



KAIRA LOORO | ARCHITECTURE FOR PEACE  
**ARCHITECTURE  
COMPETITION**  
**CULTURAL CENTER**

WWW.KAIRALOORO.COM

**LOCATION**

AFRICA, SENEGAL, SEDHIOU

**INTERVENTION**

NEW CONSTRUCTION

**REQUIREMENT**

1 UNDER 35 MEMBER EACH TEAM

**TARGET**

ARCHITECTS – DESIGNERS – STUDENTS

**AWARDS**

2.500€ - INTERNSHIP AT KENGO KUMA OFFICE

**REGISTRATION OPENS**

15 JAN 2018 - 4 APR 2018

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

25 APR 2018

**JURY**

**K. Kuma** Kengo Kuma Associates - **A. Ghirardelli** SBGA  
**P. Rodriguez** Pilar Diez Rodriguez - **R. Bouman** M+B Architects  
**T. Hirano** University Tokyo - **A. Muzzonigro** Stefano Boeri Architetti  
**I. Lutri** IN/Arch - **C. Magni** ASF Italia - **R. Kasik** X Architekten  
**G. Mazzaglia** Kaan Architekten - **A. Ferrara** Angelo Ferrara  
**R. Vecchio** Balouo Salo - **S. D'Urso** University Catania

# Kaira Loro Architecture Competition Sacred Architecture

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## INTRODUCTION

Hundred-years old cultures give birth to Communities, being transmitted through rhymes of those who are narrating it and interpreting the past through wisdom. One's accomplishments result from rituals and metamorphosis, bonding the

human being to its own roots through dance, history, music, colours, flavours, materials and landscapes.

Space and Matter relate themselves with the power of rituals, drawing together the lines of an architecture encharged of passing and preserving History.

## DESIGN THEME

The intervention area represents a breeding ground of centuries-old cultures, rich in rituals and experiences coming from father to son, and telling stories about Africa. Cultures here are mixing together in harmony, within an environment full of experiences. Some of those ethnic groups are deeply rooted in history, and, since they never had any archives or written works, they passed those stories only thanks to words coming from the Elders.

Globalization effects are reflecting today on communities, putting ancient rituals and the preservation of cultural identities down the risk.

The town of Sedhiou, one amongst the less well fixed, has no places to let its own community spread its culture and habits, where to have the chance for everyone to relate and express themselves through arts those art the region is rich in.

Here it comes the need to design a meeting place, promoting culture and witness of a location put in discussion during regional conflicts occurred between 1980 and 2005.

## DESIGN PROGRAM

The planning of a Cultural Center for the city of Sedhiou aims to renovate the identity of the area, trying to reach the goal of creating a location where local cultures may have the chance to be told, passed on and preserved. This challenge sees the planning of an architectural structure as witness of the peaceful relation occurring among local ethnic groups and promoting, at the same time, preservation of

local habits. The competitor will show his theme through a surprising and integrated design at once, developing a structure destined to be an Icon for the entire country, without weighing on the surrounding environment. The Architectural structure will require:

- Maximum surfaces: 550 m<sup>2</sup> for the indoor area, 400 m<sup>2</sup> for the open space area. Maximum height of 8 mt;
- Three main designed areas for Education, Exhibitions and Performances. Furthermore, Bureau and Restrooms must be included;
- A call to economic intervention and sustainability;
- The need of dealing with subjects such as timing or relative problems linked to the structure development, to be set within an area where no specialized workforce exists. For the same reason, projects displaying care about developing time, self-construction and implementation aspects, will be encouraged;
- The preference of local and natural materials, being provided from surrounding areas and occasionally re-usage of waste products;
- Optimization and preservation of water supplying ;
- Flexible open spaces;

Available on site materials or findable nearby, consist in: Bamboo, Clay Bricks (usual size: 20x30x15cm), Cement Bricks (20x30x15cm), metal plates, straw, laterite stones, shells, sand, wooden beams and boards, Clay, Palm tree leaves. Unmentioned materials may be imported from abroad or surrounding main cities, including increasing developing costs.

All necessary documentation about project development is available to free download on a dedicated section of the website. Materials and images are protected by Copyright and must be exclusively used within the context of this competition.



## LOCATION

From 1980 to 2005, the region of Casamance, located in the extreme south of Senegal, passed through marks of a war whose tolls rise to more than 20.000 evacuees and 5.000 deaths. The Casamance river gives the same name to the entire region, cutting the administrative regions of Ziguinchor, Kolda and Sedhiou. The designed area is located in the administrative center of Sedhiou. The city has among 22.000 habitants, against the 420.000 of the whole region, spreaded in different villages.

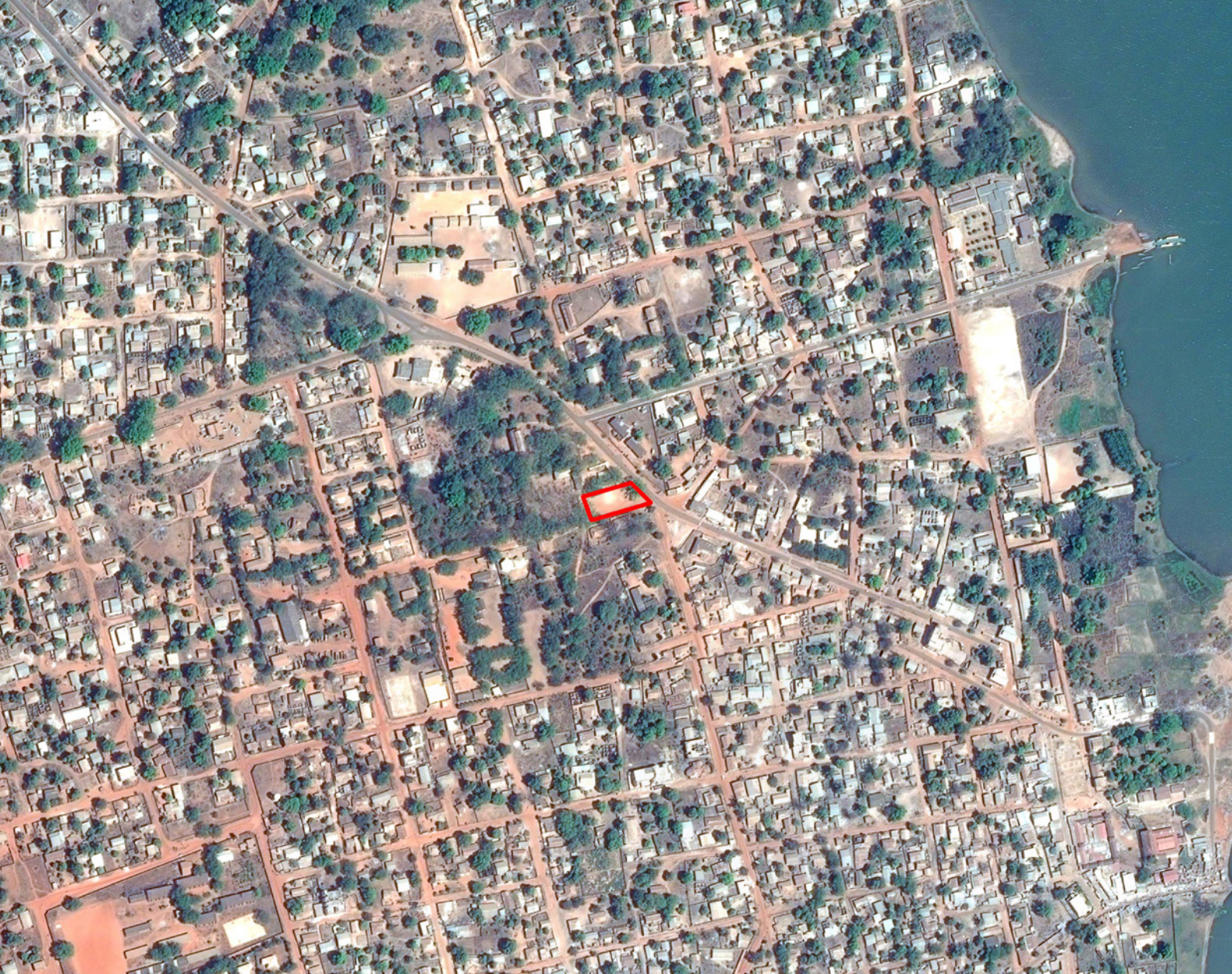
The biggest ethnic groups consist in: Mandinka, Balantes, Diolas, Fula, Creol, Diahankey, Mancangne. The most common spoken language is the Mandinga, ethnic relevance featured by the presence of Griot Individuals, as promoters

of african culture and most important story-tellers, passing the narration of historical events through the aid of the musical instrument called Kora.

As for the rest of the country, Sedhiou experiences the passing of two main seasons: the dry season, occurring from November to May, and the rainy one, from June up to October, with an average of 1000-1150 mm per year. The dry period has temperatures around 33° and 45°. Agricultural and fishing activities has considerably reduced due to the recent drought and affecting nutritional stability in family groups.

Different arboreal species grow in Sedhiou. Many trees are used in order to product building materials; Kahya Senegalensis, Kapok tree, Dimb tree, Palm and Fromager trees are some examples.

The most developed economical branch



in Sedhiou still remains agriculture. Main products consist in: Millet, Corn, Rice, Sweet potato, Manioc potato, Peanuts and Cashew nuts, Mangoes, Oranges, Papayas, Lettuce, Carrots and Tomatoes. Despite such a variety of products, the growing beyond actual limits for producers is limited by the lack of infrastructures.

Health system is insufficient too. The entire region of Sedhiou counts just one hospital with few operating rooms and a low number of employees, even if some First aid and health centers are dislocated all over the rest of the region. Life expectancy (65 years) and infant mortality rate (82%) are strongly affected by the lacking organization of Health System. Its weak cleanliness represents one among

the main causes of illness. Most of the population, for instance, drinks from non-purified and hand-made water reservoirs, consequently experiencing health problems such as dysentery and related diseases. Malaria represents the most increasing case in the region, together with the high tuberculosis and HIV virus rates. Literacy reaches weakly 50%, being affected by the lack of transports and accessibility to school structures in general. The underground natural materials is characterized by a reddish Laterite stone, rich in iron and alternated layers of sand and clay.

Music, dance and Tailoring are main regional arts, found together with some other minor activities linked to handicraft.

## ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

The purpose of the contest consists in creating an iconic architectural structure in order to preserve local cultures coming from the region of Sedhiou, voted to respect towards environment and local cultural balance existing in the area, improving uncertainty conditions of communities and aimed to preserve customs.

The winning project must be intended as a donation to the International Non Profit Organization (INPO) Balouo Salo, in order to be shared with communities and institutions of Sedhiou, who will have the chance to realize it cooperating with other Organizations (ONG, Institutions) or to proceeding on their own. The Balouo Salo Organization itself has the right to adopt the project as a future donation one, reserving its right to include winners during working period and to occasionally modify the project, in order to deal with specific requirements such as costs, operational and developing ones.

Furthermore, all proceeds will be devolved to the Balouo Salo Organization, being the contest planned as economical contribution to its humanitarian projects.

## ORGANIZATION CALENDAR AND DEADLINES

### Subscription

Early Registration

Open: 15 January 2018

Close: 13 February 2018 (h 23.59 GMT)

Normal Registration

Open: 14 February 2018

Close: 10 March 2018 (h 23.59 GMT)

Late Registration

Open: 11 March 2018

Close: 04 April 2018 (h 23.59 GMT)

Submission deadline :

25 April 2018 (h 23.59 GMT)

Jury Summoning : 01-7 May 2018

Results announcement: 20 May 2018

## 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.

Is not possibile change the team after registration.

## ORGANIZATION PRIZES

### 1st PRIZE

€ 2,500

(considered such as cover expenses)

Internship at Kengo Kuma Associates, Tokyo

Possible realization of the project

Publication on websites and architectural format

Exposure in architectural events

### 2nd PRIZE

€ 1,000

(considered such as cover expenses)

Publication on websites and architectural format

Exposure in architectural events

### 3rd PRIZE

€ 500

(considered such as cover expenses)

Publication on websites and architectural format

Exposure in architectural events

## 2 HONORABLE MENTIONS

€ 150

Digital certificate

Publication on websites and architectural format

Exposure in architectural events

## 5 MENTIONS

Digital certificate

Publication on websites and architectural format

Exposure in architectural events

## 15 FINALISTS

digital certificate

Publication on websites and architectural format

Exposure in architectural events

All the awarded proposals will be published in the official book of Kaira Looro, and 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 12 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 (es. if "TeamID" is 123, file must be named A1\_123.pdf)

- n. 1 report pdf(A4 layout), maximum 2.000 characters (letters including spaces), written in English.

File name: A4\_TeamID (es. if "TeamID" is 123, file must be named

A4\_123.pdf). The report must contain a description of the architectural design, text only. It 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 (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 (causes of exclusion). Layouts must contain group's "TeamID" on it. The teamID has to be written also into the file name. The winning projects materials will be used for publications.

## ORGANIZATION EVALUATION CRITERIA

Projects will be evaluated by committees, keeping into consideration the following parameters:

- Sustainability
- Building process
- Architectural quality
- Flexibility
- Contextualization

Mentions will be assigned only to non winning projects reaching final selections and receiving the biggest number of mentions already assigned by committees.

The Honour mention will be assigned by committee's President, elected from the Organization and being part of the committees.

## ORGANIZATION FAQ

During the whole contest, 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.

Ten days before the deadline the FAQs

will close, and the received questions 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 at maximum 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 a maximum of 5 competitors, belonging to different countries 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 availa-

bility of the studio and it must take place within one year from the close of the competition and must be agreed on dates 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.

17. Must be used the same mail in all the contest processes (registration and project submission).

18. Is not possible to change or add team members after the registration process.

19. Projects submitted beyond the terms will not be considered.

20. If there are more than 500 competing projects, the organization can make a pre-selection of the projects in according to the evaluation criteria.

## 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.

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. The team does not include at least one under 35, (35 years-old included) during the enrollment procedure.

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 con-

truction, 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.

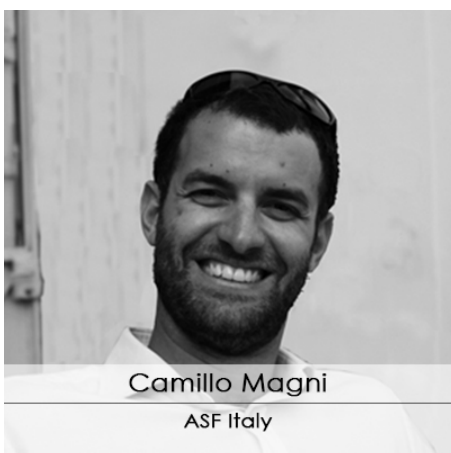
m. The Organization Balouo Salo is not responsible for the declaration of false data from the participants.

n. In case the number of presented projects reaches more than 500, the Organization may proceed to a preselection.

o. With the enrollment phase, all participants accept all terms and conditions.

# JURY







## 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.

The words "Kaira Loro" belong to the mandingan language, biggest existing ethnic group within the designed area, with a powerful call to faith and a constant religious practice voted to the search for God; words native meaning will be: "Peaceful Architecture".

Kaira Loro represents not just the mere Architectural process but a bond with culture, its spirituality and search for an inner spirit aimed to be set into reality using architectural meanings and passing through respect and humility.

## ORGANIZATION PARTNER



## OFFICIAL MEDIA- PARTNER



## ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS IN JURY

**KAAN**

*stefano boeri architetti*



**möhn+bouman**

**x architekten**



Architetti Senza Frontiere Italia Onlus

Pilar Diez Rodriguez

**studio**

GIUSEPPE BLENGINI  
AGOSTINO GHIRARDELLI  
SBGA I Blengini Ghirardelli Srl

## PARTNERS & PRESS





Organized by Association Balouo Salo  
to support of humanitarian project  
**A bridge for life**



WWW.BALOUOSALO.COM

