



Jurors' Comments

Nirmal Kishnani: There is a palpable pleasure and optimism about this project. It is partly the way that materiality and space are brought together to create human-centric space and scale, partly the social ambitions that drive the making and use of the project. There is also an understated modernity in its formal arrangement of boxes and surfaces, which yield quietly to the spaces and activities within.

Sanjay Prakash: This is a humble participatory project that shows off simple finishes—sourced from within 25 kilometres—in their best light.

Ada Fung: At first glance this community centre may appear to be a temporary structure, but one has to take a closer look to discover the innate beauty of this socially-inclusive project in Bangladesh. With a drive to encourage locals to become aware of sustainability, the designers focus on weather conditions and using materials found within a 25-kilometre radius and adopting local techniques. Their achievements are not small: close to zero electricity or fossil fuels were used during construction, recycled materials, bamboo and bricks, coupled with the integration of local Muslim values that contribute towards enriching the locals' livelihood "for the people and by the people".



Herbert Dreiseitl: This project is promising in its strong engagement and interaction—this is what the architecture is offering and celebrating. It is convincing with materiality and transparency to be surrounding landscapes.

Kevin Mark Low: This project in northern Bangladesh brings together all the soft and hard aspects of the profession into form and space that is transformed by content. As a pro bono project, along with the local values of the community; materials; bamboo bicycles; weaving and embroidery; and nursery schools for children, it is one that puts architecture where it belongs—at the very heart of the people that physically surrounds and belongs to it. This centre for learning, working and trading serves as an example for the reason why we believe good architecture still stands.

Donald Leslie Bates: This is a worthy project that not only provides an important community asset, but also does so with intelligence and a high level of design excellence—it engages with its stakeholders in a way that extends its relevance beyond mere problem solving.