68TH YEAR MOHAMMAD SHAHEER LANDSCAPE TROPHY

National Association of Students of Architecture
Mohammad Shaheer Landscape Trophy 2025-26
Catalyse

ISOLA   CATALYSE   NASA

About NASA India

The National Association of Students of Architecture (NASA, India) is the world's largest architectural student-run organization. Founded in 1957 with just seven colleges, it has grown to include over 350+ colleges and more than 66,000+ students, making it a significant voice for architecture students across India. The association aims to provide a platform for learning and interaction among students from diverse cultural backgrounds.

NASA India functions as a non-profit and non-political organization. It is officially registered under the Societies Act of 1860, with its headquarters at the Department of Architecture, School of Planning and Architecture in New Delhi.

NASA India organizes various events, programs, and competitions throughout the year. These include partnerships with organizations like HUDCO, GRIHA, and CPK for design trophies. There are 11 design trophies in total, with the Annual NASA Design Competition being the flagship trophy and offering students a platform to showcase their creative talents and design innovations. We have partnered with the Council of Architecture, India, for the Student of the Year trophy as well.

The association's flagship event is the Annual NASA Convention (ANC), the world's largest gathering of student architects. This event attracts over 4000+ students participating in workshops, masterclasses, and programs led by more than 200 esteemed architects. Additionally, there are regional Zonal NASA Conventions held annually.

NASA India's initiatives extend beyond traditional academics. The summer-winter school programs offer immersive experiences that enhance students' practical skills and broaden their educational horizons. The "Insider" initiative allows students to engage directly with experienced architects, gaining insights into office management and professional practice. This interaction fosters mentorship and provides valuable guidance. The Louis I Kahn Documentation series aims to preserve and disseminate architectural knowledge by documenting significant but often overlooked sites.

NASA India hosts programs both nationally and internationally, in countries like Japan, Sri Lanka, the USA, and South Korea. These experiences provide students with enriching learning opportunities and enhance their networking capabilities.

The NEXUS is an informal meeting ground where students can form bonds, share ideas, and collaborate. It emphasizes learning, mentoring, and networking, allowing students to showcase their talents and develop new ideas with peers from around the globe. We have also expanded into podcasts with our Spotify exclusive, The Archade.

For more information, you can visit NASA India's website - https://www.nasaindia.co/
Our social media pages are @wenasaindia and @mynasaindia on Instagram.

CATALYSE

Catalyse - Our Annual Theme

For nearly seven decades, NASA India has stood as a movement - built by students & led by students. As we step into the 68th year of our association's existence, I call upon the stakeholders to honour the legacy not by looking back, but by asking what we can spark next.

NASA India has always been more than just an association. It's been a force: a surge of youthful energy, ideas, voices, and action. This year, we recognise and compound over the force for what it truly is.

In the grand reaction of change, whether in our built environments, our learning systems, or the profession itself, we, the students, are the accelerators. With over 66,000 students across the country, our numbers are not just statistics. They are the untapped potential of a generation ready to shape what's next. This year, we reflect on the immense power of coming together - not just to participate, but to instigate. A catalyst doesn't wait for change. It creates movement, breaks inertia, and opens new paths. **NASA India today stands not just as a platform for learning and collaboration, but as an agent of impact - nationally & globally.** One that ignites bold conversations, challenges outdated practices, and pushes the profession toward more inclusive, ethical, and relevant futures.

So what does it mean to catalyse?

It means taking responsibility.
It means using architecture as a lens to rethink society, equity, and the future.
It means challenging what no longer serves us.
It means questioning the boundaries of architecture and expanding its purpose.

This is a call to all students, designers, thinkers, makers, rebels:
Catalyse conversations, communities & the future.

Because this is our moment in the reaction.
Let's use it to spark something irreversible.

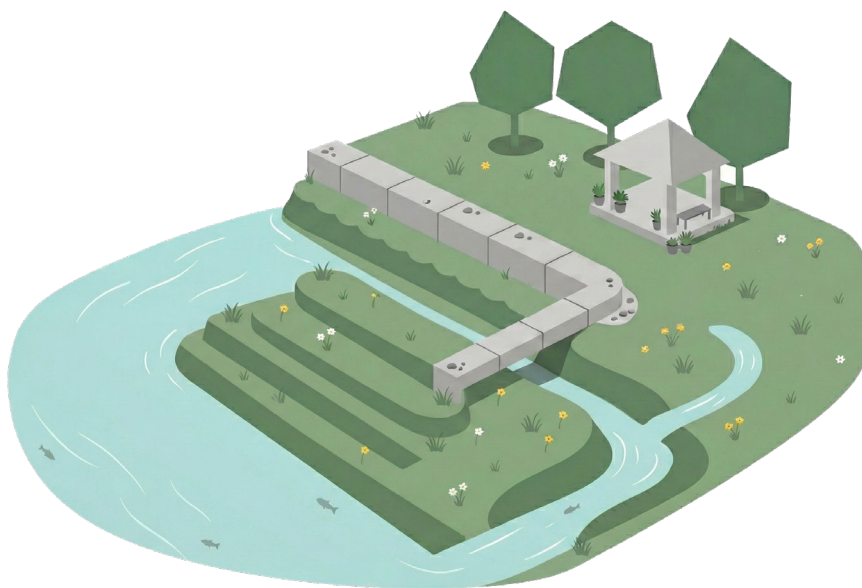Come, let's **CATALYSE** the reaction that serves the greater good!

National Association of Students of Architecture
Mohammad Shaheer Landscape Trophy 2025-26
Catalyse

ISOLA   CATALYSE   NASA

Introduction

LANDSCAPE AS INFRASTRUCTURE: THE BLUE-GREEN LINK BETWEEN ECOLOGY AND ECONOMY

Across India - and globally - cities are undergoing unprecedented infrastructural transformation. New highways, metros, coastal roads, logistics hubs, mobility corridors, and housing expansions are rapidly reshaping urban form. While these projects promise speed, connectivity, and economic growth, they often disconnect people from ecological systems, accelerate flooding, diminish biodiversity, and create socio-spatial fragmentation.

In this context, landscape architecture is not merely an aesthetic layer - it is an infrastructural framework. A well-designed landscape can mitigate damage, restore ecological balance, and ensure that infrastructure integrates with, rather than overrides, natural systems.

This competition invites architecture students to rethink how blue–green infrastructure (BGI) can become a central strategy in shaping resilient, inclusive, and ecologically sound urban infrastructure. Participants are asked to critically examine emerging or existing infrastructural developments in cities and propose landscape-driven solutions that address ecological degradation, climate risks, and socio-spatial challenges caused by rapid, often mindless, construction.

The Task

ISOLA   CATALYSE   NASA

Objectives

Participants must identify a real site in their city or region that is a part of a significant infrastructural development (a metro station, highway, ferry terminal, bus terminal, etc) and study the impact on its immediate context (and beyond) and associated natural systems. The goal is to propose a landscape design project that:

- Reinterprets infrastructure through the lens of ecology and landscape systems.
- Integrates blue–green infrastructure - such as wetlands, bioswales, urban forests, retention parks, floodable plazas, and green mobility corridors - into urban infrastructure design.
- Addresses the problems commonly associated with large-scale development:
  - Urban flooding and heat island effects
  - Loss of biodiversity and open spaces
  - Social disconnection and inequitable public access
  - Pollution and water management failures
- Demonstrates how landscape architecture can mediate between human needs and natural processes.
- Promotes resilient, restorative, and future-ready urban visions.

SITE SELECTION CRITERIA

Participants must select a real site within their city that is directly impacted by existing or upcoming infrastructure. For purposes of design intervention, the site area should be 15000 to 20000 square metres. It is understood that the natural systems/infrastructure under consideration may exceed these area limits. Examples include:

- Metro or railway expansion corridors
- New highway or coastal road alignments
- Interchanges, flyovers, or transit hubs
- Large drainage channels or canal edges
- Industrial belts or logistics corridors
- Reclaimed land or waterfront redevelopment zones

Selected sites should have visible ecological or social challenges, making them ideal grounds for intervention. A clear rationale for site selection must be provided and a detailed site analysis should be done leading to a feasible design program.

DESIGN PROPOSAL

Participants should:
A. Map & Analyse
- Document existing natural systems that the selected site is a part of: watersheds, vegetation, soil, biodiversity pockets
- Analyse infrastructure impacts on the site: severed ecosystems, waterlogging, pollution, community displacement, loss of public space
- Study cultural and social dynamics around the site

B. Propose a Landscape Strategy

Design a holistic intervention that integrates:

- Blue Infrastructure: water retention landscapes, wetlands, stormwater management systems, floodable zones
- Green Infrastructure: native vegetation networks, ecological corridors, green roofs and facades, urban forests
- Social Infrastructure: accessible public spaces, community amenities, inclusive mobility networks
- Climate Resilience Measures: heat mitigation, carbon sequestration, biodiversity support

C. Show Infrastructure–Landscape Synergy

Illustrate how your landscape design:

- Enhances the performance of built infrastructure
- Reduces ecological and social damage
- Creates multifunctional, future-ready urban systems

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The project should be expressed within **TWO (2) A1 size sheets.**
The panel/s should be of a resolution not less than 300 dpi and should be printable.

The submission **MUST include a Design Concept Note of not more than 200 words** along with the sheet to understand the design better. (Font - Century Gothic 12 point size) - The mode of presentation (plan, sections, views, sketches, photographs etc.) is left to the participants. Choice of scale is up to the participants, provided everything is clearly legible.
- All text should be in English.
- Manually rendered entries should be scanned at 300dpi resolution.

Site Documentation & Problem Mapping: Base maps, ecological analysis, infrastructure impacts, user groups
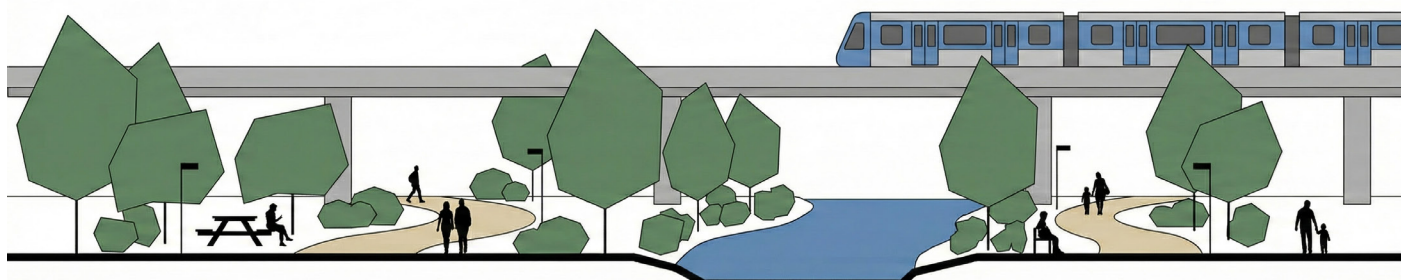
Concept Narrative: A concise explanation of the landscape strategy

Masterplan: Showing blue–green networks and infrastructural integration

Detailed Area Design: One zoomed-in area demonstrating materiality, planting strategy, water management, and programmatic elements

Sections, Diagrams & Visualisations: Illustrating ecological processes, seasonal changes, and user experience

Impact Assessment: How the proposal improves resilience, ecology, and community well-being

Guidelines

ISOLA   CATALYSE   NASA

Evaluation Criteria

The Evaluation criteria will include (but not be limited to) the following key points:
- Depth and clarity of ecological + infrastructural analysis
- Strength of the blue–green design strategy
- Innovation in linking landscape with infrastructure performance
- Feasibility and sensitivity to local environmental conditions
- Social inclusivity and public accessibility
- Graphic clarity and narrative strength

Note: There will be no set evaluative weighting to each of these criteria. The jury members will use their best judgment in selecting winning proposals based on each participant's demonstrated ability to meet all of the above criteria.

Evaluation Format

The evaluation shall be done in 2 stages, in the following manner:
Stage 1: Closed jury of all valid entries, selection of top shortlisted entries
Stage 2: Open/Closed jury with the ten shortlisted teams. The jury may be online or in-person.
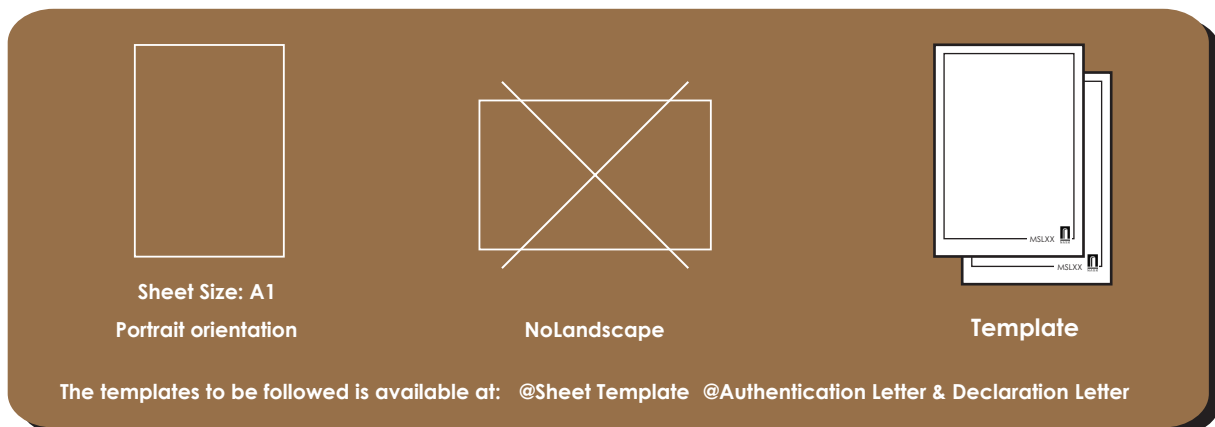
Checklist for submission

1. Online Submission of **Sheets** in form of PDF of not more than **25MB**
2. Online Submission Submission of **Design note** in PDF format of not more than **10MB**
3. Original Copy of **Authentication Letter** not more than 10MB
4. Original Copy of **Declaration Letter** not more than 10MB
5. Editable Format of the Sheets (Applicable if shortlisted)

Sheet & NASA India Logo Guidelines

Failing to comply with any of the guidelines may lead to disqualification at the discretion of the executive council.
- NASA India Internal Logo shall always be placed on the right-hand bottom corner of the sheet.
- NASA India logo should not be merged, overlapped etc. with any sort of text, graphic, image, etc.
- NASA India logo should be in true black with a perfectly white background.
- Sheet Template to be followed is available in the drive link - https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bpJNUb7cWb3kutBCzhdst0Zo0F0FMQmr?usp=sharing

Sheet Size: A1
Portrait orientation

NoLandscape

Template

The templates to be followed is available at: @Sheet Template @Authentication Letter & Declaration Letter

General Submission Guidelines

Failing to comply with any of the guidelines may lead to disqualification at the discretion of the executive council.

- All text should be in English.
- The projects should use the decimal metric system and contain a metric graphic scale in order to enable publication in reduced formats. The format of the sheets should clearly mention the name of the trophy followed by the year i.e., **"MOHAMMAD SHAHEER LANDSCAPE TROPHY 2025-2026"**
- The format of the sheet should contain a square box of 25mm*25mm at the bottom right-hand corner, next to the NASA INDIA logo which should have the unique registration number allotted to the participants after registrations.
- 10MM White margin is to be left on all sides of A1 sheets.
- The scale is left to the discretion of the participant(s) to the condition that the scale should be in metric system and all the drawings should be clear and legible.
- Manually rendered entry should be scanned at least in 300*300dpi (dots per Inch) resolution.
- **The soft copy (non-editable format) of the sheets along with authentication letter, declaration letter and any other required documents prescribed in the submission requirements should be uploaded on the website by the submission deadline.**
- The soft copy file of the sheets should not be corrupted or incomplete or in low resolution.
- It is mandatory to produce the original copy of the Authentication Letter for each entry(entry code should be mentioned if allotted) with the name of participant(s) and stating the unit will abide by whatever may be the final results and also agree that this entry is a property of both the institute and NASA India.
- **The Authentication Letter should be signed by the HOD/Principal/Director of the unit. Failing to which the entry will be strictly disqualified.**
- It is mandatory for the colleges to produce the original copy of the Declaration Letter for each entry(entry code should be mentioned if allotted) signed by the participants stating the work submitted is genuine and they have endorsed copy- rights for the same and to adhere by all the rules and regulations, jury process and the results.
- **Authetication & Declaration formats to be followed are available in the drive link** - https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mschiSd0GIM4gjzg5914bdkUi54ZzluS?usp=sharing
- The Prize Money Authenticating Letter signed by the Director/ Principal/HOD in the college letterhead specifying the account details (Account Name, Account Number, Bank Name, IFSC Code) in which the money is to be credited for each entry (entry code should be mentioned if allotted) shall be collected at a later stage.
- The working files in editable formats of the Shortlisted Entries should be submitted to the Council, failing which, the submission requirements would be deemed incomplete leading to the prize money being withheld.
- Shortlisted Entries with manual hand-done sheets should submit high quality scans (min. 300*300dpi) along with the content in a word document of the shortlisted entries should be submitted to the Council, failing which, the submission requirements would be deemed incomplete leading to the prize money being withheld.
- Any disclosure of a college's identity through any method or medium will result in disqualification.

Other Information

- **Maximum (4) participants Per Entry** for 68th Year MSL Trophy.
- **A participant can submit only one entry, whether as part of a group or individually** for 68th Year MSL Trophy.
- No limit to the number of entries per unit for the 68th Year MSL Trophy.
- Queries to be put forward through trophy page on the website (https://www.nasaindia.co/Trophy?groupid=2&trophyid=OHhZejEyMyFAIw==).
- **Registration should be done by the Participant in NASA India website before the registration deadline. One Participant can register one team & its members.**
- Registration of the trophies will be final and cannot be changed or withdrawn henceforth.
- Late Registration & submission will not be entertained, henceforth the defaulters shall be disqualified.

Important Dates

Release of Brief:
11th December 2025, Thursday

Queries Deadline:
25th December 2025, Thursday 1800 hrs IST

Registration Deadline:
31st December 2025, Wednesday 1800 hrs IST

Submission Deadline
20th January 2026, Tuesday 1800 hrs IST

Prize Money

Prize money of **1 Lakh INR/1,108.66 US Dollars** is allotted

The prize money will be divided according to the number of Citations and Special Mentions based on the jury.

National Association of Students of Architecture
Mohammad Shaheer Landscape Trophy 2025-26
Catalyse

ISOLA   CATALYSE   NASA

Moderator

ISOLA
(Indian Society of Landscape Architects)

The Indian Society of Landscape Architects (ISOLA), a professional body of Landscape Architects, was established in May, 2003. The Society has over 500 members from different states of the country and some from across the world. It has a presence across the country through 10 regional chapters. The Society is at the forefront in creating awareness about the fast-emerging profession of Landscape Architecture and promoting and enhancing the professional excellence among its members in India. It conducts a biennial conference, publishes conference proceedings, recognizes excellence of professional and student works through the ISOLA awards, collaborates through events, activities and initiatives with allied professionals on issues of national and local concerns and is working through its Education Board to strengthen professional education through recognition, mentorship and training programs.

The Indian Society of Landscape Architects (ISOLA) collaborates with the **National Association of Students of Architecture (NASA)** on the **MOHAMMAD SHAHEER LANDSCAPE TROPHY at NASA.** This brief has been set in keeping with our objectives of increasing the awareness of the profession of landscape architecture among the undergraduate students of Architecture. We hope to receive entries of a quality that do justice to the memories that we have of our mentor and guide Professor Mohammad Shaheer.

All the Best !
Don't forget to follow our social media handles!
Visit them by clicking the icons below

www.nasaindia.co