The second regional Holcim Awards for Sustainable Construction have been presented. At ceremonies in Madrid, Montreal, Mexico City, Marrakech, and New Delhi, the best 52 of about 5,000 submitted construction projects and visions for a sustainable future were recognized. A total of 1,680 guests attended the five two-day events. The highlight of the first day of each event was the ceremony. On the second day excursions to local examples of sustainable construction were conducted. The program offered a variety of opportunities to make new contacts and talk with customers and other key stakeholders.

The host Group companies displayed great dedication and helped frame the events in the best possible light. The events reinforced the reputation of Holcim as a competent partner and strengthened the image of the Group as one that is strongly committed to sustainability. Many Group companies are now conducting follow-up events with Awards winners: the potential generated by the Holcim Awards as a networking platform is impressive.
Regional Holcim Awards 2008:

The Holcim Awards competition is as globally encompassing as sustainable construction itself. The map shows the sites on which the prize winning projects and visions have been envisaged. For detailed information on all winning entries see: www.holcimawards.org.

North America
1. Solar 2 Green Energy, Arts and Education Center, New York, USA
2. Self-contained day labor station, San Francisco, USA
3. Living with Lakes Center for freshwater restoration and research, Sudbury, Canada
4. Evergreen Brick Works heritage site revitalization, Toronto, Canada
5. Minimal-impact North Vancouver Outdoor School, Canada
6. Strategy for environmentally-friendly integration of beehives, Detroit, USA
7. Microstructure research for buildings, Cambridge, USA
8. Residential density for urban spaces, Toronto, Canada
9. Responsive urban downtown activity center, Boston, USA

Latin America
10. Urban integration of an informal area, Medellin, Colombia
11. Low-energy integration metroatheneum, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
12. Solar water heating and rainwater tower, Florianopolis, Brazil
13. Ecological river remediation park, Morelia, Mexico
14. Energy-efficient medical and social center, San Pablo, Brazil
15. Mountain trail for land preservation and urban demarcation, Bogota, Colombia
16. Multi-modal transport hub upgrade, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
17. Post-earthquake reconstruction, San Lorenzo, Tepozulco, Chile
18. Sanitation and river remediation, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Mexico
19. Coastal fog harvesting tower, Huasco, Chile
20. Extrope low-cost and space-efficient social housing, Mexico City, Mexico
21. Agriculture facility for inner-city voids, Campinas, Brazil

Asia Pacific
22. Low-impact environmentally-responsive house, Cape Town, South Africa
23. School infrastructure from local resources, Vele and Vryheid, South Africa
24. Stabilized earth visitors’ center, Mapungubwe National Park, South Africa
25. TungJak integrated theater and orphanage, Moshi, Tanzania
26. Kibera-responsive urban planning strategy, Nairobi, Kenya
27. Amphibious dwellings in informal settlements, Lagos, Nigeria
28. Dand anti-denotification architecture, Sokoto, Nigeria
29. Lighthouse tower with low-carbon footprint, Dubai, UAE
30. River remediation and urban development scheme, Foz, Minas Gerais, Brazil
31. Low-cost school and home for HIV orphans, Rakai, Uganda
32. Lighthouses with low-carbon footprint, Dubai, UAE

Europe
33. Contextual government quarter development, Budapest, Hungary
34. Temporary urban extension in a former landfill, Maribor, Slovenia
35. Autonomous alpine shelter, Monti Bresa hut, Switzerland
36. Culturally-responsive urban village, Belgrade, Serbia
37. Low-cost resilience on industrial site, Ghent, Belgium
38. Office building with green hypercone, Milan, Italy
39. Waterfront reclamations and remediations, Southern Italy
40. Production and ecological clusters, New Haven, UK
41. Urban greening and economic catalyst, Madrid, Spain
42. Self-sufficient rural community, Paimio, Finland
43. Low-cost residence on industrial site, Maribor, Slovenia
44. Autonomous alpine shelter, Edertal, Germany
45. Sustainable planning for a rural community, Beijing, China
46. Advocacy of traditional earthquake-resistant construction, Lahore, Pakistan
47. Dongtan Eco-City urban concept, Shanghai, China
48. Heart of Susuku Creek ecosystem revitalization, Shanghai, China
49. Realizing solutions for the redevelopment of Dharavi, Mumbai, India
50. Low and dense urban elements, Shanghai, China
51. Sustainable planning for a rural community, Beijing, China
52. Sustainable greenfield university campus, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

“Next Generation” winners
1. “Next Generation” 1: Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Mexico
2. “Next Generation” 2: Santofino, Argentina
3. “Next Generation” 3: Tampere, Finland

*Nominees for global Holcim Awards 2009

52 winners from 28 nations
Probably the most important background work in the Holcim Awards competition is done by the independent juries. In five world regions, their task was to identify the best of a great many projects.

At each of the Awards ceremonies USD 270,000 in prize money was presented. This sum underscores the great responsibility that the Holcim Foundation entrusted to the regional juries. Each expert committee comprises renowned specialists in the fields of architecture, engineering, and allied disciplines. Leading the jury selection were the Technical Competence Center (TCC) of the Foundation at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, and the partner universities of the Foundation.

Above all a quantitative challenge

The challenge of identifying the best projects among all entries was literally enormous. A total of nearly 2,000 projects were investigated in detail. The other submissions had been previously eliminated because they failed to meet the formal criteria of the competition. Working in groups, the jury members screened entries, selected the best, and presented them to the full jury. Then discussion began: Which are in fact prize-worthy? How should one weight the work of the architects, engineers, and urban planners? What is especially important in this world region?

The juries based their assessments on the “target issues” for sustainable construction developed by the Holcim Foundation. These five criteria address the “triple bottom line” of economic, environmental, and social sustainability, but also consider architectural quality and contextual appropriateness, and the potential gains of broadly applying the innovative ideas.

Every prize-worthy project scrutinized

The decisions of the juries – made at two- to three-day workshops at the campuses of the partner universities in Zurich, Cambridge, Mexico City, Johannesburg, and Shanghai – did not mark the end of the adjudication process.

The nominated projects were each rechecked in detail by the TCC. Competition participants had to substantiate that the facts given in their submission were indeed correct. The juries selected runners-up to replace the presumed winners if need be. Of course, whether projects were eliminated remains secret, like everything the juries discussed behind closed doors.

And now?

With the regional ceremonies, well documented on the following pages, the second cycle of the Holcim Awards competition is not yet at an end. The winners of the regional Holcim Awards Gold, Silver, and Bronze – 15 projects in all – are automatically qualified for the global phase of the Holcim Awards competition.

In March 2009 the global jury will meet in Zurich. The jury’s decisions will be announced on May 8, 2009.

Members of the global jury are (for details see www.holcimawards.org/global):

- Charles Correa, architect/planner, India (head)
- Peter Head, civil engineer, UK
- Enrique Norten, architect, Mexico
- Saskia Sassen, social scientist/economist, USA
- Hans-Rudolf Schalcher, civil engineer, Switzerland
- Rolf Soiron, social scientist, Switzerland
- Achim Steiner, economist/administrator, Kenya

And the winner is...
Holcim Awards ceremony for Europe in Madrid, Spain

The first of the five regional Awards ceremonies took place in Spain and proved to be an ideal curtain raiser. Markus Akermann, CEO of Holcim and Chairman of the Management Board of the Holcim Foundation, led the ceremony as chair of the day. Over 300 guests from more than 20 countries gained illuminating insight into the future of sustainable construction — as well as the culture and architecture of Madrid.

Flamenco dancers created a dramatic mood and local flavor to conclude the event in Madrid.

Ideal venue: the former Central Eléctrica del Mediodía power station transformed into Caixa Forum by the Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron.

Manuel Marín González, former President of the Spanish Congress of Deputies and long-time member of the European Commission, delivered a speech emphasizing the importance of sustainable construction in Europe.

Harry Gugger, head of the jury for the region Europe, presented the Award-winning projects.

At a media briefing, the Holcim Foundation, the Awards competition and the prize winning projects were presented in detail.

On an excursion on the second day, Architect Rafael de La-Hoz (center) presents the new head office of Telefónica in Madrid, which he designed; to his right: Saverio Banchini, former CEO of Holcim Spain.

Esperanza Aguirre, president of region of Madrid and former President of the Spanish Senate and Minister for Education, Culture and Sports, received from Markus Akermann a gift of gratitude for her engaging welcome speech.

Acknowledgement prize
Culturally-responsive urban village, Belgrade, Serbia
Main author: Vladimir Macura, architect, Belgrade, Serbia

Acknowledgement prize
Low-cost residence on industrial site, Ghent, Belgium
Authors: Edward Weysen and Lore De Baere, architects, Weysen De Baere, Ghent, Belgium

Acknowledgement prize
Office building with green hypercore, Milan, Italy
Main author: Hiromi Hosoya, architect, Hosoya Schaefer Architects AG, Zurich, Switzerland

Acknowledgement prize
Waterfront reclamation and remediation, Southern Italy
Main author: Luigi Centola, architect, Centola & Associati, Salerno, Italy

Winners of the Holcim Awards for the region Europe from Switzerland, Spain and Hungary (from left to right).

Holcim Awards Gold
Contextual government quarter development, Budapest, Hungary
Main author: Peter Jenesch, architect, Team0708 Kft., Budapest, Hungary

Holcim Awards Silver
Temporary urban extension in a former landfill, Maribor, Slovenia
Main author: Belinda Tato, architect, ecosistema urbano, Madrid, Spain

Holcim Awards Bronze
Autonomous alpine shelter, Monte Rosa hut, Switzerland
Main author: Andrea Deplazes, architect, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich), Faculty of Architecture, Studio Monte Rosa, Zurich, Switzerland

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Office building with green hypercore, Milan, Italy
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Acknowledgement prize
Waterfront reclamation and remediation, Southern Italy
Main author: Luigi Centola, architect, Centola & Associati, Salerno, Italy

Winners of the Holcim Awards for the region Europe from Switzerland, Spain and Hungary (from left to right).
Holcim Awards ceremony for North America in Montreal, Canada

In North America they know how to put on a show, as demonstrated by the ceremony at Montreal – a professional Master of Ceremonies, an impressive bilingual event, a smoothly conducted cultural program. Over 300 guests from six countries enjoyed two stimulating, check-full days – and still found time for lengthy discussions.

A leading global expert in sustainable construction, Kevin Hydes, founding chairman of the World Green Building Council, delivered a speech highlighting the pivotal role of the built environment in reducing carbon emissions and controlling environmental impact.

Adèle Naudé Santos, Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning at MIT, explained in her function as jury head for North America, the procedure of the competition.

Rolf Soiron, chair of the day, Chairman of the Holcim Foundation’s Advisory Board, and of the Board of Directors of Holcim Ltd.

Mayor of Saint-Laurent, Alan DeSousa, welcomed the guests.

After the prizes were bestowed, the winning projects were presented in an exhibition; the winners answered questions and talked with the guests.

Highlight of the cultural program: a tour of “Benny Farm”. In the first competition cycle Architect Daniel Pearl (front, left) won the global Holcim Awards Bronze for upgrading this residential development in Montreal.

The entertainment group “Insolita” provided the audience lively breaks during the ceremony.

The winners of Holcim Awards for the region North America – along with jury members, diplomats, and Holcim representatives.

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The winners of Holcim Awards for the region North America – along with jury members, diplomats, and Holcim representatives.

Foundations 9
Temperament and style

Holcim Awards ceremony for Latin America in Mexico City, Mexico

The Awards ceremony in Mexico City was conducted in a venue with particular style, the “Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso”, a former seminary from the 16th century. The ceremony itself was just as elegant: more than 360 guests from 14 nations experienced prominent speakers, first-class project presentations, entertainment loaded with vitality, and an exciting supporting program.

Open-air exhibit: presentation of the prize-winning projects in the courtyard of the 16th century building.

Chair of the day Markus Akerboom in the auditorium of the “Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso”.

Eloquent head of the Holcim Awards jury for Latin America: Jose Luis Cortés, Dean of Architecture at the Universidad Iberoamericana (UIA) in Mexico City.

Holcim Awards Gold winners from Medellin, Colombia, accompanied by Ricardo Lagarriga, internationally renowned Mexican architect who delivered a speech at the ceremony. Jury head José Luis Cortés, Holcim representative Monica Perez, and Daniel Bermudez, member of the jury.

Europe’s number one: Holcim Gold awards ceremony for Latin America in Mexico City.

The internationally renowned singer Tania Libertad transformed the dinner following the ceremony into an emotional celebration.

Participants of the excursions on the second day met for a special guided tour in the famous Muséo Nacional de Antropología de México.

During the supporting program, dr. Jorge Cambias explained his design for the building Reforma 222 to jury member Hans-Rudolf Schalcher.

Chair of the day Markus Akerboom in the auditorium of the “Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso”.

Gerardo Ruiz Mateos, Secretary of Economy of the Republic of Mexico, delivered an address that emphasized the broad potential for sustainable construction to generate tangible change, both social and environmental.

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Chair of the day Markus Akerboom in the auditorium of the “Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso”.

Eloquent head of the Holcim Awards jury for Latin America: Jose Luis Cortés, Dean of Architecture at the Universidad Iberoamericana (UIA) in Mexico City.
A colorful event

Holcim Awards ceremony for Africa Middle East in Marrakech, Morocco

Over 320 guests from 24 countries made their way to the beautiful and ancient royal city of Marrakech. At the Palmeraie International Conference Center, guests experienced a colorful event, with Rolf Soiron as chair of the day. The Award winners represented a broad array of cultural groups from Africa and beyond, and the entertainment program offered an exciting mix of traditional and modern elements.

The ceremony concluded with a banquet and breathtaking show in the dinner theater “Les Folies de Marrakech”. With a fusion of jazz and the traditional music of Gnaoua, the brothers Souissi and Majid Bekkas lightened the atmosphere between presentations of the various prizes.

All winners of regional Holcim Awards, accompanied by diplomats, jury members, and Holcim representatives, were present. General Director of Architecture and Urban Planning Abderrahmane Chorfi delivered an address in which he emphasized the importance of the built environment in achieving sustainable development. The exhibition after the Awards ceremony gave all guests and winners the possibility to delve further into all prize-winning projects.

Holcim Awards Gold
River remediation and urban development scheme, Fez, Morocco
Main authors: Aziza Chaouni, architect, Extramuro LLP, Fez, Morocco, and Takako Tajima, urban planner, Los Angeles, USA

Holcim Awards Silver
Low-cost school and home for HIV orphans, Rakai, Uganda
Author: Koji Tsutsui, architect, Koji Tsutsui Architect & Associates, Tokyo, Japan

Acknowledgement prize
TunaHAKI integrated theater and orphanage, Moshi, Tanzania
Authors: Hollmén Reuter Sandman Architects, Espoo and Helsinki, Finland, and Armstrong + Cohen Architecture, Gainesville, USA

Acknowledgement prize
Stabilized earth visitors’ center, Mapungubwe National Park, South Africa
Main author: Peter Rich, architect, Lerotholi Rich Associated Architects, Johannesburg, South Africa

Holcim Awards Bronze
Lighthouse tower with low-carbon footprint, Dubai, UAE
Author: Shaun Killa, architect, Atkins PLC, Dubai, UAE

Acknowledgement prize
Xeritown responsive urban planning strategy, Dubai, UAE
Main authors: SMAQ – architecture urbanism research, Berlin, Germany, and X-Architects, Dubai, UAE

Acknowledgement prize
School infrastructure from local resources, Vele and Vryheid, South Africa
Authors: Steve Kinsler and Derek van Heerden, architects, East Coast Architects, Durban, South Africa, and Gregg Sherkin, program officer, Oprah’s Angel Network, Chicago, USA

Acknowledgement prize
Low-impact environmentally-responsive house, Cape Town, South Africa
Authors: Jessica Tami Cohen and Andrew Justin Cooke, architects, Architecture Co-op, Cape Town, South Africa

Acknowledgement prize
River remediation and urban development scheme, Fez, Morocco
Main authors: Aziza Chaouni, architect, Extramuro LLP, Fez, Morocco, and Takako Tajima, urban planner, Los Angeles, USA

Acknowledgement prize
Stabilized earth visitors’ center, Mapungubwe National Park, South Africa
Main author: Peter Rich, architect, Lerotholi Rich Associated Architects, Johannesburg, South Africa

Holcim Awards Silver
Low-cost school and home for HIV orphans, Rakai, Uganda
Author: Koji Tsutsui, architect, Koji Tsutsui Architect & Associates, Tokyo, Japan

Acknowledgement prize
TunaHAKI integrated theater and orphanage, Moshi, Tanzania
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Stabilized earth visitors’ center, Mapungubwe National Park, South Africa
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Low-impact environmentally-responsive house, Cape Town, South Africa
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The ceremony concluded with a banquet and breathtaking show in the dinner theater “Les Folies de Marrakech.” With a fusion of jazz and the traditional music of Gnaoua, the brothers Souissi and Majid Bekkas lightened the atmosphere between presentations of the various prizes.

Jury members Rachid Benmokhtar Benabdellah (Morocco) and Nina Maritz (Namibia) presented Ahmad Al Ali from Dubai a Holcim Awards Acknowledgement prize.

The venue at the Palmeraie International Conference Center, full to the brim with attentive guests.

General Director of Architecture and Urban Planning Abderrahmane Chorfi, delivered an address in which he emphasized the importance of the built environment in achieving sustainable development.

The venue at the Palmeraie International Conference Center, full to the brim with attentive guests.

The exhibition after the Awards ceremony gave all guests and winners the possibility to delve further into all prize-winning projects.

Architect Joe Addo from Ghana was head of the Holcim Awards jury for Africa Middle East.

All winners of regional Holcim Awards, accompanied by diplomats, jury members, and Holcim representatives.
During the ceremony the dancers of Sadhya shared their interpretation of harmony.

In his opening speech, chair of the day Markus Akermann presented a model project to which the Foundation has dedicated a publication: the world headquarters of Development Alternatives in New Delhi (see page 18).

The winners of Holcim Awards Gold, Silver, and Bronze with Holcim representatives, diplomats, and jury members.

Jury members Mark Lee (USA) and Zareen Niazi (India) presented the Holcim Awards Acknowledgement prizes.

Economist Bimal Jalan, Member of the Indian Parliament and former governor of the Reserve Bank of India illustrated in his speech the vast opportunities for sustainable construction to make a tangible difference in both developing and developed countries.

At the media briefing the main prize winning projects were exhibited and presented by the authors in more detail.

Ashok Khosla, Founding Chairman of Development Alternatives, President of IUCN and Co-President of the Club of Rome.

The “sustainable construction tour” included future-oriented modern buildings and ancient architecture that has stood the test of time: a visit to Qutub Minar, the tallest brick minaret in the world.

On the evening of the ceremony in New Delhi the thoughts of many guests were with the victims of the brutal attacks in Mumbai the night before. The Awards presentation in the “India Habitat Centre” and the supporting program were kept modest yet offered the 320 guests from 23 countries an unforgettable experience while forming a worthy conclusion to the series of regional Awards ceremonies.

Worthy conclusion
The new category “Next Generation” is open to students and professionals younger than 35 years of age at the close of entries. In contrast to the main category, these prizes chiefly recognize new ideas and innovative concepts. With this category, the Holcim Foundation seeks to motivate young professionals to deal with sustainable construction.

People at the center

For the Holcim Awards “Next Generation” prizes, USD 35,000 was available in each of the five regions (the total prize sum per region was USD 270,000). In addition to the money, the winners each received a statue of the Modulor.

This measurement system, designed by Swiss architect Le Corbusier, is the most significant modern attempt to give architecture a mathematical order. It derives from the scale of the human body, because for Le Corbusier man stood at the center as the measure of all things.

Winners of the Holcim Awards “Next Generation” prizes 2008

In addition to projects at an advanced stage of design or under construction, in the second cycle of the Holcim Awards competition visionary concepts of young professionals were celebrated for the first time – in the newly created category “Next Generation.”

The “Next Generation” competition generated great interest. About a third of all qualified competition entries fell into this category.

"Next Generation" 1st prize
Production and ecological cluster, New Haven, UK
Author: Semioli Fabadha Samarcanghi, student, Kandy, Sri Lanka
A design of a production and ecological cluster in New Haven, UK, featuring a tea house and herbal tea production facility.

"Next Generation" 2nd prize
Urban greening and economic catalyst, Madrid, Spain
Authors: Ana Castillo and Ixven De Groot, architects, castillo de groot architecture, Madrid, Spain
A visionary building skin research using carbon nanotubes to develop materials that can be assigned specific structural, functional and environmental properties.

"Next Generation" 3rd prize
Self-sufficient rural community, Paaralu, Finland
Authors: Heikki Ritalaahstu, Heikki Muntola and Mikko Jakomov, students, Oulu, Finland
A design of a production and ecological cluster in New Haven, UK, featuring a tea house and herbal tea production facility.

"Next Generation" 1st prize
A visionary building skin research using carbon nanotubes to develop materials that can be assigned specific structural, functional and environmental properties.

Symbol for the Holcim Awards
"Next Generation" prizes:
le Corbusier’s Modulor

Visionary concepts and ideas awarded for the first time

Region Europe

“Next Generation” 1st prize
Microstructure research for building skins, Cambridge, USA
Authors: Neri Oxman, architect, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, and John Hart, engineer, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA
A visionary building skin research using carbon nanotubes to develop materials that can be assigned specific structural, functional and environmental properties.

“Next Generation” 2nd prize
Eutropia low-cost and space-efficient social housing, Mexico City, Mexico
Authors: Ricardo Julian Vásquez Ochoa and Emilio José García Galeggiotti, architects, Mexico City, Mexico
A concept for amphibious dwellings which uses low-lying and flood prone areas in informal settlements of Lagos to provide safe housing close to residents’ source of income.

“Next Generation” 3rd prize
A coastal fog-harvesting tower, Huasco, Chile
Author: Alberto Adolfo Fernandez Gonzalez, architect, Santiago, Chile
A coastal fog-harvesting tower concept for Huasco, Chile, which proposes to extract water for agriculture from the “Camanchaca” coastal fog.

Region North America

“Next Generation” 1st prize
Residential density for urban spaces, Toronto, Canada
Authors: Chenglong Wang and Lingchen Liu, architects, Beijing, China
A visionary building skin research using carbon nanotubes to develop materials that can be assigned specific structural, functional and environmental properties.

“Next Generation” 2nd prize
A coastal fog-harvesting tower, Huasco, Chile
Author: Alberto Adolfo Fernandez Gonzalez, architect, Santiago, Chile
A coastal fog-harvesting tower concept for Huasco, Chile, which proposes to extract water for agriculture from the “Camanchaca” coastal fog.

Region Latin America

“Next Generation” 1st prize
Heart of Suzhou Creek ecosystem revitalization, Shanghai, China
Main Author: Boon Ting Teo, student, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China
A project of an ecosystem revitalization blueprint for Suzhou Creek, Shanghai, China.

“Next Generation” 2nd prize
Realizing solutions for the redevelopment of Dharavi, Mumbai, India
Authors: Jens Kaeberer and Lucas Schwab, students, Berlin, Germany
A project applying cutting-edge biotechnology to stop desert encroachment in Sokoto.

Region Asia Pacific

“Next Generation” 1st prize
A coastal fog-harvesting tower, Huasco, Chile
Author: Alberto Adolfo Fernandez Gonzalez, architect, Santiago, Chile
A coastal fog-harvesting tower concept for Huasco, Chile, which proposes to extract water for agriculture from the “Camanchaca” coastal fog.

“Next Generation” 2nd prize
A coastal fog-harvesting tower, Huasco, Chile
Author: Alberto Adolfo Fernandez Gonzalez, architect, Santiago, Chile
A coastal fog-harvesting tower concept for Huasco, Chile, which proposes to extract water for agriculture from the “Camanchaca” coastal fog.

“Next Generation” 3rd prize
Waterfront sustainable development concept, Mombasa, Kenya
Authors: Maranga Njorgo, architect, and Benedette Nthale, designer, ATS, Nairobi, Kenya
A project applying cutting-edge biotechnology to stop desert encroachment in Sokoto.

Region Africa Middle East

“Next Generation” 1st prize
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Two new publications on exemplary projects in India and South Africa

The Holcim Foundation is publishing an ongoing series of volumes on buildings that exemplify sustainable construction. In 2006 “Office building in Costa Rica” was documented, and in 2007 “Research center in Switzerland.” Now there are two new books.

Community center in South Africa
This book presents the exemplary project “Tsoga Environmental Center” in a town-ship in a suburb of Cape Town. Tsoga is the Xhosa word for “wake up” – as well as the name of a local NGO that works to improve local social and environmental conditions. The new community center serves as the base of activity for some 200 Tsoga volunteers. The model project received the Holcim Awards Bronze for Africa Middle East in 2005. The publication describes the design, construction, and lasting socioeconomic benefits of the community center.

Office building in India
The fourth monograph in the series describes the world headquarters of Development Alternatives, an NGO in New Delhi. The new building was designed by Architect Ashok B. Lall, head of the jury for the Holcim Awards for the Asia Pacific region. It demonstrates that natural, recyclable, and low-CO2 construction materials, and traditional building methods and design elements offer a viable alternative to modern urban architecture – a vision that embraces tradition not for the sake of the past, but as a contribution to a sustainable future.
78 pages, ISBN 978-3-7266-0083-9

The two publications can be downloaded in PDF format at www.holcimfoundation.org or ordered in printed form from the Holcim Foundation.

Following the Holcim Forum for Sustainable Construction held in 2007 in Shanghai, which investigated with the theme Urban_Trans_Formation, a 400-page book for professionals has been published. The book was unveiled in Berlin and Venice.

“Urban Transformation,” edited and published by Ilka and Andreas Ruby of textbild Berlin, is a collection of essays by a broad international group of authors. Most contributions derive from presentations delivered at the Holcim Forum, and these are complemented with pieces written especially for the book by authors from every continent. With its 43 illustrated essays, the book is not a catalog of the Forum but a self-contained further examination of the Forum topics.
400 pages, ISBN 978-3-7266-0080-8

The premiere presentation of the book took place at the eleventh Architecture Biennale in Venice. At the Swiss Pavilion in the Giardini di Castello – and in cooperation with the Swiss Culture Department – professionals debated several critical aspects of city planning.

The two new publications, sponsored by the Holcim Foundation, were presented at a podium discussion in Berlin. At the renowned architecture center Aedes am Pfefferberg, interested professionals discussed topics ranging from construction materials to urban development. Co-editor Ruby and his work.

Community center in South Africa
Office building in India
Passion across five regions:
Holcim Awards ceremonies 2008