



Arcasia Committee on Social Responsibility (ACSR)

Half-day Symposium on Architecture and Social Responsibility

and

Architectural Design Competition “Universal Design” - Public Toilets for All!

Kathmandu, Nepal: 10 October 2013

Part A.

1) Host Organization: ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility (ACSR)
facilitated by
SONA (Society of Nepalese Architects)

2) Contact Details (HKIA) Hong Kong Institute of Architects

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Position: Chairman, ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility
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3) Focal Person in Nepal (GAATES)

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4) Contact Details (SONA) Society of Nepalese Architects

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Position: Executive Officer
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Society of Nepalese Architects (SONA)
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5) Modality of the Project:

This Event has been designed in coordination with the upcoming ARCASIA Forum in Kathmandu, in order to capitalize on the opportunity to highlight and to introduce the issues of Architecture and Social Responsibility in the context of less developed countries, such as Nepal. The main initiator of this project event is Ar. Joseph Kwan, Chairman, ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility. Ar. Deepak K.C. and his team from Nepal will lead the event under the supervision of Mr. Kwan. SONA will facilitate in the event, and will provide their advice and expertise before and during the Symposium and Design Competition as needed.

Part B.

6) Project Event Title: Architecture and Social Responsibility Symposium Architectural Design Competition

7) Project Need

At a time when people around the world are awakening to **Universal** and **Accessible Design** as an important tool towards achieving human right through the enactment of the momentous **UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities** (UN-CRPD). The sense of opportunity and real need for change is greater than ever. However, Nepal is still far behind in aspects related to Universal Design and Accessibility. The provision of equitable physical accessibility to public infrastructure for persons with disabilities is continuously being neglected. Having not even a single accessible public toilet in the heart of capital, Kathmandu that a wheelchair user could use is just one example of the dire situation in Nepal.

Universal Accessibility is not merely a technical and prescriptive feature of architecture; it can also be used to its full interdisciplinary potential to improve social welfare. If we carefully observe our existing built environment and at the same time interpret the real needs of our society, we will find it easy to build a network of concrete ideas, distinct yet inclusive, necessitated by today's demand from a welfare dimension. Our society yields differences, which can become rich resources for the whole community, only if we manage to recognize the true abilities of everyone in a broad, diversified, and flexible way; not just as an architect and designer, but first of all, as an individual person.

Universal Accessibility must be a non-negotiable prerequisite, when completely implemented will provide everyone the opportunity to fully participate and to play an active role in public life and in the community, making full use of whole range of their functional skills.

In order to realize a society where the environment, goods and services are truly accessible, each member of the community should be beware of disability and accessibility-related issues. Therefore, it is an opportune time to raise public awareness. Our citizens need to change their social thinking; and planners, architects and designers should begin earnestly to exercise their role in social responsibility to create a universally designed society for all by the power of their ideas, creativity and design.

After ending 12 years of bloody civil war with the Maoist regime, the Government of Nepal have boldly ratified the UN-CRPD and have also succeeded in developing accessibility guidelines. Therefore, the next three to four years will be a very important period to shape the primary target goals for the future of the Universal Design and Accessibility movement in Nepal. Consequently, the ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility (ACSR) would like to collaborate with SONA (Society of Nepalese Architects) on this occasion of the 17th ARCASIA Forum to raise awareness of the public at large as well as the architects and designers from Nepal and the ARCASIA region. The ultimate goal of this event being that all participants can share ideas, collaborate, learn from experiences and inspire each other in order to plan for a better, brighter future to make the society in Nepal accessible for all.

8) Brief Project Description: The project event will be divided into two parts:

1. A Half-day Symposium
2. Architectural Design Competition
 - a) Student Category
 - b) Professional Category

A Half-day Symposium

A Half-day Symposium will be organized and invitees will include both local and international Speakers. They will share in international best practices in universal design and accessibility, and on disaster-related designs. The roles and responsibilities regarding socially responsible architecture for the modern context of the 21st Century will be discussed. Meeting 'face to face' will open new doors and create a catalyst for ideas ending in potential collaboration amongst Nepalese and ARCASIA architects. This event will also provide opportunities for the growing number of practitioners and promoters of universal design to be engaged with each other as multi-disciplinary colleagues, designers, educators, leaders from disability, aging and sustainability organizations, business and media. The Nepalese Government can then create and invest in fresh solutions by crossing familiar boundaries.

The first session of the Symposium will be for local Speakers, where they will share and discuss about national issues, current progress and situation of the problems. There will be at most three Speakers from professional groups, Leaders from the community of persons with disabilities, and an official representative from the government body.

The second session will be for international speakers under the guidance of Ar. Joseph Kwan, Chairman of ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility. The second group will share information on the current international best practices, their experiences and expertise, and outline suggestions for future plans that should be taken in the Nepalese context in terms of designing for accessibility and for natural disasters.

There will be approximately 100 participants, including architects, architectural students, DPOs leaders, Government Officials, NGOs and INGOs leaders, media and journalists.

Symposium Programme Rundown

Time	Activity
9:00 – 9:30am	Opening Ceremony (Welcome Remarks by ACSR, ARCASIA & SONA President, Local VIP & Officials) (Group Photo & Souvenirs)
9:30 – 10:45am	Session 1 - Theme: <i>Universal Access</i> Four Speakers (3 Local + 1 International)
10:45 – 11:00am	Morning Coffee Break
11:00am – 12:15pm	Session 2 - Theme: <i>Design for Natural Disasters</i> Four Speakers (4 International)
12:15 – 12:45 pm	“Universal Design” Public Toilet for All - Design Competition Award Presentation (Presentation of Prizes and Award Certificates to Winners by ARCASIA & SONA President, and Sponsors)
12:45 – 2:00pm	Lunch

Architectural Design Competition

The design competition will be held in two categories:

1. Student Category
2. Professional Category

Theme of the design competition will be **“Universal Design” - Public Toilets for All!**

The aim of this design competition is to educate students on the diverse needs of today's society, to develop a comprehensive understanding on the issues relating to Universal Design and Accessibility, and to encourage and sensitize the professional architects to be more socially responsible in addressing and implementing accessibility with their professional knowledge, skill sets and creativity. The outcome of the design competition will help to create a National Standard in providing accessible toilets for all in Nepal. The design entries from the ten winning finalists will be displayed as part of an awareness campaign during and after the events.

[ARCASIA along with its Sponsors for the two events will be prominently acknowledged in all related promotional materials, including posters, pamphlets, banners and proceedings, etc.]

9) Key Objectives

Symposium Objectives:

- To invite stakeholders on common ground to learn and share experiences from diverse background with the anticipated outcome of creating mass public awareness on equity for all, accessibility and universal design for the elderly and people with disabilities
- To advance on ideas and suggestions for use in drafting guidelines for future strategies and action plans to be taken by Nepal to improve accessibility in all aspects of the built environment and its associated infrastructural support
- To encourage the development of designs and recommendations for use in drafting new guidelines and design standards by the Nepalese Government to improve in all aspects of the built environment in relation to natural disasters
- To create an opportunity for a face to face meeting that opens new doors and creates a catalyst to new ideas and future collaboration amongst stakeholders
- To build a network amongst stakeholders and to advocate the creation of a committee on social responsibility at SONA as well as within Government Departments

Design Competition Objectives:

Student Category

- To provide students with the opportunity to be informed on the core concept of Universal Accessibility
- To educate and sensitize students on the diverse needs of today's society, and on other hidden issues which they may have overlooked in their design studios by exposing new ideas and discovering innovative and creativity solutions
- To encourage talented students to be part of future awareness campaign by establishing the network with other pressure groups

Professional Category

- To encourage and to sensitize the professional architects to be more socially responsible in their attention to the needs and importance of accessibility issues
- To create a National Standard for an Accessible Public Toilet based on the concept of Universal Design suitable to the Nepalese context
- To recognize their contribution and commitment in promoting an equitable society for all, and as potential future supporters in the accessibility movement in Nepal

10) Target Audience

The Symposium will attract a mixed audience including Architects, Planners, Interior Designers, Leaders with Disabilities, DPOs, Media, Government Policy Makers, NGOs and INGOs, Business Organizations, Leaders on aging and sustainability organizations, Media and Journalists. It is anticipated that there will be about 100 participants.

The Design Competition will focus on all students from the architectural colleges of the Nation; and the professional architectural groups and individuals practicing within the Nation.

Part C. Project Budget

Budget for:

- A Half-day ARCASIA Post-Forum Symposium: *Architecture and Social Responsibility*
- Architectural Design Competition on "*Universal Design*" - *Public Toilets for All*

Item	Brief Description of item if required	Total (Nepali Currency)	Total (USD)
1. Hall Rental (including lunch for morning session with tea and cookies for 100 participants)	(100 person X Rs 12000) + 10% service + 13% VAT	Rs. 149,160	1719
2. Administrative Costs(design competition)	(Fax, phone, transportation, internet , invitation etc)	Rs. 50,000	576
3. Meeting (design competition)	Meeting with different committee 10X Rs 2000/-	Rs 20,000	231
4. Conference Banners	(Design + Print+ on site fixing charge) 4X (Rs2000+ Rs 7000+Rs 2000)	Rs.44,000	507
5. Posters/pamphlets of Design Competition	(Design + Print) 100 Pic X Rs 500	Rs. 50,000	576
6. Local Speakers (X3)	3X Rs 4000	Rs. 12,000	139
7. Invited International Speakers (X5)	2 nights hotel accommodation for each guest (5 single deluxe room 5X \$ 119x2 [Guests will be responsible for their own air fares to Kathmandu]	US\$ 1,190	1190
8. Prize Money for Students Categories	(Rs.25,000+Rs20,000+Rs15,000+Rs10,000+Rs 10,000)	Rs. 80,000	922
9. Prize Money for Professional Categories	(Rs.50,000+Rs40,000+Rs30,000+Rs15,000+Rs 15,000)	Rs.150,000	1729
10. Certificate	Certificates for Winners and other helping hands (Print + Design)	Rs. 15,000	173
11. HKIA Members for on-site support (X2)	(Accommodation & Air tickets) 2 nights hotel accommodation for each Member (single deluxe room)2X US\$ 119 Airlines (2 return air tickets HK to Kathmandu)	US\$ 238 HK\$ 12480=US\$ 800x2=US\$ 1600	238 1600
12. Printing costs for proceedings, etc.	(Design + Print) 200XRs 400	Rs.80,000	922
13. Souvenirs for Jurors, Speakers and Attendance Certificates for Participants	(Souvenirs) 20X Rs 2500 (Design + Print) 150XRs100	Rs. 50,000 Rs.15,000	576 173
14. Photographer		Rs.15,000	173
15. Welcoming Luncheon/Dinner for Jurors and Speakers	Rs1,864.5X 25 (Including 10% service charge and 13% VAT) with beverage	Rs.46,616	538
16. Costs for setting up the venue	Rental of equipment, e.g. PA system, projector & screen, etc.	Rs.27,346	315
17. Sign language interpreter	2x Rs 4000	Rs.8,000	93
18. Local transportation	Coach rental to pick up participants from the hotel to the venue	Rs.18,000	208

19. Contingency allowance	10% of the total estimated cost (USD12,598 x 10%)		1260
Total amount of Nepali currency (Rs 822,922 = US\$ 9,780) +US\$ 1190+ US\$ 238+ US\$1600			
Total Amount in US\$13,858 (US Dollar Thirteen Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-Eight)			13,858

Current exchange rate as of 11 April 2013 is 1 US \$ = Rs. 86.80

In anticipation of miscellaneous items, current exchange variance, etc. the budget proposed is a lump sum amount of **US\$14,000.00.**

(Note: Any unspent amount will be returned to ARCASIA)

13) Action Plan / Activities		
Activity	Date/s	Responsibility 1 (HKIA) 2 (GAATES) 3 (SONA)
Committee formation and division of work	April 20 th – 30 th April	1, 2, 3
Preparation of design criteria, requirements, site selection, Jury selection	May 1 st -15 th May	2, 3, 1
Design posters, pamphlet and design announcement	May 15 th -31 th May	2, 1, 3
Publicity of design competition through design magazine, social network, newspapers etc.	June 1 st -June15 th	3, 1, 2
College visits , orientation of design competition, and selection of potential Speakers	June 15 th – July15 th	3, 1, 2
Last closing date of final design submission, collection of papers or presentation materials from Speakers	August 31 st	3, 1, 2
Jury Selection of final top 10 Designs from both categories and prepare in presentable format for exhibition	Sep.1 st -30 th Sep.	2, 1, 3
Invitation to DPOs leaders, governments official, activists, NGOs and INGOs sectors	October 1 st -10 th October	2, 3, 1
Half-day Symposium: Architecture and Social Responsibility	10 th October	1, 2, 3
Final Report Submission to ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility	15 th November	2, 3, 1

14) Key Performance Indicators (KPI):

- Record of participants during and after the event
- Each presenter, attendee and exhibitor will complete evaluation form rating their perceptions of both the contents and services
- Evaluation of event, positive media coverage
- Record of different individuals involved from different background
- Number of architectural students and professional architects participate in the design competition and their comments
- Nepal Government's willingness to commit to future actions relating to universal access and disaster related programmes

15) Potential Risks	
Risk	How we will avoid it happening or deal with it if it happens?
Transportation of disabled participants is difficult as there is no accessible transportation system in Kathmandu City which can lead to unnecessary delay.	Transportation charge will be provided to disabled participants attending the events. We will request the local sponsor to bear that cost. The higher level of planning and organization will be used to dealing with this.
Lack of manpower could lead to unnecessary delays and could hamper the quality of the event.	Architectural student volunteers, other volunteers with knowledge of DPOs, expertise and skill will be utilized.
The venue. We do have very limited venue which is accessible (like toilet, ramp) to disabled participants in Kathmandu.	We will carefully choose the venue after conducting a detailed site survey and will booked the venue in advance.
The number of professional architects in design competition could be less than aimed for	Promotion of project events with other disabled people organization network, GOs and INGOs and professionals organization like SONA; NEA and other government's body will be made to deal with this. Work with local sponsors to contribute materials and workmanship to create ramps and washrooms prior to the event.
Lack of fixed work station or lack of office	Request to Disabled People Organization or College or any other INGOs to provide one room for work station.

Prepared by: HKIA/GAATES/SONA
8 June 2013