

Announcement concerning the launch of the International Architectural Design Competition for the Thessaloniki ConfEx Park

On September 28th 2020 TIF-HELEXPO SA shall launch an international open call for the pre-qualification to participate in an International Architectural Design Competition for the Thessaloniki ConfEx Park and shall invite architects, in teams consisting of architects and landscape architects from all over the world to apply for participation. The invitation aims to attract architects with the highest degree of competence, creativity, innovation and commitment.

OVERVIEW

TIF-HELEXPO S.A. is the leading company in the exhibitions and conference industry in South Eastern Europe. TIF-HELEXPO is based in Thessaloniki, where it owns and manages the largest Exhibition & Congress Centre in the country. The Master Plan of the TIF-HELEXPO area has recently been approved by the Ministry of Environment and Energy.

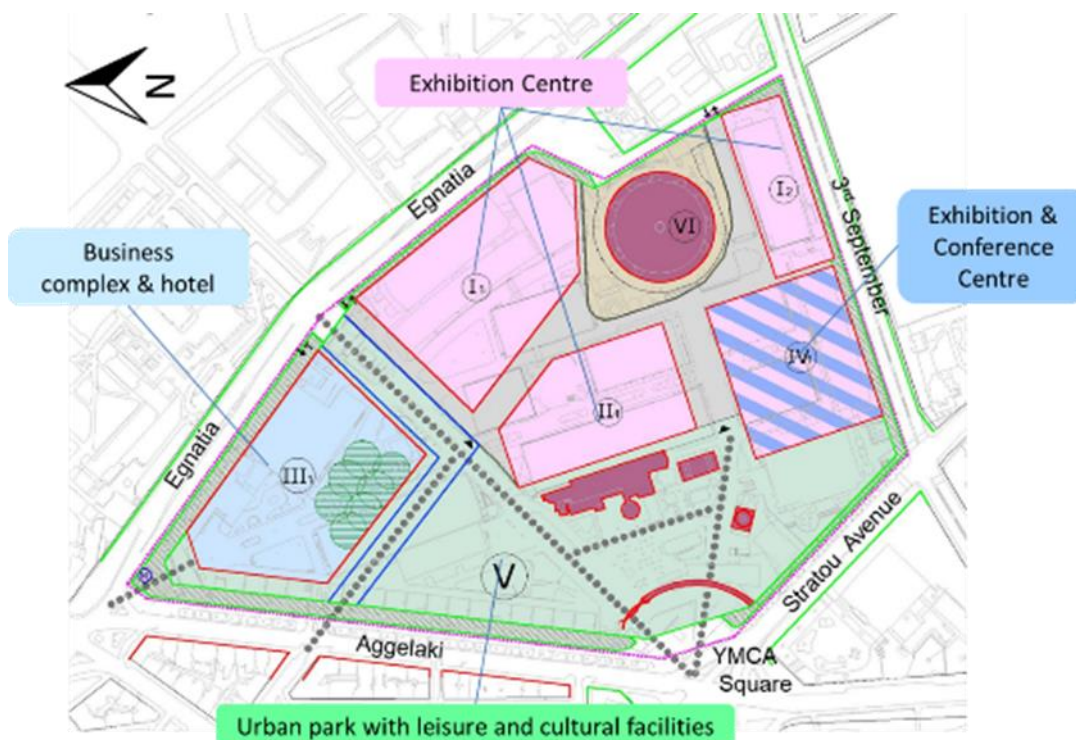
TIF-HELEXPO S.A. shall proceed to a major redevelopment of its Fairgrounds, located in the center of Thessaloniki, with the construction of the Thessaloniki ConfEx Park, which shall include a state-of-the-art convention centre and a new urban park.

THE PROJECT

The architectural competition aims at the construction of an Exhibition & Conference Center with strong identity, which will fulfill the highest standards that shall optimize the arrangement of its facilities and activities, respect environmental parameters and contribute to sustainable development. One of the main project goals is to stimulate the redevelopment of a prominent part of the city center, a redevelopment that shall have a major impact on the economy of the city and the broader area of Northern Greece, contributing, thus, to the transformation of Thessaloniki into one of the top, forward-looking cities of Europe and a leading, international business hub and tourist destination.

The project shall be a landmark for the whole city and a milestone for the business history of the broader region. TIF-HELEXPO S.A is expecting innovative, high-quality, sustainable, unique architectural proposals for a visionary project that aspires to become an exceptional example of future cityscape developments establishing close spatial connections between business areas and buildings as well as green open spaces.

The competition area occupies approximately 17,5 hectares (175.000 m²) and according to the Master Plan is divided into four (4) functional districts and six (6) sectors.



THE COMPETITION

The “INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN COMPETITION FOR THE THESSALONIKI CONFEX PARK” will be launched as an **international, one-stage architectural design project Competition conducted in restricted procedure** and it will be conducted according to the UNESCO Regulations and the UIA best practice recommendations. The endorsement of UIA (International Union of Architects) is pending.

More specifically, the procedure will be organized in the following phases:

- the pre-qualification
- the Design Competition.

The pre-qualification phase will be a selection process and a preliminary step of the one-stage competition that aims at shortlisting the applicants, who appear to be most capable of providing successful solutions for this complex project.

In the prequalification phase each applicant (or group of applicants) will submit an online standard application form and documents pertaining to their regulatory and technical capacity as well as references permitting a qualitative evaluation of their work.

Among the applications received, the International Jury will select fifteen (15) applicants to participate in the Design Competition.

In the Design Competition the fifteen (15) competitors will be invited to submit design proposals anonymously. The design proposals will be presented to the international jury responsible for evaluating and ranking them and determining the prizes and eventual honorary mentions. Anonymity will be respected throughout the whole competition and evaluation process.

TIF-HELEXPO S.A. will proceed to a private, negotiation procedure with the first prize winner for the further development of the project, namely the realization of the new THESSALONIKI CONFEX PARK, based on the first prize winner's Design.

PRIZES- HONORARIA

All competitors, who submit entries at the Design Competition, will receive an honorarium of 15.000,00 euro each.

The three competitors that will be awarded by the jury with the first, the second and the third prizes will be awarded respectively the following prize money:

- 1st prize 50.000,00 Euro
- 2nd prize 30.000,00 Euro
- 3rd prize 20.000,00 Euro

The jury may also award honorary mentions to designs with a particular merit.

INTERNATIONAL JURY

An international jury comprised of internationally renowned professionals in the fields of architecture, landscape architecture and urban planning will evaluate all applications at the pre-qualification step, select the competitors, evaluate all design entries at the competition, rank them and allocate the prizes.

During the evaluation of the competition entries, the jury will be assisted by various specialists in fields relevant to the competition task and the competition requirements. A technical committee will undertake the formal and technical control of the applications and the competition entries prior to the jury meetings.

The jury shall be consisted of nine (9) regular and three (3) alternate members.

All jury meetings shall be closed meetings. The jury decisions shall be final, sovereign and binding for both the TIF-HELEXPO SA as well as for the applicants/competitors.

TIME SCHEDULE

The key dates of the competition are:

PREQUALIFICATION	Prequalification Launch - registration opening	Sep 28, 2020
	Application Submission Deadline (online at the website)	Nov 13, 2020
	Announcement of Selection of 15 Competitors (at the latest)	Dec 16, 2020
	Evidence Submission Deadline	Jan 22, 2021
DESIGN COMPETITION	Competition Starts	Feb 1, 2021
	Submission Deadline (entries to be postmarked by:)	May 31, 2021
	Winners announced	Jul 1, 2021

ACCESS TO THE COMPETITION DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION

All Competition documents, such as the Competition Regulations, its Appendixes, any Q&A, the provisional programme etc. will be made available on the website of the competition, namely at the following address: <https://thessaloniki-confexpark.gr>.

All documents relative to the pre-qualification will be accessible on 28. September 2020, date of the registration opening.

The same announcement is published simultaneously on the UIA website <https://www.uia-architectes.org/webApi/en/>