

INSTITUT DU MONDE ARABE
DESIGN AWARD

RULES OF PARTICIPATION

FOREWORD

The Institut du monde arabe is a private foundation, a cultural centre and the result of a partnership between France and twenty-two Arab League countries. The **Institute** was designed to raise awareness of and promote Arab culture. It has today become a veritable “cultural bridge” between France and the Arab world.

The Institute wishes to recognise the work of designers from the Arab world by awarding an “INSTITUT DU MONDE ARABE DESIGN AWARD”, which is divided into four categories:

- Emerging Talent Award
- Arab Bank Switzerland Impact Award
- Grand Prix
- Contemporary Crafts Award

The aim of these prizes is to further the career development of designers and to celebrate a confirmed design personality who is originally from or resides in one of the twenty-two countries of the Arab League.

These prizes will be awarded under the conditions and in accordance with the terms defined herein.

Article 1. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The following are eligible for the “**Institut du monde arabe Design Award**”: all forms of expression associated with design, such as product and object design, furniture design, textile design, spatial design, design research and digital design, created by an artist or a designer, who is a natural or legal person, and who is originally from one of the Arab League countries: Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the Comoros and Yemen.

Other nationalities are authorised if the work presented is produced and developed in the geographical area of one of the Arab League countries.

Along the same lines, legal persons must be registered in one of the Arab League countries or the work presented must be produced and developed in the geographical area of one of the Arab League countries.

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A Prize cannot be awarded to an **Entrant** who has already received an “Institut du monde arabe Design Award” in the past, unless they are competing in a different category.

The designs that may be entered for a Prize in year N must have been produced between September 1st of year N-3 prior to the award of the Prize and May 20 of the year during which the Prize is awarded (N).

The Institute reserves the possibility of refusing any entry that is the subject of civil or criminal proceedings or that may infringe the rights of natural or legal persons, or that may be in breach of the laws and regulations in force.

The Institute reserves the possibility, depending on the projects received, of defining one or more additional categories and/or awarding one or more honourable mentions.

1.1 Emerging Talent Award

The “Emerging Talent” category award highlights a design project created by a designer or architect in the early stages of their career, with less than 10 years of professional experience, or by a student from a design or architecture school. Applications may involve collaborations with partners, artisans, or companies, and team submissions are welcome. Eligible projects include final-year works or those completed within the past three years. The award places particular emphasis on the conceptual approach, solutions addressing challenges specific to Arab countries, manufacturing processes, and industrial development potential.

1.2 Arab Bank Switzerland Impact Award

The “Arab Bank Switzerland Impact” category prize recognizes a design studio, architecture firm, business, or company in the design sector that is legally registered in its country. Applications may involve collaborations with partners, artisans, or other businesses. Eligible candidates must demonstrate the social, environmental, and economic impact of their projects, initiatives, production capabilities, and development efforts by creating measurable value.

- **Social Impact:** Initiatives in education and knowledge-sharing, preservation of cultural or natural territories, and protection of communities.
- **Environmental Impact:** Adoption of ecological solutions, promotion of local production, and use of low-carbon-emission materials.
- **Economic Impact:** Development of efficient processes, integration of new technologies, modernization of traditional practices, and job creation.

1.3. Grand Prix

The Grand Prize celebrates a design project created by an established designer or architect, with no age limitations. Applications may include collaborations with partners, artisans, or businesses, and team submissions are also welcome. Eligible candidates must have over ten years of professional experience in their field. The prize recognizes a tangible creation, whether a design object or an interior architectural project, that highlights the creator's talent and accomplishments developed throughout a recognized and well-established career.

1.4. Contemporary Craft Award

The Contemporary Craftsmanship Prize will honor the work of an artisan or company that, including through the use of technological innovations, is able to envision a new future, uncover potential developments, and bring innovative perspectives to the traditional craftsmanship of Arab countries. The Contemporary Craftsmanship Prize reflects the convergence of knowledge, pushing the boundaries of creativity while reaffirming the importance of craftsmanship, materials, and cultural history. Forward-looking, this craftsmanship reinterprets traditions to address contemporary challenges such as sustainability, personalization, and the promotion of local heritage.

Article 2. ENTRIES

The Institute will organise a call for entries with a view to awarding the Prizes mentioned above.

There is no charge for entries.

The design work submitted for the Prize must demonstrate its authenticity. **Entrants** will be fully responsible for the written documentation and, as applicable, for registering their projects.

Entrants must put together a presentation file that is written in French or English. There are no requirements as to form, but the file must obligatorily contain:

- the category of the "Institut du monde arabe Design Prize" for which it is submitted
- a date of creation and a name
- a presentation of the author(s) (CV)
- a statement of intent (context, stakeholders, key issues)
- a concept note (viewpoint, objectives, solution)
- a detailed description of the project undertaken
- a series of visuals, designs or renderings and photographs
- a project summary of a maximum of 5,000 characters
- a presentation of the partners, if necessary
- the signed Winner's Charter (see attached document) and these signed rules, signature of which constitutes acceptance

In addition, for companies:

- a registration certificate (legal document)
- a presentation of the entity's background

The file must be sent by May 20 of year N in digital format (PDF) to the following address: arabworlddesignaward@imarabe.org

If the file is too large, a zip format is recommended.

The **Institut du monde arabe** will forward the applications to the selection committee, which will examine them. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Article 3. SELECTION

The aim of the "Institut du monde arabe Design Award" is to reward **Entrant** per category, for a total of 4.

The Entrants chosen as finalists will be selected through a two-stage process:

3.1 Pre-selection

A pre-selection will be made by a selection committee designated by the **Institute**. It will be made up of experts in design and one representative of the **Institute**. The remit of the selection committee will be to propose five to ten Entrants per category to the jury (hereinafter the "Nominees") and will make this pre-selection on the basis of the names/projects identified by it, and/or received under the conditions described above.

The selection committee cannot put forward more than one work per **Entrant** in its final selection. **Entrants** whose design works are not included in the final selection will be informed by letter or by email.

The jury will meet each year in order to select a work from among those nominated. The Nominees will be informed of their pre-selection as well as of the jury's final decision by letter or by email.

3.2 Selection

The **Winners** will be chosen following a selection process undertaken by a jury appointed by the **Institute**. The jury appointed by the **Institute** will be made up of qualified individuals from the sector of professional design, cultural institutions and medias that are specialised in design or lifestyle.

The Jury's composition and decisions cannot be the subject of any appeals or claims, which all "**Arab World Design Award**" competition **Entrants** accept.

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The Jury's decisions will be made by a relative majority vote following deliberations. In the event of a tied vote, and provided that the President is present, the jury President will have the casting vote. Reasons for decisions may be given and their assessment of the entries in light of the criteria is entirely discretionary.

The Jury will award its prizes according to the criteria described in the call for entries. These selection criteria are based in particular on the quality of the proposal: openness and originality of approach, differentiating assets, relevance of the project, aesthetic dimension and plastic expression, ability to translate an original expression through respect for the environment, enhancement of local traditions, exploration of know-how, quality of production tools and economic perspective, services provided, quality of presentation.

The Jury may decide not to award a prize if it considers that the productions submitted do not justify it.

Article 4. PRIZES AND REWARDS

The **Winner** or the **Winning Group** in each Prize category will receive a lump-sum prize, the amount of which is determined at the latest on May 20 of year N and/or a prize in kind (in particular in the form of communication concerning their project), shared equitably between the members of the group, as necessary.

The Jury reserves the right to award one or more special mentions depending on the quality of the projects submitted.

The **Winners** will receive the 2025 "Institut du monde arabe Design Award". The Prizes will be presented at an event attended by the **Winners** in September, during the Paris Design Week. Wherever possible, we would like the prizewinners to be present at the awards ceremony.

Article 5. ASSIGNMENTS OF RIGHTS

By competing for the "Institut du monde arabe Design Award", the **Entrants** license to the **Institut du monde arabe** a non-exclusive right to the public display/performance of their project, free of charge, for the members of the jury and the personnel who are tasked with organisation the competition.

The pre-selected **Entrants** must give their agreement for their projects to be exhibited at the **Institute**, where necessary. This exhibition and any transfers thereof to other venues will be the subject of a specific contract.

Article 6. LIABILITY AND WARRANTY

Each **Entrant** undertakes:

- not to disclose the results before the official date on which the results are announced, during the evening event at which the Prizes will be presented.
- not to use the logo of the **Institute** and/or its partners or sponsors, if any, without the prior authorisation of the interested parties. Each **Winner** undertakes to comply with the "Winner's Charter".

The **Entrant** represents and warrants that they own all the rights to the design and its creation that enable them to license the aforementioned rights.

The **Entrant** warrants to the **Institute** that no additional authorisation from another holder or manager of rights to the **Designs** is necessary for the contemplated exploitation.

The **Entrant** undertakes to provide the information, legends, descriptions and any other elements needed to describe their design and their creation, which is the faithful and honest reflection thereof. In instances where said information, of any type whatsoever, is incorrect and/or defamatory, the Entrant's liability would be directly triggered.

Each **Winner** undertakes to include the reference "Winner of Institut du monde arabe Design Award" in accordance with the terms described in the "Winner's Charter".

Each **Winner** undertakes to participate in the communication surrounding the award of the Prize (making of videos, participation in interviews with journalists, etc.).

It is understood that the **Entrants** undertake to ensure compliance with the obligations provided for in this Article by all persons who may participate in or be associated with the **Project** or its implementation.

Article 7. RIGHT OF CANCELLATION

The **Institute** expressly reserves the option of deciding on the frequency of awarding the Prize, with no obligation to award one annually, and also reserves the option of cancelling, at any time and for any reason whatsoever, the award of the Prize under these rules, without it being possible to claim any indemnities in this regard.

Article 8. AMENDMENT OF THE ENTRY RULES

The **Institute** reserves the right to amend and/or update the entry Rules for the "Institut du monde arabe Design Award" competition, as well as the organisation thereof.

Article 9. FILING AND CONSULTATION OF THE RULES

These rules can be downloaded from the **Institute's** website at: www.imarabe.org

Article 10. PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

It is specified that the **Institute** may collect personal data concerning the **Entrant** and implement computerised processing of said data in order to comply with its tax, social security and administrative obligations.

This data will also be provided to the personnel who are tasked with organising the competition, as well as a member of the jury who may be located outside of the European Union.

Under the conditions defined by the French Data Protection Act of 6 January 1978 and by the European Regulation on the on the Protection of Personal Data that entered into force on 25 May 2018, the **Entrant** will benefit from a right of access to the data that concerns it, as a well as a right of rectification, consultation, restriction, portability and erasure. The **Entrant** may also, for legitimate reasons, object to the processing of said data.

The **Entrant** may exercise all the rights mentioned above by contacting the **Institute** at the following email address: vosdonnees-dpo@imarabe.org

Consequently, the **Parties** acknowledge that all of said **Data** requires compliance with the applicable regulations. The **Parties** undertake to implement all the procedures that are necessary to ensure the confidentiality and utmost security of said **Data**.

Article 11. APPLICABLE LAW AND CHOICE OF FORUM

All of the provisions of this **Agreement** are governed by French law, regardless of the place of performance hereof.

The **Parties** undertake to seek, in good faith, an amicable solution to all disagreements over the validity, construction or performance of these **Rules**; however, compliance with this obligation will not constitute a cause of inadmissibility of any and all legal actions.

In the event that the **Parties** are unable to reach an amicable agreement if a dispute arises over the validity, construction, performance or implementation of this **Agreement** or of its **Appendices**, the **Parties** agree to submit to the Paris courts of competent jurisdiction all disputes or litigation that may arise between them concerning the validity, construction or performance of this **Agreement**.

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I, the undersigned,

Surname :

First name :

Declare that I accept these rules with no reservations.

Executed in

On:

Signature

WINNERS' CHARTER FOR THE INSTITUT DU MONDE ARABE DESIGN AWARD

THE UNDERSIGNED HAS FAMILIARISED THEMSELVES WITH THE VALUES AND OBJECTIVES PROMOTED AND PURSUED BY THE INSTITUTE. THEY UNDERTAKE TO COMPLY WITH THE RECIPROCAL OBLIGATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE AWARD OF THE INSTITUT DU MONDE ARABE DESIGN AWARD, IN THE EVENT THAT THEY ARE SELECTED AS A WINNER

THE INSTITUT DU MONDE ARABE (IMA)

1. The **Institut du monde arabe** is a private foundation recognised as a public-interest organisation by a Decree of 14 October 1980 (by-laws updated by an order of 23 March 2010). It is the result of a partnership between France and twenty-two Arab nations: Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the Comoros and Yemen.

2. The **Institut du monde arabe** was designed to raise awareness of and promote Arab culture. It has today become a veritable “cultural and social bridge” between France and the Arab world.

3. Dialogue, diversity, aesthetics, outreach and conviviality are the values that are rooted at the heart of the **Institut du monde arabe**'s mission.

THE INSTITUT DU MONDE ARABE DESIGN AWARD

1. This Prize, which is awarded by the Institut du monde arabe, rewards Arab design works that are conceived by emerging talents, as well as by entrepreneurship.

2. This Prize is awarded by a prestigious jury and is much more than mere financial aid: it is recognition of the quality of the winner's work, and potentially a springboard for the next stage of the winner's career.

3. The winners form a dynamic cohesive community, which means that the winner and the **Institute** have rights and duties; some of these rights and duties are already stipulated in the rules of the “**Institut du monde arabe Design Award**” competition, which the winner undertakes to respect.

UNDERTAKINGS BY THE WINNERS AND THE INSTITUTE

1. The winners undertake to attend the ceremony during which the Prizes are presented.

2. In any reissue of their Design work, the winners undertake to display and mention in all advertisements concerning the prize-winning production, the words

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“Winner of the Institut du monde arabe Design Award”. If it is not possible to comply with this provision, the winner concerned must inform the **Institute** ahead of time. The **Parties** must consult with each other in order to find an acceptable solution to resolve this problem.

3. In order to enable the Institute to support the winner throughout their career, and also to enhance the sharing of experiences and the community spirit surrounding the **Institute**, the winner undertakes to provide the **Institute**, at their initiative and at least once a year, with professional information concerning them. They also undertake to answer any questionnaires that the **Institute** may send them. For its part, the **Institute** will endeavour to report on its website and, as applicable, on social media, on the winners' careers.

4. The **Institute** may propose that the winners associate themselves with the initiatives that the **Institute** supports, and the winners undertake to study these proposals. These initiatives are an opportunity for the winners to express, for the benefit of others, their talent and their creativity.

5. Support for the winners presupposes, under all circumstances, respect for the name of the **Institute** and the values that drive it.

6. The winners authorise the **Institute** to disseminate images, photographs and/or biographical information provided by the winners on its website and on social media.

I, the undersigned,

Undertake to comply with this Charter in the event that I become a winner.

[date]

[signature]

WINNERS' CHARTER

TO BE RETURNED DULY DATED, INITIALLED AND SIGNED