

condominium STREET FU(rni)TURE!

FKELLE UNIVERSITY AND CIGI FRMARANI UNI IMITED

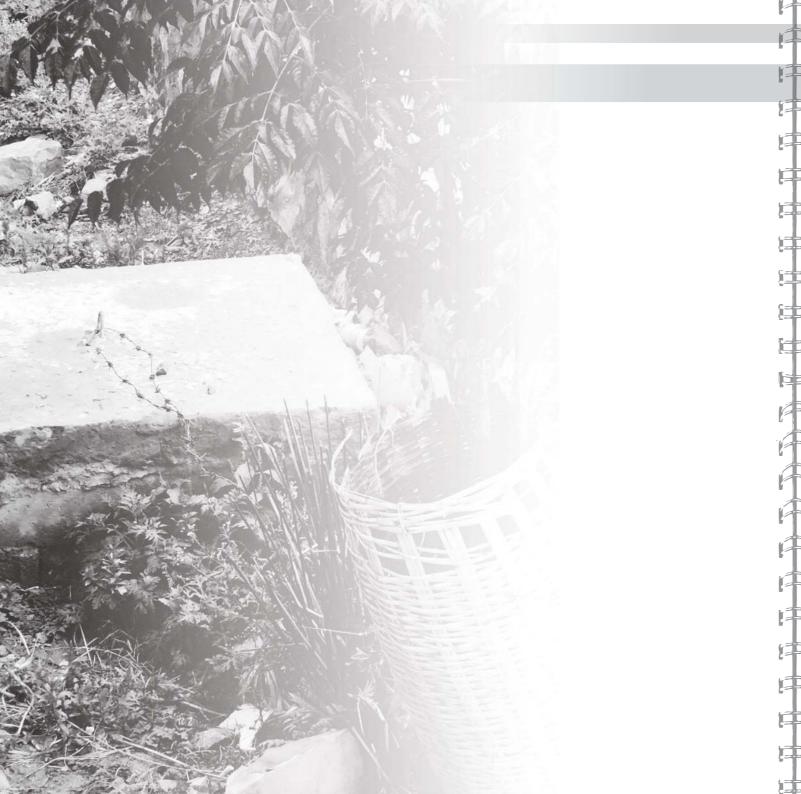
MU AND CMU

TOGETHER

WORKSHOP FOR ARCHI-STUDENTS

ESPECT, ADAPTATION, SUSTAINABILITY, TRADITION, COMMUNITY, HUMANITY, QUALITY, COMMITMENT





WORKSHOP FOR ARCHISTUDENTS

The workshop "The Condominium Street Fu(rni) ture" is continuation of successful workshop collaboration between The Ethiopian Institute of Technology in Mekelle, Department of Architecture and Urban Planning and architectural studio Cigler Marani Architects (exactly its division for sustainable architecture within human commitment Cigler Marani Unlimited).

The collaboration started in 2013 and since that time we have merged our skills and capacities to organise student workshops regularly. Our goal is to enable students think out of the box, find alternatives and be comfortable with design in real conditions.

The workshop was organised at the occasion of "International Conference on Affordable Housing, Mekelle 2014". The goal of the workshop was a design of urban equipment for public space that is more or less overlooked in context of numerous precipitously constructed condominiums...





MEKELLE UNIVERSITY

The Ethiopian Institute of Technology in Mekelle is part of The Mekelle University that has short but complex history. The city of Mekelle is situated in northwestern Tigray region, in the region rich in cultural and architectural heritage. The Institute offers various programmes — architecture and urban planning among them.

The contact initiation intented to diversify inputs for the architectural research led with other partners. When got known each other we have decided to cooperate directly on academic level.

In 2013, there was a 7week long workshop called "Think globally, act locally" for a hundred of 4th year architecture students. The workshop aimed to find sustainable ways how to design schools and educational buildings, how to make the surroundings inspiring and motivating, how to think progressively and alternatively, how to engage community, how to contribute to the development....

In 2014, here we go.... There is a new worskhop on public space focused on "forgotten" aspects of open spaces in condominiums...





CIGLER MARANI UNLIMITED

CMU is a section of Cigler Marani Architects studio founded on reflecting the sustainability of worldwide architecture and the good quality design accessibility.

The architecture is more than a design; it can solve and create problems at the same moment. The architecture of good quality is natural. If it works, it promotes the development. The inspiring environment is the background for the progress. It is not only about a physical protection and shelter. When the basic needs are fulfilled, people search for the motivation and stimulus.

It is clear that the good architecture is not about loads of money but about ideas. That is why their goals are

::: to assist to identify sustainable architectural principles :::

::: to promote new/old technologies and encourage new ideas and concepts in architectural design while respecting specificity of different communities :::

::: to interconnect the humanitarian, academic and private sector – multi-stakeholder partnership ::: ::: to support architects' creative, technical and cul-

tural talents :::

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CIGLER MARANI UNLIMITED

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elsewhere

The following pages present the existing condominium COMMUNAL SPACES that are more or less overlooked in context of numerous precipitously constructed condominiums... Today's attention is focused on maxiscale of block composition and urban pattern or on flat dispositions. People are influenced by the common and public space design as well, or even more...

The workshop was focused on architecture in combination with product design of different objects of public equipement (benches, traffic barriers, streetlamps, traffic lights, bajaj stands, shaders, kiosks, trashbins...)

Following chapters describe the existing conditions in condominiums by different analysis approaches: comparison of open spaces in condominiums with traditional houses, identity and nature of the society.

The student designs are presented separately. In general, these are innovations that are applicable on existing design individually or in combination. The final innovation compilation depends on the condominium site, local community, local authority, focused goals and financial capacity.

The book is completed with references from abroad in last chapter.

INTRO

intro

All over the world countries face the rural exodus and increasing of urban population which results in housing problems in cities. The formation of slums is inevitable. Ethiopia itself was confronted with statements of diverse institutions that up to 80% of housing in its capital Addis Ababa were classified as slums. More or less exorbitant claims about traditional kebelle houses led into an enormous challenge.

The Ethiopian Integrated Housing Development Program (EIHD) was established as a reaction to national and international claims about housing challenge. The program set an ambitious initial target of constructing 400 000 standardized and affordable condominium units between 2006 and 2010. The apartments are in multistoried blocks where communal areas are shared by inhabitants. At the occasion of "International Conference on Affordable Housing, Mekelle 2014" (10-12/11/2014) there was a workshop called "The Condominium Street Fu(rni)ture" organized for students of 5th year of bachelor architecture program.

The goal of the workshop was a design of urban equipment for public space. For the public space that is abandoned. Where people face the problems of lack of safety, comfort, orientation, identity and spirit of the space.

The workshop "Condominum Street Fu(rni)ture" (01-14/11/2014) was focused on architecture in combination with product design of different objects of public equipement (benches, traffic barriers, streetlamps, bajaj stands, shaders, trashbins...) in relation with social (=safety), cultural (=art and appearance), anthropological (=function and usefulness) and environmental aspects (=sustainability and material).

All over the world countries face the rural exodus and increasing of urban population which results in housing problems in cities. The formation of slums is inevitable. Ethiopia itself was confronted with statements of diverse institutions that up to 80% of housing in its capital Addis Abeba were classified as slums. More or less exorbitant claims about traditional kebelle houses and daily real life led into an enormous challenge.

housing in its capital Addis Abeba were classified as slums. More or less exorbitant claims about traditional kebelle houses and daily real life led into an enormous challenge.

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based on "The Slogan and the Whisper"
... presentation prepared
by Dr. Antarin Chakrabarty

ETHIOPIAN INTEGRATED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

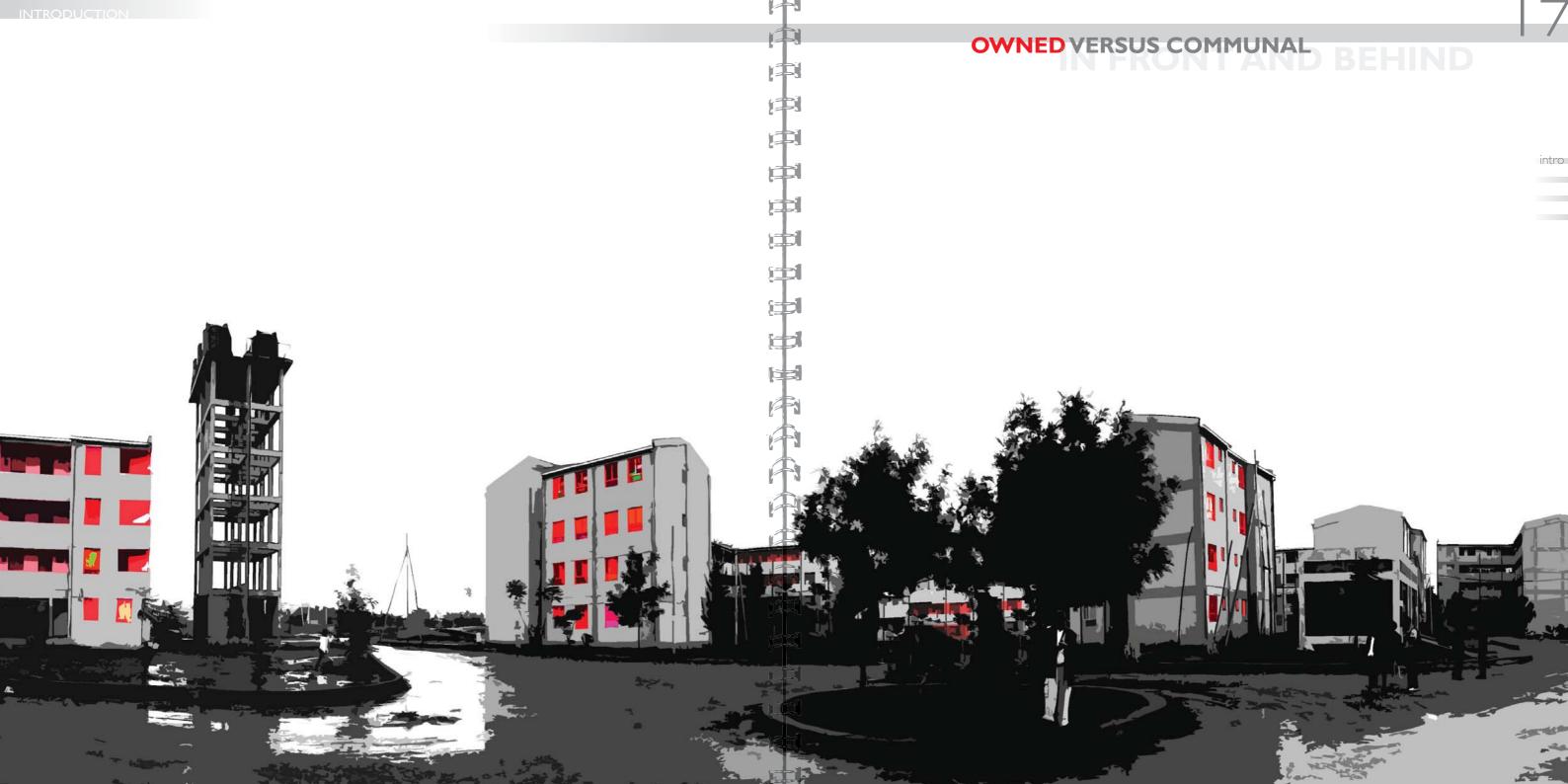
::: **400 000** housing **UNITS** in 4 years

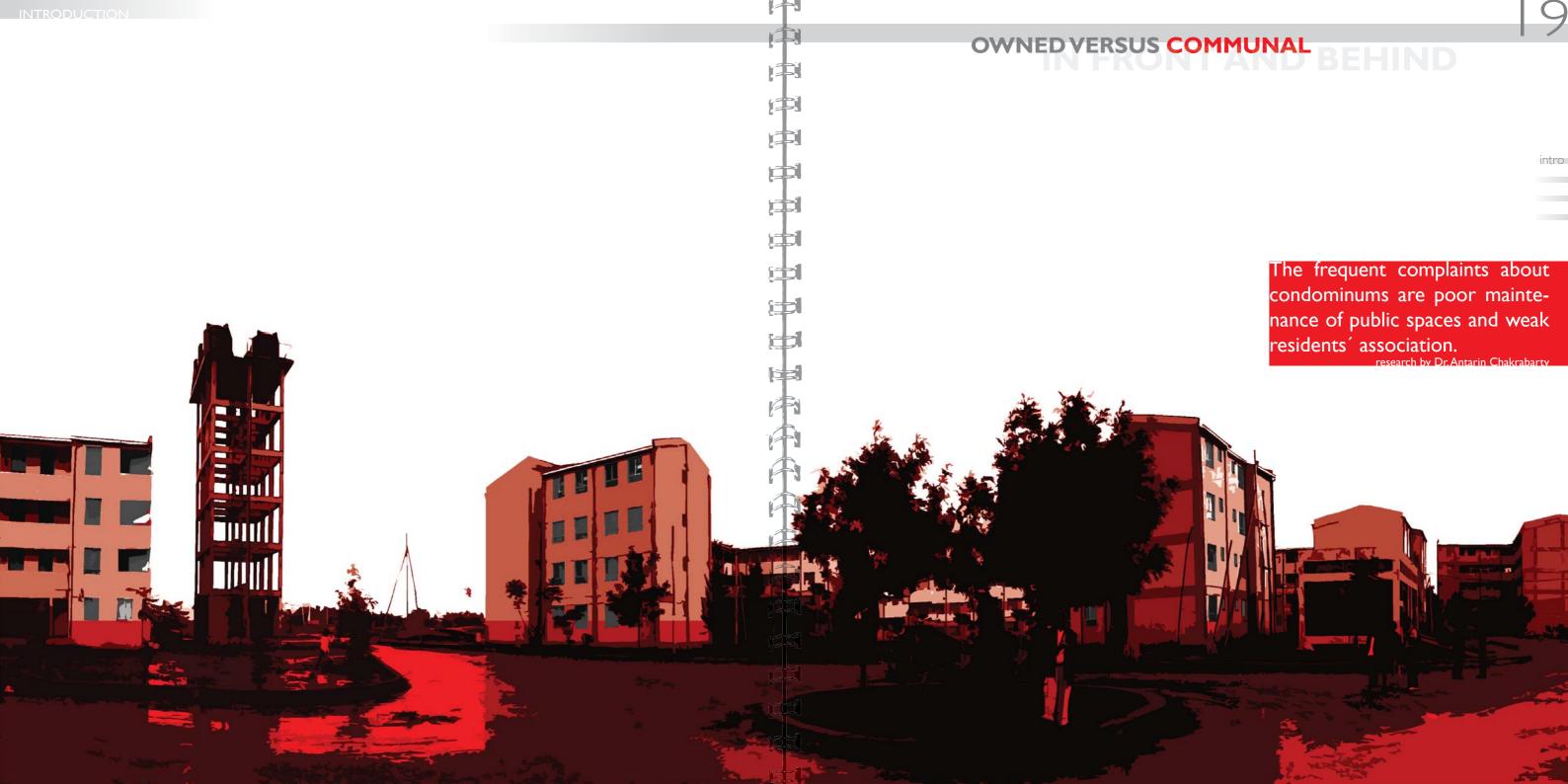
::: 200 000 JOBS in construction industry

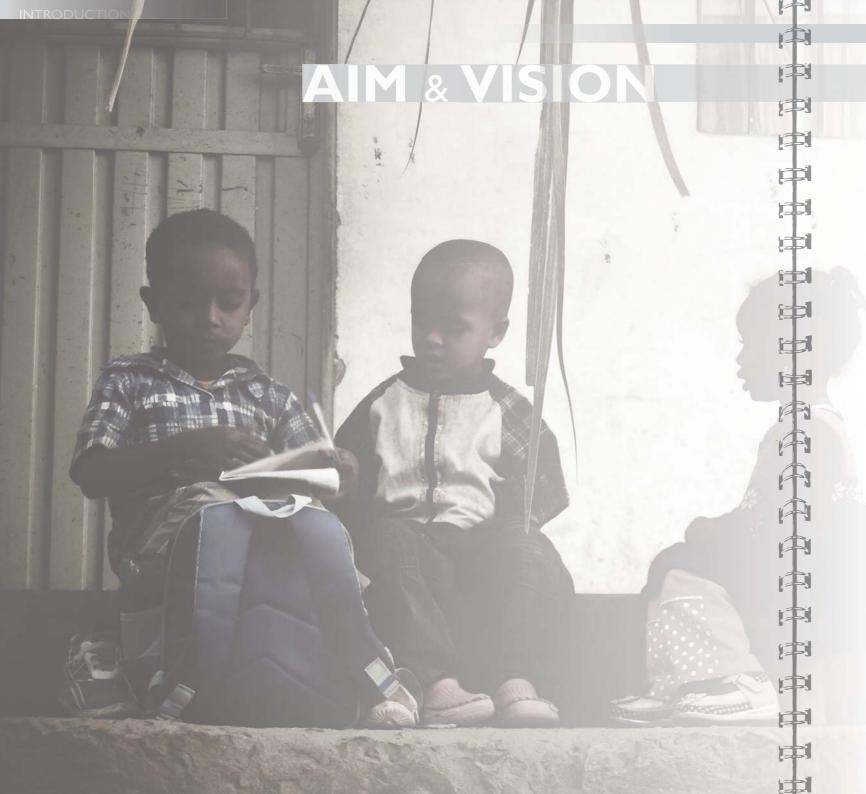
::: development of 10 000 small ENTER-

PRISES in the construction industry









the time of urgency and capacity building is over, we might take charge to think DEEPER, to plan BETTER and to create NICER... to think GLOBALLY, feel, UNDERSTAND and deal with PUBLIC spaces, with neglected and hidden spots, to respect the local conditions, URBAN population, to turn the condominiums into the places OVERFLOWING with inspiration and MOTIVATION, to ATTRACT people to care about it, to make it as an example worth following, to think PROGRESSIVELY and SUSTAINABLY, to use LOCAL materials, to use secondary materials - to RECYCLE and REUSE, to engage community, to make the COMMUNITY feel the OWNERSHIP of the space that is of nobody and everybody uses it, not to solve only a physical problem, but to create a contribution to the DEVELOPMENT... find facts about the evolution of street furniture in social contexts, and its role in development. explore how

LOW-COST MATERIALS and tools and crafts can be used to shape public space. And how the public space shapes its users... TO ALTERNATE, ADAPT AND IMPROVE.

ANALYSIS



dildiys

The analysis chapter describes the existing conditions in condominiums by different analysis approaches: comparison of open spaces in condominiums with traditional houses called kebelle houses, description of toponomy, aesthetical proportions, main features of common spaces, identity and genius loci - spirit of the space. The chapter is concluded by the nature of the society.



ADDIS ABEBA

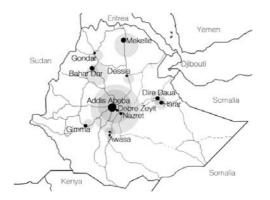
In Addis, the condominiums are more vibrant with lots of commercial places, lots of people hanging out at the common spaces which are well furnished and full of greenary, e.g. the site Jemo, Mebraht Hayl (Kera)

QUIHA

The periphery of the peripheric city Mekelle, in the capital city of peripheric region Tigray (northern Ethiopia), condominiums are rather cold, and they look abandoned because of the lack of common interest and energy.



COMPARISON OF APPROACHES





analysis



al lalysi:

BUILDING FACADE TREATMENT

- it looks like it is a waste of resource and space

onstructurant colors

TV antennas

hanging clothes

open space or land scaping

no building placement created negative spaces

the street pattern is not well designed no landscape furniture

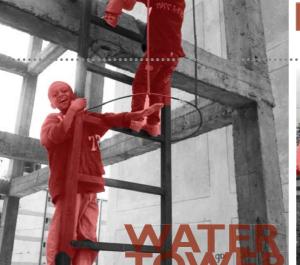
in<mark>adeq</mark>uate guard's shelter

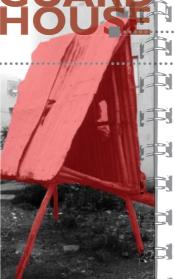
Power house

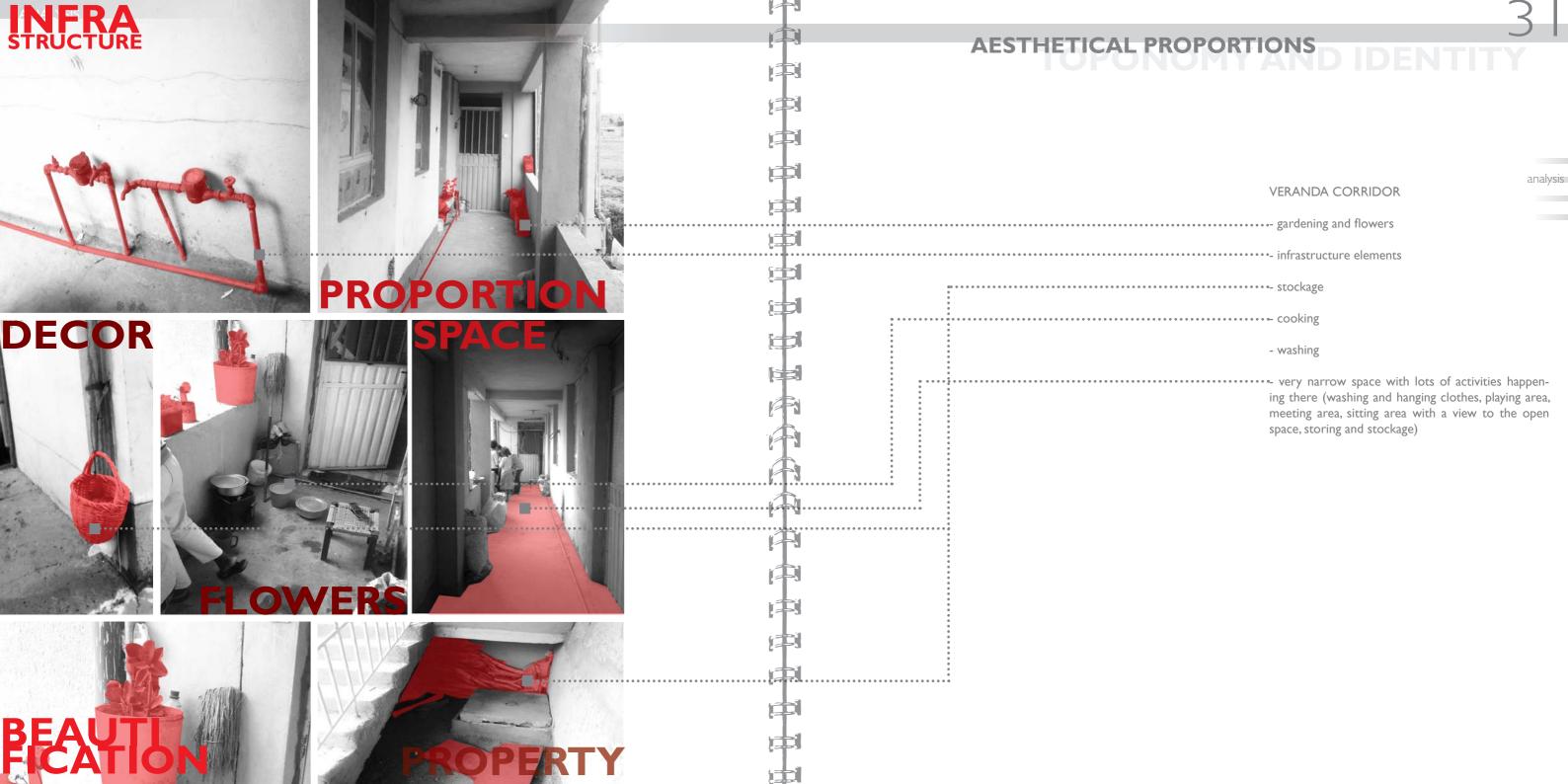
- its function is confusing, lots of people do not even know what it is besides it is in the middle disturbing the common space and visual connection











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analysis

The size and scale of a single condominium block is relatively bigger than the courtyard housing typology, which may provide a better transport to work from the condominium.

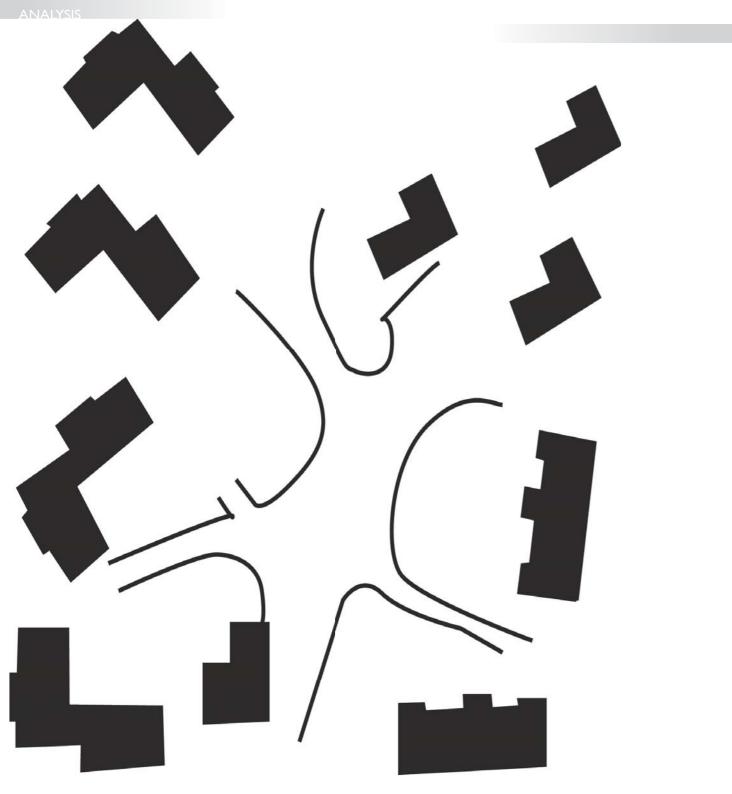
Condominium housing complexes have many more rooms available, allowing more variety and leasing options.

The majority of condominium housing blocks may include a variety of amenities, including common convenience stores, common slaghter rooms, and even small grocery stores located within the building itself.

Whereas in the courtyard housing type, we only find smaller housing units available. And most often they are horizontal structures.



SIZE AND SCALE



COMPARISON AND TRADITION ORGANISATION

analysi



The organization of traditional courtyard housing is a bit more inclusive of the rooms around it. And it is emphasized towards the central common area.

Unlike traditional courtyard houses in Mekelle the big condominium housing projects are not organized in way they compliment the space between block. Most of the blocks are organized randomly with no basic principle of organization.

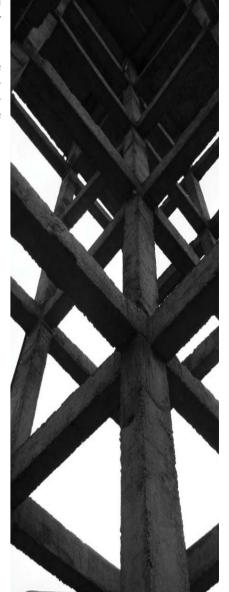




COMPARISON AND TRADITION MATERIAL

Traditional courtyard houses are small in scale. All house are G+0 horizontal houses constructed by stone which is local material in Mekelle.

But the big condominiums that exist now in Mekelle are constructed with HCB which is not local and economic material. This shows us that the currently implemented big condominiums are less friendly to the context of the site.

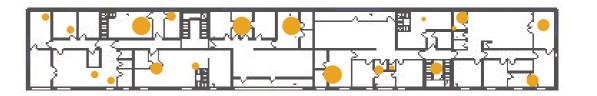


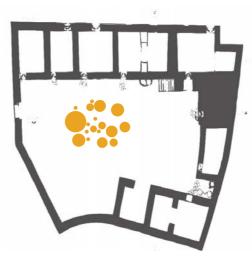
analysis



COMPARISON AND TRADITION SOCIAL LIFE

analysis





SOCIAL LIFE

It's very known that the Ethiopians have their own way of socializing with their neighbours. But, with the rise of structures like the condominium housing, these rich cultures of socializing with neighbours have changed the focus of the people to their private lives.

In the traditional courtyard housing the house are compacted and have common and mid space they share. This central common space gives a chance to spend times together and to have common activities, like having coffees together.











a guy living in the fourth floor have took his bicycle up to his floor, because he did not feel safe to park on the ground floor





COMPARISON AND TRADITION SAFETY

analys

Since people living in traditional Mekelle courtyard house are few in number everyone know each other which make the occupants to feel safe. An intruder can be identified very easily. No need for fencing within the compound unlike people living in big condominiums. Kids play on the courtyard that is found in the mid of the compound close to their houses.

But people living in big condominiums in Mekelle face safety problem. Since number of people living in one block is large in number with different ways of living and background. Therefore, people don't feel safe and try to create means of protection by constructing fence on their verandas and balconies As shown on pictures.



COMPARISON AND TRADITION BELONGINGNESS





analysi

Perhaps, belongigness has a strong impact in the livability of any building structure.

People living in the traditional courtyard housing are more devoted to their common space and their lifes are divergent towards the central common area.

However this does not happen in the case of big condominium housings. Most of the residents have very private living styles and are less devoted to their common spaces.

RESULTS

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results

Four groups of students from 5th and 6th year of study of the architecture program have designed several identities for various objects of public equipment.



THE BEAUTY IS IN DETAILS UBSTANCE

Mu-uz WELDU

muuz2010@yahoo.com

Genet TSEGAY

gtgenet@gmail.com Germachew DESALEGN

germades@gmail.com

Makda DIRAR

makdirar@gmail.com Terusaw SOLOMON

terusawsolomon@yahoo.com Abduselam ADEMNUR

aselamadem I 2@gmail.com

NO BALCONY? DEAD FACADE?

, USING THE SPACE BETWEEN BUILDING

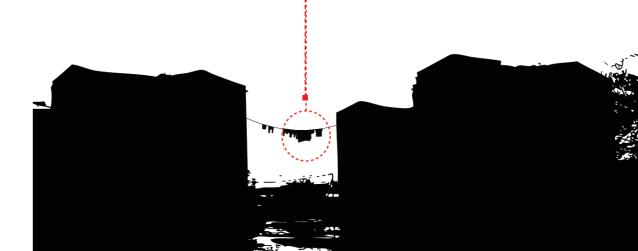
Most of the buildings in the site are in close organisation with each other with no function shared in common even the open space...

hanging clothes on the rope in between buildings...

A PLACETO HANG (DRY) CLOTHES

A place to hang clothes for drying is one of the immediate cases of the site. There is also a dead back wall in almost all the condominium blocks and this gave inspiration of using the back wall as a main place The intention of this design is to provide space for for hanging clothes. By using a rail of bamboo or any other solid material like wood or metal tubes coming out from the room in the back wall, there is a place to hang and dry clothes.



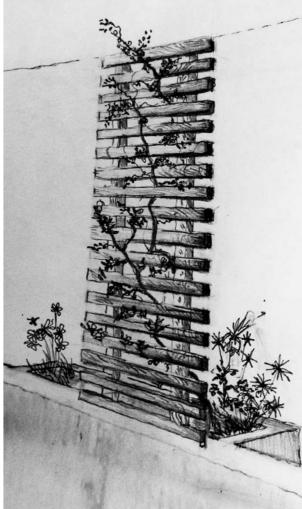


VERTICAL GARDENS ARY IN THE AIR

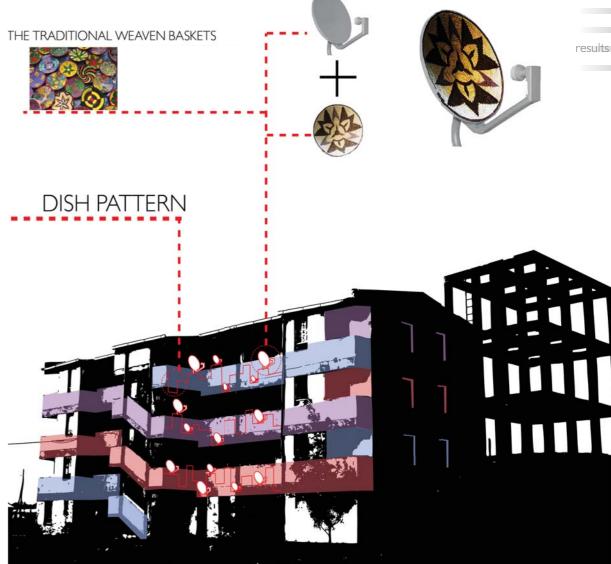
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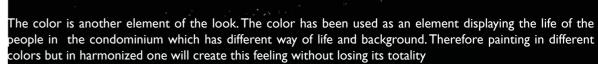
Currently the existing condominium houses do not have a good look due to the random and unpleasing pattern of the satellite dishes and the other functions like hanging clothes on the front facade. As well this design has put a grid of using a different place for arranging the satellite dishes and introduction of greeneries.

Greeneries: the main concept behind the greeneries was introduction of a vegetal element with community participation. Here the design have introcuced horizontal wood shutters as a main element of greenery.



TIGRAYIAN SATTELITE DISH







This traditional craftwork is one of the main identities of ethiopians and espectially Tigreans. They are mainly used as interior decoration elements and have also additional purposes as an equipment for different activities. The appearance, color and design of this crafts work is very amazing and unique. And this project have integrated this element together with the satellite dishes as an identity giving element to the whole condominium building and adding a special character to its look.



GUARD HOUSE OR BENCH?

The guard house happens to be a triangular structure with an alien look to the whole condominium site.

As a result the guard house is used as part of the landscape. With a little modification to its shape and material, this was used as an element of urban furniture.

- a) In relation to material: we all know that the GIS material is not comfortable to seat and aesthetically unpleasant. But by using bamboo as a main material, this element can be used as a bench.
- b) In relation to construction system: By making it flexible and operable, the guard house is used as a seating bench in the day and a sleeping space for the guard.



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results



FIND IT AND USE IT! ST AND RE-USE

Beteal WORKEYE

betelworkeye@gmail.com

Danait MEKONEN

dandanaitdan@gmail.com

Lensa WAKUMA

lensawakuma@gmail.com

Liku SOLOMON

solik2602@gmail.com

Miheret TAKELE

naniyaye I 9@gmail.com Netsbrak ATSBEHA

netse22@gmail.com

Peniel YENENEH

penielyeneneh@gmail.com Samuel ABEBAYEHU

imas.slim@gmail.com

WORKSHOP RESULT

<u>5</u>5

RESPECT, ADAPTATION, SUSTAINABILITY, TRADITION, COMMUNITY, HUMANITY, QUALITY, COMMITMENT

DESIGNED PRODUCTS

SHADERS

SITTING SETS

SWING ROPE PLAYING WEB SLIDES

SITTING SETS

In the first place our goal was to achieve a magnificent design product made by innovation of "wasted" materials. And we found plastic buckets to be very abundant all over the site, city and the country and we made the best use out of this and designed sitting sets of playful patterns,



The plastic paint buckets are filled with soil and buried to some depth for stability purpose. Also, according to our analysis, there are "wasted" PVC pieces left over both on the site and so many other construction sites. So, we have made use of these materials in our product design too.











SITTING BUCKETS

REUSED MATERIALS

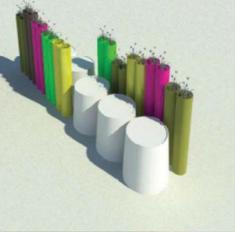
GARMENT PIECES
PVC PIPES

PAINT BUCKETS

PLASTIC CONTAINERS

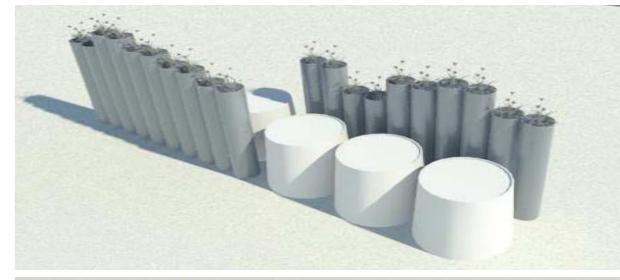


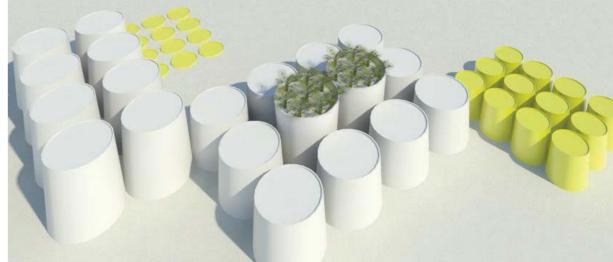




FIND IT AND USE IT! ST AND RE-USE SITTING BUCKETS

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WORKSHOP RESUIT

-6

RESPECT, ADAPTATION, SUSTAINABILITY, TRADITION, COMMUNITY, HUMANITY, QUALITY, COMMITMENT

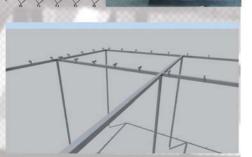
DESIGNED PRODUCTS SHADERS

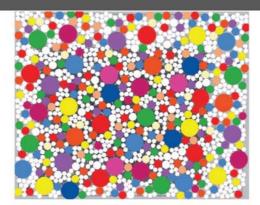
SITTING SETS SWING ROPE PLAYING WEB SLIDES

HORIZONTAL SHADE

As a shade for the playing kids we designed a horizontal shade that could cover a large area and we make use of plastic paint buckets of different sizes and old umbrellas with repetitive pattern and tie them on the sittings that are on the support of the shades.









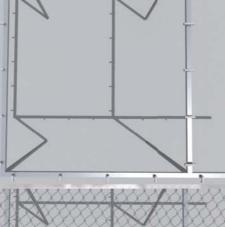




UNDER THE SHADES

REUSED MATERIALS TIRES GARMENT PIECES PVC PIPES

PAINT BUCKETS
PLASTIC CONTAINERS







FIND IT AND USE IT! ST AND RE-USE UNDER THE SHADES

resul



RESPECT, ADAPTATION, SUSTAINABILITY, TRADITION, COMMUNITY, HUMANITY, QUALITY, COMMITMENT

DESIGNED PRODUCT

SHADER SITTING SET SWING ROPE PLAYINGWEB

SLIDES

we have observed left over pieces of PVC wasted here and there; so, we designed a slide made out of bunches of pieces of these PVC held together and designed to have a sliding slope from the top. The PVCs are to be filled

For this structure to be practical on the ground, there is a need to have a way to make it firm andunmovable on the ground, so there could be installed reinforcement bars at the sides of the slide through the pipes and into the

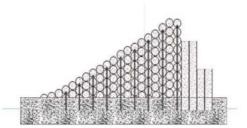












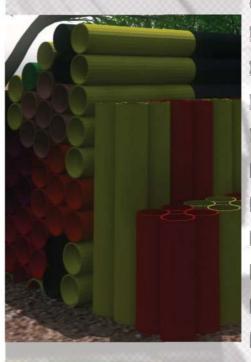
SLIDING PIPES

REUSED MATERIALS

GARMENT PIECES

PVC PIPES

PLASTIC CONTAINERS PAINT BUCKETS





FIND IT AND USE IT! ST AND RE-USE **SLIDING PIPES**



WORKSHOP RESUIT

-6^{2}

RESPECT, ADAPTATION, SUSTAINABILITY, TRADITION, COMMUNITY, HUMANITY, QUALITY, COMMITMENT

INNOVATION INREUSING

OTHER DESIGNED PRODUCTS

GATHERING SEATS

HIDE AND SEEK JUNGLE

'SEGNO MAKSEGNO' PLAYGROUND

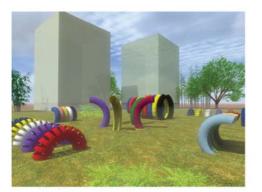
SEATS AND PLAYING JUNGLE

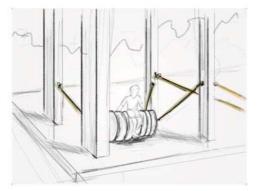
Gathering area is one of the most essential part of the Ethiopian culture, but this condominum site does not have social gathering area. So we thought of creating gathering area that can be both for adults and kids. And this will inhance the social communication in the neighborhood.

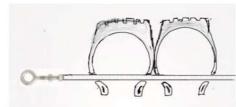
The most frequently used material on the site, both as fences and on seatting areas was 'TIRES'. So we thought of using this materials as a sitting and as playing tools for the hide and seek jungle.

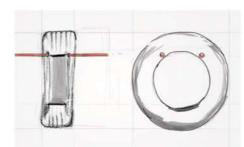












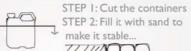
TYRES GARMENT PIECES

GARMENT PIECES
PVC PIPES
PAINT BUCKETS

PLASTIC CONTAINERS

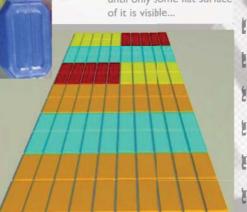


PLASTIC DETERGENT CONTAINERS



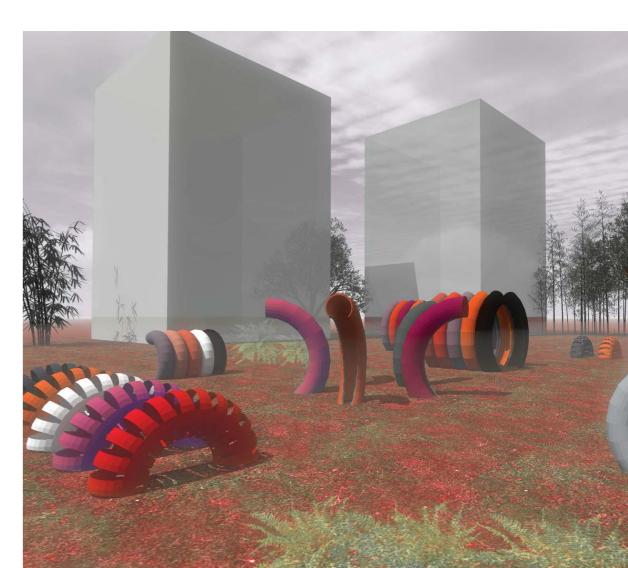
STEP 3: Turn it upside

STEP 4: Bury the container according to its color until only some flat surface of it is visible...



FIND IT AND USE IT! INNOVATION IN REUSING

result



WORKSHOP RESUL

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RESPECT, ADAPTATION, SUSTAINABILITY, TRADITION, COMMUNITY, HUMANITY, QUALITY, COMMITMENT

DESIGNED PPRODUCTS SHADERS

SWING ROPE SITTING SETS

PLAYING WEB SLIDES

The main material for this specific design is the by product of textile factories. The left out of the clothes from factories can be knotted to a stronger bond to produce a stable rope for the designed swing sets and playing web.

As the single unit of the garment could be unstable or the kids to play with, knotting the units like the llustration below would resulted in a strong and appealing produced.



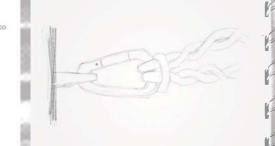
The final result will be a strong colorfull rope than can be used for the swing set and playing web.

SWING ON TYRES

GARMENT PIECES
PVC PIPES
FAINT BUCKETS

PLASTIC CONTAINERS



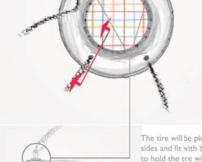




FIND IT AND USE IT! SWING ON TIRES

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The tire will be pierced in four sides and fit with bolts and hooks to hold the tre with the rope.

The hooks enables the sets to be flexible and allows users to put it on and off arytime they want. The user car also determine the desired placement of the swing set

The seat will also be a product of garment pieces that are hooked to the edge of the tire, which makes it comfortable.

The pieces will also have colorful theme which could be aesthetically appealing.



WORKSHOP BESLIIT

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COLLECTIVE SOLUTIONS!

Mu-uz WELDU

Meles KAHSU

Abdelwehab YEHYA

6TH YEAR ST

results

WORKSHOP RESULTS

RESPECT, ADAPTATION, SUSTAINABILITY, TRADITION, COMMUNITY, HUMANITY, QUALITY, COMMITMENT

BENCHES FOR ALL USERS

CONCEPT

CONDOMINIUMS ARE PLACES FOR ALL: KIDS, ADULTS AND ELDERS. THE MAIN CONCEPT OF THIS BENCH PROTOTYPE IS TO ACCOMODATE ALL KIND OF USERS IN RELATIVE TO THEIR NEEDS.

ELDERS ADULTS CHILDREN



THE MATERIAL CHOICE OF THIS PROTDUCT IS DIRECTLLY RELATED TO THE FLEXIBLE SHAPE. IN RELATION TO COST AND APPLICABILITY OF THE PRODUCT, WE HAVE PROPOSED DIFFERENT POSSIBILITIES. WOOD CONCRETE OR PLASTIC



THE REPEATITION PATTERN OF THIS PRODUCT







FENCES

SOME OF THE CONDOMINIUM RESIDENTS HAVE TRIED TO ENCLOSE SOME PRIVATE KIND OF SPACES BY PUTTING SOME FENCE LIKE STRUCTURES AND SOME GARDENS. BUT THESE STRUCTURES ARE NOT STRONG AND PLEASING TO THE EYE.THERE FOREWE HAVE COME UP WITH THIS WOODEN STRUCTURE FENCE WITH SOME PLATES FOR FLOWER POTS AND WITH STREET LAMPS ATTACHED IN TO IT.







COLLECTIVE SOLUTIONS! BENCHES FOR ALL USERS

resul



WORKSHOP RESULTS

73

RESPECT, ADAPTATION, SUSTAINABILITY, TRADITION, COMMUNITY, HUMANITY, QUALITY, COMMITMENT

GETTING ALL TOGETHER

CONCEPT

THE MAIN PROBLEM BEHIND THE PLACEMNT OF THE SATELLITE DISHES IS THEIR MESSED UP PATTEN AND DISTURBING THE LOOK OF THE CONDOMINIUM. HAVING THIS, THE MAIN CONCEPT OF THIS PRODUCT IS TO BRING ALL THE SATELLITE DISHES IN TO A SINGLE STRUCTURE THAT WORKS WELL TO ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CONDOMINIUM AND HARMONIZE WITH BLOCKS.

MATERIALS

THE TOWER STRUCTURE WILL BE OF A LOCALLY FOUND MATERIAL WHICH IS THE EUCALAPTUS TREE AND SMALL BAMBOOS FOR CONNECTION AND STRENGTHING THE STRUCTURE.ADDITIONALLY THE PLATE FOR PUTTING THE SATELLITE DISHES WILL BE CONSTRUCTED OF LOW COST RECYCLED STEEL.

CONSTRUCTION

THE TOWER STRUCTURE WILL LAY ON A

LOCATION

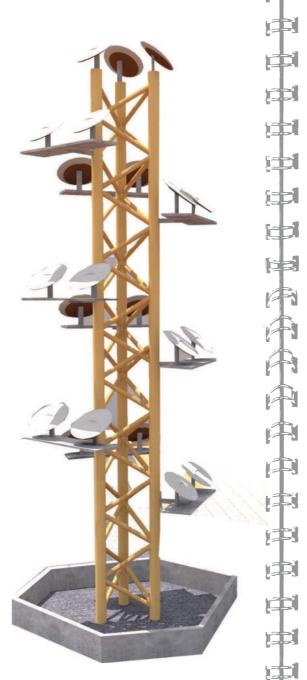
CONDOINIUM BLOCKS



EXISTING SATELLITE DISH INSTALLATION



AN EXAMPLE OF A CONDOMINUMB-LOCK LOOK WITH ITS SATELLITE DISH DISTURBANCE



COLLECTIVE SOLUTIONS! GETTING ALL TOGETHER

result



WORKSHOP RESULT

DETAILS!

FOR COMMUNITY

Eyerusalem DEGEFU

Germachew DESALEGN

Haimanot TSEGAY

Makda DIRAR

Terusaw SOLOMON

Teshome SOLOMON

Yohannes AFEWORK

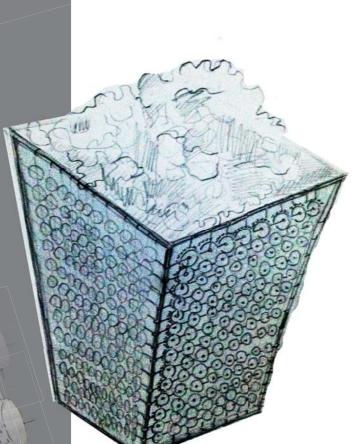
Yordanos YILMA

L.



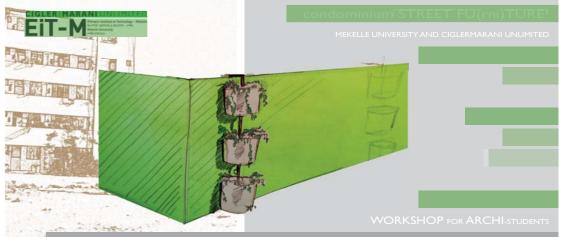
Bottel caps

Concept By combining the bottle cup using wire its possible to create trash basket. The mated of building this basket is very simple and practical. Both the wire and the bottle cup and the wire are available. The design is very simple and colorful.



DETAILS!

FOR COMMUNITY



SECURITY, LIVEABILITY, ACCESSABILITY, RECYCLING, INVITING, CREATIVE, SIMPLE

FLOWER POTS

Tiers as flower pots

using the car tiers that are no longer usable as flower pots by hanging them from chains that can be bottled on walls or hanged from the gutter pipes where they are bolted.

Flower pots

the existing use of paint buckets as flower pots can be improved in a way that can enhance the facade giving it an even more greener appearance by hanging the paint buckets from the balconies instead of just putting them on the top different patterns can be accessible.

KELLE UNIVERSITY AND CIGLERMARANI UNLIMITED



ORKSHOP FOR ARCHI-STUDENTS

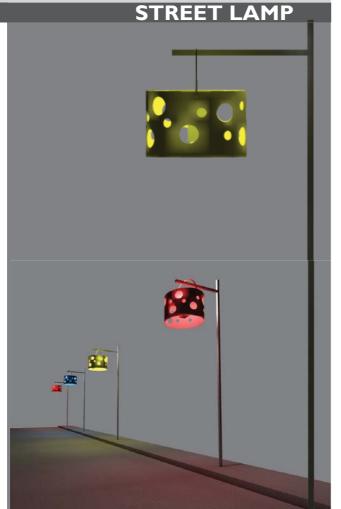
SECURITY, LIVEABILITY, ACCESSABILITY, RECYCLING, INVITING, CREATIVE, SIMPLE

street lamp

providing light for the site is important as there are no light fixtures these leaves the site very dark and unsafe at night so using the gutter pipes as light fixtures by giving them a certain arrangement that they can function as street lights and at the same time as sculptures

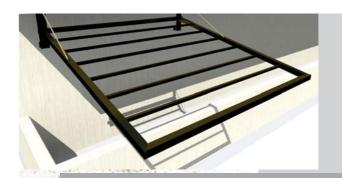






DETAILS!

FOR COMMUNITY



WORKSHOP FOR ARCHISTUDENTS

SECURITY, LIVEABILITY, ACCESSABILITY, RECYCLING, INVITING, CREATIVE, SIMPLE

SHADER AND CLOTH HANGER

Shaders and cloth hangers - Concept

The design solution for this problems is to combine the sun breaker with cloth hanger. By doing so the residences can hang there cloth properly and can gate the additional benefit of shade from the sun

BUILD THE CONDO FU(RNI) TURE 2015

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DESIGN PROTOTYPE?

appropriate workshop results

>>> assistance of CMU (as mediator)

>>> **PROPOSAL TO THE GRANT PRO- GRAMME** of the Czech embassy in Addis Abeba for Small Scale Projects to implement the most convenient project to its "urban field" during the international workshop held in spring semestre during academic year 2014/2015.

The aim of the small scale local projects is to support Ethiopian institutions (such as academic institutions, charities, NGOs, hospitals, etc.) in their development activities, which are alligned with the national development strategy. The projects are implemented in different areas, especially in health, education, social welfare and environment protection.



ELSEWHERE



elsewhere

Inspiration from various sites all over the world, often on the edge of the street art and provocation...

ELSEWHERE



NEW MATERIALS...







elsewhere



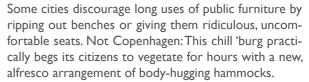








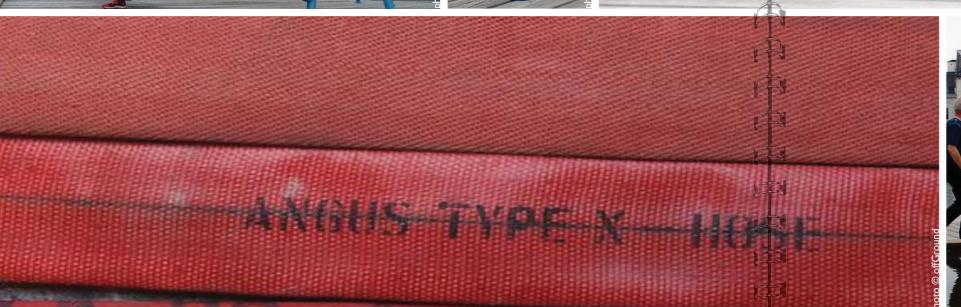
HAMMOCKS OFF-GROUND IN COPENHAGEN



The unconventional fixtures, called "Off Ground," appeared this summer on a boardwalk in the heart of the canal-streaked city. With their fetching red-andblue color schemes, they beckon wayfarers from afar to come and take a load off - munch a sandwich while gazing over the water, say, or dream about the lazy days they spent as children basking in their own backyard hammocks. If visitors wants to ratchet up the activity level a bit, they can stand up and transform the slings into their alternative form of swings.

Transporting people back to their childhoods was part of the purpose of this street furniture, according to the designers that made it, Jair Straschnow and Gitte Nygaard. The duo seems bored with staid, maturelooking public spaces; they'd rather that civilians frolic around in them as if they were at the playground

JOHN METCALFE @citycalfe



EI SEWHERE 89

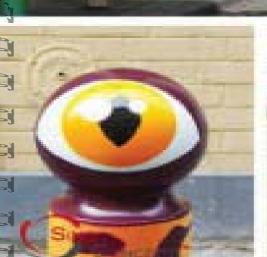
















THE MORE COMPLICATED IT IS,
THE MORE MISTAKES ARE MADE.

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