

IFLA NEWS



The establishment of IFLA Middle East Region was approved by the World Council at Turin and now official measures are underway in order to set up IFLA Middle East Executive Committee Election. The first IFLA-ME ExCo will be formed in May 2017, and we are pleased to announce that IFLA can take a new region into consideration.

With the Middle East encountering war, political controversies, displacement and emigration in recent years it can be easy to forget it contains such a wealth of significant heritage; Mesopotamia as the origin of civilizations, Lebanon the land of Phoenician, Iran as the land of the Medes and Achaemenid Empire, Palestine and the Arabian Peninsula as the birthplace of religions - each of them is treasure trove of curiosities. Political and economic centralization in the Middle East has certainly contributed to imbalance in terms of population and race. Further, playing a vital role in providing the world's energy supply has led to wars and tensions in this region. It is no surprise therefore that in this regard the landscape in the Middle East has undergone massive changes. In addition, especially in the last decade, climate change and drought have affected the environmental balance bringing about further transitions in the landscape.

Limited information exists on the effects of war and climate change on the Middle East's Landscape; IFLA Middle East will be hosting an international conference in May 2018 in Iran, aiming to investigate landscape transitions in the Middle East and come up with a solution to controlling and decreasing the negative aspects of these changes. The

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This week's IFLA news is from the President of IFLA Middle East, Mohammad Motallebi

approaches can give us, as landscape architects, insight into the problems and solutions. Learning from experience, the use of technology and the knowledge of landscape architects from all over the world can undoubtedly help to enhance the current conditions. The call for papers and submissions for the conference will be announced at the end of May 2017. Further information about [IFLA Middle East](#) and their activities can be found on the IFLA website.

From our members: NZILA have a new website and have also recently issued their summer magazine, take a look [here](#).

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