

Landscape Middle East

AWARDS

Nature & Community

Abu Dhabi 2025

AWARD ENTRY PACK

Landscape
MIDDLE EAST

750+

**INDUSTRY
PROFESSIONALS**

100+

**ORGANIZATIONS
REPRESENTED**

20+

**PARTICIPATING
COUNTRIES**

40+

**INTERNATIONAL
SPEAKERS**

Recognizing Excellence | Driving Innovation | Advancing Sustainability

Organized in Collaboration With



IFLA MIDDLE EAST
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



Supported by



Landscape Middle East AWARDS



2024



2023



2019

ABOUT THE AWARDS

The Landscape Middle East Awards 2025 proudly introduces a refined and elevated structure for its Project Awards, celebrating excellence across the region's most impactful, creative, and sustainable landscape initiatives.

From conceptual student visions to completed ecological restorations, these awards showcase the breadth and depth of landscape architecture's role in shaping resilient, inclusive, and beautiful environments.

Each award category is carefully defined with tailored judging criteria and entry questions, allowing projects to be evaluated fairly and thoughtfully by our international jury panel. This next-level development of the awards structure ensures that submissions not only highlight built outcomes but also reflect the thinking, values, and strategies behind them.

In 2025, the Landscape Middle East Awards introduces its most comprehensive program to date, featuring nine distinct Project Award categories open for direct entry.

These awards recognize excellence across the full spectrum of landscape design—from regenerative urban plans to biodiversity restoration and digital innovation. In addition to project submissions, this year will also welcome nominations for both Individual and Organization Awards, celebrating outstanding leadership, contribution, and commitment to the advancement of landscape architecture in the Middle East and beyond.

A PLATFORM FOR GLOBAL IMPACT

750+ industry professionals from across the Middle East and beyond

40+ international speakers from leading firms and institutions

100+ organizations represented – government, private sector, and academia

20+ countries participating in knowledge exchange and collaboration

Award Categories

1. Climate-Resilient & Regenerative Landscapes

Celebrating landscapes that actively address climate change, this award honors projects implementing climate adaptation, regenerative ecology, and nature-based solutions. Entries should demonstrate tangible strategies to mitigate heat, manage water, increase biodiversity, and contribute to climate resilience in the urban and natural environment.

Open For: Projects in design or construction or have been completed.

Entry Questions:

1. Describe the climate adaptation strategies in your project.
2. How does your project implement regenerative design?
3. What sustainable practices were adopted (materials, water, energy)?
4. How have you ensured accessibility and community benefit?
5. What design innovations distinguish your project?

Judging Criteria (100 points):

- Climate Adaptation Strategies (30)
- Regenerative Design Approach (20)
- Sustainability & Resource Efficiency (20)
- Community Benefit & Accessibility (15)
- Design Innovation (15)

[Download Entry Form](#)

2. Community Impact, Engagement & Inclusivity

This award recognizes landscape projects that prioritize community participation, equity, and social cohesion. We welcome entries that have been co-created with local communities, deliver accessible and inclusive environments, and create shared spaces that encourage dialogue, connection, and cultural exchange.

Open For: Projects in construction or have been completed.

Entry Questions:

1. How did you involve the community in the design process?
2. How does your project promote social equity and inclusion?
3. What accessibility features are integrated into the design?
4. How will the project serve the community in the long term?
5. How does the design create a meaningful and engaging place?

Judging Criteria (100 points):

- Community Engagement Process (30)
- Social Impact & Inclusion (25)
- Accessibility & Universal Design (20)
- Sustainability & Longevity (15)
- Creativity & Place-making Quality (10)

[Download Entry Form](#)

3. Cultural Heritage & Living Landscapes

Honoring the preservation and celebration of cultural identity, this award highlights projects that integrate heritage values and vernacular traditions into contemporary landscapes. Projects should tell the stories of their places, while making cultural spaces inclusive, accessible, and sustainable for future generations.

Open for: Projects in design or construction or have been completed.

Entry Questions:

1. How does your project preserve or reinterpret cultural heritage?
2. What sustainability measures were applied in the design?
3. How does your design promote public engagement and access?
4. How does your design narrate the story of the place?
5. How is water managed in relation to cultural context, and does your project integrate traditional water management systems, such as falaj or qanat, into the landscape while preserving cultural heritage?

Judging Criteria (100 points):

- Heritage Integration (35)
- Sustainability of Preservation (20)
- Accessibility & Public Engagement (15)
- Design Quality & Storytelling (15)
- Water Management Sensitivity (15)

[Download Entry Form](#)

Award Categories

4. Smart, Digital & Responsive Landscapes

This category celebrates the application of technology across the landscape design process and built outcome. From advanced modeling tools and data-driven design to smart irrigation systems and interactive public spaces, entries should demonstrate how digital integration enhances design intelligence, improves performance, and enriches the human experience. Projects may include technologies used during design development, construction, or embedded into the final landscape.

Open For: Projects in construction or have been completed.

Entry Questions:

1. How were smart technologies applied during the design, implementation, or use of your project, and what value did they contribute at each stage?
2. How have these technologies improved resource efficiency?
3. How does technology enhance user experience and accessibility?
4. What innovations set your project apart?
5. How does technology contribute to environmental sustainability?

Judging Criteria (100 points):

- Application of Smart Technologies in Design and/or Implementation (35)
- Resource Efficiency Impact (20)
- User Experience & Accessibility (15)
- Innovation & Creativity (15)
- Environmental Impact (15)

[Download Entry Form](#)

5. Landscape Art, Legacy, and Play

Recognizing artistic, playful, and recreational landscapes, this award includes public art installations, landscape art, playgrounds, waterscapes, and imaginative outdoor spaces. Projects should celebrate creativity while ensuring accessibility, safety, sustainability, and meaningful community engagement through design.

Open for: Projects that have been completed.

Entry Questions:

1. Describe the creative or artistic elements of your landscape.
2. How does your design ensure safe and functional use?
3. What features promote accessibility and inclusivity?
4. How did you approach sustainability in materials and systems?
5. How does the project or installation engage the community—during its design, use, or long-term stewardship—and in what ways does it foster a sense of belonging or shared identity?

Judging Criteria (100 points):

- Creative Expression (30)
- Functionality & Safety (20)
- Accessibility & Inclusivity (20)
- Sustainability of Materials (15)
- Community Engagement (15)

[Download Entry Form](#)

6. Resource Efficiency & Circular Systems

Focusing on the sustainable use of resources, this category rewards projects that adopt circular design principles, minimize waste, and prioritize material and water efficiency. Entries should showcase innovative solutions for conserving natural resources and reducing environmental impact.

Open For: Projects in design or construction or have been completed.

Entry Questions:

1. How does your project maximize material efficiency?
2. How is water use managed and recycled?
3. What energy-saving strategies were used?
4. How is the design maintained, and how accessible is it for operational needs?
5. Can your solutions be replicated or scaled, and what would be required to do so?

Judging Criteria (100 points):

- Material Efficiency (30)
- Water Management & Reuse (30)
- Energy Efficiency (15)
- Accessibility & Maintenance (15)
- Innovation & Scalability (10)

[Download Entry Form](#)

Award Categories

7. Next-Gen Vision: Student Awards

Open to university students only, this category invites conceptual designs that tackle future challenges in landscape architecture. Students are encouraged to propose visionary, sustainable, and inclusive landscapes that inspire new thinking and push the boundaries of the profession.

Open For: Concept design only.

Entry Questions:

1. What is the central vision of your concept?
2. How does your design address sustainability?
3. How does your concept benefit communities?
4. What innovative ideas have you proposed?
5. How effectively have you presented your design?

Judging Criteria (100 points):

- Visionary Thinking & Creativity (30)
- Sustainability (25)
- Social Impact Potential (20)
- Feasibility & Innovation (15)
- Presentation Clarity (10)

[Download Entry Form](#)

8. Biodiversity & Ecological Restoration

This award recognizes projects that enhance biodiversity, restore ecosystems, and improve ecological connectivity. Entries should demonstrate strategies for creating or rehabilitating habitats, supporting wildlife, and strengthening the environmental resilience of landscapes.

Open For: Projects in design or construction or have been completed.

Entry Questions:

1. How does your project restore ecosystems?
2. How is biodiversity enhanced within your design?
3. How does your water management support ecology?
4. How does your project support ecological resilience and connectivity—such as through habitat continuity, adaptive design for climate impacts, or strategies that allow species to move and thrive across the landscape?
5. What maintenance strategies ensure long-term ecological health?

Judging Criteria (100 points):

- Ecological Restoration Strategy (35)
- Biodiversity Enhancement (25)
- Water Management for Ecology (15)
- Resilience & Connectivity (15)
- Sustainable Maintenance (10)

[Download Entry Form](#)

9. Future Landscapes: Vision in Progress (Unbuilt)

For projects currently unbuilt, in design, tender, or under construction, this award celebrates landscapes that may still be in development but already spark bold ideas. Whether re-imagining community spaces, re-wilding urban zones, or piloting new technologies, these works in progress champion creativity, sustainability, and inclusive design—offering a glimpse into the landscapes of tomorrow.

Open For: Projects in design or construction.

Entry Questions:

1. What is the core vision of your project?
2. What sustainability strategies are planned?
3. How are accessibility and community inclusion addressed?
4. Describe the feasibility of your design.
5. What impacts do you anticipate once complete?

Judging Criteria (100 points):

- Vision & Concept (30)
- Planned Sustainability (25)
- Accessibility & Community Inclusion Plans (20)
- Feasibility (15)
- Anticipated Impact (10)

[Download Entry Form](#)

How To Enter

Thank you for your interest in the Landscape Middle East Awards. Entering is simple—and we're here to celebrate your work. Whether you're a seasoned professional, a rising practice, or an institution making a difference, this is your opportunity to be recognized on a prestigious international stage.

Step-by-Step Entry Instructions

1. Download the Entry Form: Visit www.landscape-awards.com/awards to download the official entry form for your selected award category.

2. Complete All Contact Details: Fill out all contact and project information as required. This allows us to accurately process your submission and follow up with shortlisted entrants.

3. Answer All Entry Questions: Each form contains five tailored questions related to the category. Please answer all questions in full. The jury will score your responses using our judging system, which assesses a specific criteria for each award, including Innovation and originality, Sustainability and environmental impact, Design quality and execution, Community or client engagement, and Contribution to the profession and the region.

Each answer is scored against clearly defined criteria, ensuring a fair and transparent evaluation process.

4. Showcase Your Project: At the end of the form, you will find space to include a link to a downloadable project presentation (via Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.). You may upload: PDF documents; PowerPoint presentations; Video files; High-resolution images

What you submit is entirely up to you. The goal is to present your project in the most compelling and professional manner possible.

Important: This link **MUST** be accessible until 1 November 2025. Please ensure open access or permissions granted to support@landscape-awards.com.

5. Submit Your Entry: Once complete, email the form to: support@landscape-awards.com

Please note: Each award category has its own unique form with specific questions and scoring criteria. Ensure you're using the correct form for the category you wish to enter.

Judging Process

All entries will be reviewed by a distinguished international jury, including leading figures from the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA), the World Green Infrastructure Network (WGIN), and regional professional associations. The jury will be looking for:

- Creativity and leadership in landscape architecture
- Evidence-based outcomes and measurable impact
- Contextual sensitivity and cultural relevance
- Visionary thinking that aligns with the event's 2025 theme: "Nature and Community"

Key Dates

- Entries Close: 10th September 2025
- Shortlist Announced: 25th October 2025
- Awards Ceremony: 17th November 2025, St. Regis Saadiyat Resort, Abu Dhabi

Landscape Middle East
AWARDS
Nature & Community
Abu Dhabi 2025

Landscape Middle East
admin@landscape-me.com
Tel: +971 50 625 5912



IFLA MIDDLE EAST
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

