

PRESS RELEASE

2 February 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Housing projects that make difference: enter the World Habitat Awards

The annual World Habitat Awards are a great way of identifying and celebrating good practice in housing worldwide and entries are now open for the 2016/17 competition.

David Ireland, Director of BSHF, the World Habitats Awards' co-ordinators said: "For 30 years these awards have celebrated outstanding housing projects which have overcome housing problems and improved people's lives. It's incredible to see how previous winners have influenced and inspired others and seen their ideas spread around the world.

"Recent winners have included projects led by communities which have used local resources to build sustainable housing solutions, created jobs and enabled vulnerable people to live independently.

"We run the Awards in partnership with UN-Habitat and this brings clear benefits for the winners. As well as this high profile, international recognition for their innovative practices, winning projects also receive a cash prize of £10,000, a trophy and have the opportunity to transfer their award-winning approach through peer-exchange activities sponsored by BSHF."

Housing projects which demonstrate practical, innovative and sustainable solutions to current housing needs are invited to submit their entries via the World Habitat Awards website www.worldhabitatawards.org. Entries must be received by **29 April 2016**.

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Notes for Editors

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The World Habitat Awards were established in 1985 by the Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF) as part of its contribution to the United Nations International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

Projects are sought that:

- demonstrate practical, innovative and sustainable solutions to current housing issues faced by countries all around the world;
- can be transferred or adapted for use as appropriate;
- are already being implemented or are completed i.e. not at design or very early stages of development;
- view the term habitat from a broad perspective and bring other benefits as well, such as energy or water saving, income generation, social inclusion, community and individual empowerment, health benefits, capacity building or education.

The competition is open to any individual, organisation or government agency that has an innovative and sustainable housing solution in any country of the world. Awards of £10,000 and a trophy will be presented to each of the two winners of the 2016/17 World Habitat Awards at the UN-Habitat Governing Council in 2017.

The Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF) is an independent research organisation that promotes sustainable development and innovation in housing through collaborative research and knowledge transfer. Established in 1976, BSHF works both in the UK and internationally to identify innovative housing solutions and to foster the exchange of information and good practice. BSHF is committed to promoting housing policy and practice that is people-centred and environmentally responsible. All research carried out has practical relevance and addresses a range of current housing issues worldwide.