



THE 13TH ASF-INTERNATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD IN SEMARANG, INDONESIA

Architecture Sans Frontières International welcomes you to Semarang city of Indonesia to gather knowledge and experience among members, to strengthen the network during the 13th General Assembly. The meeting is going to be held at the old quarter during 25-28 July 2019, that will begin with a bamboo workshop. The coastal part of Central Java has seen the exchange of ideas, events, and goods in span of various periods: from the arrival of Islam, of Chinese maritime trade, to Dutch colonialisation. Interesting experiments of early modern Indo-Dutch architects and planners can still be seen and experienced today. Online registration is open until end of month. (contact: Guruprasad Rane/secretary-general@asfint.org)



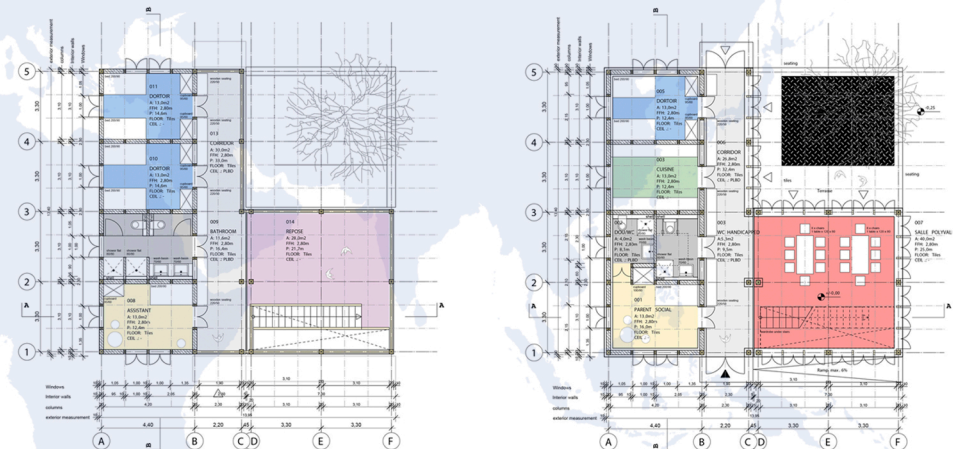
CHILDREN'S HOMES FOR AN ORPHANAGE IN CAP HAITIEN/HAITI – ARCHITEKTEN ÜBER GRENZEN

Since 2007 the German NGO *Action Five* supports homes for particularly vulnerable children and orphans in Cap Haitien. After the 2010 earthquake, the number of orphans increased abruptly, and reached 101 children by September 2010. Being in a bad condition, the existing housing could not be rehabilitated. In 2012 *Architekten über Grenzen* was asked to submit a design for new children's homes, in locally adapted method as a basis for funding appeal.



After being approved in 2015, the team was able to start preparing for the realization of three buildings. A budget of EUR 368.700 (USD 410.000) was allocated for the three buildings as well as their site development, infrastructure, furnitures, and administrative costs. It was then topped up with USD 33.000 for planning, tenders, and supervision that was partly done by *Architekten über Grenzen*. The design foresees three identical two-storey houses. Some of the design features are wooden structure with earthen mortar infill and white limewash. To dampen sound, the flooring has fibrous insulation boxes underneath. Each house has 279 sqm floor area to host 12 children and several of foster parents.

After many setbacks (supply shortages, theft, etc.) the wooden-buildings are taking shape now. The project got much support from other associations, such as *ASF-France*, *Entrepreneur du Monde*, *Technik ohne Grenzen*, *Aqua Nostra* as well as builders and carpenters from Germany and Switzerland. Recently, electricity was installed. Thanks to the installed photovoltaic system on the roof and the children are very happy to have light at night. Soon the tiles will be laid and the houses will be painted. If all goes well, all three houses will be completed this year. Any support is welcome! (contacts: Frank Bertram/bertram@architekten-ueber-grenzen.de, Thomas Schinkel/schinkel@architekten-ueber-grenzen.de)





GETTING OFF TO A GOOD START IN KENYA WITH PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOPS – ASF-SWEDEN

In summer 2018, Sabine from ASF-Sweden spent four weeks in Kitale, northwest Kenya for a preliminary study. She met the local organisation The Humane School, understood their pedagogical principles, their vision, methodologies and sustainability strategies. Through participatory workshops, a first step was taken in designing the new school along with the board members, teachers, children and their parents.

From kindergarten to grade 8th, there are 100 pupils at the school which operates in precarious, decrepit and tiny rented mud huts. The starting point of the project is to buy land where the school can operate safely and provide an environment that suits its *anthroposophic pedagogy*; integrating creative methods and practical life skills such as organic farming along with the Kenyan basic education programme.

Participatory workshops began with semi-structured interviews of the two chairwomen from the board, they listed the differences between the Waldorf school pedagogy used by the Humane School and the Kenya government school system. A workshop with the teachers helped identifying design principles and qualities of spaces before carrying out a layout design exercise discussing the spatial and physical relationships between the different buildings and activities.

As a way to involve a larger community, a workshop with the parents was held to evaluate and compare possible building materials and assess the local construction knowledge. The children expressed themselves through a series of comparative drawings between a "bad" school and their dream school. Even project management methods such as risk analysis, risk management and stakeholder analysis has been carried out in a participatory way with the direct users of the school.

As of now, commitment is built and information is on hand. The new buildings will be designed and built incrementally, out of local materials with local techniques and workforce. This process aims to create jobs and training for the community members, but also to generate a common pride and a sense of ownership which are crucial to the project's success and long-term sustainability. (contact: Sabine Lepère/sabine.lepere@arkitekterutangranser.se)



A SQUARE FOR EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD IN LISBON – ASF-PORTUGAL

In February 6th, ASF-Portugal hosted students from UCL Bartlett, BSc in Urban Planning, Design and Management for a guided visit across Lisbon's public squares. Among topics exposed on the visit was the Municipality's new programme of "A square for every neighbourhood" – a program that is aiming for the improvement of environmental and overall quality of life by designing better public spaces. The program is part of the wider concept of Lisbon as 'a city of neighbourhoods' or that is known in Portuguese as "*Lisboa Cidade de Bairros*."

The students' main project for this module concerns the exploration of the built environment's visual experience and how to observe and critically analyse space by using different methods, and identify their problems and opportunities. All analysis are informed by the students' direct personal experience on site, which the Lisbon visit tried to complement and offer a different practice of the public spaces in London. Thus, the students were divided into groups led by a member of the ASF-Portugal and a Bartlett tutor.

The public squares walks involved different pathways across the city, which included several squares of the new Lisbon programme - "a square for every neighbourhood" (some already completed and others now in-progress or planning), and squares that were relevant for its historical, social or design value. The event was closed with a comprehensive presentation of the public space programme by the Municipality at the *Lisbon Urban Information Centre* (CIUL) followed by a discussion and remarks acknowledging the challenges that the city is facing in terms of public space supply, environmental concerns and the rising development that escalate the demand for more and better designed public spaces. (contact: Paula Morais/p.morais@ucl.ac.uk)





Macondo is the name of a refugee settlement which exists since 1956 in Vienna Simmering, Austria. On the site of former imperial barracks about 2.500 people live in the old caserns, ground-level buildings from the 1970s and some housing of the 1990s. Tucked between the buildings is Macondo's extensive public space that is largely neglected, except for a few individual projects run by dedicated communities.

A cooperation between ASF-Austria and the refugee-service *Diakonie Flüchtlingsdienst* started in 2016 to develop concept, design, and planning to enhance the public areas in the settlement and to create places of encounter. *Diakonie* operates as a community-based office for integration and helps us to get familiar with current issues. Through participation in some community events, it was found that the priority need was a central place with options to sit down, linger and exchange. The idea of the *Macondoplatz* (or "Macondo-Square") was born.

A garden in the settlement was rented by *Diakonie*, then immediately get cleaned and ready for the project. Several design workshops were held where the residents were able to formulate their ideas for the new place. In autumn 2016 and summer 2017 the first two furniture workshops took place with the participation of the residents, including children. A long bench, to surround the square and several bench table combinations were built.

In 2018, additional fund for our project were received and in summer, a new furniture, a multifunctional platform, was created and put in place with help of the residents. All in all, the three workshops cost EUR 5.770 where 38% of it was generated from on-site donations. One phase closes and was celebrated with a barbecue party.

The furnishing of the "Macondo-Square" is now completed and was inaugurated at last year's Autumn-Festival. The place is well accepted by the residents as proven with its frequent use. Just now, *Diakonie* decides to support another new playground for the kids and make this cooperation extends a bit more. (contact: [Evamaria Schmidthaler/evamaria.schmidthaler@gmx.at](mailto:Evamaria.Schmidthaler@evamaria.schmidthaler@gmx.at))

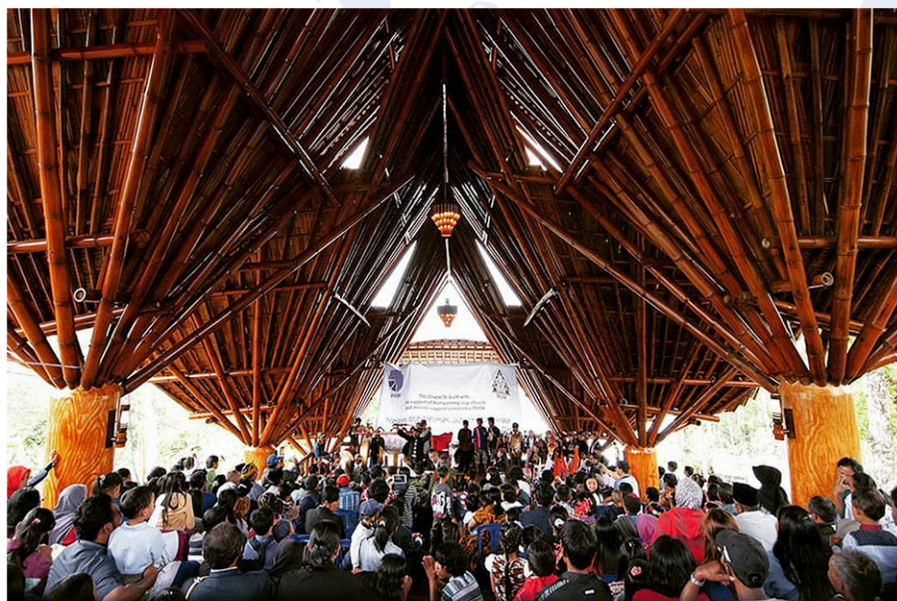




CHICKEN COMB AMPHITHEATER IN EAST JAVA, ASF-INDONESIA

The East Java Christian Church invited ASF-Indonesia to design a new facility with local characteristics using sustainable materials. The village of *Jengger* (or Chicken Comb in bahasa) is located around seven hundred meters above sea level. It is home to many coffee farmers. The village is surrounded by giant bamboo plants (*Dendrocalamus asper sp.*) which are under utilised. There was no doubt the native bamboo will serve best for the project brief : a performance stage which requires generous space and wide roof span. From the end of 2016 several workshops were organised in the village with participation of volunteers and students covering topics of bamboo preservation and modern joinery using steel bolts and mortar injection.

It took more than a year to raise fund for the project, including from *Presbyterian Church of The Republic of Korea*. After around twenty thousand dollars were collected in mid-2018, the construction took place. The main hall was completed in six months. Up to now, toilet and seating are on progress. Villagers both from Christian as well as Muslim communities are building the “bamboo amphitheater” hand-in-hand. To appreciate their efforts, the Church donated the new facility to public on its inauguration day on 22 January 2019. It came as a surprise. Now the bamboo amphitheater is available to host religious, cultural, and social events. The planning and implementation of the project manifest the culture of cooperation and religious tolerance adhere to East-Javans. (contact: Andrea Fitrianto/andrea@asf.or.id)



DICK URBAN VESTBRO 24.04.1940 - 16.06.2019

Dick Urban Vestbro, Swedish architect. Certified Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, 1965. Chairman Architects Designers Planners Social Responsibility, International, 1998—2008, Cohousing Now, Sweden, 2006—2009; secretary Architecture Sans Frontières - International, 2007—2014; city councillor, Stockholm, 1991—2002.

It's with great sorrow that ASF Int see one of its mentors leave...

