

IS JAKARTA BEYOND SAVING?

My Story

Frustration

August 2023 A way to find solutions



Motivation

October 2025 Epiphany in Vietnam:
A lack of spatial justice
for informal communities.



Inspiration

December 2025 Action:
Can we explore different ways
through the Kampung.



Appreciation

2023-2025 Experiencing the
pains from close by.

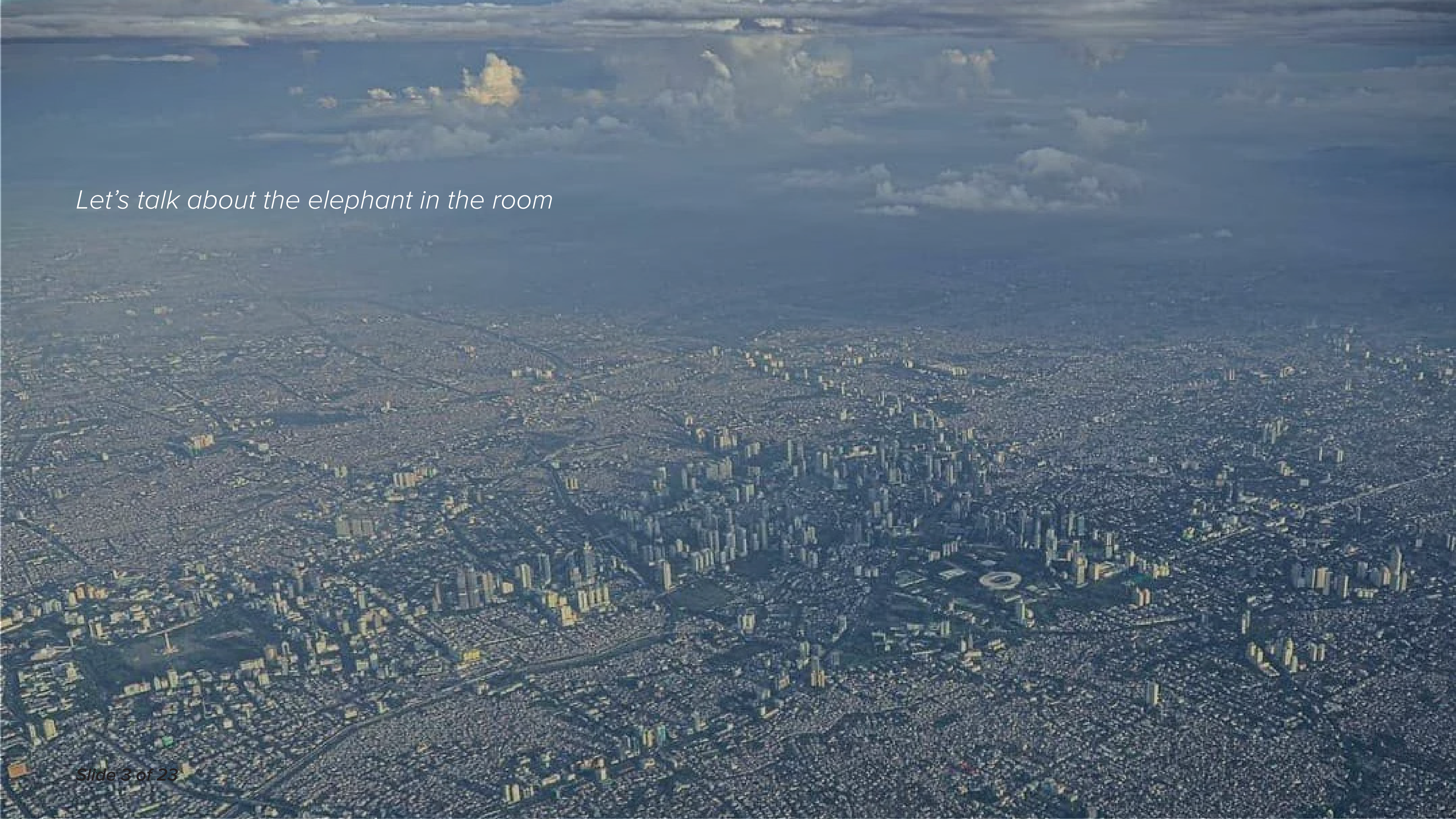


November 2024 Learning to plan:
Develop in interest and
gaining knowledge



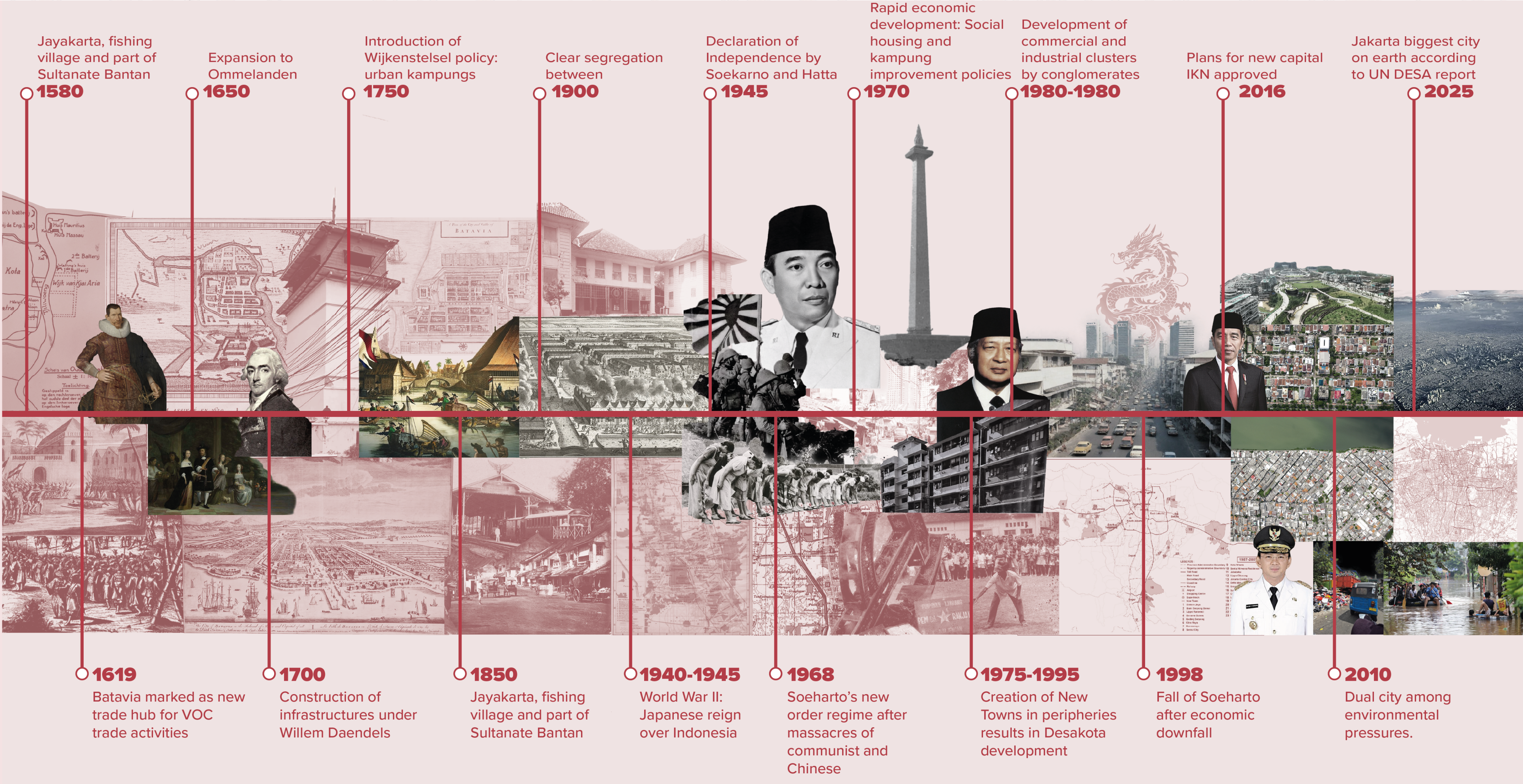
Inspiration of a community:
Absorbing the values of
Indonesian culture



An aerial photograph of a city at dusk or dawn. The sky is a deep blue with scattered white and grey clouds. The city below is densely packed with buildings, many of which are illuminated with warm yellow and orange lights, creating a stark contrast with the cool tones of the sky. The perspective is from a high altitude, looking down on the urban landscape.

Let's talk about the elephant in the room

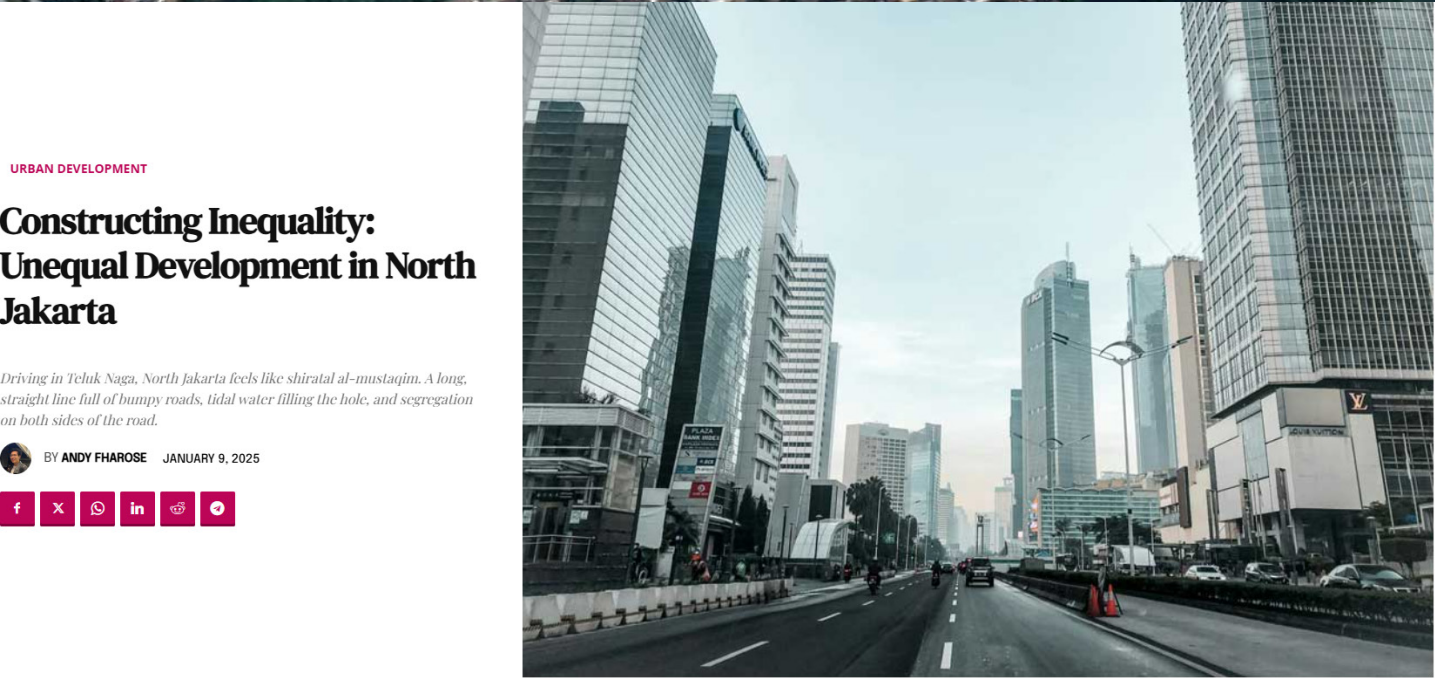
Context



Social

Environmental

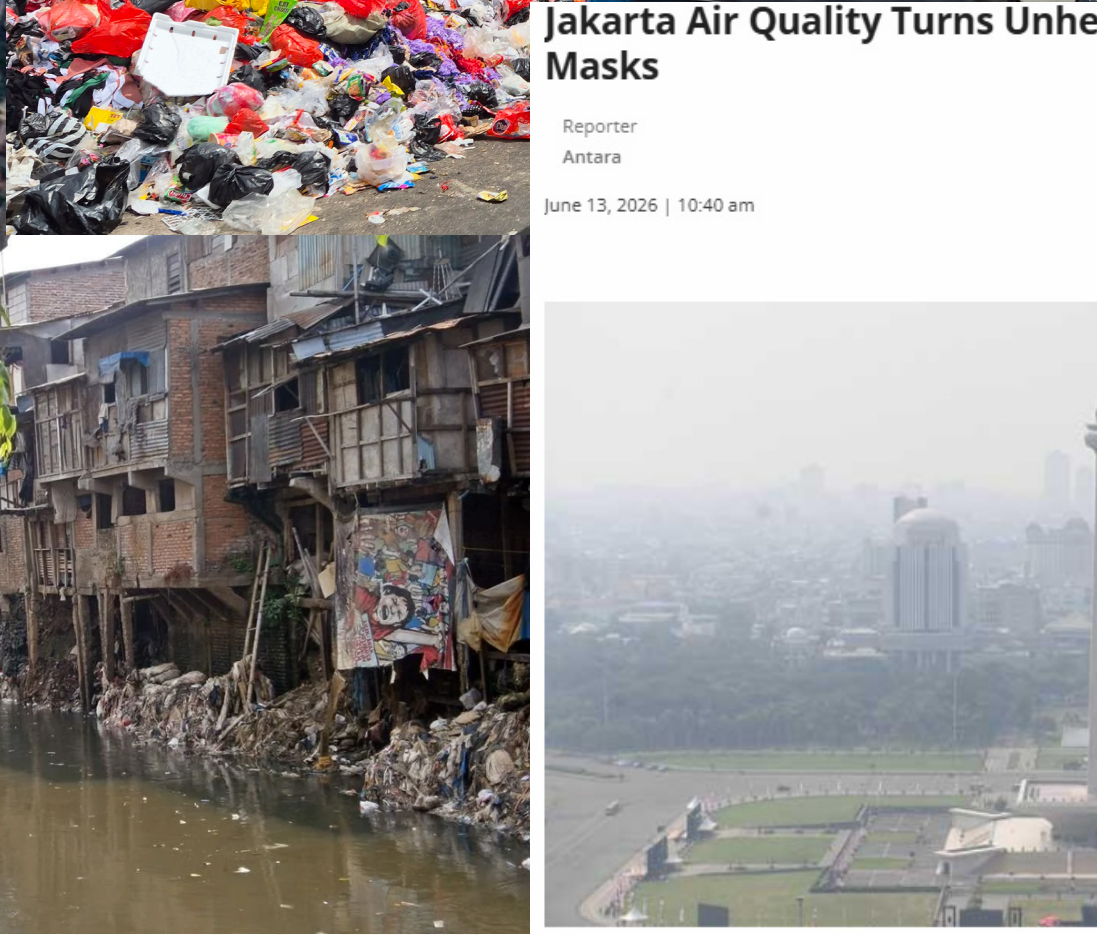
A week of protests in Indonesia fuelled by glaring social inequality



Dozens of Kampung Pulo evictees at risk of losing new homes

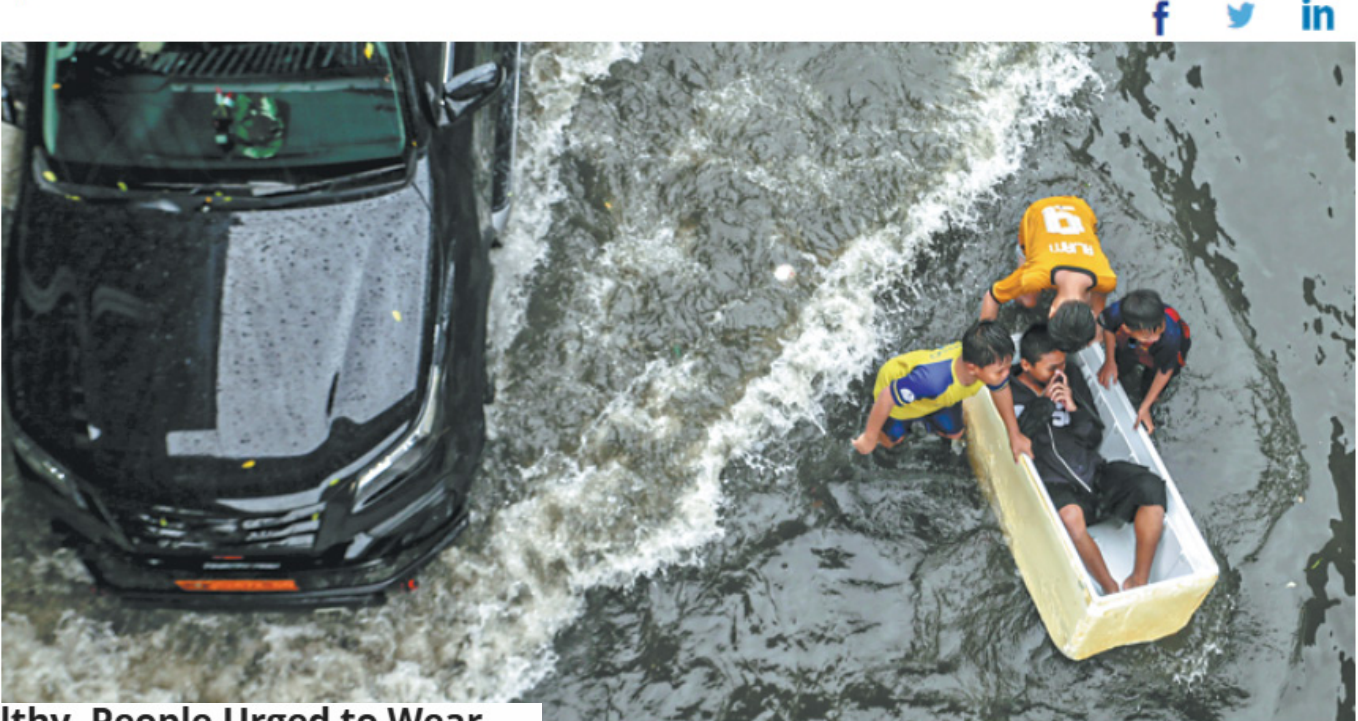
thejakartapost.com (The Jakarta Post)
Jakarta • Tue, April 12, 2016

Gift Full Article



Jakarta sinks deeper amid flood risks

Updated: 2026-01-29 10:35



Indonesia, on Jan 12. NURPHOTO VIA GETTY IMAGES

Jakarta Air Quality Turns Unhealthy, People Urged to Wear Masks

Reporter
Antara
June 13, 2026 | 10:40 am

Share



*OR CAN WE RADICALLY ALTER ITS
COURSE THROUGH A NEW WAY OF
URBAN PLANNING?*

A different perspective from the Kampung

- The Kampung (Informal Communities), formed through social practices oriented at community and resilience.

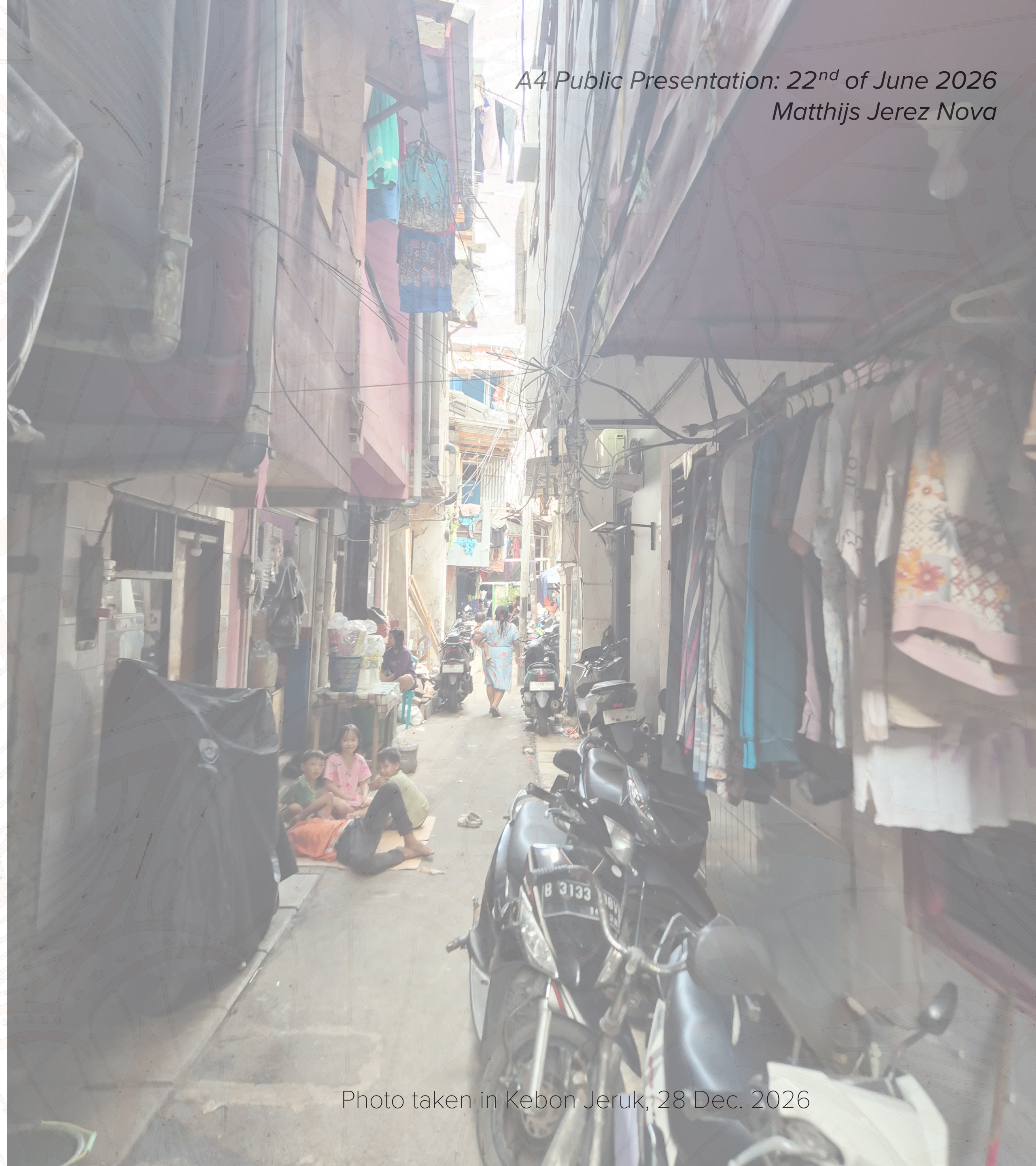
“Whereas good things are shared; burdens are equally shared and together the village carries on supporting each other through whatever may pass.”

— Lisa Scharoun (*The Kampung Spirit* - symposium Design for Change Singapore, 2024)



Problem Statement

Kampungs are Indonesian **informal settlements** that are established through a **self-organising community** based on principles of **solidarity** and **resilience** (Tugas, 2008). Their intangible **social infrastructures** and their **informal economies** have shown great **resilience** in an dynamic and highly complex metropolis (Low, 2000). These systems are frequently overlooked and disregarded by officials and planners who tend to emphasise the negative aspects of the *Kampungs*. Can these **values** from informal communities somehow provide a more **socio-spatially just** and **sustainable approach** towards urban planning, moving away from current **top-down** approaches that have fostered the **Dual City in Jakarta**?



Manifesto from the Kampung

- Can we include this community approach in urban planning?
- Inspire the higher powers in Jakarta to create a shift towards .

“Kampung is the space where people can learn to be a Jakartan, to be an Indonesian”

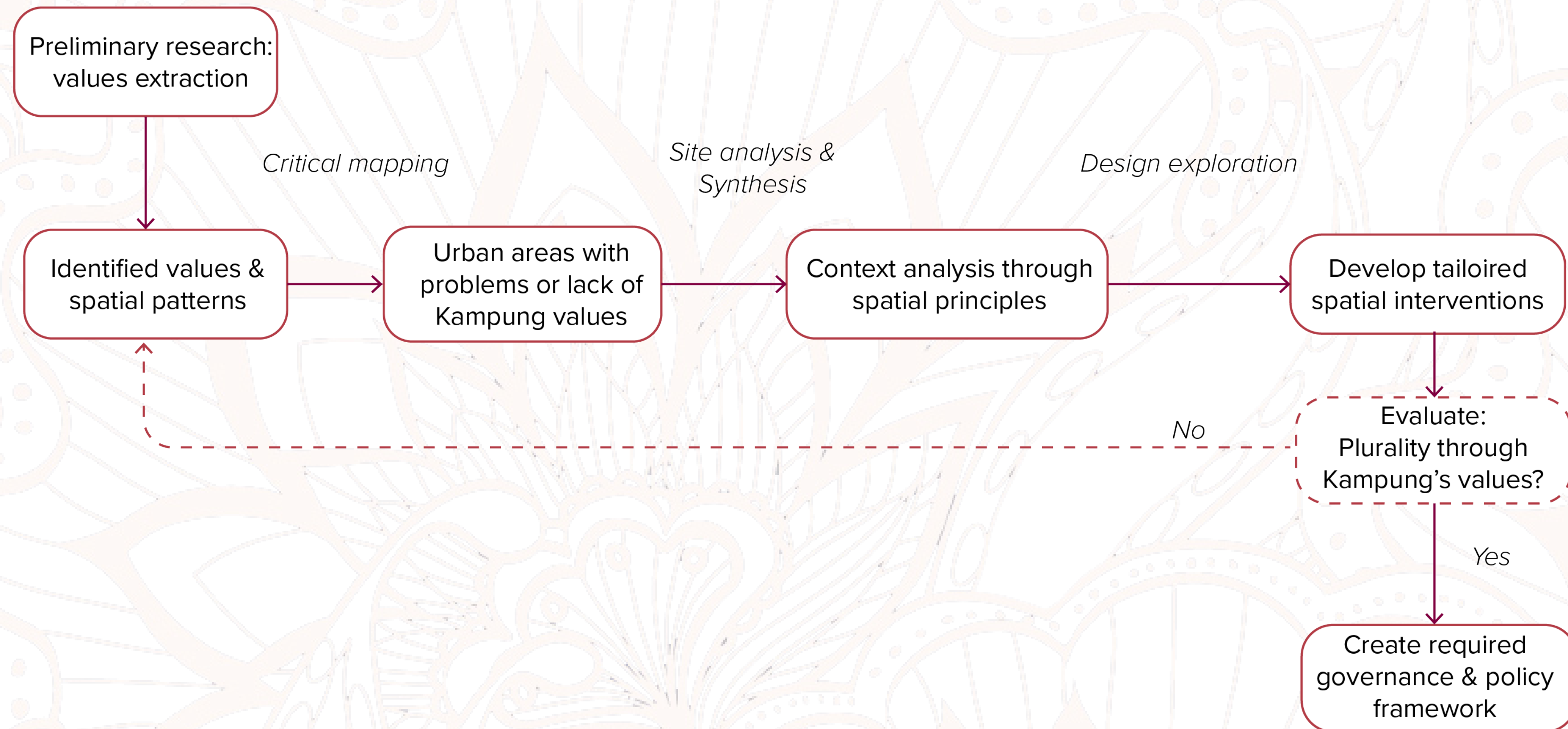
- 4th Governor Ali Sadikin (1966-1977)



Postcard from Jakarta, the Kampung Metropolis.

How to?

Framework: Transferability of the Kampung values in different context of Jakarta



Analysing the values of four resilient Kampung



Kampung Aquarium



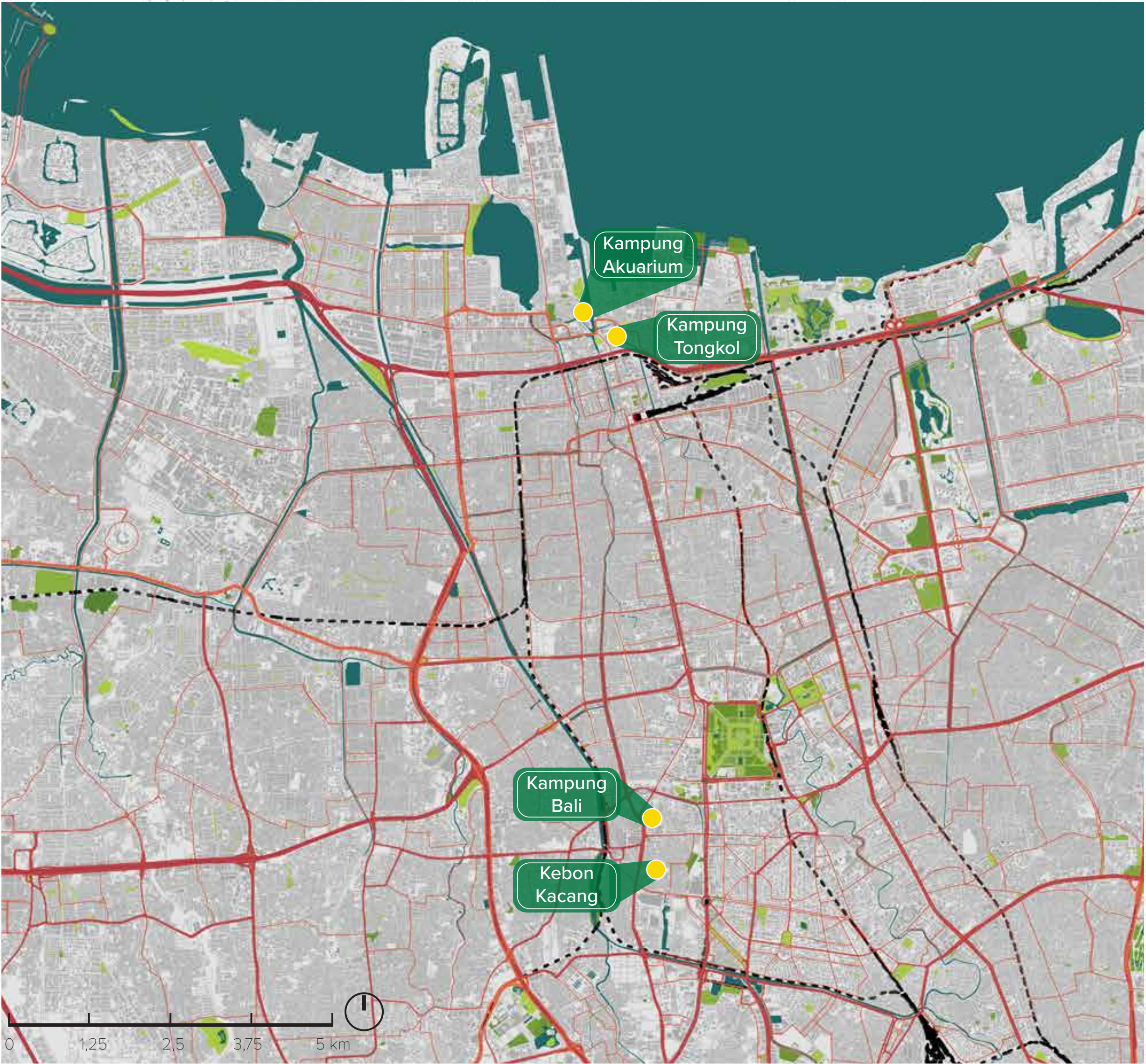
Kampung Tongkol



Kebon Kacang



Kampung Bali



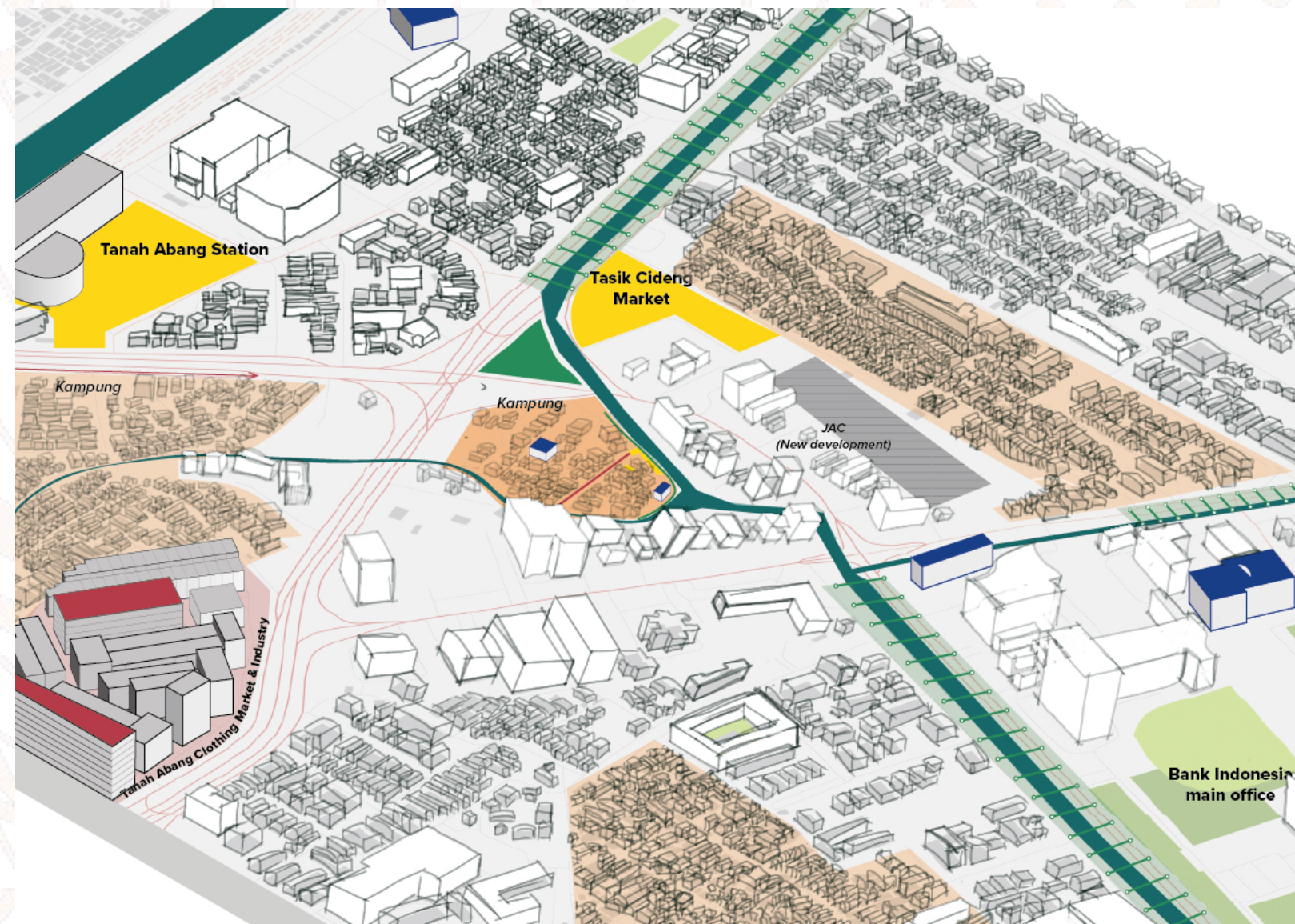
Locations of the Kampung

Kampung Aquarium & Tongkol



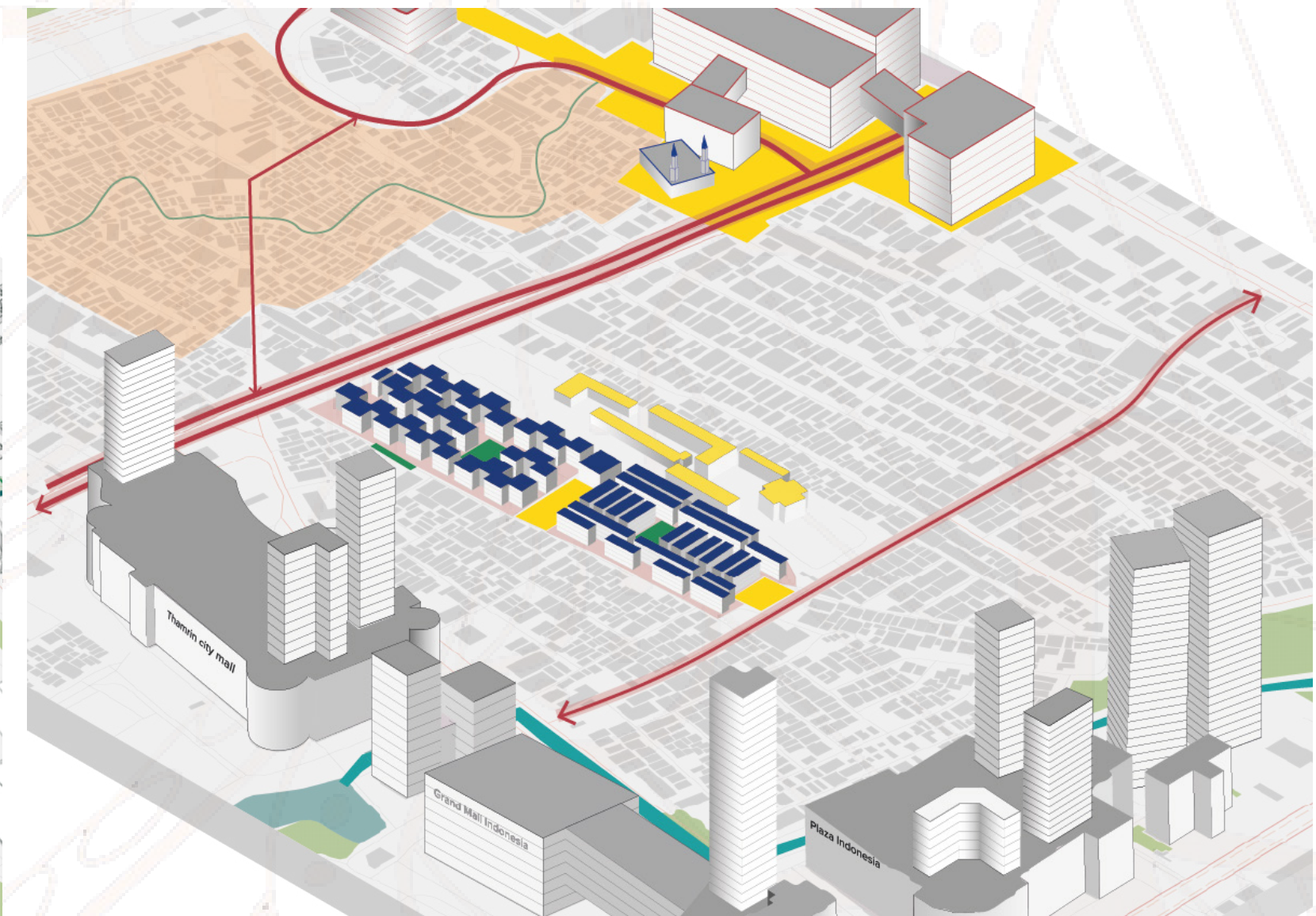
Historical context provides amenities and and key infrastructures.

Kampung Bali



Proximity to Tanah Abang wholesale market and key infrastructures.

Kebon Kacang



Proximity to economic clusters and long presence in urban core shaped identity.

Identifying the values

- **Care** through sharing utilities and resources that support the Kampung.
- **Identity** established through place-making and creating a sense of belonging and pride.
- **Resilience** shows through gradual developments and improving space in the Kampung.
- **Ecology** adds spatial quality to Kampung and provides resources and advocacy.

Care

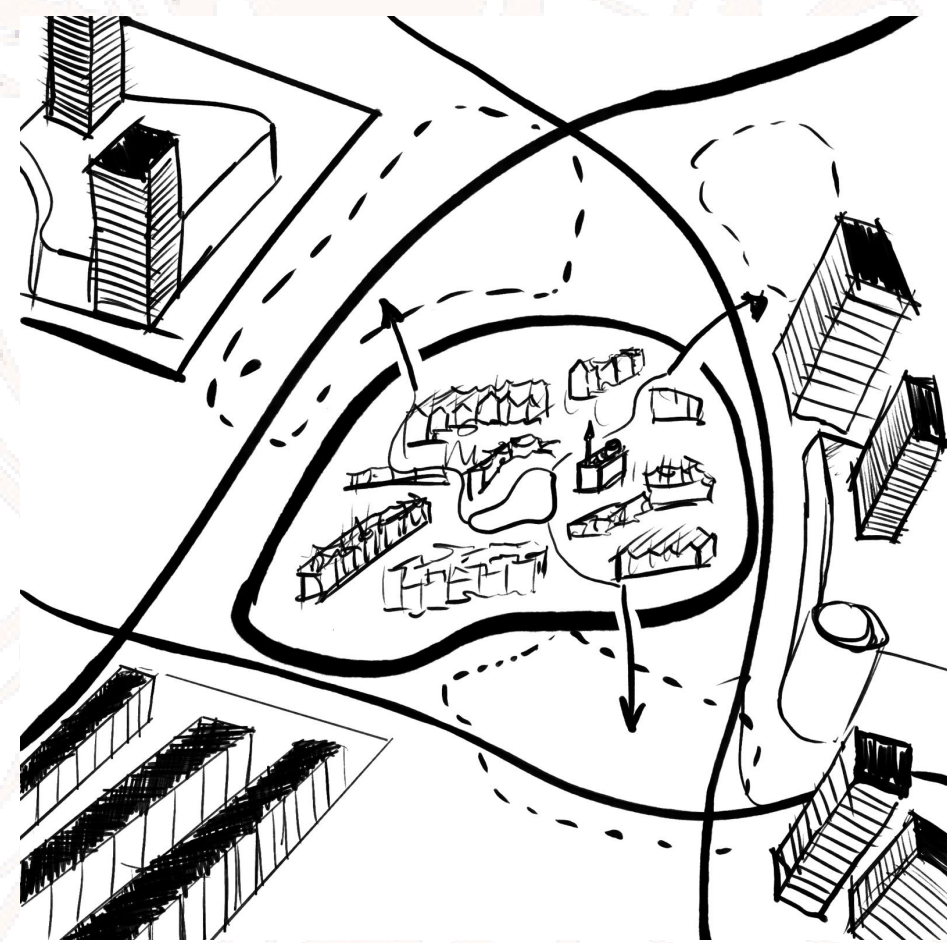
Identity

Resilience

Ecology

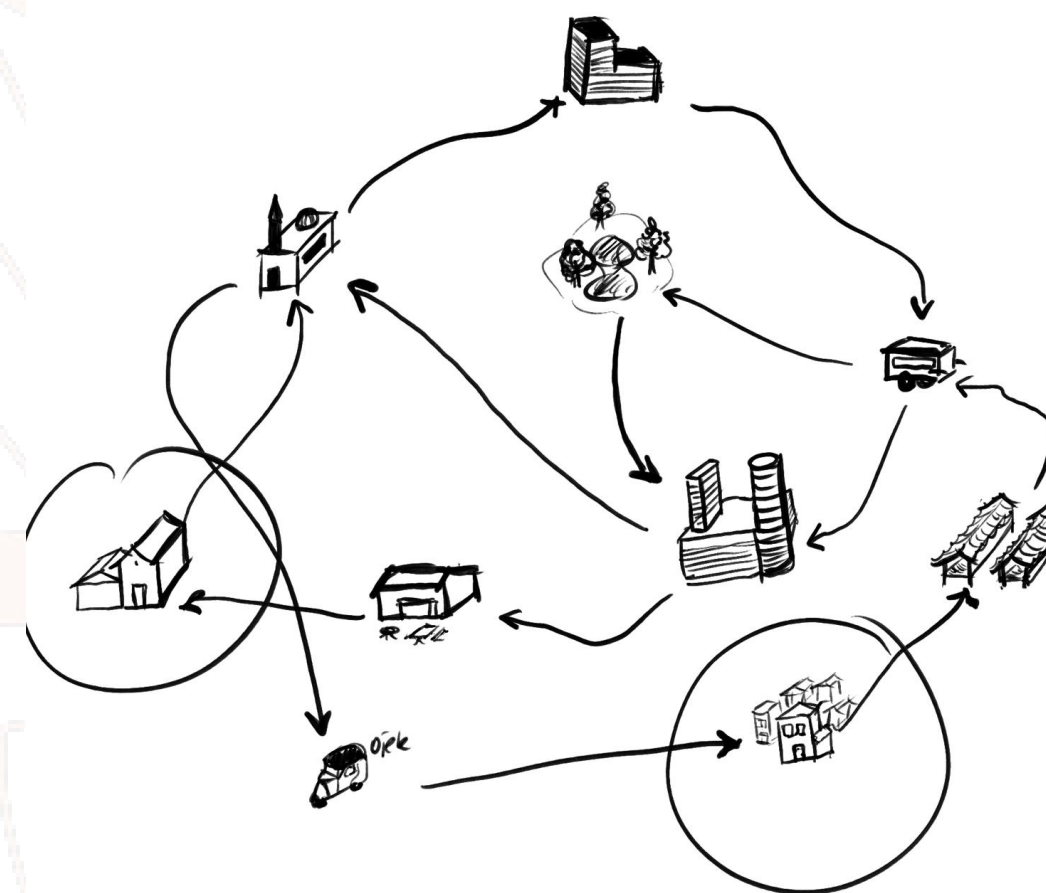


Spatial principles



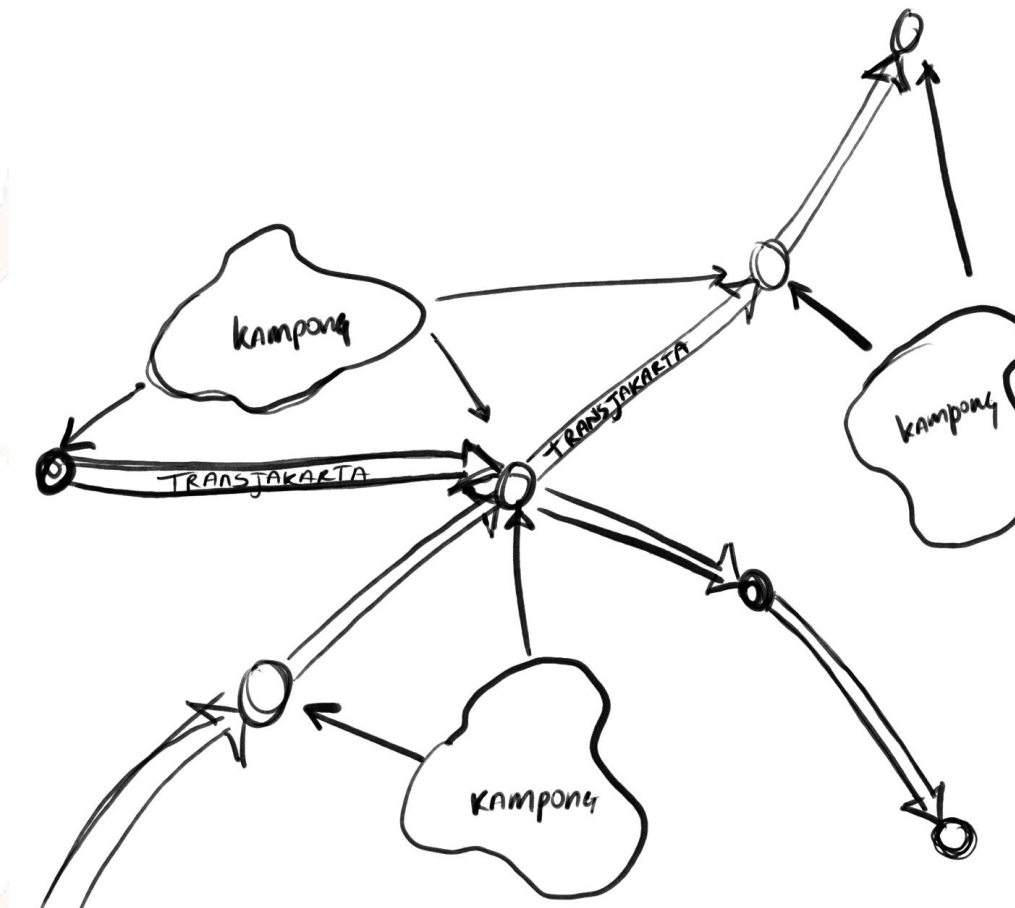
■ Porous borders

*Coexistence
between formal
and informal*



■ Chain of amenities

*Means to develop
economies and
relationships*



■ Mobility networks

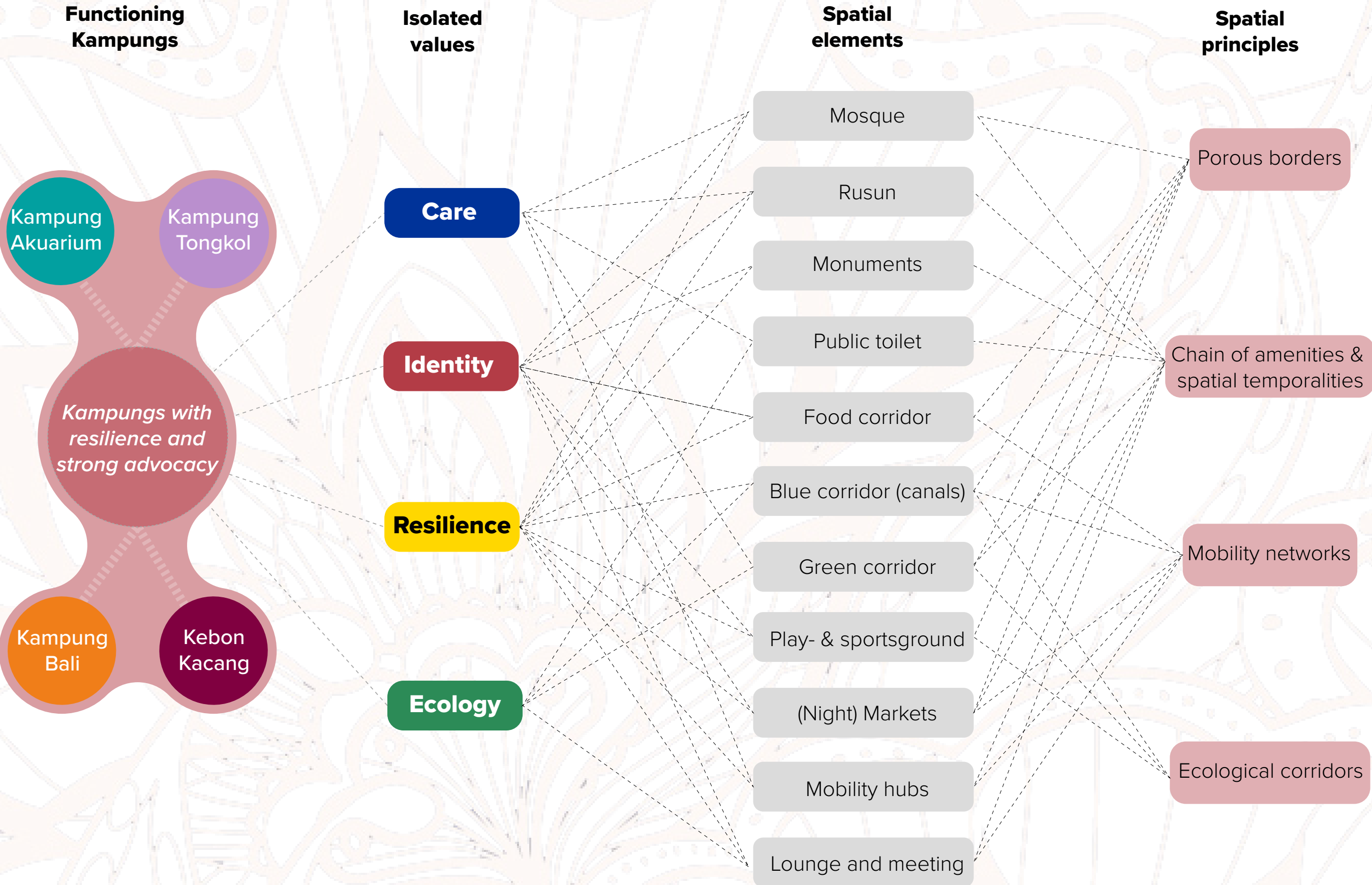
*Include community
with networks*



■ Ecological corridors

*Provide
infrastructures of
resilience*

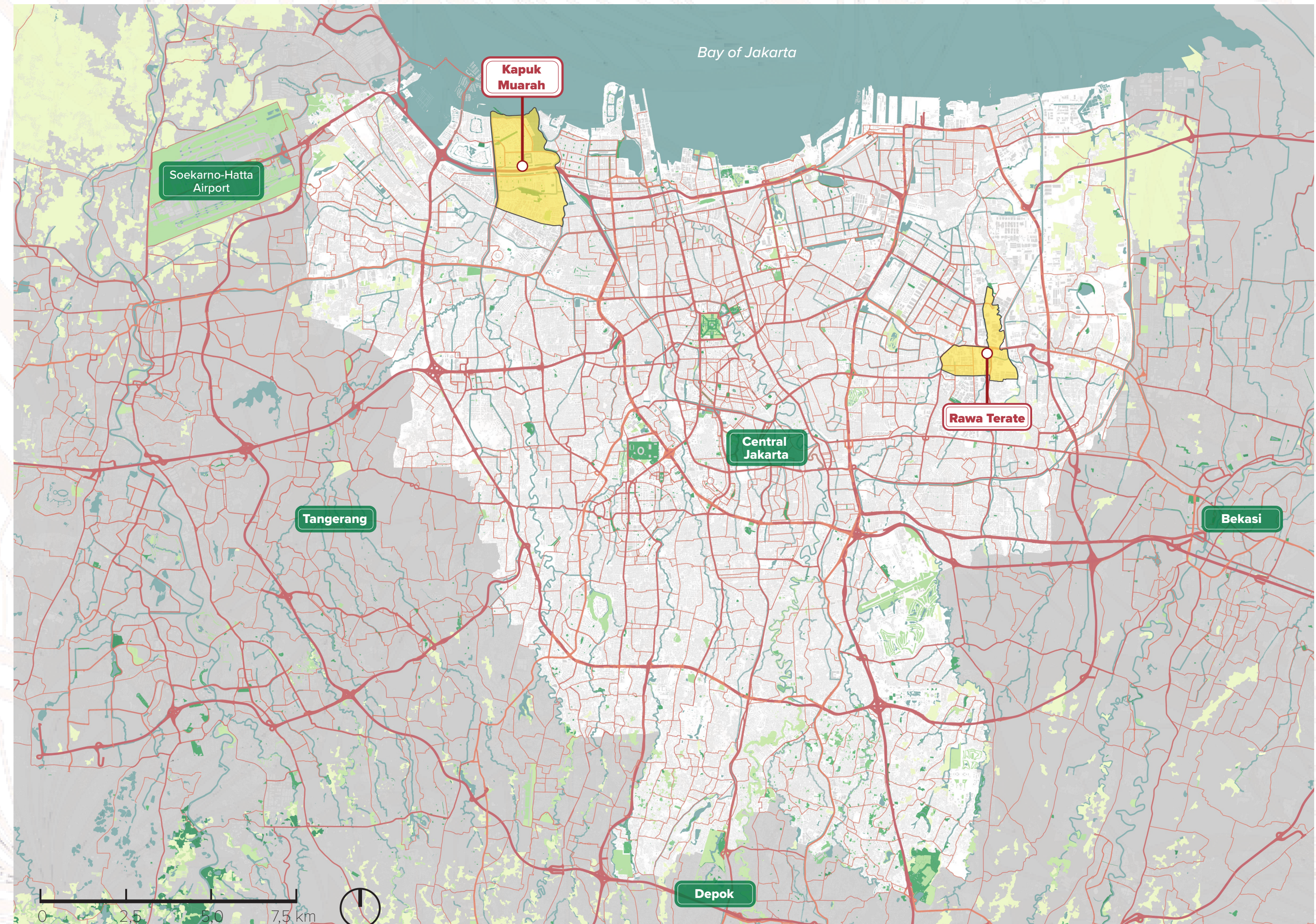
Evaluating the Kampung



Applying the values

Contrasting contexts

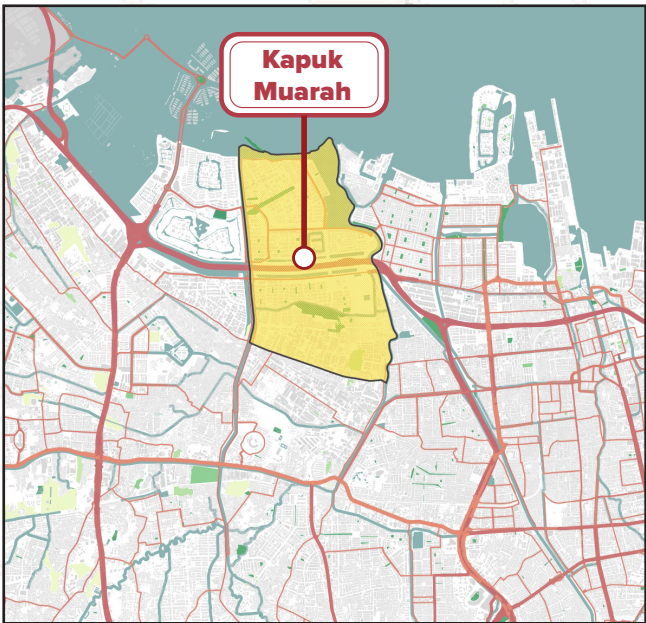
- **Kapuk Muara:** Developed district but lack of community and heavy segregation with threat of gentrification.
- **Rawa Terate:** Industrial district with severe Kampungsl plagued by environmental externalities.



Kapuk Muara

Conflicts between spatial principles

Dual city is present through barriers between informal and developed and inequality in amenity distribution.



Location



Conflict map Kapuk Muara.

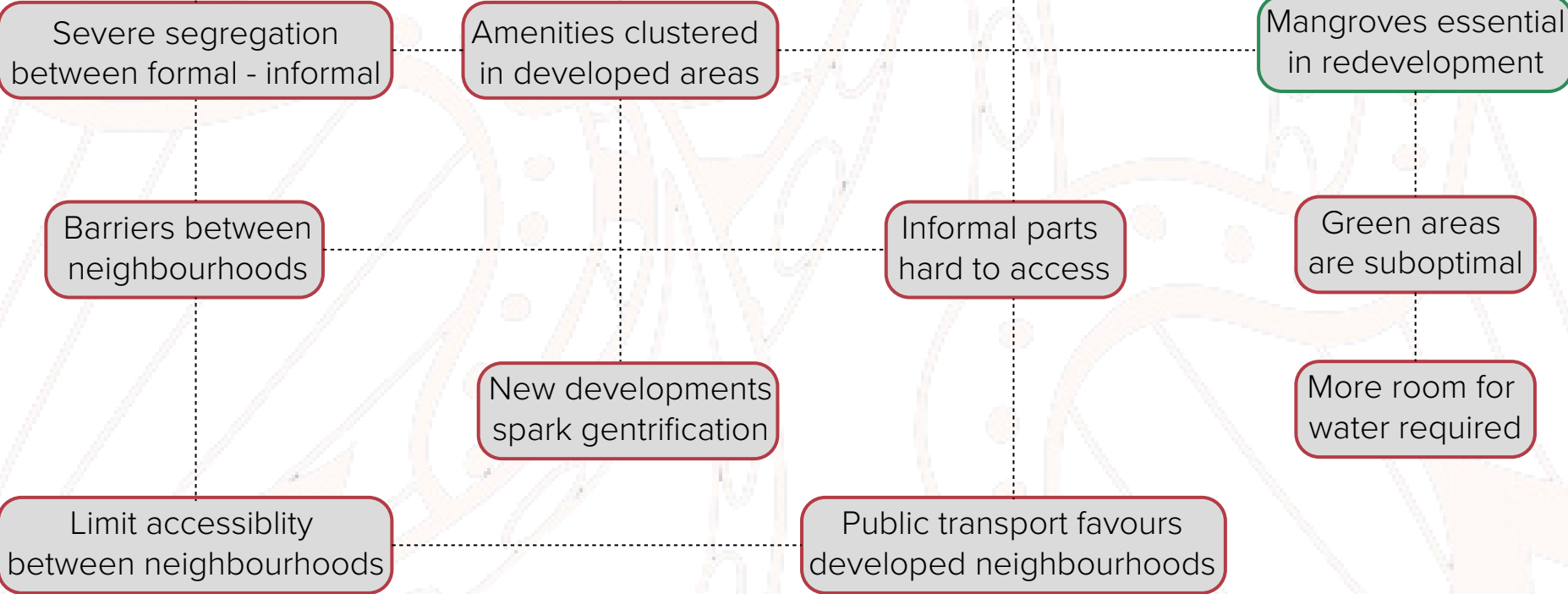
Evaluation

- Lack of care towards informal communities due to profound segregation through barriers between areas.
- Central identity missing in developed areas.
- Ecological foundation is strong, but can be improved to integrate the areas and provide new amenities.

Spatial principles

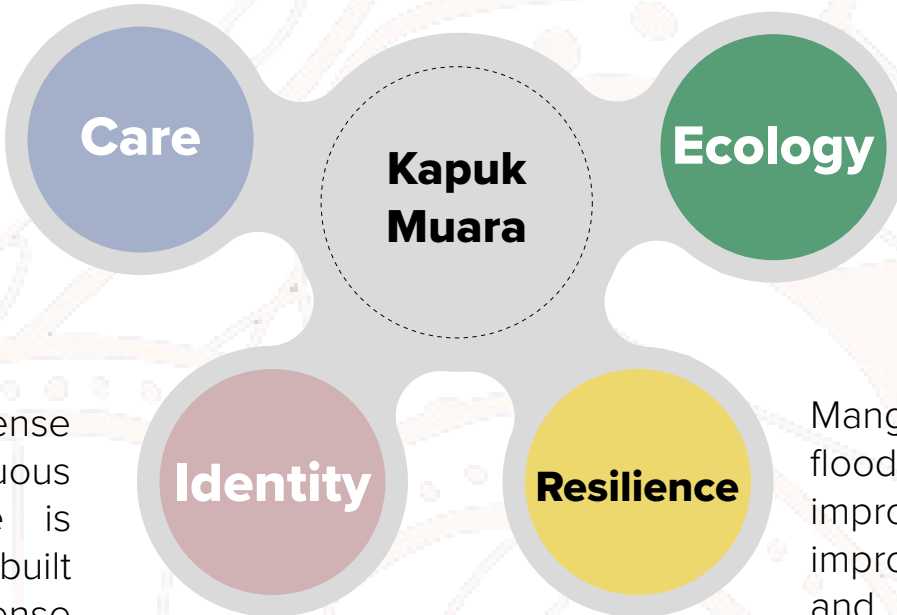
- Porous borders
- Chain of amenities & spatial temporalities
- Mobility networks
- Ecological corridors

Evaluation



Neighbourhoods are introverted and highly segregated, practices of care can be identified locally but social cohesion between areas is not present. Continuous development foster gentrification endangering long-lasting Kampung communities

New developments lack a sense of identity due to homogenous design, Indonesian culture is often not reflected in the built environment, therefore no sense of belonging is created. Traditional neighbourhoods are prone to gentrification.



Area has strong ecological foundation with Mangroves and water infrastructure, plots of empty land are sometimes unused or used as landfills, goal is to integrate and improve the ecosystem.

Mangroves provide some degree of flood protection, but can be improved. Overall resilience can be improved by integration of informal and formal economies. Transition towards sustainable economies can leverage the Kampung from poverty and develop the area holistically

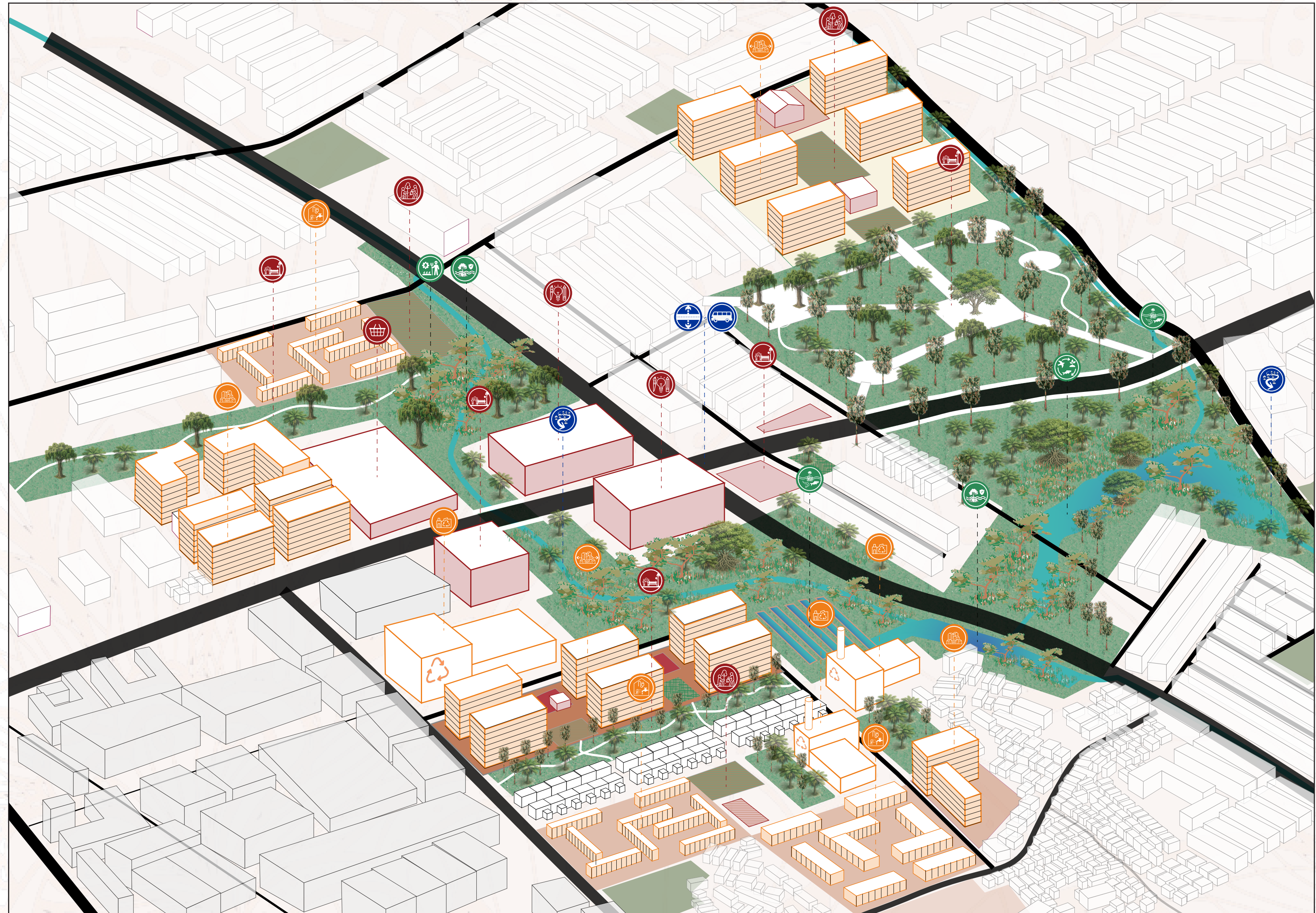
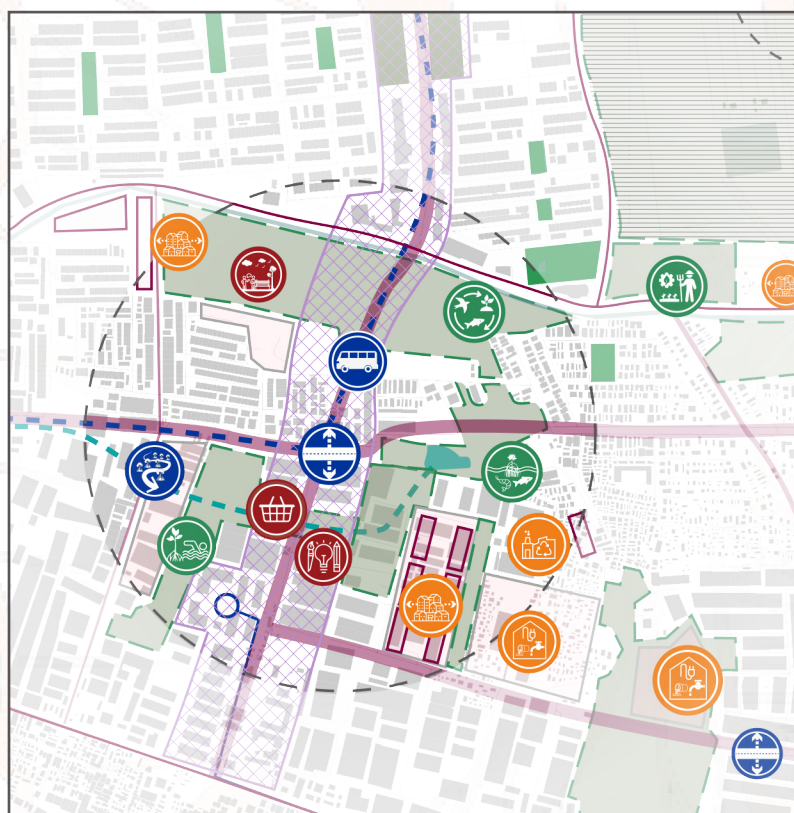
Key areas & Strategic Interventions

- Enhance blue-green infrastructure through mangroves.
- Providing ecosystem services that align with needs of both communities.
- Improving street network of conflict areas for integration.



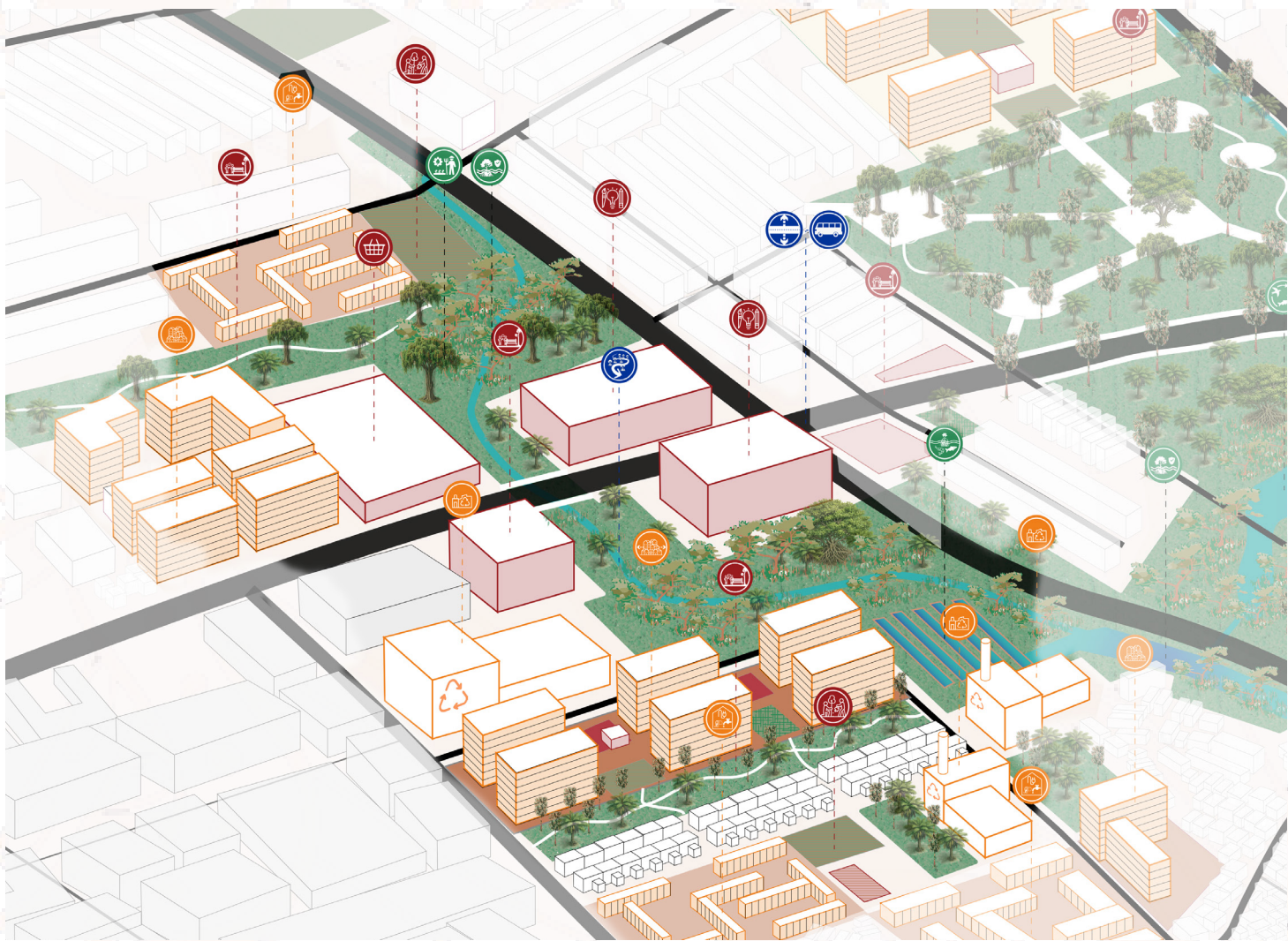
A new heart for Kapuk Muara district

- New traffic corridor to integrate the area with bus service.
- Extending blue-green corridors providing ecosystem services and community integration.

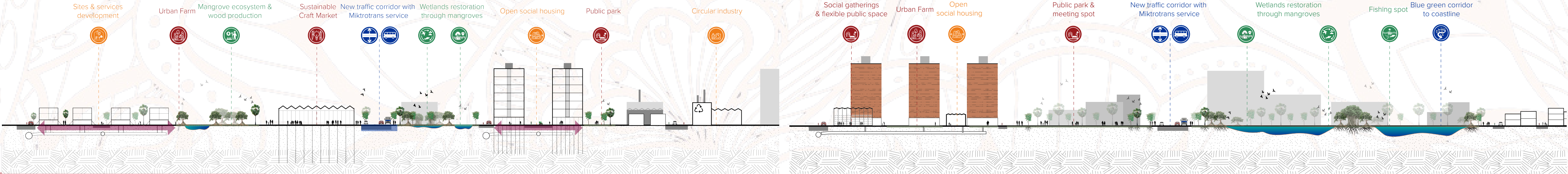
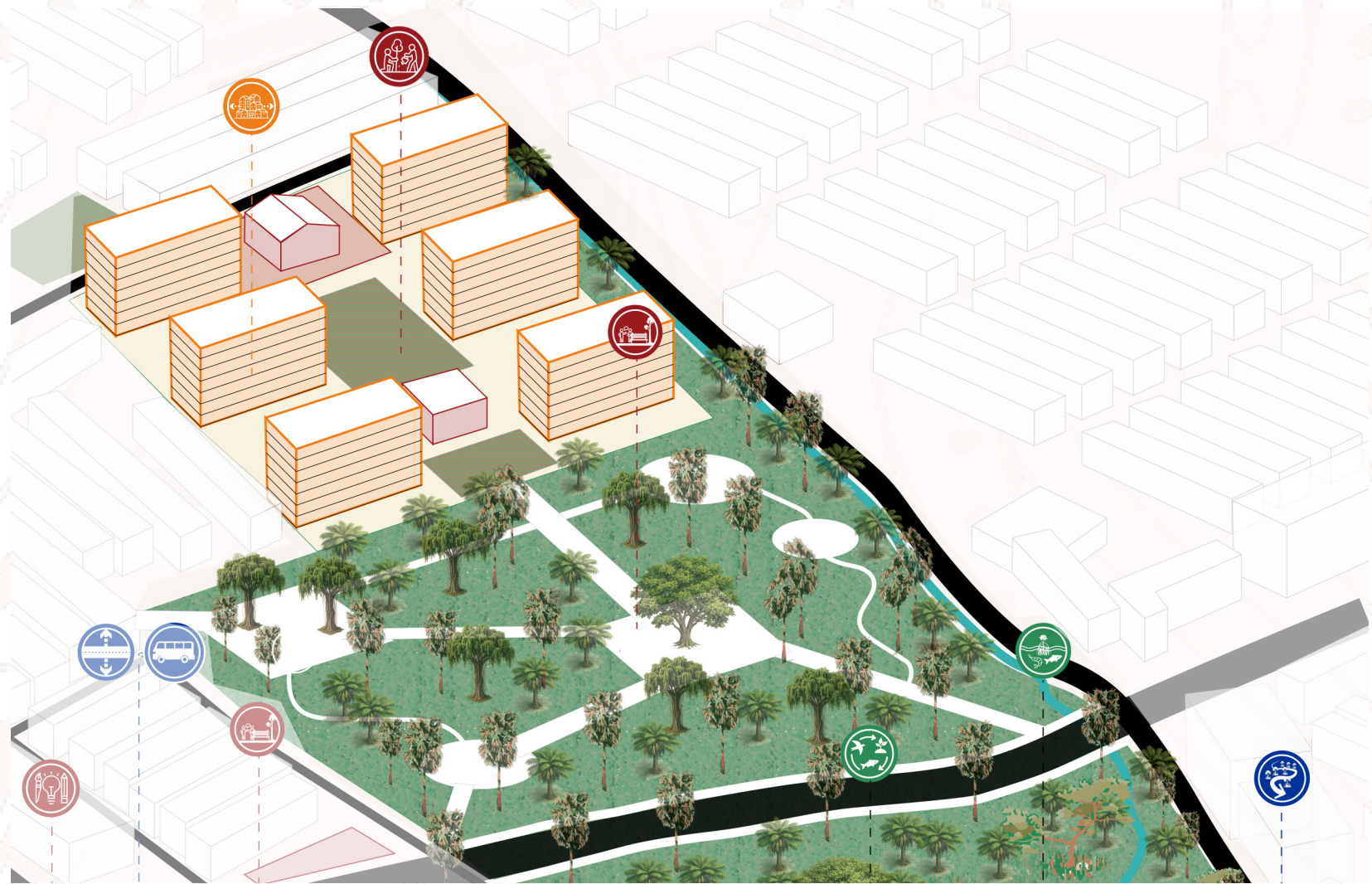


Strategic interventions

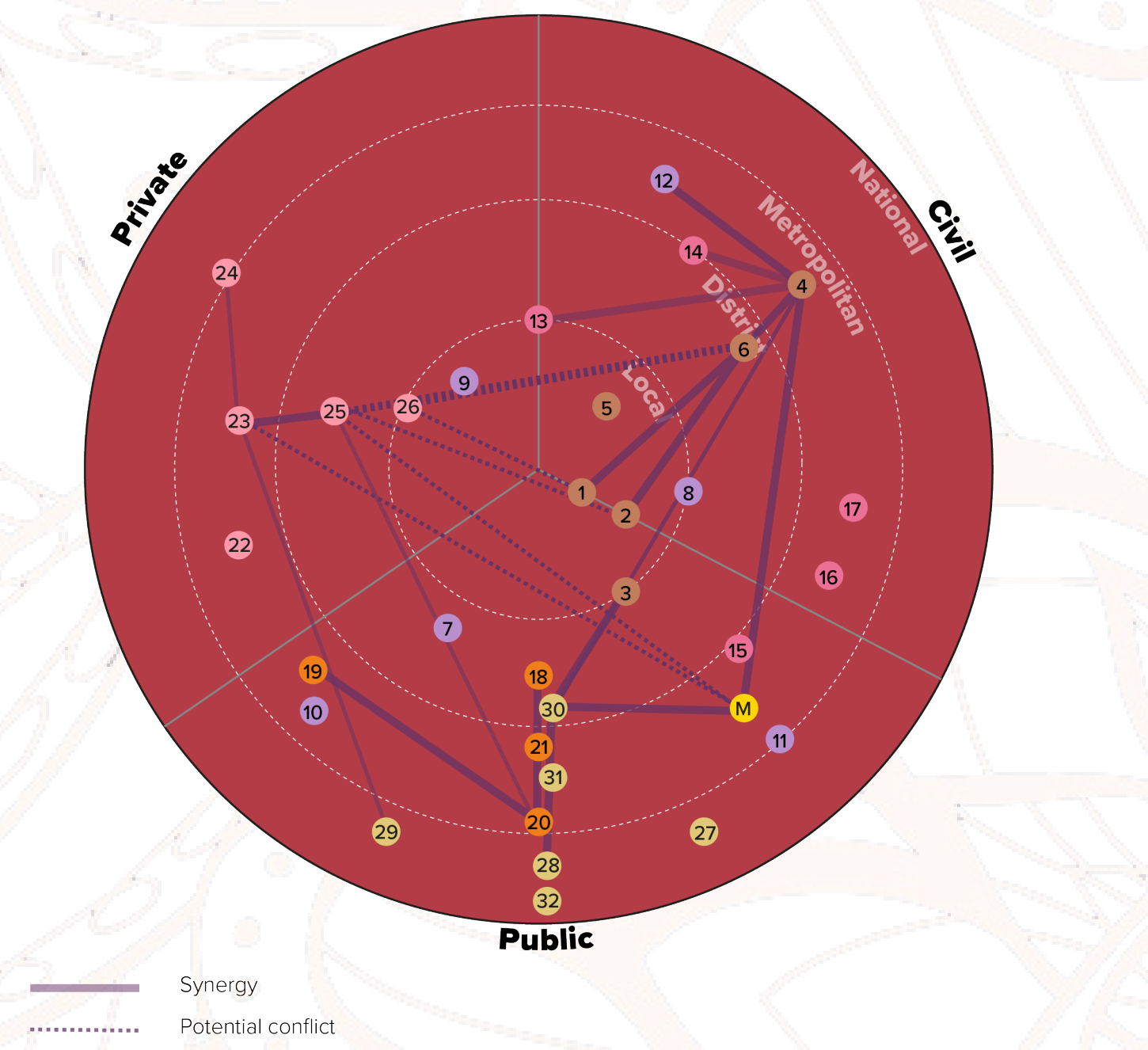
New activity to open borders



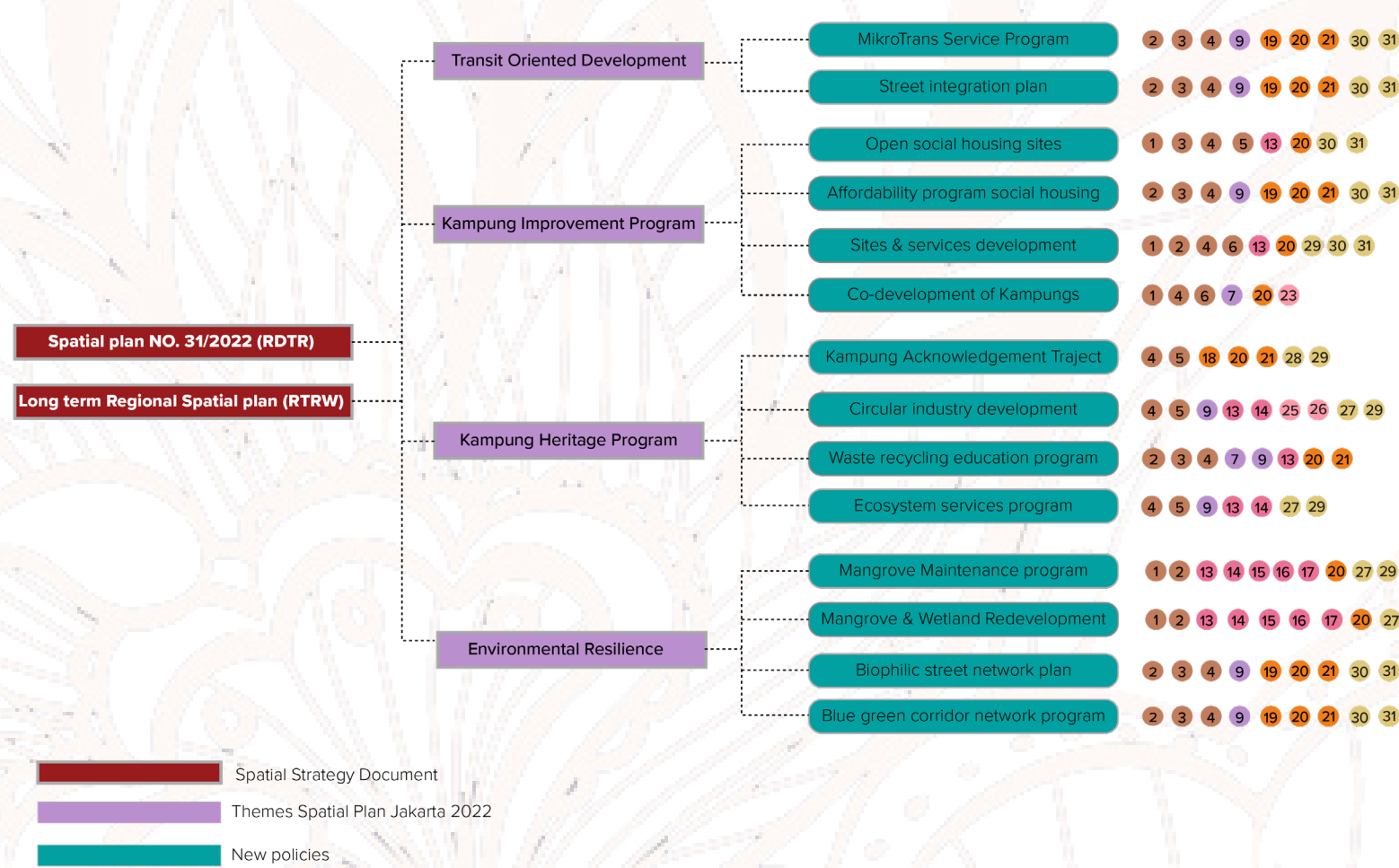
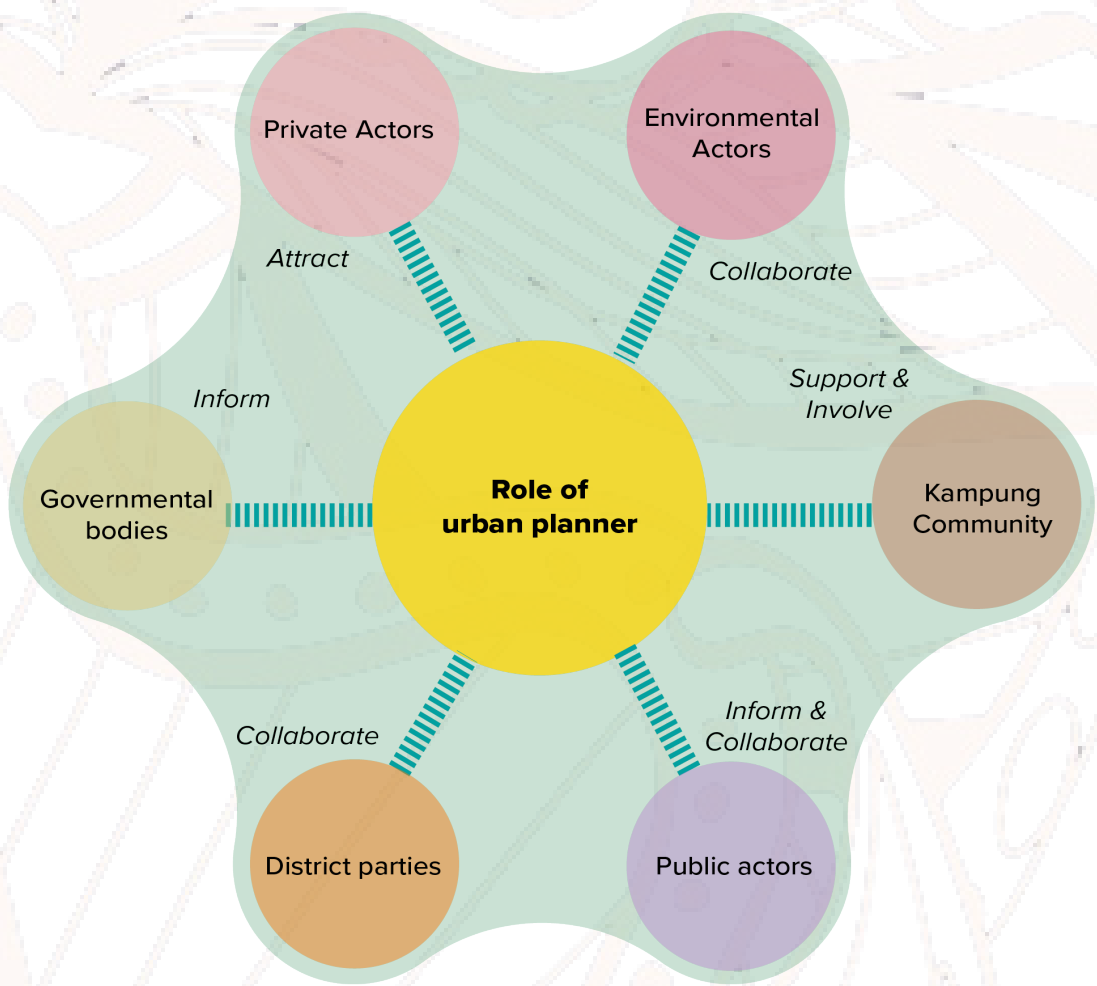
Space for social and ecological redevelopment



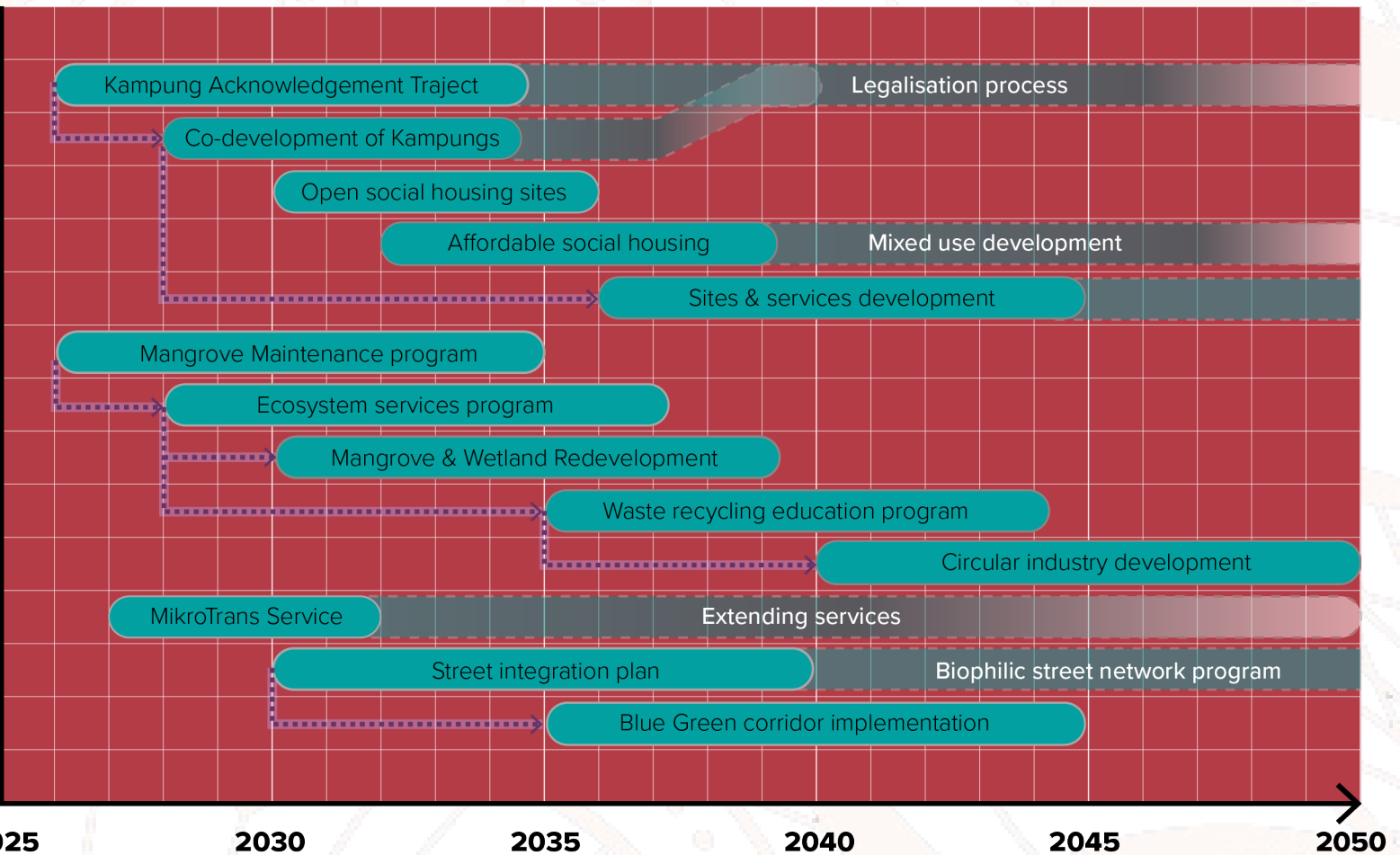
Strategic implementation



Organise



Support



Execute

Final Message

“Big Things have Small Beginnings.”

