



COUNTRY REPORT

SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

YEAR OF REPORT 2025



Presented By:

Arch. Dilummini De Mel

President

Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA)

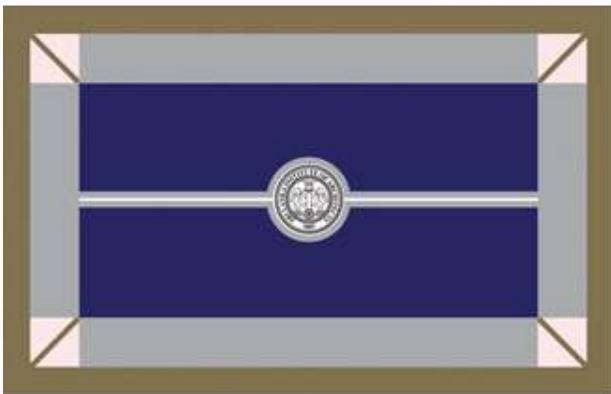
2025-2027

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF SLIA

The Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) was formed on 17th September 1957, with a Constitution for functioning on the model of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). The Institute was incorporated under the “Sri Lanka Institute of Architects Law No. 1 of 1976”, enacted by the National State Assembly of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka . The above Act was amended in 1996 paving the way to create an Architects Registration Board with powers to register persons qualified to practice the Profession of Architecture in Sri Lanka.



The Council consists of a total of (20) Twenty Members of which Eight (08) Office Bearers and Four (04) Chairmen of Boards dealing with Education, Professional Affairs, Publications and Management; are elected for a term of two years whilst the balance members numbering eight are elected each year.



The present Council was appointed in February 2025.

THE OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE SESSIONS - 2025/2027

Archt. Dilummini De Mel, (FIA)
Archt. Rohana Bandara Herath, (FIA)
Archt. Prasanna Silva, (FIA)
Archt. Dinuk Senanayake, (AIA)
Archt. Janaka Dharmasena, FIA
Archt. Jayanath Silva, (FIA)
Archt. Sapumal Bandara, (AIA)
Archt. Kosala Perumpularachchi, (AIA)

President
Immediate Past President
Senior Vice President
AVice President
Hony. Secretary
Hony. Treasurer
Hony. Asst. Secretary
Hony. Asst. Treasurer

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH

(AS AT AUGUST 2025)

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

The SLIA has seven categories of members namely, Honorary Fellow, Fellow, Member, Registered Member, Graduate Member, Student Member, and Honorary Member. The Fellows and Members are the only Corporate Members who have voting rights in the Institute. A growth in membership of 10 percent was recorded in comparison to previous years.

Category	Number
Honorary Fellows	15
Fellow Members *	145
Members *	1850
Graduate Members	100
Student Members	54
Honorary Members	5

CURRENT ARCHITECTURAL SCHOOLS IN SRI LANKA

Accredited Schools

University of Moratuwa (Est. 1972)

A Government University

City School of Architecture (Est. 1986)

A Private Campus



Listed Schools

General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University (Est.2015)

A Government University

Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (Est.2015)

A Private Campus



AN AVERAGE OF 100 STUDENTS ATTEND PART 3 EXAMINATION EVERY YEAR

22nd ARCASIA Forum - Colombo Sri Lanka



The Sri Lanka Institute of Architects successfully hosted ARCASIA Forum 22 in Colombo from 13–19 January 2025, welcoming around 300 delegates from all 21 ARCASIA member countries. Under the theme “Polymathic Excellence: Crafting Narratives, Designing Tomorrows”, the event featured keynote speakers from the Netherlands, USA, Spain, Italy, Bangladesh, India, and Sri Lanka. The programme included committee meetings, ARCASIA Council sessions, awards presentations, technical forums, panel discussions, and workshops. Special dinners, cultural activities, and curated architectural tours showcased Sri Lanka’s heritage and contemporary works, including projects by Geoffrey Bawa and other leading architects.

The Forum reinforced SLIA’s reputation as a capable host of major international events, elevated the profile of Sri Lankan architecture, and fostered collaboration and knowledge exchange within the region. Despite logistical and visa-related challenges, the event was executed successfully through efficient planning and strong stakeholder support. Recommendations for future events include early finalisation of logistics, enhanced digital platforms for communication and streaming, broader engagement with young professionals, and strengthened coordination with immigration and tourism authorities.



ARCASIA SPORTS FIESTA 2025

January 2025 | SLIA

The ARCASIA Sports Fiesta 2025 took place on January 19th and 20th, bringing together Asian architects with a passion for sports. The event featured exciting competitions, fostering camaraderie and sportsmanship among participants from various ARCASIA countries.

In the cricket tournament held in Colombo, the Indian architects' team emerged victorious, defeating the Sri Lankan architects in a thrilling final.

The golf event in Hambantota saw Sri Lankan golfers securing the top two awards, showcasing their exceptional skills on the course.

The awards ceremony, held in Colombo, was attended by participating teams, esteemed guests from ARCASIA nations, and the President and Council Members of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects. The event was organized by the Sports Committee of SLIA. The ARCASIA Sports Fiesta 2025 once again proved to be a remarkable occasion, strengthening bonds within the architectural community while celebrating Athleticism and Camaraderie.



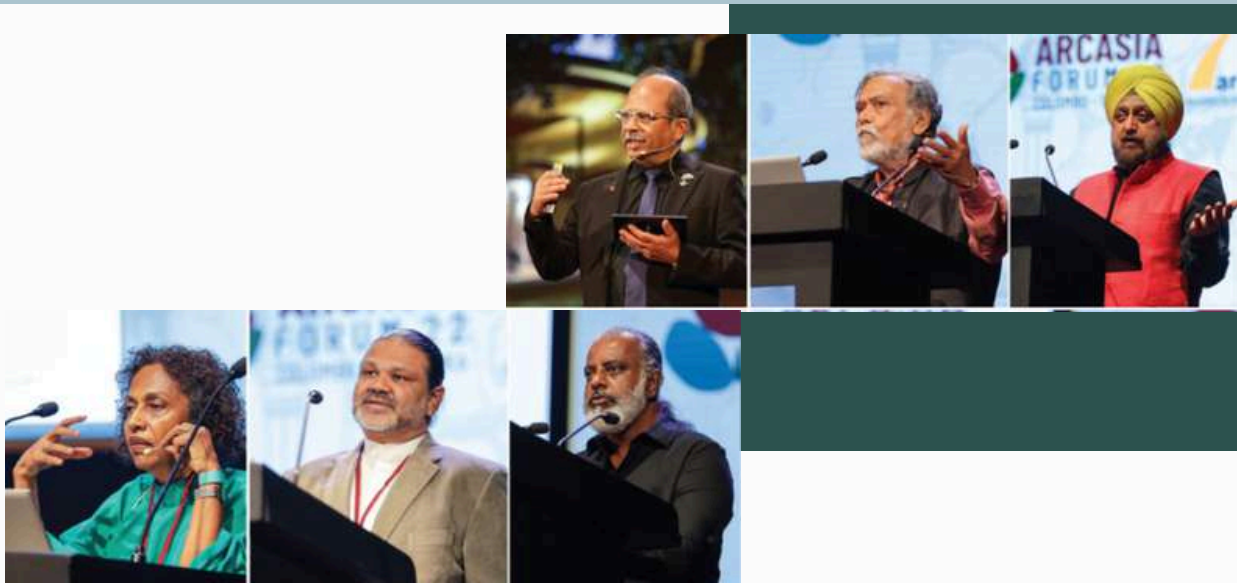


NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE ANNUAL SESSIONS

17TH-18TH JANUARY 2025 | BMICH

In 2025, the National Conference was not conducted as a separate event but was merged with the ARCASIA Forum 22 (ACA 22), held from 17–19 January 2025 in Colombo. This integration allowed Sri Lanka’s premier architectural gathering to benefit from the international scale, diversity, and prestige of ARCASIA’s flagship event, bringing together leading architects, academics, and industry professionals from all 21 ARCASIA member countries alongside Sri Lankan participants.

Themed “Polymathic Excellence: Crafting Narratives, Designing Tomorrows”, the conference featured keynote speakers from the Netherlands, USA, Spain, Italy, Bangladesh, India, and Sri Lanka. The programme included technical sessions, panel discussions, and workshops covering themes such as sustainability, smart cities, and heritage conservation. Networking events and curated architectural tours further enriched the experience, showcasing Sri Lanka’s architectural heritage and contemporary works. The integration significantly enhanced the conference’s reach, content, and impact, creating a landmark professional event for the local architectural community.



SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ANNUAL SESSIONS 2025

21st to 23rd FEBRUARY 2025

INAUGURATION CEREMONY

All events of the SLIA Annual Sessions were held at the BMICH premises, commencing with the Inauguration Ceremony on Thursday the 20th February at the Lotus Hall and concluding with the Exhibition on Sunday the 23rd February.

The Inauguration Ceremony was held on Thursday the 20th February 2025 at 2.30 pm at the Lotus Hall of the BMICH.

The Chief Guest was Prof. Udeni Nawagamuwa, The General President of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS). Members of the Diplomatic Corp, Special Invitees from the State Sector, Allied Professionals, as well as SLIA Members made up the capacity crowd who attended the Ceremony.

SLIA's Prestigious Awards, that of a Gold Medal to Vidya Jyothi Archt. Ashley De Vos, Life Time Awards to Past President Archt. Prof. Chitra Weddikkara, and Vidya Jyothi Archt. Prof. Nimal de Silva and Special Awards to Archt. Pali Wijeratne, Archt. Tilak Samarawickrama and Archt. Shereen Amendra were bestowed in recognition of their achievements and invaluable contributions to the profession.

Presentation of Scrolls to Fellow and New Members of SLIA; Presentation of Awards for Design, Color, Publication as well as Student Awards were part of the programme as is the usual format.



ARCHITECT 2025 - 44th MEMBERS WORK LIFESTYLE AND TRADE EXHIBITION

21st FEBRUARY 2025 | BMICH

The Architects Work & Trade Exhibition 2025 was held at the BMICH Complex from 21–23 February 2025 and was open to the public. The event was officially declared open on the evening of 20 February by the Chief Guest, Prof. Chandana Jayalath, Chairman of CIDA. This year's exhibition featured 185 trade stalls and 72 members' display panels, offering visitors a comprehensive showcase of architectural innovation, products, and services. The exhibition attracted significant public interest and participation, making it a tremendous success.



SLIA ANNUAL AWARDS 2024 / 2025

21st FEBRUARY 2025 | BMICH

The Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) upheld its tradition of fostering professional excellence by presenting its Annual Awards during the ARCASIA Forum 22. These awards recognized outstanding achievements in key categories, including Design, Color, Research, Publication, and Young Architect of the Year. To encourage innovation and quality within the architectural trade sector, Product Awards and Trade Stall Awards were also conferred. Furthermore, architectural students were honoured with awards during the Inauguration Ceremony, aimed at supporting and motivating emerging talent within the profession.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

25th FEBRUARY 2025 | BMICH

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the 2025–26 session was held on Saturday, 22nd February 2025, at BMICH Jasmine Hall, with 556 members in attendance. Elections for the new Council were conducted, with voting required for certain contested positions, while some roles were uncontested and others received no applications.

Positions without applications at the AGM were subsequently filled during a Special Council Meeting held on 11th March 2025. Following tradition, the Chairman of the Board of Management was appointed at the first Council meeting on 26th March 2025.



BLESSINGS CEREMONY

March 2025 | SLIA

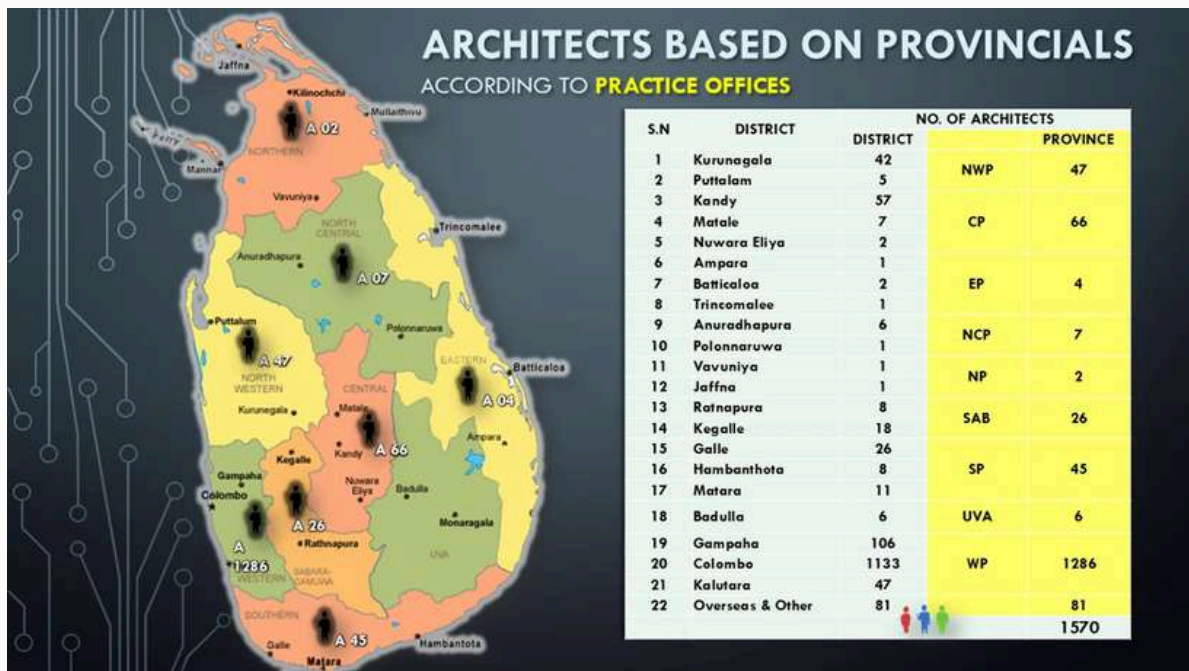
The newly appointed council of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) held a blessing ceremony on 25 March at the SLIA auditorium. Religious leaders representing Buddhism, Christianity and Islam were in attendance to offer blessings to the new council, staff and premises as the new session commenced. The event was marked by a spirit of unity and hope, building an atmosphere of optimism and purpose for the sessions to come.



SLIA CHAPTERS IN THE REGIONS

MAY 2025 | SLIA

In addition to the existing Kandy Chapter, it has been decided—with the support of relevant authorities including the Ministry and CIDA—to establish seven additional SLIA chapters across the provinces. This initiative aims to promote qualified architectural professionals and ensure equitable distribution of architectural services throughout the island. The expansion of regional chapters is intended to uplift the standard and quality of the built environment for the benefit of the general public.



INSTALLATION OF SOLAR SYSTEM AT SLIA

MAY 2025 | SLIA

In line with its commitment to sustainable practices and operational efficiency, the SLIA President has proposed the installation of a solar energy system at the SLIA headquarters. This initiative aims to reduce the Institute’s carbon footprint, promote renewable energy adoption within the architectural community, and significantly lower long-term energy costs.

The project will not only serve as a model for sustainable infrastructure within professional organizations but also demonstrate SLIA’s leadership in environmental responsibility in the built environment sector.



LECTURE SERIES & CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) PROGRAMME

MAY 2025 | SLIA

The first lecture in the series, organized by the Professional Advisory Board (PAB), was held on 8th April 2025 at the SLIA Auditorium. This event was conducted in collaboration with the Embassy of Spain and sponsored by Aitken Spence PLC and Periceyl (Pvt) Ltd. The topic, “Empowering People: The Role of Architecture in Tourism and Rural Development”, was presented under the patronage of His Excellency Juan Antonio March Pujol, Ambassador Extraordinary of the Kingdom of Spain to Sri Lanka. The occasion was also graced by VIP guests including Mrs. Priyadarshini Jayawardena, Honorary Consul for Spain; Eng. L. B. Kumudu Lal, Chairman of the Urban Development Authority; and Mr. Buddhika Hewawasam, Chairman of Sri Lanka Tourism Development. The session was well attended and appreciated by SLIA members.

Additionally, on Monday, 26th May 2025, PAB hosted a session titled “Reviewing Vernacular Wisdom through Organic Architecture: Sustainable Future for Sri Lanka’s Built Environment”. This session was supported by the National Ozone Unit, Ministry of Environment, and aimed to promote sustainable architectural practices rooted in Sri Lanka’s vernacular traditions.



NATIONAL VESAK FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS



MAY 2025 | SLIA

The SLIA Staff Welfare Association took the lead in decorating the SLIA Headquarters and the surrounding street with colourful Vesak lanterns and decorative lighting, creating a vibrant and festive atmosphere. Their efforts were further appreciated for extending the decorations to the spaces in front of the SLIA building and along the street, adding beauty and charm to the surroundings during the Vesak season.



SLIA POSON FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS (CSR)

June 2025 | SLIA

SLIA actively involved in celebrating the Poson festival (another Buddhist Festival) on 09th June 2025 at SLIA, with the distribution of free food (Almsgiving).



"IMPLEMENTATION OF MONTREAL PROTOCOL COMMITMENTS AND SUSTAINABLE COOLING PRACTICES"

Monday 26th May 2025
11.30am to 4.30pm SLIA Auditorium
Followed by Lunch/Refreshments

SPEAKERS

MRS. P M S TILAKARATNA
Assistant Director
National Ozone Unit of Ministry of environment

MR. K S KITHSIRI
Director
Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority

MR. S P K AMARASINGHE
Former director / Principal
Ceylon German Technical Training Institute

MODERATOR
ARCHT. SURINDU BASNAYAKE, FIA (SL)

Organized by the
National Ozone Unit, Ministry of Environment, Sri Lanka In collaboration with:
Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA)

LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT SESSION

May 2025 | SLIA

The Learning & Development Session for session 2025/2026 was held on 26th May 2025 at the SLIA Auditorium, on **"Implementation on Montreal Protocol Commitments and Sustainable Cooling Practice"**



FIRST QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

May 2025 | SLIA

The first Quarterly General meeting for session 2025/2026 was held on 30th May 2025 at the SLIA Auditorium.



SPECIFICATION WRITING FOR ARCHITECTS SHOWROOM & FACTORY VISIT

04th June 2025 | SLIA

The second stage of the Specification Writing for Architects program was successfully held on 13 June 2025 at the S-lon factory in Negombo, with the participation of sixteen SLIA members.

This valuable program provided participants with up-to-date insights into products, services, manufacturing processes, and detailed specification requirements. The contribution of S-lon played a pivotal role in the success of the visit, creating meaningful learning opportunities, introducing members to a wide range of products and services, and supporting their pursuit of knowledge and professional development.



SLIA Participation at OPA Career Guidance Programme

31th July 2025 | SLIA

The Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA), as a member body of the Organization of Professional Associations (OPA), actively participated in the Career Guidance Programme held on 31st July 2025. This collaborative initiative, organized together with other professional associations, was aimed at creating awareness among secondary school students about the diverse career opportunities available within various professions.

Through this programme, SLIA highlighted the role of architects in shaping the built environment and the importance of architecture as a career path that blends creativity, technical knowledge, and social responsibility. The engagement provided students with valuable insights into the architectural profession, inspiring the younger generation to explore architecture as a potential future career.



SLIA Joins South Asian Leaders at the Inauguration of AASA



Upon the invitation of the Society of Nepalese Architects (SONA), SLIA President Archt. Dilummini De Mel attended the official establishment ceremony of the Architects Association of South Asia (AASA) on 25th August 2025 in Kathmandu, Nepal. This landmark event brought together architectural leaders from across the South Asian region to foster collaboration, share expertise, and strengthen professional ties. SLIA's active participation reflected its commitment to advancing architectural practice and regional cooperation within South Asia.

THE KUALA LUMPUR ARCHITECTURE FESTIVAL (KLAF) 2025 & ARCHIDEX 2025

Upon the invitation of the Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM), SLIA President Archt. Dilummini De Mel attended the Kuala Lumpur Architecture Festival (KLAF) 2025 and ARCHIDEX 2025, held from 23rd to 26th July 2025 in Kuala Lumpur.



SLIA PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO IIA JODHPUR CENTRE STRENGTHENS REGIONAL COLLABORATION



RAJASTHAN CHAPTER

On 5th April 2025, upon the gracious invitation of the Chairman of the IIA Jodhpur Centre, SLIA President Archt. Dilummini De Mel attended the IIA Jodhpur event held in Jodhpur, India. The President represented the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) and took the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions aimed at strengthening collaboration and professional exchange between the two esteemed architectural institutions. The event provided a valuable platform to share knowledge, explore new ideas, and foster deeper ties within the regional architectural community.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

August 2025 | SLIA

The First Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for session 2025/2026 was held on 07th August 2025 at the SLIA Auditorium, on “Moving forward with MEP in Construction Projects today”



SECOND QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

29th August 2025 | SLIA

The Second Quarterly General meeting for session 2025/2026 was held on 29th August 2025 at the SLIA Auditorium.



SLIA ART TALK

June 2025 | SLIA

The Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) successfully hosted SLIA Art Talk Episode 1 on 26th June 2025.

This inaugural session featured an engaging and insightful conversation with renowned artists Lakmal Dharmaratne and Ilango Ram, under the theme “A Conversation with Lakmal Dharmaratne & Ilango Ram.”

The discussion explored the rich intersection of art and architecture, creating a vibrant platform for creative dialogue and exchange. The evening was well attended by SLIA members and art enthusiasts, who greatly appreciated the depth and perspectives shared by the speakers.



ARCHITECTS Vs DOCTORS CRICKET ENCOUNTER 2025

October 2025 | SLIA

The Sports Committee of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) is pleased to announce the upcoming Annual Doctors vs. Architects (Hard Ball) Cricket Encounter, continuing a cherished tradition of fostering camaraderie and goodwill between two esteemed professions.

This much-anticipated event will feature the Sri Lanka Doctors Cricket Team facing off against the Sri Lanka Architects Cricket Team on 30 August 2025 at the Thurstan College Grounds. The match will commence at 9:00 a.m., followed by an evening fellowship, offering an opportunity to strengthen professional ties in a spirit of sportsmanship and unity.

SLIA CRICKET FEST

October 2025 | SLIA

The Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) will host the SLIA Cricket Fest 2025 in October 2025, at Shalika Grounds, Narahenpita. This annual event is designed to unite architects and architecture students for a fun-filled day of 6-a-side (softball) cricket. It will include a Members Category and an Inter-University Tournament featuring teams from the University of Moratuwa, City School of Architecture, Kothelawala Defence University, and Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology. The Event will conclude with an evening fellowship, enhancing community engagement within the architectural field.



FORMATION OF ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH ASIA

On 25th August 2025, the Architects Association of South Asia was officially established, creating a vital platform to strengthen collaboration and knowledge exchange among architects across the region. This milestone aims to promote sustainable practices, cultural dialogue, and innovation in design and urban development.

Notably, Ar. Dilummini De Mel, President of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA), played a key role in this historic initiative, helping bring together professionals from across South Asia to shape the future of the architectural community together with the Presidents of other South Asian architectural associations.





ARCHT. DILUMMINI DE MEL, FIA(SL)

**PRESIDENT
SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS**

Sri Lanka
Institute of
Architects

The logo of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects, featuring a circular emblem with a central figure and the text "SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS" and "1951" around the perimeter.The logo for arcasia, featuring a stylized orange arch above the word "arcasia" in bold black lowercase letters.

arcasia
Architects Regional Council Asia