

Akelius school projects

general information

who we are

Akelius Foundation is a charity foundation.
The Akelius Foundation provides funds to

- children in need
- refugees and other people suffering from government actions
- education projects and development of education

As part of our education program,
Akelius Foundation is committed to building and aiding
schools in underserved communities.

who we are looking for

experienced partners to manage the development,
construction,
and the ongoing operation of a school

- NGOs or social enterprises that manage schools or educational programs
- construction companies experienced in educational or community buildings, especially in low-resource settings
- local education authorities or community-based organizations in the target country

what we are looking for

Valuable, practical, and community-focused project
proposals that meet the following criteria.

need

Address areas with no existing schools or schools in very poor condition, ensuring that children most in need benefit from the project.

quality

Ensure a high-quality project, quality of construction, effective operations, and long-term sustainability.

Plan an educational project that is open to all, regardless of religion, ethnicity, gender, or political orientation.
If your school offers religious education, participation must be voluntary.

The school must offer meaningful alternatives for different faiths and non-religious ethical and humanistic education.

cost efficiency

Demonstrate responsible use of resources for both construction and ongoing operations, and keep overhead costs low.

what we need from you

a short proposal to the Foundation, addressing

what

Describe the project and planned activities.

where

Specify the project's location.

who

Identify the target beneficiaries and relevant organizations.

how

Explain your implementation approach and methodology.

project information required

- describe the purpose of the project and its duration
- describe the location, village or town, the number of inhabitants, and the general living conditions in the village
- explain why the project is to be implemented there, what are the community's requests and needs

- indicate the site made available by the community and specify its size
- provide a site plan with site boundaries and measurements
- provide photos of the surroundings and existing buildings

- describe the type of school to be built
- public or private
- how many schools' levels

- number of beneficiary students
- which kind of teaching will be carried out
- which kind of curriculum

- indicate how many classrooms are needed and their capacity, number of students per classroom

- describe the additional buildings needed such as library, teachers' apartments, student dormitory, and outdoor spaces such as courtyard, gardens and sport field
- indicate the construction company that will carry out the project and describe its experience
- describe who will manage the school and be the employer of the teachers
- indicate the number of teachers required and how they will be recruited
- describe the role of the local partners involved in the project
- define who will own the site and the building
- describe how the project will remain sustainable and continue to deliver impact over time

budget estimation

Provide a budget estimation including construction costs and operational costs.

Construction costs

- classrooms
- latrines
- additional buildings needed
- courtyard, outdoor spaces
- furniture
- project and construction management

Operational costs per year, if needed

- teachers
- educational materials
- school supplies
- maintenance of the building
- project management

design guideline

This guideline defines the design direction for Akelius educational projects.

All projects should be planned so that the design reflects the Scandinavian value system.

- functional, practical and simple
- connected with nature
- optimal for local climate

- human scaled
- sustainable
- using durable materials

architectural design direction

organic and informal design approach

The design of Akelius buildings is simple and timeless. Create organic forms with a subtle presence and a clear identity.

Facades, common areas, and landscapes should not be formally or rigidly designed.

Avoid symmetry as a design concept.

Use curved, round, or elliptical elements, avoid orthogonal structures.

connect with nature

Follow the natural topography and landscape.

Minimize impact on the site.

Avoid imposing gestures, create harmony with nature.

Blend buildings seamlessly with their surroundings.

create transition spaces

Connect inside and outside seamlessly.

Create covered areas for smooth transitions.

Provide protected, functional spaces between buildings.

focus on functionality

Ensure proper zoning.

Create optimal connections and clear communication paths.

Establish functional relationships between spaces.

Provide adequate standards for classroom sizes.

Guarantee appropriate dimensions for dormitories.

Strive for a minimal ceiling height of 275 centimeters.

use modest, yet solid materials

Finishes should be matt and not glossy.

Avoid luxurious materials like marble or exotic wood.

Do not focus on trends, rather create a look that will last.

create an inviting atmosphere

Use bright, warm colors.

Avoid dark or cold tones, as well as heavy contrasts.

Avoid monumental and representative appearance.

emphasize sustainability

Use materials and finishes that are durable, long-lasting, and have environmental product declarations.

Prefer local and natural building materials such as wood, clay, or suitable natural fibers that regulate humidity.

Create a bioclimatic design, such as optimal orientation of the building toward the sun to utilize passive solar gains in winter and ensure shade in summer.

Protect facades from rain with roof overhangs.
Plan natural ventilation and use cross ventilation.
Plan sun protection with simple means.

- roof overhangs
- fix or movable structural shading
- deciduous trees in front of the building
- trellis systems with greenery in front of the facade

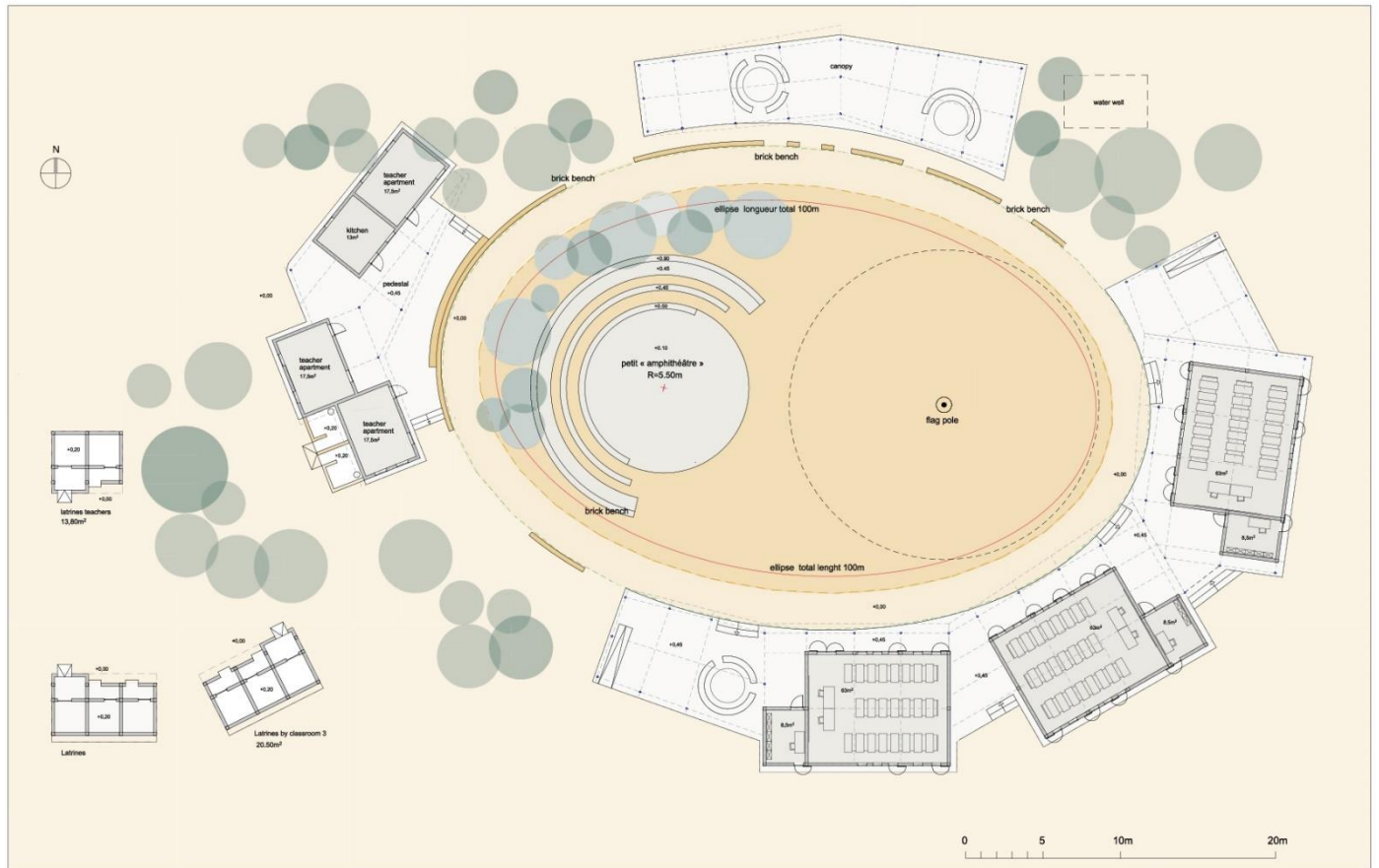
Integrate renewable energies and technology, such as photovoltaics, solar thermal energy, or heat pumps.

integrate green spaces

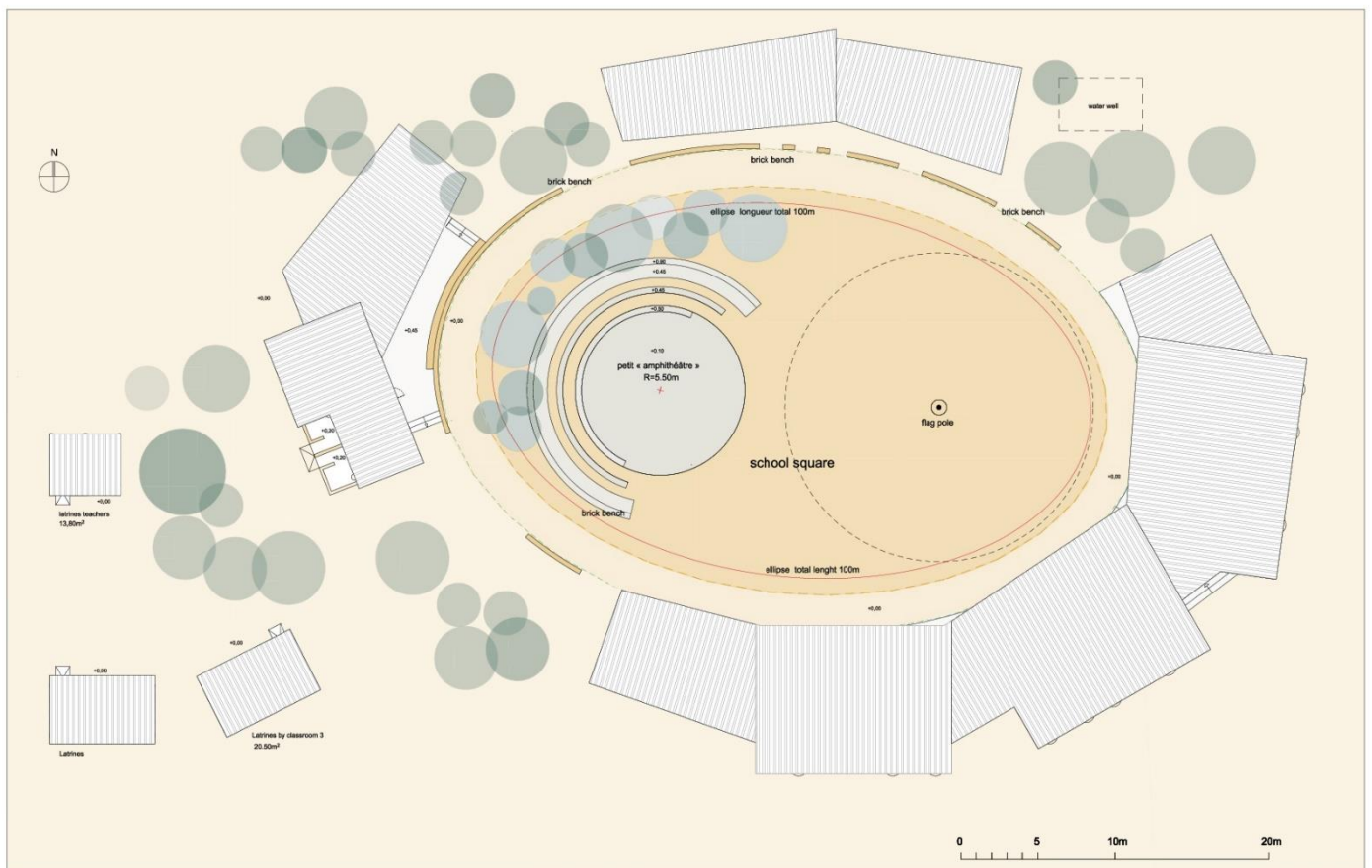
Maximize green areas on landscapes and roofs.
Plant local species that are low in maintenance, and attractive year-round.

design example

general plan, classrooms, and teachers' apartments



general plan, roofing



school of Djamballa, 2023, Mali



school of Faladié, 2026, Mali

