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Introduction

The first semester's field work is an essential element in the NTNU's MSc Urban Ecological Planning (UEP) Programme, and is primarily meant to help us better understand the dynamics of urban development in the cities of Global South. The challenges posed by these cities to future planners, architects and city managers are quite significant. Fieldwork of this nature provides one of the most promising and realistic paths to assist all manners of urban change agents and in addressing some of the most pressing concerns facing a fast urbanizing Global South. During the last seven years the first semester's fieldwork has taken place in Uganda. This fieldwork is carried out in corporation with teachers and students from local Universities, international NGOs and local planning authorities.

This time in Uganda students were divided into six groups and given assignments, or projects, defined by our local partners, ACTogether and the National Slum Dwellers Federation of Uganda. In this paper we will present the two projects conducted in Kampala city. The feasibility

phase of the Land Sharing Project which was started by our previous NTNU student group in 2011 and further explored by a group of students from The New School of New York in 2012. This student group analysed financing options, explored design options, and proposed a work-plan for further development and implementation to support the work of the local architects who will follow up the work. A second team worked with the up-grading of the Kinawataka Market, conducting stakeholder analysis, developing planning options for the area while clarifying ownership issues and financial options and possibilities.

Land sharing in Kampala

Context- Kisenyi, located in the South-western part of Kampala is a thriving place of economic activities but because of its informal nature the area faces continuous threats of eviction.

Local response- ACTogether and Slum Dwellers International with one of the land owners HaajiMulangwa of the area, started exploring options

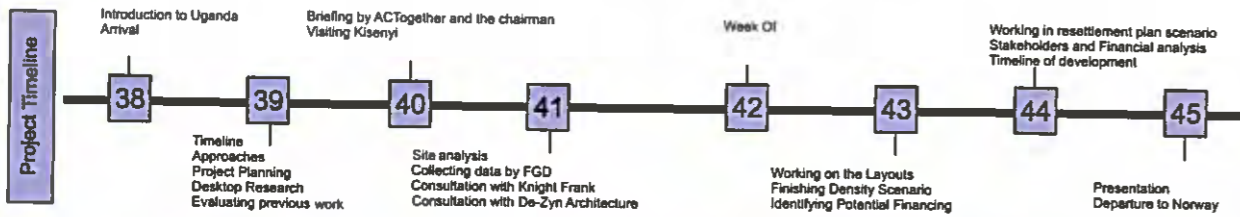


Fig. 1 : Studio Timeline (Source : UEP Studio 2013)



Fig. 2 : (Source : UEP Studio 2013)



Fig. 3 : Markets (Source : UEP Studio 2013)



Fig. 4 : Land sharing issues (Source : UEP Studio 2013)

against the eviction. The project was initiated in the year 2008.

Students' project contribution- Students were involved in the technical team of the project (comprising local architects and representatives from AC Together and SDI) with the main responsibility of finding out the challenges and the chalk out the way ahead. There were a few challenges during the Project. Firstly, conflict of interest between two groups: land owner (Haaji) and structure owners. Secondly, it was lack of affordability. Further students analysed the preliminary design proposed by the technical team which suggested to have dwellings of 36 sq.m. It was found that even at a subsidised rate dwellings will not be affordable for the people living in the area. So after discussions with community members students came up with two possible interlinked methods for reducing the cost: by making unit sizes smaller and by cross-subsidising it with commercial units which reduced the cost of a unit by 200 USD per sq.m. Students

proposed to have the mix of variable unit sizes of 15, 21 and 36 sq.m so that even family in lowest income spectrum can dream of buying their dream house. But having a unit size as small as 15 sq.m require a change in By-laws or approval by local administration Kampala Capital City Authority. So to represent the case cost benefit analysis was done comparing the suggested design with variable units and one following the minimum standards from existing by-laws. Further the cost benefit analysis was combined with multi criteria analysis where weightage score was given to both design in order to have the fair comparison. The suggestions were taken into consideration by the project technical team and they came up with preliminary design. Which was later used by students for making the implementation plan for the project.

As cost benefit ratio is almost same, so CB analysis was combined with multi criteria analysis where based on various parameters weightage score was given to both design in order to have an index score which was higher for the scenario for special planning area. The suggestions were taken into consideration by the project technical team and they came up with preliminary design, which was later used by students for making the implementation plan for the project. The way forward in this project is that one should go for having the site declared as special planning to provide enough flexibility in design to make the housing affordable for low income earners.

Redeveloping of Kinawataka market

Context-Kinawataka Market located in Kinawataka, an informal settlement found in Mbuya I - Nakawa Division, East of Kampala the capital city has served the local communities for more than 20 years being operated by vendors selling fresh vegetables like tomatoes, onions, cabbages, and charcoal. The market was dysfunctional due to lack of visibility, the deplorable state of the market stalls, narrow circulation passage ways, and lack of land



Fig. 5 : Kinawataka Market Location (Source : UEP Studio 2013)

for expansion all contributing to the poor customer base. Therefore the project sheds light on the complex needs of markets upgrade in low income communities and planning ideas are suggested upon that basis to have an incremental market design. An upgrade of Kinawataka market will largely contribute to address the issues raised earlier on but also contribute to reduction of pressure on the central markets of Kampala city whilst demonstrating a strategic objective of an inclusive city.

Students' project contribution- The design of this new proposal was based on the understanding of various issues that surrounds how the market functions, managed and how it fits to the surrounding environment. The concept was conceptualised from how a farmer's market stall functions but also in mind considering upgrading of the facility to relocation. The nature of the stall gives the vendor great flexibility with regard to the display of their goods. Reinterpreting this into the design of the market, the market is understood as one big stall consisting of and formed by a structural shell. This shell would then be gradually filled-in with the different functions the market contains. This approach to design leads to the formation of an incremental market. The use of a structural shell ensures that the open-air character of the current market is maintained albeit reinterpreted. The lockups and other functions contained within the storey structure can then be slipped in as cubes of a more economical and light-weight material that can easily be adapted to the changing needs of the vendors. The use of the shell ensures

maximum flexibility as far use and gradual expansion of the market are concerned whilst minimizing costs of construction and operation.

Reflections-“Each city has its own distinctive character, issues and had a unique underlying ‘feeling’ attached to it. In Urban Ecological Planning fieldwork I have learnt to look at the underlying issues in a city and a community, which may not meet the eye in the first glance. This field work or should I say the course gave me the freedom to be sensitive towards the need of the people we are working with. It is safe to conclude that we cannot impose change on people, because however surprising this may sound, even poor people know what they want. What is development for us might not even qualify to their priority list.” Riny Sharma , Student UEP Program, NTNU.

Studio Fact Sheet

Students: Ethiopia, Iran, India, Uganda, Nepal, Poland, Indonesia, Norway, Belgium, USA.

Faculty: NTNU; Makerere University & Engineers Without Borders Norway/Norconsult a/s

Disciplinary background: geography, architecture, urban planning, civil engineering, product design.

Partners: ACTogether /National Slum Dwellers Federation of Uganda, Makerere University: College of Engineering, Design, Art and Technology; College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Support: UN-HABITAT



Fig. 6 : The Incremental Market (Source : UEP Studio 2013)