

IFLA NEWS

Responsive land A sustainable future for the Dutch historical peat meadows

1. **Problem:** soil subsidence in the Dutch peat meadows due to peat oxidation

In the western peat meadows in the Netherlands, the peat in the soil oxidises due to the draining system for the purpose of dairy farming. This results in an average soil subsidence of a few centimetres a year. The consequences of soil subsidence are:

- Loss of valuable cultural landscape
- High costs for recovery and construction of infrastructure
- An increasingly expensive and complicated water system
- Greenhouse gas emissions on a large scale

The course of soil subsidence in the western peat meadows

Realising that IFLA holds a valuable archive of extraordinary student projects, which has been collected for over 30 years since the IFLA Student Design Competition was first organised, the IFLA EAA Committee jointly with the [Student Design Competition](#) Working Group, under the lead of Prof. Beverly Sandalack, have the pleasure to announce the launch of the IFLA Student Design Competition Retrospective.

Over the past 10 years between 150 and 400 student projects were submitted annually to the IFLA Student Design Competition. This response makes it possible to perceive the variety of topics and approaches characteristic of the different IFLA Regions and schools, and demonstrates the full scope of landscape architecture as a profession. Each year, the local competition organizers develop a brief, which asks students to respond to a specific topic, and this allows us to see the range of topics and the diversity of problems and approaches across the world. It is also accompanied by the special energy of creative expression often associated with the work of students.

The IFLA EAA Committee is of the opinion that the material we possess in the archives is simply too valuable to stay hidden. IFLA is therefore offering schools and member associations this exclusive resource; interested parties are free to display the material in the form of exhibitions, at the time and place of their choosing. As well as celebrating the

MARCH 2017

29



This week IFLA

All the information about the IFLA Student Design Competition Retrospective, along with the propositions and exhibition material can be found [here](#).

Image: Sander Hermans 2016 winning competition entry

Sandalack Chair
of the IFLA
Competitions
Committee and
IFAL EAA
Chair Andreja
Tutundzic

From our members: **8th Digital Landscape Architecture Conference DLA in Bernburg, Germany, from June 7 to 10**, This year's main themes are Responsive Landscapes and Smart Green Cities. For more information see [here](#).

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