



Ergonomics in Design for All/ Newsletter

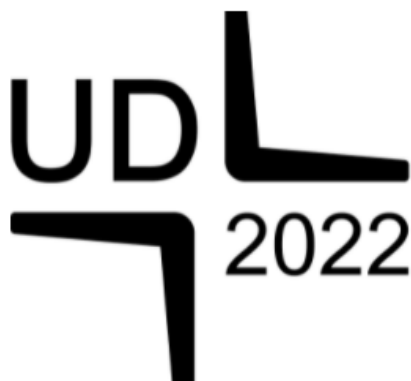
Dear Members and Friends of the International Ergonomics Association (IEA),
Ergonomics in Design for All Technical Committee,
Welcome to our sixth year and eighteen newsletters:
[it includes also info on an international design competition.](#)
Have a look at it, enjoy it!

With very best wishes, I wish you good luck with your work,
Isabella T. Steffan
IEA Ergonomics in Design for All TC
Chairperson

CONGRESSES

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON UNIVERSAL DESIGN

Transforming our World through Universal Design for Human Development
September 7-9 2022 - Brescia, Italy



The UD2022 conference is co-organized by University of Brescia, Ca' Foscari University of Venice and University of Trieste, Italy.

This sixth conference in a series of major biennial international conferences on Universal Design: [UD2012 \(Oslo\)](#), [UD2014 \(Lund\)](#), [UD2016 \(York\)](#), [UDHEIT2018 \(Dublin\)](#), [UD2021 \(Helsinki\)](#) is the first one to be organized in southern Europe.

The conference is targeted at professionals and academics interested in the theme of Universal Design related to the built environment and users' wellbeing. The themes cover also mobility and urban environments, knowledge, and information transfer.

Registration

Registration fees	Early registration (before 30 th June 2022)	Late registration (after 30 th June 2022)
Full (3 days)*	350	450
Student/Postdoc member (3 days)*	200	250
Guest (social dinner only)	80	80
Online participation fees		
Full (3 days)	200	250
Student/Postdoc member (3 days)*	100	150
Publication fees	150	

*3 days registration includes all coffee breaks,
light lunches and social dinner

It will be a hybrid conference with on-site participation. Participants are encouraged to consider in-person participation to allow for greater interaction among participants. Online participation will be available. The conference provides research knowledge and best practices from all over the world.

To learn more: visit <https://ud2022.unibs.it/>

AWARDS

INTERNATIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SYMBOL DESIGN COMPETITION

By **Isabella T. Steffan**, Ergonomics in Design for All, Milano, *Italy*
CNAPPC (Italian Chamber of Architects) delegate to UIA – Architecture for All WG

The [International Union of Architects \(UIA\)](#) and [Rehabilitation International \(RI\)](#) are jointly inviting submissions for a twenty-first century symbol of accessibility to represent their core values of rights and inclusion, independence, physical and virtual accessibility for all, including people with disabilities.

The challenge is therefore to develop a new symbol of accessibility that better represents the variety of people who use buildings and other types of built environments. The competition invites professional architects and graphic designers as well as architectural and graphic design students to design a new graphic symbol of accessibility, to be proposed to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for adoption as the new international symbol of accessibility.

PRIZES

First, Second and Third Prize Winners will be awarded, in addition to up to three (3) Honorable Mentions, at the discretion of the Jury.

First Prize: **US\$ 5,000.00 and certificate;**

Second Prize: **US\$ 2,500.00 and certificate;**

Third Prize: **US\$ 1,500.00 and certificate,**

Up to 3 Honorable Mentions **US\$ 500.00 and certificates**

TIMELINE

Competition announced and launched: **18 January 2022**

Deadline for the receipt of questions: **14 February 2022**

Answers for the questions: **25 February 2022**

Submission Deadline: **25 March 2022, 17:00, Paris time**

Jury Meeting: **07 April 2022**

Winners Announcement: **18 April 2022**

PROCEDURE

Please submit your submission on the [UIA Submission Platform](#).

Will not be accepted submissions made by email or post.

The language of the competition is English.

Participation in the competition is free of charge.

INFORMATION

See the competition brief [here](#).

Competitors may direct questions to

e.bonin@uia-architectes.org with the subject line "International Accessibility Symbol Design Competition".



The ISA, is deemed the property of Rehabilitation International and its design and use are covered by the ISO Standard 7001. It is also known as the "wheelchair logo", and widely used by architects and others to identify buildings, facilities and other elements of the built environment that are accessible to people with disabilities.

Award Ceremony: To be held virtual/in-person in conjunction with [UIA Forum in Madrid](#)

FOCUS

THE ROLE OF AN ACCESS CONSULTANT

By Jane Simpson, RIBA & NRAC Consultant, UK

In 2007 Inclusive Projects was published, produced originally by the Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee (DPTAC). It had 5 key points of good practice.

1. The implementation, design and construction team should understand and commit to the commercial, legal, and moral benefits of inclusive environments.

2. Appoint an appropriate project Access Champion and:
 - (a) empower them to act effectively within the project structure in the interests of access; and
 - (b) pay a fee for the services the Access Champion will have to undertake. Do not deem the services to be included within a designer's existing appointment.
3. Actively consider and integrate access issues at all stages of the project briefing process.
4. Through the proactive and consistent contributions of the key participants, convert the access requirements of the project briefs into appropriately designed and constructed buildings that meet the requirements of the briefs.
5. Review projects upon completion and use any lessons learned for enhancing the delivery of future projects.

I want to highlight Point 2, this emphasises the need for an Access Champion; a person who requires skills in consultation, negotiation, technical, legal, and contractual obligations.

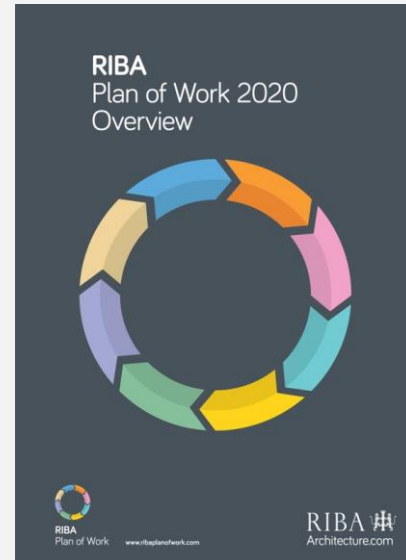
Where the project is complex, we recommend that an Access Consultant is employed. In the UK we have the National Register of Access Consultants (NRAC) launched in December 1999. Supported by Government this is a peer review independent UK wide accreditation service for individuals who provide Access Consultancy. You must, demonstrate competence with an understanding of legislation, technical standards, and user needs.

It is a misnomer to say that inclusion is expensive. It may cost a little more, but the added benefits far outweigh the initial expenditure. However, many clients now understand the value of ensuring inclusivity, to maximise their social responsibilities but also protect their commercial interest.

So when should this start?

Consider inclusion at the inception of a project. Good advice can, rationalise the access strategy, reducing unnecessary work, prevent late design changes, minimise the threat of legal action and avert costly alterations. The sooner inclusion is considered, the less it will cost to implement and for designers the less time needed for redraws. This has been recognised by The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) with an inclusion overlay in the RIBA Plan of Work. <https://www.architecture.com/knowledge-and-resources/resources-landing-page/riba-plan-of-work>

This emphasises that it is more cost effective to be embedded early into the process and identifies that, regulations alone, may not be sufficient. It encourages developing a strategy at the outset and how this can be implemented throughout a building's useful life.



So how does this manifest itself in the process?

As an Access Consultant, in simple terms, the methodology I use is:

- Risk and added value assessment
- Establishing the criteria
- Operations review
- Identify existing site conditions
- Stakeholder engagement including consultation with disabled people
- Design team consultation
- Agreeing detailed arrangements such as evacuation, operational, and maintenance policies
- Construction monitoring and sign off

So how do we design inclusively?

In summary, there are several key stages:

- A brief should be developed which reflects the performance standards agreed and the long-term inclusion goals.
- Ensure the suitability of the design team, including an Access Consultant from the start.
- In addition, identify and confirm the sequence and proposed timing of approvals and relevant design criteria.
- Ensure that inclusion is an item on every Design Team meeting agenda.
- Design reviews should be undertaken at all stages of any development.
- Complete close out reports which highlight decisions agreed and outstanding matters for the next stage.
- A close out report at the end of the project.

An Access Consultant has the requisite skills; knowledge of equality legislation, regulation, and best practice guidance, innovative analytical design skills, are cognisant of the diversity of people and experienced in consultation and access group working. Ensuring that designs are inclusive and meet the anticipated demands not just now but for the future.

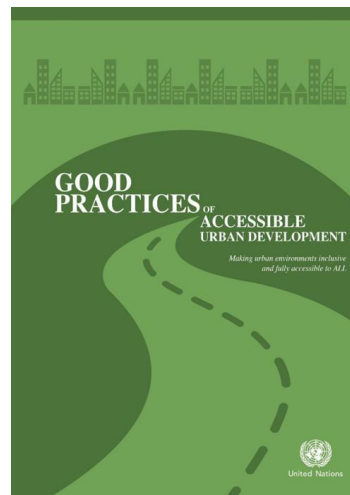
BOOKS

GOOD PRACTICES OF ACCESSIBLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

In light of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III) and the imminent launch of the New Urban Agenda, DESA in collaboration with the Essl Foundation (Zero Project) and others have prepared a new publication entitled: “**Good practices of accessible urban development**”. The publication provides case studies of innovative practices and policies in housing and built environments, as well as transportation, public spaces and public services, including information and communication technology (ICT) based services.

The publication concludes with strategies and innovations for promoting accessible urban development.

The advance unedited text is available at:
www.un.org/disabilities/documents/desa/good_practices_urban_dev.pdf



Promoting Ergonomics in Design for All is a core activity of our EinDfA TC.
You can find information about objectives, domains of interest, members of the TC here:

<https://iea.cc/member/ergonomics-in-design-for-all-eindfa/>

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