

Partner search

Culture sub-Program

Strand/category	Culture/Cooperation Projects
Deadline	18.01.2018

Cultural operator(s)

Name and country	Tbilisi Architecture Biennial
Short description	<p>Tbilisi Architecture Biennial is an architectural festival, which will take place in Tbilisi every two years. TAB aims to biannually bring together professionals from diverse disciplines united under one topic that will be presented during the event, policy makers, local public and other stakeholders to initiate and broaden existing critical discourse on architectural and urban issues in Tbilisi and beyond.</p> <p>With joined forces the TAB platform will generate exhibitions, new architectural installations, spatial experiments, symposiums and other activities related to the theme of the event. The topic, location as well as a curator for the event will change on each occasion.</p>
Contact details	<p>Tinatin Gurgенidze Co-Founder / Curator TBILISI ARCHITECTURE BIENNIAL 4 Shanidze str 0179 Tbilisi Georgia DE (+49) 17670405360 GEO (+995) 599711803 t.gurgенidze@biennial.ge www.biennial.ge FB Tbilisi Architecture Biennial / თბილისის არქიტექტურის ბიენალე</p>

Proposed Creative Europe project

Field(s)

Architectural Events; Architecture and Society; Critical Research in Architecture and Urbanism;

The upcoming Tbilisi Architecture Biennial 2018 will explore the informality of the built and lived spaces of residential settlements in Tbilisi and beyond. Under the name “Buildings Are Not Enough” the Tbilisi Architecture Biennial will study the manifested transformational processes and newly reinvented inhabiting logics of the urban dwellers. We would like to emphasize the altered built surroundings that demonstrate the actions taken by the inhabitants, as they tend to adjust the architecture and the urban environment according to their needs.

In the midst of construction outburst in Tbilisi, more and more of its territory gets exploited by rapidly erecting high-rise residential blocks all over its urban area. In this whole process of quick urbanization the significance of human living culture seems to be forgotten. It is also important to know if the new residential developments can really meet the housing needs of urban dwellers. Therefore, we find it essential to study the history of informal housing and urban informalities in order to understand the ideas behind the self-made structures that nowadays shape the urban landscape of Tbilisi.

Description

We would like to focus our research on the transformational processes of the Soviet modernist mass housing neighborhoods – micro-districts, which also opens up whole new spectrum of questions that we would like to address during the 2018 Tbilisi Biennial. As we go beyond the local background of “Soviet”, we discuss “Buildings Are Not Enough” within an international context. Periphery, monotony, Informal architecture, living forms, social practices, housing issues, these are some of the themes we find interesting to explore during the upcoming Biennial.

Our interest in studying the soviet micro-districts is connected with the fact, that these neighborhoods were designed and constructed according to Soviet rules and regulations and were results of the idealistic dream of accommodating every single family in the former Soviet Union. Today, these places have established themselves in new system and reflect the traces of Tbilisi’s recent history.

In our local context “Buildings Are Not Enough” illustrates the chaotic outbreak of constructions that followed the dissolution of the Soviet

Union. Nowadays the processes of the previous years shape the cityscape of Tbilisi and many other post-socialistic cities. On the one hand, “Buildings Are Not Enough” is an answer of dwellers to the architecture and a self-solution to their living space problems. While on the other hand, “Buildings Are Not Enough” is a demonstration of existing socio-economic disorder.

Over the course of Tbilisi Architecture Biennial, we welcome all interested parties in Gldani micro-district in Tbilisi, where the whole event will take place. We hope to generate a wider conversation on the topic and gather an interesting collection exploring the “Buildings Are Not Enough” from different contexts of the world.

We would like to discuss “Buildings Are Not Enough” through studying in-depth two major aspects of informality - lived and built *spaces*:

Lived Spaces

By exploring “Buildings Are Not Enough,” on the one hand, we focus on the lived spaces -the social practices of the everyday life. We are interested in different examples of urban informality and the community activities that emerge due to social/economic transformations.

Built Spaces

On the other hand, we direct our attention towards the physical environments of the informality and change. We would like to bring together various examples of the built spaces, architectural structures that are informally erected by the inhabitants.

Partners currently involved in the project (if any)

Name of
organisation
and country

BINA - Belgrade International Architecture Week

Partners searched

Countries	All eligible countries
Preferred profile	

Previous Creative Europe or Culture 2007-2013 programme experience (if any)

Project name(s)	
Role within projects	

Are you interested in participating in other EU projects as a partner?

Yes	X
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No

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What kind of projects are you interested in participating in?

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Other

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