

CIUDADES [en] VISIBLE
COMPETITION BRIEF

This is an English translation of the official competition brief booklet. We have elaborated this document in order to give non-Spanish speakers the opportunity to get involve in the competition.

The competition allows participants to submit their entries in English. However, the information kit that is given to participants after registration is written in Spanish.

It is responsibility of the non-Spanish speakers' teams to make sure they understand the competition rules and information kit.

We recommend those teams to contact us at concursos@mutuo.org.pe in case of any inquiry. We will be happy to help.

Any inquiries related to registration, registration fees, payments or money transfers should be addressed to registro@mutuo.org.pe throughout the registration period under the subject "registration".

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The main need of the human being is to be seen.
-Humberto Maturana

MUTUO is an integration platform, a space where architecture becomes an opportunity to get involved. To re-connect. In contexts where the demand for architecture is latent and urgent within the less favoured sectors, and where access to it has been reserved for a minority, we believe it is important to propose a space of commitment and participation in search of a more social, more inclusive and more democratic architecture. A platform that gathers proposals to help change the world and make VISIBLE those contexts that we often refuse to see.

1. INTRODUCTION

In Peru, about 70% of homes are self-built. This situation wouldn't be alarming if those houses were good enough to shelter a family with dignity. However, self-construction in Peru has become synonymous with poor quality.

80% of the national housing deficit (1.8 million) represents housing that exists, but do not meet the quality standards to be considered as such. Self-building families build their homes with erratic and inefficient efforts, informal habits and without adequate technical advice. This process makes families vulnerable and exposed to high levels of disaster risk.

Millions of families could improve the quality of their homes if they had access to professional service. Unfortunately, the cost of a professional exceeds their economic possibilities. As a result, more than 7 million people in Peru live in alarming conditions.

2. COMPETITION OBJECTIVE

The main objective of this contest is to take advantage of the talent and enthusiasm of our professionals and direct their efforts towards a better housing in Peru. We seek to convene proposals that are committed to the welfare and progress of low-income families, which respond to the urgent need to develop decent, liveable and safe housing.

This contest aims to provide the community of young professionals with the space and the opportunity to design for vulnerable environments, with the possibility of winning an economic prize and seeing their project built soon.

We expect the competitors to get involved with the problem, approaching concepts related to the self-build practice, adequate housing, access to funding opportunities, and the incorporation of the 2030 Agenda (*) for sustainable development in our communities.

Once the winners have been selected, the winning proposal (first place) will be developed by MUTUO's project development platform in order to take the design to a detailed level. Winners won't lose the intellectual property of their proposals (see terms and conditions). After this phase, the participating families will receive a complete and adequate architectural project that will allow them to apply for financing options such as the *Mi Construcción* loan (*). *Mi Construcción* is a loan from the *Mi Vivienda* fund of the Ministry of Housing whose first requirement is the presentation of an architectural project designed and approved by a professional.

CIUDADES [en] VISIBLE is not only an invitation to architectural design, but also to re-think and question our professional commitment to the development of vulnerable environments and the creation of more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities. Competitors must sensitively respond to the characteristics and requirements of the beneficiary community, as well as the essential aspects of design and habitability of space.

We believe that this is an opportunity to identify and articulate an action network that encourages an active and sustained discussion on the problem between stakeholders, in the search of a real and committed impact.

We aim to...

- **Stimulate**_ social commitment in our professionals
- **Encourage**_ reflection on the problem and on the importance of keeping the issue on the agenda.
- **Connect**_ two audiences that coexist but at times do not recognize each other: low-income families and the professional community.
- **Articulate**_ a virtuous circle of action between civil society, the professional community, the State and the private sector.
- **Build**_ new alternatives for citizen participation and collaboration that contribute create a resilient community.
- **Share**_ financing opportunities for definitive housing offered by the State.
- **Motivate**_ teamwork and the collective and interdisciplinary participation of professionals from the construction disciplines.
- **Explore**_ design principles related to housing. Acknowledge and highlight the unique aspects of design that can raise the quality of life of low-income families.
- **Align**_ our intentions to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), mainly Goal 11 for Sustainable Cities and Communities.

***Recommended reading:** Housing by People, John Turner.

3. CHARACTER OF THE PROJECTS

The competition asks participants to develop the design of 5 houses, corresponding to 5 different families in the community "3 de Diciembre" in Lurin, Lima - Peru.

Participants will design the 5 houses in total within real lots, property of each of the participating families. Proposals will be developed at an architectural preliminary design level (no detailed architectural and engineering drawings required) based on the design criteria and submission requirements written in this document. The projects must demonstrate an understanding of the needs of the families, which will be described in an information kit that will be delivered to participants once their registration in the competition has been confirmed.

The general emphasis of the proposals will be on achieving a significant contribution to the quality of life of the families and their community. Although each house should be designed under its own individual premises, they must all show a collective relationship, as part of the same architectural approach.

This is an opportunity for the community of architects and engineers to explore and challenge the regular conditions of dwelling and to stimulate the transformation of vulnerable communities, strengthening their physical and social conditions and setting a tone for new housing approaches.

We encourage teams to create a new narrative for affordable housing, re-imagining the way we plan, design and build them.

4. THE SITE

"3 de Diciembre" is a Human Settlement located south of the city of Lima, in the District of Lurin. It was founded on December 3, 1999 by about 100 families who came from different places around Lima and Peru.

Throughout 18 years they have gone through different processes in the search of formalization and recognition. Initially they were informal owners and for more than 10 years they went through a legal process with "Las Viñas" Human Settlement, whose residents accused them of usurpation. Fortunately, in 2012 the Court ruled in their favour.

Also, initially their name was "Villa Alejandro Ampliación". That name recognized them as the extension of another human settlement but in 2007 they were able to register the community as an independent neighbourhood. They changed their name to "A.A H.H (Human Settlement) 3 de Diciembre" in honour of its founding date.

Across the years several families decided to leave the place due to the difficulties. In the end, only 68 families decided to stay and continue their fight to become an official community. In 2016 all of them achieved the formalization of their lots, this means they now have property titles that support them to keep improving. In addition, a year ago they celebrated the arrival of electricity and natural gas, however there is still no water and sewage, and their roads are still not asphalted.

Although they know there is still a lot to attain, all these families are an example of strength and determination, like so many others across the country, who seek to give their children a better place to live.

THE FAMILIES

Five families from the community 3 de Diciembre with different characteristics and aspirations stand in the centre of this competition. Once the registration of a team is complete, the team representative will receive a confirmation e-mail with a link to the competition Information kit. The Information kit will comprise the families' description, architectural programme and special requirements along with all the graphic and CAD material required to develop the proposals.

- Participants commit to keep confidential all information pertaining to the families and to not attempt to contact them personally or upset their tranquility. Non-compliance to these rules may result in disqualification.

5. ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to all architects, civil engineers, architecture or engineering offices and architecture or civil engineering students from Peru or any country in the world. International payment methods will be made available to receive application fees from abroad. All interested parties may register in teams of up to 5 members.

Entries must meet standards of spatial quality and structural security, reflecting the professional formation of the participating teams. We recommend the application of students coursing their 3rd year and up. We encourage the mixed participation between architecture and civil engineering students and professionals. Teams may submit multiple proposals, but each submission must be registered and paid for separately, as each proposal will be assigned an independent registration number.

Under no circumstances will jury panel members or employees, associates or relatives be allowed to participate in this competition. Similarly, employees of MUTUO S.A.C., or any architects currently in contract with MUTUO within the application period are ineligible. Non-compliance to any of these rules will result in disqualification.

COLLECTIVE REGISTRATION FOR STUDENT TEAMS

MUTUO would like to hear from Universities, Schools & Colleges offering architecture / civil engineering studies that would like their students to take part in the competition. Contact us to receive special student rates for multiple registrations (discount applies for 3+ registrations from one university) as well as further information to keep your students involved in competitions like this.

Send us a request to registro@mutuo.org.pe from your university email address along with basic information about yourself and your university/school under the subject "collective registration".

Please note that only recognized university staff can apply for the reduced student rate. We encourage the registration of interdisciplinary teams (architecture/civil engineering) from the same university.

6. DESIGN PRINCIPLES

It is left to the participants' discretion to make choices regarding land occupation and the architectural planning's distribution, with regard for the needs described by the family and within the terms described in this competition brief and information kit.

We recommend considering the following criteria:

Human

- Contributing to the physical and emotional well-being of participating families by promoting comfort and a sense of belonging to the inhabited space, as well as ensuring the satisfaction of the stated needs.

Social

- Contributing to the community spirit by designing projects as an investment towards the community as a whole that may add value to its surroundings as well as further the development and empowerment of its members.

Structural

- Though no engineering calculations must be submitted, participants must suggest an architectural and structural design to act as the basis or foundation of the project's final structural criteria. This means the structure must be clearly represented both in the floor plans and sections to warrant a seismic-resistant design that ensures the safety of its inhabitants.

Economical

- The design must guarantee the efficient use of families' individual financial resources. In some cases, this may include outlining and distinguishing the various construction stages for the progressive construction of the house.

Constructive

- The feasibility to construct each of the houses should be estimated at a maximum of 6 months, assuming all paperwork is performed in a timely manner. Understanding of the materials, costs and local constructive power.

Material

- While there are no restrictions regarding the materials to be employed, proposals must consider the formal, functional, financial, social and environmental consistency of the project, as well as local labour. An efficient and responsible selection of materials and finishes must be demonstrated.

Environmental

- Consider the site's climate conditions. Proposals must be as efficient as possible regarding habitability (placing special emphasis on illumination and natural ventilation). Solutions involving passive approaches and technology are allowed, as long as they are deemed adequate.

*** The incorporation of new strategies and contributions to the design criteria will always be welcome.**

... During the design process, let's ask ourselves: What are we trying to achieve? What do we want to improve? How can we improve it? How can we take advantage of the resources? Do we add value to families? Do we add value to the community? Do we consider their needs and improve their quality of life? Are we planning adequate, healthy and safe housing?

7. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS & GUIDELINES

The following requirements must be sent to concursos@mutuo.org.pe via WETRANSFER contained in a single .rar or .zip file. The file must be named after the team's registration number (e.g. EV0000). Teams must refrain from sending the files by e-mail as attachments, as these could be blocked by our server.

In WETRANSFER, please fill the “message” box with your registration number.

The team representative will receive a confirmation email within 24 hours of submitting your entry. Please check your spam folder.

Main Requirements

- Three (3) presentation panels (any orientation), sized A2 (16.53 x 23.39 inches) with all the necessary graphic and written information to adequately describe the proposal. Maximum file size **4MB**. File extensions **.jpg/.jpeg RGB**.
 - **File name: registration number + panel number (Example: EV0000_1.jpg, EV0000:2.jpg, EV0000_3.jpg)**. Each panel must show its name in the top right hand corner.
- A descriptive memory of the project between 300 and 600 words describing the proposal's intentions, in .doc or .docx format, minimum font size 10pt.
The text can also be partially or completely included in the panels.
 - **File name: registration number + memory (E.g. EV0000_memory.doc)**.
- A .doc or .docx document containing the list of team members, the office name (where applicable), along with the members' occupation, nationality and e-mail address, as well as indicating the team representative. (Team member who made the competition registration)
 - **File name: registration number + team (E.g. EV0000_team.doc)**.

Complementary Requirements

Participants must submit a digital .pdf document of a maximum 15 pages, sized A3 (11.7 x 16.5) landscape orientated. **It must not exceed 10MB in size. File name: registration number (E.g. EV0000.pdf)**. This file will complement the panels by providing more comprehensive information on the proposal. This will aid the jury in their evaluation. The document will contain the following:

- Site plan with the houses' location and the proposal for the urban corridor of the community's public spaces (scale determined by the competitors)
- Floorplans by level of all houses 1: 100 (furnished)
- Longitudinal sections 1: 100 (minimum 1 per house)
- Cross sections 1: 100 (minimum 1 per house)
- Elevations 1: 100 (minimum 1 per house)
- A minimum of 5 images (one per house), views, sketches, isometries, photo montages, perspectives by hand, etc. (technique at the discretion of the teams) that help illustrate the atmosphere of the proposal

Optional:

- A minimum of 1 image of the urban corridor of public spaces that helps illustrate the atmosphere of the urban proposal.
- Any additional plan, diagram or graph that helps explain the proposal

Note: both the main requirements and complementary requirements are mandatory. The 3 panels may repeat information contained in the complementary document. The complementary document is a simple file encompassing the comprehensive development of the proposal.

- It is important to take into consideration that the panels and PDF document must be of a high enough resolution that these may be printed out in sizes A2 (16.5 x 23.4) and A3, correspondingly, during the jury's evaluation process. The font size should not be smaller than 10pt.

Once the competition is finalized, we will request the following:

- From the three winning teams and honourable mentions:

- A version of the 3 submitted panels in 300 dpi and CMYK. This material will be employed in potential printed publications.

- From the FIRST PRIZE winner:

- The CAD files for the submitted floor plans, sections and elevations, all adequately organized in sheets. This will be the basis for the final development of the housing project.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- The presentation language for the contest can be Spanish or English.
- **The presentation technique for the 3 panels is open** and left to the participant's discretion. However, it is recommended that the images presented include all the necessary information to convey the global intention and quality of the design, including: floorplans, sections, elevations, 3D, sketches or perspectives, photo montages, annotations, etc.
- The proposals must clearly document the projected design, as well as the project's approach. Information regarding the organization, materials, location treatment and design must be included when considered relevant.
- The total built area for the houses must be included in the presented information.
- Entries may not include any visual or written reference to the authors.
- No additional documentation besides the already mentioned may be submitted.
- Submissions that exceed the deadline will be automatically disqualified.
- Once the proposal submission period is over, MUTUO will publish a list including the registration number of all received proposals on its website. It is the participants' responsibility to verify that their registration number is listed.

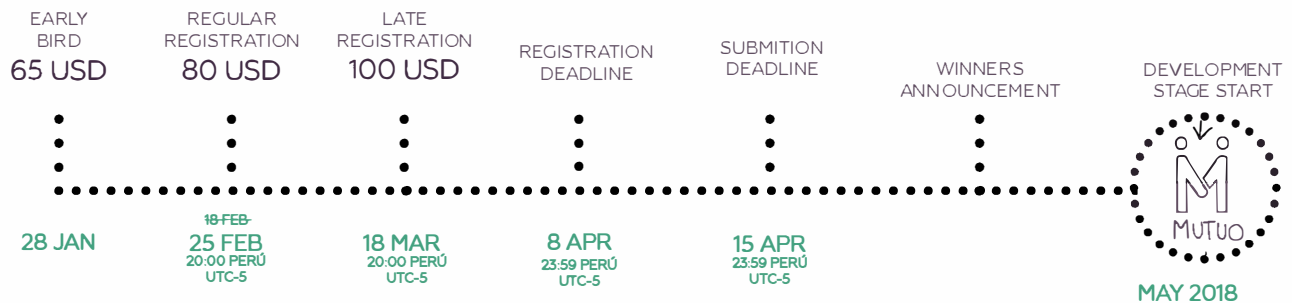
8. PRIZES

1ST PLACE \$ 2,500 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSAL INTO A FINAL PROJECT THAT WILL BE GIVEN TO THE FAMILIES.• AWARDS CEREMONY IN GALLERY• WINNERS' SPECIAL FEATURE IN ARCHDAILY	2ND PLACE \$ 1000 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AWARDS CEREMONY IN GALLERY• WINNERS' SPECIAL FEATURE IN ARCHDAILY	3RD PLACE \$ 500 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AWARDS CEREMONY IN GALLERY• WINNERS' SPECIAL FEATURE IN ARCHDAILY	5 MENCIONES HONROSAS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AWARDS CEREMONY IN GALLERY• WINNERS' SPECIAL FEATURE IN ARCHDAILY
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MUTUO will also acknowledge the outstanding performance of all winners and honourable mentions with Certificates of Achievement.

The prizes will be paid to the bank account provided by the team representative once the competition is finalized. Prizes will be disbursed within 15 days of the competition verdict.

9. SCHEDULE & REGISTRATION FEES



- **With your registration you are making the project development stage possible.**

Payments may be issued in two ways: You can select the bank transfer option included in the registration page. In order to confirm your registration, you will need to send an e-mail to registro@mutuo.org.pe with proof of the transaction. Alternatively, you can use one of the payment gateways enabled in our platform. You will only need to enter your debit or credit card information to confirm the purchase, after which you will receive a payment confirmation e-mail. If you live outside of Peru, we advise that you use the payment gateways, as these can take payments globally.

Upon successfully completing the payment, the team representative will receive a unique registration number within 24 hours. The e-mail will be sent to the e-mail used to make the registration. Please check your spam folder.

Registrations shall be made by a team representative. A team info document containing the name of all participants will be submitted later with the proposals.

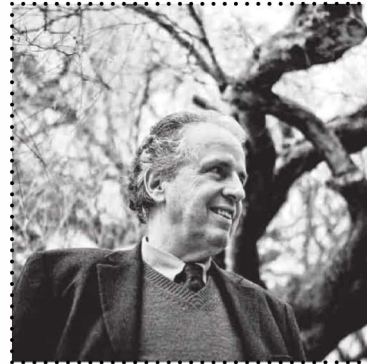
10. JURY



AI Borda
ARQUITECTS
Colaborative Architecture Studio - Ecuador



Mariana Castro de la Borda
Director & co-founder
FANCYSTUDIOLIMA



Miguel Cruchaga Belaúnde
Dean of the UPC Architecture School



Manuel de Rivero
Dean of UCAL Architecture School



José García Calderón
Architect and Urbanist
URBES



Marta Maccaglia
Director & co-founder
SEMILLAS

11. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation of proposals will be centred on their quality, studied from the specific theme and objectives of the competition. Proposals must provide enough detail to clearly convey all the aspects encompassed in their proposed solution (design, habitability, construction, planning, community, and environment) and highlight its strengths.

The project's intentions must be clearly and comprehensively demonstrated in **form, function, structure and detail**.

- Spatial and architectural quality of the overall proposal.
- Formal and aesthetic quality of the design.
- Functionality: Compliance and contributions to the families' programme.
- Construction feasibility: structural coherence and correct use of materials.

Successful projects will solve the design criteria and demonstrate solutions at:

Individual level

- Understanding of the needs of the families.
- Acknowledgement of the value of housing as a family's place to live. How the project generates a quality life experience in the users.
- Knowledge and understanding of financing opportunities and constraints for the successful use of resources.

Collective level

- Clarity and coherence of the general concept, of the relationship between each individual house and the 5 of them as a whole.
- Coherence regarding the specific conditions of the place. How your solution responds to the opportunities and limitations imposed by the site.
- Relationship between each house with its immediate context and the community in general. How the solution integrates into the neighbourhood and the community.

12. TERMS & CONDITIONS

General conditions

CIUDADES [en] VISIBLE is an open, international, anonymous and single phase architecture competition, evaluated by a jury. CIUDADES [en] VISIBLE is a socially-oriented competition that seeks to convene housing design proposals for families with limited resources. Once the competition is finished, the winning proposal (first place) will form the basis for the development of a final architectural project, in charge of MUTUO's project development team, that will be given to the families.

This competition is subject to the terms of this document. By registering, all participants declare that they unconditionally accept all the rules, terms and conditions of the competition.

MUTUO reserves the right to modify the competition brief and schedule without prior notice. Any change will be made in order to improve the development of the competition. If deemed necessary, changes will be justified and reported to participants.

About the participants

1. The competition is open to all architects, civil engineers and interested students of architecture and civil engineering from all over Peru and anywhere in the world.
2. Participants must be 18 of age or older.
3. Ineligible entrants include any Jury members, direct employees, associates or relatives. Also, any staff or directives of MUTUO S.A.C or any professional with some type of contractual relationship with MUTUO during the competition. Any infringement of these rules will lead to disqualification.

About the registration

1. Registration fees are NOT tax deductible.
2. Registration fees are NOT refundable or transferable.
3. Once the registration has been made, registration fees will not be refunded.
4. In case of paying for registration through bank transfer: the issuing bank's fees or bank transfer costs are not included in the registration fees. Participants will have to assume these costs.

About the submissions

1. The official language of the competition is Spanish, but entries can be submitted in either Spanish or English.
2. Teams may submit as many proposals as they want, but each submission must be registered and paid for separately, as each proposal will be assigned an independent registration number.
3. All submissions delivered after deadline will not be accepted.
4. The organizers are not responsible for lost or misdirected submissions. Once the submission deadline is over, MUTUO will publish a list with the registration numbers of all submitted proposals. It is the teams' responsibility to verify that their registration number is listed.
5. The jury might declare the competition deserted if none of the submitted proposals meets the requirements and expected standards
6. The registration number will be the only means of identification of the proposals.
7. MUTUO will classify the proposals by their registration numbers. The files containing the personal information are confidential and will not be revealed until the final winners have been selected.
8. All submission must strictly respect anonymity and not contain any names, symbols, logos or any other types of signs permitting the jury to recognize the identity of the participants.
9. Teams that do not comply with the anonymity rules will be disqualified.
10. Participants may not release any images of their submissions until after the official awards announcement. This includes professional publications, media, blogs and / or social networks.

About the winning proposals

1. The jury is the only one authorized and responsible for selecting the winning proposals and honourable mentions.
2. The decision of the jury shall be final and binding on all parties, and no disputes shall be entertained.
3. By entering the competition, all participants accept the jury's final decision.
4. Upon registering for this competition, all participants agree to waive any and all claims against MUTUO and the members of the jury.

5. Participants who try to contact and / or press any member of the jury will be automatically disqualified from the competition.
6. The decisions and opinions of the jurors represent their professional points of view, not the opinion of the organizers.
7. If once the final winners have been selected and the personal information of their teams have been revealed, their members are not eligible for the prize, the prize will be awarded to the next highest ranking proposal among the remaining entries.
8. The prizes will be paid to the bank account provided by the team representative once the competition is finalized.
9. Award winners are responsible for all taxes and fees associated with prize receipt and/or use.
10. Winners may be notified in advance of the official announcement date. Winners may not make an announcement about winning in advance of the official announcement date from MUTUO.

About intellectual property

1. By submitting an entry, competitors warrant that they jointly designed, created and own all the submitted material or have permission to use copyrighted components.
2. It is the sole responsibility of the participant to ensure that the work submitted does not infringe upon the intellectual property rights of any third party.
3. Proposals that infringe copyright and intellectual property rights will be disqualified.
4. Competitors retain standard ownership of their work.
5. By entering into the competition, participants transfer to MUTUO unlimited use, without prior consent, of all entries for promotional or institutional purposes without further compensation.

6. MUTUO shall have the right to release any of the submitted materials to the media for public relations and will credit the competitors responsible for authoring the work.

About the subsequent development of the winning proposal

1. By entering the competition, the first place winners agree to authorize the MUTUO's project development team to make modifications, at their own discretion, of their preliminary projects to develop the proposals into a detailed level. This way, the final projects will be given to the beneficiary families for their future construction purposes in order to help improve their quality of life.
2. No major modifications should be made to the original work. In case a major modification is deemed necessary, MUTUO will contact the authors in order to reach a consensus about the changes. MUTUO agrees to keep the authors informed about the development of the project.
3. By retaining standard ownership, winners will always be accredited as authors. MUTUO's contribution to the project will be acknowledged as the project development team and the competition organizer. All credits shall be displayed this way. The same recognition is expected of the authors in their own publications/publications obtained by them.
4. The winning team will have the possibility to participate in the project development team, as long as they comply with the schedule and methodology pre-established by MUTUO and the families.
5. The terms of development of the final projects will be exposed to the winners once the competition has finished.