



CAN | COMMUNITY ARCHITECTS NETWORK
NEWSLETTER

WEBSITE: www.communityarchitectsnetwork.info/

FB: ACHR CommunityArchitectsNetwork

NEWSLETTER: communityarchitects.news@gmail.com



**CAN Regional Workshop
CO-CREATE CHUMSAENG,
Thailand**

Jul 2016



**CAN Coreteam Meeting
Bangkok, Thailand**

Aug 2016



**DPU Internship with CAN
OPENSOURCE
Nausica Castanas (NAF)**

Aug 2016-17



**CO-CREATE Workshop
Danang, Vietnam**
Danang University of Architecture

Oct 2016



CO-CREATE Mahakan Bangkok, Thailand

Satarana [Urban Lab]

Jul 2016



Leaving No One Behind

IIED working paper
on community-driven
urban development in Thailand

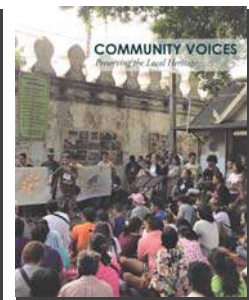
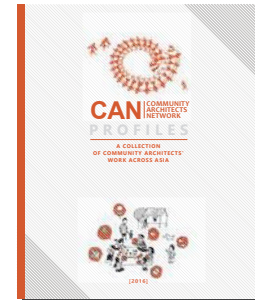
Aug 2016



CO-CREATION, Myanmar

- Co-create
citywide workshop
- DPU Fieldtrip 2017

Nov 2016 , May 2017



3 new Publications

- CAN Profiles
- Community Voices
- Community Upgrading

Aug 2016-17



CAN Regional Workshop CO-CREATE CHUMSAENG, Thailand

Jul 2016

The CAN Workshop Site: Chum Saeng

Chum Saeng city was chosen as the CAN workshop site based on its geographical characteristics, its close proximity to the urban centres of Bangkok and Nakhon Sawan city, and recent changes in its development plans and social structures caused by a trend of younger people moving out. Currently, 30 percent of the population are elderly people, and although there are concerns over the gradual neglect of local traditions, there is also an energy in the community to keep these traditions alive.

The city is located in the Chum Saeng district of Nakhon Sawan province, Thailand. Spanning 2.5 km², it sits on the Nan River basin, on fairly flat lands with clay soil suitable for agricultural activity. It has a population of 8,500, with 3,400 households, 10 communities, and 50 civil groups. These active civil groups regularly organize activities including cycling, aerobics, Eng Gor dancing, and community development. Most people make a living from harvesting crops, fish, livestock, and working in labor and trade.



The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Provide an opportunity for community development professionals from different countries to exchange experiences on pro-poor Asian city development
- Create a platform on which discussions surrounding community planning with the natural environment can take place
- Carry out fieldwork that produces tools and/or strategies for the Chum Saeng community to use for sustainable city planning

Process of Co-Creation

The workshop was structured to allow for flexibility so that the route chosen could be reshaped where necessary, and that community-led processes could be as present and influential as possible. It was expected that the community's needs and wants would be revealed in more depth as the fieldwork days went on, and that this new knowledge would inform new ways of thinking and working. For instance, during the first fieldwork day, the originally proposed working groups were redefined to match the community's clarified priorities.

CAN believes that the following three elements of self-organization lead to the successful co-creation of ideas and solutions:

- Identity: Making sense of your own unique perspective
- Information: Understanding the tools you have for gathering useful data
- Relationships: Knowing and strengthening your network in order to contribute your knowledge and to learn from others

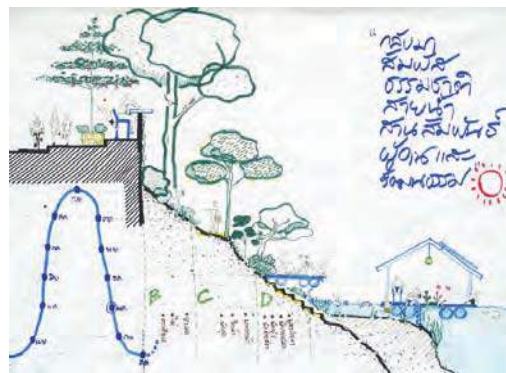
Participants of the workshop were encouraged to think about these elements when working with each other and with the Chum Saeng community.



Workshop Outcomes



- The workshop allowed the community to see that they can be a part of planning in their city.
- The community members gained knowledge on participatory mapping as a tool to drive engagement. Several communities have participated in Baan Mankong programs, and were thus familiar with some of the processes, but the focus of Baan Mankong has always been limited to housing. This time, the tools were used to think about the future, allowing the communities a broader view and triggering city-wide upgrading.
- The CAN Workshop allowed different communities to come together and discuss their common future, joined by the mayor. It opened a forum for better communication with the local government. The mayor of Chum Saeng reiterated on several occasions that he will need cooperation with community members in the future, especially to take the projects proposed during these 4 days forward.
- The mayor is concerned that government plans will go ahead without the local community knowing about or approving the changes. He stressed the importance of the CAN Workshop in allowing for the opportunity to ensure that people are informed of what is happening, and allowing them to participate in shaping their future.
- The mayor informed the community that the budget for the rest of the year has already been assigned, but that he will work on finding extra funding to turn some of the proposed projects into reality.
- The community members also saw that they already have tools in their possession to allow them to shape their future, through engagement and active participation.
- The mayor of Chum Saeng used the map created at the workshop and the handbook containing the information on the government projects to negotiate with the District Authority. He thanked the community architects as he said that he previously lacked a support that contained all the relevant information.
- After the final presentations, the community was invited to participate in the City and Community Rehabilitation Program. This program is open to any community that wishes to preserve the heritage of their city. The community can thus utilize the overall future plan elaborated during the CAN Workshop, and come up with a 3-4 page proposal, with the help of CODI. The projects expounded during these 4 days could become a reality, allowing for co-creation for the future of the community and their children.
- The community, CODI, and a group of young architects from CROSSs, who attended the CAN Workshop, are currently preparing a proposal for the City and Community Rehabilitation Program. They are seeking to continue some of the pilot projects proposed during the workshop, with an emphasis on the community space along the canal, the creation of vegetable and herb gardens and the creation of a documentary on the history of Chum Saeng. They are also proposing making the history of Chum Saeng a module in school, to ensure that the younger generation learns about it. Lastly, they are proposing to make the city a reference for cycling in Thailand, a must for foreign and local visitors, and link it to nearby cities to create a bicycle tour of the area. The proposal builds on the work of several of the working groups, and in particular the river group, the health group, the heritage group and the cycling group.
- The workshop joined together CAN architects and different organizations from Thailand. It was a reminder to the Thai organizations of the benefits of working together, which resulted in an agreement to come together annually to share their knowledge and experience, and co-create.





CAN Coreteam Meeting Bangkok, Thailand

Aug 2016

Greeting from CAN!

First of all, we would like to say “thank you” to all of you, for sharing your effort and energy to gradually mold CAN as a network as appearing today. We have 2 days of sharing and meeting in Bangkok as this are some of the outcome we got. Thanks you very or much for a lot of input and idea shared in the meeting including long and positive note to us via email as well.

It is quite difficult to summarize the outcome of CAN core team meeting (and some relevant points from ACHR meeting) with words in the report. Because those meeting’s outcomes are not only rational plan or set of shared information but also field of energy that flowed among the people in the meeting. And this is the spirit of CAN that I can feel. Here is the summarize that I could capture from these meeting that could help us as a network see how we will go together.



Core values of CAN that weave us as the network

These are the core value that we feel importance to keep on and continue as the network.

- Friendship & Trust
- Platform of learning, sharing, cross pollinating knowledge and experiences
- Platform that support each other physically, mentally, and spiritually
- Compassionate with action on real project
- Feeling of being a part of bigger network

Way to transfer the CAN spirit in regional and local level

From our key learning and experiences gained from organizing CAN workshop since 2010 until now, we found that some countries had been trying to adapt the spirit and process of workshop into the local context. Workshop in this sense does not mean organizing the workshop for workshop, but using the workshop as the opportunity to create condition of change politically, linking with local university and other civic groups to support the works on the ground, bridging local resources financially or thinking the different way to cover the cost of workshop organizing, and advocate for policy/curriculum changes. That is the big productive learning process across the region that has to be continuing with each country. And this is the sustain ways to keep the momentum of CAN as the regional process to grow and ground on its own roots.



Long-term vision

We will update this direction of CAN with MISEREOR (the founder supporting CAN activity 2014-2016) to see whether how we could develop this regional activities in the next 3 years with them. Our direction more or less will be the same but focusing more on city's development under the concept of "Co-creation" as we organized in the recent CAN regional workshop in Chumseang, Thailand. With the energy of network and diversity plus accumulated knowledge, we think that this will help the country to bridge existing work of urban poor issue into city development process where community groups/student/architect/civic groups in the city can come to learn/involve/contribute for city. If we can organize this workshop to be the common ground on strategic city in Asia, we hope this collective energy and creativity we put in will shape the city development in holistic way. And this program can convey the value and spirit of CAN into the working groups both in country and region.

CAN's coordinator team

- With great help of Francesco and Ariel, they both still help us in updating the CAN newsletter to keep news and updating flowing in the network.
- Mr. Witee "Muang", Thai architect who used to work with CODI and being DPU alumni, will help Nad and Tee in coordinating CAN's activities starting from September.
- Ms. Supreeya "Noot", who are the back stage of CAN website, will try to mobilize the CAN Website to be common platform of knowledge's sharing for our network, if you would like to link your facebook page/website into CAN' website please feel free to connect with Noot.





**DPU Internship with CAN
OPENSOURCE**
Nausica Castanas (NAF)

Aug 2016-17



Nausica (Naf) Castanas

I have a background in Politics, International Relations and Economics and I completed the MSc Environment and Sustainable Development at the DPU in 2012. I worked in different fields, but have concentrated on research, using participatory methods to explore topics as varied as the use of public space in London, urban agriculture in Accra, Ghana, and state surveillance in Zimbabwe. I have enjoyed exploring different dissemination strategies, including virtual mapping, video and advocacy campaigns using social media. My particular interest is in community-led projects, particularly in slums.

I have always loved Asia and most recently spent seven months traveling the region in 2015. I have previously lived in Malaysia and China, but had always wanted to move to Thailand.

At Openspace, the community architects studio where I completed the DPU/ACHR/CAN Young Professionals Programme, I have greatly enjoyed working on very different projects. From helping in the production of a board game on urban resilience and climate change, to using participation to create a community tourism map, to writing a research paper on how community-led housing aims to leave no one behind, the workload has been very varied.

I was surprised by the spirit of cooperation that qualifies both the work in communities, but also amongst architects and practitioners of the CAN Network, which was particularly clear during the CAN Workshop. I greatly value the people I have met, both within the CAN and ACHR networks, but also in the communities and universities I have worked with. Most of all, I loved working with the team at Openspace, who really feel like family.



Co-Creation Workshop Danang

Collaboration with Danang University of Architecture, Department of urban planning. The workshop is intended for eyes opening experience to discover another dimension of urban planning and urban development in reality, Building understanding within the complexity of situations that the marginalized group are facing in Danang, Vietnam.

Mission/Aim of the trip:

- Introducing Community Architect to Students
- Sharing experience and knowledge of community architect.
- Workshop which allow students to develop deeper understanding of city planning and it's effects toward different communities.
- Allowing students to gain and develop their method of working with communities from firsthand experience.

CO-CREATE Workshop Danang, Vietnam

Danang University of Architecture

Oct 2016





After the 3 days of working with communities, student developed series of mapping showing their understanding on effects of city development from Top-down approach. They also develop few potentials solution as an initial idea that some students will continue to develop on their individual projects.



CO-CREATE Mahakan Bangkok, Thailand

Satarana [Urban Lab]

Jul 2016



Co-create Mahakan:

The team has been discussing and planning the design process and work closely with the community in order to understand the real feeling and unmet needs during the eviction issue. It was an empathy phase which was very crucial, especially for the community in difficulty for a period of time as Mahakan Community. We facilitated 2 days co-creation process among the experts and local people. Then, we identified the issues and opportunities on how to develop the public space to be a living museum, where people are set in the core of the idea. There were 6 key areas, which emerged during the co-create workshop, which are living museum, public space, housing (historical and functional aspect), creative economy, youth empowerment and old town neighbourhood



The co-create Mahakan was a good initiative to empower people. During 2 day of the process, there were over than 200 participants gathering in the public space. The workshop also got attention from many medias that helped spreading out the circumstance. The final presentations, from 6 areas of work, were collected and utilized as the knowhow of further projects. 2 months later, we extended the scale of the project by creating an intensive workshop, with contribution of a compact group of experts from architecture field and also local people, for a week. The exhibition "Tor-Long" (means connect and experiment in Thai language) which was the output of the workshop representing the concrete and tangible concept of the living museum and public space were installed at the center of Mahakan Community for 2 weeks.





Satarana vision:

Satarana (in Thai means ‘Public’) is a collective of diverse fields of people who have like-minded in urban development. We value in “people” and “public”. We believe that “people” is a key to mobilize the society and create a living city, while “public” refers to a concept of “living together”, where diversity is embraced.

Satarana objective:

We create an open-platform as an urban lab for challenging possibilities of “making another step”. We foster the co-design process and build up the open-network of stakeholder, acting like a social facilitator to foster the open-source ideas and social innovation to be experimented in the context, targeting on ground-breaking and sustainable outcome to enhance living quality and humanistic capacity of the citizen.

Initiative:

"There are so much good ideas out there, why don't we make it happened." Regarding to our observation, We perceive that a lot of individuals and organizations, both government and corporate, process ideas, skills and also consideration on taking a city to another step in their own procedures. Despite that, there always be a big gap of bridging the needs from each stakeholder. Thus, we aim to identify both the social issues as well as the needs of each stakeholder in order to bridge the gap and meet everyone’s needs holistically by bringing in different experts and ideas to be prototyped and implemented.

Approach:

According to our interest in nature of human and humanity rooted within community, we are looking to transform public space to an urban laboratory as a social platform for gathering people. Working non-hierarchically without knowing each other, in the same sort of problem and space, will emerge sense of sharing and leads ahead to unexpected processes and outcomes.

During to the open-minded process, we embrace the uncertainty. From time to time, we make a plan and change it, brainstorm and end up with party, cause an error and solve it together because we strongly believe a society is driven by people, not political system. In an urban lab, we have learnt more by experimenting and failures and that where innovation happened.

We have been adopting the design thinking process as a fundamental of working within the team and with communities. To begin with human’s empathy, problem recognition, information alignment, group ‘Co-Creation’ and 1:1 scale mock-up experiment. All of the stages are conducted in a certain public space. The design tools and methodologies, by internal and external experts, are applied to the co-creation process among stakeholders on purpose of self-dispossession and social-actualization. In the interrelation stage of co-creation, numerous possibilities of an existing problem are holistically produced. Satarana the urban lab is a low-cost model, mobilising the assets of the city to encourage public and private sector investment in social innovation.



Leaving No One Behind

*IIED working paper
on community-driven
urban development in Thailand*



Aug 2016

Leaving no one behind in Thailand: an IIED working paper on community-driven urban development in Thailand
By Nausica Castanas

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to eradicate poverty in all its forms, focusing on ensuring that no one is left behind by development efforts. But what does it really mean to leave no one behind, and how can countries go about it? Despite this worldwide commitment, no concrete action has been agreed upon.

The International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED) in London is attempting to answer this question through three small research projects focusing on specific sectors. Funded by the Department for International Development (DFID), the research teams have, over the last 9 months, examined leaving no one behind in:

- Small scale fisheries in Bangladesh
- Access to energy in rural Africa
- Community-led approaches to urban development in South East Asia

Our team at Tar-Saeng Studio looked at community-led approaches to urban development across Thailand, while another team undertook similar research in Cambodia, to inform an overarching report by the IIED. The urban poor are increasingly at risk of being left behind as cities face more inequality, which in turn makes low-income populations less visible. In particular, we examined how existing housing projects already incorporated elements of leaving no one behind, focusing on four vulnerable groups: older people, people with disabilities, the chronically ill and the chronically poor.



Our team at Tar-Saeng Studio looked at community-led approaches to urban development across Thailand, while another team undertook similar research in Cambodia, to inform an overarching report by the IIED. The urban poor are increasingly at risk of being left behind as cities face more inequality, which in turn makes low-income populations less visible. In particular, we examined how existing housing projects already incorporated elements of leaving no one behind, focusing on four vulnerable groups: older people, people with disabilities, the chronically ill and the chronically poor. In August-September 2016, we undertook field research in six communities. The case studies were selected to present different approaches and different types of projects that incorporate an element of leaving no one behind. The projects can be split in three broad categories:

Central and underprivileged homes in the Baan Mankong programme:

- o Saeng Mueng Mai is the newest Baan Mankong project in Nakhon Sawan. The inclusion of three underprivileged homes has allowed two people with disabilities and one chronically poor family to be included in the new community. Although the participants in these three cases could not participate in the project's community savings group, they were incorporated in the project by a deliberate effort.
- o Similarly, the Baan Mankong project in Bang Bua incorporated three central homes: the ground floor housed older people with no family, while the renters on the upper floors assisted them with their daily needs. These older people were already part of the community before the upgrading process, but would not have been able to be included in the upgrading as they were unable to participate in the savings group. Their new homes have also ensured that their needs are catered to on a daily basis, thus guaranteeing they are not left behind.



Renovation and repair of individual homes for vulnerable people using alternate funding:

- o In the Baan Mankong community of Saeng Mook Da, community members use different sources of funding to repair and renovate the homes of older people, those with disabilities and the chronically poor. The funding often becomes available at the municipal level, and is then channelled through the community to reach those who need it most.
- o In Gao Liew, funding from the Japanese Social Development Fund (JSDF) and the World Bank for post-flooding reconstruction following the 2011 floods was directed to the community through the municipality. This project targeted the chronically poor, as well as older people and those with disabilities. The project included participation at every level and not only brought about an improvement of these people's living conditions, but also allowed community members to gain new skills.



Design of communal spaces using universal design

- o In Tarn Nam Korn, universal design has been used to design a community park, which can be used by people of all ages and abilities. This project has not been realised yet as there is insufficient funding.
- o In Rim Nam, the renovation of a walkway bordering the community has been completed using universal design. However, the execution of the project highlighted the problem of using a new design philosophy, as community builders disregarded many of the ideas stemming from the community workshops to impose their own vision.

While markedly different, these case studies all have certain similarities. Strong community ties, boosted by communal savings groups, are important in all these cases as a security net for those most in need. Moreover, information on the community through mapping and surveys is the starting point for all these projects, as it allows communities to select the people who are at risk of being left behind. Good relations and trust with the municipality is also of paramount importance to the execution of various of the aforementioned projects. Lastly, the participatory approach used in all these cases is a testament to the lasting impact of the Baan Mankong programme, which has truly made participation the default option in housing in Thailand.



Our working paper will be published in January 2017 and will be available on pubs.iied.org.



CO-CREATION, Myanmar

*- Co-create
citywide workshop*

Nov 2016 , May 2017

After we have been working with local NGO, Women for the world, and communities network since 2010 and try to develop housing for the poor in Yangon, Mandalay and in villages in Inyawadee delta through ACCA program and we have been trying to develop platform and training for community architects and community builder but still we cannot have link with intuition and university.

From last visited on Sept 2016 we have chance to meet and discuss the issue of support community architects in Myanmar with AMA, association of Myanmar architects, we agree to start training which will be the first engagement between CAN, AMA, WFW and communities network in Yangon as the situation of urban poor settlement right now in the risk of many eviction according to rapid development and it has no policy on housing for urban poor.

And from the context and situation of eviction in Yangon we selected 67 ward [4,000 houses] community in Dagonssikkhan township this is one of the biggest settlement in Yangon which is facing eviction and community have been organize for 2 years with WFW and have saving group since 2 years ago. Before the workshop WFW had organize the mapping and survey training for community so it help to prepare community for our workshop to work together for finding alternative solution.

Mission/Aim of the trip:

1 to organize the workshop in township level to link community networks, WFW, AMA universities and volunteer architects and planner to learn and work together in the real situation in 67 ward community, 4000 houses they all live on the local government land [YCDC's land] which are facing eviction from YCDC, Yangon City Development committee, we use the workshop to start the new engagement for professional, university and local authority to work with community and find solution on housing and township planning together to stop eviction.

2 share experience of ACHR and CAN from ACCA program to AMA, Universities and Local government through opening seminar on first day and on last day of workshop we share the ideas and processes to the public and media.

3 create platform for professional like architects, planners, engineers and university to work with community, local government and NGO and encourage university to set up program for engage with urban planning ,housing for urban poor by use co-creation process.

4 propose alternative solution on housing and township planning in Dagonssikkhan township from the workshop to public.



Building and Urban design in Development is a Master degree course inside University College London. The course aim for students to develop understanding and planning strategically toward development under complexity of situations in different parts of the world. In the educational year of 2016-17, CAN, ACHR and DPU agreed to run a fieldtrip in Yangon Myanmar. Having Woman for the works as the local host of the workshop.

Mission/Aim of the trip:

- Opening possibilities for mutual learning between the local team and Visitors.
- To bring in young professionals closer to the real situation that city development and low-income housing development is facing.
- To Have the visitors with fresh eyes to help developing understanding the complexity of situations and purpose possibilities of actions/action-plans that are helpful for the local practitioner.
- To have young Burmese practitioner working in the field with students from DPU, as a perspective, and understanding sharing process
- To help vibrate the communities with outsiders.
- To empower the process of reflecting, sharing and provisioning of city development between civil sector, practitioner sector, educational sector and governmental sectors.

After spending 3 days at the site, developing understanding on the situation and need of community, students come back to the working station and discuss about what they discover. Then try to develop a possible development plan for communities to progress on their housing development and community organization with relation to policies and land situation.

Students later present their discoveries on possible action plan that communities can take, both for shortterm and longterm development. Communities then later reflect on the discoveries and have a short discussion on what action could be taken right away.

On the last day of the workshop, DPU students and local students present their refine strategy and provision toward sustainable city development and housing security for low-income communities.

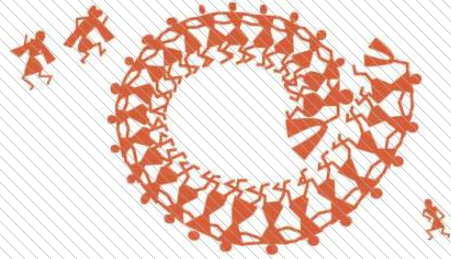
Before closing the workshop, there is a panel discussion about the situation and the direction that each actor/sector could support.



CO-CREATION, Myanmar

- DPU Fieldtrip 2017

Nov 2016 , May 2017



CAN COMMUNITY ARCHITECTS NETWORK PROFILES

A COLLECTION OF COMMUNITY ARCHITECTS' WORK ACROSS ASIA



[2016]

Community upgrading: what is it all about?

Some key ways in which community architects support communities to improve their environment

COMMUNITY NETWORKING

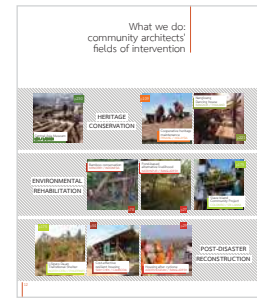
Ten communities speaking with one voice are stronger than ten communities scattered: Networks based on pooled savings, land tenure insecurity, occupations and other common issues allow people to learn from each other, and work together at the city scale. Strong community networking changes how development happens.

COMMUNITY SAVINGS

Through savings groups, communities create a stake in their own development: savings groups build trust and communities' capacity to collectively manage, prioritise, and implement development. With a common fund, communities have higher negotiational power with authorities to leverage larger investments, subsidies and longer term planning, directing their own development.

PARTNERSHIPS

Building partnerships opens up new possibilities: comprehensive upgrading is not just about poor communities, it implies a social and physical restructuring of the whole city. Therefore the involvement of stakeholders from different sectors of society is critical: government representatives, local professionals, civil society, NGO's, academic institutions, private partners: the list of people with something to input in the upgrading process is long.



Perween Rahman fellowship

An important part of CAN's engagement in the past years has been the Perween Rahman Fellowship, awarded to support young architects working on community development, as a way to foster the economy and sustain the hope of our Pakistan-based partners and people. We are pleased to have a fellow in 2016, the talented young architect Perween Rahman. She has been working in a rural part of Gilgit-Baltistan province for several years. Her work focuses on the development of an eco-tourism project, her research, her teaching, her community work, her work in urban planning and design studios. She got an opportunity to visit other urban planning professionals in the province, along the fellow period to visit Lahore, Islamabad and Karachi for a short-term period.

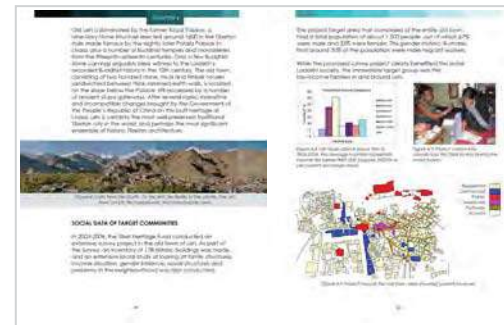
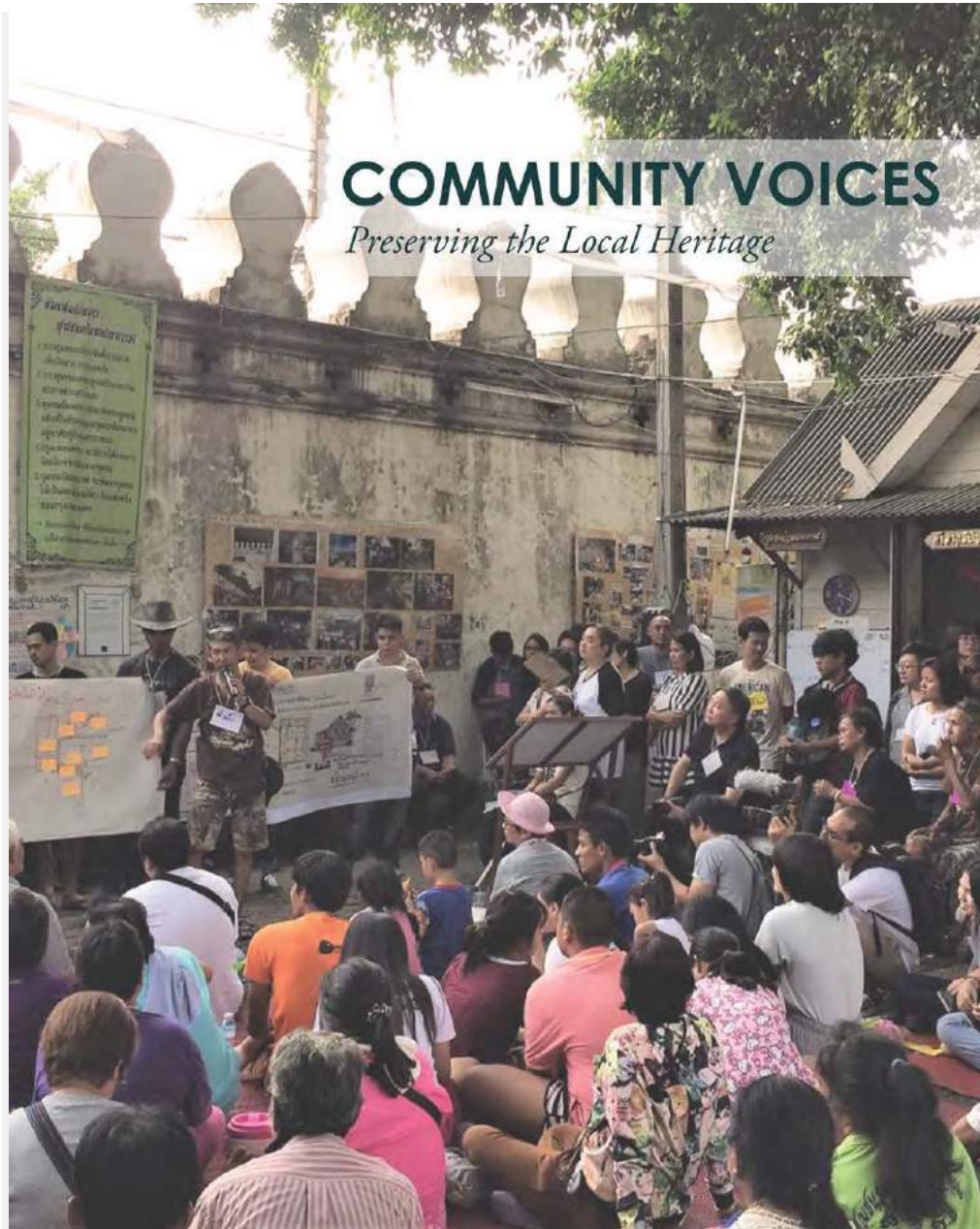
During the fellow period, Perween Rahman Fellowship supports to disseminate the work, through her personal efforts and social media. She will have the opportunity to work, meet and give together with communities.



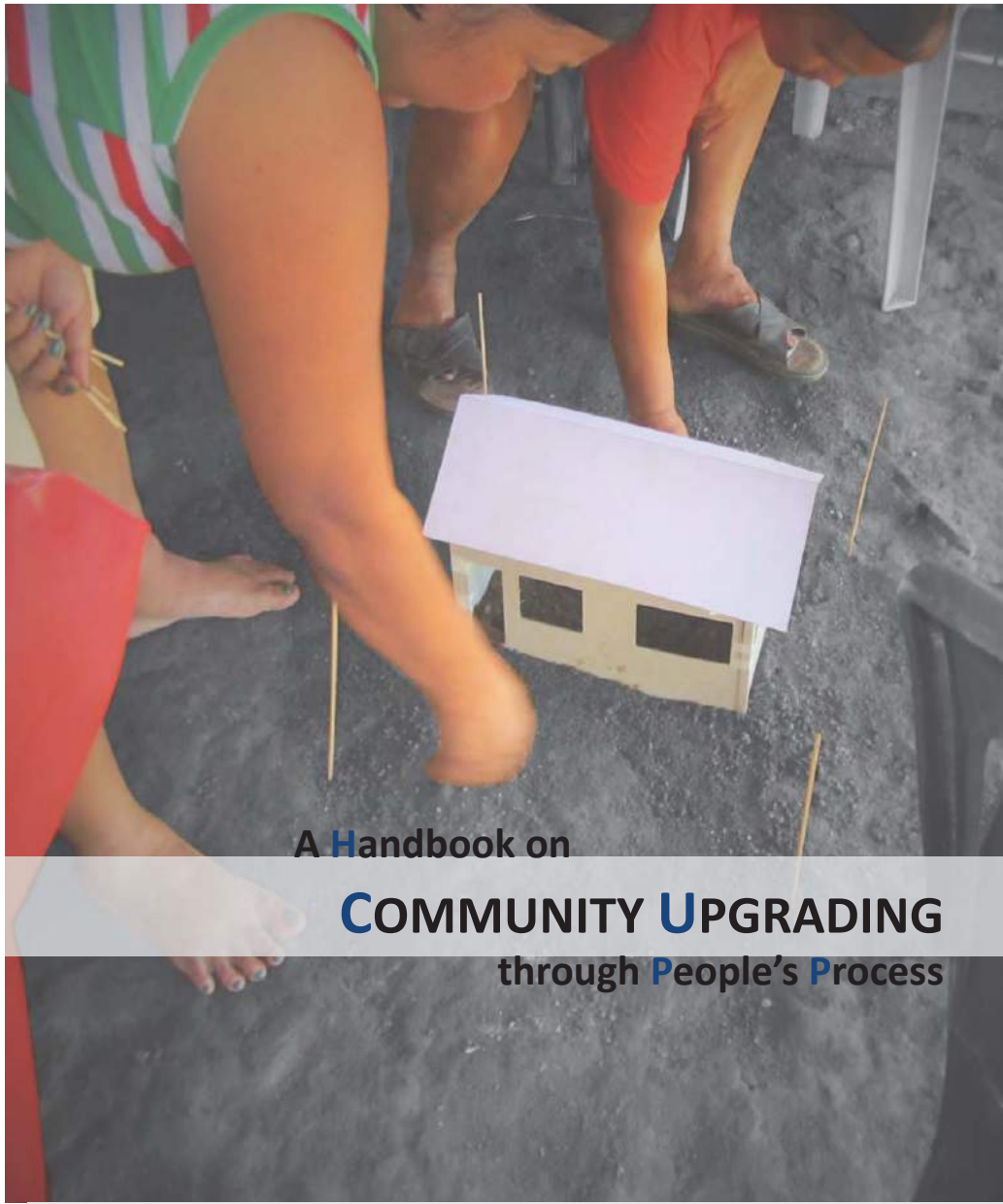
This book collects the community architecture work carried out on the ground by dozens of local groups across Asia: it is the result of a lengthy work of collation of stories, information, pictures, carried out by many people.

this book also marks the closing of a small era, and seeks to capture CAN's inspirational stories at this particular point in time.

Ariel and Francesco [editors]



“Community voices” illustrate the approaches to historical sites in Asia by different groups using community-centered approaches, where the aim is to safeguard the people, places, and public spaces of the local communities by improving living conditions and at the same time keeping history, identity, and self-respect of the residents. The following eleven chapters present the work and commitment of university students, NGO's, and individuals to address some of the issues found in the historic sites. These approaches, although different, have the commonality of community-centered approaches, where the local community takes an important role in discussing, planning, decision making, and implementation.



A Handbook on
COMMUNITY UPGRADING
through People's Process

Case Study: On-site Upgrading for Post Disaster (ACCA Program)
Location: Kampung Wete's Sidrap City, South Sulawesi | INDONESIA

Surviving an unprecedented disaster in 2012, Wete's Fishermen's Village in Sidrap wanted to re-build their homes. They had been assisted by many groups in house reconstruction aid, exploring problems and potentials as well as disaster preparedness.

Participatory community mapping method was used to map the problems and potentials of the community. The process of active community participation then revealed the needs of the community. Patterns were drafted by experts through active community participation. Patterns were drafted by experts for minimizing effects on houses.

Structures at Kampung Wete's

The community created a pattern map that shows problems and opportunities in their community. Around it, people discuss patterns formed and possible steps to be done on future process.
(Image Source: CAN Indonesia)

COMMUNITY UPGRADING HANDBOOK | By ACHR 23

Case Study: Housing Construction: The Core Houses of Mandaue
Location: Brgy. Paknaan, Mandaue City, Cebu | PHILIPPINES

The design of the house varies according to the law governing minimum requirements in designing socialized housing. These core houses provide the families outer structural shell of the dwelling alongside basic utilities such as plumbing, electricity and wastewater treatment.

The housing design implemented was row houses made of interlocking Compressed Earth Blocks (ICEB) which turned out to be cost effective material and a sustainable one. The design was developed during a workshop organized by HPPPI and facilitated by Technical Assistance Movement for People and Environment, Inc. (TAMPEI). Within this workshop, several ideas were developed according to how the community envisioned their house and to have guidelines of financing and cost efficiency.

Production of ICEB for the row houses

34 COMMUNITY UPGRADING HANDBOOK | By ACHR

The following are some of the skills trainings the communities may find helpful:

Participatory Workshop

To have an idea of what the development would look like and how much it would cost, people need to know the cost of materials and construction. This involves community members, beneficiaries, structure plan reading, and other construction technical requirements. It is best to conduct this exercise and be able to train others in doing activities, calculation, filling in cost estimates of materials, drawings and discussing with external parties.

Material Selection

In the urban areas, there are materials in different construction materials and people need to understand their community or work area to select their material with consideration of cost, material, availability and quality. They can make an immediate analysis and comparison to have enough for selection.

Construction Methods Training

In developing a settlement, one often finds to conduct a workshop, it is essential to provide the trainees the necessary a huge field for the practice. This is why showcasing activities and reading information on good things practices for the community on the upgrading program. It is necessary to conduct training activities to transfer technology and knowledge to beneficiaries.

35 COMMUNITY UPGRADING HANDBOOK | By ACHR

This community upgrading handbook belongs to a series of ACHR handbooks for housing by people. Experiences and insights of people working for people were compiled while case studies on projects in different parts of Asia were included to represent the numerous processes from which this collective manual for community upgrading was largely based on.

This handbook aims to provide technical professionals, community development practitioners and local leaders with practical knowledge and basic skills in facilitating processes in community upgrading.

