

# HEALING GARDEN

CERTOSA PARK (Collegno, Italy)

Design Contest  
7500€ prize + Built proposal

Free Entry



Co-funded by  
the European Union



CITTA' DI  
COLLEGNO

Participants are invited to design a **buildable Healing Garden within the defined intervention area of Parco della Certosa.**

The proposal should create a landscape environment that supports **biodiversity, social interaction, and sensory experience**, while respecting heritage constraints and the **60.000 EUR construction budget.**

The project should function as **an urban prototype** demonstrating how design can foster well-being and ecological regeneration.

# SUMMARY

**Design a buildable innovative urban prototype for healing within a defined site and budget.**

## SITE



Location: Certosa di Collegno, Italy  
(45°04'57"N 7°34'50"E)

Intervention Area: 25,600 m<sup>2</sup> (within marked boundary)

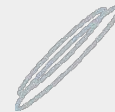


## KEY DATES

- Registration opens: April 15th, 2026
- Submission deadline: August 15th, 2026

## CONSTRUCTION BUDGET

60.000,00 EUR (Including VAT)



## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

- Students and professionals from all fields
- Citizens ideas and Initiatives
- Individual or teams (max. 4 members)
- **Free registration**

## PRIZES

7.500 EUR, to be awarded to the winning proposal as a compensation fee to further develop their design for construction



## SUBMISSION

- 4 Presentation Boards + 1 Concept Image (.JPEG, A1 + A3 format)
- Text document (title, 200-word concept)
- Team info (names, contacts, affiliations)

## REGISTRATION LINK

# THE CONTESTS WITHIN SLEEPING BEAUTY



This contest is the first in a sequence of **six design contests** developed within the European project *Sleeping Beauty – Nature Meets Bauhaus*.

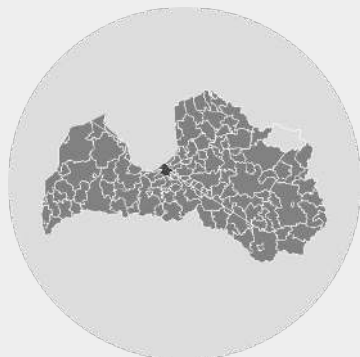
The Sleeping Beauty project aims to **reactivate underused cultural landscapes across Europe through Nature-Based Solutions inspired by the principles of the New European Bauhaus**. Within this initiative, participants are invited to **design and build urban prototypes** in one of the six pilot sites across Europe.

Each contest focuses on a different site, transforming fragmented or underperforming landscapes into **regenerative, inclusive, and nature-based environments**. The six pilot sites are located in **Riga (LV), Wroclaw (PL), Fröseke (SE), Bolzano (IT), Kozani (EL), and Collegno (IT)**.

**Parco della Certosa in Collegno is the first site to be activated through this competition.**

Together, these six contests aim to **test replicable models of urban transformation** across different European contexts. The goal is to **design and build urban prototypes that explore innovative and experimental solutions combining aesthetic quality, social inclusion, and nature-based strategies**, aligning heritage, ecology, and social innovation.

# THE SLEEPING BEAUTY PILOT SITES



Riga (LV)



Wroclaw (PL)



Fröseke (SE)



Bolzano (IT)



Kozani (EL)



Collegno (IT)

# THE FRAMEWORK: SLEEPING BEAUTY

*Sleeping Beauty* is a European project funded under Horizon Europe that aims to transform overlooked and neglected public spaces into vibrant, multifunctional environments supporting sustainable, inclusive, and resilient communities.

Coordinated by AIT Austrian Institute of Technology, the project brings together 21 organisations from 9 European countries and operates across six pilot sites, including Collegno (IT). These diverse contexts face challenges such as urban heat islands, depopulation, limited greenery, and light pollution.

Each site is reimagined through the integration of **Nature-Based Solutions (NBS)** and the values of the **New European Bauhaus (NEB)**, combining sustainability, inclusiveness, and aesthetic quality. The ambition goes beyond ecological improvement: it seeks to create beautiful living spaces that reconnect people with nature and redefine the role of public space.

The project is guided by six principles:

**Regenerate, Re-value, Re-use, Re-connect, Re-organise, and Replicate.**

Through co-creation processes involving local stakeholders, *Sleeping Beauty* promotes biodiversity, well-being, resilience, and social inclusion. The project lays the groundwork for a new vision of public space, where forgotten landscapes become active infrastructures of care and collective life.

The Healing Garden contest in Collegno represents one of the first opportunities to translate these principles into a concrete, buildable prototype within a real urban landscape.

Know more about the *Sleepy Beauty* Project [here](#).

*Image credit: Michele D'Ottavio Photography*

# CONTEST BRIEF



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Image credit: Michele D'Ottavio Photography



Image credit: Michele D'Ottavio Photography



# 1. INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

## What does it mean to design for healing?

This contest is part of the Sleeping Beauty – Nature Meets Bauhaus European project, which explores how Nature-Based Solutions inspired by the New European Bauhaus can transform underused cultural landscapes across Europe. The Healing Garden in Collegno represents the first pilot intervention within this network of six sites, contributing to a broader experimentation on regenerative, inclusive, and nature-based public spaces.

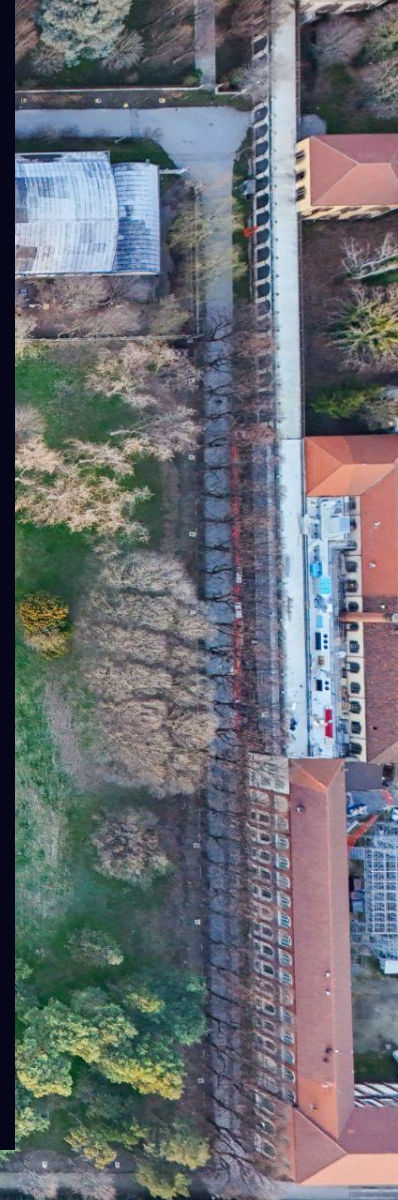
Collegno, in the metropolitan area of Turin, is home to the historic Certosa complex, a site shaped by memory and transformation. Once associated with institutional care and separation, it is now gradually opening to the city as a public landscape for cultural, social, and ecological life.

Within this context, the contest focuses on a green area inside Parco della Certosa with the potential to become a space for restoration and encounter.

Participants are invited to design a **buildable Healing Garden**, not as decoration, but as an environment that supports **physical, psychological, social, and ecological well-being**.

The proposal should act as a **real urban prototype**, showing how landscape design can contribute to regeneration, inclusion, and environmental resilience.

The brief builds on stakeholder workshops, a public survey, and spatial-emotional mapping conducted with park users.



# THE SITE

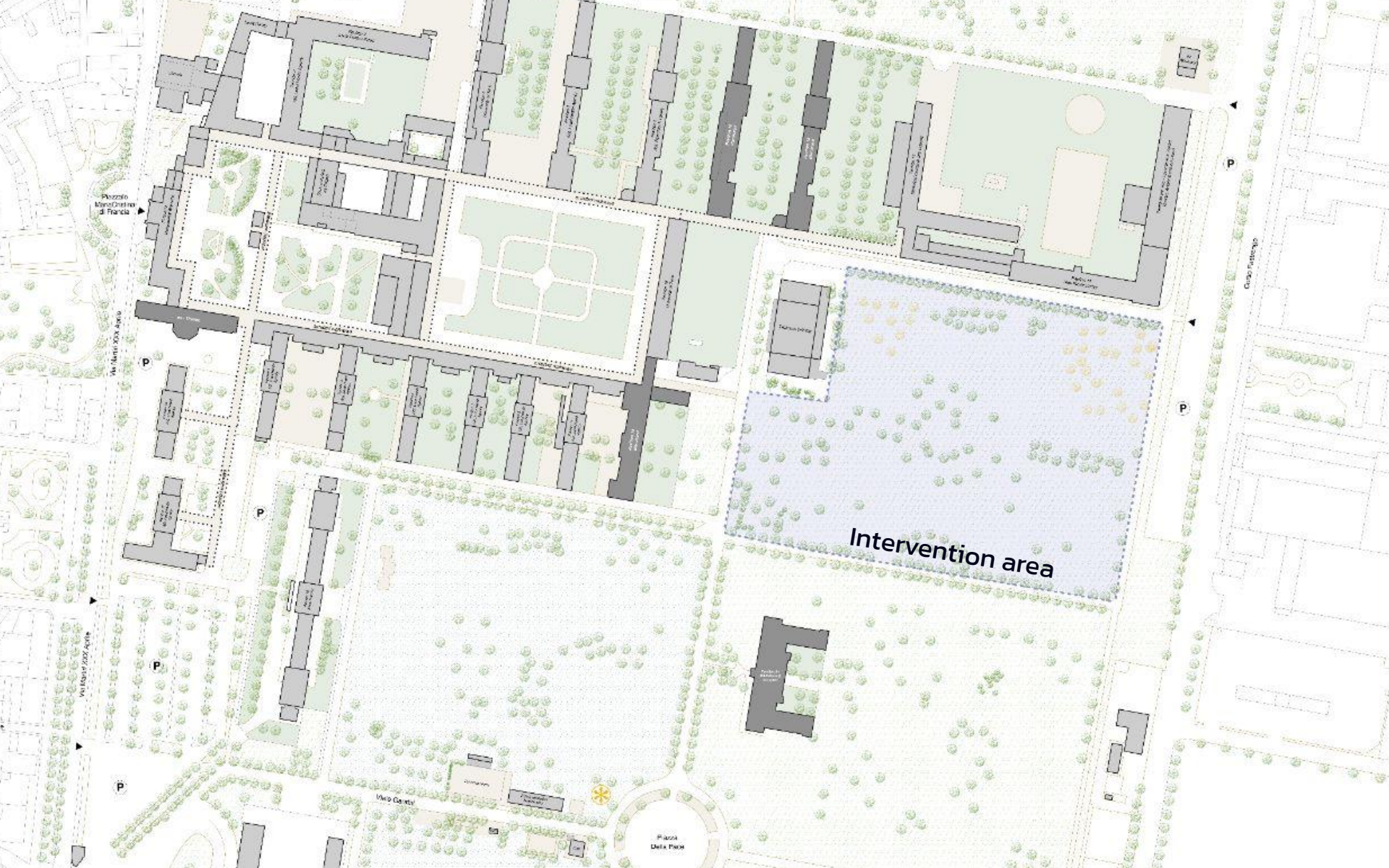
[DOWNLOAD SITE PACKAGE](#)

**Parco della Certosa**, located in Collegno within the metropolitan area of Turin, is one of the largest public parks in the western part of the city, spanning over **400.000 m<sup>2</sup>**. Rich in historical and cultural layers, the park today hosts educational, social, and cultural activities, standing at the intersection of heritage and public life.

The intervention area for this contest corresponds to the specifically marked zone in the site map, with a total surface of approximately **25,600 m<sup>2</sup>**. Participants must develop their proposals within the boundary indicated in the official site documentation, which can be downloaded together with the contest materials.

*Image credit: Borbala Papp*





Piazza Università di Firenze

Via Dante

Via Dante

Via Garibaldi

Piazza Della Pace

P

P

P

P

P

P

Intervention area

Via Firenze



ORTO CHE CURA COOPERATIVE  
- SOCIAL GARDEN

CLOISTER -  
UNIVERSITY - HEALTH AGENCY

UNIVERSITY PAVILIONS  
HEALTH AGENCY PAVILIONS

HEALTH AGENCY PAVILIONS

DISMISSED PAVILION

DISMISSED PAVILION

NEW LIBRARY  
(building site)

EVENTS AREA  
FLOWERS MUSIC FESTIVAL

LAVANDERIE A VAPORE  
THEATER - ART - EVENTS

TECHNICAL BUILDING

HEALING GARDEN AREA

DISMISSED AND OCCUPIED  
PAVILION

PARKING AREA

## Geographical & Urban Context

Parco della Certosa is widely regarded as a “green hidden gem” within the western metropolitan area of Turin, a 400.000 m<sup>2</sup> historical, cultural, and natural landscape embedded in the urban fabric. Architecturally, it retains the strong identity of the Carthusian typology: linear buildings, arcaded courtyards, axial relationships, and a clear spatial hierarchy. Yet many structures and open spaces remain underutilized, fragmented, or in need of renewal. Parts of the park lack biodiversity, spatial coherence, and integration with the broader urban network.

## Historical Background

Founded in the 17th century as a Carthusian monastery, the complex was later converted into one of the most significant psychiatric institutions in Northern Italy. The site entered national imagination through the famous case of the “Smemorato di Collegno,” becoming part of Italy’s cultural narrative. For generations, the Certosa embodied separation, physically enclosed and institutionally defined.

*Image credit: Michele D'Ottavio Photography*





Image credit: Michele D'Ottavio Photography

## **Cultural & Social Transformation**

The former asylum has evolved into a multifunctional civic landscape, reflecting the broader transformation promoted by the Sleeping Beauty project, re-valuing and re-using historic spaces as inclusive public environments.

Today, the Certosa complex accommodates the new public Library, Lavanderia a Vapore Theatre, university facilities, schools, social services, and numerous NGOs dedicated to care and social inclusion. Cultural festivals, educational programs, and public events activate its courtyards and green spaces, transforming a once introverted institution into a shared urban asset.

The site has progressively become a place of encounter between institutions, communities, and everyday life, reinforcing the Certosa's role as an inclusive civic landscape open to diverse users and social groups.

## **Strategic Vision**

The municipality envisions the Certosa as a comprehensive social welfare hub, promoting physical, psychological, social, ecological, and economic well-being while strengthening connections between institutions, local stakeholders, and the broader community.

The Healing Garden contest is part of a broader transformation of Parco della Certosa. While the intervention focuses on a specific underperforming green area, its ambition is wider: to reconnect fragmented spaces, enhance biodiversity, mitigate urban heat island effects, and strengthen the relationship between users and the landscape. The project operates at the intersection of heritage recovery, ecological regeneration, and community well-being.

### **Design Challenge**

The pilot area currently lacks biodiversity and sensory richness. Although mature trees are present, vegetation diversity remains limited, with few shrubs, flowers, or seasonal variation. Participants are invited to transform this condition into a vibrant and accessible healing landscape. The garden should balance calmness and conviviality, nature and safety, solitude and connection, responding to expectations expressed by local users.

Proposals should demonstrate how Nature-Based Solutions inspired by the New European Bauhaus can enhance biodiversity, well-being, and inclusion through native planting, shade, seasonal variation, and sustainable materials. Designs should act as replicable urban prototypes, adaptable to different climatic, social, and spatial contexts.

The challenge is **not to overwrite the past, but to work with it**. Any proposal must acknowledge the **architectural identity, institutional memory, and ongoing civic evolution** of the Certosa.

The aim is to transform a **historically layered landscape** into an **active infrastructure of healing**, where **heritage continuity and contemporary well-being coexist**.

The project operates as a **design experiment** within the Sleeping Beauty framework, exploring how **New European Bauhaus values and Nature-Based Solutions** can shape a regenerative, inclusive, and spatially meaningful public landscape.

## Community Insights

The vision for the Healing Garden is informed by a stakeholder workshop and a public survey with users of Parco della Certosa, gathering responses from residents, students, workers, and regular visitors.

Results show that well-being in the park is strongly linked to **contact with nature, calm environments, perceived safety, and opportunities for social connection**. Participants described restorative environments as places to breathe, reconnect with nature, spend time together, and find moments of quiet reflection.

The workshop suggests three main design directions:

- strengthen the presence of **nature and biodiversity**
- create **calm and safe spaces** for reflection and social interaction
- improve **environmental comfort** through shade, vegetation, and sensory landscapes

The design process should be understood as part of a broader co-creation approach promoted by the Sleeping Beauty project, encouraging proposals that support placemaking, community participation, and shared public life.



## Design Keywords from Local Users

The stakeholder workshop and public survey revealed several recurring keywords associated with well-being in the park.

These words reflect how local users imagine a **restorative landscape**:

**NATURE – CALM – SECURITY – CARE – EQUILIBRIUM – CONNECTION – SERENITY**

**Design suggestions** emerging from the workshop also emphasize:

**LIGHT – WATER – SHADE – MAINTENANCE – CONVIVIALITY – SILENCE**

These keywords should not be interpreted as strict requirements, but as **guiding atmospheres** that can inform the spatial and experiential qualities of the proposal.



## 2. CONTEST THEME & DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Design a buildable Healing Garden in Parco della Certosa — a space where nature, people, and place come together to support well-being, inclusion, and ecological renewal.

The garden should act as a regenerative urban prototype, demonstrating how New European Bauhaus-inspired Nature-Based Solutions can transform underperforming landscapes into spaces of biodiversity, beauty, and collective care.



**Design a Healing Garden in Parco della Certosa, creating a buildable space for care, inclusion, and ecological renewal within a defined site and budget.**

The Healing Garden should function as a **prototype for regenerative urban landscapes**, demonstrating how New European Bauhaus–inspired Nature–Based Solutions (NEB–NbS) can enhance biodiversity, well–being, and social inclusion in ways that can be replicated or adapted in other public spaces.

Participants are invited to define the main character of the garden. The project may focus on **sensory immersion, biodiversity restoration, social gathering, education, contemplation**, or a balanced combination of these dimensions.

Ask yourself: What kind of healing is needed here?

Is it about reconnecting people with nature? Strengthening community bonds? Supporting mental well–being? Reviving ecological diversity?

The landscape, together with architectural elements such as **structures, forms, materials, colors, and spatial compositions**, should express these intentions and shape the identity and atmosphere of the garden.

The Healing Garden is the **first of six design contests** taking place across the Sleeping Beauty pilot sites, each exploring innovative approaches to regenerative public space through **Nature–Based Solutions and New European Bauhaus values**.

# DESIGNING FOR HEALING

Designing for healing in architecture means reconsidering the purpose of space itself.

Within the framework of the New European Bauhaus (NEB) and Nature-Based Solutions (NbS), architecture is understood not only as form or representation, but as an infrastructure that supports life, restores balance, and nurtures well-being. Designing for healing shifts the focus from how a place looks to how it feels, functions, and sustains both people and ecosystems.

Healing begins with attention. It asks designers to observe how bodies move, how light enters, how materials age, and how seasons transform a place. It requires listening not only to users and communities, but also to landscapes, soils, and ecological processes. A healing environment is not imposed; it is cultivated through relationships between people, space, and nature.

At its core, designing for healing means creating environments that support physical, psychological, social, and ecological well-being. Healing may emerge through small spatial gestures: a shaded pathway that mitigates urban heat, a planting strategy that supports biodiversity and pollinators, or a courtyard that allows both gathering and solitude.

Architecture also shapes emotional experience through its forms, proportions, materials, colors, and textures. In this sense, beauty is not only visual but experiential, emerging through atmospheres of calm, safety, and connection. Light, sound, shade, and tactile surfaces influence how spaces are perceived and how people feel within them. In healing environments, these elements work together to create atmospheres of calm, safety, and connection, reflecting the NEB ambition to create spaces that are beautiful, sustainable, and shared.

In contemporary cities, the need for healing landscapes has become increasingly urgent. Climate change intensifies heat and extreme weather, while social fragmentation weakens community bonds. Through Nature-Based Solutions, architecture can respond by restoring ecological systems, improving microclimates, and reconnecting urban life with nature.

Healing is therefore both spatial and relational. Spaces designed for healing encourage encounter without forcing it and remain accessible across different ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Inclusive environments recognise that well-being is collective. Paths, thresholds, and shared spaces become forms of social infrastructure.

Ecology is inseparable from this vision. Biodiversity, soil health, water management, and microclimate regulation are not technical additions but fundamental components of spatial design. When landscapes support pollinators, absorb rainwater, or mitigate heat, healing extends beyond the human realm.

Ultimately, designing for healing reframes the central question of architecture. Instead of asking what object should be created, it asks what relationships a space should support.

In this perspective, architecture becomes an infrastructure for care, where design quietly supports well-being, connection, and environmental balance over time.

# DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

When designing the Healing Garden in Parco della Certosa, participants should propose creative design solutions that combine New European Bauhaus principles with Nature-Based Solutions (NEB-NBS) to enhance biodiversity, well-being, and inclusive public space.

**Heritage & Context:** Respect the protected Certosa complex, preserve existing buildings and trees (except marked removals), and strengthen the historical spatial hierarchy. The entire marked intervention area may be reconfigured. Proposals may redesign internal circulation paths, introduce new trees and shrubs, integrate furniture, lighting systems, and landscape-based devices. The garden should be conceived as a coherent spatial transformation rather than a punctual addition. The intervention should be understood within a broader transformation of the park. The upcoming public library, a renovation of a former pavilion as part of the Municipal SUA, offers an opportunity to create connections with educational activities, young users, and spaces for rest, reading, and informal study.

**Biodiversity & Sensory Landscape:** Increase vegetation diversity by introducing native shrubs, flowering species, and layered planting strategies that engage the five senses. Biodiversity should be understood both ecologically and experientially, through color, texture, ecologically and experientially, through color, texture, fragrance, seasonality, and didactic potential, demonstrating how Nature-Based Solutions can generate spatial quality, identity, and well-being.

Vegetation should contribute not only to ecological performance but also to **sensory experience**.

Planting strategies should consider:

- seasonal flowering and color variation
- plant fragrances and textures
- pollinator-supporting species
- shade and microclimate regulation

Biodiversity should be understood both as an **ecological infrastructure and a spatial expression of NEB-NBS design**.

**Accessibility & Inclusion:** Ensure barrier-free circulation and welcoming spaces for all users, students, residents, social care users, artists, and visitors.

**Cultural Integration:** Connect with the Library, Lavanderia a Vapore Theatre, schools, NGOs, and public events. Support learning, gathering, and community-led activities aligned with the inclusive values of the New European Bauhaus.

**Feasibility & Budget:** Design a buildable proposal within the €60,000 budget, demonstrating realistic construction logic and long-term viability.

**Materiality & Maintenance:** Prioritize durable, sustainable materials, low-maintenance planting, and clear long-term care strategies informed by Nature-Based Solutions.

**Safety and Visibility:** Improve lighting, visibility, and circulation while preserving the natural character of the park.

**Paths and Spatial Journey:** Circulation should encourage slow exploration through non-linear paths, sequences of open and intimate spaces, and subtle topographical variations. Designers may consider non-linear paths, sequences of open and intimate spaces, and small topographical variations that create a spatial journey through the garden.



# SPATIAL-EMOTIONAL MAP

The stakeholder workshop included a spatial-emotional mapping exercise in which participants identified areas associated with positive experiences, problematic conditions, and unrealized potential.

Observations included:

- Positive experiences associated with **connection, vitality, and serenity**.
- Problematic areas linked to **insecurity, neglect, or spatial fragmentation**.
- Unrealized potential related to **introspection, inclusion, and biodiversity**.

Participants are encouraged to interpret the map not as a strict design prescription, but as a **tool to understand how the park is currently perceived and experienced by its users**.

Design proposals may respond by:

- strengthening existing positive areas
- addressing perceived weaknesses such as fragmentation or lack of safety
- activating spaces with unrealized potential through ecological and social strategies.



# INSIGHTS FROM LOCAL USERS

Survey responses and workshop discussions revealed several recurring expectations for the future Healing Garden:

**Calm and Safety:** The two most frequently mentioned emotional expectations were calmness and safety. The garden should function as a peaceful environment where visitors feel comfortable, protected, and welcome at different times of the day.

**Connection with Nature:** Participants strongly associated well-being with natural environments, including trees, meadows, water elements, and seasonal vegetation. Contact with biodiversity should therefore be a central spatial component.

**Sensory Experience:** Elements such as natural sounds, plant fragrances, shade, and seasonal change were identified as key contributors to restorative environments.

**Movement and Slow Activities:** The most common activities associated with well-being in the park include walking, observing nature, sitting, breathing, and meditation. The design should support both movement and pause.

**Social Encounter and Personal Retreat:** Users value the park as a place for casual encounters and group activities, but also for moments of solitude and reflection. The garden should allow both collective and intimate experiences.

These insights should inform the spatial strategy of the proposal.

# NEB–NBS DESIGN PRINCIPLES

The contest is grounded in the principles of the New European Bauhaus (NEB) and the integration of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) explored within the Sleeping Beauty European project. The contest is conceived as a design experiment born from them, exploring how landscape architecture can combine ecological performance, spatial quality, and social inclusion. Participants are invited to interpret the three core NEB values:

**Beautiful:** Spatial and experiential quality, aesthetic sensitivity, and emotional resonance.

**Sustainable:** Environmental responsibility through Nature-Based Solutions (NBS), biodiversity enhancement, climate comfort strategies, and low-impact materials.

**Together:** Social inclusion, accessibility, and the creation of shared spaces that strengthen community bonds.

NBS should be treated as integral design strategies shaping the identity and experience of the garden.

The Healing Garden is conceived as a NEB–NBS prototype, exploring how ecological processes, spatial design, and social life can coexist within a historical landscape.

Within the Sleeping Beauty project, the municipality of Collegno is enhancing Parco della Certosa through a set of targeted actions:

- strengthening interactive connections between users and the park
- raising awareness of the site's historical significance
- linking the park with surrounding urban networks
- developing multifunctional spaces while restoring landscape quality

The Healing Garden contest acts as a pilot intervention within this transformation, testing how NEB and NBS principles can shape a new generation of regenerative public spaces.

### 3. PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Participants are invited to design a buildable Healing Garden within Parco della Certosa that enhances biodiversity, accessibility, and social well-being, while respecting heritage constraints and the construction budget.

The project should be conceived as a **small but impactful landscape intervention**, capable of transforming the character of the intervention area through spatial design, vegetation, and selected built elements.

#### Main Program Elements:

- Biodiverse Healing Landscape
- Accessible Paths & Spatial Journey
- Spaces for Rest, Reflection, and Social Interaction
- Buildable Landscape or Architectural Element



## PROGRAM ELEMENTS

The following **Program Elements define the core spatial components expected in the proposal.**

Designers are free to interpret them creatively, combining landscape strategies and small architectural interventions.

- **Healing Landscape:** A biodiverse planting strategy using native shrubs, flowers, and grasses that enhances ecological performance while creating a multi-sensory landscape experience.
- **Paths & Spatial Sequences:** Accessible circulation routes that encourage walking, slow exploration, and moments of pause within the garden.
- **Spaces for Pause & Encounter:** Areas for sitting, contemplation, reading, meditation, informal gathering, or small group activities. Workshop responses highlighted walking, breathing, observing nature, and quiet reflection as key activities associated with well-being in the park.
- **Buildable Landscape or Architectural Element:** At least one constructed element (e.g. seating, shade structure, light installation, water feature, sculpture, small pavilion, or educational device) demonstrating technical feasibility and spatial identity within the project budget.

## OPTIONAL FEATURES

Optional landscape elements may include:

- **Water features or rainwater landscapes** (streams, rain gardens) that enhance biodiversity, sensory experience, and microclimate.
- **Pollinator habitats** and biodiversity zones
- **Shaded seating areas** or resting platforms
- **Outdoor learning spaces** connected to the Library or park activities

## KEY CONSTRAINTS

- **Intervention Area:** The proposal must remain within the marked boundary (approximately 25,600 m<sup>2</sup>). Existing buildings and mature trees must be preserved. The two tree groups highlighted in yellow within the healing area will be removed by the municipality due to health conditions. Participants should not consider them as part of the existing site.
- **Construction Budget:** The project must be buildable within the 60.000,00 EUR construction budget.
- **Heritage Protection:** The Certosa complex is a protected historical site. Proposals must respect its architectural identity, spatial hierarchy, and visual integrity.
- **Restrictions:** Interventions must not alter protected buildings. New elements should remain reversible or minimally invasive in relation to heritage constraints.
- **Environmental Responsibility:** Designs should prioritize natural materials, permeable paving, and Nature-Based Solutions (NBS). Strategies should enhance biodiversity, climate comfort, and seasonal variation while remaining low-maintenance.
- **Feasibility & Phasing:** The project is intended for construction. Proposals may be implemented in phases, but should clearly identify a realistic first phase achievable within the available budget.
- **Safety and Maintenance:** Design strategies should contribute to improving safety perception and long-term maintenance conditions through lighting, spatial visibility, durable materials, and low-maintenance planting strategies.

## ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Transforming this area requires sensitivity to heritage while creating a space that fosters inclusion, well-being, and ecological awareness. These points should be understood as guiding attitudes, rooted in the principles of the New European Bauhaus and Nature-Based Solutions.

- **From Space to Experience (Beautiful):** The garden should be conceived as an atmosphere rather than a collection of elements. Spatial sequences, light, vegetation, and materials should support calmness, reflection, and sensory richness, shaping meaningful and emotionally resonant experiences.
- **From Ecology to Identity (Sustainable / NBS):** Nature-Based Solutions should act as design drivers. Native planting, seasonal change, water management, and microclimate strategies should shape both ecological performance and the identity of the garden.
- **From Individual to Collective Use (Together):** The garden should balance personal retreat and shared use, fostering inclusion, accessibility, and community life. It should support quiet moments, informal gatherings, and diverse forms of appropriation.

# MORE THAN JUST A GARDEN...

This is not just a conceptual exercise, it is a **real opportunity to shape a space that will be built and experienced.**

The Healing Garden is not simply about designing greenery. It is about **creating an atmosphere** – a place for **pause, care, and reconnection.**

A space that can host open-air moments, quiet corners, informal learning, and shared experiences, where **landscape, light, material, and movement support well-being.**

This contest invites you to imagine a garden that becomes **infrastructure for care – emotionally, socially, and ecologically.**

## 4. BUDGET & FEASIBILITY

### Construction Budget: 60.000,00 EUR\*

The €60,000 budget should be understood as a **maximum limit** to guide the scale and ambition of proposals.

It provides a framework for thinking about materials, planting, and potential interventions, without requiring detailed cost calculations.

Proposals should demonstrate a **basic awareness of feasibility**, showing that the idea could realistically be implemented within this order of magnitude.

Final development, scope, and costing will be defined together with the winning team during later stages.

**This project is intended for implementation. Feasibility matters.**

\* The construction budget includes VAT and may be subject to variations.

# 5. BUILDABILITY & IMPLEMENTATION

## Construction Budget: 60.000,00 EUR\*

The winning proposal will serve as the basis for the realization of the Healing Garden. The scope of implementation (full or partial) will be defined with the Municipality and project partners.

Projects are expected to show:

- **Constructive clarity:** how the proposal can be built, assembled, and adapted over time
- **Material awareness:** use of durable, context-appropriate, and low-impact materials
- **Flexible buildability:** solutions that can be realized fully or in parts, depending on available resources and implementation strategies
- **Long-term thinking:** consideration of maintenance, weathering, and operational sustainability

Participants may choose to develop one key aspect of the project in more detail, through drawings, diagrams, references, or material strategies.

### Implementation Approach

The winning proposal will serve as the basis for the realization of the Healing Garden. The scope of implementation (full or partial) will be defined with the Municipality and project partners.

### Maintenance

The project will be maintained by the Municipality and its partners. Proposals should therefore consider durability and ease of maintenance.

**This is a buildable project, but clarity of ideas matters more than technical complexity.**

\* The construction budget includes VAT and may be subject to variations.

## 6. ELIGIBILITY

Non-a contests are open to all human beings, from every age and cultural background, working in groups or individually.

Teams can be formed by a maximum number of 4 people. Personal information of all the team members can be uploaded during the submission procedure of the final proposal.

**This contest has no registration fee.**

However, all participants are required to register through the Non-a website in order to receive a **submission code (order number)**, which will be necessary to upload the final proposal.

Participants must not have any direct or indirect professional, personal, or financial relationship with members of the jury, organizers, or partners that could be perceived as a conflict of interest.

Non-a reserves the right to disqualify any participant where such a conflict is identified at any stage of the competition.

# 7. EVALUATION CRITERIA





Projects will be evaluated based on:

- **Creativity, Innovation & Conceptual Strength** – Original and meaningful interpretation of healing, thoughtfully connected to the historical and environmental context of the Certosa and aligned with New European Bauhaus values.
- **Spatial & Experiential Quality** – Clarity of the spatial idea, atmosphere, and overall user experience, including material and sensory qualities.
- **Healing, Inclusivity & Ecological Impact** – The proposal’s ability to support well-being, accessibility, biodiversity, and the integration of Nature-Based Solutions.
- **Feasibility & Clarity** – The extent to which the proposal communicates how it could be realized. This can be expressed through drawings, diagrams, references, or other visual means.

These criteria will guide the jury in selecting the winning proposals. Non-a reserves the right to adjust or refine the evaluation process if necessary, in order to ensure a fair and meaningful assessment of the proposals.

The jury’s decision is final. No appeals or revisions will be considered.

## 8. CALENDAR

	15 April.2026 15 July.2026 (11.59 PM)	Registration <b>OPENS</b> Registration <b>CLOSES</b>
	15 May.2026	Q&A Deadline*
	15 July.2026 15 August.2026 (11.59 PM)	Submissions <b>OPENS</b> Submission <b>CLOSES</b>
	28 Sep - 2 Oct.2026	Winner announcement

\* Participants may submit questions via email at [info@nonarchitecture.eu](mailto:info@nonarchitecture.eu). All collected questions and official answers will be published during the first week of June 2026 on the contest webpage. No individual responses will be provided. This ensures equal access to information for all participants.

The timing always refers to Central European Time (CET). To avoid confusion, please check the countdown on the contest page.

# 9. PRIZES

## WINNER (1 PRIZE)\*

7500 EUR to further develop the project.

The winning proposal will serve as the basis for the realization of the Healing Garden. The prize will be awarded as a compensation fee to further develop the design for construction in collaboration with the Municipality and project partners.

## HONOURABLE MENTIONS (9 PRIZES)

Selected projects will be published on the Non-a contests website, gaining international visibility within our global community.

## FINALISTS (UP TO 20 PRIZES)

Finalist proposals will be featured on the Non-a contests website, showcasing outstanding ideas and design excellence.

## SPECIAL PRIZE

Additional special prizes and recognitions may be introduced during the contest and evaluation process, highlighting exceptional approaches and innovative contributions.

Winners, Honourable Mentions, and Finalists will be **published and awarded** a badge on their non-a.com profiles. All participants who submit a project may request a certificate of participation at [info@nonarchitecture.eu](mailto:info@nonarchitecture.eu)

\*The winning team will receive the prize intended to support the further development of the project, through a subcontract or service agreement, to be defined separately.

By accepting the prize, the winning team agrees to transfer the economic rights necessary for the construction, development, and communication of the project to the Municipality and project partners.

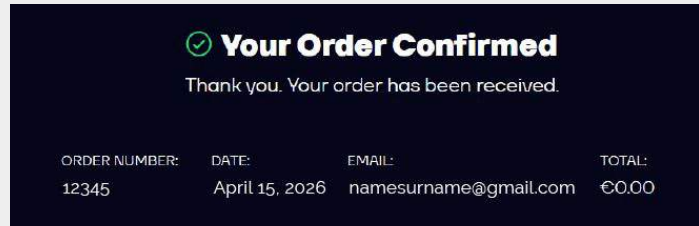
The authorship of the project will always be credited to the designers. Acceptance of the prize implies agreement with the conditions described above.

Note: Publication on external architectural platforms is subject to their editorial agendas and availability.

# 10. REGISTRATION

## How to Register

- The contest is **free of charge**. However, **registration is mandatory** in order to receive your Submission Code (order number).
- Registration must be completed through the Non-a website: [www.non-a.com](http://www.non-a.com)
- Once your registration is confirmed, you will receive an email with the order number. This number will be your **SUBMISSION CODE** – in a format of #1234.
- Your registration confirms that you and your team agree with all terms and rules outlined in this brief and on the Non-a website.

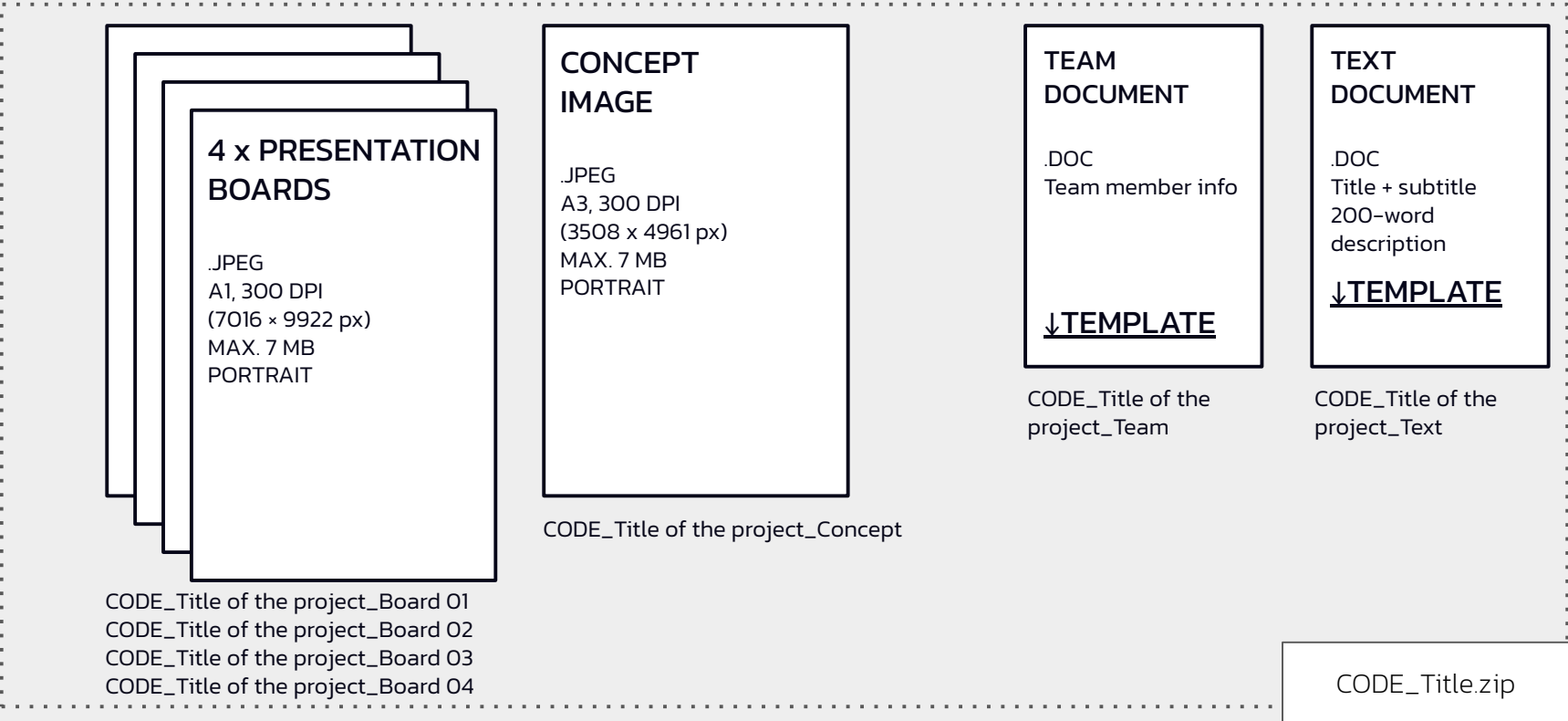


## Team Composition

- The contest is open to all students and professionals from any field.
- Teams can include 1 to 4 members.
- Multidisciplinary teams are encouraged.

# 11. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Participants must submit **one ZIP folder through the Non-a contest page (google form)**, named using your registration code and project title (example: 1234\_healing.zip), which includes the following files:



## **Suggested board structure:**

(the structure for boards is indicative and participants may adapt it)

### **BOARD 01**

#### Concept & Vision

Design idea, overall strategy, and relationship with the park.

### **BOARD 02**

#### Spatial Proposal

General spatial approach. This may include a masterplan, diagrams, or other ways of representing the project.

### **BOARD 03**

#### Experience & Use

Plans, sections, diagrams, showing how people engage with the space. Atmosphere, activities, and sensory qualities.

### **BOARD 04**

#### Implementation Idea

Illustrate how the project could be realized. A key element, material approach, reference images, diagrams, or technical ideas.

## 01. Presentation boards (.JPEG)

File name: "CODE\_ Title of the project\_Board 01.jpeg".  
"CODE\_ Title of the project\_Board 02.jpeg".  
"CODE\_ Title of the project\_Board 03.jpeg".  
"CODE\_ Title of the project\_Board 04.jpeg".

### Mandatory Content:

Board 04 should communicate how the proposal could be realized or developed. Participants may use drawings, diagrams, reference images, or simple technical ideas to explain a key element or strategy.

## 02. A concept image (.JPEG)

Focusing on the conceptual and innovative aspects.  
File name: CODE\_ Title of the project\_Concept.jpeg

## 03. Team Document (.DOC)

File name: CODE\_ Title of the project\_Team.doc

### This document must include:

- Project title and subtitle (maximum 10 words)
- Full names of all team members
- Social media handles (Instagram and/or LinkedIn)
- Nationality (multiple nationalities can be listed, if applicable)
- Academic or professional affiliation (optional)

### **USE THIS TEMPLATE**

## 04. Text Document (.DOC)

File name: CODE\_ Title of the project\_Text.doc

### This document must include:

- Project title and subtitle
- Project description (maximum 200 words, in English)

### **USE THIS TEMPLATE**

The **CODE** refers to the **4 or 5 digit number** you receive during the registration process (same as the order number, in a format of #1234), it is going to serve as your **registration code for the contest**.

Do not include your name, your registration code, or any other reference to you in the boards and image. After being evaluated by the jury, the projects will be reconnected to their authors through the submission code.

An example of naming the files correctly:

CODE: #56789

Title of the project: Healing

**01. Presentation Boards:** 56789\_Healing\_Board 01  
56789\_Healing\_Board 02  
56789\_Healing\_Board 03  
56789\_Healing\_Board 04

**02. Concept Image:** 56789\_Healing\_Concept

**03. Team Document:** 56789\_Healing\_Team

**04. Text Document:** 56789\_Healing\_Text

**Folder:** 56789\_Healing.zip

Please, do not use the # in the file names.

/ You need to come up with your own project title and replace "Healing" in the example.

## **BOARDS REQUIREMENTS**

/ A1, portrait (vertical), 300 dpi (equals 7016 × 9922 px),  
/ High Quality (for example, in Photoshop JPEG output quality: 8, or 80–85 in Gimp is recommended),  
/ 7 MB maximum file size.  
/ Make sure all the elements are readable for the jury to evaluate.

## **CONCEPT IMAGE REQUIREMENTS**

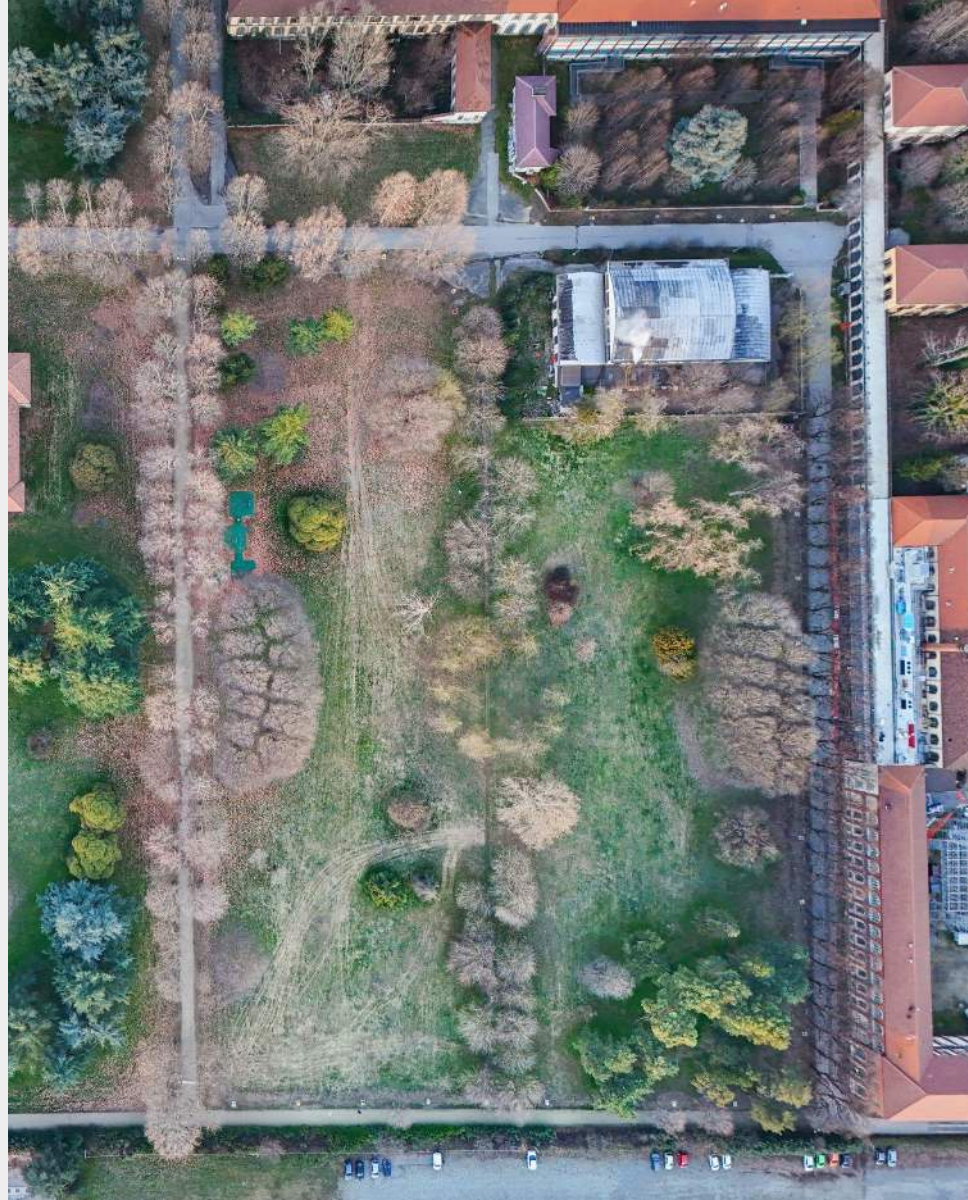
/ A3, portrait (vertical), 300 dpi (equals 4961 x 3508 px),  
/ High Quality (for example, in Photoshop JPEG output quality: 8, or 80–85 in Gimp is recommended),  
/ 7 MB maximum file size.

**Note:** If the submitted elements don't respect these criteria, may lead to the disqualification of the team.

## Important Notes

- All materials must clearly communicate the design strategy, spatial proposal, and feasibility within the defined budget.
- The registration code (e.g., 1234) should NOT appear in the images.
- All submissions must be in English.
- Use the official Word templates provided by Non-a for the Team and Text documents.
- Submit your ZIP folder through the Non-a contest page (google form), which opens 1 month before the submission deadline.
- Late submissions or submissions via email will not be accepted.
- We recommend uploading at least 24 hours before the deadline to avoid any technical issues.

*Image credit: Michele D'Ottavio Photography*



## 12. JURORS



**Paola Granero**

Architect | Studio Gonnet

Italian architect and member of Studio Gonnet, currently responsible for the renovation of the new public Library building located directly opposite the contest site in the Certosa complex. Her work focuses on architectural rehabilitation, heritage-sensitive design, and the integration of cultural infrastructures within historical contexts.



**Marco Allocco**

Environmental Expert | SeaCoop

Forestry expert, he has been working for 30 years in the design of open public spaces and sustainability as applied to land management. He is an expert in ecosystem services, nature-based solutions, and innovations applied to public green spaces.

All jury members have formally committed to reviewing the shortlisted proposals and selecting the winning projects according to the evaluation criteria defined in this brief. The organizers reserve the right to update or modify the jury composition if necessary.



**MMag. Dr. Gudrun Haindlmaier, Senior Scientist**

**Center for Innovation Systems & Policy. Project Coordinator of Sleeping Beauty**

Gudrun Haindlmaier works at the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology as a senior scientist at the Center for Innovation Systems and Policy. She is also a senior lecturer at the Department of Geography and Regional Science at the University of Vienna, where she specialises in empirical methods in social and economic geography and innovative knowledge transfer formats. She holds a PhD in spatial planning, as well as master's degrees in sociology and geography. Her research focuses on topics such as urban innovation, sustainable urban and regional development, nature-based solutions, participation and urban co-design and co-governance, as well as place-based policies.

All jury members have formally committed to reviewing the shortlisted proposals and selecting the winning projects according to the evaluation criteria defined in this brief. The organizers reserve the right to update or modify the jury composition if necessary.



**Prof. Arch. Mag. arch. Silja Tillner, Architect & Urban Planner**

**Architekten Tillner & Willinger ZT GmbH. Professor at Politecnico di Milano**

Silja Tillner is an architect and urban planner working at the intersection of architecture and city development. Her work focuses on the revitalisation of existing districts, the adaptive reuse of listed buildings, and sustainable urban design. She founded her architecture office in Vienna in 1995 and has co-led Architekten Tillner & Willinger since 2007, developing award-winning projects across housing and mixed-use developments. Her approach is guided by ecological principles and a strong focus on the relationship between buildings, public space, and their social context.



## **Municipality of Collegno**

### **Institutional Representative**

The Municipality of Collegno, responsible for overseeing the strategic development and public use of Parco della Certosa. The municipality is the local authority leading the transformation of the park into an inclusive social welfare hub integrating culture, ecology, and community life.



## **Zona Ovest di Torino**

### **Territorial Partnership Representative**

Zona Ovest di Torino, the territorial partnership supporting strategic projects for sustainable development, social inclusion, and urban regeneration across the western metropolitan area of Turin. The organization plays a key role in coordinating collaborative initiatives among municipalities and local stakeholders.

All jury members have formally committed to reviewing the shortlisted proposals and selecting the winning projects according to the evaluation criteria defined in this brief. The organizers reserve the right to update or modify the jury composition if necessary.



## **Orto che Cura**

### **Social and Community Representative | Social Cooperative Il Margine**

Orto che Cura, an initiative promoted by the Social Cooperative Il Margine, active within the Certosa park ecosystem. The organization works on therapeutic gardens, social inclusion, and community-based care practices, bringing expertise in participatory design and the social dimension of healing landscapes.

All jury members have formally committed to reviewing the shortlisted proposals and selecting the winning projects according to the evaluation criteria defined in this brief. The organizers reserve the right to update or modify the jury composition if necessary.



## **Sleeping Beauty's Gender, Generations and Diversity Board (GGDB)**

### **Territorial Partnership Representative**

The Gender, Generations and Diversity Board (GGDB) is a sounding board focused on gender equality, inclusion, and social sustainability. It ensures that project activities and NEB–NBS solutions “leave no one behind”, recognising that public spaces are experienced differently depending on gender, age, ability, and socio-economic background. The GGDB brings together experts and lived-experience perspectives, and will act as a Jury in the co-creative design contests, helping assess who benefits and who might be excluded. Their input ensures selected solutions are not only innovative and feasible, but also socially inclusive.

# 13. QUESTIONS

For additional info please check the FAQ on our website: [www.non-a.com/faq](http://www.non-a.com/faq)

During the contest, participants may submit questions to clarify the project description or any aspect of the contest. Questions must be submitted via email to [info@nonarchitecture.eu](mailto:info@nonarchitecture.eu) **until May 15, 2026**.

All collected questions and official answers will be published during the **first week of June 2026** on the contest webpage. **No individual responses will be provided.**

This procedure ensures that all participants have access to the same information. Questions sent through social media channels will not be addressed.

# 14. TERMS & CONDITIONS

## **Competition Organization and Responsibilities**

This competition is organized as part of the “Sleeping Beauty” project and constitutes one of its official activities under the scope of Non-a. Non-a is responsible for the launch, management of the competition, selection of the winning proposal, and its further development.

The implementation and realisation of the selected proposal are the responsibility of the Municipality of Collegno, which has expressed its commitment to proceed with the project, subject to the necessary formal approvals (including “Delibera di Giunta”) and allocation of the required budget.

Participants acknowledge that Non-a bears no responsibility or liability for the execution, construction, or realization of the project.

## **Intellectual Property and Use of Proposals**

All intellectual property rights remain with the authors of the submitted proposals. By submitting a proposal, participants grant Non-a and the partners of the *Sleeping Beauty* project, including the Municipality of Collegno, a non exclusive, perpetual, worldwide

and royalty free license to publish, exhibit, reproduce and communicate the submitted materials. This includes use in communication materials, exhibitions, websites, social media, reports and publications related to the contest and the Sleeping Beauty project.

The organizers and project partners also retain the right to construct the winning proposal and to take inspiration from or integrate elements of other submitted proposals in the further development of the project.

## **Construction and Development Rights**

The Municipality of Collegno reserves the right to further develop, adapt or modify the winning proposal for technical, regulatory, budgeting or tendering purposes. The awarded team will be invited to collaborate in the further development of the concept with the aim of supporting the municipality in preparing the tender for the construction of the prototype. The final executive design and construction will be carried out through a separate tendering process and may involve other professionals or entities.

### **Evaluation Process**

All submissions will first undergo a preliminary review conducted by the contest organizers to verify compliance with the requirements of the brief and to create a shortlist based on evaluation criteria in the brief. The shortlisted proposals will then be evaluated by the contest jury according to the criteria described in the brief. The jury may decide to award more than one proposal and distribute the prize accordingly, or decide not to award a prize if none of the submissions adequately meet the technical or design requirements.

### **Originality of Submissions**

Participants guarantee that the submitted proposals are original works and that they hold the rights to all materials included in the submission. Any use of third party material must be properly authorised. Participants are fully responsible for any copyright infringement or plagiarism.

### **Liability Disclaimer**

The organizers and project partners are not responsible for any costs incurred by participants in preparing or submitting proposals. The organizers are not liable for technical issues affecting submissions or for the feasibility of proposed designs.

### **Prize Payment and Assignment**

The prize awarded to the winning team, corresponding to a total amount of €7,500, constitutes compensation for the assignment and further development of the selected proposal. An initial amount of €2,500 will be paid following the official award of the prize. The remaining €5,000 will be paid upon delivery and approval of the final project documentation, according to the scope and timeline to be defined in a separate agreement with the winning team. The payment of the remaining amount is conditional upon the satisfactory completion of the agreed deliverables.

### **Conflict of Interest**

Members of the jury, the contest organizers and individuals directly involved in the organization of the contest, as well as their close collaborators or relatives, are not eligible to participate.

### **Prizes**

Prize amounts are specified in the contest brief. Any taxes or fiscal obligations related to the receipt of prize money are the responsibility of the recipients and may vary depending on the country of residence and applicable tax regulations.

### **Organizer Rights**

The organizers reserve the right to modify the contest schedule, extend deadlines, or cancel the contest if circumstances require it.

### **Applicable Law**

The contest is governed by Italian law. Any disputes arising from the contest shall fall under the jurisdiction of the competent courts in Italy.

### **Data Protection, Acceptance of Terms and GDPR compliance**

Personal data provided by participants will be processed in accordance with applicable European data protection regulations, including the GDPR. To register for the contest and submit a proposal, participants must create an account on the Non-a platform and confirm that they have read and accepted the conditions described in this brief, as well as the Non-a Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy, available on the Non-a website.

### **Data Sharing within the Sleeping Beauty Project**

This competition is part of the Sleeping Beauty project, developed in collaboration with consortium partners. In addition to the provisions outlined in Non-a's general Privacy Policy, participants acknowledge and agree that certain personal data submitted as

part of the competition (including, but not limited to, names, affiliations, nationality, and professional background) may be shared with project partners where necessary.

Such data sharing serves two primary purposes:

1. to ensure proper attribution of authorship and copyright of submitted works;
2. to support research and analysis of participation trends, including geographical distribution, professional profiles, and submission patterns.

Wherever possible, data will be shared in anonymised or aggregated form. However, limited personal data may be shared in full where strictly required for attribution or project reporting purposes. At the conclusion of the project, any data used for research, publication, or inclusion in open-access databases will be fully anonymised, and no personally identifiable information will be disclosed.

All data handling within the Sleeping Beauty project will remain compliant with applicable data protection regulations.

**Terms of Service**

**Privacy Policy**

THE NON-A TEAM AND THE  
SLEEPING BEAUTY PARTNERS  
WISH YOU AN INSPIRING DESIGN  
PROCESS, CONFIDENT THAT YOU  
WILL APPROACH THE CONTEST  
WITH ALL YOUR CREATIVITY AND  
INNOVATIVE MIND.

[info@nonarchitecture.eu](mailto:info@nonarchitecture.eu)  
[www.non-a.com](http://www.non-a.com)



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## PROJECT COORDINATOR

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## PROJECT PARTNERS – PILOT SITE

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Municipality of Collegno



Zona Ovest di Torino

The contest is developed in collaboration with the Municipality of Collegno and local partners actively involved in the transformation of Parco della Certosa. Their commitment is central to the long-term vision of the site as a place for social inclusion, cultural life, and ecological regeneration.

## PROJECT PARTNER – ORGANIZER

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