

LAGI 2019 Abu Dhabi Q+A: Version 2 (February 12, 2019)

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A revised design site boundary is now available with more accurate information from the latest Masdar City master plan:

<https://landartgenerator.org/lagi2019/LAGI2019-DesignSiteBoundary.zip>

Additional files are also available in the supporting documents ZIP file, including the original PDFs of the Masdar City master plan and land use plan as provided by Masdar City planning:

<https://landartgenerator.org/lagi2019/LAGI2019-Supporting-Documents.zip>

1. Q: I saw the area of intervention from your plans and documents and i have noticed the presence of a parking within. How we consider it?

A. Please assume that the parking does not exist. It is only there temporarily.

A future update will show the masterplan with the intended future use, which is 100% open space in the site boundary area.

2. Q: If a university tutor asks his class to create LAGI competition entries as a component for his design studio class (part of a University degree), would that then render those entries ineligible for the competition as per the LAGI guidelines?

A. University class studio designs are 100% eligible, as long as they meet the requirements of the design guidelines.

A significant percentage of LAGI competition entries come from university coursework. The winning entry to LAGI 2018 Melbourne was a collaboration between RMIT students and professional practices. In 2012, when LAGI held the competition for New York City, both the first place and third place teams were students working under the same professor at Georgia Tech University.

3. Q: Would you please notify us how much is the registration fees?

A. There are no registration fees for LAGI 2019. Participation is free.

4. Q: In the competition design brief there was not any information about solar desalination, while harvesting drinkable water was the main idea of some previous winners. I want to know are ideas about solar desalination and harvesting drinkable water acceptable for 2019 Abu Dhabi competition?

A. At LAGI we recognize that energy and water are fundamentally interconnected, especially in parts of the world such as the United Arab Emirates where conventional desalination technologies continuously consume vast amounts of energy. We therefore welcome proposals that provide drinking water as a resource in addition to or as a first use of some of the clean energy generated.

Please note that the design site is not in close proximity to a surface liquid water source. The LAGI 2016 design competition for which many of the proposals incorporated sustainable desalination or water harvesting technologies took place for a coastal site. The inland nature of the LAGI 2019 site will limit technologies to Atmospheric Water Generation or other means that do not rely on coastal proximity.

5. Q: Are you asking for the expected energy amount which can be produced by the work.

A. There is no minimum requirement for quantity of energy generated by your artwork. Within the limits of the conceptual nature of the design detail, we ask that you provide in your written narrative a reasonable estimate of how much energy could be expected to be generated using the conversion efficiency and capacity factor of the renewable energy technology or technologies that you incorporate into your design.

6. Q: Do you plan to realize some of the designs?

A. While Masdar City plans to look into the top 25 for future opportunity or future build projects, this stage of LAGI 2019 is an ideas competition with a cash prize and no promise of construction. It is possible that a project may be chosen for realization at a later date and/or that a second stage invited competition may take place to develop stage one concept designs further.

7. Q: Are you looking for solutions which can be realized now with current energy sources or are you rather looking for advanced technologies which are available in the near or mid future.

A. Ideally your solution can be realized within the next five years with proven technologies. The science behind your solution should be well understood and proven in proof of concept testing if not in large scale implementation.

8. Q: Are there any height restrictions?

A. **Keep in mind the proximity to the Abu Dhabi airport which limits building height. For more information about this see the Abu Dhabi 2030 plan, page 93: <https://www.ecouncil.ae/PublicationsEn/plan-abu-dhabi-full-version-EN.pdf> (also included in supplemental downloads).**

A good benchmark to look for maintaining a cohesive urban plan is the height of the wind tower that was constructed as a part of phase one of the masterplan to naturally cool the courtyards below. The top of the wind tower is 45 meters.

9. Q: Which of the following four considerations are most important to Masdar? 1. beautiful artwork, 2. quantity of energy generation, 3. capital cost, 4. financial return on investment (grid-purchased kilowatt hours are relatively inexpensive in the UAE).

A. **Please refer first and always to the selection criteria:**

Adherence to the Design Brief; The integration of the work into the surrounding environment and landscape; The sensitivity of the work to the environment, and to local, and regional ecosystems; The estimated amount of clean energy that can be produced by the work; The way in which the work addresses the public; The embodied energy required to construct the work; The perceived return on capital investment of the work, judged by the complexity of the design in relation to the energy it produces each year; And the originality and social relevance of the concept.

Quantity of energy production is an important consideration to be weighed fairly with the conceptual and aesthetic merit and cultural relevance of the artwork. Whereas public art and creative placemaking are fundamental to the LAGI 2019 challenge, the term "return on the capital investment" should be considered in a broad cultural context to include many other variables (beyond the cost of electricity or on-site demand reduction in kilowatt-hours) which themselves can contribute to the bottom line and viability of sustainable developments and the surrounding cities in which they are located. These variables include but are not limited to: increase in footfall traffic, ecotourism, education, public relations, cultural value, and increase in quality of life for city residents. A high nameplate capacity is a benefit to the evaluation of any given proposal, but it should not come at the expense of public's enjoyment of the public realm of the city. The technology employed should contribute positively to the aesthetic and cultural value of the public space.

10. Q: Does the installation have to be built on ground or can it be under ground?
- A. We do not want to restrict creativity, but as a work of art in public space that is intended to engage the public, your installation should most likely exist primarily above grade. There may be many reasons why you might break the ground plane or propose elements of your installation below grade, including but not limited to foundations, balance of systems, other equipment to which you would like to restrict access, and civil engineering works (electrical transmission, etc.). The site is within the area of coastal aquifer with a relatively high water table.**
11. Q: What kind of renewable energy technology is considered to be most efficient within Masdar?
- A. We do not want to restrict innovation or steer anyone towards a preferred renewable energy technology. What we can say is that, based on the prevalence of renewable energy installations within the UAE, it is various types of solar technology that have been implemented most often. Still there are many ways besides the photovoltaic effect that the energy of the sun can translate into useful energy.**
12. Q: Is the technology used in the winning entry going to be tested?
- A. Should your proposal be selected by Masdar for consideration to build, it would most likely be subjected to a feasibility assessment stage that might include prototyping on site.**
13. Q: Is the area (Masdar) suitable for locating geothermal resources?
- A. Phase 1b of Masdar Institute includes energy piles within the sub-structure that take advantage of the high water table as a heat sink utilizing a water source heat pump system that assists in the air-conditioning of the residential apartments. More information can be found at the following link: http://www.masdarcityfreezone.com/masdar261/static/pdf/explore_masdar.pdf**
- As far as we know there is not local access to high temperature geothermal resources typically associated with dry steam, flash steam, or binary cycle geothermal power systems.**
14. Q: What are the proposed buildings surrounding the site?
- A. Please refer to the updated site plan for more information.**
15. Q: What type of solar panels work efficiently under the climatic conditions of Masdar? Panel testing is ongoing can you share the results?

A. Unfortunately, we are unable to share detailed results of the panel testing that is currently ongoing and not yet published. Researchers at Masdar Institute of Science and Technology and collaborating institutions periodically publish their own papers related to the subject and we recommend that you look up the literature that is available.

16. Q: Can we use futuristic technology that will come to market in about 10 years?

A. Ten years should be considered the limit in terms of selecting technology that has a strong likelihood of being market-ready by that time if it is not so already.

17. Q: Can we design a building, or does it necessarily have to be a three-dimensional sculptural form?

A. Your proposal can include building components but should be primarily considered a work of sculpture. There is no requirement that your design incorporate any enclosed, conditioned, or even occupiable spaces.

18. Q: Are there any restrictions regarding how much area of land should be left undisturbed?

A. No, as long as the site boundary is respected.

19. Q: Will an entry be disqualified if it exceeds the capital cost of \$20/watt?

A. No. It will still be considered in the selection process if it meets all other aspects of the design brief. There should be a good reason stated in your narrative as to why this guidelines was exceeded and to what benefit.

20. Q: Can the installation have a congregation space within it?

A. Yes. Proposals that engage the public and provide places for gathering are encouraged.

21. Q: How many people are expected to congregate at any given point of time?

A. Unknown. As an outdoor space with multiple paths of egress on all sides, there are not many technical limitations on the number of people, besides human comfort and the official decisions made by authorities related to each proposed public event.

22. Q: Can you share some information on the water management plan of Masdar city i.e. do they have a proposal in the pipeline?

- A. Masdar City is located in an area with a relatively high water table, but it is coastal brackish water that mixes with the high saline gulf waters. Utilization would therefore most likely involve some form of desalination. We know that Masdar is interested in technologies that can recycle water on site, harvest water, and reduce water consumption. We are not in possession of any strategic plans from Masdar City regarding water management, but should those be made available we will provide an update to registered teams.
23. Q: Is it possible to get data regarding the efficiency of the Wind Tower in Masdar City?
- A. We are not in possession of any of the performance data from the wind tower at this time. Should this information be made available we will provide an update and notify registered teams.
24. Q: Should there be provisions for parking vehicles on site?
- A. No. Please assume no parking within the site boundary. Currently there is a temporary lot that occupies a part of the site, but it will not be there in the future.
25. Q: In DWG plan there is a "pocket" with dimension approx. 56 / 25 meters, from North West side of the site. Is the "pocket" on the project site or outside of it?
- A. For a better understanding of the design site boundary, please see the updated site boundary document: <https://landartgenerator.org/lagi2019/LAGI2019-DesignSiteBoundary.zip>
- The area you are referring to is a previous approximation of proposed building parcels. This information is more accurate now that the latest master plan has been provided by Masdar City planning.
26. Q: In excel file "Climate-Data", what kind of temperature is it: by wet bulb or by dry bulb?
- A. Temperatures listed are dry-bulb readings.
27. Q: What happens with the awarded entries? What kind of recognition they receive, in terms of publicity?
- A. The top 50–60 entries will also be published in a hardcover book by Prestel and distributed widely. The book is available online and in many brick and mortar booksellers, as well as in libraries and museum bookstores around the world. Additionally, LAGI will promote the entries throughout the second half of 2019 to media outlets and coordinate with design teams directly regarding the same. Past LAGI design competitions have reached audiences in excess of 10 million and in media outlets in countries around the world (The New York Times, The Guardian, Dwell Magazine,

Smithsonian, etc.). The shortlisted entries will be on display in an exhibition at the 24th World Energy Congress in Abu Dhabi and again at the 2020 World Future Energy Summit. All qualified submissions are included in the portfolio of LAGI submissions online.

28. Q: If I hire an artist to illustrate my design, is he/she going to be a part of my team?

A: We encourage the practice of recognizing all members of a creative team. The upload area provides an "affiliation" field in which the role that each person played in the design process may be highlighted and the firm, institution, or organization they represent can be conveyed. When publishing your design, LAGI will list individual names without affiliation exactly as they are input into the submission form field unless directed explicitly in writing by a team's primary point of contact to replace individual name with affiliation (name of firm or institution). You are not required to include someone that you hire as a part of your team. This is an arrangement to be made between yourself and whomever you hire.

29. Q: Can I submit more than one proposal?

A. Per the Terms & Conditions: "Teams may submit only one entry to the competition. Individuals may not be on more than one team." We recommend that early in your design process you look at many different ideas, but that through a process of iteration and critique, decide to carry the idea you feel is the strongest forward through concept design and submission.

30. Q: Is the restricted area solely for electrical equipment? Should it be an enclosed area?

A. The most important consideration within this design brief requirement is human safety. The details of how safety can be accomplished will vary greatly depending on the technology employed and the form of the artwork's sculptural expression.

31. Q: Does submitting my design give the adviser, event partner or sponsor 100% ownership of my design?

A: The design remains the intellectual property of the design team. LAGI takes this commitment seriously and takes all measures within our control to ensure that the design team is properly credited for their work. The publication is also a way for teams to time-stamp their ideas in the public domain. LAGI does not take responsibility for the protection of the IP of any design. By submitting your design, you grant LAGI a non-exclusive right to use your images and text in print and online. For a more complete answer to this question, please see page 19 (Section 13) of the Terms & Conditions.

32. Q: Does “engage the owners of proprietary technology in preliminary dialogue” means contacting the developer him/herself or will a research about the owner of the technology will suffice?

A: If you have any questions as to whether the owner of any proprietary technology will be OK with you using their technology in your design, it is always a good idea to reach out to them. This is more commonly appropriate when the technology is still in research and development and when that type of technology it is not yet being produced by more than one product manufacturer. Research about the owner of the technology and proper credit given to them in your written narrative may in many cases be sufficient. In cases where the product is available in the marketplace (for example a solar PV module) this type of coordination is probably not necessary.

33. Q: In the Masdar city masterplan Phase 2 Detailed Master Plan (DMP) document found online:

https://issuu.com/cbt55/docs/2015_10_25_masdar_phase_2_dmp_resub

there is a proposal for a urban “Green finger” plaza-park in the area of intervention. Should we respect the planned park or does the contest aims for a completely new proposal that will ignore the existing plans for the phase 2?

A: The document referenced is from 2015 and some elements of Phase 2 planning may have changed since that time. The updated supplemental documents ZIP file contains the latest Masdar City land use plan. The 2015 DMP is a good general reference to inform your proposal. The site boundary exists entirely within the OS-01 and OS-02 Open Space areas. You may feel free to propose anything within those areas. Do not feel constricted by any sidewalk or landscaping layouts within OS-01 and OS-02 that you may have seen in master planning documents. The site boundary continues across the street that divides those two areas and you may feel free to propose that your artwork extend across that space, provided that it allows a clearance height of 5 meters for safe traffic flow below.

END OF Q+A DOCUMENT