

IFLA NEWS



During the last IFLA World council in Turin, the Middle East was established as the 5th region of IFLA. It was one small ray of light in an area wracked by war and bloodshed. The people of the region are used to hearing bad news; the consequences of battle and bloodshed have been nothing more than poverty, displacement and loss of natural resources. A small window of hope could be seen but unfortunately not in the short-term of course.

How can that which has been demolished be rebuilt after war? How could deconstructed cultural landscape be restored? How could cities affected by war be turned into a secure place for living? These are the questions that burn in the mind of a Middle Eastern landscape architect and of which there is no experience.

After the 2nd world war, there was a similar situation in Europe however the Middle East is different. Quick accommodation of displaced people, rebuilding of cities, elimination of pollution caused by war, restoration of cultural landscape and rehabilitation of natural resources are the main necessities for the region. Landscape architects could have a key role in this regard but landscape architecture is a new discipline in the Middle East and landscape architects there would not be able to tackle with this issue alone and without support. That's why it is important to collect experiences and apply new ideas. IFLA Middle East welcomes any ideas and innovations of the landscape architects from all over the world to be ready to resolve these problems.

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This weeks IFLA news is from the President of IFLA Middle East Mohammad Motalebi

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From our members: The NVLA are holding a **seminar on Healthy Urban Landscapes** in partnership with the Architecture Centre Makeblijde. It will take place 16 December 2016 in Houten, the Netherlands. For more information see the IFLA Website [here](#).

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