19th session, 2018

International Baikal Winter University of urban planning design

National Research Irkutsk State Technical University
International workshops of planning and urban design "Les Ateliers"
Urban Planning School
Union of architects of Russia Irkutsk Region branch
Administration the city of Irkutsk

Document
Presentation material
Statistics for the last 18 years

30 PARTICIPANTS
12 EXPERTS
25 MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL
3 WEEKS
5 TEAMS
50 COUNTRY UNIVERSITIES
1000 PARTICIPANTS
Winter University was founded in 1999 by the administration of Irkutsk, with ISTU, and with the participation of institutes and public organizations. Principle MBZGU sessions based on the experience of the European University Summer Workshops Urbanism (city of Cergy-Pontoise, France), which was created own original approach and strategy of the summer sessions, proven over 30 years in various countries around the world, which is to create a competitive programs and implementing them in the work of project team comprising of young professionals with different training from different countries and cultures.

This program is an original model of training young professionals of various specialties related to urban planning, and allows them to develop a higher level of conceptual thinking, communication, mastery of analytical and design approaches in an international multi-disciplinary partnership working with dynamically developing town planning system of the city of Siberia. For thirteen years in the design of innovative educational programs attended by more than 1,000 young specialists, assistants, experts, members of the International Jury, representatives of 42 universities, Germany, UK, Spain, Italy, France, Norway, Sweden, Bulgaria, Ukraine, China, Korea, Japan, Lebanon, India, Mexico, Brazil, Mongolia, Russia, Switzerland, Turkey, the U.S. and Georgia and a number of Russian cities: Moscow, Krasnoyarsk, Novosibirsk, St. Petersburg, Volgograd, Rostov-on-Don, Vladivostok, Yekaterinburg, Irkutsk.
Winter University

Winter University was founded in 1999 on the initiative of Irkutsk administration, jointly with National Research Irkutsk State Technical University and with the assistance of planning institutes and public-organizations. The principle of carrying out creative workshops of the WU of Urban Planning is based on the experience of Summer Workshops of the European University of the Urban Planning (Cergy–Pontoise, France), where the original-procedure and strategy of holding summer workshops was created. These workshops have been holding all over the world for more than 30 years. Having no analogues in Russia, this program is an original model of training of young specialists of different professions related to the city and its districts development.

Goals and objectives

- is to create competitive programs and implement them in the work of design groups, comprising young specialists with different vocational training, representatives of different countries and cultures that come to see each other for the first time;
- exchanging of vast experience in mastering analytic and designed approaches in the framework of international interdisciplinary partnership, in the work with dynamically developing urban planning systems of Siberian cities; to reach a new higher level of conceptual thinking in the qualitative sense, exceeding the bounds of traditional education; to preserve and to hand down the rich traditions of Russian nation.

Auditory

• undergraduates / graduates / young specialists/ professionals in following fields of activity:
  • architecture
  • urban planning design;
  • urban economics;
  • transport engineering;
  • ecology;
  • urban sociology
  • landscape design
Zaton / Irkutsk - Transforming industrial heritage

Brownfield redevelopment - precious resource and striking challenge for an sustainable urban future

The conversion of former industrial or military territories is an challenging issue in urban planning worldwide - such as in Irkutsk. In the urban age, people are increasingly moving to the cities – the population in urban agglomerations is growing. Cities are urgently looking for space, particularly to satisfy the need for housing, but also to be able to offer commercial spaces. At the same time, they are trying to prevent additional land usage, i.e. outwards expansion of the city. Former industrial areas offer valuable cultural, economic, and spatial potential for inner development. Projects all over the world show the successful practice to convert areas of former industrial or military use into mixed districts and vital neighborhoods with the offer of various usages such as offices, cultural assets and leisure activities.

While fertile land has to make way for new buildings, more and more brownfields in the cities and communities remain unused. Land use and overdevelopment are one among the most pressing environmental problems at present. Other consequences are higher costs for the community and a loss of urban quality of living. The reactivation of land reserves in the inner cities plays a key role in this process. Growing interest of real estate users to work and live within urban locations also gives rise to hope. Meanwhile, numerous inner city quarters have been reporting population growths again and the number of residents in many rural areas has been declining. Urban brownfields meanwhile appear in a new light: as a chance of making the quarters more interesting, worth living and also more attractive for new redevelopment concepts. Inner city locations are more sustainable for construction of projects than projects on rural land, not only in terms of demographic trends. The reactivation of these brownfields is not only facilitated by overall improvement of conditions but also because by increasing know-how overcome development hindrances is available.

There are numerous advantages of brownfield redevelopment compared to building new areas on the edge of town, such as the better site quality (centrality, public transport, urban environment, closer location to business partners), lower risk of vacancy due to a broad utilization spectrum, especially when mixed use applied, lower construction cost thanks to available infrastructure, and lower allocated costs because of the utilization of public infrastructure, savings on ecological compensation measures, marketing advantage and longer life cycle of buildings with special flair. However, there are disadvantages and risks e.g. contamination and its handling, the difficulty of engaging different stakeholders, marketing troubles caused by “brownfield” image, sometimes costly or restrictive regulations, e.g. monument protection for existing buildings.

Irkutsk, a city in Eastern Siberia with a population of about 623,000, located 43 miles from Lake Baikal, is a commercial and cultural center of the region. Irkutsk is the administrative centre of Irkutsk Oblast and one of the largest cities in Siberia. Irkutsk is a growing, a scientific and educational city where more than one hundred thousand students study. Also Irkutsk ascribed to the Historical city of Russia and the historic center declared a provisional list of UNESCO World Heritage. Irkutsk located on the watersides of the river Angara and so-called «the gate of Baikal».

After 25 years since dissolution of the Sowjet system, Irkutsk is still a city in transition and therefor undergoing a period of significant changes in its socio-economic and political-administrative reorganization, which influences the spatial structure of the city. Bustling construction activity can be observed in the city center as well as on the outskirts. As a result, particularly shops, gastronomic, and service facilities have established themselves in the city center over the last ten years. Buildings as well as entire structures of quarters are currently being rebuilt or altered. The backlog of usage for the former Soviet city is enormous and it can be expected that the requirement for further functional
enhancements will persist. The growing motorization primarily, but not exclusively, presents an increasing strain on the city center through transit traffic and greater parking pressure. Noise and exhaust emissions reduce the quality of living and stay, the green courtyards around the wooden houses are blocked by parked cars. Public transportation, consisting of trams, trolley buses, buses, and minibuses, is too ineffective and uncomfortable to provide relief.

Irkutsk is known as the place of exile for leaders of the Decembrist revolt of 1826, which brought European, and particularly French culture – language, music, literature – to the Eastern Siberian city. In common parlance, the city is referred to as the Paris of Siberia. It boasts numerous decorative wooden houses from the 18th and 19th centuries, more than 400 of which are listed buildings.

But the city also has an industrial past. In mid 18th century the first small craft producer and small factory, for example, the first brickyard were opened. In 19th century around 30 mall factories were in use, all located along the river Ushakovka. In the early 20th century the first large factory was built along the Trans-Siberian railway. Since the 1930s industrial construction of the city grew: Mechanical engineering plants, the air plant, brick and concrete plants, tea fabric, plants of food industry were built. In mid 20th century heavy engineering factories, aircraft factory and other large factories were established.

With the end of the Soviet Union, many production plants were closed. In the 1990es, privatization disrupted the industrial lines and cycles in the remaining facilities. All that time the sites were divided up more and more among new owners that started to use them for their own purposes. Industrial production facilities were closing, creating vacant areas waiting for reuse, but in times of uncertain economic prevision, the risk of possible ground pollution is a drawback for their redevelopment.

The city owns many former industrial areas which now mainly lie dormant or are used inefficiently, waiting for reuse. Today, these harbor valuable resources for future developments. Concepts for a coordinated, social, commercial, and ecological development of the conversion areas in Irkutsk which also take long-term horizons into consideration are still lacking. They frequently display heterogenous usage areas and fragmented constructional structures. Several of these boast special location advantages, since they lie by the water. These include the Zaton peninsula with an area of about 75 hectares, situated by the banks of the Irkut and Angara rivers. A territory with a port and former industrial and storage facilities.

Due to the pressure for growth, it is high time to tackle the planning and development of this area. With its prominent position on the water and near the city center, a new district could be created here in the future with diverse uses, living, service, and recreational facilities – a new address with a special flair that strengthens the profile of the city as a cultural and economic center and makes it attractive as a place of residence. The 19th Baikal Winter University wants to develop planning strategies and urban concepts for this.

Which role can Zaton take on regarding the context of the city as a whole? How can the area be better connected to the surroundings spatially and functionally? The location on the water opens up the possibility of creating attractive recreational facilities and living quarters by the river. As part of the workshop, visions and holistic strategies as well as suggestions for interventions for individually selected locations will be compiled.

The session in year 2018 shall bring once more young experts from different countries and various disciplines together in order to discuss and develop new ideas and approaches for the future of one precious site of the city Irkutsk – Zaton. In mixed teams, supported by local and international experts the creative potential should be used and bring fresh impulses to the ongoing planning debate in Irkutsk.
Irkutsk

Irkutsk history

Irkutsk was founded in 1652. That time it was a small settlement playing the role of gold and fur trade center. The settlement received town status in 1686. Later, in 1760, the Siberian Road connected Irkutsk with the European part of Russia. It was the reason of Irkutsk town further economic growth (Russian trade center with China).

By the beginning of the 18th century, Irkutsk was becoming the administrative and commercial center of a vast territory in central and eastern Siberia.

By the middle of the 18th century, Irkutsk advanced to a new level of commercial importance. The majority of the city’s population was involved in entrepreneurial activity of one form or another, and its merchants assumed an increasingly important role in guiding the city in the absence of an established local nobility. This surge of economic vitality gave rise to a rich urban silhouette created by the vertical accents.

One third of Irkutsk population was from exiled men at the end of the 19th century. That’s why the city became the cultural and educational center of Siberia region.

A catastrophic fire in 1879 destroyed much of Irkutsk, including masonry buildings as well as wooden houses. Nonetheless, the town soon rebounded on the strength of gold mining and growing trade, both domestic and foreign. From the beginning of the 19th century, Siberia region in general and Irkutsk town became the place where a lot of Russian officers and nobles were exiled for taking part in Decembrist revolt against the Tsar.

During of the 20th century, Irkutsk was transformed by an eclectic array of office buildings, hotels, banks, and theaters. The most impressive public structure in Irkutsk at the end of the 19th century was the City Theater, built in 1894-97 and splendidly restored a century later. These major buildings reflect an economic stimulus created in part by the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railroad.

Circum-Baykal Railways

Circum-Baykal Railways is a historic architectural monument of the early 20th century. It was constructed on the rocky shores of Baikal between the settlement Kultuk and port-station Baikal at the outflow of the Angara River. It is one of the links of the great Trans-Siberian railways. This railways is not by chance called the «Golden buckle of the Russia’s steel belt». By the amount of work and difficulties to overcome it is the most difficult construction in the whole world. At the distance of 84 km there are 39 tunnels and 440 bridges and other engineering constructions. The longest tunnel is 778 m long, the biggest bridge is 123m.

Now the city is an important transportation junction of the region. Trans-Siberian Railway and federal highway to Vladivostok are going through the city. There are two airports in the city: Irkutsk International Airport and Irkutsk Northwest Airport.

Irkutsk economics

There is cascade hydro power station in Irkutsk city area built in 1950-1958. The largest industrial enterprise of the city is Irkut company. The company is known for manufacturing Su-30 jet fighters. Irkut Aluminium Smelter of Rusal company is also situated in the city.

The electricity came to Irkutsk in 1896, first theater - in 1897, and railway station - in 1898. Irkutsk had the nickname “Siberian Paris” at the beginning of the 20th century. The city was one of the centers of Bolshevik Revolution resistance during the Russian Civil War. The city and surrounding territories were heavily industrialized during the Soviet period.
Design Area

85 hectare

- 70% industrial areas
- 10% railway
- 10% dilapidated hoising
- 10% green
The city on the river.
Part 1: Layer under layer
How to go into the world of people and boats without leaving Irkutsk

In my own inner dictionary “Zaton” (roughly translated as backwater or a boat yard) derives from the word “flooded”. Even to Julia, who came from Germany, I was explaining that the place is flooded by the Angara river, that is why it is called like that. Somehow I did not see it as a place for fixing boats. Just a mysterious flooded place. Again, not the best of places. But the boats I saw from this bank of the river wouldn’t give me any peace, the aesthetic part of it. I just had to get up and go there. Because when would I go there if not now?

Anton: Everyone we asked on our way said there was only one way to get there – from the Angara bridge. This entrance is narrow as a bottle neck, wherethrough you squeeze and squeeze...

Anton: Our first experience was vivid and truly bright. We were walking across the bridge – noise, cars all around. We turned right, walked on a little and realized we were practically in silence. Once in five minutes there was a car driving there – whoosh, – and back – whoosh. Some school students were passing by. That’s it. Almost everyone we met were aged 10 to 15. Saturday. Someone was riding a scooter; someone was just going about their business.

Anton: We were walking through a gloomy industrial landscape – scraps of fences, some pipes... Odd and beautiful at the same time.

Julia: Naturally, I have been to dockyards before, but not where there are so many broken boats. And this is some sort of mix of a dockyard and an industrial area. And a contrast: a living river versus the quietly motionless boats. We have been taking photos of everything around, but not for a long time, maybe ten minutes. Then a security guard came along and kicked us out.

Anton: There goes the classic: “Hey! What the hell are you taking pictures of? It’s actually forbidden here!” I said: “Hi, we’re just tourists. The door was open. Is there a problem? We haven’t seen any signs...” Playing dumb, as usual. I smile. The man softens a little: “There’s a lot of stealing – both day and night... Aluminum is 30 rubles per kilo, by the way. Lead can even be more expensive”.

photo: Anton Klimov
text: Anton Klimov, Julia Sellman
resource: Gorod inache (http://gorodinache.org)
There's the sound of a sawmill. We can hear people working. “This, – the man explains, – is the Chinese taking some quarters on lease, they mill here. They bring the timber here, mill it and leave. We have huge premises here, huge opportunities, but the only use for that is renting it out”. That's a classical situation: everything is destroyed and sold out, but they seem to have everything.

_Anton_: While we are standing there, a huge crane glides on the water – epic view. “Well, it has worked for a day, that's it... Who knows what's next...” In the end the security guard made it clear that this area was closed, implying “get out of here”, but “it’s possible to arrange with the bosses”. Something like “in theory that’s possible, but not now, sorry”.

_Julia_: When the guard kicked us out, we decided to explore the area. I’m interested in teenagers anywhere, and we happened to see a group of young people right then. Since we had a little research to do, I suggested that Anton and I should follow the group.

For the German project participants both Irkutsk and “Gorod inahce” (“The City Otherwise”) were supposed to start not with the historical center but with places closer to day-to-day life. Among us we called these walks “landing operations”: small, mixed-nationality groups of 2-3 people headed to places where tourists usually don’t go. It turned out that it is not only tourists who don’t go there: in many places our Irkutsk participants were there for the first time too. We chose three stories for publication. Strangely, all of them got us to the rivers. Although that coincidence was not without reason: Irkutsk was built on rivers and made a living out of them. Nowadays this connection is not so obvious but it hasn’t disappeared.

_Anton_: We went somewhere deeper into the neighborhood latching onto the school guys. We ended up in a somewhat stagnating place: wooden toilets, tiny houses – a semi-rural style. The atmosphere was very weird – silence and tension at the same time. I guess, stereotypes about the place arose. There was seemingly no source of danger, but there was the appearance and the effect of getting into a completely different, half-devastated space through a narrow corridor.
Anton: A house. I would have walked past, but Yulia said: “Shall we go in?” The windows were shuttered and it was clear that at least half of the house was abandoned. Four flats. Only one of them was locked. We entered all the others.

Anton: Julia got very emotional because of all the reality, aesthetics, space arrangement.

Julia: The main question I was constantly asking myself was why had these people left these things behind? Some of them were quite intact. What had made them abandon their house? There was one huge tin. And a lot of caps from plastic bottles. They were all of different colours, as if they were a collection. There were a lot of items in the house that could raise questions but they were all rather ordinary. But these caps were something unusual. They made me think of the people who used to live there. The one who collected them – what kind of a person is he? How old is he, what does he do?

Anton: We looked around one flat, and I wanted to go up the stairs. Yulia said: “It might be dangerous. It may fall through”. I said: “Yes, Yulia, if you’re going to be afraid of everything, you just won’t go anywhere”. It’s interesting how she was seriously worried while it didn’t even enter my head.

Anton: We went upstairs, looked around, and I was about to leave, but Julia said: “Let’s have a look at one more, with half an eye”. It was there we found a place with photo wallpaper, plastered with several layers of different life. Cultural layers indeed. You feel like an archaeologist. Julia came up with the idea at once how to shoot this “greeting from childhood” with an iPhone.

Anton: There’s a woman coming out of the house next door:
- What are you taking pictures of?
- We’re just having a walk. This girl is from Germany.
- From Germany, is she?! Let me show you my front yard! See, I’m growing some flowers here...They don’t look much now, of course...

And she’s embarrassed she can’t show us her garden at its best – the season is over.
Anton: Ksenia suggested: “You know what? I can give her some seeds... It’s a perennial plant, she could just throw them around, and it will grow!” And she starts giving her seeds – a handful, then another, then the third one – in a plastic cup, in a bag. And Julia is standing there with her hands full of seeds. Before I could wink, Julia was holding and chewing a pancake stuffed with meat.

We met an open, very positive person who was fascinated with what she was doing – her orchard, her garden, decorating her space: “You haven’t seen my window yet. Let me show you. You can’t see all of the beauty from this side, but I decorated it with some greenery. Let’s get inside, I’ll show it to you”.

Anton: “Let’s do one thing. She’ll go to Germany, and I’ll give her some flowers... in pots? She’ll keep them at home, it will be pretty! They probably don’t have such flowers ...” And there she is, with the two flower pots: “Come on, take them! They will bring you joy! And remind you of Russia”.

“It’s great here, it’s fun, and, in fact, complete national cohesion. We go to the park, feed the squirrels. In summer we go down to the river, go for a swim... It’s a pleasant little neighborhood, almost like out of town. We have our own place, no city rush. It’s wonderful here”.

Anton: When we set off for the Zaton we had this task with layers. We were supposed to remove the upper layer and have a look at what’s there, underneath. So it turns out the gloomy landscape is the upper layer, while deep down are the seeds and these pots of flowers.

Julia: The greatest contrast in Zaton is a human one: some send you away, while others make you feel welcomed, invite you to come in, feed you and give you flowers.
Aims and goals

19 session, 2018

1. To design a development concept of «Zaton», public, recreation and residential areas.
2. To suggest new urban scenarios of recreational, public and residential spaces for riverfront development.
3. To develop the program of implementation of the new urban scenarios in the existing city planning conditions of coastal areas.
4. To find instruments to improve the quality of life and attraction of the city by developing the peninsula area.

Objectives. Steps of work

1 step - Concept

Collation and synthesis of the raw materials provided by the organizers, including legal and regulatory framework of development of Zaton peninsula in Irkutsk.
Identify the circumstances preventing reconstruction of peninsula. Development of basic principles (ideology) for the development of project area. Develop general principles of the transformation process, as well as suggestions on the typology and image of the building/waterfront area/marina.
Identification of spatial, cultural, socio-economic, infrastructure, transport and other features assigned to the team, which would be considered within the framework of the project session.

Requirement for presentation:
- Hand drawing, teamwork
- Analysis of the project site with the use of raw data and taking into account the background information (lectures, excursions) in reference to the scale of the city.
- 2 sheets of A4 print with an open concept of the project in 2 languages (for experts).

2 step - Strategy

Integrating concepts: the possible and promising development options for the built up Zaton area, containing strategic and tactical decisions that are applicable for the Zaton area and should combine both planning and regulatory management tools.
Strategic vision for the reconstruction should cover a period of 10-25 years. Tactical decision should be identified for implementing the strategic vision in short settlement period of 1-3 years. Preparation of preliminary design for the prescribed area, demonstrating the applicability of the concept in the current urban and social conditions and also taking into account the individual characteristics of the site.

Requirement for presentation:
- PowerPoint/pdf Presentation of 15-20 slides, using the established mediums (Sketches, diagrams, hand drawing)
- Teamwork
- Conceptual design, containing an implementation plan with reconstruction blocks and the technical and economic indicators for the development of Zaton

3 step - Project

Finalizing the concepts, strategies and possible options for the development of Zaton.
Finalization of the conceptual design with detail, including refinement stages of transformation areas and also identifying the technical and economic indicators.

Requirement for presentation:
- PowerPoint presentation of 25-40 slides
- Teamwork
- Final draft containing an analysis of the situation, the concept of project implementation strategy.
- Proposals for high dense residential typologies, alternative ways of infrastructure development blocks (social, infrastructure and transport), new schemes for local authorities and investors which will be used by administration of Irkutsk, Irkutsk Oblast government and developers in Irkutsk.
- 8 pieces of A4 paper in electronic form, illustrating the project in 2 languages.
### Program Session 2018

**International Baikal University of Urban Planning Design**

#### Program of the session for assistants and participants (February, 10 - March, 4)

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#### Program of the session for experts and jury (28 February - 4 March)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>Arrival of expert jury</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 18:00</td>
<td>Area bus tour</td>
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<td>MASTER-CLASS of expert jury</td>
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<td>Final presentations from team</td>
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<td>Free time</td>
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<td>The official closing ceremony of 19th session</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Welcome dinner</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Summary of the jury</td>
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<td>The awarding ceremony</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Trip to Lake Baikal</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Departure of the expert jury</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Trip to Lake Baikal</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Departure of the expert jury</td>
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</table>
Condition of participation
19 session, 2018

PARTICIPANTS

Master students, PhD students and young specialists are invited.
Applications must be sent till 20 September 2017, WU’s Scientific Board will choose candidates.
Participation fee - 350 euro (accommodation, meals (breakfast and lunch), common events, excursions are included, we’ll also grant you diplomas of advanced training).

During the workshop you can listen lectures of international experts and get an invaluable experience of team work with professionals of different specializations.
Workshop lasts for 3 weeks - from the 9th February - 4 March; each week is a stage, i.e. a concept, strategy, project and after - 2 presentations - for an expert jury that will choose winners in the end, and for Irkutsk city administration.

30 persons will be chosen. 20 of representatives from Europe, America, Asia, Africa, and 10 from the Russian regions.

EXPERTS

We invite practicing architects, urban planners, developers, professors with experience in the design and implementation of industrial and recreational spaces in the city.

We invite you, if you are presenting to our workshop 2 of your students or young professionals from your company (if we accept their applications). In this case, if you provide 2 students we will pay the flight (we will reimburse you the amount till 20 thousand rubles).

We take on your travel expenses (in Irkutsk) and hotel accommodation from 25 February till 4 March.

Representatives of the expert jury prepares a report on the session, which they will present in Document #4, as well as a presentation of the projects (on adjacent to the session topic), which will be present for the students of ISTU.

CALENDAR

September

- Participation deadline
- Announcement of results

25 Sept
1 Oct
PILOTS

Barbara Engel
19th session pilot
Professor, Dr.-Ing.
Department of International
Urban Planning and Design,
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany

Valeri Kozlov
19th session pilot
Professor, Ph.D. in Architecture
Department of Urban Development
and Architectural Design,
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State Technical University, Russia

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deputy director

Anastasia Kosolapova
deputy director

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19th session curater

Tatiana Kopylova
International jury assistant

Julia Nikiforova
layout designer