

AFRISAM-SAIA AWARD

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Calling All Visionaries: Entries open for 2015/2016 AfriSam-SAIA Award for Sustainable Architecture + Innovation

November 19th : Entries are now open for the 2015/2016 AfriSam-SAIA Award for Sustainable Architecture + Innovation. The bi-annual awards recognise contributions that bring sustainable innovation to human living environments through an integrated approach to communities, planning, design, architecture, building practice, natural systems and technology.

This year, two new award categories have been added, significantly expanding South Africa's most important built environment sustainability awards. The two mainstay categories of **Sustainable Architecture** and **Research in Sustainability** are now joined by **Sustainable Products and Technology** and **Sustainable Social Programmes**. This means that a full scope of visionaries working in the field of sustainable architecture, construction and innovation will now be recognised by the prestigious award presented bi-annually by AfriSam and the South African Institute of Architects (SAIA).



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“The role of architects and their project partners in ensuring South Africa plays its part in the global journey to sustainability is really emphasised by these awards. It is also a recognition of the fact that we are now in a new era that recognises that sustainable design has to be an integral part of the building industry from the very start of a project,” comments AfriSam’s CEO Stephan Olivier.

“The emphasis is no longer on just the architecture and building practice,” adds Kevin Bingham, Vice President of SAIA.

“It is now on the ongoing collaboration and innovation of these two key stakeholders working with communities, natural systems, technology and planning across all levels. This is the only way to bring sustainable innovation to the inhabitable environments.”

The broadening of the scope of the 2015/2016 AfriSam-SAIA Award for Sustainable Architecture + Innovation to four categories is step with important advances both in South Africa and globally.

Both SAIA and AfriSam support this global shift: SAIA through encouraging its members to incorporate sustainability in building design at an early stage and AfriSam by its commitment to sustaining the environment through responsible manufacturing processes.



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All four categories are geared towards the recognition of regenerative whole systems design. Project entries are required to demonstrate their positive impact through the embodiment of sound sustainable practices, carrying the hallmarks of great architectural or social design and demonstrating innovative thinking in the field of sustainability.

In particular, projects should:

- harmonise the use of resources with the conservation and strengthening of ecosystems (natural, social, human, financial, infrastructure).
- address the dignity of people through the creation of a socio-economic environment that is inclusionary, humane, self-sustaining, maximises the financial viability and impact, and acknowledges lifecycle cost efficiency during and post the implementation process and contributes towards and develop an ongoing regenerative future.
- enhance the architectural landscape and contextual urban environment.

To support this, four key criteria will be considered by the adjudicators - Harmonisation, People Upliftment, Evolutionary Paradigm and Placemaking Performance.



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The adjudicators for the awards are convener, Kevin Bingham along with Daniel Irurah (sustainable architecture academic), Llewellyn van Wyk (sustainable architect, CSIR), Sebasti Badenhorst (AfriSam representative), Eric Noir (Africa region director of the International Union of Architects' work programme, Architecture for a Sustainable Future) and Richard Stretton (architect and furniture designer).

Stretton's Koop Design is a previous AfriSam-SAIA Award winner for Sustainable Architecture (2010 and 2014) and also received a Merit Award in the 2014 competition. In 2014, Koop Design's Vukuzakhe - which examines urban development in the Municipality of eThekweni - won the category of works of social importance, including research. That same year, the Alexander Forbes Headquarters in Sandton, Johannesburg, designed by Paragon Architects and Paragon Interface, took top honours in the built work category.

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- Architectural projects, located in South Africa and completed and beneficially occupied by **24 March 2015** are eligible for entry in the AfriSam-SAIA Award for Sustainable Architecture + Innovation 2015/2016.
- Research, social programmes as well as technology and products of social importance that fall in an area under the description of sustainable architecture and design can also be entered.
- Only entries by SAIA members, and located in South Africa are eligible for submission in Category A: Architecture. This is because these entries require in loco inspection by the award adjudicators.
- Projects outside South Africa, which do not require in loco inspection, may be submitted in categories B: Research in sustainability, C: Sustainable product / technology and D: Sustainable social programmes.
- More than one project may be submitted. A separate entry must be completed for each separate submission.
- Work may be submitted by the author or nominated by any SAIA member with the author's, or other responsible person's permission.
- Eligibility and entry requirements are specific to each respective category. Entrants should please acquaint themselves with each category's specifications by going to <http://www.4tmrw.co.za/>
- Entry is free.

The prestigious bi-annual AfriSam-SAIA Award for Sustainable Architecture was first introduced in 2009 and recognises outstanding achievement in sustainable architecture as well as creating public awareness and debate on architectural issues.



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AfriSam is a leading producer of quality construction materials in southern Africa. The company has committed itself to protecting the environment through conscientious and responsible manufacturing processes and a responsible attitude towards the impact of its business operations on the community and the environment. As the sponsor of this award, AfriSam is proud to be associated with the South African Institute of Architects (SAIA) in recognising outstanding achievement in visionary thinking in the field of sustainable architecture.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECT

The South African Institute of Architects (SAIA) and the Regional Institutes are committed to maintaining the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and competence in architecture.

Any member of the Institute, as defined in the Constitution, is required to:

- Continually enhance their professional skills
- ensure that their work promotes sustainable development goals to the benefit of the South African community and the natural environment
- Improve the standards of health and safety for the protection and welfare of all members of society.

Members of the Institute, registered as professional architects, subscribe to a Code of Ethics with established principles which remain core to members as they conduct their business. To continually elevate the architectural profession and support members as they strive to attain the



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highest standards of workmanship, SAIA ensures its members are educated and trained appropriately. Thus, SAIA members are equipped to provide leadership and critical judgement, while also exercising their specialist knowledge, skills and aptitude for the betterment of design and development in the built environment.



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