VIETNAM ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS

COUNTRY REPORT
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ARCASIA COMMITTEE ON GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

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ACGSA REPORT

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As part of the current architecture trend around the world encouraging green building development, Vietnam Association of Architects has organized various activities, competitions, seminars to call upon investors, consultants, and state managers in the construction and investment within our nation.

On Apr 27, 2011, Vietnam Association of Architects issued the Declaration of Green Architecture in detail such as:

1. To propagandize, popularize, and raise the awareness of green architecture to the social community;

2. To study, contribute, and disseminate green architecture in accordance with Vietnam’s building standards and criterias; and to promote the application in architectural design, planning, construction works; material production, and technology implementation;

3. To provide training sections, workshops to undate on green architecture for architects and communities who interest in developing green architecture;

4. To provide consultancy works on social critics for organizations and individuals working on the design principles for green architecture;

5. To honor organizations and individuals who provide inovating ideas, solutions and green architecture design works.

In the Vietnam Association of Architects 2012’s activities, we organized "the Scientific seminar on green architecture implementing for the new urban development" with the interested social communities and architects.

In the year 2012, Vietnam Association of Architects has made a decision to establish the Vietnam Green Architecture Council with 20 members including
architects, experts, managers, diplomats, sociologists. VAA’s Green Architecture Council selected and awarded the first 11 Viet Nam Green Architectures.

For the Green Architecture Award 2012, there are 11 building works which have been selected, named as the M. House at Thien An - Hue City, the Bamboo Wing at the Flamingo Resort - Dai Lai - Vinh Phuc, the Phan Chu Trinh secondary school in Di An - Binh Duong, the Lam Café in Nha Trang, the Suoi Be village community house at Luong Son - Hoa Binh, the Ecopark at Van Giang ecological urban area in Hung Yen, the Ana Mandara Villas Dalat Resort (Resort & Spa) in Le Lai - ward 5 - Dalat city, the Mango Bay Resort in Phu Quoc, the Low-rise residential area (NO-5B) - Palm Garden in Viet Hung new urban area, the Vincom ecological urban area (Vincom Village) in Viet Hung new urban area - Long Bien district - Hanoi, and the hot spring resort (I - Resort) in Vinh Ngoc ward - Nha Trang.

Beside that, the designers also sent their masterpieces for the regional competition. The green building and architecture projects won FuturArc Green Leadership Awards 2012 for commercial’s architecture category named as the Flying Bamboo; for single residential building’s architecture: the Stacking Green.

The Vietnam Association of Architects held a seminar with experts in the field and developed five criterias for green building architecture as follows:

1. Criteria 1: Sustainable Location
   1.1 Natural conservation;
   1.2 Ecosystem restoration;
   1.3 “Greenhouse effect” fighting;
   1.4 Building zoning and layouts adapt to the surrounding environment and landscape;

2. Criteria 2: Resources, energy, and green technology usages
   2.1 To use energy reasonably;
   2.2 To use maximum natural ventilation
   2.3 To use maximum natural light
   2.4 To use renewable energy
   2.5 To conserve natural resources (water and materials)
   2.6 To apply advanced technology, green technology
3. Criteria 3: The quality of the indoor environment
   3.1 To create good sanitary
   3.2 Interior materials does not emit harmful chemicals
   3.3 To take care for disabilities
   3.4 Air quality in the building does not affect the users
   4.1 Naturally ventilation
   4.2 Housing facades are not affected by solar radiation
   4.3 To have more natural light without heating affects
   4.4 To waterproofing to avoid leaking and rain water
   4.5 To create and improve the architectural environment balancing with the surrounding environment
   4.6 Not affected by flood
   4.7 No light reflextion and no influence on sunshine needed affects the surrounding buildings
   4.8 No sources of contamination is greater than the limitation allowed in the standard
   4.9 In the construction process, it must take measures to protect the environment, monitor the pollution caused by construction and the impact on the surrounding areas
   4.10 Waste treatment, operation and usage
   4.11 Involving by community
5. Criteria 5: National cultural value and characteristics
   5.1 To have region-specific architecture and inherited traditional values
   5.2 To balance between new construction and architectural renovation and repair;
   5.3 To have spaces for public communication, relaxation, rest, green areas, green terraces (for flowers hanging and planting, birds demonstration, community communication and neighborhood);
5.4 To provide spaces for preserving Vietnamese’s local culture and lifestyle such as workshops, hospitality, communication between young people and the elderly ...

Nowadays, the green building design is widespread and mentioned in many workshops in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, typically as the workshop on "the Green architecture building from practice in Vietnam" with the participation of leading experts in the field of architectural design, planning, domestic and foreign consultants with the content focusing on the building construction in harmony with environment-friendly landscapes, open spaces with good usage of energy resources, and the harmony between the contemporary building styles with local traditional Vietnamese style.

The effects are the government’s investment policies to require the achievement of the green building standard implementation as well as to influence the public for energy saving, natural energy usage and so on.

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