



Open Single-Stage
International Architectural Design
Project Competition
for the:
“Knowledge and Innovation Center”
Tripoli, Lebanon



Competition managed by:
The Lebanese Federation of Engineers and Architects

On behalf of the client:
Tripoli Special Economic Zone
The Republic of Lebanon

Endorsed by:
The Union of International Architects
Supported by:
The Union of Mediterranean Architects

Fact Sheet:

Country	Lebanon
Client	Tripoli Special Economic Zone (TSEZ) The Republic of Lebanon
Client Category	Government Organization
Competition Management	Lebanese Federation of Engineers and Architects
Competition Endorsed by	Union of International Architects (UIA)
Competition Supported by	Union of Mediterranean Architects (UMAR)
Project Name	Knowledge and Innovation Center (KIC)
Type of Project	Business & Technology Park / Incubator / Accelerator
Site Location	KIC site is located on a parcel (75,000 sqm) within the campus of Rachid Karami International Fairground (total 1,000,000 sqm), in Tripoli, Lebanon <u>Note: Only the KIC site (75,000 sqm) is part of this competition.</u>
Original Site Planer	Oscar Niemeyer
KIC Land Area	75,000 sqm
Competition Characteristics	International Competition
Field of Specialty	Architectural Design
Competition Type	Project Competition
Competition Stages	Single-stage
Procedure	Open Procedure
Competition Outcome	Urban and Architecture Design Concept
Competition Announcement	Mon 18 February 2019
Registration Deadline	Mon 18 March 2019
Deadlines Questions	Mon 15 April 2019
Deadline for Answers	Mon 18 April 2019
Final Submission Deadline	Mon 17 June 2019
Jury Deliberation	Thu – Fri 27-28 June 2019
Announcement of Winners	Fri 28 June 2019
Awards Ceremony	Fri 5 July 2019
Exhibition	Fri – Sun 5 – 7 July 2019

The Tripoli Special Economic Zone (TSEZ)-the owner of the Knowledge and Innovation Center (KIC)-is the first authority of its kind in Lebanon entrusted with developing a multi-use economic zones, complete with all the required infrastructure and utilities. The TSEZ Law No. 18 was passed by the Lebanese Parliament in 2008. The creation of the TSEZ will attempt to overcome the barriers that have historically stymied foreign direct investment and that have prevented many local private sector businesses from expanding their operations in Lebanon. To this end, TSEZ enjoys a multitude of advantages and offers a series of legal, administrative and fiscal incentives.

TSEZ Authority is now planning to establish the **“Knowledge and Innovation Center”**, at the Rachid Karami International Fair in Tripoli—the subject of this competition.



The **“Knowledge and Innovation Center” (KIC)**, a business and technology park, is a planned development project that will accommodate and foster the growth of entrepreneurial activities, start-ups and SMEs in the city of Tripoli. It also aims at creating job opportunities for the youth by providing a dynamic environment for growth and creativity. KIC aspires to generate a wide array of affiliations with local universities, incubators, accelerators as well as private and public organizations.

As such, KIC would become an inclusive ***platform for collaboration*** bringing together innovative ideas, diverse population, dynamic interaction, progressive services, high-end infrastructure, modern life-style amenities, wide-ranging funding sources and enhanced governance.

Thus, KIC is envisaged to attract a variety of enterprises including ICT tenants, research facilities, training academies, creative industries and value-added services. These enterprises will benefit from the fast internet connection provided by the I-ME-WE main cable linking Europe to the Middle East and West India with a branch landing in Tripoli.

The KIC project will be developed in partnership with the private sector and rented out as office space (flex-desk, serviced-offices or core & shell) to local and regional service companies, which will also benefit from the TSEZ's incentives, streamlined procedures and supporting business environment.

Additionally, KIC will host incubators/ accelerators as well as fund managers to support entrepreneurs and start-ups. A training academy will be part of KIC to assist young graduates in acquiring timely on-demand skills needed on the market, through fast-track training programs.



KIC will be developed on a parcel of land within the campus of Rachid Karami International Fairground-a larger piece of land originally designed by Oscar Niemeyer. TSEZ administration has decided to conduct an international architecture competition to solicit the most suitable design for the KIC site.



This competition is extremely attractive to architects who are interested to work on a site of high architectural and developmental value. It involves the preservation of modern heritage buildings as well as the design of new structures within a modern heritage campus, currently listed on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List. While designing the new buildings for the KIC parcel, utmost care should be placed on the relationship between the new buildings and existing buildings designed by Oscar Niemeyer. It is a site of extreme value with an extraordinary history of modern heritage.