and aligning their proposals with the site's objectives. They are free to propose an extension or a new visitor centre. A "visitor centre" is defined as any physical facility within a site management system that facilitates the presentation, interpretation, access, and sustainable visitation of World Heritage sites. These centres may take various forms and names, such as "site museums," "interpretation centres," "information centres," "community centres," "houses," or "gateways," but they all share similar purposes.

107. **Can the proposed visitor centre be in a nearby urban context for more remote World Heritage Sites, if appropriate?**

    Participants are free to propose innovative visions for a new visitor centre to World Heritage site of their choosing, situated within an urban context. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

108. **Must the competition entry concern an existing visitor center in a World Heritage site or can it be a new project proposal in a location not affected by previous projects? For example, if I intend to submit a project on a site that has just been nominated as a World Heritage site.**

    Participants can either propose innovative designs for existing visitor centres or new visitor centres, addressing site-specific challenges and aligning their proposals with the site's objectives. A "visitor centre" is defined as any physical facility within a site management system that facilitates the presentation, interpretation, access, and sustainable visitation of World Heritage sites. These centres may take various forms and names, such as "site museums," "interpretation centres," "information centres," "community centres," "houses," or "gateways," but they all share similar purposes.

6. SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF THE COMPETITION

109. **What is the primary purpose of the visitor centre?**
110. **What should the visitor centre include?**
111. **Is there a programme for the urban project?**
112. **I would also like to confirm whether the primary purpose of the Visitor Centre is to serve as a welcoming area for visitors to prepare before entering the World Heritage Site, or if it should fulfill other additional functions within the context of the site and its visitors.**

113. **I would appreciate further details on the expected spatial requirements for the Visitor Centre. Specifically, what functions or spaces should the building incorporate (e.g., exhibition areas, educational facilities, community engagement spaces, etc.)?**
Participants must independently research this information. They can refer to the competition brief for resources. A "visitor centre" is defined as any physical facility within a site management system that facilitates the presentation, interpretation, access, and sustainable visitation of World Heritage sites. These centres may take various forms and names, such as "site museums," "interpretation centres," "information centres," "community centres," "houses," or "gateways," but they all share similar purposes. Participants are free to propose innovative visions for a new visitor centre to a World Heritage site of their choosing, situated within an urban context.

114. **Does the Visitor Reception Centre have to be a building?**
Participants are free to propose innovative visions for a new visitor centre to a World Heritage site of their choosing, situated within an urban context. A "visitor centre" is defined as any physical facility within a site management system that facilitates the presentation, interpretation, access, and sustainable visitation of World Heritage sites. Participants shall reflect on the role a built structure - not necessarily a building - can play in addressing these challenges.

115. **Are there recommendations for the project budget or specific resources that could be made available to participants?**
No.

116. **Are there any limits on square footage or volume, or any restrictions on the materials or technologies that can be used for designing the visitor center?**
117. **Are there specific limits to the physical area the proposal can address?**
There are no specific requirements for area, volume, materials or technologies to be used. Requirements are outlined in the Competition Brief.

118. **Are there possibilities for future engagement or collaboration for selected participants after the competition?**
The winners will have the opportunity to present their projects to UNESCO, the press and the wider public. Proposals will also gain significant exposure through publication on the UIA website. Competitors are encouraged to adopt participatory approaches, engaging with local authorities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and community members. Such collaboration can create opportunities to further develop the World Heritage site sustainably and inclusively in the future.

119. **Does the jury encourage experimental design ideas, or should the proposal lean more towards practical implementation?**
Participants are free to propose innovative visions for a new visitor centre to a World Heritage site of their choosing, situated within an urban context. In doing so, they should address site-specific challenges and align their proposals with the site's objectives.

120. **Could you clarify the expectations regarding the participatory engagement of local communities in the design process?**
The competition encourages participants to explore how to foster a strong connection between the local population and their cultural heritage by promoting a participatory

design process. This involves engaging with local communities, neighbourhood groups, local authorities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and other stakeholders. Participants are expected to incorporate participatory approaches either during this ideas phase—by reflecting the insights and findings from community engagement in their proposals—or by presenting a well-conceived plan for a participatory process to be implemented during a hypothetical future design phase.

7. OTHERS

121. Is there any restriction for using IA? Do we have to say it when it is used?

122. Is it permissible to use artificial intelligence for this competition, such as for generating visuals, text editing, or brainstorming ideas?
Participants are free to use AI. However, full disclosure is required. Participants must clearly indicate when AI has been used and specify the extent of its contribution to ensure transparency and accountability in their submission. Please note that a submission created entirely by AI is not possible, as the ideas competition requires original human input and critical decision-making.

123. Will there be opportunities to receive feedback on proposals before the submission deadline?
No.

124. Do you have examples of previous projects or best practices that illustrate what you expect from the proposals?
No. Participants must independently research this information. They can refer to the competition brief for resources.

125. Could you detail how each evaluation criterion will be weighted? For example, what importance do you place on social impact compared to sustainability?
Weighting of the evaluation criteria will be decided by the Jury. The order in which the criteria are presented in the Competition Brief does not indicate their relative importance.

126. Do we have access to other participant's questions?
Yes. Questions related to eligibility will be answered on an ongoing basis until the deadline. Questions about the competition brief and the task will be compiled and published collectively on 31 January 2025. The competition organiser reserves the right to address similar questions together.

127. In the evaluation criteria - social impact, does local population and community engagement refer to the local engagement in the design process for the proposal or to how the final proposal will engage with the local community?
Both aspects should be highlighted.

128. What's the criteria exactly in simple words? How should it be submitted and what form? What are we supposed to achieve in the outcome exactly?
All criteria and specific requirements are outlined in the competition brief available for download on the UIA website and can be accessed here.

129. Should I have to submit a real practical project? Or should I submit a design proposal of a real site?

The question is unclear. Participants are free to select a World Heritage Site situated within an urban context. Urban context refers to any urban or peri-urban area, as opposed to rural areas. Sites that have urban characteristics and historical or cultural ties to urbanisation may also be selected. Participants should refer to the official World Heritage List.

31/01/2025