

2nd FALL SYMPOSIUM 2022 Building Beyond Borders
Architecture of Extr-a-ction - Reflecting on the agency of architecture for regenerative
and distributive solutions in the Global North and the Global South

17 - 18 November 2022, Hasselt, Belgium

CALL FOR PAPERS

As a response to the extractive and exploitative character of the building sector, many universities and architectural practices in the Global North and the Global South have started to investigate other ways of designing and building that create a positive impact on both social and ecological level by searching for regenerative and distributive solutions (cfr. concept of Doughnut economics). Examples are universities or **Schools of Architecture** that set up design studios and design & build projects in their own country or abroad to realize projects with locally harvested or regenerative materials, often in co-creation and collaboration with local communities (cfr. Postgraduate Building Beyond Borders). Also many **architectural practices** have been exploring new ways of designing and building that challenge both the traditional materiality and the traditional client-architect relation. This way, architectural schools and architectural practices try to become agents of change.

Most universities and architectural practices see this as a learning opportunity and an opportunity to create positive impact, by exchanging expertise with different stakeholders and by incorporating co-creative ways of working with local stakeholders. Students are confronted with different visions of reality, learn to build with local materials and building techniques, with non-traditional clients, ... and try to integrate it in their projects. Architects expand or change their role from designer for a specific client to manager of a building community, coordinator of participatory workshops, developer or producer of new building materials, ...

Schools of Architecture and architectural practices consider this '**building beyond borders**', **not necessarily only beyond geographical borders, but more importantly beyond professional, social, technical, cultural, intellectual, ... borders.**

Yet whether the impact of building beyond borders is actually positive, whether it inspires others to do things differently, to look differently to the built environment remains quite often implicit. How do communities experience a project in which students or architects try to create regenerative and/or distributive solutions? Do these solutions actually meet their needs? Do both human and more-than-human beings experience a positive impact? Do these projects induce changes in the building industry? **What are the keys to reassure positive impact and positive change on all levels and all beings in such cross-border building projects?**

In the successful first edition of Fall Symposium 2020 Building Beyond Borders, we reflected with more than 100 participants from over 30 countries on the dynamisms of cross-border collaboration in build projects. You can find the outcome of these reflections here. In the second edition, we would like **to set up a broad conversation and reflection** on the topic of the **agency of architecture in creating changes towards more regenerative and distributive solutions** and approaches in the building sector, both in the Global North and the Global South.

We invite academics, practitioners, students, NGO's, community members, ...from all over the world to contribute to this conversation, through an **active contribution** by means of a presentation or lecture or by attending the symposium and **participating in the discussions** that will be organized.

Two keynote speakers, one from academics and one from architectural practice, who have an extensive expertise in this domain will highlight different perspectives on the topic of regenerative and distributive design and build in different contexts.

For those who want to attend the conference, but want to avoid excessive environmental impact by taking a plane, are not in the ability to leave their country or have limited financial means, we offer the option to participate in the Fall Symposium in a remote way, both for active contributions and for attendees of the Symposium.

Themes

We would like participants to provide submissions that concern the following topics, specifically in the context of built projects. We highly recommend contributions that not just present what has been built, but that also contain an critical analysis or in depth reflection on the regenerative and distributive impact of the project on human and more-than-human beings:

- Approaches for regenerative and distributive solutions in built projects, including lessons learnt
- Academic opportunities for regenerative and distributive built projects
- Architectural practice opportunities for regenerative and distributive built projects
- Evaluation of (positive) impact of regenerative and distributive projects on communities: studies, testimonials, ...
- Use of local materials and building techniques in regenerative and distributive projects: learning process, acceptance, involvement of different stakeholders in design and execution process, performance,..
- Type of building projects that fits in this focus: projects for individual clients vs for community, community empowering projects, scale of projects, feasibility, ...
- Drivers and pitfalls (cultural, social, intellectual, ...) of regenerative and distributive built projects: perspectives from a wide range of stakeholders
- Reflections on the roles of participants in such projects: architects, NGO's, community leaders and community members, building workers, students, academics, ...
- Reflections on the integration of silent voices (human and more-than-human) in such projects
- Learning opportunities for participants in such projects: students, academics, practitioners, communities, workers, NGO's, ...
- The impact of underlying structures that enable regenerative and distributive academic projects on the nature and process of projects
- ...

Contributions

Different types of contributions are possible:

- Full (academic) paper on finished research or design/build work/projects (6-8 pages)
- Extended abstract on ongoing research or design/build work/projects (3-4 pages)
- Presentation of a built project (3-4 pages)

For each type of contribution, an **abstract of max. 300 words should be submitted at latest by 15 June 2022**, with an indication of the preferred type of contribution and with an indication of the preferred way of participation (on site or remotely).

All abstracts will be peer-reviewed on content and type of contribution by the scientific committee, consisting of academics and practitioners.

Digital proceedings will be published containing the full papers and extended abstracts after the Symposium.

Certificates of Participation will be issued to the presenters.

Abstract Submission

Abstracts should be no more than **300 words**. Please submit your abstract by filling in the [online submission form](#) at the latest on **15 June 2022**.

For further inquiries, please contact buildingbeyondborders@uhasselt.be or have a look at www.buildingbeyondborders.be.

Timeline

Launch of the Call for Papers	1 May 2022
Deadline for submission of abstracts	15 June 2022
Abstract notification	1 July 2022
Submission paper contributions/extended abstracts	1 September 2022
Peer review feedback	15 October 2022
Final paper submission	15 December 2022
Registration	
Early bird for regular participation (1 day 100€; 2 days 150€)	15 September 2022
Regular participation (250€)	15 October 2022
Student (1 day 35€; 2 days 50€)	15 October 2022
Virtual active participation (with paper/presentation) (50€)	15 September 2022
Virtual passive participation (free)	15 October 2022

More information?

For further inquiries, please have a look on our [Fall Symposium website](#) or contact buildingbeyondborders@uhasselt.be