

Low-cost house design competition

Design Brief

Introduction

This year Habitat for Humanity celebrates its 25 years in Nepal serving landless, low-income, vulnerable (ultra-poor, socially excluded, disaster-affected, or living in disaster-prone areas) and Dalit families. With a mission where everyone has a decent place to live, Habitat Nepal has served more than 70,000 families with safe and affordable housing solutions. With its central office in Kathmandu and two field offices in Eastern Region (in Province 1) and the Far western region (Sudur Paschim Province), Habitat Nepal currently works in over 10 districts throughout Nepal.

To mark this Silver Jubilee, Habitat Nepal is conducting a series of events showcasing its mission. Habitat Nepal is organizing a “**Low-cost house design competition**” for students of Architecture across the nation. This event provides a platform for students to demonstrate their design skills and innovative solutions for affordable housing to some of Nepal’s most disadvantaged.

Objective

The design competition aims to provide a platform for students to explore, learn, and present their ideas and concepts on low-cost and affordable house models for vulnerable families in Nepal.

Target Group

Community: Low-income/vulnerable groups

Geography: Terai/southern plains of Nepal

Design Requirements

- Land size to design the house will be provided after registration.
- Single storey with or without attic.
- Not more than three rooms or two rooms plus kitchen, including a Verandah and a toilet (can be separate from the house).
- Innovative and safe roof design (in terms of cost, materials, connection, and spacing).

Design Criteria

- The house cost should be low (not more than NPR 6 Lakhs excluding land cost).
- Prioritize local construction and design practices of Terai.
- Select local and environment-friendly materials (such as Bamboo, Adobe, Brick, different blocks, timber, and other natural local materials).
- Climate responsive designs (for hot, windy, and humid conditions of the Terai area).
- Safe in DRR perspective following a minimum guideline for flood, earthquake, wind, and fire.
- Incorporate innovation and sustainability aspects.
- Highlight inclusive design approach for differently able persons.

Participants eligibility

- Students of Bachelor’s in Architecture program (3rd year to 5th year student)

Participants and Submission

- Both individual and team submissions are accepted.
- A maximum number of 3 members per team is allowed.

Deliverables

1. One file containing an A3-sized layout in landscape format including the following:
 - Site plan and building plans at an appropriate scale
 - Minimum one cross section and elevation at an appropriate scale
 - Diagram/ Sketches highlighting the design ideas
 - Perspective views/ 3D renderings (not more than two views)
 - Number of sheets maximum: 3
2. Design statement or concept note of 500 words maximum.
3. Top 5 designs will be selected for presentation and further evaluation.

Schedule

Description	Time
Announcement for Registration Date:	2 nd September 2022, Friday
Registration Deadline :	21 st September 2022, Wednesday
Design submission offer:	26 th September 2022, Monday
Design Submission deadline:	15 th November 2022, Tuesday
Presentation by Top 5 designs	23 rd November 2022, Wednesday
Finalize top 3 designs	25 th November 2022, Friday
Award distribution event	2 nd December 2022, Friday

Evaluation

Evaluation will be conducted by Housing experts from Habitat for Humanity Nepal and its network in coordination with Society of Nepalese Architects. The evaluation criteria will be shared with participants after registration.

Prizes

Winner: Rs. 25,000 and certificate

First Runner up Rs. 15,000 and certificate

Second Runner up: Rs. 10,000 and certificate



All the participating candidates will be provided with a certificate of participation. Finalists and commendable designs will be displayed at Habitat for Humanity Nepal's 25-year celebration Gala Dinner. Finalists will be invited to the event.

Language

All the entries shall be in English.

Submission

All the designs should be submitted to email info@habiatnepal.org.

Note: Participants provide their full consent for using the submitted house design concept fully or partially for any Habitat Nepal purposes.