

2011 Curry Stone Design Grand Prize Winner Announced Sustainable Architecture in Post-Disaster Areas

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The 2011 [Curry Stone Design Prize](#) Winners were announced today with an official presentation ceremony to follow on November 7th at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. The Curry Stone Design Prize was created to champion designers as a force for social change. Now in its fourth year, the Prize recognizes innovators who address critical issues involving clean air, food and water, shelter, health care, energy, education, social justice or peace.

[Hsieh Ying-Chun](#) is the Grand Prize Winner; he will receive \$100,000 from the foundation with no strings attached. Hsieh is a leading Taiwanese architect who for over a decade has deployed his talents in rural areas decimated by natural disaster. Hsieh works throughout Asia, training villagers to build locally appropriate dwellings in response to devastation such as the 2008 Sichuan earthquake, the 1999 Nantou earthquake, and the 2009 Morakot typhoon in Taiwan. Through Hsieh's hands-on education process, villagers reconstruct their own community foundation, knowing they will live in buildings with greater safety, structural integrity, and sustainability.

Hsieh establishes a cooperative network of designers, contractors, and residents that supports local needs. His simple designs ensure that every villager can have a hand in building their own home. His work has generated job opportunities and environmental awareness, while protecting local diversities and cultural traditions. After completion, he makes the design plans available in creative commons. Hsieh's work has helped thousands of people.





Two additional 2011 Winner Prizes, of \$10,000 each, will be awarded to [Atelier d'Architecture Autogérée \(AAA\)](#) and [FrontlineSMS](#).

Atelier d'Architecture Autogérée is a collective of architects, designers and social scientists who transform urban spaces through collaborative endeavors. Based in Paris and founded by Romanian architects Constantin Petcou and Doina Petrescu in 2001, AAA has become an engine for engaging citizens in shaping their own cities through building, farming, and artistic intervention. AAA acts as a

creative instigator, empowering local communities to carry out and sustain their own ideas for urban regeneration.

FrontlineSMS was founded in London by Ken Banks in 2005 to enable effective communications channels for communities in the developing world. FrontlineSMS leverages the ubiquity of mobile phones and familiarity of text messaging to turn an offline laptop into a communication hub. The simple innovation empowers villagers, aid agencies, and news services to exchange information easily among groups.

CURRY STONE DESIGN PRIZE FESTIVAL,
Harvard Graduate School of Design
Prize Ceremony & Presentation: Monday,
November 7th, 2011
6:30-8:00pm Harvard GSD, 48 Quincy
Street, Cambridge, MA
RSVP events@currystonedesignprize.com
Three Workshops at the GSD: Tuesday,
November 8th, 2011
12pm-2:00pm, CSDP Prize winners Hsieh
Ying-Chun, Constantin Petcou and Doina
Petrescu, and Ken Banks will each lead a
workshop.

Check the image gallery below for design projects of the two additional 2011 prize winners, Atelier d'Architecture Autogérée (AAA) and FrontlineSMS. All images courtesy of Curry Stone Design Prize.

