



towards a
RURALCITY

competition
notice

1. Premise

Provincia di Bologna has created Urbania, a cultural center with the aim of think and design the city and the territory. On May 7 ended the sixth edition of Urbania in which, through conferences and workshops, the theme of a new alliance town-countryside has been explored.

In this context the Ordine degli Architetti di Bologna announces an ideas competition aimed to explore and investigate issues related to urban sprawl and consumption of agricultural land, which are due to an impairment of peri-urban landscapes, and effects of the development of contemporary Western cities.

As we wonder worriedly about the future of cities and farmlands, it is essential to determine what urgent measures we can undertake to interrupt the consumption of new territories, staunching the spread of urban development in favor of requalification of already existing settlements.

2. Promoter and Sponsors

The competition is promoted by Ordine degli Architetti di Bologna (Order of Architects of Bologna) and sponsored by Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti (National Council of Architects), Provincia di Bologna, Urban Center Bologna, Facoltà di Architettura di Cesena, SAIE e Saienergia as part of the initiatives of the international planning workshop entitled "After urban sprawl: a new alliance town-countryside" involving six universities: Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (ES), Institut d'Urbanisme de Grenoble (FR), University "SS. Cyril and Methodius" of Skopje (MK), Politecnico di Milano (IT), Politecnico di Torino (IT), Università di Bologna, Facoltà di Architettura "Aldo Rossi" di Cesena (IT).

3. Specific theme and objectives of the contest

The competition aims to promote ideas and suggestions about a new rapport between cities and countryside. The goal is to gather and compare projects and study the various ways of approaching the themes identified.

Many people, even within the sphere of certain disciplinary debates, agree that the only possible path implicates working in two directions: on the one hand, a reasonable policy needs to be established governing to what extent urban densification should be permitted to intensify, in particular in suburban areas, lower density and sparsely populated outskirts. On the other hand it is necessary to experience projects to re-develop the rural and agricultural peri-urban areas, projects that are able to assign new values, ethical, economic and social in these territories.

In other words, it has become essential to demonstrate how livable and active suburban farmland can be. Figuring out how to deal with this crisis means finding

a way to offer a viable, compact alternative to urban sprawl while providing comparable advantages in terms of cost, comfort and livability.

We need to focus on a way to create a selected, controlled densification, focused on a few, sensitive points of the city; where a transportation hub can help keep densification from adding to the problems of local traffic: an enlightened densification, therefore, allied with a revitalized agricultural system, capable of providing progressive responses to contemporary needs; a new, ecologically oriented urbanized zone, not in conflict with the countryside and rural values, but socially mature enough to play an active and vital role.

Contestants are invited to submit proposals which may be freely elaborated, using sketches, photos, collages and/or graphic representations to propose new ways of integrating town and countryside, specifying a credible vision of a Ruralcity.

The project proposals must investigate the paradigms of this alliance and imagine the configuration of a Ruralcity through the development of new possible formulas for the architectural project.

4. Official languages

The official languages of the competition will be Italian and English. All projects entered in the competition must be presented in one of these two languages, without exception.

5. Conditions for participating

Participation in this competition is open to university graduates with degrees in architecture, design or engineering.

Both individual and group participation are acceptable. In case of group participation, each group must nominate one of its members to represent it in dealings with Organizing Office of the contest. The name of this delegate must be indicated at the moment of registration. Each group may consult with experts in other disciplines, who may be officially included in the group. No contestant shall be permitted to participate in more than one project, whether as an individual or as a member of a group.

6. Reasons for ineligibility or disqualification

In order to ensure the validity of the contest, failure to comply with contest rules may result in your disqualification from the contest. Under no circumstances may an individual participate in more than one project.

Prohibited from participation are:

- contest representatives or members of the Organizing Office;
- members of the Jury;
- spouses, family members, including first cousins of the above-mentioned categories;
- employees and co-workers of Jury members;
- anyone involved in the drafting of this notice.

7. General information about the project

The project proposals submitted must aim to identify suggestions and ideas related to natural and man-made landscapes of Ruralcity. Contestants may choose to highlight a particular aspect of this relationship, making use of invented simulations or hypothesizing interventions on actual territory. In conformance with sustainability criteria, the technological and constructive aspects of these projects are required to deal with themes of highly efficient, ecological energy sources which could be easily integrated in to the existing energy network of the city and the landscape.

8. Documentation and information

Rules for participating, entry forms, questions and answers and other related documents may be downloaded from the following website:
<http://concorsi.archibo.it/ruralcity>

Therein all pertinent information necessary for the elaboration of the project can be found. No further information shall be supplied.

Contestants may under no circumstances contact Jury members, on penalty of disqualification from the contest.

9. Competition calendar

The competition notice will be published on a dedicated official website at <http://concorsi.archibo.it/ruralcity> and at the same time advertised on specialized websites for technical sector or international calls.

The competition will be held on the following dates:

Presentation of the competition (during the international workshop)	May 7, 2011
Publication of the notice on the dedicated official website and on the Ordine Architetti di Bologna website – opening questions entry via Internet	May 18, 2011
End of the submission period for questions	May 30, 2011 12 pm
Deadline for answers publication on the competition website	June 2, 2011
Opening of the period for registration and project submission	June 7, 2011 10 am
Closing registration and project submission period: Competition deadline	July 15, 2011 12 pm
Deadline for Jury deliberation and announcement of winners	July 30, 2011
Finalists exhibition and award ceremony (during SAIE Bologna 2011)	Date to be decided

Any changes to the timetable will be communicated through the competition official website and local sponsors websites.

10. Entry, data reception and processing

Entry in the contest officially occurs when the properly complied online entry form has been completed and submitted as indicated on the following website:
<http://concorsi.archibo.it/ruralcity>.

The online system, confirming the successful completion of the procedure, will automatically issue a notice attesting to entry reception.

From the day May 18, 2011 until 12 pm on May 30, 2011 will be available on the website the transmission system for any questions: answers will be published on the website by June 2, 2011.

Participants will be required to submit electronically, according to established procedure, **a single project entry in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, no larger than 5 Mb taking** care to eliminate any reference to the author from the file, on penalty of disqualification.

The project must be composed of the following three pages, on A3 horizontal size:

one page for the report, in Italian or English, maximum 3.500 characters, including spaces, setting forth the criteria and choices made regarding the project (Font: Arial - Character: 11 point - Color: black);

two pages for graphic designs displaying: drawings, diagrams, perspectives, photographs, views of the project proposal. Decisions regarding graphic techniques, number and choice of images to be presented are entirely up to the participant.

No other means entry or data transmission shall be accepted. The submission of the proposal itself must be totally anonymous in every part, with neither blatant nor subtle indications of the author, on penalty of immediate disqualification from the contest, and must strictly adhere to the technical specifications regarding size and format. In any case, the competitors will violate the anonymity of using symbols, signs or other significant elements, under penalty of exclusion.

The electronic system will assign an individual, random alphanumeric code to each proposal submitted which will serve as its official name throughout the course of the Jury's deliberation until its final decision. Both the Jury and the Organizing Secretariat shall follow all necessary procedures to ensure that the anonymity of contestants be maintained, keeping the database containing correspondence between contestants and their relative alphanumeric codes sealed until the Jury's deliberation has been terminated. The electronic submission system for contest entry will be active from 10 am June 7, 2011 until 12 pm on July 15, 2011, the final deadline for submissions.

11. Composition and duties of the Jury

In order to best identify and select the winning projects, an appropriate Jury (judging commission) has been instituted, composed of:

- Aldo Cibic
- Mario Cucinella
- Richard Ingersoll (professor at Syracuse University Firenze)
- Alessandro Marata (Consiglio Nazionale Architetti)
- Antonio Gentili (Ordine degli Architetti di Bologna)
- Giulia Manfredini (Ordine degli Architetti di Bologna)
- Alessandro Delpiano (Provincia di Bologna)
- Francesco Evangelisti (Urban Center Bologna)
- Giovanni Leoni (Facoltà di Architettura di Cesena)
- Antonella Grossi (BolognaFiere)

The following alternate members may assist the jury in case of need:

- Stefano Piazzi (Ordine degli Architetti di Bologna)
- Margherita Abatangelo (Ordine degli Architetti di Bologna)
- Francesca Lanzarini (Ordine degli Architetti di Bologna)
- Giovanni Ginocchini (Urban Center)

Jury tasks include:

- overseeing the proceedings of the initiative to guarantee that goals are met and that the most positive outcome possible is achieved;
- verification that methods and schedule of submissions of entries adhere to the guidelines stipulated in the contest regulations and communicate any offenses deemed punishable by elimination;
- deciding the outcome of cases, referred by the Organizing Office, of any failure to respect the regulations set forth in the current document;
- clarification and resolution of any problems which may arise following the publication of this call for entries;
- declaration of the winners and dissolution of participants' anonymity.

The work of the jury will begin on July 18, 2011 and shall conclude with the announcement, by July 30, 2011, of projects awarded winning or outstanding

merit status. The top 30 finalists will be invited to the SAIE 2011 in Bologna on date to be decided to exhibit their own projects in concomitance with the award ceremony.

12. Evaluation criteria

Candidates will be selected based on the evaluation of the extent to which their proposals meet the general and specific demands of the contest.

The Jury will select the winning projects based on the following criteria (100 points maximum):

Overall originality and quality of the project proposal	Max 45
Adherence of the proposal to the competition guidelines	Max 40
Clarity of the proposal as articulated in the text of the presentation	Max 15

The winner will be the candidate with the highest total score, which may not be less than 70.

The final score assigned to each candidate for each criterion shall be the average of the number of points attributed by each member of the Jury. Based on the sum of these points, the Jury will formulate the definitive ranking. The Jury's decisions may not be called into question.

13. Contest outcome and prizes

The contest concludes with a merit ranking and the assignation of 3 prizes:

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- 1st place € 2.000,00 (two thousand/00)
- 2nd place € 1.500,00 (one thousand five hundred/00)
- 3rd place € 1.000,00 (one thousand/00)

No provisions have been made for awarding prizes for tie scores.

The Jury reserves the right to award special mention to those projects which, for certain aspects, are particularly interesting to the themes of the competition.

All projects entered in the contest will be visible on the official websites, also on the websites of Ordine degli Architetti di Bologna (Order of Architects of Bologna), of the Provincia di Bologna, of the Urban Center Bologna and in specialized periodicals and websites.

The Promoter of the contest will also communicate winning and specially mentioned projects to appropriate parties in an opportune manner.

Participants will not be entitled to receive any reimbursement for expenses incurred.

14. Organizational administrator and secretariat

The person in charge of administering the contest is Pier Giorgio Giannelli, President of Ordine Architetti di Bologna.

Members of the secretariat, Organizing Office, include: Matteo Agnoletto (coordinator), Serena Orlandi, Giorgio Liverani, Gabriele Zonarini (webmaster).

15. Privacy protection

In accordance with Law decree 196/2003, regarding respect for privacy, and in accordance with the provisions of this notification we inform you that: all data will be collected exclusively by the Ordine degli Architetti di Bologna (Order of Architects of Bologna). All information will be used exclusively as required for the contest itself. Data handling will be subject to these indications and requisites as established by law for those entitled to participate in the competition.

16. Property rights and copyrights of the projects

The contest is not intended to confer a professional position.

It is therefore forbidden for the contestants to advance a similar request, while their intellectual property rights will be guaranteed.

Winning and specially selected projects shall become the acquired property of the Ordine degli Architetti di Bologna.

17. Acceptance of the clauses of this contest

Contestants are forbidden to publish or in any way disclose details of the projects before the judging committee has expressed and publicized its decision, on penalty of disqualification. Participants agree to abide by the terms of these Official Rules which are final and binding on all matters pertaining to this Contest. Any issues not addressed in these Rules shall be handled according to Italian law and recognized common procedures. Any controversy which cannot be settled by the parties directly or through alternate dispute resolution shall be brought before the appropriate Court under the jurisdiction of Bologna.