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Architecture Policy Guidelines 2009 ó 2015

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Table of Contents

Abbreviations Used í	3
Introduction í .	4
I. Characterisation of the Situation í ...	6
II. Problems, for Solving of which the Development of the Architecture Policy is Necessary í	9
III. Basic Principles of the Architecture Policy í í í í í í í í í í í í í	9
IV. Objective and Sub-objectives of the Architecture Policy í í í í í í í	10
V. Results of the Policy Implemented í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í	11
VI. Action Directions of the Architecture Policy í í í í í í í í í í í í í í ..	12
VII. Impact on the State Budget and Self-government Budgets í í í í í .	16
VIII. Planning of Further Action í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í	16
IX. Procedures for the Submission and Evaluation of Reports í í í í .í ..	17

Abbreviations Used

ACE ó Architectsø Council of Europe
MoFA ó Ministry of Foreign Affairs
BAUA ó Baltic Architects Unions Association
MoE ó Ministry of Economics
EU ó European Union
MoES ó Ministry of Education and Science
MoC ó Ministry of Culture
LMA ó Latvian Museum of Architecture
LAA ó Latvia Association of Architects
LI ó Latvian Institute
LUA ó Latvia University of Agriculture
RL ó Republic of Latvia
UL ó University of Latvia
LAS ó Latvian Academy of Sciences
SAM ó State Authority of Museums
NGOs ó non-governmental organisations
MoRDLG ó Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government
RCC ó Riga City Council
RCAO ó Riga City Architectø Office
RTU ó Riga Technical University
UIA ó International Union of Architects (*Union Internationale des Architects*)
UNESCO ó United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
MoE ó Ministry of Environment
SCCF ó State Culture Capital Foundation
SIHP ó State Inspection for Heritage Protection

Introduction

Within the scope of this document the concept of architecture means the sector of the creative industry, which concurrently is also an art of creating the environment with the purpose of creating a space for the satisfaction of physical, mental, material and other needs of a human being in long-term. It includes artistic, aesthetical, functional, material, technical, technological, constructive, organisational, sociological, ecological and economical aspects of the formation of the environment in the widest sense of from urban construction and spatial planning to individual buildings and structures and their external and internal formation, utilities and facilities.

The Architecture Policy Guidelines (hereinafter the Guidelines) are a medium-term planning document, which determines the State architecture policy for the subsequent seven years, comprising the time period from 2009 to 2015. The Guidelines comprise the main principles, objectives, the results of the policy to be achieved and the preferable action directions for the achievement thereof. The purpose of this document is to specify more precisely the role and significance of architecture in sustainable development of the State.

At present the policy formation process in the field of architecture also takes place at the level of the European Union. Upon evaluating the role of architecture in sustainable development, the achievement of the Lisbon objectives and improvement of the quality of life, as well as wishing to increase the contribution thereof to the promotion of urban and regional competitiveness, the European Commission has initiated the development of a new document of the architecture policy, involving the European Union Member States. The national architecture policy has already been developed and is being implemented in several EU states, including Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria, Finland, the Netherlands, Denmark and Estonia.

Architecture as the sector of the creative industry is based on usefulness, sustainability and aesthetic beauty. It provides services with practical, aesthetic and commercial value. Designing and construction of residential, public and business structures is closely related to the general economic growth. Architecture should be evaluated as the most ample and the widest type of visual arts and essential part of any cultural environment. It is created by joining the scale, spatial relation, forms, structures and the selection of materials in interaction thereof in order to create a wholesome, harmonic environment and qualitative living space for a human being. Architecture is one of the most visible forms of cultural expression. The expressiveness characteristic thereto forms the national and local identity. A highly educated, capable and talented manpower, as well as new technologies, are necessary for the implementation of creative, aesthetic and technical ideas of architecture. Responsibility for the environmental quality lies not only with the responsible officials and experts; it is important that each member of the society is aware thereof. State inhabitants have not only the right to qualitative and aesthetically attractive living space, which has been created and is being maintained for sustainable development, but also a duty to aid in the creation and maintenance thereof.

The action directions and priority tasks specified in the Guidelines are directed towards the creation of sustainable and qualitative living space in Latvia, observing the specificities and possibilities of the whole State territory and individual parts thereof, as well as preserving and developing the features characteristic to nature and cultural environment of each territory and the development potential. Similarly, the Guidelines are directed towards the development of a competitive and qualitative education of architects, the development of co-operation of national and international level, efficient positioning of architecture of Latvia and promotion of identification thereof in the world.

The creation of the architecture policy is an intersectoral task, therefore, several ministries should be involved in the implementation thereof, the competence of which includes matters

related to architecture ó the MoC, the MoE, the MoRDLG, the MoE, the MoES. In order to ensure the supervision of putting into practice of the objective specified in the Guidelines and to solve urgent sectoral development issues, it is planned to create the National Council of Architecture as an advisory institution, which promotes co-operation. The objective of operation of the National Council of Architecture is to promote the co-operation of State institutions and sectoral professionals in issues related to the development of the sector of architecture, to promote the observation of democracy principles and the implementation of the objectives and tasks included in the Guidelines. Representatives of the MoC, the MoE, the MoRDLG, the MoE, the MoES, as well as sectoral NGOs, will be invited for participation in the Council. The work of the Council will not be remunerated.

The draft Guidelines were developed by the expert working group established by the Ministry of Culture in the following composition ó J nis Dripe (head of the working group), Juris Dambis, Edgars B rzi –, Erv ns Timofejevs, Sergejs ikiforovs, Juris Poga, J nis Lejnieks, Andis S lis, Ingurds Lazdi –, J nis Taurens, Zanda Saul te. The ACE Secretary-General Alan Sagne participated in the evaluation of the draft Guidelines, an extensive statement was provided by the ACE expert Tiina Valpola (Finland).

The Architecture Policy Guidelines of Latvia are created on the basis of the priorities specified in the following strategic and policy planning documents, planning region development programmes and strategies:

- the Long-term Economic Strategy of Latvia (approved by the Cabinet on 17 July 2001, Minutes No. 34);
- the National Development Plan 2007-2013 (approved by the RL Cabinet on 4 July 2006);
- the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007-2013 (approved by the RL Cabinet on 23 October 2007);
- the long-term conceptual document *The Model for Growth of Latvia: Human Being in the First Place* (approved by *Saeima* of the RL during the meeting of 26 October 2005);
- the Sustainable Development Guidelines of Latvia (approved by the RL Cabinet Order No. 436 of 15 August 2002);
- the *State Cultural Policy Guidelines for 2006-2015. National State* (approved by the RL Cabinet Order No. 264 of 18 April 2006);
- the Lisbon Strategy, which determines the directions of economic development of the European Union up to 2010, brings forward social cohesion ó employment and social inclusion ó as one of the tasks;
- the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities (accepted during the informal meeting of ministers regarding urban development and territorial cohesion on 24 May 2007);
- Resolution of the Council of the European Union of 12 February 2001 on architectural quality in urban and rural environments (2001/C73/04);
- the message of the Architectsø Council of Europe for the 21st century õArchitecture and Quality of Lifeö;
- the European Landscape Convention (adopted by the *Saeima* of the RL on 29 March 2007); and
- the Ljubljana Declaration on Urban Regeneration and Climate Change (adopted on 17 June 2008).

The priorities and action directions specified in the planning region development programmes and strategies are directed towards the creation and provision of qualitative living environment, including such aspects as improvement of infrastructure, preservation of natural and cultural and historical values, integrated and balanced spatial development, provision of inhabitants with dwellings of good quality.

I. Characterisation of the Situation

Upon describing the present situation in architecture, the most important factors determining it are being evaluated at the global and national level.

At the Global Level

Architecture has multifunctional and synthesising role in the modern urbanised environment. Nowadays the urban environment, in which approximately 70% of the world inhabitants reside, faces such challenges as demographic changes and increasing urbanisation, environmental problems and fight against climate changes, as well as preservation of social cohesion, particularly within the context of economic and cultural changes. The answer to these challenges is sustainable urban development or creative and integrated approach, under which culture, economy, social and environmental issues have equally significant role. Sustainable urban development means:

- *paying particular attention to the quality and diversity of architecture*, marking the heritage of architecture and the individual identity of natural or urban landscape;
- implementation of such projects, which promote the *use and transformation of the existing buildings*, concurrently promoting the efficiency and control of the use of energy resources, as well as the reduction of pollution;
- *adequate reaction to changes in the lifestyle of inhabitants*, particularly in relation to the issues of mobility and demographic changes, as well as objectives of social cohesion and intercultural dialogue; and
- *support to creativity in architecture* as a factor promoting the development of economy and tourism in the urban environment.

At present the global tendencies in architecture are focused on ecology, sustainability, social inclusion. Project outlines, with increasing frequency, are concentrating on such project components as cost analysis of the life cycle, more efficient use of energy (application of the *ögreenö* energy), waste management, universal design and other components. The new buildings become more accessible, democratic, oriented towards social inclusion and tolerance. The concept *ögood/qualitative architectureö* includes both the quality of architecture of the building and qualitative planning of the living space. A building has not only economic, but also cultural value; frequently a building is created also as a symbol and social message.

At the National Level

Hitherto an individual policy has not been developed for the sector of architecture in comparison with other creative sectors in Latvia, in which the specificity and potential of the sector in improvement of the sustainable development and competitiveness of the State would be taken into account, as well as the co-operation of the institutions involved in the implementation of the architecture policy would be purposefully co-ordinated. An efficient system, which would allow introduction and maintenance of a qualitative living space in the whole Latvia, has not been created. Adequate regulatory base, which would ensure the quality of architecture, has also not been created in Latvia. The professional organisation of architects of Latvia (LAA) proposed the development of the draft guidelines of the State architecture of Latvia and has actively participated in this process. The LAA, being the member of the international professional organisations of architects UIA and ACE, as well as the association of the professional organisations of architects of the Baltic States BAUA, and actively participating in the referred to organisations, has accumulated a valuable experience, which provides Latvia with good opportunities of improving the legal basis of the sector of architecture and to participate in the development of EU regulatory enactments.

Hitherto more attention has been paid to the architectural heritage in Latvia, which is a significant part of the cultural heritage of Latvia and participates in the formation of the

cultural identity of the nation and the State image, as well as serves as an important resource of cultural tourism. Inclusion of the historic centre of Riga on the list of the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage is a proof of the importance of the architecture of Latvia also at the international level. However, adequate instruments and resources have not been created in the State in order to ensure wholesomely the preservation, development and maintenance of the cultural environment of good quality. If adequate conditions for the creation of architecture of good quality are not defined and ensured, the values of nature and cultural and historic environment may be lost, upon the State and self-government institutions losing control over the environmental planning process and the quality of architecture. In order to prevent the degradation of the cultural environment and to ensure the creation of qualitative living space in long-term, as well as to arrange the legal base of the sector of architecture, it is necessary to develop and introduce the Law On the Quality of Architecture.

In the existing system of sketch competitions for architectural projects procurement procedures not appropriate for the sector of architecture are being specified, which move aside the creation of qualitative cultural environment and objects, which naturally blend therein, mostly bringing forward the project costs as the determining criterion.

Within the context of the sector of architecture sufficient attention to the ecological issues is not being paid in Latvia. Inefficient use of energy resources and non-renewable materials takes place. The proportion of energy resources consumed in the sector of buildings constitutes 40% of the total energy consumption in the State. Particularly the houses built during the Soviet time are physically and morally worn out, they have low thermal stability ó heat flows away through untight windows and doors, thin walls, uninsulated attic and roof covering, poor thermal insulation of the basement covering etc. Taking into account the dependence of both Latvia and also the whole European Union on the imported energy resources, saving thereof is not only within the interests of individual households or undertakings, but it is also a State policy issue.

Urban planning and urban construction process cannot be imagined without an architect ó a specialist who should be gifted with such specific professional skill as awareness of the context of people, buildings and the environment and humane environmental scale. There are 917 certified architects in Latvia, 365 of whom participate in the professional association ó the Latvia Association of Architects. According to the information available on the construction portal www.abc.lv, there are 697 undertakings operating in Latvia, which offer services of architecture and design. It has been possible to acquire higher education in architecture in Latvia since 1869. The Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning of RTU offer study programmes accredited according to the EU requirements. On average 35 new specialists a year have graduated from the Faculty during the preceding years. Since 2001 29 standards of professions have been approved in the education sector ðArchitecture and Buildingö, 6 of which are directly related to architecture. A necessity to assess the conformity of standards to the latest requirements arises because the majority of the standards of professions in effect were developed during the time period from 2001 to 2003. Deficiencies in the organisational structure hinder the development of an interdisciplinary study programme, as well as the insufficient financing does not allow to attract new teaching staff and foreign guest lecturers. The material and technical provision of the institution of higher education is poor, moreover, out-of-date. Foreign students are not attracted by the possibilities of education in Latvia; experience exchange programmes are not popular.

At present there is an insufficient participation of architects in the field of spatial planning. Lack of qualified planners has been detected for an extended period of time in self-governments of Latvia, which are the main performers of the work related to spatial planning, because, although a standard of the profession of spatial planner has been developed, no academic or vocational study programmes have been accredited, in which specialists of the relevant profile could acquire the necessary education. Professional higher education masterø study programme ðSpatial Development Planningö has been created in the Faculty of

Geography and Earth Sciences of the UL since 2007. The study programme provides for specialisation in spatial planning, environmental planning and geoinformatics. In 2009 the accreditation process of the referred to programme was commenced. Spatial planning issues are comprised also in individual study programmes of the Faculty of Rural Engineering of the LUA. No individual study programme for training of spatial planners has been created in RTU, urban planning and spatial planning studies have been integrated in the vocational master's and doctoral study programmes in architecture. A further education programme in urban planning has been developed in RTU, approved during a meeting of the Senate and prepared for licensing. The planned duration of studies is 1 year. The programme is meant for the employees of self-governments. Specialists of different sectors are working in the field of spatial planning, therefore, it is necessary to promote the co-operation of planners, architects, artists, designers and other specialists, as well as the development of the industries related to contemporary architecture.

The development process of new designing technologies, which allows fast and comfortable communication without obstacles, moving projects by electronic means, has changed the nature of the work of architects, internationalising it to a great extent. In order to raise the environmental quality, a good practice has evolved in Latvia to organise international competitions of ideas and sketch projects for the creation of significant public buildings, inviting well-known international architecture bureaus of high quality (Liepāja Concert Hall, Riga Concert Hall, Contemporary Art Museum etc.), thus promoting the level of competition. The EU requirement regarding free movement of services creates a situation where more and more objects in Latvia are designed by architects of other countries. Similar activities of Latvian architects in other countries have not been observed yet.

The legal norms in force in Latvia ignore the position governing in the majority of the EU Member States to classify the profession of architect as a free profession with a role corresponding to the importance thereof. In Latvia architect is only a participant of construction, the special nature of architecture services has not been surveyed and taken into account so that architect is a creative profession, which creates not only material, but also cultural values. Moreover, the duties and responsibility of the participants of the construction process, including commissioning parties, have still not been sufficiently clearly and comprehensively defined in the regulatory enactments of the Republic of Latvia.

The sector of architecture in Latvia has not been assigned an equal place among other creative professions for access to the State support provided for creation. Unlike Estonia where the financing from the Culture Capital Foundation is available for creative projects of architecture and design, the sector of architecture in Latvia does not have access to a specially earmarked financing in the SCCF.

Special attention would also be necessary for the science of architecture and urban construction, which is poorly developed in Latvia. There is a lack of innovative solutions of architecture and construction technologies. The theory and critics of architecture has narrow historical profile, lack of new specialists is obvious therein. In circumstances of insufficient competition architectural solutions of mediocre quality arise. There is lack of the summary and analysis of data at the State level, as well as a long-term plan for education of the number of specialists necessary for the national economy and attraction of foreign specialists.

The society of Latvia is insufficiently educated and stimulated to take active part in evaluation and taking of the decisions having influence on their direct living space.

Hitherto architecture and the potential thereof has been insufficiently appreciated and used in the development of the capital, the promotion of economic growth and international competition. Geographical location of Riga in the centre of the Baltic States and the region of Scandinavia creates preconditions for the establishment of Riga as a regional metropolis. The cosmopolitanism and the influence of Europe perceptible in the city together with architectonic values, which have passed the test of time, are the main strength of Latvia, positioning the State on an international scale. The concentration of architects in Riga makes

Riga a multicultural and multinational regional metropolis where the field of architecture is developing dynamically. However, there is a lack of new, contemporary public architecture in the capital, which would form the new, contemporary identity thereof and basis for future cultural heritage. Therefore, the implementation of three significant projects – the construction of the National Library of Latvia, as well as designing of the acoustic concert hall and the Contemporary Art Museum – was conceived and commenced in Riga. Due to the financial and economic crisis, the further advancement of the two latter projects has been temporarily suspended.

Upon improving the aesthetic quality of the living space, particularly in construction of new objects of public significance, it would be useful to adopt a practice ingrained across the world – to dedicate a part of the costs of a building design (usually up to 1%) to the inclusion of cultural and art objects in the internal and external environment of the building to be created. Such –percent for art– has been specified in many European countries, including Finland, Great Britain, Ireland, Austria, Germany, as well as elsewhere – in the USA, Canada and Australia. It is planned to introduce the –percent for culture– also in Estonia in the nearest future where the architecture policy is being successfully implemented in accordance with the sectoral development strategy approved by the government in 2002.

The study conducted by the Baltic International Centre for Economic Policy Studies in 2007 – ‘Creative Industries in Latvia’ –, within the scope of which also the sector of architecture was analysed, identified the insufficiency of human resources, insufficiently efficient sectoral management and relationship with the commissioning parties (owners), insufficient regulatory base, co-operation with self-governments in spatial planning and poor public relations as the biggest problems.

II. Problems, for Solving of which the Development of the Architecture Policy is Necessary

- Deficiencies in the regulatory base for the provision of the architectonic environment of good quality;
- lack of harmonised policy and co-ordinated management for the development of the sector;
- insufficient level of understanding of the society regarding the role and significance of architecture in the sustainable development and planning processes of the environment and participation in the creation of the living space;
- lack of understanding in decision-takers (self-governments, evaluation juries of competitions, construction sector) regarding the role of architecture in the creation of public welfare and qualitative living space;
- insufficiently accurate positioning of architecture as an intersectoral discipline in solving issues related to construction and environmental development, without taking into account that the economic, social and cultural aspects are of equal importance;
- inflexible education system of the sector and insufficiently efficient and rational organisation of the education system; and
- backwardness (decline) of the science, research and experimental architecture due to the lack of financing; insufficient quantity of technically and technologically innovative solutions.

III. Basic Principles of the Architecture Policy

The architecture policy is based on the following basic principles:

- **the principle of quality and excellence** ó provides for designing and implementation of architecture of good quality, which naturally blends in the cultural environment and enriches it, creates a living space of good quality and increases the self-assurance and competitiveness of the State of Latvia;
- **sustainable development principle** ó determines the creation of an integrated and balanced architecture policy, which satisfies present needs of inhabitants, without endangering the possibilities of satisfying the needs of future generations. It provides for the creation of environmentally-friendly architecture, promoting energy efficiency and saving of resources;
- **the principle of co-operation and participation** ó provides for involvement of both public administration institutions of national, regional and local level and non-governmental organisations, social partners, private sector, foreign institutions, as well as the society, in the creation of architecture and living space of good quality;
- **the principle of co-ordination** ó provides for the co-operation of all parties and levels involved in the policy planning and introduction in both taking the decisions and using financial, human and technical resources more efficiently; and
- **the principle of subsidiarity** ó requests the evaluation and adequate delegation of the implementation of a task in policy planning to such level of public administration or non-governmental sector, in which the most efficient implementation of these tasks is possible.

IV. Objective and Sub-objectives of the Architecture Policy

The objective of the architecture policy of Latvia is to create the necessary conditions for the creation and sustainability of qualitative living space based on architecture.

The **sub-objectives** of the architecture policy are as follows:

- to promote the quality of architecture, by creating adequate regulatory base and quality improvement mechanisms, to increase the significance of the creation of architecture of good quality in spatial development planning documents of self-governments;
- to ensure harmonic joining of natural values, cultural heritage and contemporary architecture in planning and creation of a living space of good quality;
- to integrate the architecture policy in policy documents related to the promotion of sustainable development of the State, to create such management model of the architecture sector, which is based on competence and oriented towards mutual co-operation;
- to improve the quality of education in architecture, to promote studies in the field of architecture, spatial planning, urban planning, as well as the creation of new construction technologies and construction materials and different innovations;

- to promote the participation of the society and to raise awareness regarding the responsibility thereof in the creation of the living and public space;
- to promote the identification and competitiveness of the architecture of Latvia at the international level; and
- to promote the introduction of the solutions of universal design in order to create such environment, which is accessible to all members of the society.

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V. Results of the Policy Implemented

Policy Results and Result-based Indicators Thereof

Policy results	Result-based Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
The public participation in the creation of the living space has increased	The number of projects, which have been publicly discussed, from the total number of projects implemented, %	20	22	24	26	29	33	38
The quality of architecture has improved	The number of international diplomas acquired	2	2	3	3	4	5	5
	The number of self-governments, in which a specialist in the quality of architecture is working	1	1	1	2	2	2	3
The proportion of the students who have acquired a diploma at the end of studies, and the proportion of foreign students in the study programmes in architecture has increased	The proportion of students who have acquired a document certifying education at the end of a study programme, % of the number of persons who had commenced studies	70	70	75	76	78	80	80
	The proportion of foreign students in the study programmes in architecture, % of the number of persons studying in study programmes in architecture	2	2	3	3	4	4	5

Results of the Activity and Result-based Indicators Thereof

Results of the activity	Result-based Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
1. Conformity of the education system in architecture to the position of the EU Member States, %	Licensed and accredited study programmes in architecture, number	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
2. The number of the regulatory enactments developed, which determine the quality standards in architecture	The number of the developed and adopted regulatory enactments and policy planning documents, which determine the policy and quality of architecture	1	1	2	-	1	-	1
3. The society has been informed regarding the participation possibilities in the creation of the public space	a. The number of the supported NGOs, which participate in policy planning and implementation	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
	b. The number of events promoting architecture	2	2	2	2	3	4	4

VI. Action Directions of the Architecture Policy

In order to ensure the achievement of the objectives put forward by the architecture policy of Latvia and to solve the problems identified, the following action directions and priority tasks have been specified:

Action Direction	Priority Tasks	Participating Institutions
<p>1. Promotion of the quality of architecture, by creating and improving the sectoral regulatory base and the necessary mechanisms for planning and creation of a living space of good quality</p>	<p>1.1. To draw up the Law On the Quality of Architecture.</p> <p>1.2. For Latvia to adopt a corresponding experience of the EU Member States and to co-ordinate with the regulatory enactments of Latvia, observing the national interests.</p> <p>1.3. To improve the certification system of architects.</p> <p>1.4. To invite self-governments to include and respect the principles and measures promoting the quality of architecture in planning of urban and rural environment, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to stimulate self-governments to include a structure ensuring the quality of architecture in the structure of development institutions thereof; - to introduce and improve the mechanism of public discussions regarding projects significant to the society, providing every inhabitant with a possibility to participate in taking of decisions, which concern the quality of his or her living space; - to stimulate the commissioning parties to organise sketch competitions in architecture for the promotion of the quality of architecture. <p>1.5. To stimulate the SCCF to establish a Council for Sub-sector of Architecture and Design.</p>	<p>MoC, MoE, MoRDLG, MoES, MoE, self-governments, LAA, sectoral NGOs, SCCF, National Council of Architecture</p>
<p>2. Creation of a living space of good quality, by harmoniously joining natural values, cultural heritage and contemporary architecture</p>	<p>2.1. To improve creative co-operation among representatives of related areas ó architects, urban planners, landscape architects, artists, designers, including in co-operation with the MoES to create interdisciplinary study and further education programmes for the preparation of qualified specialists (see 4.2.). 2.2. To</p>	<p>MoC, MoE, MoRDLG, MoES, MoE, RTU, LAA, sectoral NGOs</p>

Action Direction	Priority Tasks	Participating Institutions
	<p>develop a concept regarding the determination of the percentage for culture in the implementation of publicly significant building projects, promoting the aesthetic quality and attraction of the public space (the percentage for culture provides for dedication of a part of the costs of a building project (usually up to 1%) to inclusion of culture and art objects in internal and external environment of a building to be created).</p> <p>2.3. To ensure the universal design approach in architecture in order to promote an inclusive society and to ensure complete equality and participation possibilities for all members thereof.</p>	
<p>3. Raising of awareness and participation of the society in the creation of a living space of good quality</p>	<p>3.1. Upon co-operation of the public and private sector and professional creative organisations, to ensure diverse measures for the promotion of architecture.</p> <p>3.2. To ensure the availability of information of good quality, to organise seminars, lectures and discussions explaining the significance of architecture, raising awareness of the society regarding architecture and ensuring exchange of information between the public and architects, including to develop centres for education, science, information and support in architecture and urban planning.</p> <p>3.3. To improve the mechanisms of public discussions regarding projects significant to the society, providing every inhabitant with a possibility to participate in taking of decisions, which concern the quality of his or her living space (see 1.4.).</p> <p>3.4. To ensure systematic documentation and research of the process of urban planning and architecture and issuing of publications.</p>	<p>MoC, MoE, SIHP, LAA, LMA, RCAO, RCC, MoRDLG, SAM, SCCF, sectoral NGOs, self-governments</p>

Action Direction	Priority Tasks	Participating Institutions
<p>4. Improvement of the quality of education in architecture, support to research, innovations and the project development of experimental architecture</p>	<p>4.1. For the MoC in co-operation with the MoES to commission an analytical intersectoral study on the quality of architecture, urban planning, spatial planning and landscape architecture and, on the basis of the results of the study, to develop recommendations for commensuration thereof with the EU requirements and standards.</p> <p>4.2. To create interdisciplinary study and further education programmes for the preparation of qualified professionals, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in co-operation with the MoES to improve training programmes for architects on the basis of the training programmes for architects of the developed countries; - for RTU to promote the possibilities of supplementary education in urban planning, the history of architecture, theory. <p>4.3. For RTU to create bilateral and multilateral co-operation contracts and programmes for acquisition of international experience.</p> <p>4.4. To develop the theory and science of architecture and planning.</p> <p>4.5. In co-operation with the LAS to expand the utilisation of creative experiments and innovations and to promote the learning and use of future technologies.</p>	<p>MoC, MoES, RTU, UL, LUA, LAA, LAS</p>
<p>5. Creation of a co-ordinated model for the management of the architecture sector, ensuring linking thereof with the management of spatial planning and building design processes</p>	<p>5.1. To create the National Council of Architecture for the solution of issues of national significance related to the development and quality of architecture in co-operation with the MoE, MoRDLG, MoE, MoES and sectoral NGOs.</p> <p>5.2. To develop recommendations for the creation of the co-operation and management model of the architecture sector.</p> <p>5.3. To improve the mutual link between spatial planning and building design processes.</p> <p>5.4. For the involved institutions to co-operate in improvement of mutual co-</p>	<p>MoC, LAA, SIHP, MoE, MoRDLG, MoES, self-governments, sectoral NGOs</p>

Action Direction	Priority Tasks	Participating Institutions
	<p>ordination in the spatial planning process and the provision of spatial planning with the necessary instruments, which are oriented towards sustainable development of Latvia.</p> <p>5.5. To ensure arrangement of the planning system, involving the public in the planning process, including ensuring qualitative public discussion of projects at early stages of design with the necessary alternatives of solutions.</p>	
<p>6. Promotion of identification and competitiveness of the architecture of Latvia</p>	<p>6.1. For the LAA and sectoral NGOs to operate actively and to represent the interests of Latvia in international organisations, including UIA, BAUA, ACE.</p> <p>6.2. For the MoC and MoFA to ensure the participation of Latvia in events important for the sector of architecture, including Venice Biennale of Architecture.</p> <p>6.3. For the MoC and LAA to provide information regarding international sketch competitions in order to promote export of architecture of Latvia.</p> <p>6.4. For the LI to create the image of architecture of Latvia as an internationally open sector of good quality and beneficial for investments.</p>	<p>LAA, sectoral NGOs, MoC, MoFA, LI, SCCF</p>

VII. Impact on the State Budget and Self-government Budgets

The financial sources planned for the implementation of the Architecture Policy Guidelines are the State and self-government budget, international financing, including EU structural funds, as well as private capital to be attracted by successful development of public-private relationship and strategies for cultural sponsorship.

The Architecture Policy Guidelines 2009-2015 are implemented within the framework of the existing budget resources.

VIII. Planning of Further Action

	Measure	Term for the execution	Responsible institution
1.	To establish the National Council of Architecture.	30.12.2009.	MoC
2.	To specify more precisely the functions of the institutions involved in the implementation of the architecture policy and to define the co-operation mechanism of institutions in order to ensure that their functions do not overlap, as well as the co-operation in the issues of the architecture policy	30.09.2010.	MoC
3.	To draw up the Law On the Quality of Architecture	15.12.2010.	MoC
4.	To draw up proposals for the creation of the sectoral management model	30.12.2010.	MoC

IX. Procedures for the Submission and Evaluation of Reports

1. The Ministry of Culture prepares and, in accordance with specified procedures, submits to the Cabinet the following informative reports on the fulfilment and evaluation of the Guidelines:

- 1.1. the informative interim report ó by 1 March 2013; and
- 1.2. the final informative report ó by 1 March 2016.

2. On the basis of *ex-post* evaluation, in 2016 the Ministry of Culture takes a decision regarding updating of the Guidelines for the subsequent period of time.