

MOBILISING THE PERIPHERY

#governance #the just city #inclusion & diversity #affordable
housing #economic cycles #settlement form #cultural context
#participation #planning instruments #model projects

A research project focused on the development of the urban periphery; aimed at stimulating an exchange of ideas, discussing new solutions and contributing new insights to the understanding of evolving global urbanisation patterns

2015 - 2018

with ANCB Research Partner **Schindler Transit
Management Group**

INTRODUCTION AND AIMS

Urban peripheries - such as informal cities, barrios and suburbs - are typically perceived to present only great challenges. With the project Mobilising the Periphery, ANCB and the Schindler Transit Management Group set out to stimulate new ways of thinking, to question the given preconditions of current development and to initiate a discourse on urban realities at the periphery. The aim of the project is to cross-connect new approaches and insights within a widening network of urban practitioners and researchers, and to archive and share best-practice examples with a global audience, thus creating a new public community for urban peripheries worldwide.

The subject is explored and interpreted from a range of perspectives prevalent in cities today, including examples of physical periphery – on the edge of the city (ghettos, suburbs, segregated housing estates), unregulated periphery – outside of the formal masterplan (slums, barrios, informal cities), and social periphery – on the margins of society (homeless, disabled, elderly, ethnic minorities).

EVENTS

Focus Europe: From Fragmented Periphery to Metropolitan Region

Symposium and Workshop: **27 - 28 April 2018**

The periphery in Europe can be defined by socio-economic conditions, with the reasons for those conditions often to be found in the surrounding urban setting: political negligence of specific quarters, little or no access to mobility and limited access to resources and knowledge. Within the past decade many European municipalities have attempted to such peripheries on their urban fringes through new urban planning responses. This symposium invites reflection on these attempts, under the guiding question 'how to turn the challenges of integration and cultural diversity into enrichment for the city of the future?'

Focus Latin America: From Segregation to Integrated Urban Landscape

Symposium and Workshop: **27 - 28 January 2017**

In the context of a highly urbanised region, significant social and physical inequalities challenge urban planning and governance and contribute to the emergence of a peri-urban landscape, characterised by distinct and expansive low-density peripheries. This fourth symposium focused on broad-ranging, innovative urban research and practice responses to this peri-urban condition.

Focus Sub-Saharan Africa: Informality and Urban Pattern

Symposium and Workshop: **1 - 2 July 2016**

From the perspective of Sub-Saharan African cities, where any coordinated provision of basic utilities and services cannot keep pace with population growth, this third symposium focused on the consequent condition of informality and its associated urban patterns.

Focus China: The New Habitat

Symposium and Workshop: **27 - 28 November 2015**

In the context of high demands for affordable housing, for additional forms of food production, for the reduction of long commuting distances – simply for a compact city organised in clusters of high functionality and with resilient impact – this symposium focused new strategies for a hybrid new habitat.

4 Types/ 4 Cases

Symposium and Workshop: **6 June 2015**

To commence the project, participants from urban research and practice in Europe, Asia, South America and Sub-Saharan Africa shared their work and positions on the issues of informality, upgrading, top-down-planning and segregation in the on-going process of urbanisation in the respective case-study areas. Pressing issues in representative peripheries in these four urban regions were discussed in depth in order to set and sharpen research questions for this project.

BACKGROUND

The project employs four cases to exemplify each of four types of periphery – Informality (Sub-Saharan Africa), Upgrading (Latin America), Top-Down-Planning (China) and Segregation (Western Europe). Close examination of these on-the-ground case studies facilitates the identification of exemplary policy models and instruments, debate on the contribution of design and planning, awareness of the potential of formal and informal power, and illustration of the risks and dangers of segregation.

As a collaboration, the project provides an opportunity for Schindler to apply its technical knowledge to improving urban conditions in the overlooked urban periphery, by learning about and discussing their conditions, systems and potentials. This keeps Schindler at the forefront of urban developments, while also giving academic research and best urban practice exposure to applied realm of industry.

DOCUMENTATION

- Videos recording documenting the public debates

Part of the ANCB Theme

IDENTITY IN PLACE: Reconnecting Built Form with Societal Diversity

Across the earth, places have evolved to be remarkably distinct from each other, even when their geography and climate are similar. Culture is the manmade factor that expresses this difference, most tangibly in the built environment. Carried by the spatial practices of a society – be these daily activities or significant events – culture requires supporting spaces for these practices, which reciprocally reshape the form and evolve the functionality of the supporting spaces, thus expressing shared identity.

Despite the importance of culture to how all places look and are experienced, it tends not to be a critical tool in urban design and planning, and is rather used merely as a lens with which to discern past heritage, if at all. This is lost potential, especially in the present-day era of rapid urbanisation and movement: when there is often little time to grow an identity through shared meaning, as entire cities can emerge in just a few years; where urban dwellers increasingly move, live and work between multiple cities, calling the idea of a local society into question; where large portions of societies migrate to distant and culturally different places, escaping environmental, political or economic disasters that also destroy cherished urban fabrics, and where local public spaces increasingly serve as satellite arenas for international politics.

This theme looks to culture to explore how built form and spatial typologies might assist the expression of identity. Can architecture and urban planning any longer express the multi-layer identity of present-day cities? Can the methods and tools of urban practice catch up with an ever-evolving understanding of culture, to broaden and revise the spectrum of housing, workspace, public and open space typologies in line with how societies need and use space today? Or, are other concepts required to illuminate the connections between people and where and how they live? How should the reconstruction of lost built fabric and the identification of heritage be approached?

PARTICIPANTS

April 2018 Focus Europe. From Fragmented Periphery to Metropolitan Region **Floris Alkemade**, Chief Government Architect of The Netherlands / Co-curator of the IABR-2018+2020 International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam; **Jochen Becker**, Founding Member of metro-Zones – Center for Urban Affairs, Berlin; **Lucy Bullivant**, Creative Director, Urbanista.org, London; **Paola Alfaro d'Alençon**, Senior Researcher Habitat Unit, Technische Universität Berlin / Associated Senior Researcher at CEDEUS, Universidad Católica de Chile; **Hassan Elmouelhi**, Senior Researcher Habitat Unit, Technische Universität, Berlin; **Kerstin Faber**, Project Leader, IBA Thüringen, Weimar; **Luis Feduchi**, Founder, Luis Feduchi Arqto, Madrid; **Vladimir Frolov**, Art Historian and Architecture Critic, St. Petersburg; **Christian Hanussek**, Artist and Curator, metro-Zones – Center for Urban Affairs, Berlin; **Emily Kelling**, Teaching and Reserach Fellow, Department of Sociology, Technische Universität Berlin; **Hannes Langguth**, Researcher and Doctoral Candidate, Habitat Unit, Technische Universität Berlin; **Walter Rohn**, Senior Scientist, Research Group Urban Transformations, Austrian Academy of the Sciences, Vienna; **Max Schwitalla**, Founder Studio Schwitalla, Berlin; **Jörg Stollmann**, Professor of Urban Design and Urbanization at the Institute for Architecture, Technische Universität Berlin; **Hans Venhuizen**, Founder, Bureau Venhuizen, Rotterdam; **Kai Vöckler**, Professor of Creativity in the Urban Context, Hochschule für Gestaltung, Offenbach / Head of Archis Interventions Berlin office; **Verena von Beckerath**, Founder, HEIDE & VON BECKERATH, Berlin / Professor of Housing Design, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar; **Marion Waller**, Lead Advisor to Deputy Mayor for Urban Planning, Architecture, Attractiveness and Greater Paris Projects, Paris

February 2017 Focus Latin America. From Segregation to Integrated Urban Landscape **Miquel Adria**, Dean of Architecture at CENTRO University / Director, Arquine: International Magazine of Architecture and Design, Mexico; **Paola Alfaro d'Alençon**, Senior Researcher Habitat Unit, Technische Universität Berlin / Associated Senior Researcher at CEDEUS, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile; **Renato D'Alençon**, Head of the Master Programme of Sustainable Architecture and Energy, and Researcher at the Centre for Sustainable Urban Development, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile; **Comfort Badaru**, Co-founder and Owner, ANZA Magazine, Dar es Salaam; **Lucy Bullivant**, Author, Curator and Place Vision Strategist, London; **Elias Cattán**, Architect and Director, Taller 13, Mexico City; **Hassan El Mouelhi**, Senior Researcher Habitat Unit, Technische Universität, Berlin; **Elisabete França**, Director of Planning for the Housing Company and Urban Development of São Paulo State; **Julio Gaeta**, Principal, Gaeta Springall Architects / Coordinator of Project Studios, Architecture Department Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City; **Alejandro Hernandez Galvez**, Director, Arquine: International Magazine of Architecture and Design, Mexico; **Bettina Gransow**, Associate Professor at the Institute of Sinology/Chinese Studies, Freie Universität Berlin; **Hubert Klumpner**, Professor for Architecture and Urban Design, ETH Zürich / Founding Partner of Urban-Think Tank; **Hannes Langguth**, Researcher and Doctoral Candidate at Habitat Unit, Technische Universität Berlin; **Gary Leggett**, Professor at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru (PUCP) in Lima / Competition Director, Museum of Arts, MALL, Lima; **Enrique Norten**, Architect, Mexico City / New York; **Loreta Castro Reguera**, Architect and Design Director, Taller Capital, Mexico City; **Jota Samper**, Assistant Professor at the ENVD Program, University of Colorado, Boulder; **Verena von Beckerath**, HEIDE & VON BECKERATH, Berlin / Professor for Housing Design, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar; **Michael Waldrep**, Filmmaker, Photographer and Researcher, Berlin; **Christian Werthmann**, Professor of Landscape Architecture and Design, Institute of Landscape Architecture, Leibniz University Hannover

July 2016 Focus Africa. Informality and Urban Pattern **Paola Alfaro d'Alençon**, Technische Universität Berlin; **Hassan El Mouelhi**, Architect, Technische Universität Berlin; **Silvan Hagenbrock**, Urbanism Graduate, Bauhaus University, Weimar; **Manuel Herz**, Founder, Manuel Herz Architects, Basel/Switzerland; **Fabienne Hoelzel**, Founder, Fabulous Urban, Zurich/Switzerland; **Olalekan Jeyifous**, Artist/Designer, New York/USA; **Daniel Kötter**, Director and Video Artist, Berlin; **Rachel Lee**, Senior Researcher Habitat Unit, Technische Universität, Berlin; **Astrid Ley**, University of Stuttgart/Germany; **John Paul Muwanguzi Senyonyi**, Co-founder and Director, ANZA Magazine, Dar es Salaam/Tanzania; **Chelina Odbert**, Co-founder and Executive Director, Kounkey Design Initiative, Nairobi/Kenya; **Max Schwitalla**, Studio Schwitalla, Berlin; **Gesa Schönberg**, Research Analyst, German Advisory Council on Global Change, Berlin; **Bouwer Serfontein**, Director, Holm Jordaan Group and Gary White & Associates, Stuttgart/Germany and South Africa; **Remy Sietchiping**, UN Habitat, Nairobi/Kenya; **Hendrik Tieben**, Chinese University of Hong Kong; **Jan van den Broeck**, Anthropologist, University Leuven/Belgium; **Verena von Beckerath**, Co-founder, HEIDE & VON BECKERATH Architects, Berlin/Germany; **Aisha Walcott-Bryant**, Manager of Cognitive Algorithms and Analytics Team and Technical Lead for the Mobility Team at IBM Research Africa, Nairobi/Kenya

November 2015 Focus China. The New Habitat **Paola Alfaro d'Alençon**, Technische Universität Berlin; **Hassan El Mouelhi**, Architect, Technische Universität Berlin; **Che Fei**, Architect, CU Office, Beijing; **Paul Friedli**, Director, Transit Management Group, Schindler Elevator Ltd., Ebikon; **Bettina Hamann**, Urban Management, Technische Universität Berlin; **Heng Chye Kiang**, Dean, School of Design and Environment, National University of Singapore; **Tat Lam**, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Chinese University of Hong Kong; **Hannes Langguth**, Habitat Unit, Technische Universität Berlin; **Shi Ming**, Journalist, Berlin; **Philipp Misselwitz**, Habitat Unit, Technische Universität Berlin; **Barbara Münch**, Architect, Technische Universität Berlin; **John Omwamba**, UN-Habitat, Nairobi; **Marcos L. Rosa**, Architect, São Paolo/Berlin; **Stefanie Ruff**, Landscape Architect and Urbanist, Levin Monsigny Landschaftsarchitekten, Berlin; **Verena von Beckerath**, HEIDE & VON BECKERATH Architects, Berlin/Germany; **Hendrik Tieben**, Chinese University of Hong Kong; **Zhang Yue**, Professor/Vice Dean, Tsinghua University, Beijing

June 2015 Four Types/Four Cases **Mike Adebamowo**, University of Lagos; **Paola Alfaro d'Alençon**, Technische Universität Berlin; **Renato d'Alençon**, Technische Universität Berlin; **Hassan El Mouelhi**, Technische Universität Berlin, Campus El Gouna; **Che Fei**, Peking University / CU Office, Beijing; **Ángel Luis Fernández**, ALF arquitectos, Madrid; **Josefine Fokdal**, Technische Universität Berlin; **Paul Friedli**, Schindler Transit Management Group, Ebikon; **Felipe González**, Bogotá; **Djamel Klouche**, National School of Architecture of Versailles; **Hubert Klumpner**, ETH Zurich; **Astrid Ley**, University of Stuttgart; **Philipp Misselwitz**, Technische Universität Berlin; **Juan Manuel Patiño**, Subdirector of Planning, Medellín; **Jorge Perez Jaramillo**, Planning Director, Medellín; **Marcos L. Rosa**, Architect, São Paolo/Berlin; **Edward Schwarz**, Holcim Foundation, Zurich; **Max Schwitalla**, Studio Schwitalla, Berlin; **AbdouMaliqSimone**, Max Planck Institute for Social and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen; **Verena von Beckerath**, Co-founder, HEIDE & VON BECKERATH Architects, Berlin/Germany; **Hendrik Tieben**, Chinese University of Hong Kong

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