

YOUNG TOWN PLANNERS' AWARD

Regulations

2012



The French Ministry of Territorial Equality and Housing (*ministre de l'Égalité des territoires et du Logement*) is preparing and implementing the government's policy for balanced territorial development; it is seeking to reduce territorial inequalities and promote a high-quality living environment for all, while creating sustainable, welcoming, attractive and accessible cities and territories. In this spirit, the Ministry is launching the 4th session of the *Palmarès des jeunes urbanistes* (Young Town Planners' award). This biannual award highlights French and international teams and individuals who are tackling contemporary issues through their inventiveness, approaches, stances, postures, points of view and research. Since 2005, 37 young town planners have been congratulated by the judging panel for their talents and capacity to come up with innovative methods and concepts. The prize winners in these 2012 awards shall benefit from their inclusion in publications and the dissemination of their ideas and work to a large audience.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION...

Information about the 2012 competition and the three previous sessions can be consulted on the Ministry of Territorial Equality and Housing website :

<http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Depot-des-candidatures-2012.html>

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Applicants may apply individually or in teams.

- Each team or individual may only submit a single application file.
- For individual applications, the maximum age of applicants is 40¹.
- For team applications, the average age of the team members must not exceed 40 years of age² ; the age limit for any individual team member is 45 years of age³.

The award is open to any young town planner that meets the aforementioned conditions, irrespective of their nationality.

An initiative that addresses urban and territorial sustainable development challenges...

AN INITIATIVE THAT ADDRESSES URBAN AND TERRITORIAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES...

...in response to the current issues concerning sustainable, socially responsible and balanced territorial development, the fight against global warming, the consideration of nature in urban areas and the integration of risks. The French Ministry of Territorial Equality and Housing wishes to use this award as an opportunity to promote expertise and innovative, integrated cross-disciplinary approaches to the different aspects of town planning, which will help to implement sustainable development principles and will constitute the territorial engineering of tomorrow.

AN INTERNATIONALLY OPEN COMPETITION

To guarantee the excellence and diversity of talents working in France, in addition to French and foreign applicants, the award aims to recognise and en-

courage applications from French and international teams. All applications will be examined by an international panel of judges which will choose the prize-winners.

AN AWARD REFLECTING THE DIVERSITY OF TOWN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

This call for applications concerns European and international teams working in the fields of strategic planning, regulatory urbanism or operational development. The spectrum of skills and talents that will be rewarded ranges from sociology to architecture, including urban history and geography, heritage, environmental sciences, landscape, the economy, project management, land use and engineering: they will share a global, multi-disciplinary, overarching and innovative approach to the urban environment, oriented towards project and joint construction-based approaches involving the different stakeholders in order to improve the quality of town planning projects, processes and documents.

The competition will also be an opportunity to highlight the diversity of stakeholders involved in the process of transforming towns, cities and territories both in France and abroad. Applicants will come from private structures, territorial authority departments or combined territorial authority departments, government departments and their public corporations, research institutes or laboratories, town planning agencies, Architecture, Town Planning and Environment Advisory Boards, Associative Networks to Improve Housing and Living Conditions and more generally, associative-type structures working on the different dimensions of urban areas. Applicants may be self-employed, employees or work for public or private institutions.

SELECTION CRITERIA

To be selected, applicants must, through their professional or academic careers, prove their abilities to:

- Take account of the major contemporary town planning issues, particularly those relating to sustainable and resilient territories;
- Commit themselves to working in innovative fields and developing new methods to associate and integrate different approaches, especially those capable of facilitating:
 - The implementation of governance at an appropriate level in relation to the issues affecting the territory, the inhabitants' living environment and equity between territories and inhabitants,
 - Territorial development through the local economy, the mobility of people and the development of resources,
- Conservation of resources and biodiversity ;
- Capitalise on the lessons learned from their own practical professional experiences and adopt a position in relation to the different contemporary schools of thought and to the issues of tomorrow;
- Capitalise on the lessons learned from their own professional practices and adopt a position in relation to different practices;
- Propose and explore new operational and theoretical approaches that help to develop a disciplinary approach.

HOW TO APPLY?

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applications will be examined by a national technical committee, which will prepare for the selection of an international judging panel. The judging panel, consisting of qualified persons from the fields of town planning and the environment, in addition to one or more previous award winners, shall meet in the autumn of 2012 to designate the prize winners. The winners will be declared at the presentation ceremony for the "Grand Prix de l'urbanisme" (Grand Urban Planning Prize).

APPLICATION FILES

The application files will comprise three sections:

A/ An information section, designed to identify the applicants and which shall include:

- The information sheet, duly completed;
- The applicants' Curriculum Vitae (in A4 format, with a maximum of 2 pages per person);
- An authorisation signed by the team and including a transfer of reproduction and exhibition rights free of charge and a promise to provide, under the same conditions, any documents that might be required to create the promotional media for the Award;
- An identity photo of the applicant or the team;
- If necessary, the file must include written permission from the applicants' line managers.

B/ A formal section: An issue statement, situating the applicant's approach in relation to contemporary issues

A 6,000 character statement in A4 format without illustrations, explaining the position adopted by the applicant or team of applicants in relation to major contemporary social, environmental and economic issues.

C/ A free section: a critical presentation of the applicants' career paths, projects and works.

This is intended to reveal the applicants' career paths and works, in addition to the coherence and specificity of their approach. In this section, applicants may freely associate texts and images. It must not exceed 20 pages (A4 format) and may freely combine the following elements:

- Detailed presentation of one or more works, which may include urban projects or territorial planning, urban programmes, studies or research. The context shall be clearly stated (history, framework of action or of the order and specific nature of the territory). Any partnerships must be listed. The role of each member of a team must be clearly identified;
- A "commented biography" of the applicant(s) or of the members of the applicants' team, revealing their academic and professional backgrounds, their stances in relation to the key topics of town planning and the "schools of thought" (people, projects, approaches and publications) that have influenced them.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

The files may be submitted before the 19th of September 2012 via an exchange platform on the Ministry of Territorial equality and Housing website :

<http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Depot-des-candidatures-2012.html>

FOLLOWING THE WINNERS

The results will be announced at the end of the year 2012. The prize-winners will take part in the "Grand Prix d'Urbanisme" prize-giving ceremony.

The French ministry shall publish a brochure which will be handed out at the "Grand Prix de l'Urbanisme" ceremony, and a publication presenting the prize-winners will be widely disseminated. •

