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Congratulations for winning the 2022 Asian Townscape Award











ASIAN TOWNSCAPE AWARDS 2022

Review of the 2022 Asian Townscape Awards

Chairman of the Asian Townscape Awards Jury Honorary President, Asia Townscape Design Society President, Kobe Design University

Masaru Sato



I am Masaru Sato, the chairman of the judges for the Asian Townscape Awards(ATA). I have been promoting this award in order to firmly promote the unique attractiveness of Asia in contrast to the Western-centered approach to urban townscape.

The ATA was established in 2010. It is sponsored by four organizations: UN-HABITAT, Asian Habitat Association, Fukuoka Asian Urban Research Center, and Asian Society of Landscape Design. Other co-sponsoring organizations were the Architecture & Urban Research Institute of South Korea, and cooperating organizations include related academic societies and cities.

The awards are given to cities and major projects. It is not a simple design award. The award recognizes the efforts of municipal administration, business operators, planners/designers, and citizens working together as a team.

There are five evaluation criteria:

- 1) Environmentally friendly
- 2) Safe and sustainable
- 3) Respectful of local culture and history
- 4) High artistic quality
- 5) Contributes to the development of the region and serves as a model for other cities

In its early years, the awards were given to projects that were large in scale and to cities that were trying to showcase their innovative spirits within Asia. However, as the competition has progressed, the cases have become more diverse, focusing more on the activities of citizens and projects that pursue ideals. It can be said that the attitude of the government has come to be important more and more.

While Asia has learned technology and urban planning methods from Europe and the United States, it has not yet realized the attractiveness of its own cities and town-scapes. The history of the ATA has revealed that there are many rich and happy examples in Asia.

Asia has its own unique townscape attractions. The ATA aims to reaffirm this and bring out its potential.

So far, in 13 years since 2010, the award has been presented to 158 projects from 116 cities, in16 countries.

Once again this year, the judge members from each country, led by the Fukuoka Asian Urban Research Center, connected online on November 15, and the 11 selected projects were presented, followed by a substantial discussion on the judges` interpretation.

01) Xingfu Ridge (Meishan, China)

The project was an unprecedented and distinctive one, carefully shaping the hometown of the heart.

02) Environmental Landscape Improvement Planning for Yangtze River Waterfront in Jiangbei New District of Nanjing (Nanjing, China)

This is a project to improve the townscape along a river. The project focused on building a relationship with the city on the other side of the river.

03) Danzhai Wanda Village (Qiandongnan Prefecture, China)

This is an example of the integration of lifestyle and culture with nature. Frequent events were planned to enliven the community.

04) Revitalisation of Jordan Valley Channel (Hong Kong, China)

This project was recognized as an excellent example of effective use of a waterway.

05) Nguyen Tat Thanh Square \sim Quintessence of the Mountains \sim (Tuyen Quang, Vietnam)

This project was highly evaluated for its efforts to create a center as a crossroad of old and new cultures.

06) Public Landscape for Urban Renewal of Phadung Krung Kasem Canal (Bangkok, Thailand)

The project is developing an excellent waterfront space in terms of both hardware and software.

07)Newtown in its 100th year \sim Initiative of Takami Sanjo where Cherry Blossoms Bloom and Greenery Overflows \sim (Kitakyushu, Japan)

This project was highly evaluated for its residential area planning that makes the most of the peaceful natural landscape and trees.

08) Town Planning to Preserve the Historical Townscape of Hizenhama-shuku (Kashima, Japan)

The citizens of HizenHama-shuku are united in their wish for the revival of the old inn town

09) A New Way to Walk the Old City, Yeongdo Modern History Trail Map (Busan, Korea)

This project was highly evaluated for its efforts in both hardware and software to convey the history of the region.

10) Add Roads and Forests to the Iron City (Pohang, Korea)

This project is a project on the site of a former railroad line, and has been successfully inherited.

11) Balanced Urban Development through the Recovery of Historical and Cultural Landscape "Hanok Preservation and Promotion Policy of Seoul" (Seoul, Korea)

From 2000 to today, we are working to preserve historical and cultural urban resources by dividing them into four eras.

As mentioned above, the eleven cases were all highly commended and were selected to receive the award in 2022.

In particular, the cases submitted this year stood out for their efforts to reaffirm and pass on the history and culture possessed by the region within the community and its living spaces. Among them, the case of Seoul, a concept work that has been in the works for more than 20 years, is a project that systematically embodies the philosophy of inheriting history in a metropolitan city, and the insights of the government and the experts were highly evaluated. Conversely, the case of Meishan, China, was an example for the future of a small village deep in the mountains that has formed an original and admirable spiritual home. I was delighted to find such a wonderful subject or entry, and this is one of the reasons for the significance of the ATA.

Each idea was wonderfully inspiring: the old inn town of Saga, the site of the old railroad line in Pohang, the project focusing on the history of Busan, and the intersection of old and new cultures in Tuyen Quang.

The theme of coexistence with nature, such as Nanjing, Danzhai, Jordan Valley Channel, Phadung, and Takami areas, were examples of how natural scenery is successfully incorporated into daily life.

Projects that pass on history and projects that skillfully utilize natural scenery in daily life were the two themes that drew the most attention in this year's judging. In each case, the government, business operators, and citizens worked together to integrate philosophy, planning, and design, and I realized that the subject matter of the ATA has reached an advanced stage.

The judges felt that each country and municipality was doing their best under the pandemic of this long period of time, and in this respect, they were also feeling very resilient. The judges, were able to gather together for those who could, and for those who had difficulty, to go online, maintaining a sense of intimacy and respecting each other's insights. We were able to realize a judging process unique to Asia, where English, Chinese, Korean, and Japanese were spoken, making the judging as cordial as if we were all in the room.

I would like to congratulate all the award winners and the city officials who have promoted each case. We will send you a certificate of commendation and hope to hold an awards ceremony when it becomes possible.

We hope that in the future, new perspectives will be presented that will further reaffirm the attractiveness of Asia. It is our sincere hope that through the ATA, we will be able to create happy townscapes in Asia and strengthen the bonds between people further.

2022 Asian Townscape Award Projects



Public Landscape for Urban Renewal of Phadung Krung Kasem Canal (Bangkok, Thailand)

•LANDPROCESS (lead landscape architect design team)



A New Way to Walk the Old City, Yeongdo Modern History Trail Map (Busan, Korea)

- Yeongdo-gu (Mayor Kim, Ki-jae)
- Young-jo Kang (Dong-A University, Department of Landscape Architecture)
- •CAT Landscape Design (Seong-wan Kim, Yonghee Ki)



Revitalisation of Jordan Valley Channel (Hong Kong, China)

 Drainage Services Department, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region



Newtown in its 100th Year ~ Initiative of Takami Sanjo where Cherry Blossoms Bloom and Greenery Overflows ~ (Kitakyushu, Japan)

- Takami Sanjo Streetscape Agreement Committee
- Jun Architectural and Urban Development Institute
- Dr. Atsushi Maki, Executive Director of NPO Japan Association of Urban Planners, Representative of Jun Architectural and Urban Development Institute



Town Planning to Preserve the Historical Townscape of Hizenhama-shuku (Kashima, Japan)

- •NPO Hizenhama-shuku Water and Townscape Association
- Prof. Nobuo Mishima, Saga University
- Kashima City

2022 Asian Townscape Award Projects



Xingfu Ridge(Ecological Homestay Settlement in Xingfu Ancient Village) (Meishan, China)

- Danling County Government
- •Sichuan David Architectural Design Co., Ltd



Environmental Landscape Improvement Planning for Yangtze River Waterfront in Jiangbei New District of Nanjing (Nanjing, China)

CISPDR Corporation



Add Roads and Forests to the Iron City (Pohang, Korea)

Pohang (Mayor Lee, Kang-deok)



Danzhai Wanda Village (Qiandongnan Prefecture, China)

•The People's Government of Danzhai, Qiandongnan Prefecture



Balanced Urban Development through the Recovery of Historical and Cultural Landscape "Hanok Preservation and Promotion Policy of Seoul" (Seoul, Korea)

•Seoul Metropolitan Government (Mayor Oh, Se-Hoon)



Nguyen Tat Thanh Square ~ Quintessence of the Mountains ~ (Tuyen Quang, Vietnam)

•The Tuyen Quang City People'S Committee