



KAIRA LOORO | ARCHITECTURE FOR PEACE  
**ARCHITECTURE  
COMPETITION**  
SACRED ARCHITECTURE

WWW.KAIRALOORO.COM

**LOCATION** | AFRICA, SENEGAL, TANAF

**INTERVENTION** | NEW CONSTRUCTION

**REQUIREMENT** | 1 UNDER 35 MEMBER TO TEAM

**TARGET** | ARCHITECTS – DESIGNERS – STUDENTS

**AWARDS** | 2.500€ - INTERNSHIP AT KENGO KUMA OFFICE

**REGISTRATION OPENS** | 20 JAN 2017 - 31 MAR 2017

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE** | 23 APR 2017



**JURY**

K. Kuma Kengo Kuma Associates - A. Ghirardelli SBGA - P. Rodriguez Pilar Diez Rodriguez - R. Bouman M+B Architects  
K. Nakamura University Tokyo - A. Muzzonigro Stefano Boeri Architetti - R. Kasik X Architekten - C. Chiarelli Arcò - I. Lutri In/Arch  
A. Ferrara Juri Troy Architects - W. Baricchi CNAPPC - S. D'Urso University Catania - I. Gomis Mayor of Tanaf

# Kaira Looro Architecture Competition Sacred Architecture

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## INTRODUCTION

Introspection, spirituality and divinity. These are the elements around which the sacred architecture revolves. The light and the lightness of the materials join sacred and profane, creating an architecture that, through spaces and forms, try to invite the humans to an interior research.

## DESIGN

### THEME

Kaira Looro are two words in Mandinga language, the main culture in Tanaf. The greetings of welcome or farewell, are not simple greetings of “good morning” or “good evening”, but they are real good wishes and prayers for the peace of others. Often people greet each other “Alma kaira siyaa laa”, or that “God will give you peace.”

Kaira Looro, that in Mandingo language means “Architecture for Peace”, is not just architecture, but it also represents the link to a culture, a spirituality and research of interiority. The challenge is to celebrate this cult philosophy by designing a sustainable and culturally-driven architecture, for a place with a lack of materials and with low technology.

## DESIGN

### PROGRAM

To design a place of worship means creating a new landmark, but also giving substance to a culture of a community, being lightweight and graceful to understand its spirituality.

This competition has to show and describe the theme thanks to an impressive design also being integrated and able to become a symbol for all the country. Carefully included into the landscape, it will represent the conjunction between earthly and divine.

The project has to respect the following parameters:

- maximum imprint on the ground is fixed at 350mq; maximum height is 30m. Please consider that existing buildings don't exceed 6m high.

- even if a low cost and sustainable approach is highly recommended, proper innovative solutions, also including high-tech, are welcome.

- it is important to have a keen eye for timing and construction conditions, remind always that it's difficult to find specialized workers on place.

- natural and local materials are highly recommended.

- please consider that when in operation, the structure should minimize the consumption of water.

- it would be better if the structure is able to celebrate different kind of worship (Muslim, Christian, Orthodox, Animism) as any potential sanitary or environmental emergency.

All the necessary documentation, such as photos of the location of intervention, video, drawings (cad) can be found on the website also before registering for the competition. All the uploaded documents can only be used to attend the Kaira Looro Competition.





## LOCATION

From 1980 to 2005, the region of Casamance, in the far South of Senegal, has been marked by war with more the 20.000 displaced people and 5.000 human casualties. Since 1965, the same region, had to face devastating drought that is still affecting the Sahel, producing high temperatures and reduction of the rain water. The name of the region comes from the river Casamance, that flows through three regions: Ziguinchor, Kolda and Sedhiou.

The site of intervention is located in the village of Tanaf, inside the region of Sedhiou, at the boundary with Guinea-Bissau and so it is a crucial frontier for the entire region.

Tanaf is also overlooking a valley called

Tanaf Bolong. Here, the sides of the riverbed are almost flat. Rise fields and other cultivations used to fill the valley before the climate change. Today, because of the drought and the salt intrusion, everything has been destroyed: tides from the Atlantic Ocean run through the Casamance river and reach the valley; the water has a salt concentration which is five times than the ocean's one; the groundwater is also infected. All of these problems affect 80.000 people of 350 villages and communities who live in the valley.

In front of Tanaf, on the other side of valley, is situated the village of Baghere, where many of the most renowned Griot in Sedhiou have their place. Here it an important religious holiday is celebrate that attracts people from all over the country. The Griot is a mandinga social-





ly-emblematic figure. He is the one who keeps the knowledge by a community to orally pass on to future generations, also playing the Kora and singing.

Tanaf is the main village of the river basin on the Tanaf Bolong Valley. It is the one with the largest population (almost 4.000) and deepest supply of resources (market, school, hospital). Inside the village there is a Mosque and a Christian church which are in bad structural conditions.

The soil is characterized by a red laterite stone, full of iron, and a sequence of san-

dbanks and clay banks. There are several laterite's quarries and the forest of Balmadou which provides the territory with many different tree species such as the Baobab, Palms and Mango.

The site of intervention (see the section "Download" on the website) is today waiting to host a mosque. Nevertheless, it is possible to find a different site to place the project, provided that design requirements are observed.



## ORGANIZATION MISSION

The aim of the competition is to create a holy architecture which should become a symbol for the territory and help communities to overcome difficulties.

The winning project will be given to the Non Profit International Organization Balouo Salo and then will be donated to Tanaf community to build it.

The Balouo Salo OINP reserves the right to adopt the proposal as a charity project and to engage the awarded team during the construction.

This competition is also promoted as a financial contribution to the humanitarian project carried out by the OINP Balouo Salo. All the application fees will be donated to "A Bridge for Life" ([www.balouo-salo.com](http://www.balouo-salo.com)).

## ORGANIZATION CALENDAR AND DEADLINES

### Subscription

Early Registration

Open: 20 January 2017

Close: 13 February 2017 (h 23.59 GMT)

Normal Registration

Open: 14 February 2017

Close: 10 March 2017 (h 23.59 GMT)

Late Registration

Open: 11 March 2017

Close: 02 April 2017 (h 23.59 GMT)

Submission deadline : 23 April 2017

Jury Summoning : 01-7 May 2017

Results announcement: 14 May 2017

## ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION

Application fees:

Early registration - 60€/team

Normal registration - 90€/team

Late registration - 120€/team

How to apply:

- go to: [www.kairalooro.com/competition.html](http://www.kairalooro.com/competition.html);
- enter the Registration section;
- complete the module and pay the fee by credit card;
- after the registration, the team leader will receive the confirmation by email, with the ID and a link to upload the project.

Note: Check in junk mail if you don't receive the registration mail. It is advisable to carry out registration procedures and loading projects with cautious ahead of the deadlines.

## ORGANIZATION PRIZES

### 1st PRIZE

€ 2,500

(considered such as cover expenses)

Internship at Kengo Kuma Associates,  
Tokyo

Award plaque

Possible realization of the project

Publication on websites and architectural  
format

Exposure in architectural events

### 2nd PRIZE

€ 1,000

(considered such as cover expenses)

Award plaque

Publication on websites and architectural  
format

Exposure in architectural events

### 3rd PRIZE

€ 500

(considered such as cover expenses)

Award plaque

Publication on websites and architectural  
format

Exposure in architectural events

## 5 HONORABLE MENTIONS

Digital certificate

Publication on websites and architectural  
format

Exposure in architectural events

## 10 FINALISTS

digital certificate

Publication on websites and architectural  
format

Exposure in architectural events

All the awarded proposals will be transmitted to architectural magazines and websites, will be hosted in international exhibitions.

## ORGANIZATION MATERIAL

The participants will upload these material:

- n. 1 A1 layout (841 x 594mm) in .pdf format, written in English, 300 dpi, maximum size 10 mb, horizontal layout.

This layout must contain:

- a. design concept / conceptual idea;
- b. graphic framework aimed to illustrate the project (i.e. plans, facades, cross-sections) , choosing what to display and the relative scale is up to competitor's choice;
- c. 3d views - i.e. renderings, pictures, hand sketches;

File name: A1\_<TeamID>.pdf (es. if "TeamID" is 123 , file must be named A1\_123\_.pdf)

- n. 1 report pdf(A4 layout), maximum characters 2.00, written in English, File name: A4\_<TeamID>.pdf (es. if "TeamID" is 123 , file must be named A4\_123.pdf ). The report cannot contain any pictures.

- n. 1 cover .jpeg or .pdf format 1920x1080 pixel size. It should be a relevant image showing the project that will become its avatar icon, maximum size 10 mb

File name: Cover\_<TeamID>.jpg (es. if "TeamID" is 123 , file must be named Cover\_123.jpg)

Text should be synthetic and written in English. Layouts cannot contain any name or reference to designers. Layouts can have also group's "TeamID" on it. The teamID has to be written also into the file name.



## ORGANIZATION EVALUATION CRITERIA

Each member of the jury will evaluate each project by assigning a total score for each project, from a minimum of 1 to a maximum of 30 scores, and a possible mention useful to establish a ranking in the event of a tie, and the allocation of mentions.

The score from 1 to 30 is assigned according to the following parameters, each parameter can have a maximum score of 10 points:

- Sustainability and building process
- Architectural quality
- Flexibility and contextualization

The assignment of the entries will take place for those projects that are not among the winners, who are part of the finalists and they will receive a number of mentions by at least 80% of the jury.

The jury will draw up a ranking that will decide the winners and finalists. If the point of the project will prevail with more mentions and in case of a further tie, the winning project will be decreed by the president of the jury.

## ORGANIZATION FAQ

During the whole contest, until the submission deadline, competitors can address

any kind of question by writing to the e-mail address on the website [info@kairalooro.com](mailto:info@kairalooro.com). Staff will individually answer the competitors by e-mail and will publish weekly updates in the "FAQ" section of the competition website. Answers will be published in English. Questions similar to those already present on the FAQ will not be answered.

## ORGANIZATION RULES

1. Participants must respect calendar dates, procedures and fees, respecting also all the instructions regarding the required material.

2. Competitors can be students, graduated, freelance architects, designers or artists and is not mandatory to be involved in architectural disciplines or enrolled in architectural associations.

3. Competitors can join the competition individually and or in team.

4. Teams, with up to 5 members, must have at least one team member between 18 and 35 years old. For the winners the organization will ask projects supporting documentation to verify the requirements of the team. If the requirements are not respected they will be banned.

5. Teams can be composed of any number of team members and of any competitors belonging to different counties and universities.

6. Paying a single entry fee allows each team to join the competition with a single project.

7. Paying further entry fees allows to join the competition with further projects; fees to be determined by the competition's calendar. In this case it is advisable to change the project manager.

8. Prizes includes bank commissions and fees and is regardless to of the number of attendants a team is made of. The prize will be delivered to the team leader and it is intended as reimbursement of expenses for the participation at the competition.

9. The prize corresponding to the internship is for a maximum of three members of the winning team, enrolled in the competition through the registration. The duration of the depends on the availability of the studio and it must take place within one year from the close of the competition and must be agreed on da-

tes determined by the host institution, including details provided. Travel costs will be paid by the winner, but the studio will contribute to living expenses in Tokyo. You cannot transfer the prize to a person who is outside the project team.

10. Jury's verdict is incontestable.

11. It is forbidden to competitors to publish their own proposal material before the conclusion of the competition.

12. The participants agree with the humanitarian purposes of the initiative and they know that their registration fee is fully devolved to the Association Balouo Salo.

13. By violating the rules, competitors and their teams will be disqualified from the competition without any chance of getting a refund.

14. The authorship of each project is equally attributed to each member of the team.

15. Fees are not refundable no chances of getting refund.

16. Joining the competition implies accepting rules and service terms.

## **ORGANIZATION CAUSES OF EXCLUSION**

a. Layouts showing texts bodies not written in English will be disqualified.

b. Layouts showing names or referrals to their own team/their identity will be banned. Team ID can appear on the file name only, since judges will not be allowed to see it.

c. Files named not according to the prescription of the competition will be banned.

d. Material which is considered incomplete or non-congruent to the criteria of the competition will be banned

e. Material which is submitted by times and procedures different from the ones of the competition will be banned.

f. Teams missing one under 35 member

at least will be disqualified.

g. Team members who publish their own proposal material before the conclusion of the competition will be disqualified.

## **ORGANIZATION NOTES AND CONDITIONS**

a. The winning project is considered donated to the International Organization Balouo Salo, which thus acquires a perpetual and exclusive license, which is international, with permanent, unlimited and irrevocable license to use, perform, adapt, modify, publish on any media channel, exhibit, reproduce and deploy the project. The Organization can accept purposes of marketing and advertising, make editorial revisions, create derivative works based on it, as well as to sub-license to third parties the project, or parts of it, through any shape or technology, without restriction time or place.

b. The eventual construction of the winning project will be entrusted to the volunteers of the Organization or to third parties considered suitable subjects, but by communicating it to the winners.

c. The winning designers are required to support the organization in the possible granting of additional documents, exhibit and / or publications.

d. The organization, in case of construction, reserves the possibility to make changes to the project to improve the feasibility and cost effectiveness.

e. All of the participating projects reserve rights of use for exhibitions and publications.

f. The projects must be new and original, and the result of intellectual activity of the participants. If the documents uploaded were not the work of the participants and/or they were not owner of all rights of use, including the right to



participate in the contest in the terms provided here, the Organization Balouo Salo will not be responsible in any case.

g. Competition material necessary to fulfill the competition is available on [www.kairalooro.com/competition.html](http://www.kairalooro.com/competition.html). Material is made available regardless of the kind of subscription fulfilled.

h. The Organization of the contest has the right to change dates or other details in order to improve or fix aspects of the competition, a notice will be given within a reasonable time through all its media channel.

i. The Organization Balouo Salo is not responsible for any malfunctions, technical difficulties or non-receipt of the material. In order to avoid system overloads, they invite the participants to carry out registration procedures and loading projects with cautious ahead of the deadlines.

j. The processing of personal data of the participants, carried out using manual and computerized system will be carried out by the Organization Balouo Salo just for the purpose of the competition in accordance with the rules applicable under Legislative Decree 196/03.

The provision of data is optional but the refusal to supply them could cause exclusion from the competition.

k. This contest is in no case a prize event in accordance with art. 6 of Presidential Decree 430/2001.

l. Candidates will be responsible for the truthfulness and correctness of the data, even personal, indicated and the organization of the contest does not take any responsibility for indication for false details provided. In any case, the promoter, in compliance with privacy regulations, reserves the right to check the data entered by requesting a copy of the identity document indicating in the personal data used during registration.

m. The Organization Balouo Salo is not

responsible for the declaration of false data from the participants.

n. By entering the competition, participants accept the terms and rules of participation.

# JURY







**Ko Nakamura**  
University Tokyo  
Kengo Kuma Lab | Mosaic Design



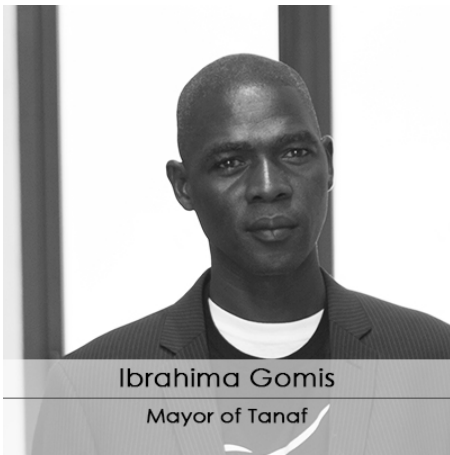
**Sebastiano D'Urso**  
University of Catania



**Walter Baricchi**  
CNAPPC



**Ignazio Lutri**  
IN/Arch



**Ibrahima Gomis**  
Mayor of Tanaf



## SUPPORTED PROJECT

All registration fees are devolved to the Association Balouo Salo currently engaged in Tanaf valley in an architectural project, to resolve a serious emergency that causes death, disease and poverty to 80,000 people.

The tides of the Atlantic Ocean invade the Casamance River and inundate farmlands destroying rice fields and contaminating the well water. With the project "A Bridge for Life" a bridge-dam will be realized and it will make over 100 km<sup>2</sup> of arable land and purifying water from wells, resolving the emergency.

The Kaira Loro logo features the name

flanked by three simple traits that have a double interpretation. The three sections on the left of the logo represent both the tides changing trajectory before Kaira Loro that the purpose of Balouo Salo project to restore health, nutrition and wealth.

For more information about the project "A bridge for Life" visit the website [www.balouosalo.com](http://www.balouosalo.com).



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to support of humanitarian project  
**A bridge for life**



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