

A photograph of a man and a woman sitting on a wooden bench, viewed from behind. They are looking out over a city skyline at sunset. The woman is wearing a yellow top and the man is wearing a blue t-shirt. The sky is bright and hazy, with the sun low on the horizon. The city buildings are silhouetted against the light.

# 14 smart ways to create public space

Real examples from sub-Saharan Africa



## EDITORIAL NOTES:

### MANUSCRIPT:

Maria Dermitzaki and Henrik Nolmark, Living Cities

### CONTRIBUTORS:

Anna Backmann and Anna G:son Berg, SKL International, Sweden

Mats Jarnhammar, Living Cities, Sweden

Claire Du Trevou, People's Environmental Planning,  
South Africa

Ryan Fester, Development Action Group, South Africa

Aimee Gauthier, Institute for Transportation and Development  
Policy, USA

Thomas Melin, Swedish International Development Cooperation  
Agency, Sweden

Sophie Morley, Architecture Sans Frontières- UK, England

Naomi Mwaura, Institute for Transportation and Development  
Policy, Kenya

Olwethu Nkala Jack, Ubuntu Growing Minds, South Africa

Design: Infestation, +27(0)214618601 [www.infestation.co.za](http://www.infestation.co.za)

### CONTACT DETAILS:

SKL International, Stockholm, Sweden

[www.sklinternational.se](http://www.sklinternational.se)

+46 8 452 70 00

[info@sklinternational.se](mailto:info@sklinternational.se)

"14 smart ways to create public space" is published by SymbioCity  
Kenya, a cooperation between the Council of Governors (CoG),  
Kenya and the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and  
Regions (SALAR).

The publication has been produced with the financial assistance  
of Sida. The content is the sole responsibility of the publishing  
partners and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting  
the position of Sida, CoG or SALAR. You are welcome to copy,  
distribute and present the material, provided that you attribute the  
work to SymbioCity Kenya.

**DISCLAIMER:** *Many of the images in this report are taken from  
websites. It has not been possible to receive official permission to  
reproduce all of the them. Photo credit and source of each photo is  
stated adjacent to the image.*



# Contents

---

- 02** Introduction
- 03** What is public space & why it matters
- 04** Better public spaces through place-making
- 05** Inspiring examples
- 06** The cases
  - 1. Sabina Home & School, Uganda
  - 2. Playtime in Africa Initiative, Accra, Ghana
  - 3. Courtyards upgrading in Dandora, Nairobi, Kenya
  - 4. Kibebe Tsehay playground, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
  - 5. Kilimani Project Foundation, Nairobi, Kenya
  - 6. Phola Park Canal, Cape Town, South Africa
  - 7. Khayelitsa Open Space Upgrading, Cape Town, South Africa
  - 8. The streets of Korogocho, Nairobi, Kenya
  - 9. Solid waste network, Cape Town, South Africa
  - 10. Community recycling program, Accra, Ghana
  - 11. The water platforms, Cape Town, South Africa
  - 12. Sunken Car Park, Nairobi, Kenya
  - 13. Warwick Junction Market, Durban, South Africa
  - 14. Different examples of public eco-toilets
- 27** Take aways
- 28** Glossary
- 29** References, Extra reading and Library of (more) good examples

# Introduction

The SymbioCity Kenya Programme is a collaboration between the Kenyan Council of Governors and the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions. The programme has developed pilot projects in tertiary towns in seven Kenyan counties, with the aim to improve living conditions for citizens in urban environments.

The projects all have identified solutions that deal with public space and placemaking. Through this publication we hope to inspire and give new perspectives on public space and placemaking in the Sub-Saharan context.

Placemaking is as a process to understand, design and program public spaces by putting people and communities ahead of efficiency and aesthetics. The outcome in terms of the public space is important but so is the social and cultural opportunities that lie in the process of developing public space - the act of placemaking.

This publication highlights current placemaking efforts in Sub-Saharan Africa and reveals a broad range of public space projects, methods and initiators. All the cases featured share an emphasis of creating positive change for people and communities through the transformation of a physical place. The cases give many lessons on what has worked well and less well, and how to implement this type of change in Sub-Saharan Africa. The report also gives a brief introduction to public space and why it matters, and how to develop better public spaces through processes with a significant involvement by local communities.





## What is public space & why it matters?

Building inclusive, healthy, functional, and productive cities is perhaps one of the greatest challenges today. There are no easy solutions. And yet a key part of the puzzle lies right in the heart of the world's urban areas: the public spaces. Every community has some sort of public space, even if it is not immediately apparent<sup>2</sup>.

Sometimes it is obvious - a shady park with walking paths and benches; a boulevard lined with sidewalks, a grand plaza surrounded by government buildings. But public space is also what is found *in between* private spaces and is not always recognized or honoured as public. Because they belong to everybody, they are perceived as belonging to nobody. Back alleys, neglected courtyards, and stairways may escape our notice –nonetheless these are among a city's most underutilized and potentially valuable assets. If they are claimed, and owned, and developed, they can be utilized to strengthen and enrich their communities.

When municipalities are struggling economically, investment in public spaces may be seen as a non-essential response. But even a small investment in quality public space delivers various returns to the cities. By strengthening the social fabric, providing economic opportunity, and boosting the well-being of citizens, public space can make limited resources go further and enrich the community both socially and financially.

*“What defines a character of a city is its public space, not its private space. What defines the value of the private assets of the space are not the assets by themselves but the common assets. The value of the public good affects the value of the private good. We need to show every day that public spaces are an asset to a city.”*

**Joan Clos i Matheu**  
Former UN-HABITAT Executive Director<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Project for Public Spaces, 2012

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

# Better public spaces through placemaking

Placemaking is viewed here as an empowering process in which people represent, improve, and maintain their spatial (natural or built) environments. While the place is important, the “making” builds connections, creates civic engagement, and empowers citizens- in short, it builds social capital<sup>4</sup>.

The placemaking process, when it is conducted with transparency and good faith from the bottom up, results in a place where the community feels ownership and engagement, and where design serves function.

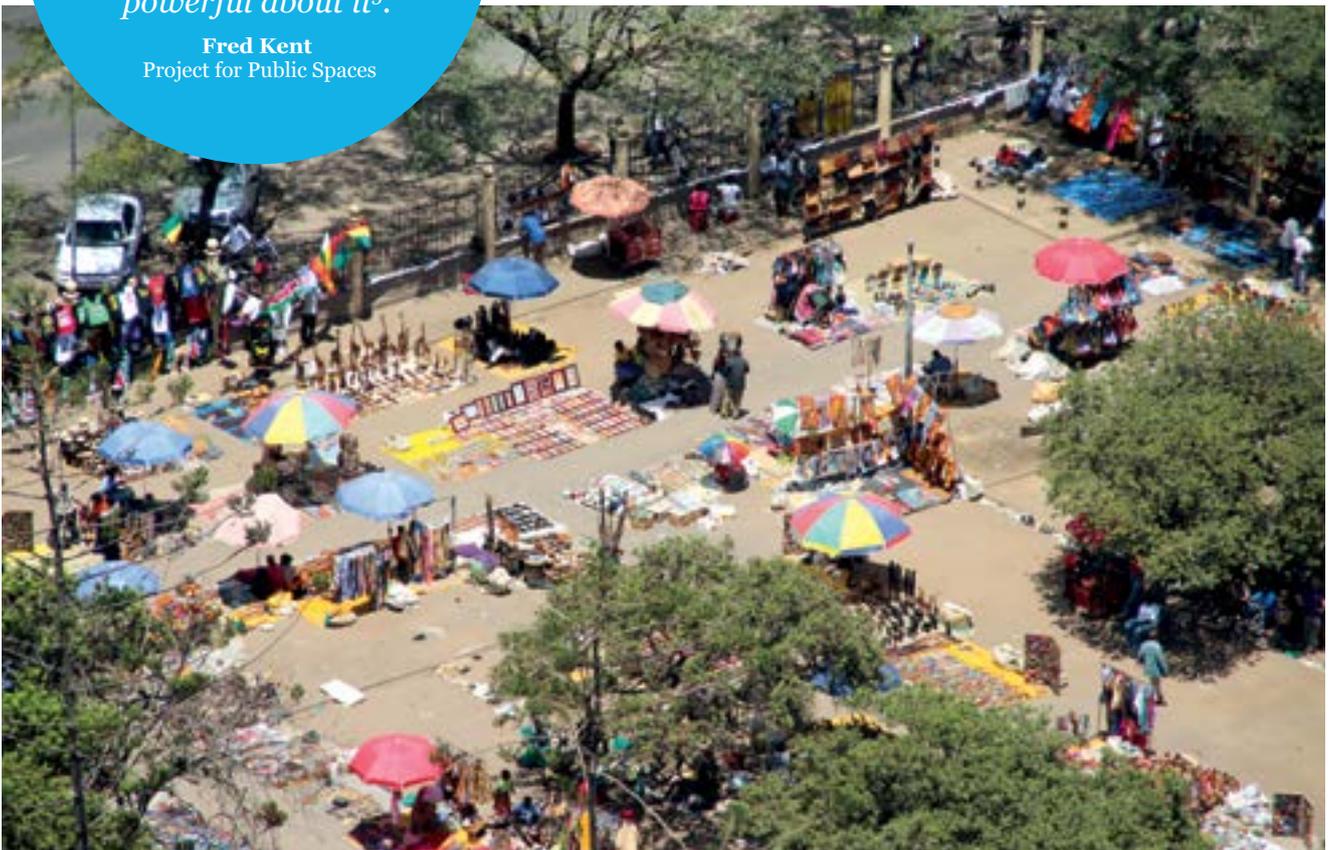
Placemaking is a bottom-up approach that empowers and engages people in ways that traditional planning processes do not. It draws on the assets and skills of a community, rather than on relying solely on professional “experts”.

The placemaking approach is defined by the recognition that when it comes to public spaces, the community is the expert. It follows that strong local partnerships are essential to the process of creating dynamic, healthy public spaces that truly serve their people<sup>5</sup>.



*Placemaking is an act of doing something. It's not planning, it's doing. That's what's so powerful about it<sup>3</sup>.*

**Fred Kent**  
Project for Public Spaces





## Inspiring examples

---

The public space projects featured here are examples of implemented projects from cities and towns in sub-Saharan Africa. They range across the spectrum of *physical size*, from a small neighbourhood garden to a community-wide revitalization; the spectrum of *initiators*, from grassroots movements to public agency; and the spectrum of *permanence*, from a daylong event to a 10-year development.

This report does not intend to imply that these are the most successful public spaces in the region, or the 'best' placemaking efforts. Rather, it is an attempt to represent a variety of physical spaces and social contexts to reflect that placemaking can and is happening everywhere, and that community is broadly defined. Each project showcases a unique relationship between communities and their built environment.

There are lessons in each case about process, community engagement, partnerships, and a number of other areas. Some of the most important ones are formulated as a series of key takeaways at the beginning of each case. These takeaways have informed the conclusions in the end of this booklet.

---

3 Project for Public Spaces, 2012  
4 Strydom W. J., Puren K, 2016  
5 Project for Public Spaces, 2012

# The Cases

A young girl with her hair in a bun, wearing a pink jacket, is holding a bunch of red chard. She is looking down at the vegetable with a focused expression. The background is a blurred garden setting with a wooden fence.

“

*Before the project began, Sabina was importing almost all its food and firewood, buying diesel to run a generator, and burning most of its organic waste.*

# 1 /

## Sabina Home & School, Rakai, Uganda

### Food and water security

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 *The space created - a **permaculture** garden - has become an asset for the community in several ways; contributing to the self-sufficiency of the school, to be used in the educational programs, and as a beautiful place to feel proud of.*
- 2 *The project combined volunteer power to build and maintain the space, technical knowledge from the experts, and additional support from local groups.*

Children of Uganda and Permaculture Across Borders are introducing permaculture to Sabina Home and Boarding School in Uganda. Sabina accommodates over 600 children from the surrounding community where the population has been hard hit by the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Before the project began, Sabina was importing almost all its food and firewood, buying diesel to run a generator, and burning most of its organic waste. It lacked trees for shade and lost much soil to rain-runoff every wet season, and daily, children swept the bare dusty earth.

The project entails a comprehensive permaculture design for the site of about 110 acres. The design includes water, energy, fuel, plant and animal systems. These systems should be fully integrated into the daily life and education of the children and staff.

A lot of work has been done with help from the children, international volunteers and the local community – a large vegetable garden with composting and food forest areas, has been established to provide the children with fresh organic vegetables twice a week.

More than a hundred fruit trees bringing shade and erosion control have been planted. To control and conserve water 265 meters of **swales** with diversion ponds and drains have been hand-dug.

**Read more/Source of information:**  
<http://childrenofuganda-permaculture.blogspot.se/2008/10/designs.html>

<http://childrenofuganda-permaculture.blogspot.se/>



**Left:** One of the goals is for the school to develop a solid understanding of the economic value of the food production to the school in terms of cost savings on purchased food.

**Middle:** Last year, 900 kg of maize was produced, 400 kg of which was given to the children fresh, with the remainder made into flour.

**Right:** There are now approximately 500 chickens, providing each child with one egg per week with the rest sold in Ssanje, the local village.

**Source of photos:** <https://childrenofuganda-permaculture.blogspot.se/>

# 2 /

## Playtime in Africa Initiative, Accra, Ghana

### Designing spaces with children in mind



*We envision a sustainably designed child-focused park and centre in Ghana, which inspires creativity, fosters play and educates through hands-on discovery.*

**Amowi Phillips**  
International representative  
of Mmofra Foundation

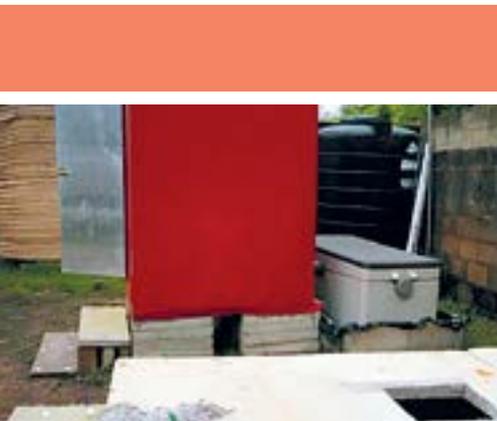
#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 *An underutilized space in Accra was transformed into a public place including a play area, public art, vegetable plots and more to come as the project continues.*
- 2 *The process of collectively implementing a shared vision and working with one's own hands, to create the place, helped unite people of many different backgrounds and contributed to the unique identity of the neighbourhood and sense of local community among the residents of Dzorwulu.*

The Mmofra Foundation is a Ghana-based non-profit organization that works to enrich the cultural and intellectual lives of children. In one project, they have worked to transform a two-acre plot of underutilized green space in Accra's Dzorwulu neighbourhood into a place centred on children's enjoyment and play. The project was inspired by a 1960 book and photo essay called *Playtime in Africa*, by Efua T. Sutherland and Willis Bell, which contains compelling photographs of the many imaginative children's games across Ghana. The Mmofra Foundation wanted to design a place that nurtured the kind of joy represented in *Playtime in Africa*, while also addressing Accra's rapid urbanization, its large population of young people, and the lack of safe public spaces for children.

To do this, they partnered with an international network of architects, planners, engineers, educators, artists, as well as local experts, community leaders, and teenagers. They hosted public meetings to develop a vision, site plan, and range of strategies for revamping the space. Throughout the process, Mmofra maintained a commitment to sustainable design practices, such as sourcing local materials and building a **compostable toilet**. The ultimate plan is for Mmofra Place to include a community garden, performance space, library, and multiple green spaces. The community has helped create a **modular** play area, public art, vegetable plots and programming.

**Read more/Source of information:**  
<http://mmofraghana.org/our-work/playtime-in-africa-initiative/>



**Above:** Text at the illustration: An important component to park development and use is the creation of amenities like washroom facilities. Biofilcom Engineering, a Ghanaian firm, has developed an innovative low-flow composting toilet. Their Biofil toilet can flush with as little as 8 ounces of water and requires no connection to water or sewer lines. Liquid and solid waste is separated through the use of **permeable** concrete, and the solid waste is directed to a container where air, insects, and earthworms decompose the waste until it can be safely used as compost. The liquid waste is directed to planting beds and vegetation.

**Source of photos:** Ghana International Design Studio at NC State University, College of Design: [https://issuu.com/kofiboone/docs/playtime\\_in\\_africa\\_student\\_report\\_f](https://issuu.com/kofiboone/docs/playtime_in_africa_student_report_f)



**Source of photos:** <http://mmofraghana.org/our-work/playtime-in-africa-initiative/>



Source of photos: <http://makingcitiestogether.strikingly.com/blog/must-seed>

# 3 /

## Courtyards upgrading in Dandora, Nairobi, Kenya

### From dump site to clean & safe courtyards

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 *In Dandora, the community-based Mustard Seed Organization sets up competitions for youth groups and schools to transform their living environments into beautiful and functional public spaces, showing that competitions can motivate change, creating enthusiasm along the way.*
- 2 *The courtyards have become social catalysts, where different groups in the neighbourhood have different interests and roles; kids play, teenagers and adults can find jobs doing maintenance, as court guards, or even set up small businesses.*



*When we can change the environment, we can change people's minds.*

**Paul Mureithi**  
Mustard Seed Court

In Dandora, the community-based Mustard Seed Organization sets up competitions for youth groups and schools to transform their living environments into beautiful and functional public spaces. Dandora is infamous for its dump site and high crime rates. In the first season, courtyards were cleaned and transformed with plants, and sports facilities and multi-use spaces were constructed with local economic benefits. Instead of idling around, the youth are volunteering to clean their spaces in the neighbourhoods. They clean trenches, paint the houses, gates and schoolyards

in fresh colours. They make good and safe playgrounds for the school children. The community begins to see the common interest in keeping the courtyards clean and safe. With a small contribution for car parking in the evening the youths can be paid for cleaning up. Many courts and public spaces in Dandora can be turned into safe and clean places if there is more financial support, and it creates many sustainable jobs for hundreds of youth as well.

**Read more/Source of information:** [http://makingcitiestogether.strikingly.com/#\\_blog](http://makingcitiestogether.strikingly.com/#_blog)



Source of photos: Basurama <http://basurama.org/en/projects/self-made-playground-in-addis-ababa-the-house-of-the-lost-children/>

# 4 / Kibebé Tsehay playground, Ethiopia

## Do It Yourself (DIY) playground made in 10 days

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 *This site-specific and locally-sourced approach to placemaking made it possible for an otherwise resource-poor community to create a shared public space that responded to the immediate need of its young inhabitants in just ten days.*
- 2 *The Kibebé Tsehay playground shows that a devoted and creative community does not require expensive equipment to create a successful playground.*

In 2012, a much-needed playground was built outside the Kibebé Tsehay orphanage in Ethiopia as part of a collaboration between Spanish design group Basurama, the University of Addis Ababa, Spanish aid workers, and students from the Cervantes Institute. Over a span of ten days, the team designed and, with the help of 30 volunteers, constructed a play structure using abandoned objects found in and around the recess yard along with some donated materials like wooden pallets and canvas. Tubing from an old swing set provided a durable frame from which the rest of the structure emerged. Once the construction was complete and its various

hideouts, footways, and ladders in place, the team brought each element together with a fresh coat of yellow and blue paint. Mindful that wooden pallets would deteriorate over time, the team prepared additional pallets that could replace the originals if necessary. This single effort paved the way for numerous other projects: similar playgrounds were built in Maputo, Mozambique in 2013, and in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in 2014.

**Read more/Source of information:** <http://basurama.org/en/projects/self-made-playground-in-addis-ababa-the-house-of-the-lost-children/>

# 5 / Kilimani Project Foundation, Nairobi, Kenya

## Making Kilimani a community of action and choice

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 *Event-based placemaking can create a sense of cohesion and belonging within the community. Temporary placemaking events can also enable the communities to realize that the city belongs to its citizens, and that it is only through citizen effort and action that they can bring change to their society.*



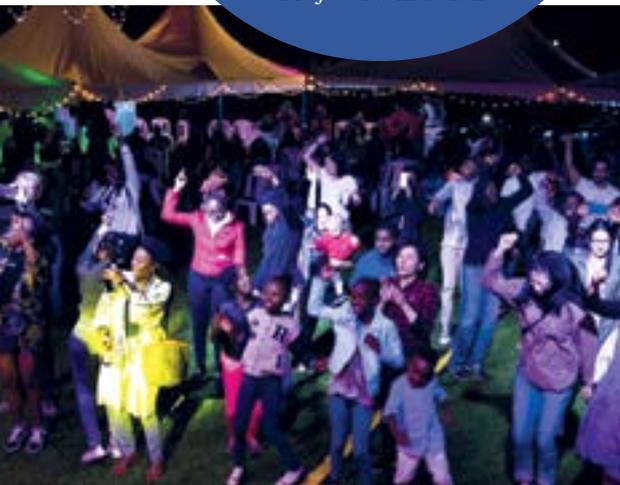
*We are slowly thinking of leaving Kilimani for other suburbs. Yet, we forget Kilimani is a little Kenya. What we don't like about Kilimani is showing up in all parts of Nairobi. The line stops here. If we can't transform this ward, what makes us confident that we will not have to keep running forever?*

**Irving Houghton**  
Chairperson of the Kilimani Project Foundation

The Kilimani Project Foundation started as a garden conversation of residents, educationalists, business people and artists and urban planners in 2012. Critical for its formation was a sense that the physical environment was changing rapidly, and that this was happening without the vision and voice of the community. Public investment in utilities, facilities and services lagged behind the rapid sprouting of privately developed apartment skyscrapers. Key communities were being physically displaced from the public spaces they had operated from – the street garages, food courts, markets, taxi ranks – at a time when ironically, business opportunities boomed.

Over the last few years, the foundation has supported local NGOs, businesses, associations, artists, doctors, the police service to hold an appreciative photo exhibition, community festival and play, renovate the Kilimani Primary School canteen, library and pool, organize cleanups along Argwings Kodhek road and Milimani Primary School, organize a free public medical camp and an open day at the Kilimani Police Station among other activities.

**Read more/Source of information:**  
[www.kilimani.co.ke/](http://www.kilimani.co.ke/)



**Source of photos:** <http://www.globalfundcommunityfoundations.org/latest-news/2017/12/1/creating-vibrant-urban-communities-in-large-cities-experienc.html>

# 6 /

## Phola park canal, Cape Town, South Africa

A successful public-non-governmental organization (NGO) partnership

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 *A filthy open-drainage channel was turned into a park where children can now safely play.*
- 2 *The local community built a powerful connection around the shared experience of making a vision for the future together. As a result, they see this project as the first step of a long-term upgrading plan.*
- 3 *Strong bottom-up organizing by PEP (People's Environmental Planning), a local NGO, combined with visionary public policy achieve significant "wins".*



Source of photos: People's Environmental Planning (PEP) <http://pep.org.za/programmes/phola-park-canal/>

The Phola Park Informal Settlement is located on predominantly sandy soil with a high-water table. As the infrastructure is inadequate to drain heavy winter rains away, it is prone to flooding. There is very little vegetation inside the settlement. The partnership between People's Environmental Planning (PEP) and the Phola Park community was formed during the National Upgrading Support Program (NUSP); NUSP is a new government initiative aimed at in-situ informal settlement upgrading. When the city approached PEP looking for "quick win" solutions it was recommended, in consultation with the community, that the open drainage channel in Phola Park be upgraded. The channel was filthy, a severe health risk and

exacerbated flooding in the area. In early 2016 the city upgraded the channel creating a paved walkway surrounded by trees and plants that is now being used as a public space by the community, especially children who now have a place where they can safely play. The Phola Park community and PEP see the canal as the first step in incrementally upgrading the settlement. To this end PEP has started an intensive engagement process with the community in order to develop a long term upgrading plan, interspersed with incremental goals.

**Read more/Source of information:** <http://pep.org.za/programmes/phola-park-canal/>



Above: Open space before the start of the upgrading project Source of photos: South African SDI Alliance 2012, <http://sasdialliance.org.za/projects/khayelitsha-open-space-upgrading-cape-town/>

# 7 / Khayelitsha Open Space Upgrading, Cape Town, South Africa

A space in which residents start building themselves as leaders and as one community

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 The upgrading project led to the implementation of a drainage system, two community halls, a playing area for children, 120 new toilets and eight new water taps. A united, passionate community group was capable of shepherding their vision into these concrete outcomes.
- 2 An essential lesson from the project includes the necessity of partnerships with municipalities. In the Open Space project, the City of Cape Town played a critical role as it provided both technical and financial resources.
- 3 Skilful facilitation by community leaders from all four settlements surrounding the area was critical to navigate differences and dynamics within the communities and avoid rifts between different groups.

*“Our relationship with the city, overall I could say is on and off, in some meetings things go well and in some meetings things do not really go well. One of the major challenges that we had in this regard is that the City of Cape Town’s departments (City Parks, Water and Sanitation and Solid Waste Management) wanted to do things using their own ways. They would come to us with ideas that might stop the project – ideas like you cannot do this here – but this is our community we know better about this place because we live here.” - Thamara Hela, ISN Subregional Facilitator for Khayelitsha*

The main challenges for communities adjacent to the open space relate to crime, winter flooding, inadequate services and health hazards. A number of factors explain the existence of crime in these settlements. These include unemployment, congested shacks, narrow alleys and poor visibility. Secondly, another problem for communities around the open space relates to insufficient water taps and flush toilets. Thirdly, especially in winter, the location of the settlements on a slope makes the area prone to frequent floods and strong winds. In the most extreme cases community members relocate to the



**Above:** Implementation of the Open Space upgrading projects including a sub-surface drainage system, a drainage channel, two community halls, a playing area as well as new flush toilets and taps.

nearby schools, which sometimes are not accessible. The open space also poses a health hazard with many mosquitoes and large rats in the nearby vicinity (if not in structures themselves), which cause illnesses. Many residents suffer from eczema and skin irritations.

Originally, the Open Space comprised a large field functioning as a detention pond, as part of a storm water management system. The area is surrounded by four settlements. Upgrading included the implementation of a sub-surface drainage system, including the installation of an open drainage channel, the construction of two community halls, the realization of a playing area for children as well as the installation of 120 new flush toilets and eight new water taps. As the first area-wide upgrading project supported by the SA SDI Alliance,

upgrading was prepared, planned and coordinated by community leaders from all four settlements who formed a joint steering committee. The realization of the Open Space upgrading project highlights impacts on the physical and social level. Reflections by residents shows that upgrading the physical infrastructure contributed to tangible improvements in their quality of life. Most significantly perhaps, the open space project presented an opportunity for residents to start building themselves as organized communities, establishing a strong platform to negotiate with other actors and become key actors in discussing the next steps for their communities.

**Read more/Source of information:** <http://sasdialliance.org.za/projects/khayelitsha-open-space-upgrading-cape-town/>



**Above:** Community members preparing, planning and designing the upgrading project. Growing partnership between different city departments, the Alliance and the four settlements around the open space was a vital success factor of the project.

# 8

## The streets of Korogocho Nairobi, Kenya

### Claim the streets for democratic and safe public space

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 *HopeRaisers, a community-based organization, occupies the streets for different events once a month. Their aim is to increase the level of street activation in order to reclaim public space for community empowerment and social engagement, showing that process and involvement can be as important or more important than the “product” of a built-out place.*
- 2 *The streets of Korogocho case shows how overlooked spaces, like streets and alleys, can be transformed into vibrant public spaces.*
- 3 *Arts and culture strategies, like the murals the youths create on the walls, have great power to activate an area while further investments are being planned and financed.*

Although it began as a band, Hope Raisers Youth Initiative now organizes events in the streets of Korogocho to create inspiring and safe places for the inhabitants of this informal settlement. The Street Upgrading Project is part of a larger program called Korogocho Slum Upgrading Program (KSUP). To address the key issues of poor access roads, bad drainage, inadequate streetlights, and poor water and sewage systems, the KSUP planning process aimed to use integrated participatory planning steps as a resilient slum-upgrading method. The project helped promote

microeconomic activity, increase the number of jobs, and improve the perception of safety. The redesigned streets provided a greater number of public meeting places and improved connectivity to the larger urban fabric.

#### Read more/Source of information:

<https://globaldesigningcities.org/publication/global-street-design-guide/streets/streets-informal-areas/recommendations/case-study-3-streets-of-korogocho-nairobi-kenya/>



**Above:** Youths in Korogocho slums, Nairobi express themselves in their mural art. Many slum residents give permission for the murals on their walls. (Murals in Korogocho slum, 2015)

#### Source of photo:

Craig Halliday, <http://africanah.org/street-art-taking-art-to-the-people-2/>

**Above:** The streets of Korogocho **Source of photo:** Will Swanson, <https://qz.com/596420/photos-the-nairobi-slum-skating-club-born-from-a-flawed-un-aid-project/>



“

*The Solid Waste Network (SWN) is an initiative in Cape Town that employs five full-time staff, and services more than 350 informal waste pickers.”*



## Solid waste network, Cape Town, South Africa

### From waste streams to income streams

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 *The Solid Waste Network (SWN) is an initiative in Cape Town that employs five full-time staff, and services more than 350 informal waste pickers. Recognizing the role of informal pickers' livelihoods and business opportunities in the waste stream was the key element of success in this case.*
- 2 *This initiative emphasizes that even though it may often seem easier to simply abandon existing systems, public officials should look closely at what already exists first before turning to alternative solutions. SWN shows that effective long-term solutions can build on the old by incorporating the new.*
- 3 *Before groups in Cape Town started their project, they learned about informal communities organizing around solid waste in Nairobi and Cairo, showing that learning exchanges to share ideas on community mobilization and organization, are really important in placemaking processes.*

Despite the emphasis on finding new solutions to waste management, little institutional and organizational capacity has been developed to take informal waste management to scale. Research and experience has suggested that it can be highly counterproductive to establish new formal waste management and recycling systems without recognizing the role of the informal sector. There is very little organizational support to encourage job creation and livelihood opportunities in solid waste management and recycling, and poor people often do not benefit from this core municipal function.

The Solid Waste Network (SWN) is an Informal Settlement Network (ISN) initiative in Cape Town that provides access to markets for informal waste pickers. It employs five full time staff, and services more than 350 pickers throughout the Cape Town metropolitan area. The goal is to upscale to a national footprint, and it has the real potential to achieve sustained



**Far left:** Ghana learning exchange to Cape Town, **Source of photo:** African SDI Alliance 2012, <http://sasdialliance.org.za/ghana-visits-cape-towns-recycling-programme/>

**Middle bottom:** Prize winners for the most tonnage generated in 2012, **Source of photo:** South African SDI Alliance 2012, <http://sasdialliance.org.za/from-waste-streams-to-income-streams-the-solid-waste-network-sets-2013-goals/>

**Middle top/right:** African SDI Alliance 2012 **Source of photos:** <http://sasdialliance.org.za/ghana-visits-cape-towns-recycling-programme/>

*“We started small in Interpark and worked most weekends, my mother and I. But now we have employed two guys to help us over the weekends. From the waste recycling we have also started a car washing business. We now employ eleven guys to wash cars and we are proud to have the biggest car wash in Spine Road, Khayalitsha.”*

**Agnes Qhagana**  
Resident of Khayalitsha

impact as a livelihood program. After learning about informal communities organizing around solid waste in Nairobi and Cairo, groups in Cape Town started organizing and collecting first batches of glass, plastic and paper, and created direct links with the formal recycling industry.

The collection team responds to the demands of the network, i.e. when someone is in need of cash, they make amendments to their collection plan. The SWN meets monthly as a learning platform on the recycling industry and policy developments, as well as operational aspects to develop the income component. A community waste collection and sorting point is in convenient proximity for waste pickers, and it acts as a learning process to replicate the model in other parts of the city.

The focus of the program has been women, who have come together in community savings groups to support each other. The recycling groups work in teams of three to ten members. The majority of the members are involved in voluntary community initiatives, i.e. food security for vulnerable people, orphans, health programmers, gender base violence and HIV/Aids. Organized pickers’ collectives will decrease the vulnerability of these communities and make them more visible. This will create a platform for addressing basic health issues, education and child care needs of children, alcohol/drug abuse, shelter needs, etc.

**Read more/Source of information:**  
<http://sasdialliance.org.za/projects/solid-waste-network/>

# 10 /

## Community recycling program, Accra, Ghana

Recycle, build, learn & have fun at the same time!

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 “Evolve” is the first inclusive community recycling program in Accra. The aim of this program is to collect plastic waste, particularly bottles, at their source of origin to help prevent pollution of communities and waterways. Since its inception the program has collected over 37 tons of plastic and 52 tons of paper.
- 2 The community recycling program in Accra shows how small and incremental steps with even smaller budgets can be very impactful, and that fancier interventions and waste management programs do not guarantee more success.



Source of photos: Taia Etty, <https://www.timeout.com/accra/things-to-do/recycling-in-accra-made-easy-and-fun>

Accra’s only sanitary landfill facility is expected to fill completely within the next two years, and one out of three informal landfills dotted around the city is already over capacity. To add to this, a lot of people can’t afford the privatized collection services that dominate the refuse routes. Therefore a great deal of waste is dumped on derelict land, in water ways, and ultimately makes its way out to sea. This is what Environment360 wants to address. Environment360 is a social enterprise that created the “Evolve” program; the first successful community collection program for plastic in Ghana.

According to Environment360’s founder and executive director, Cordie Aziz, “Over 90% of trash is recyclable. The problem is that a recycling system has not been in place [in Ghana].”

Supported by Voltic and Australian Aid, Evolve has seen the placement of 20 large recycling bins at key points throughout Accra. Forty new bins are to be added to this and installed in other convenient locations. The PET plastic collected from the Evolve

recycling bins is flaked and exported to Germany where it is being turned into nylon thread. With the proceeds from Evolve Environment360 funds an environmental and recycling education initiative that has already reached tenthousand school children in Greater Accra. “Trash is Africa’s biggest problem for the next 30 years, and there aren’t enough home-grown solutions to deal with this,” Cordie said. “So, we try to expose kids, especially those who are unlikely to finish high school or get a university education, to green careers.” The initiative focuses on highlighting entrepreneurial, artistic, and other community focused employment opportunities from recycling. Over and above its on-going green graft, Environment360 is currently supporting the Kokrobite Children Centre in their goal of building a community literacy centre in Kokrobitey, a seaside village just outside Accra.

### Read more/Source of information:

<https://www.timeout.com/accra/things-to-do/recycling-in-accra-made-easy-and-fun>

“  
The initiative focuses on highlighting entrepreneurial, artistic, and other community focused employment opportunities from recycling.”



# 11 /

## The water platforms, Cape Town, South Africa

A physical structure with  
social & economic impact

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1** *The project has included various attempts to provide more comprehensive benefits to the community besides the platforms' physical manifestation. More dignified places for water collection and washing, formalized social gathering spaces, cleaner areas for children to play, job opportunities during construction, skills development within the community for further use, and use of recycled materials in the construction, are some of them.*
- 2** *The creation of the first water platform as a "prototype", in 2010, provided "testing" time for the design and offered time to work out use and maintenance challenges.*
- 3** *This case shows how a single, low-cost intervention, like a water platform, can set the stage for even larger transformations of public spaces, generating excitement while gathering ideas for subsequent placemaking actions.*

In Imizamo Yethu in Hout Bay, an estimated 9464 households make use of shared toilets and taps – this means that the service ratio in the settlement is 61.1 households per toilet and a staggering 394.3 households per tap. As part of a continuing effort to engage with this issue, the University of Cape Town's second year Architecture students, together with a few key staff members and members of the local community, have been designing and building water platforms in Imizamo Yethu. The platforms are a way of providing additional services, more dignified places for water collection and washing, social gathering spaces, and cleaner areas for children to play. Community members are involved during the planning phases and unemployed community members are

then nominated by the community to assist during construction. There is an exchange of knowledge where students teach community members new skills, while the community members in turn teach the students artisanal skills and demonstrate the realities of living in informal settlements to them. The project has been running since 2010 with one platform having been built each year since then<sup>6</sup>.

#### Read more/Source of information:

<http://www.dbxchange.eu/node/1443>

# 12 /

## Sunken Car Park. Nairobi, Kenya

### Placemaking through active living



*On Saturdays and Sundays, the Sunken Car Park transforms into a successful public skating park.*

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 *Turning the Sunken Car Park into a skating park on weekends is an example of temporary, event-based placemaking, which helped creating community and influenced behaviour in that space.*
- 2 *The engagement in events inspired the community to imagine new possibilities for the area. More generally, event-based placemaking can foster discussions and form alliances also for more permanent changes and smart growth measures.*

During the weekdays, downtown Nairobi is characterized by traffic jams and overcrowded parking lots. On Saturdays and Sundays, however, the Sunken Car Park transforms into a successful public skating park. Several skating organizations give skating lessons and organize (international) tournaments. Rental skates facilitate spontaneous skating from passers-

by. However, new plans for a seven-storey parking facility may stop the continuation of this inclusive public space.

**Read more/Source of information:** <https://www.ifhp.org/news/making-cities-together-lab-call-application>



“

*“Due to years of apartheid planning that aimed to separate different ethnic groups, the Warwick Junction area was poorly designed.*

*The ever-increasing number of traders caused congestion and crime was rife. When South Africa elected its first democratic government in 1994, transformation became the priority at all government levels.”*

**Tasmi Quazi**

Architect and consultant  
in Durban





## Warwick Junction Market, Durban, South Africa

### Empowering informal market traders

Above: The Warwick Junction market now, Source of images: <http://www.inclusivecities.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/IC-Durban-Case-Study.pdf>

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 1 *Warwick Junction market case represents a policy shift by acknowledging traders as legitimate stakeholders in the urban environment. It shows that consultation is the key. It takes time and patience to achieve positive results but placemakers should involve the community in whatever they do, value their inputs and advice and incorporate their ideas.*
- 2 *The result of the improvements, informed by the very people who were to use them, has been an economic blossoming, a safer market, and a dramatic increase in opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship.*

The Warwick Junction Urban Renewal Project was organized in response to inefficient, unsafe, and unsanitary conditions that developed at a primary transport node located in the South African city of Durban.

The project leaders recognized an opportunity to engage the local street traders in developing the redesign, rather than removing them. Historically, the street traders were regarded as a nuisance and leaders controlled the situation by exclusion or severe limitation of these activities, using police force when deemed necessary.

Warwick Junction has become a prime example of collaborative and “people-centred” governance in South Africa. Since the City’s launch of the area-based management initiative in 2001, there has been a surge of energy and community activism amongst the area’s informal traders. Street trading activities are dynamic making them difficult to manage as a homogenous entity. The traders represented diversity in their backgrounds and their needs for space. For example, traditional medicine traders needed con-

crete to chop their plant products on and mealies (corn on the cob) cooks needed a safe place to have a fire. The diversity of stakeholders required integrated, area-based development where the management and planning was decentralized. The project adopted a sector-by-sector approach.

The “bottom-up momentum”, combined with infrastructure improvements like widened pavements and storage facilities, has translated into bustling markets with a constant flow of commuters shuffling between traders’ stalls. The lively atmosphere of the markets has also led to significant economic development and stability, while also deterring inner-city crime. Although plans to build a shopping mall in Warwick Junction threatened the market in 2009, strong local campaigns continue to fight against such infringements, and the markets continue to be the alternative, inclusive retail model of Durban<sup>7</sup>.

**Read more/Source of information:**  
<https://participedia.net/en/cases/warwick-junction-urban-renewal-project>,  
<https://thecityateyelevel.com/tag/durban/>



**Left:** The Markets of Warwick Working Committee: traders who underwent training to become tour guides in the market **Right:** Consultation directly with the traders in their places of work in order to understand their needs.

# 14 /

## Different examples of public eco-toilets

The scale of the sanitation crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa is enormous: 43 percent of the population had no access to basic sanitation in the year 2010<sup>8</sup>. A community lacking basic public amenity can not be considered liveable. Public toilets should be as much a part of placemaking processes as streetlights and green spaces.

### A. ARBORLOO

- **Features:** A portable superstructure with no urine diversion, covering a shallow pit that fills in after approximately one year. The superstructure is then moved, and a tree planted in the filled pit.
- **Reasons for success:** Least expensive hardware; valued in areas of poor soil fertility; fruit trees grow better than in ordinary soil.
- **Comments:** “Entry-level” **ecosan toilet**; introduces the re-use idea and lessens effects of taboos; good in poor soils.

### B. FOSSA ALTERNA

- **Features:** Two permanent pits with a portable superstructure. When one pit is full the superstructure is moved to the other. The digested contents of the first pit can be safely emptied after a year.
- **Reasons for success:** Limited involvement with contents- sprinkle soil and ash-, empty with shovel; permanent solution; contents look harmless and do not smell; contents valued in areas with low soil fertility.
- **Comments:** “Intermediate level” ecosan toilet; robust and likely to survive ignorant use; needs education and demonstration to overcome taboo on digging out and re-use; good in poor soils and where fertilizer is expensive.

### C. SKYLOO

- **Features:** A raised toilet with urine diversion and separate collection of urine and faeces in a permanent structure that requires periodic (6-12 months) emptying of the receptacle and transportation to a composting site.
- **Reasons for success:** It is permanent; can be used in house; can be built above ground and overcomes high water table or rock.
- **Comments:** “Full involvement” ecosan toilet; valued in difficult ground conditions and harsh climates; so far more success as a toilet in subsidy-driven programs than as an asset to agriculture; needs considerable user education; user may pay someone to empty and dispose the contents.

### SUMMARY

*Fossa Alterna and Arborloos work best when quantities of soil, wood ash and leaves are added periodically to produce a balanced compost. Skyloos require some ash to dry the faeces and increase pathogen destruction<sup>9</sup>.*

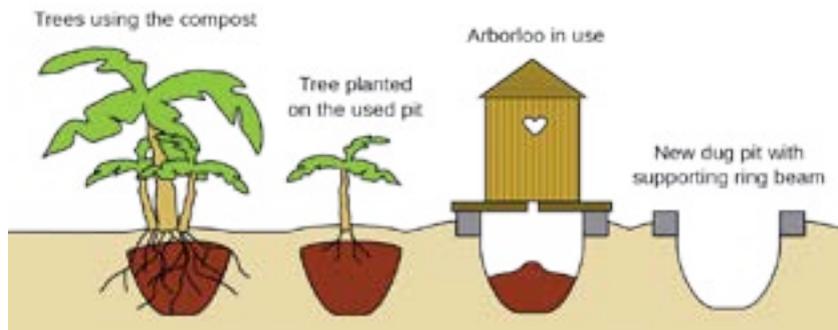
8 Satterthwaite, David. 2017

9 Graham-Harrison, Katherine & Melanie Low, 2005

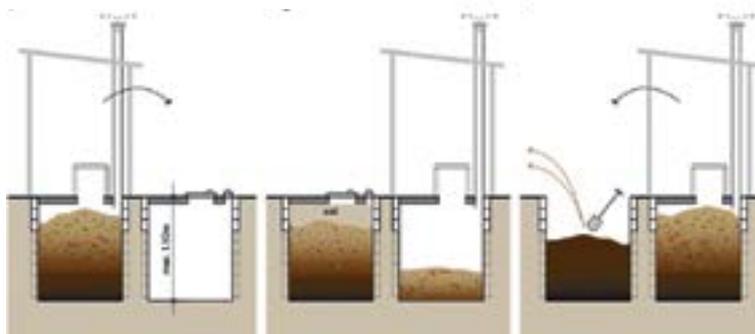
*“The scale of the sanitation crisis in Africa is enormous: 43 percent of the population of Sub Saharan Africa had no access to basic sanitation in the year 2010.”*

David Satterthwaite  
2017

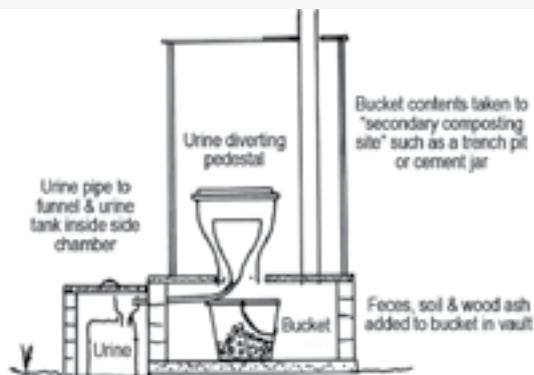
### ARBORLOO



### FOSSA ALTERNA



### SKYL00





Aerial view of Langata Kenya



## Takeaways - what can we learn from the 14 case studies?

The benefits of public space are **threefold**: the space itself, the functions and opportunities it provides, and the process of creating the place

The benefits of the physical space are often aesthetical and contribute to a sense of the place and pride. The functional benefits can be technical (e.g. water and waste treatment), productive (e.g. food, trees) or simply recreational or social. The benefits of the placemaking process can be equal to those of the place itself, contributing to building social capital, and communities engaging more directly in taking care of the place. Successful examples of placemaking are beneficial for all groups in society, and show that inclusive processes make inclusive places.

There is room for any type of “community”

“Community” is often used as proxy for “residential neighbours” or “our best guess to who will use the future place”. The cases in this report illustrate that not one group owns placemaking. Broadening the definition of community will go a long way to helping make sure that community engagement is actually seen as an asset to the process, and not just a box that the professional planners and designers reluctantly check as part of a requirement. A community is anyone who stands to gain from the process or the place. Communities might benefit in terms of economics, quality of life, civic engagement, fun, safety, the social connections they make, etc.

Give equal attention to process and outcomes

The process of creating places is not linear, nor is the relationship between communities and their places. Hence, judging placemaking only on its physical result misses half of the story. The experience of being part of a placemaking process can have as great or greater impact on a community as the finished place. To fully understand the impact of a project, we need to take into account the relationships built, social capital earned, and lessons learned in the process. Focusing on the benefits of the process- making clear that placemaking is working beyond the physical- can help increase support from communities, and government leaders.

Learn from examples but always be sensitive to the local context

Importing a successful model or copying a design solution from elsewhere can raise a project’s profile, but each community has its own unique circumstances that must be accounted for. Tradition, history and status of a place shape its cultural identities, topography, soil and vegetation; give local conditions, specific to each place, socio-economic profiles; give specific point of departure, and so on. Local knowledge and resources need to be given as much attention and value in the placemaking process and design of the public space as well-known models or famous examples of solutions. Looking at the work of international or national “gurus” can be an inspiring catalyst for a project, but the expertise, ideas and creativity of the people, enterprises and civil society actors who “live the place” form the backbone of most successful placemaking processes.

# Glossary

## **Aquaponics**

Aquaponics is a system of aquaculture in which the waste produced by farmed fish or other aquatic creatures supplies the nutrients for plants grown hydroponically, which in turn purify the water.

Read more: <https://www.theaquaponicsource.com/what-is-aquaponics/>

## **Community savings**

Community-based saving is a microfinance model that is considered to be an effective method for financing projects in sustainable sanitation and water management. Community-based saving is currently introduced in many developing countries to help particularly poor rural communities to save money by organising so-called community-based saving groups.

The basic objective of a community saving group is to encourage and create a saving culture in the community. Thereby, economic security is increased and financial services are brought closer to communities for promoting secure investment with savings. The group can further decide to focus on savings or to also engage in giving loans to its members. In most cases, the group also engages in giving loans. Therefore, joining the saving group offers a unique opportunity for the household<sup>10</sup>.

## **Compostable toilet**

A composting toilet is a type of toilet that treats human excreta by a biological process called composting. This process leads to the decomposition of organic matter and turns human excreta into compost. It is carried out by microorganisms (mainly bacteria and fungi) under controlled aerobic conditions. Most composting toilets use no water for flushing and are therefore “dry toilets”.

Composting toilets, together with the secondary composting step, produce an endproduct that can be used to enrich soil if local regulations allow this. Some composting toilets have urine diversion systems in the toilet bowl to collect the urine separately and control excess moisture. Composting toilets do not require a connection to septic tanks or sewer systems unlike flush toilets.

## **Do It Yourself Urbanism (DIY)**

DIY urbanism is an umbrella term used to describe a collection of low-cost, temporary changes to the built environment, usually in cities, intended to improve local neighbourhoods and city gathering places. DIY Urbanism is also commonly referred to as guerrilla urbanism, pop-up urbanism, city repair, or tactical urbanism.

## **Ecosan toilet**

The EcoSan toilet is a closed system that does not need water, so is an alternative to leach pit toilets in places where water is scarce or where the water table is high and the risk of groundwater contamination is increased.

## **Microfinance**

The lending of small amounts of money at low interest to new businesses in the developing world.

## **Modular design**

Modular design, or “modularity in design”, is a design approach that subdivides a system into smaller parts called modules or skids, that can be independently created and then used in different systems.

## **Permaculture**

Originally “Permanent Agriculture”. One of the founding fathers of permaculture, Bill Mollison, has defined permaculture as “the conscious design and maintenance of agriculturally productive ecosystems, which have the diversity, stability and resilience of natural ecosystems”. It is an agricultural philosophy that allows us to use the resources that we have around us to their fullest potential. By observing and learning from

our environment, such as how does nature replenish its soil, how does nature protect and conserve its water resources, how has nature adapted to the specific climate of an area, etc; we can learn how to imitate these natural processes in our daily living. The more closely that we can work with nature, the more likely we are to establish a balance which will provide us with the things that we need without hurting the environment.

## **Permeable concrete**

A type of concrete that allows liquids or gases to pass through it.

## **Swale**

A low or hollow place, especially a marshy depression between ridges.

<sup>10</sup> Mamadgazanova, Mohnura, Microfinance, 27 April 2018. <https://www.sswm.info/planning-and-programming/implementation/financing/microfinance>

# References & extra reading

## References:

- African Slum Journal. Giving the slums a voice. [www.africanstumjournal.com/tag/korogocho/](http://www.africanstumjournal.com/tag/korogocho/)
- African Slum Journal, October 7, 2016, Your cloth my wardrobe. [www.africanstumjournal.com/your-cloth-my-wardrobe/](http://www.africanstumjournal.com/your-cloth-my-wardrobe/)
- African Slum Journal, March 13, 2015, Murals in Korogocho slum. [www.africanstumjournal.com/murals-in-korogocho-slums/](http://www.africanstumjournal.com/murals-in-korogocho-slums/)
- Elizelle Juaneé Cilliers. A Framework for Planning Green Spaces in Rural South Africa. Unit for Environmental Sciences and Management, North-West University, South Africa, 2015
- Global Designing Cities Initiative. Case Study 3: Streets of Korogocho; Nairobi, Kenya. <https://globaldesigningcities.org/publication/global-street-design-guide/streets/streets-informal-areas/recommendations/case-study-3-streets-of-korogocho-nairobi-kenya/>
- Hannalie Malan. African cities and the future of public spaces: Why our thinking must shift, May 11, 2016. <http://futurecapetown.com/2016/05/african-cities-and-the-future-of-public-spaces-why-our-thinking-must-shift-future-cape-town/#.WvirJmpubV>
- Kasope Alesh. Interview with Kolade Akiyode: Inclusive urban management - A case for street traders' survival, June 7, 2016. <http://futurecapetown.com/2016/06/future-lagos-interview-with-kolade-akiyode-inclusive-urban-management-a-case-for-street-traders-survival/#.Wvi2jkxul2y>
- Katheleen Graham-Harrison, Melanie Low. The Water and Sanitation Program. A Review of EcoSan Experience in Eastern and Southern Africa. Field note, 2015. [https://www.wsp.org/sites/wsp.org/files/publications/af\\_ecosan\\_esa.pdf](https://www.wsp.org/sites/wsp.org/files/publications/af_ecosan_esa.pdf)
- Kim, Joongsob, and Rachel Kaplan. Physical and Psychological Factors in Sense of Community New Urbanist Kentlands and Nearby Orchard
- Live Projects Network. Imizamo Yethu Water Platforms, Cape Town [South Africa], 2016. <https://liveprojectsnetwork.org/project/imizamo-yethu/>
- Oldenburg, Ph D. Ray, ed. Celebrating the Third Place: Inspiring Stories About the "Great Good Places" at the Heart of Our Communities. Cambridge, MA: Da Capo Press, 2002
- Pauline Conley and the staff of Asiye eTafuleni. Empowering Market Traders in Warwick Junction, Durban, South Africa. Inclusive Cities Project, 2015. [www.inclusivocities.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/IC-Durban-Case-Study.pdf](http://www.inclusivocities.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/IC-Durban-Case-Study.pdf)
- Placemaking in Nairobi, 15th N-aerus Conference: REAL CHANGE?, Exploring and assessing ways to co-produce knowledge for tangible transformations in the cities of the South
- Project for Public Spaces and Cynthia Nikitin. In Nairobi, Re-Framing Mundane Spaces as Exciting Places, 2012. [www.pps.org/article/in-nairobi-re-framing-mundane-spaces-as-exciting-places](http://www.pps.org/article/in-nairobi-re-framing-mundane-spaces-as-exciting-places)
- Project for Public Spaces. A guide to neighbourhood placemaking in Chicago, 2010. [www.placemakingchicago.com/cmsfiles/placemaking\\_guide.pdf](http://www.placemakingchicago.com/cmsfiles/placemaking_guide.pdf)
- Project for Public Spaces. Eleven principles for creating great community places. [www.pps.org/article/11steps](http://www.pps.org/article/11steps)
- Project for Public Spaces. Placemaking 101- What is placemaking, 2010. [www.pps.org/article/placemaking-101](http://www.pps.org/article/placemaking-101)
- Project for Public Spaces, 2012. Placemaking and the Future of Cities. [https://daks2k3a4ib2z.cloudfront.net/5810e16f8e876cec6cbcd86e/59f1fb530aad1400010a6186\\_PPS-Placemaking-and-the-Future-of-Cities.pdf](https://daks2k3a4ib2z.cloudfront.net/5810e16f8e876cec6cbcd86e/59f1fb530aad1400010a6186_PPS-Placemaking-and-the-Future-of-Cities.pdf)
- Project for Public Spaces. Kibebe Tsehay playground, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. 2015. [www.pps.org/places/kibebe-tsehay-playground](http://www.pps.org/places/kibebe-tsehay-playground)
- Project for Public Spaces. Warwick Junction, Durban, South Africa. 2015. [www.pps.org/places/warwick-junction](http://www.pps.org/places/warwick-junction)
- Satterthwaite, David. The impact of urban development on risk in sub-Saharan Africa's cities with a focus on small and intermediate urban centres. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, 2017. <https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/d/32D339B4DB6EC7DA65C7FBE353296A4D6F7D3B03BF7A5BAC61115761F40B66A79C1DF459B55D32370870C2AD0F8E89DE>
- Schneekloth, Lynda H., and Robert G. Shibley. Placemaking: The Art and Practice of Building Communities. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1995
- Strydom W. J., Puren K. An exploration of the dimensions of place-making: A South African case study. World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology International Journal of Urban and Civil Engineering, Vol:10, No:10, 2016. <http://waset.org/publications/10005621/an-exploration-of-the-dimensions-of-place-making-a-south-african-case-study>
- Wendy Richardson. Some thoughts on place-based organizing in Kilimani, Kenya, December, 2014. [www.globalfundcommunityfoundations.org/poor-cousin-blog/2014/12/4/some-thoughts-on-place-based-organizing-in-kilimani-kenya.html](http://www.globalfundcommunityfoundations.org/poor-cousin-blog/2014/12/4/some-thoughts-on-place-based-organizing-in-kilimani-kenya.html)
- Whyte, William Hollingsworth, and Project for Public Spaces. The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces. New York: Project for Public Spaces, 2001.

## Extra reading:

- ArtPlace. Principles of Creative Placemaking. [www.artplaceamerica.org/](http://www.artplaceamerica.org/)
  - Bhatia, Amit. Placemaking- Creating a sense of place and a place of sense, Architecture research paper, 2015, <https://issuu.com/ar.amitb/docs/publication>
  - Hackable Cities: A toolkit for re-imagining your neighbourhood. Creating a strong identity and a strong community. <https://issuu.com/pgildner/docs/hackable-cities-pages>
  - Marcos L. Rosa, Ute E. Weiland. Handmade Urbanism, from community initiatives to participatory models. <https://download.e-bookshelf.de/download/0003/4967/60/L-G-0003496760-0006724201.pdf>
  - Moss, Ian David. Creative Placemaking Has an Outcomes Problem. <http://createquity.com/2012/05/creative-placemaking-has-an-outcomes-problem/>
  - POP, Places of Possibility. Public ART & Placemaking Toolkit for Rural Communities. <http://2vu7r51wf6it1bb04v1trak.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/Places-of-possibility-public-art-toolkit.pdf>
  - Project for Public Space. What if we built our communities around places? [https://issuu.com/projectforpublicspaces/docs/oct\\_2016\\_placemaking\\_booklet](https://issuu.com/projectforpublicspaces/docs/oct_2016_placemaking_booklet)
  - Project for Public Spaces. Why Public Spaces Fail. [www.pps.org/article/failedplacefeat](http://www.pps.org/article/failedplacefeat)
  - Silberberg, Susan. What's Your Place in the World? Building Community in the Heart of Every City, Mashable Social Good Summit, New York, NY. <https://issuu.com/mit-dusp/docs/mit-dusp-places-in-the-making/65>
  - Walljasper, Jay. Public spaces make the world go round, 2012. [www.shareable.net/blog/public-spaces-make-the-world-go-round](http://www.shareable.net/blog/public-spaces-make-the-world-go-round)
  - Wyckoff, Mark A. Definition of Placemaking: Four Different Types. MSU Land Policy Institute. [www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/375/65814/4typesplacemaking\\_pzn\\_wyckoff\\_january2014.pdf](http://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/375/65814/4typesplacemaking_pzn_wyckoff_january2014.pdf)
- Library of (more) good placemaking examples:**
- Jeevanjee gardens rehabilitation, Nairobi, Kenya: [www.centreforurbaninnovations.com/content/jeevanjee-garden-rehabilitation-launch](http://www.centreforurbaninnovations.com/content/jeevanjee-garden-rehabilitation-launch)
  - Modular Docks - Think Micro, Izmir, Turkey: <https://architizer.com/projects/izmir-modular-docks-think-micro/>
  - New Freedom Park, Colorado, USA: [www.tpl.org/our-work/new-freedom-park#sm.0000vhj76x4pocuiqv14d8fw4ie7](http://www.tpl.org/our-work/new-freedom-park#sm.0000vhj76x4pocuiqv14d8fw4ie7)
  - The giving tree, Cape Town, South Africa: <http://pep.org.za/2018/01/19/upscaling-city-wide-informal-settlement-upgrading-in-south-africa-a-programme-management-toolkit-for-metros-in-south-africa/>
  - Wawa Puklay playground, Quechua, Peru: [www.pps.org/places/wawa-puklay](http://www.pps.org/places/wawa-puklay)
  - Días de Playa (Beach Days), Medellín, Colombia: [www.pps.org/places/dias-de-playa](http://www.pps.org/places/dias-de-playa)
  - Raahgiri Day, Delhi, India: [www.pps.org/places/raahgiri-day](http://www.pps.org/places/raahgiri-day)
  - Rus playground, Lima, Peru: [www.pps.org/places/rus-playground](http://www.pps.org/places/rus-playground)
  - The flying grass carpet, International: [www.flyinggrasscarpet.org/](http://www.flyinggrasscarpet.org/)
  - The Cube, São Paulo, Brazil: [www.pps.org/places/the-cube](http://www.pps.org/places/the-cube)
  - 798 Space gallery, Beijing, China: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/798\\_Art\\_Zone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/798_Art_Zone)
  - Solar-Powered Floating Schools, Bangladesh: [www.shidhulai.org/ourwork.html](http://www.shidhulai.org/ourwork.html)
  - Pasig River Art for Urban Change, Metro Manila, Philippines: <https://culture360.asef.org/news-events/manila-pasig-river-art-urban-change>
  - Empower Shack, Khayelitsha, South Africa: [www.brandssouthafrica.com/investments-immigration/empower-shack-low-cost-housing-project-nominated-uk-design-prize](http://www.brandssouthafrica.com/investments-immigration/empower-shack-low-cost-housing-project-nominated-uk-design-prize)
  - Active boxes, Cape Town, South Africa: <http://vpuu.org.za/safe-node-area/active-boxes/>
  - Urban gardens, Berlin, Germany: <http://vpuu.org.za/safe-node-area/active-boxes/>
  - Sachibondu Hospital, NW Province, Zambia: [www.drumpropertygroup.com/news/zambian-hospital-build-progress/](http://www.drumpropertygroup.com/news/zambian-hospital-build-progress/)
  - Environmentally conscious building techniques: [www.lavoutenubienne.org/](http://www.lavoutenubienne.org/)
  - A community centre, Bogota, Colombia: [www.urbz.net/projects/projecto-manila](http://www.urbz.net/projects/projecto-manila)
  - A different public space, Avranches, France: <http://yaplus.org/project/quartier-productif/>
  - A primary school, Kigali, Rwanda: [www.activesocialarchitecture.com/pre-primaries](http://www.activesocialarchitecture.com/pre-primaries)
  - Urban gardening, Nairobi, Kenya: [www.farmafrica.org/us/kenya/urban-farming](http://www.farmafrica.org/us/kenya/urban-farming)
  - The garden library, Tel Aviv, Israel: [www.pps.org/places/the-garden-library](http://www.pps.org/places/the-garden-library)
  - Urban regeneration polygon initiative, Monterrey, Mexico: [www.pps.org/places/el-huerto-distribotoc](http://www.pps.org/places/el-huerto-distribotoc)
  - La green grounds, Los Angeles, USA: [www.lagreengrounds.org/](http://www.lagreengrounds.org/)
  - A place to chat, Montreal, Quebec: [www.pps.org/places/placotoir-a-place-to-chat](http://www.pps.org/places/placotoir-a-place-to-chat)
  - Gatos playground, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: <http://basurama.org/en/projects/gatos-playground-in-rio-de-janeiro/>
  - Kibera public space, Nairobi, Kenya: [www.kounkuey.org/Kibera\\_PPS1.html](http://www.kounkuey.org/Kibera_PPS1.html)
  - Wooden pallets into interlocking mobile benches, Johannesburg, South Africa: [www.designboom.com/design/r1-recycled-wooden-pallets-interlocking-mobile-benches-johannesburg-08-31-2014/](http://www.designboom.com/design/r1-recycled-wooden-pallets-interlocking-mobile-benches-johannesburg-08-31-2014/)

