



European Federation for Living Affordable Community Living Design Competition 2020-2021: Kalasatama Smart City, Helsinki

[The European Federation for Living](#) (EFL) is hosting a competition in order to push the limits of creativity, and to bring forth new ideas for sustainable urban communities. Along with partners LiM - Living in Metropolises, and Village Co-Living we invite student teams around Europe to design a concept for a real site in Helsinki, within a newly developing smart-city district. This concept-based challenge asks teams not only to design a building - the *hardware*- but also to envision local networks, services and value streams – the *software* and the *blockchains* that will support affordable community living on and around the site. Sharing, learning, working, co-living and other support scenarios should be considered and built into the designs as needed.

The year 2020 has brought challenges that will provoke new thinking about how urban communities live, work, and congregate. The COVID 19 pandemic, for example, may inspire new ideas for both indoor and outdoor spaces. We invite designs that speak to our current and future challenges, including the urgent need to mitigate climate change, and to adapt our built environments to its impacts. Teams should explore opportunities for smarter, healthier, greener, and more digitally connected patterns of living, and build them into people-centred designs. We want to see dwellings that can accommodate diverse types of households across their life cycles, while supporting their well-being, privacy and socio-economic inclusion. We are looking for community facilities that will help residents help each other, and buildings that will complement and improve the surrounding neighbourhood.

Eligibility, requirements and awards

Teams entering the competition must be university based and led by students involved in undergraduate or graduate programmes. While they may include students from housing management, urban planning or other relevant fields, they do require architecture or design students able to produce plans for the site and development. Alongside these plans, entrants will submit a community concept design and a supporting statement. Four prizes will be awarded from a total prize money of €7000, including an undergraduate entry award.

Timeline

Opening from 15 October 2020, the competition has a deadline of 21 June 2021. The display and assessment of shortlisted competition entries will be integrated into an EFL debate on affordable community living in July 2021. During the competition, students will have access to EFL member [GloBLD's](#) innovative Arch-Data platform for collaborative spatial projects, which will assist them to explore the site and the city virtually. We invite interested students to read the competition brief in full and to contact EFLStaff@ef-l.eu for any remaining questions.

[Link to the Full Competition Brief](#)