

Ariela Valverde

Contact

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PROFILE

Architect and MSc. in Urban Planning and Policies. 2021 Climate Ambassador at the Global Youth Climate Network of the World Bank Group and co-founder at Urbanalytica, an organization of data-driven urban strategies. Academic and professional practice focused on sustainable development, gender-inclusive cities and urban health.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Sep 2019 – Present

Urban Planner, Co-founder

Urbanalytica, Organization. Milan, Italy – San José, Costa Rica.

- Head of the Strategy and Planning Department.
- Development of partnerships and joint collaborations with local and international organizations.
- Development and coordination of workshops, public speaking, and training sessions at national and international congress and events.
- Management and development of ongoing research projects: Gender-Inclusive cities in Latin America, Sustainable Development Prototype (PDP) for indigenous communities in Costa Rica.
- Established a joint collaboration with the University Castro Carazo in Costa Rica for an online participatory workshop on Safe and Healthy cities for women.

Sep 2019 – Feb 2020

Urban Planner, Transport Consultant

Systematica, Transport and mobility consultancy. Milan, Italy.

- Training on smart mobility systems.
- Prepared presentation documents and schematic proposals for local and international projects.
- Developed desk research and presentation documents for international projects and competitions (Porto, Saudi Arabia).

Apr 2013 – Jul 2016

Project Architect

Gensler, Global consulting firm on architecture, design, and planning. San José, Costa Rica.

- Project Architect at Gensler Retail Studio, and Team leader of the Starbucks Minor Renovation account.
- Developed interior design proposals, schematic, and architectural drawings for the Motiongate Retail Stores team in Dubai, and schematic design and construction documents for Gensler's New York office team, for Cartier and Bank of America accounts.
- Coordinated and elaborated design and construction documents for Aliss Department stores' renovation in Costa Rica. Managed client meetings and site visit.
- Collaborated in the Schematic Design for the Gold Museum Gift shop in San José, Costa Rica.

Oct 2011 – Jul 2012

Junior Architect

FCB Architecture, Architecture Design Firm. San José, Costa Rica.

- Collaborated in the design of residential and retail projects.
- Developed architectural drawings and 3D models.
- Responsible for coordinating with suppliers and clients. Site visit and supervision.

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Feb 2021 – Present

Advisor and contributor

URBAN AI Think Tank, International and multidisciplinary research and collaboration platform.

- Advisor and contributor in a multidisciplinary research community on ethical and sustainable uses of urban AI.
- Development of articles and research publications focused on the Latin American region.

Jan 2021 – Present

Climate Ambassador 2021

Global Youth Climate Network (GYCN) initiative of the World Bank Group. Online Program.

- Development of a Position Paper within the Task Force on Smart Cities and Communities.
- Research and development of a Position Paper on Climate Action.

Jul 2018 – Oct 2018

Urban planner trainee

Politecnico di Milano, School of Architecture and Urban Studies. Milan, Italy.

- Research on simplified tools for evaluating ventilation in urban areas, city breathability, morphology patterns, pollution concentration, ventilation efficiency. Primary research and selection of scientific papers and tools.
- Elaborated a comparative chart of the selected article's methodology, key concepts, and results; delivering test DEM images of the redrawn urban layout; a summary chart of urban wind simulation software.

PUBLIC SPEAKING AND EVENTS

- Aug 2021 **Workshop: Urban strategies from a female perspective, impacts & opportunities**
8th International Degrowth Conference.
International online session alongside a multidisciplinary and international team of young leaders and entrepreneurs.
- Aug 2021 **Workshop: Safe and Healthy Cities for women in Costa Rica**
The Science and Technology week of Castro Carazo University Costa Rica.
Online session with a focus group of women from Costa Rica.
- Feb 2021 **Session: Towards Sustainable communities: a multidisciplinary approach**
The Nature of Cities Festival (TNOC).
Online session alongside a multidisciplinary group of researchers and experts from Latin America and Europe.
- Oct 2020 **Event: Towards sustainable cities and communities**
UN-Habitat Urban October 2020.
Digital awareness campaign of Urban Sustainability in Costa Rica
- Sep 2020 **Conference: Data-driven Urban Planning**
Alternatives for Our World Towards Sustainability (Federated College of Engineers and Architects of Costa Rica, CFIA and the Climate Change Commission).
International Architecture Biennial of Costa Rica 2020 (Professional College of Architects of Costa Rica, CACR).
- Jul 2020 **Conference: Urban Planning & Sustainable Development**
Expo Construir Latin America 2020.
Virtual Exhibition of the Construction sector in Latin America.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Jan 2021 - Present **2021 Climate Ambassador Program (GYCN)**
Global Youth Climate Network leadership program, by young professionals of the World Bank Group.
Development of Climate actions in Costa Rica and a Position Paper on Smart and Sustainable cities.
- Jan 2021 - Present **Friends for SDGs - United Nations 75th anniversary contest**
Shortlisted proposal: "Knowledge-Sharing platform of Nature-based solutions".
- Apr 2021 **2021 Call for Nonurban Ideas**
Special mention for the Participatory Development Prototype (PDP) for indigenous communities in Costa Rica.
- Sep 2012 – Oct 2012 **The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**
New Delhi, India. Scholarship granted by the Government of India to pursue an on-site training course on Climate Change and Sustainability. Program focused on challenges and projects located in India and internationally.

EDUCATION

- Oct 2016 – Jul 2019 **MSc. Urban Planning and Policy Design**
Politecnico di Milano. Milan, Italy.
- Jan 2005– Jun 2011 **Bachelor's and Licentiate degree in Architecture**
Veritas University. San José, Costa Rica

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Oct 2011 - Present Registered Architect by the Professional College of Architects (CFIA) Costa Rica

LANGUAGE

Spanish: Mother tongue
English: Proficiency
Italian: Advanced
French: Basic

SOFTWARE

Proficiency: Adobe Creative Cloud (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, Premiere Rush, Spark), Revit Architecture, Vectorworks, Sketchup, Microsoft Office.
Intermediate: QGIS, AutoCAD, Archicad, WordPress. **Basic:** Python, Pandas.

SKILLS

- Strategic planning
- Decision making
- Organizational skills
- Partnership development
- Data-driven analysis
- Problem solving & creativity
- Continuous learning
- Public speaking
- Teamwork & leadership
- Graphic design skills
- Presentation & communication skills