Newsletter

ASF INT GA 2020 WARSAW, POLAND

During the last period ASF International has promoted the foundation of new ASF mostly concerned with the American and African continents were the network is less represented. We have recently had the pleasure of welcoming ASF Peru, ASF El Salvador, ASF Helvetia – Switzerland and Architecktii bez hranic, z.s. - Czech Republic, while efforts are being made to continue expanding the network.

In the same period ASF Int has established MOU’s with universities and other institutions or organization that have specific teaching or training programs in the areas of ASF Int principles so that it’s possible to increase knowledge for members on how to intervene in the most qualified way and establish research in this fields, so that ASF Int can also make available specific knowledge based in its members activities and shared experiences.

The first step in this direction was by Jordi Balari (ASF Int), who established a Leonardo Project between ASF Spain (group leader), ASF Italy, ASF France and ASF UK, to which ASF Sweden and other members would also join. We hope that all members have the opportunity to join “Challenging Practice” so that knowledge and experience can be truly shared.

For that and for other reasons the topic proposed by ASF SARP for this year General Assembly ARCHITECTURE FOR THE FUTURE GENERATION – architecture – education – ecology, is most welcome. ASF Int welcomes all members to Warsaw were the 2020GA will take place from the 23rd from the 26th April, to reflect upon this aspects and others that have been the network priorities.

Thank you ASF SARP for hosting.

SECONDARY SCHOOL GIRLS’ HOSTELS IN IRINGA REGION, TANZANIA

Ukumbi/Hollmén Reuter Sandman Architects

Girls’ education has proven to be one of the most effective ways of poverty reduction and community development. Through education, girls acquire the capacity for better livelihoods, and learn how to look after themselves and their future families.

In rural Tanzania, however, going to school may be a challenge: some girls have to walk up to 30 km to reach their school. The daily journey can also get dangerous, with serious consequences: pregnancy is considered a valid reason for expelling a girl from school – which terminates her education.

To keep the girls safe and save time for their studies, parents and communities often prefer them to stay close to the school. For this purpose, safe and well-designed hostels for girls are needed, to provide them with an environment that supports their education and development.

Ukumbi NGO and Hollmén Reuter Sandman Architects have worked together with Lyra in Africa, to design and build hostels for girls in secondary schools in Iringa region, Tanzania. The first executed hostel opened in October 2018 in Nyang’oro Secondary School. Lyra in Africa is providing the funding for the construction of the hostel facilities, whereas Hollmén Reuter Sandman are providing the architectural design.

Sustainable, environmentally and culturally appropriate architecture is vitally important for the success of the Lyra’s hostel project, and it will set a standard in the future projects in the area. It will also have a strong impact on the community by allowing them to engage in the design and construction on the hostel, thus strengthening their economy, social status and vitality. The next dormitory, with a revised and improved design is being built in Ilmbilole, Iringa rural, to be opened in 2020.

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**1to1 2.0: RE-TOOLING OUR SOCIAL-ENTERPRISE FOR RESILIENCE**

1to1 has recently undergone an organisational restructuring and re-focusing process. This change comes after 8 years after working in 4 different South African metros through 40 different projects across several activities that range from research, advocacy to built interventions. This period saw much growth and establishment of 1to1 into the sector of urban development and grass-roots support and has been carefully documented in the Reflective Engagement Report.

1to1 sadly we have said goodbye to our co-founder Mohau Melani, who passed away in 2017, and have welcomed the return of Jacqueline Cuyler into the lead of operations of what we have named 1to1 2.0. Jhono Bennett has stepped aside in his operational role, but remains involved at an advisory and support capacity in the directorship. With this new team structure, a critical reflection on our successes/failures and drive to further 1to1’s goal of systematically addressing spatial inequality in how are cities are seen, made and managed; we have put together a new Board of Advisors for latest iteration of the practice.

The new structuring of 1to1 has seen us looking to further the organisation’s role as a generous contributor to the re-development sector through a focus on our Tools, Methods and Practice Approaches to what we are framing as ‘In-Situ Development’. We feel these aspects of 1to1 have been the most valuable to the communities of actors involved in this work and bridge the difficult gaps of scalability, grass-roots support and institutional change we believe are necessary to achieve a spatially just city.

As we near the end of our first year of 1to1 2.0 we find ourselves on track towards our first Strategic Meeting’s goals, and are excited to close this year with both new collaborations as well as re-established older connections that we know will see us into our 5 year aims!

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**RECONSTRUCTION RESPECTING LOCAL BUILDING CULTURE “A STORY OF DOLAKHA”**

After Gorkha Earthquake 2015, Dolakha District of Nepal was completely Collapsed. ASF Nepal Team with CRAterre started working in Reconstruction Project at Magapauwa Village of Dolakha with the core aim of implementing reconstruction work respecting Local Building Culture which focus on use of local materials, local human resource and resembling the local architecture. The project was designed to provide technical and financial support to 114 families affected by the earthquake.

The team planned to design a house plan as per the requirement of People. House was not only for sleeping, it also acts as the space for all the livelihood activities including housing cattle, cooking, living and also storing the agriculture stocks. The team designed a Demo House with 4 Rooms., 2 in ground floor and 2 in attic unlike the common 2 Room House mostly constructed due to limited amount of Government Support. To reduce the cost of house, reuse of most of the building materials from damaged house was promoted. Total 700 to 800 sq. feet of houses were constructed by spending 4000 USD to 5000 USD by following all guidelines for Earthquake resistance.

The project was planned for 3 years but due to mobilization of local labors and use of local materials. Out of 114 houses 112 houses were completed in just one and half years. The lesson learnt is if we promote local technology and materials using local human resources, it can decrease the time required for construction and promotes economy to be inside the territory.

More Information: www.asfnepal.org
CITY WITHOUT BORDERS – CIDADE SEM FRONTEIRAS

What is the impact of architecture on the quality of life in cities?
How can architecture be an important instrument for improving everyone's living conditions?
“CIDADE SEM FRONTEIRAS” promotes knowledge about the city and a reflection on what a City Without Borders would be.

It uses the set of buildings of Companhia Vinicola, where Casa da Arquitectura is and the city of Matosinhos to playfully think about the relationship of buildings, and other key pieces in urban composition, with cities and learn concepts such as scale, heritage and inclusion, among others that are part of the vocabulary of architecture and cities in general.

This way Arquitectos Sem Fronteiras Portugal joins the second anniversary of the Portuguese Center of Architecture, with an activity in which one can think about what architecture can do for a better city and leave suggestions for urban spaces where social, cultural, environmental, and other impacts of the proposals that are part of this expected city are taken into consideration.

The activity took place in the Reading Room of Casa da Arquitectura Library, the 16th and the 17th of November, among many other activities that happened simultaneously and continuously in the block of the Portuguese Architecture Center throughout the weekend. Congratulations to Casa da Arquitectura!

We hope to continue to celebrate the importance of raising awareness of current and future architects to the responsibility of managing all decisive impacts on the quality of life in cities in their proposals.

Credits to Pedro Sadio.

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MEMBERS COOPERATION

ASF Int is most focused in promoting it’s members as well as to establish a network that allows architecture to become available to those whose quality of life might improve by accessing it, for that reason is fundamental that members keep ASF Int as updated as possible about their actions and of how to establish close and fast contact with them. Please update as frequently as you can your contacts and activities so that the platform may underline the reason for its existence.

Member organizations are also welcome to provide support for the network in tasks they have as asset and share their knowledge in order to become available for all network.

ASF Int would like to underline the gratitude for the support of ASF Denmark in the ASF Int site maintenance as well as the Ignasi Sansalvador support with the newsletter and all the work concerned with image layouts.

Follow us in Instagram, FB, website, or any other media ASF Int has available (and please share your media contacts too) and leave your suggestions, most of all send us your news so that we can share it through the network and with those who follow us.

The last ASF Int board meeting before the GA will take place in Warsaw in the first week of March, so that all is prepared to receive members in April. If you have any questions or proposal let us hear it until then, so that everything is prepared for the General Assembly on time.

Happy New Year 2020

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