

Sustainable Architecture

THROUGH SEVEN LENSES



WHY IT MATTERS

26 August 2020

Every minute of the day, we pollute rivers, the earth and the air we breathe. We use resources faster than we can ever replace them. The burning of fossil fuels is unbearably heating up the very planet that has sheltered and supported us and other species for millions of years. *Why It Matters* gives an overview of these issues, how it relates to architecture and building design and the urgent transition towards a carbon neutral society.



PEOPLE MATTERS

2 September 2020

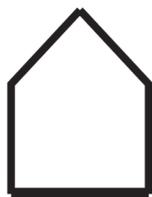
Urbanization, architecture and, yes, the climate crisis are the product of social processes. *People Matters* examines the role that people play, individually and collectively, in the transformation of the built environment with the aim of understanding how individuals and communities are essential to the creation of sustainable living environments. Collaboration and co-creation also extends to architects as part of a multi-disciplinary team.



CONTEXT MATTERS

9 September 2020

Where we build hugely matters. After all, buildings are not constructed in a void. The location, climatic conditions, ecology and urban, green and blue infrastructure and other contextual parameters of a site define our design approaches but must also be exploited with care. In *Context Matters*, we will especially investigate how the environmental context can act as a generator of urban and architectural design concepts, in a fundamentally sustainable way.



DESIGN MATTERS

16 September 2020

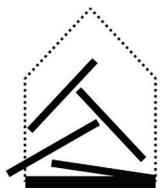
Typically, architecture projects tend to exacerbate the climatic, environmental and health challenges that we face. Yet there are many design principles that can minimise this damage and disruption, while enhancing human health and well-being. Indeed, architects are key to getting the basics right through passive design, and energy and carbon literacy to ensure clean energy provision is not an uphill struggle. *Design Matters* will specifically focus on these issues and the power of design to revert the damaging impacts of our interventions.



HOLISTIC MATTERS

23 September 2020

Architectural approaches typically focus on a few aspects of sustainability, leading to minimised impacts in some areas but still significantly contributing to the current climate and ecological crisis. These approaches are no longer relevant. *Holistic Matters* focuses on why, and how we can achieve a sustainable architecture that is holistic and restorative, i.e. one that comprehensively meets exemplary standards in all the aspects of sustainable design and that doesn't just do less harm, but creates positive impact.



MATERIAL MATTERS

30 September 2020

The environmental impact associated with the construction of buildings and spaces has significantly contributed to climate change, the depletion of finite resources and the creation of avoidable waste and ecological damage. That is why *Material Matters* will explore whether to build at all, principles of (whole life) embodied energy and carbon, and what circular strategies exist to (re)use resources in the design of our urban and architectural design interventions.



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT MATTERS

7 October 2020

Buildings need to use fewer resources while offering better quality environments, not just on paper but in reality (i.e. when built and in-use). But, while architects design buildings with the best intentions, the reality often fails to match up. *What Happens Next Matters* will explore the causes of this 'performance gap' and, and what can be done to make sure that the buildings we design work as intended. This includes an introduction to the concepts of 'feedback' and 'delight'.