

Video

2025 ULI Asia Pacific Awards for Excellence Winners

Date: May 28, 2025

00:00:09 --> 00:00:15:	This year, we received 43 exceptionally high quality entries from
00:00:15 --> 00:00:20:	China, Japan, Australia, Singapore, India, the Philippines and Korea.
00:00:21 --> 00:00:26:	Having spent days debating, discussing and also going on to
00:00:26 --> 00:00:30:	site visit, the jurors selected 14 winners of this year's
00:00:30 --> 00:00:32:	ULIAPEC Award.
00:00:53 --> 00:00:57:	Gulabar, which means place of koala in our First Nations
00:00:57 --> 00:01:00:	language, is located in the Kurara State Forest of NSW,
00:01:01 --> 00:01:03:	around 4 hours north of Sydney.
00:01:03 --> 00:01:07:	This landmark project is a 25 hectare conservation,
	education and
00:01:07 --> 00:01:11:	ecotourism facility established in the wake of a wave of
00:01:11 --> 00:01:16:	bushfires that devastated the local forest and native koala
	population
00:01:16 --> 00:01:18:	of the region during the summer of 2019.
00:01:19 --> 00:01:22:	As the world's first wild koala breeding facility, Goolabar sets
00:01:22 --> 00:01:25:	a benchmark for conservation LED development.
00:01:26 --> 00:01:30:	Conceived, designed and built in collaboration with First
	Nations people,
00:01:30 --> 00:01:35:	Goolabar integrates modern conservation science and
	sustainable design with the
00:01:35 --> 00:01:39:	local communities long standing knowledge of local land and
	wildlife.
00:01:39 --> 00:01:43:	It is a project aiming to restore the original landscape,
00:01:43 --> 00:01:47:	protect endangered species and educate across a range of
	demographics.
00:01:47 --> 00:01:52:	Gulabar realizes this ambition through mixing education,
	tourism, engagement and
00:01:52 --> 00:01:55:	the Bush setting in a unique and meaningful way.
00:01:57 --> 00:02:02:	Built in 1915, the 400 metre long Woolloomooloo Wharf was

00:02:02 --> 00:02:06: once the largest timber piled Wharf in the world, located
00:02:06 --> 00:02:11: on the Sydney waterfront, not far from the present day
00:02:11 --> 00:02:11: CBD.
00:02:12 --> 00:02:17: Operating as a wool processing port before falling into
disrepair
00:02:17 --> 00:02:23: in the 1970's, the historic landmark was saved from
demolition
00:02:23 --> 00:02:28: in the 1990s and transformed into a vibrant destination
waterfront
00:02:28 --> 00:02:35: precinct combining residential, commercial, hotel and
hospitality spaces.
00:02:35 --> 00:02:40: An exemplary development well ahead of its time, the
Woolloomooloo
00:02:41 --> 00:02:46: Wharf has been awarded the Ulias prestigious Legacy
Award, reserved
00:02:46 --> 00:02:51: for projects completed for at least 25 years that establish
00:02:51 --> 00:02:55: new concepts or standards since emulated by others.
00:02:57 --> 00:03:01: The Russell Bar Children's Park was conceived as part of
00:03:01 --> 00:03:05: the government's plan to provide public open space and
playground
00:03:05 --> 00:03:09: facilities in Bangladesh, capital of Dhaka, one of the world's
00:03:09 --> 00:03:12: most densely populated and deprived cities.
00:03:12 --> 00:03:16: Designed by a collective of some 70 architects, planners and
00:03:17 --> 00:03:21: implemented on a shoestring budget and a pro bono basis
00:03:21 --> 00:03:26: under the direction of Shatoto Architecture, the project
involved construction
00:03:26 --> 00:03:32: of rainwater management and drinking systems, a play area,
preservation
00:03:32 --> 00:03:36: and importation of trees and other greenery, and conversions
of
00:03:36 --> 00:03:41: a formerly disused building into a community centre that
features
00:03:41 --> 00:03:44: a women's club, a weekly school, a gym and a
00:03:44 --> 00:03:45: library.
00:03:46 --> 00:03:51: Penlon TNT Community is a decade long urban regeneration
project
00:03:51 --> 00:03:55: located in Chimpu District of western Shanghai.
00:03:55 --> 00:04:01: By successfully combining historical authenticity with
contemporary relevance, it has
00:04:01 --> 00:04:07: transformed A depopulated Jangnan Water village into
modern mixed-use community,
00:04:07 --> 00:04:11: ideally located to attract both residents and visitors.
00:04:12 --> 00:04:17: The development consists of 23 orchiders of public green
areas,
00:04:17 --> 00:04:22: 50,000 square meters of ward town lifestyle facilities and a

00:04:22 --> 00:04:27: 250,000 square meters of residential space, together with an Art

00:04:27 --> 00:04:32: Museum, boutique hotel, temple, church and other amenities.

00:04:32 --> 00:04:37: The development financial success provide a replicable model for use

00:04:38 --> 00:04:42: in similar regeneration projects in China and elsewhere.

00:04:44 --> 00:04:48: The Villing Pujang Park Community is a Shanghai based housing

00:04:48 --> 00:04:51: project aiming to fill a gap in a local housing

00:04:52 --> 00:04:57: market by providing affordable accommodation to young professionals and fresh

00:04:57 --> 00:05:00: graduates in a city adopting a campus theme that is

00:05:00 --> 00:05:06: reflected across its architecture, facilities, stereotype accommodation and operations.

00:05:07 --> 00:05:13: The complex features 5500 affordable rental units in eight buildings

00:05:13 --> 00:05:16: at average monthly rents around U.S.

00:05:16 --> 00:05:21: Dollar 275, together with 2000 square meters of community spaces

00:05:21 --> 00:05:26: that include the study rooms, gyms, kitchens and event focused

00:05:26 --> 00:05:27: areas.

00:05:29 --> 00:05:33: The Tai Yanpei Square and Jianming Library is a regeneration

00:05:33 --> 00:05:37: project located in an historical district of Xiaoxing in China's

00:05:37 --> 00:05:39: Chejiang Province.

00:05:39 --> 00:05:44: Work on the 14400 square meters site included the renovation

00:05:44 --> 00:05:49: of the L-shaped Tai Yanpei Square, the transformation of an

00:05:49 --> 00:05:55: historical cinema into a modern theater, and the construction of

00:05:55 --> 00:06:00: a new library, all the while using techniques and mediums

00:06:00 --> 00:06:06: that echo the city's historical fabric and enhance its commemorative

00:06:06 --> 00:06:08: and communal functions.

00:06:10 --> 00:06:15: Phase three of the East Lake Greenway project is a

00:06:15 --> 00:06:19: 3.4km long lakeside renovation scheme in Wuhan, China.

00:06:20 --> 00:06:25: It connects both ends of previously completed renovation phases running

00:06:25 --> 00:06:28: along the shoreline of East Lake.

00:06:28 --> 00:06:33: Featuring a beautiful stretch of shoreline, the project has artfully

00:06:33 --> 00:06:39: upgraded the pedestrian experience by improving poorly planned pedestrian sections,

00:06:40 --> 00:06:45: upgrading links to historic landmarks including the Central Old Wuhan

00:06:45 --> 00:06:51: University, and revitalizing traditional culture through landscape storytelling.

00:06:51 --> 00:06:55: The result is a user friendly green corridor as well

00:06:55 --> 00:06:59: as a showcase of contemporary ecological restoration.

00:07:01 --> 00:07:06: The Wu Chang Ecological and Cultural Promenade is another Wuhan

00:07:06 --> 00:07:10: based project, this time involving the reactivation of a 17

00:07:10 --> 00:07:15: kilometer stretch of Yangtze River shoreline in the heart of

00:07:15 --> 00:07:16: the city.

00:07:16 --> 00:07:19: Used originally as a railway line.

00:07:19 --> 00:07:25: Constructed in 1905, the promenade has today been reimagined as

00:07:25 --> 00:07:26: a linear park.

00:07:26 --> 00:07:32: It includes a 13.4km long slow traffic Greenway, 11 parks,

00:07:32 --> 00:07:38: 9 restored historical railway sites and about 45,000 square meters

00:07:38 --> 00:07:40: of public buildings.

00:07:41 --> 00:07:45: In the process, it has spurred renovation of old communities

00:07:45 --> 00:07:50: and several large urban villages that lie along the route.

00:07:53 --> 00:07:57: Karma Lakelands is a 270 acre resort located not far

00:07:58 --> 00:08:00: from New Delhi in India.

00:08:00 --> 00:08:04: Conceived as a sanctuary far removed from the bustle of

00:08:04 --> 00:08:09: city life, the resort features villas, cottages and chalets surrounded

00:08:09 --> 00:08:13: by lush vegetation and lakes, together with a nine hole

00:08:13 --> 00:08:14: golf course.

00:08:15 --> 00:08:18: Sustainability is a central theme that is a core business

00:08:19 --> 00:08:20: driver of the project.

00:08:20 --> 00:08:26: The resort features a number of eco friendly initiatives including

00:08:26 --> 00:08:30: an afforestation program that has resulted in the planting of

00:08:30 --> 00:08:36: some 250,000 trees, rainwater harvesting, bio composting and various organic

00:08:36 --> 00:08:38: farming programs.

00:08:40 --> 00:08:44: Tokyo Midtown Yaisu is a 90,000 square meter mixed-use project

00:08:44 --> 00:08:47: built on a complex site in Tokyo's Yaisu district, providing

00:08:48 --> 00:08:51: direct access to Tokyo Station and hosting Japan's largest bus

00:08:51 --> 00:08:53: terminal in its basement.

00:08:53 --> 00:08:57: The building is a major transportation hub that synchronizes major

00:08:57 --> 00:09:01: pedestrian flows both at ground level and underground, serving as

00:09:01 --> 00:09:04: a benchmark for future mixed-use developments in Japan.

00:09:04 --> 00:09:08: The project incorporates a number of community oriented facilities, including

00:09:08 --> 00:09:12: an independent power plant that supplies energy to the local

00:09:12 --> 00:09:15: grid in the event of power cuts, a public elementary

00:09:15 --> 00:09:18: school, a range of public spaces, and advanced seismic and

00:09:18 --> 00:09:20: other technological features.

00:09:23 --> 00:09:26: Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel is a small scale seat

00:09:26 --> 00:09:30: of worship located in the Philippine city of Monteluka that

00:09:30 --> 00:09:35: demonstrates how sacred spaces can integrate design and sustainability without

00:09:35 --> 00:09:37: compromising spiritual significance.

00:09:37 --> 00:09:42: Conceived to address the city's evolving social environmental challenges, the

00:09:42 --> 00:09:46: Chapel is notable for cutting edge engineering, its pillar less

00:09:47 --> 00:09:50: roof creating a huge open span that allows light and

00:09:50 --> 00:09:52: form to define the sacred experience.

00:09:53 --> 00:09:56: At the same time, the structure serves a number of

00:09:56 --> 00:10:02: environmental functions, including passive cooling strategies, high albedo materials, optimized

00:10:02 --> 00:10:07: strategic massing, and an amphitheater style blood retention system that

00:10:07 --> 00:10:11: mitigates urban runoff while enhancing public accessibility.

00:10:13 --> 00:10:17: Bidadari Park is a 13 hectare reserve established at the

00:10:17 --> 00:10:20: heart of an accompanying public housing estate in Singapore.

00:10:21 --> 00:10:26: Conceived as a resident centric facility, the park integrates placemaking

00:10:26 --> 00:10:31: and active mobility strategies, featuring over 6 kilometres of experiential

00:10:31 --> 00:10:33: trails that cater to a range of users.

00:10:34 --> 00:10:38: Key wildlife refuges preserved within the original Woodlands have been

00:10:38 --> 00:10:40: connected by green corridors and buffer zones.

00:10:41 --> 00:10:45: By leveraging the natural topography of the landscape while also

00:10:45 --> 00:10:49: integrating water sensitive urban design to manage flood risks and

00:10:49 --> 00:10:52: create aquatic wildlife habitats, the park stands as a model

00:10:52 --> 00:10:57: for sustainable integrated development that allows nature, heritage and community

00:10:57 --> 00:10:58: thrive together.

00:11:01 --> 00:11:06: Singapore's One Holland Village is a mixed-use development that comprises

00:11:06 --> 00:11:11: 61,715 square meters of residential, retail and office facilities.

00:11:11 --> 00:11:15: The project incorporates a well balanced mix of space that

00:11:15 --> 00:11:19: integrates with its surroundings through open buildings, lush greenery and

00:11:19 --> 00:11:23: pedestrian walkways that encourage connectivity and interaction.

00:11:23 --> 00:11:27: Sustainability plays a key role and has been embodied throughout

00:11:27 --> 00:11:31: project design via passive cooling strategies and energy efficient infrastructure

00:11:31 --> 00:11:35: with landscaping and natural ventilation combining to create a comfortable

00:11:36 --> 00:11:37: eco conscious environment.

00:11:37 --> 00:11:41: Low rise design, public art, creative event programming and pet

00:11:41 --> 00:11:45: friendly policies also reinforce the project's DNA as a people

00:11:46 --> 00:11:48: centric and culturally oriented space.

00:11:50 --> 00:11:50: Singapore.

00:11:50 --> 00:11:54: 'S Safa Chachaka Palace is a sports or community space

00:11:54 --> 00:11:58: that sits within the surrounding 1.4 hectare park.

00:11:59 --> 00:12:03: Serving is an important social node for community events and

00:12:03 --> 00:12:03: interactions.

00:12:04 --> 00:12:10: The building emphasizes sustainability social impact through an accessible design

00:12:10 --> 00:12:12: that responds to the tropical climate.

00:12:13 --> 00:12:18: It's sports facilities include an all weathered sheltered pool and

00:12:18 --> 00:12:22: futsal court, an indoor running track, gym and climbing facility,

00:12:22 --> 00:12:27: while cross ventilated corridors and other public open spaces are

00:12:27 --> 00:12:32: highly porous, seamlessly integrated with the surrounding park.

00:12:32 --> 00:12:37: Offering a range of sustainable multifunctional areas, the clubhouse promotes

00:12:37 --> 00:12:41: both physical and mental health being through a unique blend

00:12:41 --> 00:12:45: of fitness, nature and community, all anchored into a single

00:12:45 --> 00:12:46: development.

00:12:48 --> 00:12:52: Hi, my name is Belinda Bentley, Managing Director of Nine

00:12:52 --> 00:12:55: Springs and Co, Chair of this year's ULI Awards for

00:12:55 --> 00:12:56: Excellence Jury.

00:12:56 --> 00:12:58: On behalf of the jury, we would like to thank

00:12:59 --> 00:13:02: all participants and congratulate all the finalists and winners

of
00:13:02 --> 00:13:03: this year's awards.
00:13:04 --> 00:13:06: We strongly encourage all of you to apply for next
00:13:06 --> 00:13:08: year and we look forward to receiving your applications.
00:13:09 --> 00:13:09: Thank you.

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