ARCHITECTURE STUDENT CONTEST 2027

The Architecture Student Contest (ASC) is Saint-Gobain's prestigious international competition for students of architecture, design, and construction engineering. With a legacy spanning over 20 years, the contest has been held annually since 2004, offering students a real-world design challenge aligned with Saint-Gobain's vision for better living and sustainable construction.

The competition emphasises environmental responsibility, innovation, energy efficiency, occupant comfort, and building performance. For the 2027 edition, the international final will take place in Madrid, Spain, where students will address an urban regeneration challenge involving the design of a new healthcare and senior living facility, the rehabilitation of the historic San Cristóbal social housing estate, and the creation of a green axis connecting the two sites. The brief encourages students to integrate sustainable construction, climate resilience, accessibility, and high-quality public spaces.

The competition follows a two-stage format. Participants first compete at the National Stage, with the winning team from each country advancing to the International Stage to represent their nation alongside teams from countries around the world.

INTRODUCTION TO THE SITE

MADRID NUEVO NORTE: THE WIDER DEVELOPMENT

Madrid Nuevo Norte (MNN)4 is one of the most significant urban regeneration operations currently under way in Europe. It transforms more than 2.3 million m² of disused land and former railway yards, across an area of over 230 hectares, into a new extension of the city along the northern axis of the Paseo de la Castellana. Central to the vision is the complete remodelling of Chamartín Station, which becomes a premier highspeed rail hub, surrounded by a new Central Business District that continues the skyline begun at the Cuatro Torres Business Area.

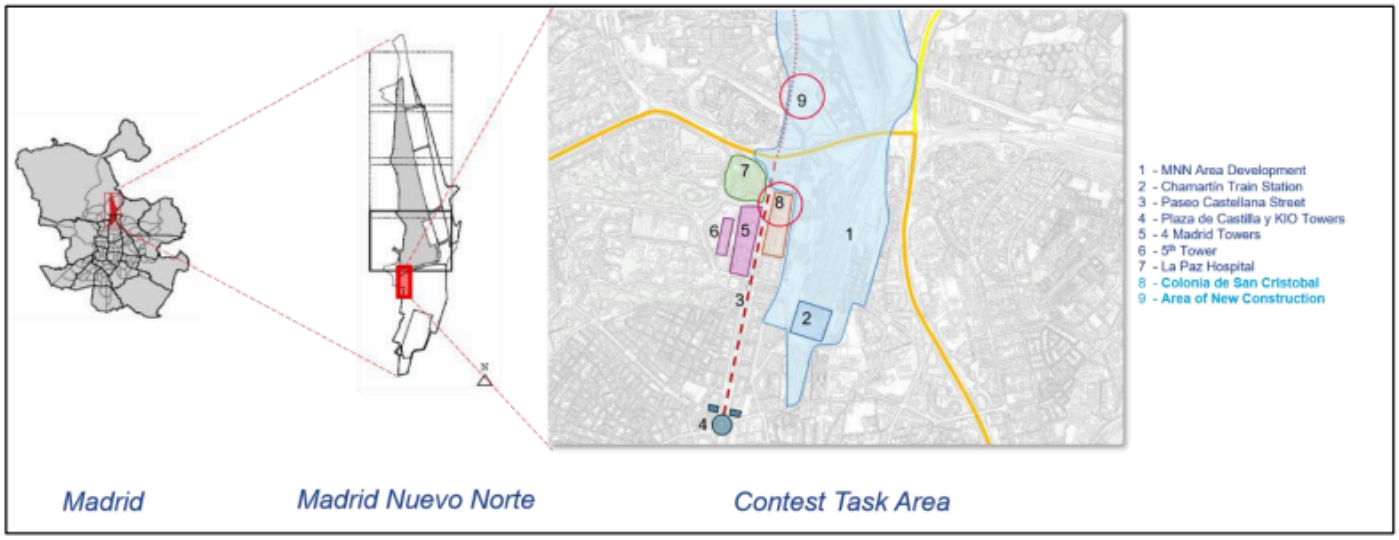
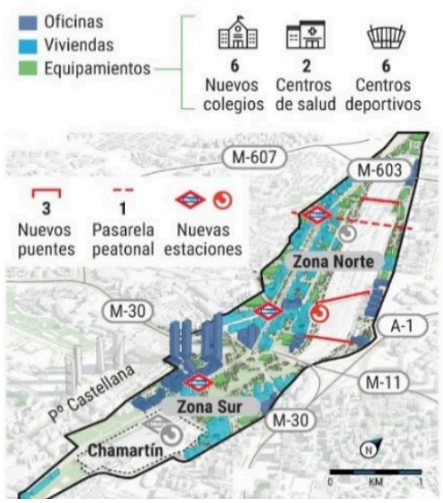


Figure 6: Location of MNN within Madrid

The project is a pioneer in sustainable urbanism. It is the first urban development project in Europe to hold both LEED for Communities: Plan and Design at Gold level and a provisional BREEAM ES Urbanismo 2020 certificate. It applies a 15-minute city model in which 80% of journeys are made by public transport, on foot, or by bicycle, and it reconnects northern neighbourhoods that were historically separated by the railway tracks. MNN places a corresponding emphasis on nature and social well-being. The development creates 400,000 m² of green space, including a 13-hectare Central Park built directly over the covered rail tracks, and a green axis that links the city to the El Pardo regional park. It delivers approximately 10,500 new homes, of which 20% are reserved for protected housing, alongside new schools, sports centres, and health centres. Water management, energy performance targeting nearly-zero energy standards, and accessible public space are built into the planning framework.



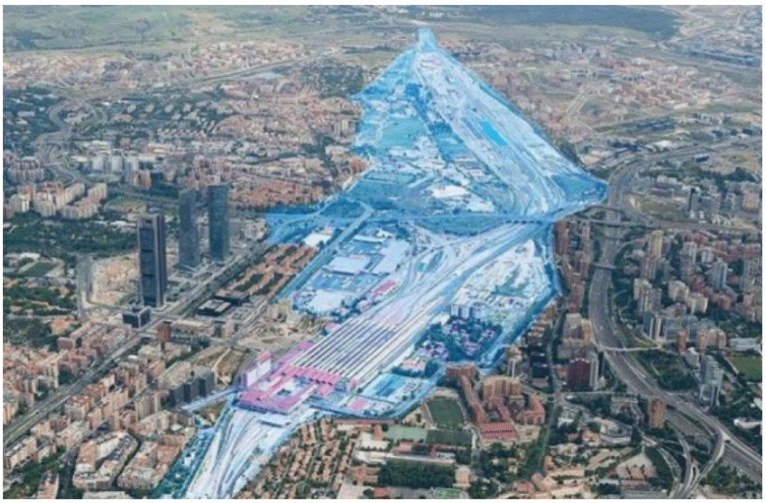




Figure 7: 3D Visualizations of the Madrid Nuevo Norte Regeneration Project (source: MNN website)

To know more about Spain and the context refer to Annexure 1

THE CONTEST TASK: THREE COMPONENTS, ONE PROPOSAL

The Contest Task is a single design proposal made up of three components. They are judged as one project, and the coherence between them counts as much as the quality of each part.



Figure 8: view of the linear urban green axis from Colonia de San Cristobal to MNN

THE THREE COMPONENTS AT A GLANCE

1. **Component A- Detailed design of the New Construction:**
A mixed-use building for **primary healthcare and senior living**, with integrated open space, universal accessibility, programmatic synergy between the two uses, and a direct urban connection between the consolidated city and the new Madrid Nuevo Norte development.

2. **Component B- Conceptual Renovation:**
A sustainable and replicable renovation model for the Colonia de San Cristóbal, preserving its architectural, urban, and social value while **modernising the building envelope and the public spaces around it**. The result should stand as a benchmark for the upgrading of collective housing across the estate.

3. **Component C- Conceptual Design of the Green Axis:**
A **green link that connects the other two components**, configuring a replicable strategy for linking Madrid Nuevo Norte to the established city while activating spaces that are currently undefined.

Why these three belong together
The Colonia de San Cristóbal was built (1948) to house workers of the Municipal Transport Company. Those first residents and their families have aged in place, and the estate now houses one of the older populations in the district, in dwellings of 55 to 68 m² without lifts in most blocks and without modern insulation. The senior living residence and the primary

healthcare facility serve the local population, within the 10,500 new homes that Madrid Nuevo Norte will deliver around it. The Green Axis is how a resident of the Colonia de San Cristobal reaches both, on foot, across an edge that is currently a trafficked road. The strongest proposals will make that continuity explicit, in the movement between the parts, in the public spaces that link them, and in the material and formal language that carries from the historic brick to the new construction.

Where to concentrate your effort

The competition deliberately weights the three components differently.

- **New construction carries the heaviest weight** and the greatest detail requirement.
- **Renovation** requires a **conceptual envelope** strategy for only one block.
  Note: Teams are not asked to redesign the whole estate.
- The **Green Axis** is a **conceptual design**, at the level of a **spatial strategy** with two conceptual cross-sections**,** rather than as a fully detailed landscape project.

Design themes that run across all three components

- Working simultaneously under two different kinds of constraints: heritage protection on the Colonia de San Cristobal, and mandatory alignment rules on the new construction.
- **Designing for summer heat**. Madrid's climate makes overheating a binding comfort problem, and the users across all three components (patients, older residents, and the existing community) are among those most vulnerable to it.
- Consider the proposal with the existing urban fabric and the transport networks that surround it, including the influence of the future Chamartín interchange.

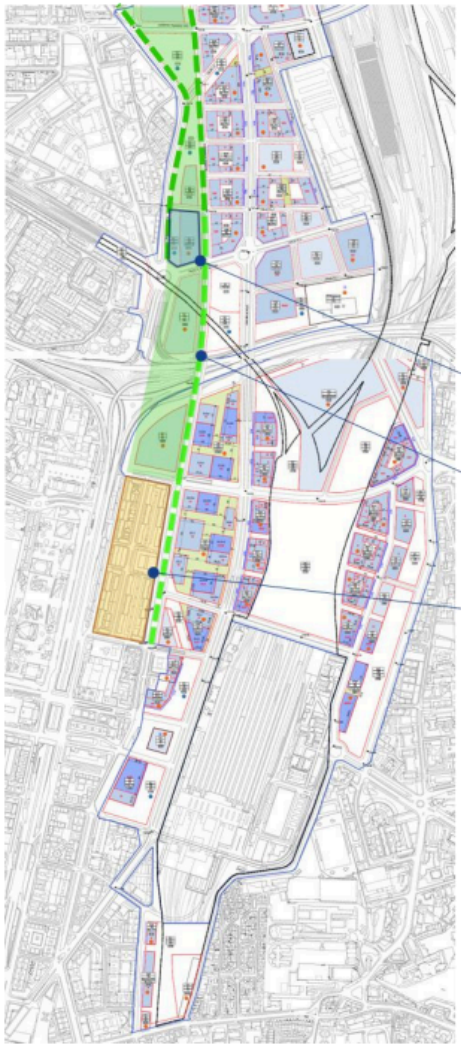


Figure 9 : The three components of the Contest Task. A. New construction (blue). B. Colonia de San Cristóbal, renovation (orange). C. Green Axis (green).

VIEW OF THE TASK ZONE

with the planned Madrid Nuevo Norte (MNN) development



COMPONENT A

The site occupies **10,532 m² in total**, comprising two plots already defined within the Madrid Nuevo Norte planning framework.

Block 69 (6,657 m²) is classified as Common Services (SC) and is the **buildable plot**. Its designated use covers **primary healthcare facilities and assisted senior living**, which is the programme of this Contest Task.

Block 70 (3,875 m²) is designated as a non-buildable Basic Green Zone (VB) for neighbourhood and district-level public open space. No above-ground construction is permitted here. Teams are

expected to design it as public open space integral to the proposal and may route vehicle access to underground parking through it.

At present the site is undeveloped: a vacant plot with spontaneous vegetation, used informally for parking and, in places, for construction waste. It is bounded to the west by a high-rise residential building with ground floor commercial premises and municipal services. To the south it is bordered by a busy roadway. The northern and eastern boundaries are not currently defined on the ground and will be formed by the Madrid Nuevo Norte development and by the Green Axis.

Two consequences follow from the site geometry that teams should address explicitly. The plot is elongated on a broadly north-south axis, which means the long façades face east and west. West-facing glazing in Madrid receives low-angle afternoon sun in the hottest hours of the year, and it is the orientation most likely to cause overheating in the residential units. Second, the proximity of the southern roadway, the M-30, and the rail corridor makes façade acoustic performance a design constraint.

Why this programme

Spain is aging faster than almost any country in the OECD. The population aged 65 and over stands at 21.1% and is projected to peak at 30.9%, with the Community of Madrid recording the highest relative population growth over the next fifteen years. Combined with the pressure on primary care described,this produces a **growing group of people who need daily assistance** but not a hospital bed, and who are currently housed in a **residential stock designed for a different demographic**.

Teams should **organise the residential component into small domestic clusters**, each with its own shared kitchen, dining and living space, and should treat the relationship between those clusters, the shared ground-floor amenities, and **the adjacent healthcare facility as the central architectural need** of this component.

Required Programme:

A. **Primary healthcare facility Total area 3,000 to 3,500 m² gross**. Percentages below apply to the net functional area, which is approximately 70% of the gross. The balance is circulation, waiting areas, public sanitary facilities, plant, and structure:

Area	Share of net	Contents
Clinical, medical, and nursing care	~55%	30 to 35 consulting rooms for family medicine, nursing, paediatrics, and specialised consultations, plus dedicated space for health prevention, promotion, and community care (vaccination rooms, health education spaces, community outreach offices)
Emergency and out-of-hours care	~10%	5 consulting and treatment rooms for fast-track, continuous immediate medical response.
Basic diagnostics	5-7%	3 specialised rooms for diagnostic tests, imaging, and sampling
Administration and patient services	8-10%	The main point of entry, featuring an open entrance lobby, reception and admissions desks, patient service counters, and administrative management offices.
Staff, teaching, and training	6-8%	Dedicated zones for healthcare professionals that double as an active academic environment: coordination offices, changing facilities, and specialized teaching/training spaces for medical residents, ongoing staff education, and research.
Clinical support and General Services	10%	Storage, pharmacy, clean and dirty utility rooms

Waiting zones must have direct natural light. **Circulation must be dimensioned for wheeled equipment and for residents using mobility aids.** Teams may vary the percentages by up to three points, provided the room counts are respected and the total is stated.

B. **Assisted senior living**

Total area 6,500 to 7,000 m² gross, providing 80 dwelling units. Units must be grouped into co-living clusters of no more than 15 residents, each cluster served by its own shared kitchen, dining, and living space:

Care Level	Share	Indicative net area	Target Unit Count	Estimated net Total Area
High care: continuous nursing support, assisted bathing, direct staff visibility	25%	**28m² Medicalized Rooms** (Intensively assisted living)	~20 units	~560 m²
Medium care: self-contained dwelling, nursing available on the cluster	35%	**50m² Private Apartments** (1 resident or compact 2-person)	~28 units	~1,400 m²
Low care: fully independent two-bedroom dwelling, basic shared services	40%	**70m² Private Apartments** (Spacious 2 residents)	~32 units	~2,240 m²
Net dwelling area			~80 units	4200 m²

Surfaces are approximate and can vary depending on student proposals.

3. **Shared functions**: Provide approximately 1,000 m² of shared and community space: cluster kitchens, dining and living rooms; day-care space for non-overnight users; activity and therapy rooms; and social space at ground floor with a direct relationship to the open space on Block 70. Circulation, structure, lifts, technical shafts and back-of-house account for the balance,

approximately 25% of the gross area. Surfaces are indicative and may vary with the proposal, provided the unit count and the tier distribution are respected.

4. Parking and access

The project must include **160 underground parking spaces,** with access from within the plot, either integrated into the building or entered through the open space on Block 70. The focus of the intervention is the incorporation and integration of pedestrian and vehicular access routes to the parking, rather than the design of the parking structure as an independent element.

COMPONENT B: RENOVATION, COLONIA DE SAN CRISTOBAL

Note: Teams participating in the Indian Edition are asked to present a conceptual design for this component.

The San Cristóbal social housing estate, known as **Las Ochocientas**, is one of Madrid's celebrated examples of social housing architecture. Designed by **Secundino Zuazo Ugalde**, construction began in 1948 and the first homes were delivered in 1954 for Municipal Transport Company employees.

Its low-rise blocks are arranged in offset rows, creating a series of garden courts. Today, the original residents have aged in place, with many homes lacking lifts and modern insulation. This connects the estate to the senior living residence in **Component A**, addressing the needs of the same community at different stages of life.

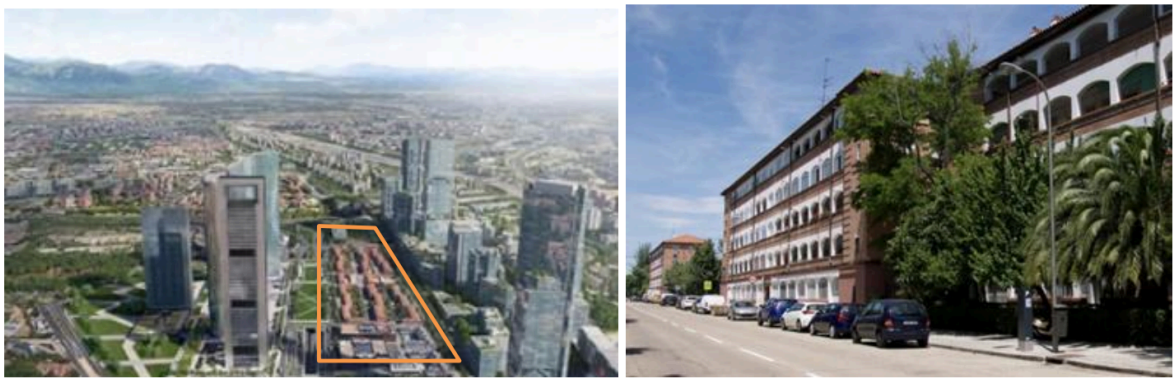


Figure 13 View of San Cristobal Social Housing with its arch façade

Each block has a **ground floor plus four upper floors**, with approximately **560 m² per floor**. Each residential floor contains **8 dwellings** of two types: D1 at approximately **50.8 m²** and D2 at approximately **68.5 m²**, with the larger units located at the ends.

Access is through **open galleries along the main façade**, connected by a central staircase. The single-aspect dwelling layout is a defining feature of the estate but also contributes to its technical limitations. While structurally sound, the buildings lack **thermal and acoustic insulation, high-performance glazing, and centralised climate systems**.

The building selected for renovation faces **Calle de Mauricio Legendre**, the second building north of Calle de Manuel Caldeiro is marked in orange below.

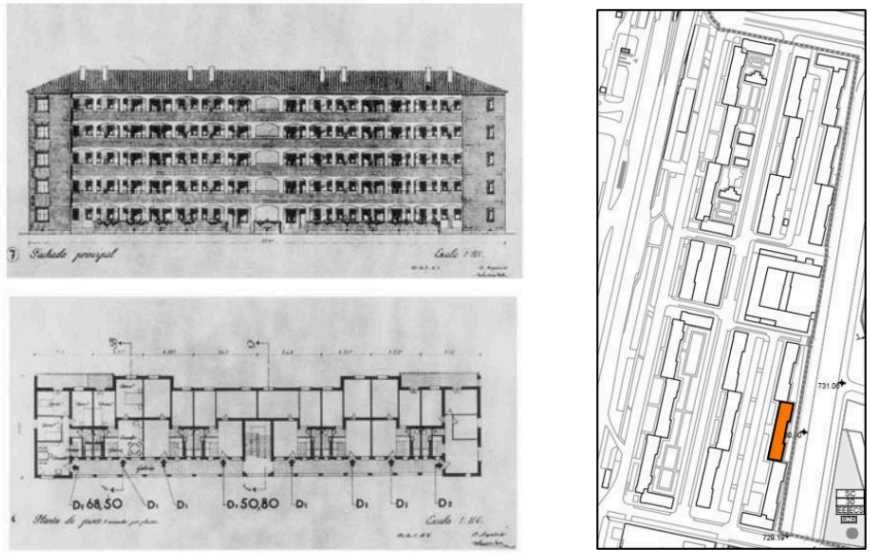


Figure 14 Façade and plan of the San Cristobal Social Housing (left) and building selected for the Contest Task (right)

The replicable module approach

Teams are not asked to redesign the whole estate. **The task is to analyse and transform one representative block.** Because the blocks share an identical structural arrangement, orientation logic, and spatial layout, a proposal developed for one block functions as a technical blueprint capable of systematic deployment across the estate, improving conditions for the roughly 800 households living there. Submissions should state explicitly which aspects of the proposal are replicable across all blocks and which respond to the specific position of the chosen block within the estate.

Key technical challenges to consider while conceptualising the design:

- **Accessibility.**
  The blocks have five levels and no lifts. The original staircases are heritage protected and cannot be removed. Resolving vertical access without compromising the protected fabric is the most consequential problem in this component.
- **Acoustic shielding.**
  Colonia is boxed in by the heavy traffic of Paseo de la Castellana and by the multi-decade Madrid Nuevo Norte construction site. An envelope built for an era of low traffic must be retrofitted to shield residents from severe noise.
- **Thermal bridges at the galleries.**
  The masonry and concrete arches, repeated across every level of the principal façade, act as continuous thermal bridges. Teams must propose conceptual insulation detailing that resolves these geometries internally.
- **Single-aspect ventilation.**
  Dwellings open on one side only. In Madrid's summer climate, cross-ventilation and night cooling are the most effective passive strategies available, and this typology denies both. Teams should propose how to achieve summer comfort within that constraint.
- **Lightweight circularity.**
  These are mid-century masonry buildings. Adding significant dead load is not permissible. Interventions should prioritise lightweight, reversible, and circular construction systems that optimise the life-cycle carbon footprint.
- **Energy poverty.**
  Proposals must be economically viable, minimising construction waste and maintenance, so that the retrofitted systems measurably reduce monthly energy bills for the current residents.

Rehabilitation Design Constraints

Element	Constraint	Technical focus
Principal façade and galleries	Absolute visual preservation. No external structural or aesthetic alteration permitted.	Eradicating thermal bridging around the arched geometry while maintaining the original masonry silhouette.
Window openings and glazing	Original frame alignments, proportions, and visual rhythm across the façade must be respected.	Simultaneous solar heat gain control, winter thermal retention, and acoustic performance.
Interior layouts and partitions	Load-bearing masonry walls and the original staircase cannot be altered. Non-structural partitions may be freely reconfigured.	Spatial efficiency, indoor air quality, and acoustic separation between dwellings.
Roof	Original profile and pitch to be maintained.	Insulation, water management, and any integration of renewable generation within the protected profile.

Relationship to the other components
The Green Axis (component C) runs along the eastern edge of the estate. The interface between the renovated blocks, the garden courts between them, and the axis is one of the points on which the coherence of the overall submission will be judged. Teams should also consider how residents of Colonia reach the healthcare facility and the senior residence in Component A on foot.

Heritage status and its consequences for your design
The Colon Holds Level 2 (Structural) Protection under the Plan General de Ordenación Urbana de Madrid. This applies to buildings of significant architectural, historical, or spatial value that do not reach the threshold of Level 1 (Integral Protection).

In practice:

Protected, and not modifiable:

- The original façades, which cannot be altered or demolished.
- The overall volumetrics: shape, height, and external volume configuration.
- The original staircases, entrance portals, and the primary load-bearing structure of masonry walls and beams.
- Total or partial demolition of the property is not permitted

Permitted:

- Conservation and restoration: façade cleaning, roof repair, structural stabilisation.
- Retrofitting and conditioning of interiors to upgrade habitability and services, including bathrooms, kitchens, and finishes.
- Full freedom to redistribute non-structural internal partitions.

Specific to this Contest Task:

- No external insulation may be applied to exposed brickwork without authorisation. **Any intervention must maintain the masonry silhouette, and finishes must match the historical textures, tones, and visual rhythm of the original.**
- Teams may propose enclosing the arcaded galleries with **high-performance glazing** or other systems, creating **conditioned or buffered space**, or they may keep them open as sheltered access. Both directions are acceptable and will be judged on how well the choice is argued and detailed.
- Modern **solar shading** and **bioclimatic elements may be integrated within the galleries**, provided they respect the original arched geometry and do not structurally damage the masonry.

COMPONENT C: GREEN AXIS, LINEAR URBAN PARK

Note: Teams participating in the Indian Edition are asked to present a conceptual plan and 2 conceptual sections for this component.

The Green Axis represents a key structuring element within the Madrid Nuevo Norte development, a continuous linear park that runs through the northern territory of the city, connecting the new and existing urban fabrics.
Within this Contest Task the axis extends approximately 1,200 metres alongside the Colonia San Cristobal. It begins alongside the Colonia de San Cristóbal, runs north along the eastern edge of the estate, crosses a major road, and continues up the eastern boundary of the new construction site on Block 69 before joining the wider Madrid Nuevo Norte park system.
The axis will serve as a bioclimatic corridor, mitigating the urban heat island in a city where July daytime temperatures average 32 to 33 °C. It is a **sustainable mobility route for pedestrians and micro-mobility.**



Figure 16: green axis to serve as a linear urban park

The Design Task for Component C:
Reimagine the 1.2 km stretch of the Green Axis as a continuous green connector linking the new development of Madrid Nuevo Norte with the existing Colonia San Cristóbal.

The proposal should explore **how landscape can become more than a park** - creating a cooler, greener and more accessible urban connection for people, while responding to the different neighbourhoods and conditions along its route.

Teams should develop a conceptual landscape strategy addressing:

- **Climate & Shade**: Create a cooler urban environment through tree canopy, shade structures, planting and landscape form. Teams should communicate how their proposal helps mitigate summer heat and improves outdoor comfort.
- **Water & Landscape**: Madrid receives 455 mm of rain per year, concentrated between October and April, with very little between June and August. A drainage strategy must handle intense short-duration events in winter. Treat rainwater as a resource. Explore permeable surfaces, infiltration, retention and planting strategies that can withstand Madrid's dry summers while reducing dependence on irrigation.
- **Acoustic Buffer**: Use landscape, landform, planting and/or built elements to create a buffer between the busy infrastructure and the residential neighbourhood, improving the acoustic quality of the public realm.
- **Accessibility & Everyday Users** - Design for the people who will use the connector every day. Routes, surfaces, shade, seating, lighting and rest points should support people of different ages and mobility levels, including users of mobility aids.
- **Pedestrian & Micro-mobility Movement** - Create a clear and safe hierarchy between pedestrian movement and micro-mobility. Particular attention should be given to points where these flows intersect, especially around the healthcare and senior-living facilities.
- **Materials & Maintenance** - Develop a palette of durable, low-impact materials appropriate for public infrastructure. Proposals should consider not only how materials look and perform, but also their **maintenance, longevity and ease of replacement**.

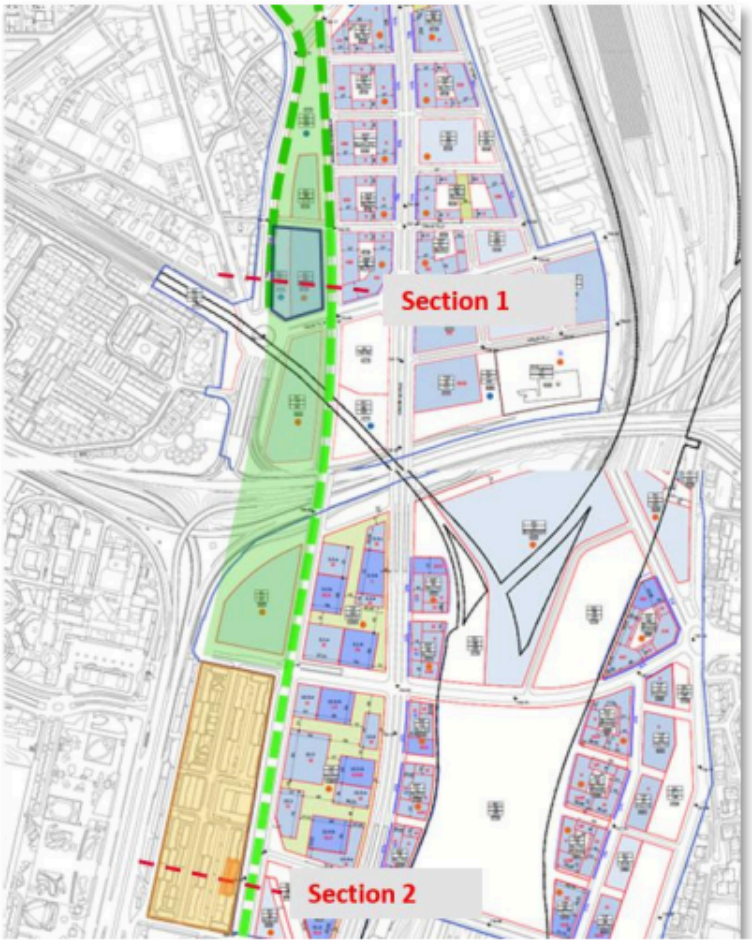


Figure 17 Strategic Cross-Section Locations for the Linear Urban Park. (Section 1: Expansion Boundary, Section 2: Heritage Boundary)

Fixed constraints. These are site and infrastructure conditions. Proposals must comply.

Corridor length	approximately 1,200 m
Corridor width	Approximately 43m (along Colonia San Cristobal), 25m bridge, approximately 37,5m (see APE 8.20)
Detailed design zones	Section 1 and Section 2 as marked on Figure 17
Existing levels	See CAD documentation

The proposal shall incorporate concepts for paving treatments, street furniture, planting, and other landscape elements to establish a coherent link between the two intervention areas, reinforcing their functional and visual integration.

Teams are encouraged to analyse successful landscape interventions in Madrid, in particular Madrid Río, for linear park continuity and water integration, and the Pasillo Verde Ferroviario, for the reclamation of industrial railway land as a community asset. Both are directly comparable in type and in the problem they solved. The joint Saint-Gobain and ARUP report Adapting Buildings to Climate Change is provided as a source of climate adaptation solutions.

TECHNICAL AND BUILDING PERFORMANCE TARGETS

The technical parameters for this project are guided by Saint-Gobain's Sustainable Construction Guidelines, which focus on contributing to a better planet and a better quality of life for people. These guidelines aim to reduce environmental impact through energy efficiency, resource circularity, and enhanced comfort and health for occupants and installers.

These include:

- Sustainability: Better for the Planet and People
- Thermal Comfort
- Indoor Air Quality
- Acoustic Comfort
- Fire Safety
- Natural Daylight
- Carbon Emissions & Energy Consumption
- Resources & Circularity

Annexure

Eligibility and Teams

- All currently enrolled Undergraduate and Postgraduate Students of Architecture,Design and allied disciplines in India are eligible.
- Those graduating in 2026 and/or 2027 can register under this section.

- Participation is allowed in teams of up to **three members**, provided all members are eligible for the same sub-category.
  Students are allowed to make teams across different academic years (in the same sub-category) but all team members must be from the same institution only.

To register for Saint-Gobain Transparence 20.0, please visit www.transparence.in.
Remember to register under the ASC category (SPAIN Edition)

Competition Format:
It is a two-stage competition:

National Level: Participants must register and compete at the Indian level first. A winning team will be selected from all submissions in the ASC category. This team will go on to represent both their college and Team India on the international stage.

International Level: National winners from over 30 countries will come together to compete in the final round, which will be held in Serbia in 2026. Participation at this stage will be fully sponsored by Saint-Gobain, offering students a unique opportunity to showcase their work Globally.

Important: Please do not register directly on the Architecture Student Contest (ASC) website, as it may lead to disqualification from the competition.

GENERAL JUDGING CRITERIA

There are various aspects which are key and unique to the Architecture Student Contest.

1. The Contest Task addresses the design proposal for the new building, the renovation and its link to the urban context (e.g. green axis)
2. Recognises the sustainability considerations proposed
3. The respect of minimum requirements, e.g. correct usage of Saint-Gobain solutions in the project

Component	Architecture
New Construction (Component A) *Detailed* +	60%
Renovation (Component B) *Conceptual*	20%
Green Axis (Component C)	20%

Conceptual	

Evaluation Criteria

1. **Design Excellence**: Considers local identity and cultural context.
2. **Functional Concept**: Responds to programme needs and provides clear building information.
3. **Master Planning and Connectivity**: Connects buildings to exterior public spaces and nearby buildings, including the Green Axis.
4. **Green Axis Design**: Ensures continuity, clear cross sections, boundary integration, and appropriate design elements.
5. **Connectivity with Existing Areas**: Integrates pedestrian and bicycle paths and responds to the needs of older residents and patients.
6. **Sustainability**: Addresses passive design, carbon and energy, resources and circularity, health and wellbeing.
7. **Construction Details and Building Physics**: Demonstrates quality in thermal and acoustic bridges, airtightness, and moisture management.
8. **Climate Performance**: Addresses shading and heat mitigation, water and drainage, seasonal planting, and low carbon durable materials.
9. **Saint Gobain Products and Solutions**: Correctly uses and mentions Saint Gobain products and solutions in the project.

COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

This is an **ideas competition**. The jury is assessing the strength and coherence of the design proposal. Teams are asked for enough drawing to make the idea legible and enough detail to show that it works. **Choose appropriate scales** for all drawings to allow adequate detail and clarity for the judges. Where the scales below are given, teams may adjust them if legibility improves.

- Submission will be completely ONLINE. Plan your content and graphics to be viewed accordingly.
- The submission link will be provided in the confirmation email sent after successful registration.
- Your submission will include two uploads: a single PDF file (max 20 MB, max 12 A3 landscape sheets) that includes the following (Points 1 to 5) and a video file as explained below:

1. **Concept Statement**

Tell us your big idea! What is the story behind your design? What problem are you solving?

How does your proposal improve life for people who'll use the space? Include this as part of your 12 sheets.

2. Masterplan and Green Axis

- Clear representation of the three zones at scale 1:500 or 1:1000, providing an understanding of the general organisation of the proposal.
- Relation and connection to nearby areas, including pedestrian and cycle routes.
- Visualisation of the experience of the proposed areas: views, 3D perspectives, and/or photographs of physical models, as participants see fit to explain the proposal.

3. Component A

- Floor plans, elevations, and relevant sections allowing the proposal to be understood, at scale at least 1:250.
- Technical details at scale 1:20, or otherwise convenient for adequate understanding.
- 3D views to help the understanding of the design, situated within the surrounding volumes.
- Area schedule confirming the programme set out in the brief above.
- Design measures taken for energy efficiency and thermal comfort.

4. Component B

- Conceptual drawings of one representative block allow the proposal to be understood, showing the existing and the proposed condition.
- At least one technical detail of the upgraded envelope, at scale 1:20 or otherwise convenient.
- Short description of the renovation strategy and the specific technical solutions proposed, including how the intervention is replicable across the remaining blocks.
- A few 3D views to help the understanding of the design proposal.

5. Component C

The axis is developed at two levels of resolution. **Across the full 1,200 metres the proposal is conceptual, at masterplan level.**

- Conceptual plan of the full axis, showing continuity, mobility routes, and the treatment of the crossing over the transit infrastructure. This should be integrated into the master plan.
- Identification of the design elements proposed for replication along the remaining length of the axis, indicated on the plan.

6. Video Presentation

- As part of your entry, submit a short video (5 minutes) presenting your design. It's your chance to share your concept, process, and presentation skills, helping the jury understand not just what you designed, but why.

- Intro: Briefly introduce yourself/your team and state your design intent and site Concept + Site: What inspired your idea? How does it respond to the site's climate, context, or people?
- Design Highlights: Walk us through the key plans, sections, 3D views, unique features, material choices, and sustainability strategies. For renovations: what's changed and why?
- Wrap-up: Leave us with one strong takeaway: what change are you hoping your design will inspire? End with how your design impacts the community and the future.

Be creative; use visuals, narration, even on-site clips if relevant, as long as your idea shines through clearly.

Note: Mentioning your name, college, or any other identification in your sheets will be grounds for DISQUALIFICATION.

AWARDS:

The winner of the National ASC category will get a **fully sponsored opportunity by Saint-Gobain to represent India at the international event in Madrid, Spain.** They'll compete with participants from over **30 countries** for a chance to win exciting global prizes!
The winning team from India, will get access to mentorship and feedback to further refine their entry for the ASC Global round as per the contest requirements.

National Awards:
National Winner: Winning Trophy, and a certificate
All Participants will receive a "Certificate of Participation"
International Awards:
1st Prize - € 5000 + Award Certificate signed by the International Jury members

2nd Prize - € 3000 + Award Certificate signed by the International Jury members

3rd Prize - € 1500 + Award Certificate signed by the International Jury members

TIMELINE:

Registrations Open: 5th October 2026
Registrations Close: 1st January 2027
Submissions Close: 10 January 2027

Announcement of Shortlists: By mid February 2027
Indian level Finale and Awards: March 2027

AVAILABLE DOCUMENTATION, VIDEOS AND 360 VIEW

1. Site, planning and urbanism documentation & normative

- 0. Compendium – 2023 Madrid Urbanism Norms (PDF - Spanish)
- 1. Building Conditions APE.5.31 – near Colonia San Cristobal (PDF)
- 2. Building Conditions APE8.20 – new site (PDF)
- 3. Land Use Planning APE 5.31 (PDF – Spanish)
- Urbanistic Visor. 6 Graphic documentation of the area in its current state.

2. CAD documentation

- 0. ASC_2027- Area new construction task with plots
- 1. ASC_2027- Area new construction task
- 2. ASC_2027- Area Colonia de San Cristóbal

3. Colonia de San Cristóbal

- Drawings (picture format) (only images available)
  - o Front elevation
  - o Rear elevation
  - o Typical floor plan
- CAD drawings - (.dwg & .dxf format)
  - o Front elevation
  - o General layout plan
- Photos from the exterior façade
- Supporting documents: a thesis on biosolar façades, and a general description of the site. (PDF)
- Extract from the City of Madrid Catalogue of Protected Buildings setting out the Level 2 protection conditions. Green Axis

4. Project video presentation and 360 view

Two videos are available on the Architecture Student Contest YouTube channel:
a) Contest Task presentation, including drone views of the site and an introduction by the Ayuntamiento de Madrid: here
b) 360° view of the plot, for an immersive impression on the ground: here

ABOUT SAINT-GOBAIN

Saint-Gobain is a global leader in light, sustainable and durable construction, designing, manufacturing and distributing innovative building materials and solutions for residential, non-residential and infrastructure markets. Through its integrated approach, the Group delivers solutions that enhance sustainability, performance and well-being while addressing the evolving needs of the built environment.

Guided by its purpose, **"Making the World a Better Home,"** Saint-Gobain is committed to advancing sustainable construction and creating healthier, more resilient spaces for people and the planet. Equally important is preparing the next generation of architects and designers with the knowledge, skills and professional capabilities to create them.

Transparence is a structured experiential learning programme by Saint-Gobain where students apply academic knowledge, develop technical and professional skills, engage with real-world industry challenges, and demonstrate their ability to design light, sustainable and durable workplaces for the future.

With **€46.5 billion in sales in 2025**, a global workforce of **162,000 employees**, and operations in **81 countries**, Saint-Gobain continues to lead the transformation of the construction industry, with an ambitious goal of achieving **net zero carbon emissions by 2050**.

For more information about Saint-Gobain India, visit **www.saint-gobain.co.in**.

ABOUT ETHOS

Ethos is a bridge that creates avenues of engagement for the ACED community that help unite and facilitate an environment of collective learning and growth. Ethos connects its vast reach and understanding amongst the architecture, construction, engineering and design community to bring about value exchange.

Gita Balakrishnan started Ethos in 2002, as a response to a need for raising awareness about our built environment. Ethos is an initiative to bridge the gap between professionals, academicians, students and industries in the ACED community (Architecture, Construction, Engineering and Design) and is an engaging and empowering platform for young professionals who are to be decision-makers in the years to come.

To know more log on to www.ethosempowers.com