

PRESS RELEASE

IED OPENS UP FOR MASTER OF ARTS: DESIGN AS A LEVER TO IMPROVE THE WORLD.

The vision of the DesignXCommons manifesto guides the 10 new courses for the a.y. 2024/25.

Milan, 23 May 2024 - *Can design really contribute to a fairer and more inclusive future? Design* has always been regarded by IED as a **tool for bringing about significant change and responding to the changing needs of society and the environment**. Starting from this consideration, the **Istituto Europeo di Design is pleased to announce that it will be expanding its educational offerings for the academic year 2024/25 by introducing a Master of Arts programme** (Second Level Academic Diploma). There **are ten new courses** that IED presented to the Mur - Ministry of Universities and Research - based on the broader vision of the [DesignXCommons manifesto](#) that is, design applied to the **commons**. In addition to the technical and academic thematic divisions, the new Master of Arts programme is **transversally oriented based on the concept of the common good**. The goal is to formulate new design questions **anticipating future challenges** and to **identify emerging sectors**.

“At IED we have always promoted design as one of the main levers through which to improve the world. A catalyst for multiple perspectives to generate positive change. This means observing the world and, where necessary, developing solutions to meet the needs of the planet (including humans and all other species) in a conscious manner, fostering harmony between individuals, technology and the environment”, says **Riccardo Balbo, Academic Director IED Group**. *“This vision, embodied in the DesignXCommons concept, guides IED's ten Master of Arts courses: the core value is the same, i.e., design contributes to the definition, regeneration, implementation, integration and sharing of the commons.”*

This vision, which is already being implemented by IED in its three-year degree programmes, has been embodied in the IED Master of Arts courses into a continuous and dynamic learning environment. Students are able to take an active part in interdisciplinary projects together with experts from different fields, experiment with innovative methodologies, participatory governance models and sustainable practices, essential for the success of transformative interventions and management of the commons.

“The development of IED, owned by a non-profit Organisation, is part of a profoundly positive and responsible evolution that has led to its transformation into a Benefit Corporation in Italy. Clearly, Istituto Europeo di Design has integrated into its corporate objectives what has always been part of its DNA: to generate shared value for the community and the environment while committing to operating responsibly, sustainably, and transparently. Balbo concludes: *“Based on this approach, the natural evolution of the new IED Master of Arts programme can only be viewed from the perspective of Design as a project value for the common good”.*

IED MASTER OF ARTS

Identifying the methods in which common goods are procured, processed, applied and distributed requires special attention. This is the **area of focus** of IED's Master of Arts covering: the **design and application of sustainable materials and fibres** in fashion, product and interior design; (I) the use of design and production technologies to support **regenerative methods and sustainable practices**; (II) Interior design as a **living ecosystem** - individual and collective - that generates physical and mental space by employing shared material and immaterial resources; (III) the **inclusion of communities** in the design of new devices and public places as part of the broader project of **urban regeneration and mobility, conceived as an interdisciplinary interweaving** of relationships with society, capable

of modelling social structures; (IV) the generation of **exchange platforms** that revitalise the artistic and cultural heritage understood as a commons-based system; (V) the construction of **post-digital worlds where the knowledge of nature is fully integrated with the knowledge of technology** and where the man-machine relationship is viewed as a form of ethical-material alliance.

The IED Master of Arts courses will be offered in Milan, Florence, Rome, Turin and at the Accademia di Belle Arti Aldo Galli in Como with the following titles:

IED Milan

[Responsible Fashion Design](#) (English)

[Product Design](#) (English)

[Interior Design](#) (English)

[Visual Communication](#) (English)

IED Florence

[Textile Design](#) (English)

IED Roma

[Design for Public Spaces](#) (Italian)

[Interactive Environments](#) (Italian)

IED Torino

[Interaction Design](#) (English)

[Interior Design](#) (Italian)

[Transdisciplinary Design](#) (English)
