



UNTRAVERSED

## Introduction

*UNTRAVERSED...*

*Invocation of new, innovative, experimental, radical or unorthodox ideas that push boundaries beyond what is expected in all aspects...though this may seem unacceptable initially, it will ultimately redefine us creating a new identity for the future.*

*(Quoted from the 61<sup>st</sup> year NASA India Theme | 2018-19)*

## The Challenge

The world is fast losing one of its most valuable resources – LAND – to the harmful impacts of industrialization, consumerism, improper waste management, deforestation, mindless development and induced natural calamities. It is no longer an unforeseeable future where large tracts of this immense reserve of food, habitat and biodiversity are reduced to degraded, neglected wastelands. Now is the time to seek those UNTRAVERSED paths and seek solutions that not only stem the damage but also attempt to reverse it and convert these wastelands to valuable resources again.

Brownfields and wastelands – unused and abandoned sites – are scars on the landscape and often the legacy of our industrial past. The United States Environmental Protection Agency defines a BROWNFIELD as a property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

The non-technical definition of WASTELAND from the Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary is 'an empty area of land, especially in or near a city, which is not used to grow crops or built development or used in any other productive manner and/or a place, time or situation containing nothing positive or productive, or completely without a particular quality or activity'.

Landscape architects frequently work to transform such lands that contain industrial and toxic waste, infrastructure no longer in use, or land affected by war, natural disaster, landfills or disuse. These neglected places, while often having a negative impact on our environment and surrounding community, are simultaneously a part of our cultural heritage. In urban and peri-urban areas, under-utilised maidans, encroached railway lands, shrinking lake edges, left-over spaces under flyovers, quarries and closed mines, all contribute to the visual blight and cost the city dear in terms of its image and landscape structure.

The aim of this exercise is to highlight the significance of these spaces and the potential that they hold to become something more than a blight, to discover the hidden opportunities and meanings that are an inherent part of the site while also preserving their historic and cultural meaning.

## Brief

### From Wasteland to a Valuable Resource - A Landscape Approach

The design intent is to transform such marginalized places into healthy and meaningful environments for everyone to participate in and benefit from. The participants are required to:

- Identify a wasteland/brownfield/landfill/derelict site/urban wasteland for possible remediation. The size of the site is not defined, but site selection criteria should reflect a clear understanding of the brief.
- Study and analyse its potential in terms of its history, chronology, social-economic-cultural values
- Understand the reasons for its degradation and isolation from the context
- Recommend innovative landscape solutions for reintegration of the chosen site into the urban/rural/local/regional fabric. The students may refer to case studies of similar examples worldwide for a better understanding of the possible remedial measures

## Submission Requirements

- The entire project (including the analytical study and design idea) shall be presented in not more than TWO (2 nos.) A1 size sheets in the form of 2D and 3D graphics and necessary text and mounted on lightweight rigid panels. A presentation (powerpoint/pdf/any other audio visual format) of NOT more than 15 slides or running time of 5 minutes shall also be submitted in soft copy format. The same shall be used for presentation by the shortlisted teams in the second stage of the jury. The organizers or jury shall not be responsible if the submitted presentation is done in incompatible software.
- The format must be at the bottom of the sheets with the NASA logo at the right hand corner of the sheet in accordance with the NASA guidelines. The mode of presentation (plan, sections, views, sketches, photographs etc.) is left to the participants.
- All text should be in English. Choice of scale is up to the participants, provided everything is clearly legible.
- CD/USB drive containing identical data as that on the sheets in a non-editable format should also be submitted.
- The entry can be an individual project or a group entry with not more than four students in a group.

## Evaluation Criteria

- Degree of Understanding of the Brief: An innovative interpretation of the brief, a comprehensive understanding of the issues to be dealt with and an in-depth analysis of the same will form the basis of developing all further ideas.
- Quality of Ideas: Ability of the proponent to explore and to develop thoughtful, functional, practical, planning and design concepts consistent and supportive of creating a responsive open space.
- Quality of Communication: Ability to clearly communicate the proposed ideas in drawings, images and words.
- 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, declaration of ten shortlisted entries
- Stage 2: Open jury with audio/visual presentation by the ten shortlisted teams.

## Note from the Moderator

*The Indian Society of Landscape Architects (ISOLA) is extremely thankful to the National Association of Students of Architecture (NASA) for establishing the MOHAMMAD SHAHEER NASA LANDSCAPE TROPHY. 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 exacting standards of landscape design set by our mentor and guide Professor Mohammad Shaheer.*

## Prize Money

Prize money of 1 lakhs Rupees is allotted to the trophy and it will be divided according to the no. of Citations and Special Mentions.

## Other Information

- For registration, submission and queries, submit at [www.nasaindia.co/trophy/landscape](http://www.nasaindia.co/trophy/landscape) .
- Registrations and submissions should be done by the Unit Secretary in NASA India website before the deadline.
- Kindly print the form on the college letterhead along with the attestation by the college HoD/Principal/Director and upload the scanned copy of the same during registration.
- Late registrations and submissions will not be entertained and the defaulters will be disqualified.

**Any Kind of Queries need to be submitted through website to**

**Syed Khwaja Abid**

National Treasurer | 2018-19  
NASA India