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Dear Mr. President,

Please find herewith the updates from ACAE following the Committee Meeting held in Colombo Sri Lanka. It consists of institute activities based on LOVE initiatives, Current Committee Undertakings, and Future Plans / Initiatives.

I. FORUM 21 ACAE MEETING REPORT

This report summarizes the key activities and outcomes of the ARCASIA Committee on Architecture Education (ACAE) over the past twelve months, demonstrating alignment with ARCASIA's LOVE initiatives (Legacy, Overall Inclusivity, Visibility, and Environment).

Our work has focused on five major areas: Training and Professional Development; Student Engagement and Activities; Collaboration and Networking; Curriculum Development and Best Practices; and Innovative Practices and Approaches. Each area has yielded valuable insights and identified opportunities for improvement.

1. Training and Professional Development

We have observed a strong need for accessible and affordable professional development opportunities for architects. To address this, we have conducted various training workshops, provided pedagogical training for architects in academia, and implemented teacher training programs. The development of an online platform for readily available Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programs is underway, along with an online publication showcasing student work to serve as inspiration.

- **L - Legacy:** Training workshops and professional development programs create a lasting impact on the future of architecture education and practice.



- **O - Overall Inclusivity:** By offering diverse training programs that cater to various backgrounds and skill levels, training initiatives can promote inclusivity.

- 1.1 Conducted comprehensive training workshops for architects.
- 1.2 Implemented pedagogical training programs for architecture faculty.
- 1.3 Provided teacher training programs to enhance instructional quality.

2. Student Engagement and Activities

We recognize the importance of engaging students actively and connecting them to the professional world. Our efforts have included organizing various student activities, facilitating practice-oriented study tours led by industry professionals, and fostering closer collaboration between industry and universities. Career talks, workshops, and talks on topics such as fire safety, CSR, and inspirational figures have also been organized.

- **O - Overall Inclusivity:** Activities designed for architecture students should be inclusive, engaging students from all backgrounds and abilities.
- **V - Visibility:** Student projects and activities can enhance visibility, showcasing their work and contributions to the field.

- 2.1 Organized engaging activities specifically designed for architecture students.
- 2.2 Facilitated study tours that adopt a practice-oriented, industry-led approach.
- 2.3 Fostered closer collaboration between industry partners and universities.
- 2.4 Hosted career talks and workshops to support student career development.
- 2.5 Arranged talks for students that cover varied topics such as fire safety, corporate social responsibility, and even inspirational experiences.

3. Collaboration and Networking

Strengthening collaboration and networking among member institutes is crucial for the advancement of architecture education. We have promoted faculty and student exchange programs, cross-border training opportunities, and collaboration with local authorities. We have also encouraged research collaboration between architects in academia and facilitated joint study tours. A key focus has been on developing collaborative projects that benefit the wider community.

- **L - Legacy:** Collaborative efforts between academia and industry can leave a legacy of strong partnerships that benefit future students and professionals.
- **O - Overall Inclusivity:** Collaborative initiatives can be structured to include diverse voices and perspectives, fostering an inclusive environment.
- **V - Visibility:** Networking opportunities can increase the visibility of students and institutions, helping to highlight their contributions and achievements.

- 3.1 Established faculty and student exchange programs to promote cross-institutional learning.
- 3.2 Initiated cross-border training opportunities for students and faculty.
- 3.3 Collaborated with local authorities to enhance community engagement.



4. Curriculum Development and Best Practices

We have emphasized the importance of incorporating best practices and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the curriculum. We have encouraged member institutes to commit to cultural heritage, international programs, and sustainability. Addressing the challenges of rural revitalization and urban regeneration through the curriculum have also been a focus.

- **L - Legacy:** A forward-thinking curriculum that incorporates best practices can establish a legacy of excellence in architectural education.
- **O - Overall Inclusivity:** Curricula that address diverse cultural perspectives and sustainable practices promote inclusivity in the educational experience.
- **E - Environment:** Emphasizing sustainability within the curriculum directly supports environmental goals.

4.1 Maintained cultural heritage, international programs, and sustainability within architectural education.

4.2 Focused on addressing issues such as rural revitalization and urban regeneration in the curriculum.

5. Innovative Practices and Approaches

To promote innovation, we have explored institutional integration and advocacy for apprenticeship programs, encouraged a greater industry presence within teaching staff, and promoted a practical education management approach. The potential for online activities and meetups connecting students from different countries has also been explored, along with the rollout of innovative projects.

- **L - Legacy:** Innovative practices can establish a lasting legacy of creativity and adaptability in architectural education.
- **V - Visibility:** Implementing and showcasing innovative approaches can enhance the visibility of the architecture program and its impact.
- **E - Environment:** Innovative practices that prioritize sustainability contribute to environmental stewardship within the field.

5.1 Implemented innovative teaching strategies, including hiring 25% of teaching staff from the industry.

5.2 Promoted apprenticeships as part of institutional integration and advocacy efforts.

5.3 Adopted a practical education management approach to architectural training.

5.4 Rolled out innovative projects that enhance learning experiences and community impact.



II. CURRENT COMMITTEE UNDERTAKINGS

1. **ARCASIA E-Library:** Development of a digital library providing access to architectural resources, research papers, and educational materials for ARCASIA members and the wider architectural community. This initiative aims to improve accessibility to knowledge and promote professional development.
2. **Continuing Professional Development (CPD) through Online Forum:** The ACAE is organizing online forums as a key method for delivering Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to architects. These forums provide accessible and affordable professional development opportunities, focusing on relevant topics and best practices in the field.

III. FUTURE PLANS / INITIATIVES

1. **Creating a platform for showcasing student work:** Development of an online platform to showcase the work of architecture students across ARCASIA member institutions. This aims to provide students with greater visibility, foster peer learning, and inspire future generations of architects.
2. **Establish research collaboration between academics and practitioners:** Initiating collaborative research projects between academics and practicing architects to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. This will foster innovation and improve the relevance of architectural education.
3. **Create joint study tours:** Organizing study tours that involve both academics and practitioners, providing opportunities for experiential learning and cross-sectoral collaboration. These tours will expose participants to diverse architectural practices and cultural contexts.

Prepared by:

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Chairman
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