



LE:NOTRE
LANDSCAPE FORUM
EMILIA-ROMAGNA 2022
International Student Competition
Rimini - Dancing to the Future



The coastal landscape of Rimini, source: Wikimedia Commons

This International Student Competition is part of the 11th Landscape Forum of the LE:NOTRE Institute (to be held in April, 2022), hosted by the Italian Region Emilia Romagna in cooperation with its local partner institutions.

About the Landscape Forum

The LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum is a four-day discourse-oriented, interdisciplinary event. It focuses on local landscapes and the sustainability challenges they are facing, with the goal to gather, disseminate, and activate landscape knowledge that can help local constituencies face them. In accordance with the **European Landscape Convention**, our definition of landscapes includes outstanding as well as everyday or degraded landscapes in urban, peri-urban and rural environments, and calls for communities to have a say in their future.

The first landscape forum was held in Antalya, Turkey, in 2011. The event has been offered yearly since then, moving across various European locations. In 2015, we introduced a Student Competition in order to make the Landscape Forum more inclusive and relevant for the international student community. Since then, the outcomes of the student competition have greatly enhanced the quality and innovation potential of the discourse and visions that have emerged from the event.

The 11th LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum, Emilia Romagna

The 11th Landscape Forum will be hosted by the Region Emilia Romagna. Our focus will be on the nexus of climate change and sea-level rise, sustainable development, historic and ecological conservation, foodscapes and landscape infrastructure. Our case study will be the complex agglomeration of the Romagna coastline, a conurbation stretching from Riccione to the South to Ravenna, in the north. Within this challenging spatial and cultural context, this student competition will focus on the coastal landscape of Rimini and its direct hinterland as a case study for the implementation of new models of landscape planning and management.

Why Emilia Romagna?

The beautiful coastline of Emilia Romagna is one of Italy's greatest environmental assets, but also a microcosm of challenges, from landscape fragmentation to sea-level rise, heritage conservation, urban redevelopment, green infrastructure, urban sprawl, to densification, gentrification and landscape democracy, and processes of production and consumption. The landscape along the coast of Emilia Romagna offers us a window into the type of transformations required for maritime regions across Europe and the world to balance ecological, socio-cultural, economic, and environmental justice factors in the face of increased uncertainties.

Transdisciplinary landscape transformations for wicked problems

We welcome interdisciplinary student teams willing to explore collaborations that go beyond the traditional -and much welcome- collaboration between architects, planners, landscape architects and people/environment experts and communities to promote sustainable goals connected to public health, economic development, fine arts, historic preservation, communications, and many more. Addressing the wicked problems of our time requires extensive collaboration across paradigms, epistemologies, and knowledge, and a shared commitment to bridge the gap between academia and civil society to envision democratic landscape transformations across scales and geographies.

1. Competition Organizing Committee

- ECLAS and LE:NOTRE Institute: Ellen Fetzer & Deni Ruggeri
- Scientific partner: Beatrice Vaienti, Emilia Romagna Region
- Scientific partner: Laura Punzo, Emilia Romagna Region
- Local and international experts contributing to the context analysis

2. Competition Aims

The LE:NOTRE International Student Competition aims to support systemic, integrated and holistic approaches to landscape transformation through multidisciplinary student teams elaborating planning and design proposals for the coastal landscape or Rimini and its hinterland.

Broadly speaking, you will develop your proposals around the following aspects. Feel free to interpret these and to set your individual emphasis:

- Planning and designing of multi-systemic relationships for the coastal landscape;
- Sustainable visions for the urban fabric, open space, social and ecological systems;
- Improved landscape accessibility, including solutions integrating sustainable traffic management, transportation, soft-mobility, and eco-tourism;
- The strengthening of landscape ecological functions and ecosystem services to address climate adaptation and resilience;
- Development of new models of sustainable development focused on the reuse of architectural heritage and its integration of green and blue processes;
- Balancing the demands of tourism and recreation against the needs for local identity expression, preservation of cultural heritage, well-being and quality of life;
- Strategically advancing equity, diversity, inclusion and social justice through landscape democracy-oriented design and planning actions.

As a cross-cutting theme, all teams are asked to envision processes of landscape democratic, participatory decision-making, co-creation, and bottom-up, place-keeping management strategies across a short, medium, and long term timeframe



image source: KOMMA.PLAN/koiné GmbH

3. The competition area: The Coastal Landscape of Rimini and its hinterland



Competition area of Rimini, map source: GIS Emilia Romagna.

Why Rimini?

- A recent administrative center with a long history of autonomy and excellence
- A capital of the arts, from the Renaissance to Fellini and beyond
- A place of innovation
- A place of recreation
- Historical heritage
- Rapid urbanization of the 1960s that requires retrofitting
- A capital of bike accessibility
- A coastal city with a productive hinterland

Understanding the Coastal Landscape of Rimini

The city of Rimini (about 150,000 inhabitants) is the core of the so-called *Riviera Romagnola*, a conurbation of beach resorts that were among the most profitable during the second half of the twentieth century, and for a thriving entertainment, music and food culture. With the development of mass tourism after World War II, housing construction and industrial development has created a remarkable divide between the coast and Rimini's inner regions, where most of the productive functions are located. (Battilani and Fauri, 2009, in Rabbiosi and Massimo Giovanardi, 2017).

Land uptake speed has been very high: for the 500 m wide coastal belt of the Emilia Romagna region this was estimated at about 1,400 sqm/day over the period 1950-2000 (Romano and Zullo, 2014 in Morri, Pezzi, Saltonini, 2015).

After many decades of reliance on mass tourism at the seaside, nightlife, and facilities in support of the entertainment/leisure industry, since the 1990s local politicians and policymakers have looked into alternative economic development opportunities. These include business tourism oriented services and cultural heritage. The construction of new exhibition and congress centres in the first decade of the 2000s has coupled with pioneering efforts in the conservation and management of heritage sites. (Rabbiosi and Massimo Giovanardi, 2017).

Nowadays, Rimini is a case study of the land use competition for limited territorial resources along the coast. The coastal landscape of the Emilia Romagna region can be described as:

- ...a growing economic opportunity, driven by tourism, culture and increasingly by innovative/creative industries
- ...a unique biodiversity hotspot for marine avifauna
- ...a territory subject in its totality to the impacts of climate change, facing increasing droughts as well as sea-level rise and stormwater increase
- ...an accessible and inclusive recreation area for locals and tourists alike
- ...a place with a deep and multi-faceted history, identity, cultural layers and relevant heritage sites
- ...an everyday living environment for many citizens of the coastal communities, and especially Rimini
- ...a great landscape asset integrated into a complex urban system of coastal communities
- ...a landscape system threatened by fragmentation of responsibilities and requiring a system-wide governance framework.

Guiding questions for this part are:

- How is this current landscape performing?
- How has this landscape come to being, what forces, armatures, and processes have made it what it is today?
- Which of these elements are most visible or hidden from view?
- Which internal strengths and weaknesses, external threats and opportunities must future landscape transformations engage?
- Which values are at risk and why, and how would you ensure that Landscape Democracy principles are embraced in future changes?
- Which alternative future do you envision for Rimini as a city and as a region?
- How will these visions be communicated and implemented so that they can be embraced by local residents and visitors?
- What strategic actions are required for the long term implementation of your vision, success indicators, processes, and steps for gauging such success?

In the first part of this competition you will make a case for your approach/vision and support it with a comprehensive analysis of the landscape dimensions relevant to your vision (poster 1) and an overall landscape development concept (poster 2), illustrating how this vision will be operationalized and unfold, with a clear set of strategies over the short, medium and long term.

The representation scale is **1:10.0000**, to be presented in A0 landscape format.

Translation of your concept to the neighbourhood scale

Based on your analysis and overall landscape development concept (posters 1 + 2) you will translate your vision to the neighbourhood scale. You are free to define a transect/corridor of a maximum length of 1 km within the project area. While you are very free in selecting this place, you need to derive a clear argumentation from your analysis and strategy, so that the reason for selecting the area is plausible. The selection needs to be consistent with your overall strategy.

Present your 1 km long test design on your A0 landscape poster at scale **1:1000** in landscape format. You may change the orientation of the selected area to make sure that it fits on the poster. Please add explanatory sections, visualisations, sketches and graphics.

Translation to the individual scale

The third jump in scale will take you to an acupuncture/design spot of **a maximum length of 100 meters** within the 1 km transect you have selected for the previous poster. Within this area, you can translate your concept to the human scale: How are we going to live here? How will we work? Which social activities will we have? Which atmospheres and ambiances will surround us? Which landscape experiences are you envisioning? Which forms of coexistence and social interaction will be found?

Present your 100 m long design spot on another A0 landscape poster at scale 1:100. You should add explanatory sections, visualisations, sketches and graphics.

Additional representations

Please make sure that each poster shows the area in the scale that we require for each. This will be a formal selection criterion. There will always be flexible space remaining on your posters.

You are free to add any type of additional representations to your maps, for example:

- conceptual, artistic illustrations of your vision for this coastal landscape;
- Infographics that will communicate the structure and functioning of your landscape transformation, governance, or communication models;
- Design details, showing spatial transformations in coherence with your overall concept;
- Story-telling approaches for explaining experiences;
- Anything else you think is relevant for understanding your vision.

4. Participants

The competition is open to students of all landscape-related disciplines, in particular landscape architecture/planning, the arts, urban/regional planning, architecture, ecology, agro-ecology, real estate as well as related disciplines such as geography, agricultural sciences, dendrology, economics, environmental psychology, forestry, hydrology and water management, IT, archaeology, ecology, social anthropology, sociology or tourism.

Participants should be enrolled students at the bachelor, master or PhD levels.

Both individual and group submissions will be accepted. Each student or group is allowed only one entry. **The maximum group size is limited to eight contributors.** Interdisciplinary submissions are welcome

5. Site visits and accompanying lectures

The planning insecurity due to the COVID-19 situation makes it difficult to schedule an on-site visit for the entire competition audience. We therefore recommend you visit the site independently. We provide vast documentation so that you can develop an advanced knowledge of the area even without travelling.

An online lecture series will be offered from Mid-October – December 2021, weekly on Wednesdays at 18 pm CET. The lectures will introduce the coastal landscape of Rimini, its evolution and current challenges, the cultural heritage and current socio-economic, demographic and ecological trends and tendencies. An online feedback colloquium will be held on Wednesday, **December 1st, 2021**, at 18 pm CET. Registered participants will receive invitations to all online events and lectures. In addition, we plan to organize online brainstorming workshops in mixed teams. Details will be sent on time to registered participants.

Preliminary schedule of online lectures, always at 18 pm CET:

- 13.10.: Introduction to the goals of the competition, the landscape context and its main driving forces (with Deni Ruggeri, Ellen Fetzer and local experts)
- 20.10.: Natural driving forces: geomorphology, water, flora and fauna, climate, characteristics of the cultural landscape
- 27.10.: Rimini and its hinterland from a cultural heritage perspective
- 03.11.: Tourism and recreation: evolution and perspectives
- 10.11.: Online citizens workshop
- 17.11.: Power structures and governance
- 24.11.: Urban and peri-urban mobility
- 01.12.: Open Q&A Session

6. Awards

The LE:NOTRE Institute will award three prizes and select up to three submissions for being honorably mentioned. The award winners will get the opportunity to present their project at the LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum 2022 to a group of international professionals and local stakeholders.

7. Registration

The full set of background documents, plans and links is accessible after online registration. Registered participants will receive a neutral login ID. This ID will also be used for submitting the proposals in an anonymous way. You need to add this ID to all submitted posters.

Please register at the following link:

https://lnicollab.landscape-portal.org/goto.php?target=svy_2026&client_id=main

8. Submission requirements

Poster size and format

The submitted project must comprise four (4) A0 posters (84,1mm x 118,9 mm), all in landscape format + (1) A4 project description.

1. **Landscape Analysis:** Showing a base map at the scale 1:10 000 with your analysis plus analytical diagrams/sketches (unscaled, according to your own approach), A0 landscape format
2. **Landscape Development Concept:** at scale 1:10 000 with additional diagrams, analytical graphics, sketches or cross sections as necessary to illustrate the proposed concept, A0 landscape format
3. **Translation to an area of 1 km length:** The base scale is 1:1000 (presented on one A0, landscape format) plus additional details and visualisations.
4. **Translation to an area of 100 m length:** The base scale is 1:100 (presented on one A0, landscape format) plus additional details and visualisations.

The submission format is PDF. The submission is only online and includes:

- 4 PDF files - 1 for each of the A0 posters
- 1 PDF file with the Project Description (1 A4 text)
- 1 PDF file with the Declaration Form

Individual PDF files should not exceed 60 MB, minimum resolution is 200 DPI.

It is the responsibility of the participants to guarantee that the final images and files are in the size and resolution adequate to their reading. The entrants must ensure that all images, photographs and other material taken from other sources are correctly accredited. All files must be completed in English. Registered participants will receive further information concerning the electronic submission.

9. Submission ID

Each participant or participating team will receive a unique and anonymous ID upon registration. This ID needs to be put into the top left corner of each submitted poster (size and format of ID: Arial, font 72). The posters must be numbered to be seen in the right order during the selection.

10. Written information

Entrants must also submit a brief description (250 words maximum) in a separate PDF file, identified only by the anonymous ID (DO NOT include the names of the students or the name of the university). This description must be a clear and concise text explaining the key aspects shown in the concept design proposal. The text is to be left aligned (left unjustified) and double spaced, in Arial, font 12.

11. Anonymity and Protocol

All plans are supposed to bear the anonymous ID number given to each registered participant in the top left corner (Arial, font 12).

The following naming convention applies to all submitted files: Your ID_1.pdf, Your ID_2.pdf etc. An additional PDF file, with the complete declaration form must be included. This must be fully completed. The declaration form will be submitted separately from the project PDF files, and will only be consulted by the jury once the final deliberations are completed.

12. Competition rules

Participation in the competition implies acceptance of the competition rules.

- Proposals received after the deadline of January 31, 2022 will not be admitted.
- Presentations that do not include the author declaration form will not be admitted.
- Submissions shall only be accepted if submitted online in the way described above.
- A selection of the works submitted will be shown in an exhibition during the 11th LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum 2022 in Rimini and may be also exhibited elsewhere at the discretion of the Local Organising Committee.
- The Local Organising Committee retains the right of duplication or publication of any or all the material submitted to the competition, and there shall be no obligation whatsoever to the entrants, beyond acknowledging the authorship of the works exhibited or published.
- Submissions that have been published in any way prior to the notification of the jury final decision will not be considered.
- The jury shall preside over the competition and is the sole arbiter at all levels until the final awarding of prizes. All decisions of the jury are final.
- The winners of the prizes and honourable mentions shall be announced by the Chair of the 11th LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum 2022 in Emilia Romagna, upon recommendation of the jury.
- All inquiries must be directed to the Competition organising committee. Please read carefully through the brief and instructions, as all required information should be contained there.
- Participants will need to submit a declaration confirming that competition data and background information will only be used for the purpose of this student competition

13. Evaluation Criteria

The jury will evaluate your projects according to the following set of criteria. Please always check your project against these criteria during your work process:

Criteria	Details
The degree of connection of the proposed vision to the actual landscape context	The authors show that they have studied and analysed the characteristics of the Rimini landscape from multiple perspectives (ecological, social, economic: the three pillars of sustainability). They are aware of the specific spatial, ecological, social, cultural and economic factors. The analysis takes current trends, threats and challenges into account.
Methodological clarity and consistency	The step from analysis to visioning and concept development is clearly structured. Challenges, potentials and threats for the coastal urban landscape have been derived from the analysis in a logical and coherent way. Planning and design objectives have been defined on this basis and are clearly articulated in a landscape vision.
Conceptual expression and clarity	The concept is clearly linked to the objectives derived from the landscape analysis and evaluation. The concept responds to the local landscape context. The selection of the detailing area is consistent with the overall concept and vision.
Landscape Democracy	The team has envisioned processes of landscape democratic, participatory decision-making, co-creation, and bottom-up, place-keeping management strategies across a short, medium, and long term timeframe.
Innovation and creativity	The authors demonstrate that they have worked with the local landscape context and added a new dimension of reflection, design and visioning to the coastal landscape of Rimini.
Visual communication	The posters are well readable. The authors have managed to illustrate the complexity of the landscape and landscape-related processes in a way that is understandable for other disciplines and stakeholders from different sectors. The authors succeed in integrating process models and holistic visions that build on the specific character and topography of the place.

14. Competition language

All submissions must be entirely in English, which is the official language of the LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum. Local names and specific conditions of each country may be included in the local language. This is to ensure that all material can be understood by the jury, who conduct their reviews in English.

15. Jury members

The competition jury will be composed of local and international experts in the field of landscape architecture, spatial planning, urban design and infrastructure planning and regional development.

16. Schedule and key dates

- Official start of the working period: October 1, 2021
- Accompanying competition lecture series: October 13 - December 1, weekly on Wednesdays at 18 pm CET
- Registration deadline: January 15, 2022
- Submission deadline: January 31, 2022, at midnight CET
- Jury selection period: February 2022
- Award Ceremony in Rimini, Italy, in April 2022

17. Contact information

For more information about the 11th LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum Rimini 2022 and participation at the student competition, please visit the website:

<https://forum.ln-institute.org/international-student-competition-2021-2022>

Registration link:

https://lnicollab.landscape-portal.org/goto.php?target=svy_2026&client_id=main

Basic maps and background materials will be accessible after registration.

Any further project communication will be possible for registered participants via an online forum.

GOOD LUCK 😊!