

# ENABLING THE EDGE

## The Urban Periphery

A multi-layered programme focused on bringing the periphery to the centre of the discussion, combining the input of the design professions, government and industry representatives and the public to learn from and develop the positives of the periphery

Proposal for collaborative enquiries

## **INTRODUCTION AND AIMS**

As the name suggests, the periphery is often overlooked in spatial design and planning. 'Periphery' signals the marginal, on the edge. It is outside of the centre, where we can find the primary focus of the majority of architectural and planning efforts. Periphery implies not just a physical location but also a social standing; those on the fringes of society are also part of the periphery.

This ANCB programme focuses attention and awareness on selected examples of contemporary urban peripheries encountered in global cities and urban regions across the world, most of which are typically perceived to present only great challenges or problems. The subject will be 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)**.

Explored through a variety of formats, including interdisciplinary discussions, presentations, workshops, design studios and more, the programme aims to generate fresh ideas for new urban positions and processes and offers the potential to rethink attitudes towards and interventions in the periphery, for societies, governments, industry and the urban/spatial design professions.

## **TIME FRAME AND EVENTS SO FAR**

### **Mobilising the Periphery 2014-17**

Collaboration with Schindler exploring various types of periphery in different locations around the world, drawing on lessons from each to carry forward into the next stage in which workshop groups will develop design proposals for selected peripheral areas.

### **Seoul: Towards a Meta-City August 2014**

Public debate on the occasion of the Aedes exhibition focusing on recent urban projects in Seoul and reflecting on the reuse and revitalisation of existing peripheral areas.

### **Shigeru Ban October 2014**

Opening lecture in the Schindler series delivered by Pritzker Prize winner Shigeru Ban, who will discuss his projects located in peripheral areas, particularly in disaster zones, and the material and social strategies central to this work.

# FRAMING THE ANCB PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

As an interdisciplinary cultural platform, ANCB does not focus solely on any single knowledge field. Instead it aims with each programme to bring together a range of different viewpoints and areas of expertise in order to stimulate a multi-faceted dialogue with an international outlook. Questions from each programme are framed within ANCB's ongoing 'urban challenges' to activate a broad-ranging exploration and understanding of the subject. Below are a range of starter questions on the theme of periphery.

## MOBILITY

How does access to mobility affect opportunities in the city? What kind of mobility and infrastructure options might be developed to connect the centre and the periphery both physically and socially? Can these options contribute to increased equality? How far can a holistic mobility concept for the city be developed with the technology and knowledge of today? To what extent are responses transferable between differing contexts?

## SECURITY

How can design and planning contribute to achieving a balance between security, privacy and access to public space for all citizens? Can spatial design bring a sense of security to the periphery without endangering freedom?

## RESILIENCE

How far can resilience be increased with a robust social infrastructure where community members support each other? How might spatial design help strengthen this social infrastructure in the periphery? How can the economy of the periphery contribute to resilience? How can urban planning contribute to strengthening the resilience of the most vulnerable in society?

## HOUSING

How can the creation of ghettos and disconnected housing estates be avoided and how can those already existing be integrated into the rest of the city and society? Which typologies are transferable between differing contexts? Can run down residential areas be upgraded without sparking a process of gentrification that will further isolate existing residents? Can building typologies reduce the barriers and enhance interaction between different social groups?

## MIGRATION

What strategies are needed to manage urban migration and overpopulation that often result in many people left on the periphery, in one way or another? What possible positive impact might migration have on the periphery, economically and socially?

## PARTICIPATION

How can the participation and involvement of those on the periphery be encouraged in city life and decision making about the city? How can a balance be achieved between economic and political demands and the views and suggestions of local actors?

## **ANCB FORMATS**

### **Public Debates**

Key figures from a range of disciplines take on questions within the framework of the programme, whether as single events or as a series of debates. Short and provocative presentations jumpstart the discussion between peers, involving a public audience.

### **Design Studios**

University tutors and their students explore an urban challenge defined by the programme enquiry through case study sites. The studios are enriched with lectures and urban tours tailored to the specific topic.

### **Symposium and Workshop**

Thematic focal points of the programme are brought together and reflected upon in a symposium. Defined questions are then drawn out as a basis for workshop proposals by advanced students and young professionals.

### **Publication and Archive**

Results from all of the events are collated and summarised in the programme publication and as part of an ongoing, living archive on the ANCB website.

## **ABOUT ANCB**

ANCB The Aedes Metropolitan Laboratory is a unique cultural and educational platform focusing on the future of our cities. Building upon three decades of expertise in the communication of architecture culture - through exhibiting and publishing the work of internationally acclaimed and pioneering architects and urban planners - Aedes Architecture Forum established, in 2009, an additional urban research and workshop programme - ANCB.

It is from these foundations that ANCB positions itself as the hub at the centre of an extensive international and interdisciplinary research network, based on a structure of cultural exchange and knowledge transfer. ANCB is uniquely placed to bring together key figures from different fields to debate the most pertinent urban questions of international concern and to search for new potential to improve global urban living conditions. Through interdisciplinary idea exchanges and workshops with international university partners, ANCB brings together social, cultural and technical research with governance processes, industry products and the proposals of the urban design and planning professions, generating the cross-sector collaborations necessary to offer innovative insights, positions and visions.