

The Tunisian Association of Landscape Architects and Engineers (TALAE)

In Tunisia, the profession of landscape architect is supported and promoted by TALAE, which was created in 2013 (IFLA Category A Member 2014).

TALAE aspire to:

- *Protect the honor and the professional ethics
- *Advocate for the interest of its members
- *Promote landscape architectural participation in the fields of town and country planning, sustainable landscape development and promoting the value of cultural and patrimonial landscapes.

Landscape architects in Tunisia

The term landscape architect was recognized by the International Labor Office to indicate the profession attached to the landscaping of territories and to the creation of green spaces, still recent in Tunisia. Contrary to occupations that are closer to it, the landscape architect remains little known and not recognized.

The missions of the Tunisian landscape architect can be summed up in:

- General studies, planning and programming
- Site-specific studies and project management
- Consultancy and expert Missions



PALD of Thibar presentation par TALAE, April 2018

The association works on three big actions:

- Elaboration of a general practical development guide, intended for rural municipalities in Tunisia (82 newly created municipalities), which will be a decision making tool for the local elected officials.
- Academic and professional support program for students and fresh graduates in landscape architecture
- The organization of the upcoming next symposium of IFLA Africa on October 11th, 12th, 2019.

Landscape architecture education in Tunisia

The Agronomic Higher Institute of Chott-Mariem (Sousse University) delivers the first landscape degrees in Tunisia in 1997. The educational program was, at the beginning, introduced by a collaboration between the ENSP of Versailles and the ISA of Chott-Meriem.

Since then, ISA trains every year graduates in landscape architecture, landscape engineers and researchers. Since its creation in 1994, the landscape architecture section, trained about 200 engineers. The average passed from 7 graduates in 1997 to 20 graduates in 2018.



This Month IFLA-Africa News comes from



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Next Issue from New IFLA-Africa Members



Landscape Architects in El Feija National Park

<https://web.facebook.com/IFLA.Africa/>



Landscape project workshops in ISA Chott-Mariam



The Agronomic Higher Institute of Chott-Mariem (Sousse University)



L'aménagement de cet espace se fonde sur deux principes :

Favoriser le confort des travailleurs pour améliorer l'efficacité au travail et créer des lieux de rencontres.

Isoler l'espace de la zone industrielle et créer un cocon de repos



Graduation project : Urban Rest area (A. Fkih 2017)

NEW LANDSCAPE PROJECT IN TUNISIA

ANANTARA TOZEUR RESORT - TUNISIA
 An Innovating Tourist Project In The Southwest of Tunisia
 Advocating A Sustainable Approach For The Architecture & The Landscape Design.

Client: Qatari Diar Real Estate Company
 Principal Consultant: Agora Premium
 Landscape Consultant: Nizar Sayari
 Landscape Architect: Jean-francois Regis



3D Model of the Oasis



A physical Model of the Project.



The individual private villas

Anantara Tozeur Resort is a new luxury escape under development (opening early 2019) in the southwest of Tunisia, in the city of Tozeur, a hub of Tunisia's Saharan tourism known for its brick architecture and vast palm tree fields.

Taking inspiration from the oasis villages that surround, Anantara Tozeur Resort rises up out of the shimmering desert, a contemporary retreat of lush palm trees and meandering swimming pools. Located in the southwest of Tunisia on the edge of the formidable Sahara

The proposed landscaped design was exclusively inspired by natural, typical and identical landscapes, which made the fame of the region of Tozeur, with a methodology, which advocates sustainability. The design choice has took as departure the principle that sustainable landscape design is the best way to combine aesthetic and psychological advantages while tapping into the enormous ecological and functional potential of living systems.

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Sustainable Local Planning - Locality of Thibar (SLP Thibar)

A project led by the Tunisian Association of Landscape Architecture and Engineers aimed to highlight the pertinence of land management through a landscape architecture approach. It takes its roots from the definition of the landscape as "a common resource to which everyone has rights and responsibilities for culture, quality of life and individual and social wellbeing, and economic activity; that changes in the economy accelerate landscape transformation; and that cooperation in protection, management and planning of landscape is important for sustainable development". In an area where landscape architecture was perceived as an option related to aesthetics, this project represented a pilot approach since it is the first time that a land management project is conducted through a participatory approach involving local communities and other stakeholder upstream and through all the process to emphasize on the tight bond between people and their living space.

From this point of view SLP Thibar is a reconciliation between Thibar and sustainable development leading a rational organization of rural space for the valuation of the soil and the conservation of the environmental, landscaped, cultural and patrimonial heritage ensuring consequently a better community's life conditions and economic growth environment. This project has driven local communities as well as authorities at all levels to change the way they consider rural localities by highlighting, promoting and protecting the natural and cultural heritage through an appropriate spatial planning.

To proceed to the sustainable planning of the locality, TALAE started from establishing a participatory territorial diagnosis that involved different experts, Local civil society representatives, local community, authorities (at local, regional and national level).

This diagnosis included a social survey, focus groups and school children workshops conducted by landscape architects and engineers with help of sociologist to assess the perception that local communities have of their environment and their needs in matter of well being and wealth.



The participatory approach: Children workshop - elementary school of Thibar

It was a way to meet a common vision between all stakeholders and the expertise of landscape architects. One-week residency including planners, landscape architects, landscape architecture students and some representatives of local community was then conducted in Thibar to bring out the results of the territorial participatory diagnosis and to transpose the expectancies of stakeholders into sustainable economic projects and stand out a development plan.

As it was stated in April Edition, a best practices guide was established as part of SLP - Thibar to sum up the methodology undertaken by TALAE as an example of land management in rural areas of Tunisia where 82 rural localities have been enacted as municipalities lately and require planning documents. By this project TALAE aims to bring into light not only the competences of landscape architects in matter of land management and therefore contribute in resolving the landscape architects employment in Tunisia but also the necessity of establishing a Rural Code that respects the characteristics of rural localities.

It is an advocacy tool that will be used to push the government to think about the legal gap resulting in the absence of a code ruling the land management in rural areas. Indeed in Tunisia there is only an Urban Code which is dedicated exclusively to urban municipalities. Consequently and given this situation the 82 newly created municipalities will follow this latter code unless a Rural code is developed.

By Fatma Triki



Round Table with the regional and local actors and the concerned parties.



Land development plan of the Thibar Municipality



NEWS FROM Immediate Past IFLA Africa
 President, ADEJUMO Tunji Ph.D

LIFE AFTER IFLA AFRICA PRESIDENT

The Informal Research Cluster I belong to desires my opinion about the ripple effect of populism on a global scale. This is after nauseating slavery story aired by CNN on sub-Saharan African migrants in Libya; hardline immigration laws and incessant death in the Mediterranean Sea; exodus in crude oil rich Venezuela in South America; and xenophobic perspective of living in some African cities.

My long-term submission is that if you take care of your nation especially the youths, their lives will not be neutralized in a risky voyage. My short-term answer is that landscape architects can solve this global crisis locally through job creating productive landscapes that enhance food security; climate smart and drone assisted cooperative small-scale farming; and re-jigging design pedagogy in tertiary institutions to celebrate attachment conscious 'place making'. Attachment means commitment to the essences inherent in the place and unwillingness to migrate wrecklessly. The three issues have overwhelmed my thinking since I finished my term as IFLA Africa President in 2017. My first question is how do I drive these solutions in a nation where other built environment professionals are not afraid to stifle landscape architects? Secondly on which platform do I take up this idea, bearing in mind that the prevailing political landscape gives little attention to tomorrow? I settled with young Nigerian landscape architects in Lagos that appreciate volunteerism.

Iyaalaro River Productive Urban Landscapes

Iyaalaro River is a 22 kilometre natural corridor that drains northern metropolitan Lagos. This initiative was prompted and sponsored by a German NGO Heinrich Boll Stiftung, under its "Climate resilient cities". The long-term vision is to create a healthy river ecosystem with capacity to accommodate job creation, urban farming at conducive intervals and a recreation orientated off-road bike route. Stakeholders on this project include Lagos State Park and Recreation Agency and Lagos State Ministry of Agriculture as regulators; market women and youths in adjoining communities; and community development associations. My involvement is to assemble young landscape architects in the metropolis complemented by four of my students from University of Lagos. I opted for landscape architects with bachelor's degree background in agriculture, urban and regional planning, architecture and quantity surveying. This project is in its eighth month. The first stakeholders' focus group discussion took place six weeks ago. I am still watching from the sidelines to see how things will progress.



Heinrich Boll Stiftung, Stakeholders, Volunteer Landscape Architects after FGD



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World Events : <http://iflaonline.org/events/>

Cont...

ANANTARA TOZEUR RESORT - TUNISIA

The reconstruction of a small oasis, integrated into reconstituted dunes, constitutes the key element of the whole development with more than 600 Phoenix dactylifera, which form the spatial skeleton of the landscape design.

A wink, non-less important, was given to the ancestral know-how, in terms of agronomy and agrarian [Oases](#) practices, such as mentioned in the "treaty of agriculture" - Ibn al awam" in the XII century.

In a concern to propose a sustainable landscape, the choice settled on the exclusive use of endemic plants and plants that present the best adaptation to the specific dry climate in the region.



The cultural village gate 3D Model.

The choice of native plants has an immediate positive impact on the environment and embraces the regional cultural identity that has been so readily lost in conventional garden design. A desert plant nursery was, in this sense, implanted on the site of the project with the academic support of the Institute of the dry zones of Medenine. The objective was to Create a "regional style" landscapes that can foster a diversity of habitats for plants, animals, and human experiences. Not only are these "local" plants pre-adapted to grow without high inputs of energy, they also are part of the local food web and provide nectar for insects, shelter for birds, and food for wildlife.

This methodology was also adopted for the choice of the major part of the hardscape materials (Terra cotta bricks, pebbles, protection systems of dunes, Wooden fences...Etc.)

Modern Landscaping -

Entangled Landscapes - Chinese

<https://www.coursera.org/lecture/asian-environmental-humanities/modern-landscaping->

Ogun State Intensive cooperative small-scale farming

Opportunity for climate smart and drone assisted cooperative small-scale farming came through IFAD assisted Ogun State Eggua Rice Farm Estate. Four young landscape architects (Seun Gbogboade, Daniel Adesina, Ayo Fagbohun and Seyi Olatunde with background in agriculture, forestry and regional planning) demonstrated the capacity of landscape architects to trigger agriculture job creation for the restless youths and enhance high yields through drone assisted suitability studies, soil improvement and pest control. I am remotely watching.

Architecture of Place

When some urban interstitial spaces and the framing structures are conceptualised as 'places' then attachment is enhanced. When creative industrial uses are entrenched in such places then organized small scale enterprises will boost social, cultural and economic attachment. I am involved in the maiden edition of my Department's Architecture and Urbanism Conference. This edition is tagged Architecture of Place and is scheduled for November 15 and 16, 2018. Professor Kathryn Moore (immediate past IFLA President) linked me up with Professor Gareth Doherty (Harvard Graduate School of Design) who was in Nigeria for research works. Gareth kick started the program through a pre-conference lecture tagged People Centered Design on the 24th of August 2018.



Prof Gareth Doherty in Pre-Conference Lecture with Cross-section of Graduate Students

It is my belief that these three undertakings will lay the foundation for the acceptance of landscape architecture in Nigeria. Much more they may trigger socio-economic development that will reverse emigration of Nigerian youths to their grave yard in the Mediterranean Sea. When populism shuts the door, localism can give alternative meaning to life. But I am not in the corridor of power. I am just brooding.

ADEJUMO Tunji Ph.D

Immediate Past IFLA Africa
President.

TALAE will organize in 2019
the 6th African Symposium
**The Landscape, Landscape
Architects and Sustainable
cities**

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS QUOTES

*"Design creates culture.
Culture shapes values.
values determine the future."*

Robert L. Peters

*"There is an eternal Landscape,
a geography of the soul;
we search for
its outlines all our lives."*

Josephine Hart

*"Memory is the fourth dimension
to any Landscape"*

Janet Fitch

*"Time spent amongst trees
is never time wasted."*

Wisdom Quotes Community

*"I only went out for a walk and
finally concluded to stay out till
sundown, for going out,
I found,
was really going in."*

John Muir."

<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/landscape>
<https://www.wisdomquote.com/nature-quotes/>