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**Press Release**

### **Sapienza University applies to compete in the Solar Decathlon Middle East 2018**

Sapienza University of Rome has officially submitted its application to represent Italy in the next edition of the "Solar Decathlon Middle East" international Competition starting next October 2016 to end in November 2018 in Dubai.

The competition, reserved for 20 of the best Universities in the world, directly involves the students and includes the design and construction of a sustainable and energy self-sufficient house prototype, using the sun as the only energy source, and equipped with all the most advanced technologies.

In the last months over 50 students from the Faculty of Architecture have been working under the guidance of their Faculty Advisor on an innovative design proposal to take on the competition: a smart, sustainable and completely autonomous house, that will focus on "design, envelope, systems and people".

Team Sapienza's project, supported by 28 sponsors of excellence and 7 Patronages, indeed aims to show the most advanced technologies for the design and construction of a sustainable house able to respond to the demand of efficiency, functionality, comfort and affordability of the 21<sup>st</sup> century architecture.

If qualified, Sapienza's house will be built in Italy at the CEFME-CTP Center in Pomezia (RM) starting from October 2016 to be then, in October 2018, disassembled, transported and reassembled in Dubai in the competition site where, fully functioning, will be open to the public and evaluated in all its aspects by an international jury.

During the two years of the construction phase, Team Sapienza's Solar Decathlon project will be a permanent laboratory for the education and training on sustainable architecture, renewable energy sources integration in buildings, as well as the most innovative automation systems for the management of systems and house devices.