arcasia
Architects Regional Council Asia

POSITION PAPER ON THE RESPONSIBLE INTEGRATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION AND PRACTICE

September 2025

Position Paper on the Responsible Integration of Artificial Intelligence in Architectural Education and Practice

By ARCASIA Committee on Architectural Education &

ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice

Members of the Drafting & Comment-Contributing Team

Committee on Architectural Education (ACAE)

Committee on Professional Practice (ACPP)

WHEREAS, the Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA), as a leading organization representing architectural professionals and institutions across Asia, recognizes the transformative potential and inherent challenges posed by the rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in architectural design, education, and practice;

WHEREAS, the responsible and ethical integration of AI is crucial for fostering innovation while preserving the core values of the architectural profession, including creativity, critical thinking, and human-centered design;

WHEREAS, the diverse architectural contexts and practices across ARCASIA's 22 member institutes necessitate a unified yet adaptable framework for the integration of AI, ensuring both consistency and responsiveness to regional needs;

WHEREAS, ARCASIA's unique position as a regional body empowers it to provide a comprehensive guide for architects, architecture educators and students, fostering a shared understanding and promoting best practices in the utilization of AI;

WHEREAS, the absence of clear guidelines on AI integration may lead to inconsistencies in educational standards and ethical practices across ARCASIA member institutes, potentially hindering the responsible development of the profession;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the ARCASIA through its Committee on Architecture Education (ACAE) and Committee on Professional Practice (ACPP) hereby adopts the following guiding principles on the responsible integration of Artificial Intelligence in Architectural Education and Practice:

I. Guiding Principles:

The integration of AI in architecture should be guided by the following principles:

I.1 Ethical and Responsible Use: AI tools should be employed to augment, not replace, human creativity, critical thinking, and professional judgment. Open communication with stakeholders regarding AI's role in the design process is paramount. Bias mitigation strategies must be implemented in AI tools and design processes to ensure inclusivity and fairness. Adherence to relevant local and international legal frameworks, professional standards, and ethical guidelines is mandatory.

I.2 Intellectual Property Rights: Intellectual property rights and ownership of AI-generated designs must be clearly defined and contractually agreed upon. Data privacy, confidentiality, and security must be strictly observed and protected. Contribution of AI tools and human input respectively must be properly and duly acknowledged.

I.3 Sustainability and Efficiency: AI should be leveraged to optimize design processes, promote sustainability and improve efficiency. This includes automating tasks, performing energy analysis, selecting sustainable materials, and conducting lifecycle cost assessments. The well-being of users, communities, and the environment should be prioritized.

I.4 Integration, Collaboration, and Continuous Learning: AI tools should seamlessly integrate with latest design software and workflows. High-quality, project-specific data should be used to ensure accuracy and reliability. Robust systems for tracking changes and AI contributions in collaborative projects are essential. Continuous staff training and regular assessment of AI tools are necessary to ensure alignment with design philosophies and project requirements.

I.5 Risk Management and Future-Proofing: The limitations of AI in areas requiring subjective or context-sensitive decision-making must be acknowledged. Rigorous quality control and checks should be implemented to ensure that AI outputs meet safety, legal, and design standards. Traditional workflows and backups should be maintained as safeguards against AI failures or inaccuracies. Continuous exploration of new AI capabilities is crucial for staying at the forefront of the industry. The development of industry standards and ethical frameworks for AI use in architecture should be actively supported.

II. Educational Guidelines:

Architectural education should incorporate AI responsibly, emphasizing its supplementary role:

II.1 Basic Training: Students should use AI for learning and exploration, avoiding plagiarism and understanding data privacy. Transparency in AI use should be promoted.

II.2 Developmental Phase: Students should practice responsible creativity, mitigating biases in AI-generated designs and respecting cultural sensitivities.

II.3 Culmination Phase: Students should demonstrate accountability in AI-assisted decisions, informed consent and communication, and a balance between innovation and practicality. The entire design process, from conception to completion, must remain the focus, with AI serving as a tool to enhance, not replace, the student's creative process.

The responsible integration of AI in architectural education and practice demands a proactive and collaborative approach. By embracing these guidelines, ARCASIA member institutes can empower present and future architects to harness the transformative potential of AI while upholding the ethical and professional standards that define our profession. As AI continues to evolve, so too must our understanding of its role; fostering a culture of continuous learning and adaptation is crucial to ensuring that AI serves as a powerful catalyst for innovation, sustainability, and ethical design practice, shaping a future where technology and human creativity work in harmony. We urge all stakeholders to actively engage in the ongoing dialogue and development of best practices for AI in architecture.


arcasia
Architects Regional Council Asia