

Landscape Middle East AWARDS

Nature & Community

Abu Dhabi 2025

AGENDA

17 November 2025

**St. Regis Saadiyat Island Resort
Abu Dhabi**

www.landscape-awards.com

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Landscape
MIDDLE EAST

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



IFLA MIDDLE EAST
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



WELCOME

Landscape Middle East Conference 2025

Welcome to the Landscape Middle East Conference 2025, held under the theme “Nature and Community.”

As cities across our region evolve at an unprecedented pace, this year’s conference explores how landscape architecture continues to shape the balance between urban growth, ecological resilience, and human well-being.

Throughout the day, we will hear from leading voices in design, research, and policy—sharing ideas that define the future of our cities and open spaces. Sessions will cover a wide range of pressing topics: from “Smart Landscapes: How AI, BIM, and Digital Tools Are Reshaping Design,” to “Cultural Continuity: Preserving Landscape Heritage in Rapidly Growing Cities,” and “Nature in the City: Greening Dense Urban Environments.” Other highlights include discussions on soil health and climate resilience, inclusive play spaces, water conservation, and the role of landscape in mental and physical health.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our sponsors and partners, whose generous support and shared commitment have made this event possible. Many of these industry leaders are exhibiting here today—showcasing products, innovations, and ideas that continue to elevate the region’s landscape architecture profession.

Please use this day as an opportunity to network, exchange insights, and build new collaborations with fellow participants, sponsors, and guests. Together, we can inspire meaningful change and shape greener, more connected, and more inclusive communities across the Middle East.

On behalf of the organizers and our partners—IFLA, SSLA, WGIN, OSLA and ESLA — thank you for joining us in Abu Dhabi as we celebrate the vision, creativity, and collaboration driving the landscapes of tomorrow.

We wish you an inspiring and productive day ahead.

Conference & Exhibition

| | |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| 09:00 AM | Registration and Networking |
| 10:00 AM | Conference and Exhibition |
| 04:15 PM | Close |

GALA DINNER (Invitation only)

| | |
|----------|-----------------------|
| 06:00 PM | Gala Dinner Reception |
| 07:00 PM | Welcome |
| 08:00 PM | Dinner |
| 10:00 PM | Close |

EVENT PARTNER



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AGENDA

Conference

09:00 AM **Event Registration and Networking**

10:00 AM **Welcome**

Phillip Higgins – Landscape Middle East

Ziad Amine – Landscape Middle East

10:05 AM **Why This Matters**

Remi Bint – Associate Director, WAHO Landscape Architects

10:10 AM **And Why The Industry Needs You**

Marwan Houry – Principal and Vice President – AE7

10:15 AM **Green Without Borders: WGIN's Global Impact**

Hema Kumar – Vice President, WGIN

10:30 AM **Inclusive Living With Michael Haddad**

10:45 AM **Smart Landscapes: How AI, BIM and other Digital Tools are Reshaping Design**

Led by: Phillip Higgins – Landscape Middle East

Panellist:

Manuela Casado de Prada – Partner – Landscape Manager, IDOM

Kerem Cengiz – Managing Director, LWKP

Omar Othman – Lead Architect – Ai and Emerging Tech, U+A

Vasileios Kyrgiotis – Design Technology Lead, Public Realm, AtkinsRéalis

11:20 AM **Cultural Continuity: Preserving Landscape Heritage in Rapidly Growing Cities**

Led by: Annie Baillie – Design Director, Place Dynamix

Panellist:

Dr Ali El-Keblawy – Professor of Environmental Biotechnology – University of Sharjah

Sam Spinks – Managing Director, WAHO Landscape Architects

Michael Patte – Associate Director Design, ICON

David Maestres – Director – Landscape Lead, AECOM

12:00 AM **Networking Break**

12:45 PM **Nature in the City: Greening Dense Urban Environments**

Led by: David Brasfield – Secretary, WGIN

Panellist:

Nour el Houda Slimen – Landscape Architect IDOM

Christina Moujaes – Landscape Architect, M Design

Rammi Khalil – Area Manager, Hunter

Richard Kleinig – Principal, InSite

AGENDA

- 01:20 PM** **Creating 104 Neighborhood Parks in Abu Dhabi – In Context**
Rasmus Astrup – Design Principal & Senior Partner
- 01:40 PM** **Lessons in Visionary Green Urbanism**
Led by: Steve Velegrinis – Design Director, GENSLER
Panellist:
Pauline Noujaim – Head of Department – Associate Director, WSP
Claudia Juhre – Head of Landscape Design, Studioi
Sebastien Miller – Design Manager, Masdar City
Phillip Dunn – Senior Manager at Terra- part of Expo City Dubai
Ahmed Tawakol – Head of Urban Design and Landscape
- 02:15 PM** **Nature by Design: Integrating Green Infrastructure into City Planning**
Led by: Muneer Al Senaidi – President, OSLA
Panellist:
Noha Abd El Aziz – Board Member, ESLA
Dr. Mashal Alammar – VP-SSLA, Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture, IAU
Dima Rachid – Landscape Architecture & Urbanism Consultant
Carina Gallacher – Director of Landscape Architecture & Design, Gebal Group
- 02:50 PM** **ADC's Role & Initiatives and How It Enables the Sector**
Dr. Fahad Alotaibi – Senior Advisor, Ministry of Culture Saudi Arabia
- 03:00 PM** **Landscape for Fitness**
Rob Boogmans – Strategy Director Fitness, Kompan
Morten Zachø – Senior Manager Kompan Fitness Institute, Kompan
- 03:15 PM** **Expressing Identity through Authentic Landscapes**
Hani Bisada – Design Director, Cracknell
- 03:30 PM** **Integrating Water, Sustainability, & Community in Modern Landscape**
Ali Hammoud – General Manager, Oase
- 03:45 PM** **Placemaking – Bridging Disciplines for Design**
Led by: Francesco Roesler – Principal Landscape Architect & Head of Design Unit, DAR
Panellists:
Dr. Wafa Al-Madani – Director of Eng. Programs – College of Applied Studies, University of Bahrain
Rowan Darcy – Regional Studio Director MENA, Aspect Studios
Dr. Cristiano Luchetti – Head of Urban Design, Dorsch
Amer Mneimneh – Regional Managing Director, Prior + Partners
Asli Ergen – Director, One Landscape Design
- 04:15 PM** **Close**

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