

member benefits

The International Council of Design was formed by design organisations who came together to create a collective voice for design on the international stage. As long as an international body exists to represent them, regional and national design bodies have:

- A hub through which to connect to their fellow organisations
- International support and legitimacy
- A source of international codes of ethics and standards
- A voice to advocate for design in international fora

When Members need letters of support to obtain funding, or when their local governments institute policies that counter the profession and a collective voice is needed to apply political pressure, or when an institution needs to assert its credibility through belonging to an international body—we exist to offer this support.

We hope that our Members see their Membership as an opportunity for them—individually and collectively—to collaborate to achieve objectives they could not achieve on their own; as a way to cross boundaries and engage with perspectives from other design models and cultures.

01 governance

The biennial ico-D General Assembly establishes the direction of the Council. Professional, Educational and Promotional Members assemble to consider and vote on policy and programmes, nominate and elect the Executive Board for the next two-year term, ratify the admission of new Member organisations, and discuss an array of strategic matters.

02 policy and best practices

ico-D co-ordinates international Best Practices that are endorsed by its Membership. All Members may contribute to ico-D's policy initiatives and Best Practice development, including:

- Regulations and best practices for organising design award competitions
- Regulations and best practices for serving as a juror of design award competition

- Soliciting work from professional designers
- International conditions of contract and engagement for designers
- Model code of professional conduct for designers
- In addition, ico-D provides guidelines for organising exhibitions and conferences as a resource to its Members.

03 programmes and projects

ico-D facilitates a number of programmes and projects that promote and advocate the value of design. Members are encouraged to participate in ico-D's initiatives, and propose to host projects and events. For a current overview of activities, visit the «Programmes» section of the ico-D website.

04 platforms

Each ico-D Member belongs to the Platform Meetings which provide a unique

interface for Professional, Educational and Promotional Members to influence ico-D's focus, international agenda, distribution of resources, and to discuss common issues and challenges. The Platforms gather Members in-person once a year and continue their important work through the year both virtually and locally. Platforms generate specific topics of interest and Workgroups are formed based on these topics. For more information visit the «Platforms» section of the ico-D website.

05 promotion

Each ico-D Member receives:

- A personalised Member organisation profile on ico-D's website and in the international Member directory.
- The right to distribute news and information about their organisation via ico-D's website and Facebook page.

- Use of the ico-D brand (Member badge) for the organisation's website and marketing materials.

06 networking

Member organisations are encouraged to connect and build networks with other ico-D Members worldwide. The website Member Directory provides contact information, acting as a hub that facilitates and encourages the exchange of design-related programmes, projects and events.

07 endorsements

Endorsed events demonstrate that they promote the value of design and enhance its standards, professional practice and ethics. Professional, Educational and Promotional Members are entitled to one free endorsement annually.

Endorsed initiatives receive promotion on our website, newsletter and Facebook page, as well as the graphic asset of the 'ico-D endorsed' seal. Additionally, each ico-D endorsed event has the opportunity to award an ico-D Excellence Award as part of its prize structure.

08 awards

Member organisations are eligible to nominate individuals for the ico-D Achievement Award and the ico-D Education Award to recognise individual leadership and accomplishment.

09 career centre

Our Career Center allows Members to share and access about high-level design employment opportunities on offer around the world. Members receive one free job posting per year and a fifty percent discount on regular pricing rates for subsequent postings. All job postings will be additionally promoted on the ico-D website homepage and Facebook page.

10 member toolkit

Members receive access to a Member-only area of the website, containing important information, core governance docs and useful resources.

11 special offers

Members may receive special offers and rates for events, products and other services.

member responsibilities

The overarching responsibility of every Member is to take an active role in the international design community through enthusiastic participation in Meetings, Platforms and Work Groups. This Council is its Members. If we share information and pool resources, we gain strength together. That means that every Member has the responsibility to maintain and strengthen connections between their local communities and the international community.

Your news is of interest to other Members, as theirs is to you: *Have you struggled this year to solve an issue in your community?* This is of interest to your fellow Members. Solutions shared are time and effort saved. *Are there issues you think would be better solved together?* We would like to hear about that too.

A «good» Member is a Member who maintains an active connection between the regional, national and international design communities, who participates in events and initiatives, and who generally takes an interest.

Formal conditions of ico-D Membership are defined in the Articles of Incorporation & Bylaws. Conditions are concerned with qualifications and financial responsibility and are designed to make ico-D function as a cooperative, communicative organisation for the benefit of its Members throughout the world.

These obligations are:

01

To inform the ico-D Secretariat of up-to-date total membership counts and details of any changes in status, function or activity.

02

To send, not only to the Secretariat but also to the other member associations, copies of publications—bulletins, magazines, professional documents, yearbooks etc.—insofar as this is feasible.

03

To act as a connector between professional and educational representatives in their own country and visiting ico-D Member associations from other countries.

04

To cooperate in disseminating ico-D information to their membership and in sending national information to the Secretariat for publication by ico-D.

05

To appoint an ico-D correspondent responsible for general liaison between Member associations and ico-D and between ico-D and the association's members.

06

To assist in promoting ico-D meetings, events and activities, and to assist host associations, insofar as this is feasible, in contributing material, advice and information.