

# Green Infrastructure in the Megalopolis

IX NATIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE CONFERENCE  
MEXICAN ASSOCIATION OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



Sociedad de  
Arquitectos  
Paisajistas de  
México, A.C.

## OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE STUDENT COMPETITION “GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE MEGALOPOLIS”

The Mexican Association of Landscape Architects, is pleased to invite all the students who are currently enrolled in undergraduate studies related to Landscape Architecture, Architecture, Urban Design and Urban Planning, to participate in this year's **competition** revolving around the central theme “**Green Infrastructure in the Megalopolis**”. This theme offers interesting challenges for creativity in design; and contains a variety of areas for investigation.

The proposals approach must be from a landscape architectural perspective. The **Master Plan** has to be based on an already existing space within a **megalopolis** of your choice. One of the elements within the Master Plan should be developed in detail.

The project's objective is to provide solutions for already existing natural areas, such as, the conservation of rivers and ravines, the recovery of permeable areas, the expansion of green areas and sustainable public spaces, green area system's connectivity and mobility. It can also be included all the new strategies for recuperation of green areas and water management in constructions and the city. These solutions have to be developed within one of the four categories of the competition that will be described below. Participation is allowed with one project in one of the categories only.

You can participate individually or as part of a team. In case of working in a team, students of different study programs are allowed to collaborate, as long as at least one of the group members is enrolled in Landscape Architecture\*. The number of team members cannot exceed five (5) participants per group. Students who have relatives or family members in the jury are not allowed to participate in the contest.

This announcement is meant as an invitation to reflect, investigate and design creative solutions bringing together vanguard proposals to manage the elements that shape our urban ecosystems. Emphasize the values of those elements.

\* If your university does not offer a Landscape Architecture program, it is allowed to participate if you are enrolled in one of the related programs mentioned above.

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Infraestructura Verde en las Megalópolis

IX CONGRESO NACIONAL  
ARQUITECTURA DE PAISAJE

MÉXICO  
2015



## CATEGORIES:



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### a) Urban ecosystems:

Under this category fall proposals related to: Culture of conservation, recuperation and improvement of urban ecosystems; recuperation of degraded ecosystems; alternatives for cleaning urban rivers; soil improvement for water infiltration through reforestation of urban forests; control management of urban growth on city hills; recuperation of native vegetation; proposals that involve citizens for the appropriation and care of natural areas that are immersed in the city, etc.

### b) Urban green systems:

To this category count proposals relating to the connectivity of green areas and public spaces, such as the integration of multimodal mobility, including bicycle lanes, pedestrian roads, paths on central reservations, implementation of alternative ways of transportation, and projects that could be integrated into SEDEMA's\* Green Plan.

\*SEDEMA (Secretary of the Environment for Mexico City)

### c) Sustainable alternatives:

Category c) combines planning and design strategies that can include: vertical gardens, rain gardens, rainwater harvesting, water management strategies, pocket parks, green roofs, urban gardening (food equity), urban recycling, parking lots with infiltration, zero waste, LEED and SITES projects, sustainable water management and others.

### d) Initiatives:

Under this category fall projects realized by students whose aim was sustainable development, support for marginalized communities, or work for environmental improvement. These initiatives can include: projects on a residential, urban or rural scale which integrate the examples of categories a), b), and c); as well as others not mentioned.

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## PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL:

When handing in the project please include:

- I. The proposal presented on two or three prints of 90 x 60 cm, in vertical format.
  - a. The first print has to contain the result of the analysis and diagnostics in graphic as well as in written form.
  - b. The second and third prints consist on the project's proposal; it must include sketch and/or images of the final project.
  - c. The prints must **NEITHER** include the names of the participants **NOR** any information of the institution that they are enrolled in. A code of four letters and two numbers in Arial 72, deliberately chosen by each team, has to be included in the upper left corner of each print.
  - d. The prints can be rolled-up or mounted on a rigid surface.
- II. A descriptive video of the project.
  - a. The video should have a maximum duration of 2 minutes, briefly explaining the project.
  - b. Only images, texts and sounds can be used that support the description of the project. Neither faces, names of the participants nor information of the institution that they are enrolled in must be shown.
  - c. The format of the video has to be MP4, it needs to be compressed in accordance to the H.264 code and cannot exceed 100 MB.
  - d. The video has to be included on the CD (see below) with all the other electronic archives. It is important to check that the archive won't get damaged and is properly recorded so that it can be reproduced in front of the jury.
- III. A descriptive report of the project with a minimum of 2,500 characters (approximately one sheet of paper) and a maximum of 10,000 characters.
- IV. A CD including the electronic archives of the prints, texts as Word (.doc) documents, the descriptive video and all images that are included on the prints in jpg format, with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi and a minimum dimension of 30 x 20 cm.
- V. Moreover, the group's registration form and code in a closed envelope must be included.
- VI. Shipment from within the Mexican Republic as well as from abroad should be free of any charges related to shipping costs.

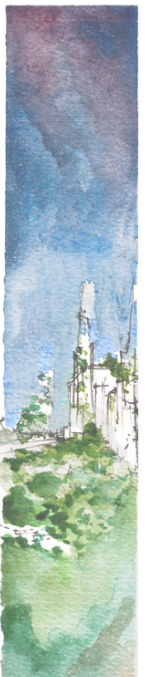
**NOTE.** The presentation of the project can be made in Spanish or English.

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## IMPORTANT DATES:

1. Deadline for registration is the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2015.
2. Projects will be received until the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2015.
3. Winners will be presented during the Congress from the 5<sup>th</sup> till 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2015.

## CRITERIA:

As important parts of contemporary design the following aspects will be evaluated:

- Sustainability
- Ecotechnology design
- Bioclimatic aspects
- Functionality and social aspects
- Handling of vegetation (native species)
- Technology
- Maintenance
- Representation

## DECLARATION:

Beside the group registration form, the team has to include the following declaration in the closed envelope:

*We hereby declare that we are the true authors of the presented work and all the requirements of the contest have fully been complied with. We hereby declare that we are currently enrolled in Landscape Architectural study programs, or in related careers. We declare that we will not publish the presentation before the jury announces the final decision.*

*Signature with names and surnames of all authors*

*Names and study programs of the universities or schools that they are enrolled in.*

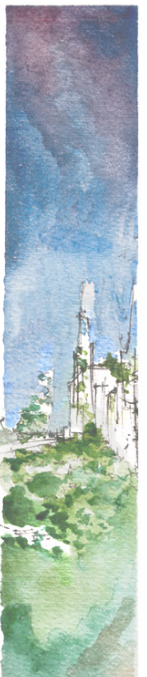
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## ADDRESS:

The requested material needs be delivered to "Casa del Arquitecto" before the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2015:

Casa del Arquitecto  
Veracruz 24  
Colonia Roma  
Delegación Cuauhtémoc  
C.P. 06700  
Ciudad de México, D.F.

The material that is received after the mentioned date or that does not fulfill all the requirements mentioned above, would automatically be disqualified. The projects will be displayed during the IX National Landscape Architecture Conference.

Questions will be received via e-mail until the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2015. Please state "Questions about the competition" in the subject of the e-mail and send it to the following e-mail address:

Academic committee: [concurso@sapm.com.mx](mailto:concurso@sapm.com.mx)

## AWARDS:

**First place overall:** Certificate and \$25,000.00 Mexican Pesos

**First place per category:** Certificate

The jury will determine, if necessary, special recognitions.

## RIGHTS:

The Mexican Association of Landscape Architects (Sociedad de Arquitectos Paisajistas de México, A.C.) reserves itself the right to reproduce and publish the presented works, always including the responding credits of the authors.

The works will not be returned to their authors.

## JURY

The members of the jury will be announced on the website of the Mexican Society for Landscape Architects (SAPM).

[www.sapm.com.mx](http://www.sapm.com.mx)

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