



## Call for Applications: Artist Residency in Pakistan

Goethe-Institut Pakistan / Lahore Biennale Foundation / Vasl, Pakistan

Application deadline: **5 June 2016**



In collaboration with the [Lahore Biennale Foundation](#) and [Vasl, Pakistan](#), the [Goethe-Institut Pakistan](#) offers a two months residency for artists (including designers and architects) and researchers interested in cross-disciplinary theory and practice related to the city and urban phenomena.

As part of the project series “Urbanities” leading up to the inaugural Lahore Biennale in the following year, two **Germany-based** artists will be given the opportunity to engage with Karachi and Lahore, respectively, as a site of urban exploration and artistic research in a living & work space residency.

### Background:

Under the title “Urbanities – art and public space in Pakistan,” the collaboration between the project partners will incite discursive and artistic contributions and interventions related to Pakistan's controversial and contested urban space, recollecting Henri Lefebvre's “right to the city” for critical discussion, and contribute to a trajectory leading to the Lahore Biennale in 2017 in a series of events. By way of artistic interventions and critical research possibilities, spheres and impediments of public space and its citizens' engagement with Lahore and Karachi will be explored and negotiated. The residency grows from the shared interests of the project partners and is a crucial element of this project.

### Format and Scope:

The residency's objective for both Karachi and Lahore is a critical exploration of the urban and its peculiarities and possibilities under the premise of the individual artists' work and research approach. The outcomes of the eight week stay scheduled between mid October and mid December 2016 will be presented at a consecutive programme of talks, discussions and exhibitions slated for November to December 2016. Chosen work produced during the residency will be featured at subsequent events. The residents are invited to produce research and/or artwork that reflect on the current definitions of mapping, community and practice, the usage of space, urban spatiality and visibility, the global, local and glocal in relation to the city in flux, on stagnation, progress, activism and action, on accustomed and contested space, environmentalism and public art, among other urban phenomena. Applicants can express a preference for Karachi or Lahore, final placement will be decided by the jury.

**What we offer:**

Living & working residency in furnished studio-apartments (annexed to Vasl office in Karachi and to LBF office in Lahore) with communal facilities. Travel costs, accommodation, per diems, fees for commissioned artwork/artistic research, production and technical costs are covered. The teams of Vasl and LBF as well as the Goethe-Institut will be available for consultation and support of project logistics. The artwork/artistic research will be presented and featured in public events in the scope of "Urbanities" and as part of the larger debate around the curatorial premise of the Biennale 2017.

**What we expect:**

Applicants should have a range of projects and exhibition experience. Other than a keen interest for urban phenomena, critical thinking and a background in artistic research methods, we welcome the will to reflect and explore new possibilities for their practice. The residents are invited to produce artistic research and/or artwork in the nexus of urbanism and culture as stated.

**Eligibility:**

Applications are open to all artists (visual arts, design, sculpture/installation, filmmakers, performance, media/sound arts, photography...) working and living mainly in Germany and seeking an opportunity to realize and present a project in a rich cultural and sometimes challenging environment.

**To apply:**

Your application in English should include a statement (max. one page) that shows your interest in urbanities, especially in a South Asian/Pakistani context. Further, we would like to see your portfolio with images (not more than 15MB) which also features your experience with artistic research methods. Please add a possible project idea (max. one page text) to be implemented during your stay in the scope of "Urbanities" (subject to change during your residency) and mark a preference for one or the other location. Please send your application including a short bio (max. 400 words) to the following address: [urbanities@karachi.goethe.org](mailto:urbanities@karachi.goethe.org)

Applicants will be selected by a jury representing the partnering organizations. Selected applicants will be asked for a Skype interview.

**Location:** Karachi or Lahore, Pakistan

**Duration:** 8 weeks between 15 October and 15 December 2016

**Application opens:** 5 May 2016

**Application deadline:** 5 June 2016

For more information on the partners and living and working in Pakistan see the second document and check the partner organizations' websites. For general inquiries please check our website [www.goethe.de/Pakistan](http://www.goethe.de/Pakistan) or get in touch with the project consultant Sara-Duana Meyer via [urbanities@karachi.goethe.org](mailto:urbanities@karachi.goethe.org), we will be happy to answer your questions.