In 2016, Construction21’s Green Building Solutions Awards expand to the United States

For its first time at MIPIM, Construction21 held a conference on « Accelerating the dissemination of innovation through social media », with its partners Meka Brunel, President of Ivanhoé Cambridge Europe and France GBC, along with Roy den Hoed, President of Green Planet Architects.

During the conference, the Construction21 team gave some insights on the 2016 edition of its international competition on sustainable buildings and cities, to be launched on May 10th.

An international competition for climate solutions, linked to the COP22

In 2015, the Green Building Solutions Awards highlighted 113 exemplary buildings from 12 countries. The 8 winning buildings, announced during the COP21, with the Ministers of Environment from Morocco and Luxembourg, Hakima El Haité and Carole Dieschbourg, already inspired thousands of professionals around the world.

The 2016 edition, of course connected to the COP22, will practically illustrate what solutions can contribute to maintaining global warming under 2°C. The awards ceremony will reward the 2016 winners in Marrakech on November 15th, during the COP22, with Cluster EMC, the Construction21 Morocco as the organizer.

From Algeria to the USA: expanding the horizon

New in 2016: the competition will be open to American professionals! A partnership agreement was signed with the Net Zero Energy Coalition. The Coalition will organize the Green Building Solutions Awards in the USA, mobilizing American professionals and forming a jury of experts to determine their national winners. These national winners will then participate to the international finals designating the final winners. Discussions are on going with other partners, especially in Canada and South America.

2016 will also be the year of Algeria, whose Construction21 platform was launched at the end 2015. Construction21 Algeria will present this year its first exemplary buildings designed by Algerian professionals. Innovative solutions in summer comfort are expected and will certainly interest professionals from regions facing the same kind of challenges.

A second contest on cities to boost City21 observatory

Another new 2016 feature: the competition expands to sustainable cities. In December 2015, during the COP21, Construction21 launched City21, a new database describing sustainable districts and urban solutions. You can already find a benchmark of 20 exemplary districts, essentially from France, for the moment. The Green City Solutions Awards 2016 candidates will provide City21 with dozens of additional urban projects, each of them highlighting sustainable solutions for mobility, energy, resources management, biodiversity, economic development, or smart city.
Main stages of the 2016 competition

May 10  Launch

June 25  End of applications
July  Communication campaign on candidates

September  National juries – National online votes (buildings only)
           Press conference announcing finalists in each country

October  Communication campaign on finalists
        International jury – International online vote (buildings + cities)

November  Awards gala at COP22 in Marrakech
           Communication campaign on winners

Three ways to be part of the competition

Professionals wishing to contribute to the dissemination of innovative solutions, while benefiting from the media cover of the contest, can join as:

- **Sponsor**: your brand will be promoted at each communication stage of the competition, from April to December. For 2016, Rabot Dutilleu and Parex Group already confirmed their support.

- **Media Partner**: whether you are a professional association, head of a network of green building/green cities dedicated people, a press group or a trade fair, you can become a media partner of the competition. To have your logo on all communication materials, you only have to relay the information about the contest toward your members/readers.

- **Candidate**: submit your most inspiring projects, whether they’re exemplary buildings or sustainable neighborhoods, from anywhere in the world. Applications are free.

About Construction21

Construction21, social media for sustainable buildings & cities, disseminates information and best practices on sustainable construction for free, among the actors of the building sector. Since 2012, Construction21 offers an international benchmark of 1,200 exemplary buildings and solutions, accessible in each local language and in English.

The **Construction21** network, constituted of 11 platforms, is both local and global. Each platform is managed by a non-profit organization committed to promoting sustainable construction in their country. Construction21 reaches a growing number of professionals: more than 500,000 visited the network in 2015 for 1.2 million pageviews. Construction21 aims to create 50 platforms by 2020, starting around the Mediterranean Sea, in Brazil and China.


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1 The Construction21 network counts 10 national platforms in Algeria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Morocco and Romania. An 11th international platform in English is directly connected to BUILD UP.