

# **Architecture Design Competition**

## **1925: Art Deco + 2025: AI Deco = 2125: A? Deco**

### **Three Ages of Beauty – One Yet to Shape Our Cities, Structures and Codes**

#### **Contents of the competition**

What if the cities of tomorrow float on the sea? How can the elegance of the past and the intelligence of today shape a new urban future? Kitakyushu embodies a unique urban narrative spanning nearly a century of design and innovation. The Moji Retro District, with its timeless Art Deco architecture, reflects a rich heritage of craftsmanship and elegance. The Kokura Central Zone stands as a living laboratory of AI-driven smart city technologies and adaptive urban infrastructure. The Hibikinada Offshore Zone represents an open frontier, a site for bold experimentation with floating urbanism and sustainable living on the sea.

As rising seas threaten millions worldwide, we must rethink where and how we live. Kitakyushu's rich past and smart present form the foundation for a radical future, one where beauty, technology, and resilience merge on water. We challenge you to imagine, design, and build, not just buildings, but new ways of living, connecting, and thriving.

Your ideas could transform Kitakyushu and inspire cities across the globe. Join a global dialogue on climate adaptation, urban innovation, and the aesthetics of the future. Your design will be part of a movement tackling some of humanity's greatest challenges.

“Design is the bridge between imagination and reality.”  
Your vision for 2125 starts here.

#### **Organized by**

NPO Asian Institute of Low Carbon Design AILCD  
The University of Kitakyushu (Japan)

## Your Challenge

Design a visionary urban area that connects below key themes for a new district that

- 1) pays tribute to the artistic and human scale of the past
- 2) harnesses the potential of contemporary AI and data systems
- 3) boldly imagines floating neighborhoods on the sea as a response to climate change and global flood risks

## Key Themes

### **Heritage and Ornamentation**

How can Art Deco's legacy inform contemporary urban aesthetics?

### **Intelligent Infrastructure**

What role will AI and smart technologies play in future urban life?

### **Speculative Futures**

How can floating architecture and maritime urbanism redefine the boundaries of the city in 2125 and beyond?

## Competition Site

Hibikinada Offshore Zone: innovative floating solutions connected to the mainland

Participants should consider the spatial and symbolic relationship between

- 1) The Moji Retro District (1925)
- 2) The Kokura Central Zone (2025)
- 3) Hibikinada Offshore Zone (2125)

## Admission

Multidisciplinary teams of graduate and undergraduate students from architecture, landscape, civil engineering, and related disciplines are accepted. Teams and individual entries are accepted. Teams can have up to 5 members. Only one project may be submitted per team.

## International Jury Members

Xingtian Wang	Architect, Prof., Qingdao University of Technology (China)
Zhu Wang	Architect, Prof., Zhejiang University (China)
Yue Fan	Prof., Shenzhen University (China)
Dian Zhou	Prof., Xian Jiaotong University (China)
Xinyu Shi	Architect, Qingdao University of Technology (China)
Donny Koerniawan	Ass. Prof., Architecture Dept. ITB, Indonesian Architect Association
Fritz Akhmad Nuzir	Architect, Ass. Prof., Universitas Bandar Lampung (Indonesia)
Rendy Perdana Khidmat	Architect, Ass. Prof., Sumatera Institute of Technology (Indonesia)
Hiroatsu Fukuda	Prof., The University of Kitakyushu (Japan)
Hideo Takashima	Ass. Prof., Osaka University (Japan)
Yiyin Tsai	Prof., University of Taipei (Taiwan)
Tanaphoom Wongbumru	Ass. Prof., Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi (Thailand)

## Time Schedule

2025, August 10	Competition announcement, registration starting date
2025, December 10	Deadline for inquiries
2026, January 10	Registration deadline
2026, January 20	Closing date for proposal submissions
2026, February 20	Announcement winning proposals

## Awards

First Prize	Certificate + 50,000 Japanese Yen
Second Prize	Certificate + 30,000 Japanese Yen
Third Prize	Certificate + 10,000 Japanese Yen
7 Honorable Mentions	Certificate

## Registration Procedure

For registration, send below information to [ailcd.design@gmail.com](mailto:ailcd.design@gmail.com)

- names of all participants of your team, individual entries are accepted as well
- name of university including name of faculty and/or department
- e-mail address of the team leader

After your registration is completed, you will receive a registration number which must be integrated on all panels (lower right corner) of your final submission.

## Registration Fee

No registration fees are required for the competition.

## Language

The official language of the competition is English.

## Entries

- Digital form: 4 (four) A2 panels (JPEG files)
- Panel size: A2 (594mm x 420mm) (landscape format = horizontal orientation)
- The boards should contain:
  - proposal concept
  - diagrams
  - all floor plans
  - at least 2 sections
  - at least 4 elevations
  - perspectives
- All 4 panels must contain the registration number in the lower right corner (+18 pt).
- No names of participants or affiliations are allowed on the panels.
- Proposals shall be sent by email to [ailcd.design@gmail.com](mailto:ailcd.design@gmail.com)
- Proposals are not accepted after closing date for proposal submissions.
- File name: the registration number followed by page number 01, 02, 03 and 04.
  - AAA-25001-01
  - AAA-25001-02
  - AAA-25001-03
  - AAA-25001-04underlined number = your registration number

Competition Website: <http://lowcarbondesign.asia/>