

Terms of Reference (TOR)

Steel Architectural Awards ASEAN 2026

1. Background and Theme

The Steel Architectural Awards ASEAN 2026 is a regional architectural awards program presented by NS BlueScope to recognise built projects that demonstrate architectural excellence using coated steel solutions. Under the theme *“Shaping Resilient Futures: Timeless Design with Coated Steel”*, the program seeks to elevate design quality across Southeast Asia by celebrating projects that combine aesthetic integrity, durability, and design innovation with BlueScope’s steel solutions.

2. Objectives

- Recognise built architectural projects that showcase timeless, resilient design using coated steel.
- Celebrate aesthetic integrity, durability, and design innovation enabled by BlueScope steel solutions.
- Establish benchmarks and promote best practices in steel design, detailing, and application across ASEAN.
- Strengthen knowledge-sharing and professional networks among architects, industry partners, and institutions in the region.

3. Partners 2026

- Association of Siamese Architects under Royal Patronage (ASA) – Thailand
- Ikatan Arsitek Indonesia (IAI) – Indonesia
- University of Architecture Ho Chi Minh City (UAH) – Vietnam
- Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) – Malaysia
- Glenn Murcutt Architecture Foundation Australia
- Australian Chamber of Commerce, Singapore (AustCham Singapore)
- ArchDaily
- NS BlueScope

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4. Program Structure and Key Timeline

The program is delivered in two stages: (1) Country Awards conducted within participating countries; and (2) ASEAN Awards conducted at regional level, where shortlisted country winners are appraised to determine ASEAN winners.

Stage	Indicative timeline (2026)
Country Awards – Submission	April – July 2026
Country Awards – Appraisal	July – August 2026
Country Awards – Award Ceremonies	August – September 2026
ASEAN Awards – Appraisal	October 2026
ASEAN Awards – Award Ceremony	November 2026
One Week Learning and Sharing Trip to Australia	Mid 2027

5. Eligibility

- The competition is open to built projects located in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- Submitted projects **must incorporate BlueScope steel products and solutions.**
- Entries may be submitted by project contributors (e.g., architect, project owner, main contractor, roll former, or other stakeholders), subject to obtaining required consents from the project owner and design team.
- Country Awards will select finalists/ winners to advance to the ASEAN-level appraisal in accordance with each participating country’s award program terms and conditions.

6. Award Categories (ASEAN 2026)

- **Industrial**
- **Commercial**
- **Residential**
- **Institutional, Public & Others**

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7. ASEAN-Level Judging Criteria

At the ASEAN Awards stage, finalist projects will be evaluated using the following criteria and weightings:

1. **Design Excellence (50%):** Design concept and clarity, Contextual responsiveness, and Versatile and technical resolution.
2. **Innovation (30%):** Functional use of coated steel, Technical ingenuity and detailing, and Performance driven steel design.
3. **Sustainability (20%):** Energy efficient design, Climate responsive architecture, and Material durability and lifecycle.

8. ASEAN Appraisal Process

ASEAN finalists (as nominated through the Country Awards stage) will be invited to present their projects to the ASEAN-level judging panel. The presentation format and submission material will be confirmed by the organiser prior to the ASEAN appraisal (scheduled for October 2026 to be confirmed).

9. ASEAN-Level Judging Panel (2026)

- Ar. Geoff Croker, Principal, fjcstudio (Australia)
- Ar. Firman Setia Herwanto, Vice President of IAI (Indonesia)
- Ar. Dr. Serina Hijjas, Principal, Hijjas Kasturi Associates (Malaysia)
- Ar. Asae Sukhyanga, President of ASA (Thailand)
- Ar. Dr. Truong Nguyen Hoang Long, Head of Division of Environment and Sustainable Design, UAH (Vietnam)

10. Awards and Recognition

- **Country Awards:** Conducted in each participating country; country winners advance to ASEAN-level appraisal in line with the program pathway.
- **ASEAN Awards:** ASEAN winners will be announced at the ASEAN Award Ceremony (scheduled for November 2026).
- **Recognition:** The program recognises excellence across the four award categories listed in Section 6.

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11. Administration and Notes

- This TOR provides a consolidated overview of the ASEAN 2026 program based on published program information. The organiser may issue country-specific TORs and ASEAN finalist instructions that take precedence for submission formats, deadlines, and logistics.
- All dates are indicative unless otherwise confirmed by official organiser communications.
- Finalists are responsible for ensuring they have rights/permissions to submit and present project materials (including images) and for obtaining required owner consent.

12. Contact

For enquiries, please refer to official communications from the organiser and the relevant Country Awards organiser in your country (Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, or Vietnam).

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