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# International BDA Ideas Competition

# projective habitat

**BDA**  
Bund Deutscher Architekten

**RWTHAACHEN**  
UNIVERSITY **WOHNBAU**  
Lehrstuhl und Institut für Wohnbau  
Univ.-Prof. ir. Wim van den Bergh





## **PROJECTIVE HABITAT**

Tri-National BDA Architectural Ideas Competition<sup>1</sup>

### **Promoters**

Association of German Architects BDA Aachen together with the Chair of Housing of the RWTH Aachen University, the Association of Dutch Architects BNA Zuid and in cooperation with the University of Applied Sciences Aachen, the Technical University Eindhoven, the University of Liège and the University of Hasselt.

### **Occasion and purpose of this ideas competition**

In 2020 Aachen's neighboring region on the Dutch side of the border will host an International Building Exhibition, the so called "iba parkstad" (<http://www.iba-parkstad.nl>). Next to the urbanized region of Parkstad Limburg – a partnership of 8 municipalities in the Euregio Meuse-Rhine of the Dutch province of Limburg – also the neighboring "Städteregion Aachen" will be included. Central theme of the iba concept is the sustainable social and structural change of this former mining region.

The promoters like to use this opportunity to organize an ideas competition that aims at the development of concepts for innovative ways of dwelling in the urbanized regions and cities of the future. And as such to open a discussion about future lifestyles, it's corresponding forms of dwelling and the social and technological innovations that might stimulate such developments. A discussion that should also initiate a process leading towards a more innovative housing policy and housing development and as such open up more possibilities for experimentation and alternative lifestyles.

As a contribution to the iba parkstad 2020 exhibition at least 1 prototype should be realized as an exhibit on scale 1:1, which will then be evaluated and optimized as a "living lab". As such this prototype should become part of the long standing tradition of "Experimental Housing Units", like for instance Le Corbusier's "Pavillon de l'Esprit Nouveau" of 1925 or Alison and Peter Smithson's "House of the Future" of 1956.

### **Admission Area**

Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands. The competition language is English.

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<sup>1</sup> Preliminary remark

The competition brief is based on the „Richtlinie für Planungswettbewerbe“ (RPW 2013), which as such is part of the competition brief. That has been submitted to the Chamber of Architects North Rhine-Westphalia, which has confirmed its compliance with the rules under the number .....

## Participant's eligibility

The competition aims to promote young colleagues - architects, interior designers and researchers - who are normally disadvantaged in competitions and contests. Eligible are only "Young Professionals", that is, entrants who on 31.12.2015 didn't yet reach the age of 40 years. The competition's task touches on a variety of disciplines in the humanities, so forming multidisciplinary design teams is recommended. A holistic, trans-disciplinary approach is expected. The age restrictions apply to all architects, interior designers and researchers of the team. Responsible must be at least one architect who has the authorization to independently exercise the profession of architect in accordance with the applicable national laws. Each participant can submit only one project.

## Type of Competition

The competition is designed as a tri-national open ideas competition with 2 phases.

## Competition Brief

Answers to questions such as these are expected:

- How would future lifestyles and their spatial correlations express themselves in the planning and spatial organization of the design?
- What new forms of housing will meet the needs of a changing society in the future?
- What concepts do you suggest for individual housing in relation to different social units (from single, via couple and basic family to different sorts of communes)?
- What concepts do you suggest for collective housing in new and not necessarily familial associations or intentional communities, like residential communities with new lifestyles etc.? <sup>2</sup>
- What concepts do you suggest for clustering these into neighborhoods and districts forming modules on the level of town planning and urban structure?<sup>3</sup>
- Has the concept the capability for densification into clusters for a compact urban fabric, can it be used for densification in existing urban contexts?
- Does the concept reduce the territorial footprint by densification without losing its dwelling quality and scale?
- How does the concept deal with the 5 qualitative aspects of sustainability<sup>4</sup>, that is:
  - ecological quality (nature conservation, saving resources, resource and energy efficiency etc.)
  - economical quality (minimizing costs, optimizing benefit and user value)
  - sociocultural and functional quality
  - process quality planning an building process lifecycle criteria

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<sup>2</sup> See for instance Hans Widmer's "bolo'bolo" and prototypical projects like "Kraftwerk 1" [kraftwerk1.ch](http://kraftwerk1.ch), "Kraftwerk 2" and cooperative "Kalkbreite" [kalkbreite.net](http://kalkbreite.net), „nena1“ [nena1.ch](http://nena1.ch), „mehr als wohnen“, [mehralswohnen.ch](http://mehralswohnen.ch) and in principle [o500.org](http://o500.org)

<sup>3</sup> "City of Micro Cities" see contextual background "Kent Larson"

<sup>4</sup> This in accordance with the "Guideline for Sustainable Building by the BMUB (German Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety).

Contained herein are:

- atmospheric potential as a part of the socio-cultural and functional quality
- importance of the culture of building as a part of the socio-cultural quality
- technological Innovation: innovative materials and innovative and intelligent use of traditional building materials and constructions, intelligent building envelopes as part of the technological quality
- typology and system formation parallel with individualized production (mass customization) as part of all categories.
- sufficient and intelligent integration of digital media to optimize the use of the system house, i.e. the internet of things, intelligent home, smart home, etc. as part of all 5 categories.
- adaptability, openness and ability to change, flexibility as part of all 5 categories.

- technological quality?

### **Tips and conditions**

- The concept has to meet the fundamental principles of sustainability.
- Ideas have to relate to the situation in Central Europe with the local climatic conditions and socio-cultural settings themselves. Changes caused by migration should be considered. Only in phase 2 of the competition, the concept will have to be tested on a concrete site.
- Competition entries to the first phase do not have to give answers to all points mentioned above, it may be limited to individual aspects. However, they should try to find solutions by interdisciplinary cooperations covering different areas.
- Contributions can propose projects of a small or large scale. However, it should be demonstrated how the idea can be modified and "scaled" up or down.
- The contribution can be based on concepts and proposals that the author(s) already used elsewhere.
- The contribution can be based on existing or planned research.
- Contributions can be submitted by individuals, companies (legal persons) or multidisciplinary groups and in cooperation with international consultants.

### **Competition rules**

- By submitting to the competition, you are asserting your role as primary author of this idea, which has not been copied wholly or substantially from any other work or material or source. Any supporting information, data, graphics or images must be properly credited to any external sources.
- By submitting to the competition, the participant accepts that the promoters will receive the full right of publication of all competition entries for documentary purposes in both printed and in digital form and Internet purposes directly related to the competition and the iba parkstad.
- For this reason it is also necessary that the competitor has obtained permission from every involved photographer to use his photographs.

## **Phase 1: Call for Project Sketches qualification for phase 2**

Expected are basic but comprehensive project sketches showing dwelling concepts for the future. Since we are looking for the development of principles and typologies, no bond should be provided to a specific location.

A tri-national selection committee consisting of professor's from the Universities of Aachen, Liège, Hasselt and Eindhoven, will evaluate all the entries. The authors of the most promising and innovative approaches will then be invited to present their concepts at a Congress in the summer of 2016 (July 14-15). Out of the presented concepts, an international jury will then select up to 15 works to enter into the 2nd phase.

### **Registration**

Required via e-mail to: [register@projectivehabitat.com](mailto:register@projectivehabitat.com)

Please include:

- your name and personal contact information
- adress
- date of birth

Your personal data will only be used in context of the projective habitat competition and not be given to third parties.

### **kick-off-meeting**

Phase 1 will start on April 19. On May 17 a kick-off-meeting with keynotes of experts will give an overview of the contextual background. Invited keynote speaker are:

Gereon Uerz, Arup foresight, Berlin (confirmed)  
Niels Boeing, author VON WEGEN Überlegungen zur freien Stadt der Zukunft, Hamburg (confirmed)  
Steffen Braun, Fraunhofer Institute IAO Stuttgart  
And others.

### **Submission Requirements**

Your proposal must be presented on 2 portrait oriented A1 sheets in exhibition quality using any techniques of your own choice (headline image, sketches, diagrams, 3D visualizations, model photos, CAD drawings, text etc.).

These sheets have to be self-explanatory.

Your six-digit team code (font size 24 point) must be mentioned in the top right-hand corner of your sheets.

Your sheets must not include ANY information that may give away your identity.

Do NOT include your name on your sheets, only the six-digit team code.

All text must be in English, with a maximum of 500 words (font size no smaller then 12 point) for the project's explanation on the A1 sheets.

### **Submission Items and Format**

#### **On Paper**

- 2 single printed A1 sheets of paper in exhibition quality showing all information as mentioned above (rolled and to be send in a firm tube). To be inserted in the same tube is
- The written proposal as an A4 Word document.

- the Submitter Information sheet containing:
  - indication of the author (individual, team or company)
  - List of team members (name and company)
  - Designation of the lead architects and its registration number at the Chamber of Architects of his country
  - Post Office address, email and phone number as key contact.

The inserted Submitter information sheet has to be delivered in a closed envelope with the six-digit code in the top right hand corner.

To be sent by normal mail to:

Lehrstuhl für Wohnbau der RWTH  
**projective habitat**  
Schinkelstrasse 1  
D- 52066 Aachen

Decisive for the timely delivery is the postmark.

### **In Digital Form**

Next to the information on paper you will also have to send your submission in digital form.

This should be a single folder named as your team code, which contains

- a high-resolution PDF in exhibition quality of the A1 sheets with your project,
- a separate Word-file (named as your team code) containing the max. 500 words of text explaining your project.
- 1 Video up to 3 minutes in length to explain the concept in further detail. Submitted as an mp3 or wav, playable at 4x3 dimension and in exhibition quality.

This folder has to be send via **WeTransfer** to email:

mail@projectivehabitat.com

Entries that are incomplete, will not be accepted!

## **Phase 2: Design**

Phase 2 will start in week 33. The modified and adjusted competition brief with the conditions of the selected and offered sites will be published on [www.projectivehabitat.com](http://www.projectivehabitat.com).

On Tuesday August 16 the next step will be a colloquium for answering questions of the selected participants for phase 2. The colloquium will be supplemented by a “market day” with various information about

- potentials and conditions of the selected sites by representatives of the site owners
- the involved local governmental authorities, developers and companies (partners of the competition)
- the expectations of the involved governmental and commercial partners
- specific aspects and requirements relevant for the brief of the competition e.g. sustainability by statements of the commercial partners.

Building on their selected concept of phase 1, up to 15 competitors will have to work out their project sketches to a building design for a given site. Various sites with diverse qualities, conditions requirements will be offered. By implementing and testing the capacity of the concept on the chosen site they have to present the concrete architectural, technical and financial feasibility of the concept.

Projects should have the potential of pilot projects with high public interest and medial attentiveness.

Further details will be set after the completion and evaluation of phase 1 depending on the features chosen of the designs of the competition entries.

## **Submission Requirements for Phase 2**

Basic submission requirements will be:

- the site plan 1:500
- floor plans 1:200 or larger depending on the size of the project
- explanatory main sections 1:200 or larger depending on the size of the project
- elevations 1:200 or larger depending on the size of the project
- 1 explanatory additional sheet using any techniques of your own choice (sketches, diagrams, 3D visualizations, model photos, etc.).
- 1 Video up to 3 minutes in length to explain the concept in further detail. Submitted as an mp3 or wav, playable at 4x3 dimension and in exhibition quality.

More specific requirements for the second phase are eventually still to be determined after the evaluation of phase 1 depending on

- the specific physical conditions of the offered sites
- the individual brief of the site owners, developers and real estate partners.
- The individual recommendations of technology partners.

## **Assessment Criteria**

**Basic** assessment criteria are:

- capability for innovation
- concept of urban density, quality and capability as urban module
- adaptability for use
- ecological potential
- economic advantages
- sociocultural and functional innovation
- process optimization
- technical innovation
- capability for individualization
- spatial and atmospheric capacity

After phase 1 the jury will review the assessment criteria of phase 1 and adjust them for phase 2. The jury is free to cancel or to add criteria.



## **Judges**

A tri-national selection committee consisting of professor's from the Universities of Aachen, Liège, Hasselt and Eindhoven, will evaluate in a first step all the entries. The authors of the most promising and innovative approaches will then be invited to present their concepts at a congress in summer 2016 (July 14-15). Out of the presented concepts, an international jury will select up to 15 works to enter into the 2nd phase.

### **Tri-National Selection Committee Phase 1**

- Juliette Bekkering  
Technical University of Eindhoven
- Anne-Julchen Bernhardt  
RWTH Aachen University
- Lisa de Visscher / Norbert Nelles  
University of Liège
- Jo Janssen  
University of Hasselt
- Ulrich Hahn  
University of Applied Sciences Aachen

### **International Jury Phase 1 and 2**

- Elli Mosayebi  
Switzerland/Germany
- Anne Kaestle  
Switzerland/Germany
- Christian Kieckens  
Belgium
- Jan Peter Wingender  
Netherlands
- Marc Frohn  
Germany
- Ralf Pasel  
Germany/Netherlands
  
- Reserve Jury Members:
  - Anne-Julchen Bernhardt  
Germany
  - Juliette Bekkering  
Netherlands

In phase 2 the jury will be complemented by representatives of the involved site owners, developers and technology partners.

## Why participate?

### Publication

The shortlisted and selected projects after phase 1 and the shortlisted and winning projects of phase 2 will be documented in a high -quality publication in detail and will also be published on the competition website and the website of **iba parkstad**.

The publication will be distributed among policy and decision makers of local authorities and housing associations and will form the basis for an exhibition that **iba parkstad** will show to an international public.

### Awards and Recognitions

The awards total € 20.000 and are divided as follows:

1st Prize € 7.500

2nd Prize € 5.000

3rd Prize € 2.500

For acknowledgments 5.000 € will be divided up by the number of awarded acknowledgments. The Jury is free to divide the € 20.000 in a different way.

### Further Development after Phase 2

The intention of the competition is to at least realize one dwelling-unit of one prize winner, (that is) as a prototype on scale 1:1 for the **iba parkstad** in 2020.

This as long as funding can be secured by one or more partners.

The consortium of promoters will not have the function of a commissioner for the realization of projects. The winning and shortlisted entrants, especially the first prize design will be offered and recommended for realization to a consortium of local authorities, site owners and real estate developers that are interested in realizing one or more projects. Members of this group or the group as a whole will fund the projects.

At that moment the project will be transferred to a normal commission under HOAI (official scale of services by architects and engineers in Germany) phases 2-5.

In the event of further development and commission, services already provided by the competition by the contestant are not compensated again up to the amount of the Prize.

## Competition schedule

announcement competition	week 15	
website <a href="http://www.projectivehabitat.com">www.projectivehabitat.com</a> starting		19.04
registration deadline		20.05
<b>kick-off- meeting</b>	<b>week 19</b>	<b>17.05</b>
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delivery deadline phase 1	week 25	20.06
selection for congress (30 ideas)	week 26	30.06/01.07
<b>congress</b>	<b>week 28</b>	<b>14/15.07</b>
<b>selection</b> for phase 2 (15 ideas)	<b>week 28</b>	<b>16.07</b>
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preparation phase 2	week 29-33	
start working on phase 2	week 33	
colloquium questions	week 34	26.08
delivery deadline phase 2	week 43	24.10
pre-check	week 43-45	
<b>jury</b>	<b>week 46</b>	<b>17./18.11</b>

### If financing is secured

Commissioning winner	2016/2017
Planning realization	2017
Realization period	2018-2020