



STAY, LIVE & PARTICIPATE

TOWARDS A NEW URBAN REGENERATION METHOD
FOR FOREIGN ETHNIC ENCLAVES IN CHINESE CITIES
TAKE **GUANGZHOU** AS AN EXAMPLE

FINAL REPORT--- Graduation Thesis

Department of Urbanism
Faculty of Architecture
Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands

STUDIO: **Complex City** – Transforming Chinese Cities

TITLE: **Stay, Live and Participate**

--- Towards a new urban regeneration method for
foreign ethnic enclaves in Chinese cities,
take Guangzhou as an example

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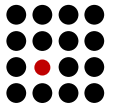
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DATE: **25/06/2019**





PREFACE

Looking back at this year's graduation project, my origins come from the above photo and related news reports of the Africans fighting against the police in Guangzhou. Although changes and flows are inevitably leading to conflict, we cannot deny the positivity and vitality of globalization that they represent. Therefore, this project aims to find the causes of contradictions and propose solutions from the perspective of the author's field, in order to better promote the development of foreign trade and living space in China.

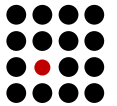
Throughout the project, I would like to thank the two mentor Gregory Bracken and Arie Romein for their guidance. They allowed me to grasp the right direction and time nodes during the process of researching with great freedom. This is also a process we three explore together. At the same time, during this period, I also received suggestions and help from many other teachers, scholars, and classmates. I gained a lot of extra guidance and information during the thesis writing and fieldwork. Finally, I would also like to thank my friends who are studying together with me in the Netherlands, especially my girlfriend Jijia. Their companionship and encouragement made me always take a positive attitude to cope with the challenges encountered in the research. .

Now let's open this report and go to the far east to see a group of Africans living there. About their demands and my response.

--- 25/06/2019

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0. ABSTRACT

In the past four decades, China's reform and opening up has made the country increasingly connected to the process of globalization. And as globalization continues to evolve, more and more people and other elements are beginning to participate in this process. Therefore, a large number of foreigners, especially some individuals and small merchants (Fig.1), come to this once closed country to find job and business opportunities (Fang & Liang, 2010). Due to the needs of work and business characteristics, many of them choose to long or short live in some Chinese cities. Some foreigners-inhabited areas have begun to appear in Chinese cities like Korea town in Beijing and African enclaves in Guangzhou in the recent 20 years which lead to a certain degree of ethnic residential differentiation and social segregation (Zhao & An, 2017). In addition, their settlement and informal business are also facing the challenges from the process of urbanization.

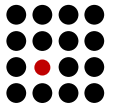
Therefore, the author will conduct a theoretical research of this phenomenon in the graduation project, and meanwhile select the African enclaves in Guangzhou as a case for empirical research. What are their living conditions and what specific challenges are they facing? How should cities protect them and improve the quality of their living environment?

Therefore, the focus of this study will be exploring how to make these foreigners better stay, live and participate in local social life that based on understanding the status quo and the needs of stakeholders. Using the community and urban space they live in and emerge as the carrier, it will have a specific spatial implementation design for these urban spaces from the perspective of urban regeneration. In the end, a series of plans and designs will put together to make a new urban regeneration method that could be applied to other Chinese cities with the same problems for attracting more foreigners to settle in China and integrate well into the local social environment.

KEY WORDS: Low-end globalization, social segregation, ethnic enclaves, African enclaves in Guangzhou, social integration, community regeneration



Figure 1 African merchants in Cairo Airport, waiting for the flight to Guangzhou, 2018 Own image



1. MOTIVATION

In June of 2012, the death of a Nigerian man in police station and the following protests by Africans in Guangzhou (Fig.2) drew attention from all over the world. Combined with a similar mass incident that happened in July of 2009, it showed the existence of a large number of Africans which was estimated by local media at about 200,000 that lived in Guangzhou where some communities like Sanyuanli and Xiaobei became famous Africans enclaves. What also interesting was that the incidents were widely discussed on Chinese social networks where many comments were harshly critical of these Africans, especially those residing there illegally, accusing them of crimes and calling on authorities to tighten up the management (Lin, 2012). The globalization from below brings these African traders to China, which has obviously influenced the spatial, economic and social environment of some Chinese cities like Guangzhou.

Their appearance and settlement is spontaneously resulted from the trend of low-end globalization, as urban planners, we should know more about them, help them better integrate and remove the mutual misapprehension and prejudice with the local society.



Figure 2 A screenshot shows a photo of protests by African residents in Guangzhou published on Twitter-like Sina Weibo



2. PROBLEM ANALYSIS

--- Problem Fields

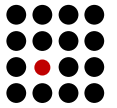
- Globalization 3.0 and low-end globalization
- China and some regions in China
- Chinese cities and communities

--- Problem Definition

- Challenges of stay and survival
- Residential differentiation and social segregation

--- Knowledge Gap

--- Problem Statement



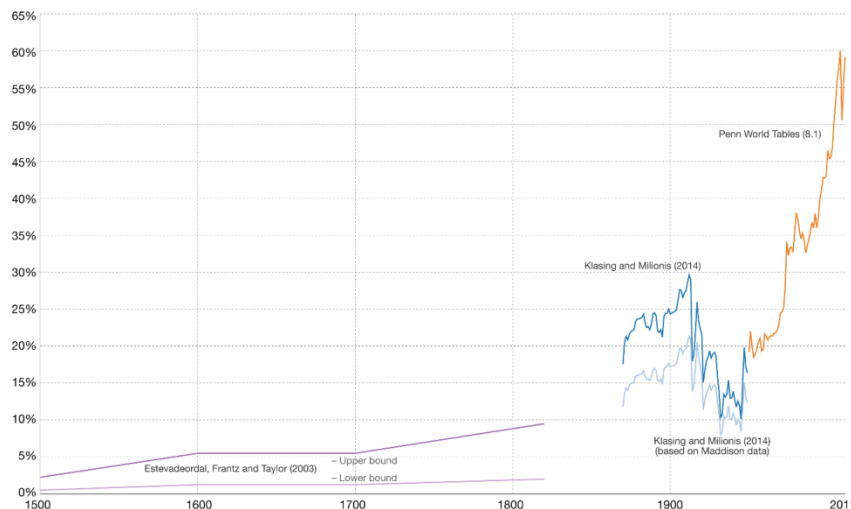
2.1 Problem Fields

Globalization 3.0 and low-end globalization

Globalization is the theme of this era. Since the beginning of the twentieth century, especially after World War II, the proportion of global import and export trade in GDP has been continuously increasing (Fig.3) (Esteban, Diana & Max, 2014). With globalization in economy and trade, other related factors have begun to flow around the world, such as population, knowledge, technology and culture. However, the transformation of the globalization since the beginning of the new century has made individuals more and more prominent in this process. According to Thomas Friedman's elaboration in the book of *The World is Flat* (2005), he defined this trend as the globalization 3.0. The 1.0 era which relied on colonialism, mainly connected the old world and the new world

by exchanging some resources between some countries. In the 2.0 era, the process of globalization which relied on large multinational corporations was dominated by Europe and the United States. Now the Globalization 3.0 began from the 21st century. In front of the rise and development of the Internet, it will rely more on individual participation. In this flattening trend, there is an important component called the low-end globalization (Fig.4), which refers to the global flow of individuals or small-scale operations from underdeveloped regions. They go to some place like China and Southeast Asia to buy affordable products and bring these fruits of globalization to the people of their countries (Mathews & Yang, 2012).

Globalization over 5 centuries (1500-2011)
Shown is the sum of world exports and imports as a share of world GDP (%)
The individual series are labeled with the source of the data



Data sources: Klasing and Milionis (2014), Estevadeordal, Frantz and Taylor (2003) and the Penn World Tables Version 8.1
The interactive data visualization is available at [OurWorldinData.org](https://ourworldindata.org). There you find the raw data and more visualizations on this topic. Licensed under CC-BY-SA by the author Max Roser.

Figure 3 Globalization over 5 centuries (1500-2011)
Source: <https://ourworldindata.org/international-trade#empirical-view>

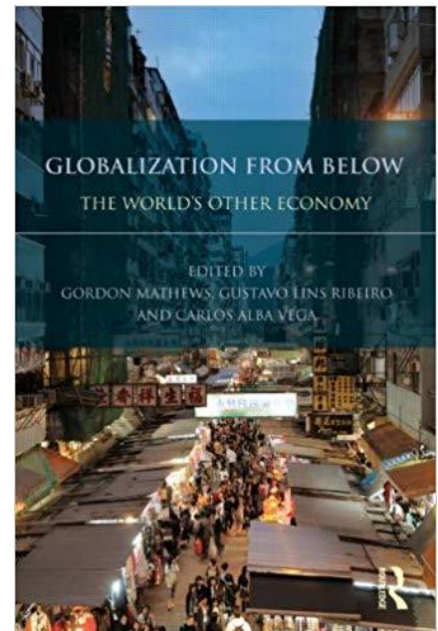


Figure 4 Cover of the book *Globalization from Below*.
Source: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/ant/gordon/>

PROBLEM ANALYSIS

2.1 Problem Fields

China and some regions in China

In China 40 years ago, with Deng Xiaoping's regaining power (Fig.5), the reform and opening up led by him with a group of politicians completely ended the closed development of the country since its establishment in 1949. At the same period of time, with the end of the Cold War and the advancement of globalization, China's development has benefited more from this policy. During these 40 years, China's economic volume, per capita income, and foreign trade have all grown at an alarming rate (Fig.6) (Cai, 2018).

At the same time, the economic take-off has brought about tremendous changes in China's social life and urban appearance. Urbanization is also advancing at an alarming

rate, which makes China's cities face unprecedented opportunities and challenges. The increase in income level and the impact of foreign culture has also continually changed the lives of Chinese people. Among all these developments and changes, there are things and phenomena that have never happened in this country. These have brought a series of interesting collisions and discussions.



Figure 5 Deng Xiaoping, Times person of the year 1978
<http://content.time.com/time/covers/0,16641,19790101,00.html>

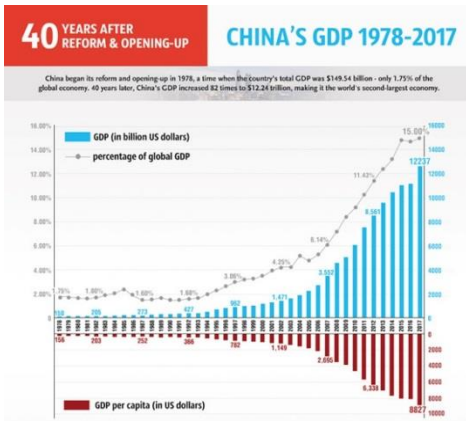


Figure 6 China's GDP 1978 - 2017
Source: National Bureau of Statistics, World Bank
<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1103708.shtml>



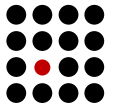
Change of lifestyle



Trading with world



Urbanization



During this process, the unique manufacturing and freight conditions in some regions have made the country once again attractive to foreigners. Only the last time attracted the colonial aggressors, and this time are merchants and tourists. These regions on the forefront of reform and opening up are mainly distributed on China's long coastline.

For example, Around the Pearl River estuary there has a world-class urban agglomeration called the Pearl River Delta (Fig.7). As early as the Qing Dynasty, Guangzhou and the colonies of Hong Kong and Macao were regarded as important foreign trade ports, connecting the feudal China and the new world outside. Due to the special geographical location (Fig.8), after the reform

and opening up, with the establishment of two Special Economic Zones of Shenzhen and Zhuhai, and the flourishing development of regional manufacturing, it has become the frontier of China's connecting base to other Asian countries and even the world. It accounts for 26% of China's trade and is China's largest export base (National Bureau of Statistics PRC, 2015). There also have the third and the fourth busiest container ports in the world, Shenzhen and Hong Kong (World Shipping Council, 2013). Therefore, in the past 40 years and for a long time to come, the Pearl River Delta was and would be one of the most open areas in China. **It attracts countless Chinese and foreign gold prospectors to find business because of its unlimited opportunities.**



Figure 8 The location of the Pearl River Delta in South China and Southeast Asia. Own image

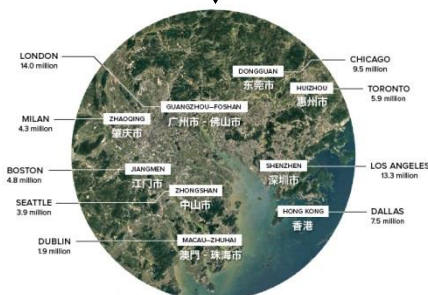


Figure7 Pearl River Delta cities compare with western cities. <http://www.visualcapitalist.com/pearl-river-delta-megacity-2020/>



National trade port in Qing Dynasty



Pre-colonial



World factory

PROBLEM ANALYSIS

2.1 Problem Fields

Chinese cities and communities

When foreigners come to China, cities, especially some big cities, have become the main places to accept them. Therefore some cities have been greatly affected by this wave of transnational migration. For example, according to the report of the Guangzhou Development Research Institute of Guangzhou University (2014), Guangzhou has become the largest gathering place for Africans in Asia. On the one hand, good development of China-Africa relations, especially the growing trade between China and Africa, have made more African traders know and understand China's business environment which attract them by affordable and relatively good products. On the other hand, as the provincial capital of Guangdong Province, Guangzhou City is positioned as an important national central city and an international integrated transportation hub, and will gradually become a leading global city (Guangzhou Municipal People's Government, 2018).

China's largest import and export trade fair (Fig. 9), known as the Canton Fair, is held here every year. Therefore, it has become one of the most attractive cities for foreigners in China (Fig. 10).

Most of these Africans are traders who come here for business activities, mainly living in certain areas of the city for they want to be more convenient to do business and get information from people who have the same language and ethnicity. In this way, those enclaves that have already formed are isolated from the local social space. These communities are rooted in urban villages with low rents but good traffic and business locations, and have even been called "Little Africa" by locals. At the beginning, their arrival was silent, but with the occurrence of several mass incidents (Fig.11) and the formation of some settlements, their existence has attracted more and more attention from the world.



Figure 10 Permanent foreign residents population in China, the 6th National Census. Own Image
Source: National Bureau of Statistics

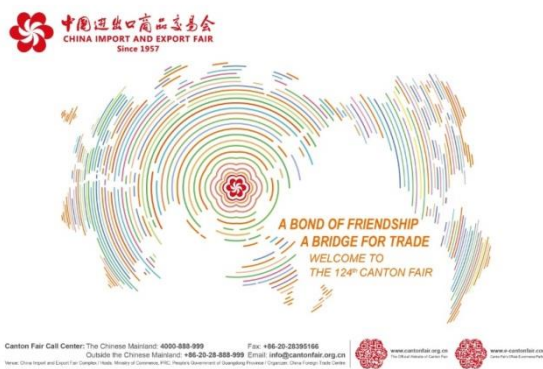
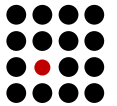


Figure 9 Poster of the 124th Canton Fair
<http://aoyee.ca/en/2018/07/04/introduction-of-the-124th-canton-fair/>



Figure 11 African protest in Guangzhou, 2009
https://www.voanews.com/a/african_diaspora_criticizes_african_governments_indifference_towards_chinese_abuses/1447793.html



Summary

With this above, the protagonist of the story has surfaced, that is, **the group of foreigners who come to China and choose to live in some certain areas of the city and their communities**. The problem fields involved in this phenomenon can be summarized in a social-ecological model (Fig.12). **So what kind of problems do they bring to the Chinese cities? Can their communities actively integrate with China's social space? What problems do they face with? Will there be many unstable factors in their survival and work?** The next section will take **African enclaves in Guangzhou** as an example to define these problems. Thus I also narrowed down the problem fields to the part of the dotted box in the model.

MAIN FOCUS FIELDS
for African enclaves
in Guangzhou

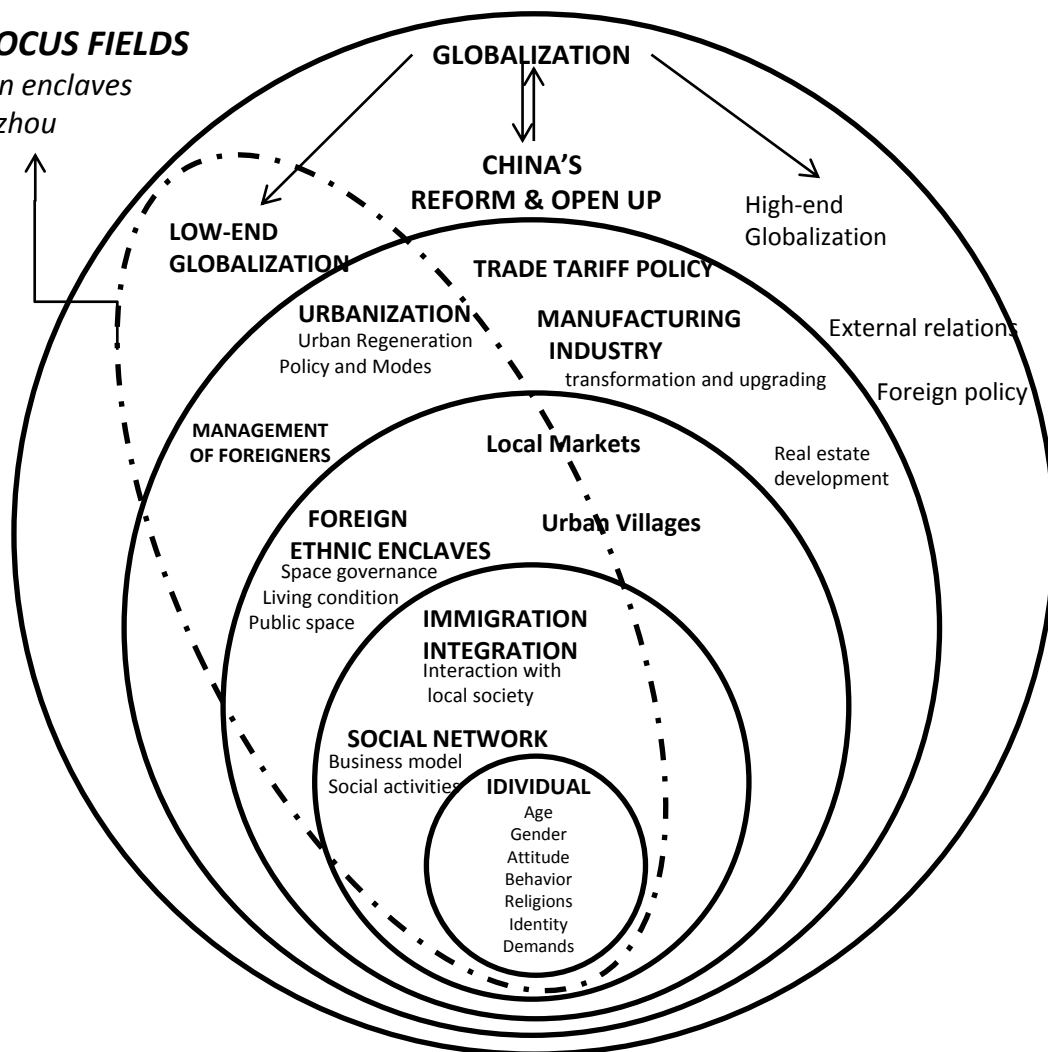


Figure 12 Social-ecological model of problem fields. Own image

PROBLEM ANALYSIS

2.2 Problem Definition

*The majority of Africans in Guangzhou are engaged in economic and trade business. Although many of them have succeeded in business and their arrival has promoted economic and trade exchanges between China and Africa, **they have also faced some troubles by themselves and have brought some troubles to the city.***

Challenges of stay and survival

Since the 1980s, urban regeneration has been ongoing along with the advancement of urbanization in China. In the beginning, local governments in China had developed a series of large-scale urban regeneration projects such as the Weigai (unsafe buildings reconstruction) in Beijing and the shanty clearance in Shanghai, but they are difficult to be realized due to funding problems (He & Wu, 2005). Therefore, after several policy changes, such as the National Regulation of Urban Housing Demolition and Relocation which provide for a monetary compensation policy for relocated urban residents, indicating the further marketization of urban regeneration in 2001 (He & Wu, 2005), the private sector as well as foreign capital were invited to participate in China's urban regeneration development. Local governments and these forces have formed a growth coalition (Ye, 2011; Yang & Chang, 2007). Driven by the combination of capital and power, urban regeneration in Chinese cities at this time evolved into a round of development of high-end gated settlements, bustling commercial areas, and office areas, as these communities generally have a good geographical position (Xu et al., 2009). Many urban villages disappeared overnight and were later developed into new residential areas or commercial office areas (Fig.13). The original residents moved to different corners of city, or moved to a new residential area on the edge of the city.

The African communities in Guangzhou that studied in the thesis are in such a crisis. Due to their location, poor environment and low rents, they are the most appropriate place for local governments and developers to plan regeneration projects. If the redevelopment here follows the path of urban regeneration model in China, it is clear that these African traders will find it difficult to find new suitable settlements, and they will probably leave Guangzhou completely (Fig.14).



Figure 13 One urban village clearance case in Guangzhou

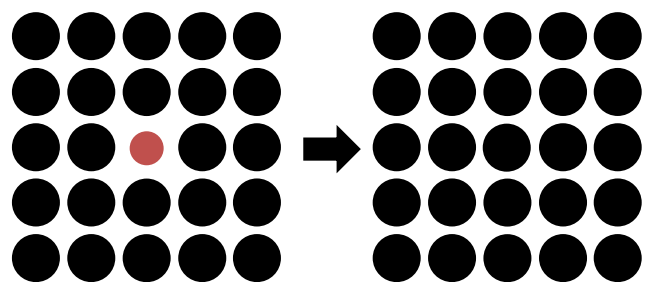
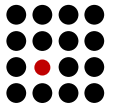


Figure 14 Urban regeneration could make African communities disappear in the future. Own image



Residential differentiation and social segregation

On the other hand, as traders, especially self-employed individuals, their access to business information is more dependent on exchanges between individuals (Lin, 2014) (Yang, 2009) which means they need a full trust between each other. For these foreigners who know almost nothing about China, cultural identity and language communication are the foundation of the trust. As a result of the increase in the number of African traders and the strengthening of their social network, African enclaves are becoming more and more obvious in this city. Local residents choose to actively isolate these outsiders due to some stereotypes and misunderstandings. They either don't offer homes to African traders or take the initiative to move out of

these African enclaves (Li et al, 2008). Therefore the ethnic-based residential differentiation inevitably appeared in Guangzhou (Fig.15). After several times of African demonstrating their dissatisfaction with the management of the local government via protests, the confrontation between this group and the local society accumulated day by day, and social segregation further deepened.

The diagram on the next page will explain the connection of these problems (Fig.16).



Figure 15 Africans in the street of Guangzhou
<https://thenanfang.com/guangzhou-announces-3-year-plan-crackdown-illegal-foreigners/>

PROBLEM ANALYSIS

2.2 Problem Definition

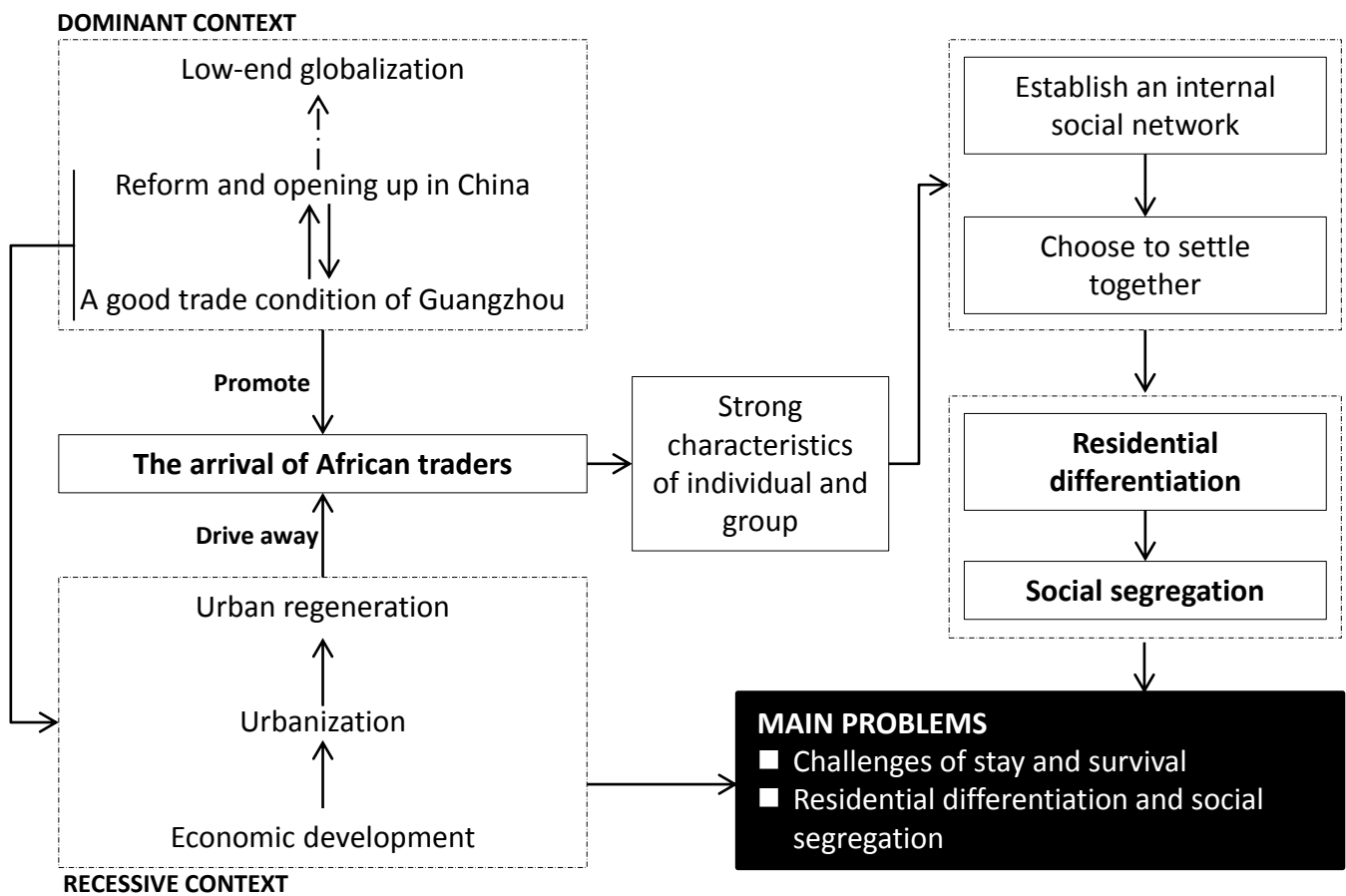
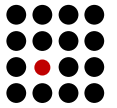
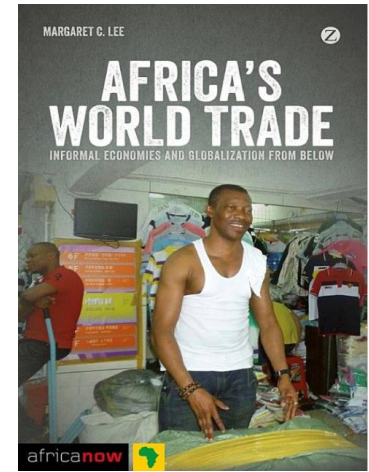
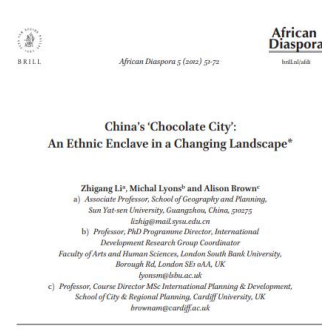
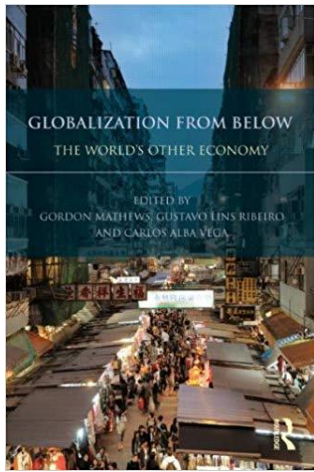
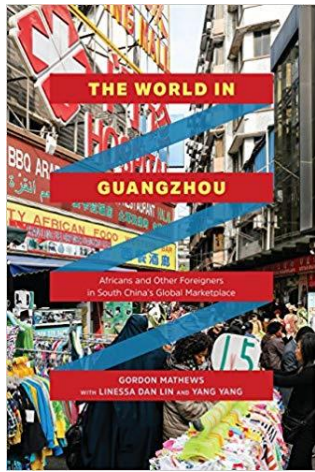


Figure 16 Diagram of problem analysis. Own image



2.3 Knowledge Gap

Current researches on these communities are mainly based on the work of Li Zhigang, Gordon Mathews, Yang Yang, Zhao Jujun and Xu Tao. They have studied the phenomenon of African enclaves in Guangzhou for several years from the perspective of sociology and geography. However, their researches only answer the question about the social spatial characteristics of such settlements, how the social space mechanism is formed and what causes the social segregation phenomenon. (Li et al, 2008; Yang, 2009; Xu, 2009; Mathews et al, 2012; Zhao & An, 2017). But there is no more attention to the space of these transnational ethnic communities, and the possibilities and methods of how to transform them. Therefore my purpose is to eventually transform the space here, in addition to further understanding the demographic and social attributes of these communities, my research will also focus on the spatial features.



Administrative Tribune
2017 第 14 卷 第 1 期
广州黑人聚居区的形成与族裔居住隔离现象的萌发
曹文婷
摘要：随着中国对外开放程度不断加深，越来越多的外国人涌入中国，其中非洲人成为广州城市外来人口的重要组成部分。非洲人聚居区的形成，是多种因素共同作用的结果。首先，非洲人具有强烈的经商传统，他们来到广州主要是为了从事贸易活动。其次，广州具有悠久的对外贸易历史，为非洲人提供了良好的经商环境。再次，广州的地理位置和气候条件也吸引了非洲人。最后，广州的包容性文化也为非洲人的定居提供了便利。随着非洲人聚居区的形成，族裔居住隔离现象也逐渐显现。本文旨在探讨广州黑人聚居区的形成原因及其对城市社会空间的影响。

广州地区非洲人的社会交往关系及其行动逻辑
曹文婷
摘要：随着中国对外开放程度不断加深，越来越多的外国人涌入中国，其中非洲人成为广州城市外来人口的重要组成部分。非洲人聚居区的形成，是多种因素共同作用的结果。首先，非洲人具有强烈的经商传统，他们来到广州主要是为了从事贸易活动。其次，广州具有悠久的对外贸易历史，为非洲人提供了良好的经商环境。再次，广州的地理位置和气候条件也吸引了非洲人。最后，广州的包容性文化也为非洲人的定居提供了便利。随着非洲人聚居区的形成，族裔居住隔离现象也逐渐显现。本文旨在探讨广州黑人聚居区的形成原因及其对城市社会空间的影响。

广州黑人“落脚城市”的社会空间生产
曹文婷
摘要：随着中国对外开放程度不断加深，越来越多的外国人涌入中国，其中非洲人成为广州城市外来人口的重要组成部分。非洲人聚居区的形成，是多种因素共同作用的结果。首先，非洲人具有强烈的经商传统，他们来到广州主要是为了从事贸易活动。其次，广州具有悠久的对外贸易历史，为非洲人提供了良好的经商环境。再次，广州的地理位置和气候条件也吸引了非洲人。最后，广州的包容性文化也为非洲人的定居提供了便利。随着非洲人聚居区的形成，族裔居住隔离现象也逐渐显现。本文旨在探讨广州黑人聚居区的形成原因及其对城市社会空间的影响。

外籍人聚居区分布规律及其影响因素——以广州为例的研究
曹文婷
摘要：随着中国对外开放程度不断加深，越来越多的外国人涌入中国，其中非洲人成为广州城市外来人口的重要组成部分。非洲人聚居区的形成，是多种因素共同作用的结果。首先，非洲人具有强烈的经商传统，他们来到广州主要是为了从事贸易活动。其次，广州具有悠久的对外贸易历史，为非洲人提供了良好的经商环境。再次，广州的地理位置和气候条件也吸引了非洲人。最后，广州的包容性文化也为非洲人的定居提供了便利。随着非洲人聚居区的形成，族裔居住隔离现象也逐渐显现。本文旨在探讨广州黑人聚居区的形成原因及其对城市社会空间的影响。

PROBLEM ANALYSIS

2.4 Problem Statement

Globalization is an economic and social phenomenon that led by technical development. People take Apple, McDonald's, Huawei—transnational corporations with famous brands as the manifestation of it. Yet except for these bright names we are familiar with, this coin also has another side. Low-end globalization is the flow of people and goods across borders that involve small amounts of capital and informal, sometimes semi-legal or illegal transactions. (Mathews, 2012)

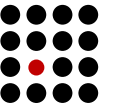
In China, with reform, opening-up, and economic development, foreign trade has been grow up in a high speed. The region of the Pearl River Delta, as a place with a long history of trade and active manufacturing industry, has attracted traders from all over the world, including a large number of merchants from developing area like Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, etc. They came here to distribute low-priced, poor quality and even counterfeit products to their countries.

Guangzhou, as the provincial capital of Guangdong and where accounted for about one-fourth of China's foreign trade in 2013 (He, 2014), has already formed several African traders' communities which could also be called ethnic enclaves like Sanyuanli and Xiaobei Road where they live, do business and other social activities (Li et al, 2007).

These communities are usually in relatively bad living conditions and segregated form local socio-spatial environment because of the huge cultural difference between people with different skins.

During recent years, Chinese cities has been experienced a series of campaign-style urban regeneration that led by the local governments and developers. Urban environment has been changed entirely while in some cases the original social network also disappeared after redevelopment. Some old inner city communities in Guangzhou like Sanyuanli are now on the government agenda of urban renewal. But for the African traders with special identity that settle down here, they are facing with an unpredictable future because their business for survival really rely on the social network inside these places.

To sum up, how to promote social integration of these transnational ethnic enclaves and local social space while protecting these communities and their social networks is the core concern of this study.

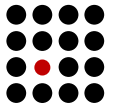




3. OBJECTIVES AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS

--- Main Research Question and Objectives

--- Sub-research Questions and Potential Outcomes



3.1 Main Research Question and Objectives

According to the problem analysis, my research goal is to **define possible improvements in the living conditions and social integration of the ethnic enclaves in Chinese cities**, take African enclaves in Guangzhou as an example. Thus my main research question is:

How can foreign ethnic enclaves that formed from the trend of globalization in current and future Chinese global cities transform into more **inclusive places (D)** for foreigners and local residents with **better living conditions (C)** while **protect original social network (B)** by using **multi spatial strategies?** (Case study: African enclaves in Guangzhou, China)

The **BCD** in the research question is proposed in response to the improvement of the living conditions and the social integration in the main goal from different levels of demand. From the beginning, **B** protects the social network on which they depend to survive. Go to **C** to make them live well, and finally to **D**, they can actively integrate with the local social life, their community could be in a inclusive development.

To achieve this goal and answer this question, I will make the final results more concrete and persuasive through the research and feasible solutions for the African enclaves in Guangzhou. Thus there are 5 sub objectives of this research:

A. To understand the formation mechanism, current situation, demands of stakeholders and spatial characteristics of African enclaves in Guangzhou.

Knowing and understanding history, current situation, demands and spatial characteristics of the African traders and their community from the perspective of urban planners will affect pre-conditions of research and design and act on the goals of the latter objectives **BCD**.

B. To make African traders stay better.

The key to this is to protect the existing social network during the regeneration process in the city scale. Especially some important spatial social network nodes and connections.

C. To makes their quality of living better.

This involves transforming these dilapidated communities and improving environmental quality. **The public space** is especially important for the outcome of the transformation for it is easier to get support and unification of the transformation

D. Let them better participate in the local social life.

This is mainly based on the former two to further enhance their sense of belonging. To eliminate the gap between the local society and these foreign residents and make them Participate in the community regeneration and management as local people.

E. Find criteria for assessing the effects of spatial interventions.

The evaluation criteria obtained from theoretical research and empirical research will be used as post-factors to evaluate the output of **BCD** to ensure the reliability and verifiability of research results.

OBJECTIVES AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS

3.1 Main Research Question and Objectives

Combine the current research framework to draw **the first half research design** (Fig.17). Starting from the reality of research and design, it is necessary to find a core objective in the research framework to guide other objectives. This one needs to overlap with others. In my objectives, (C.) **Better live can be used as a carrier after** (B.) **Better stay and a process in** (D.) **Better participate**, so I choose it as the core objective. This will be reflected in the **conceptual framework** (Fig.18).

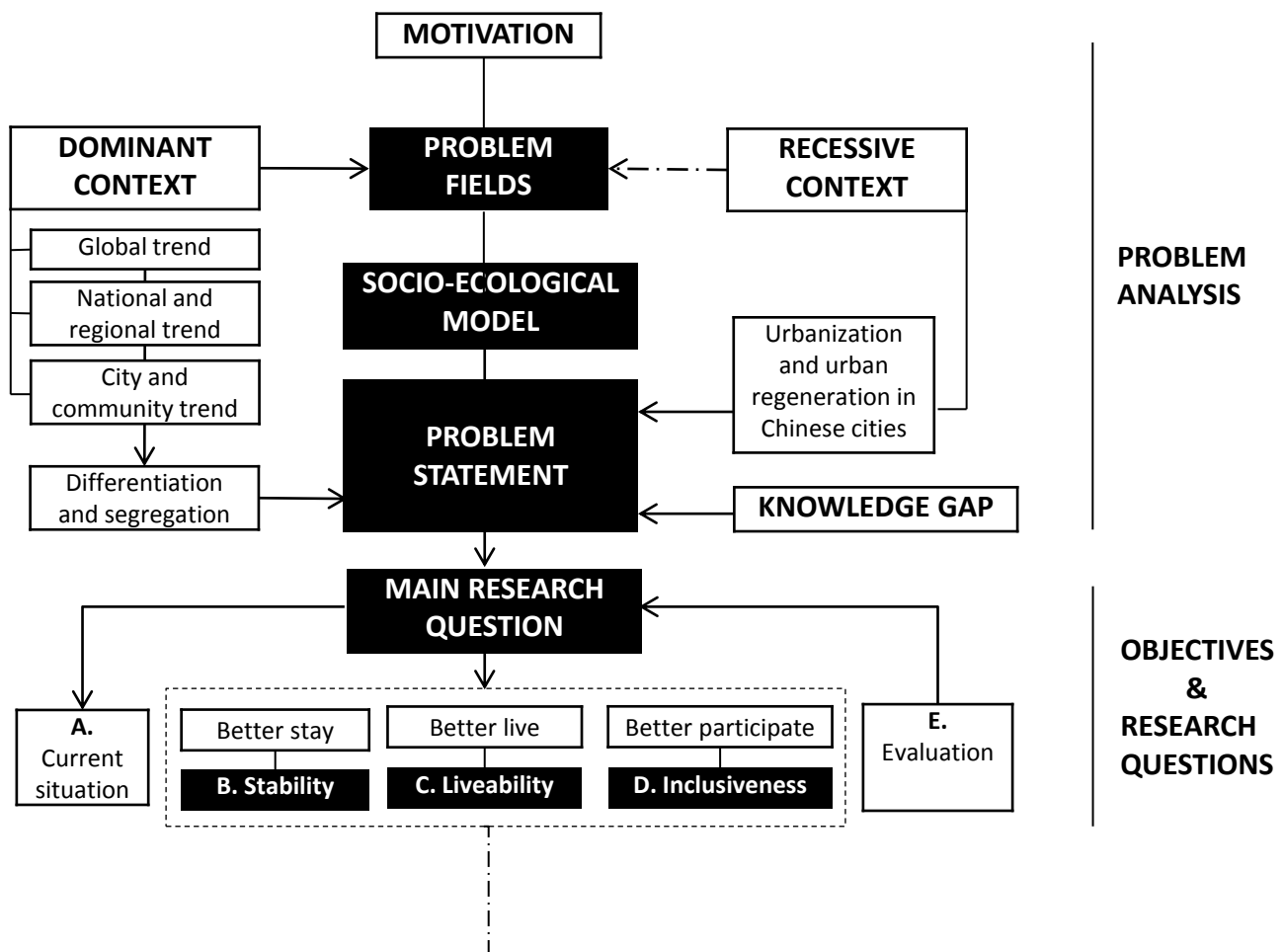


Figure 17 First half of research framework. Own image

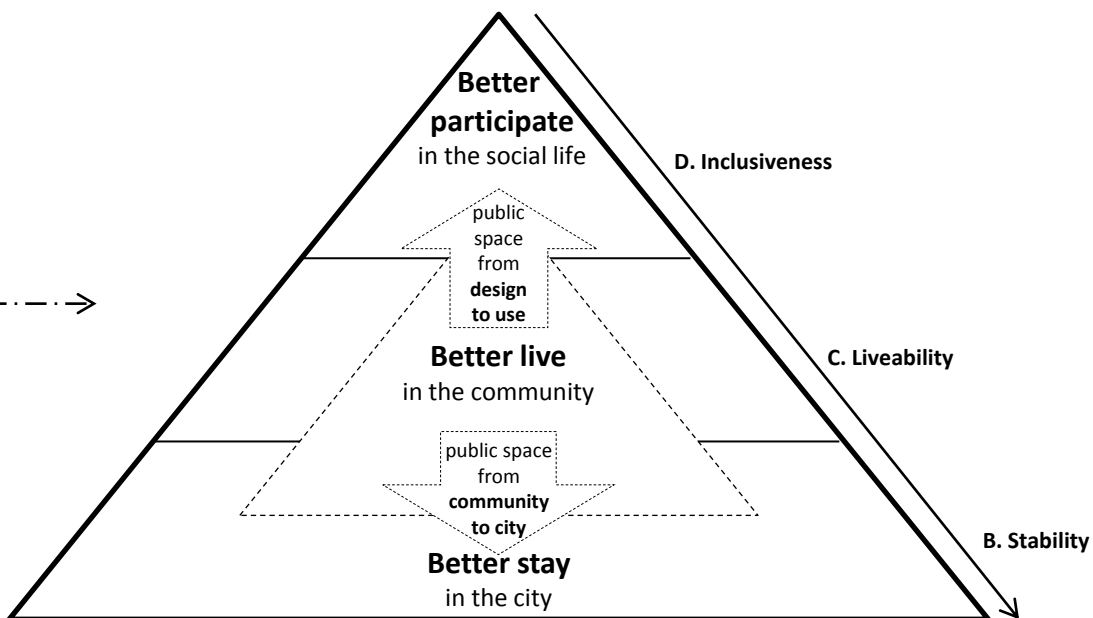
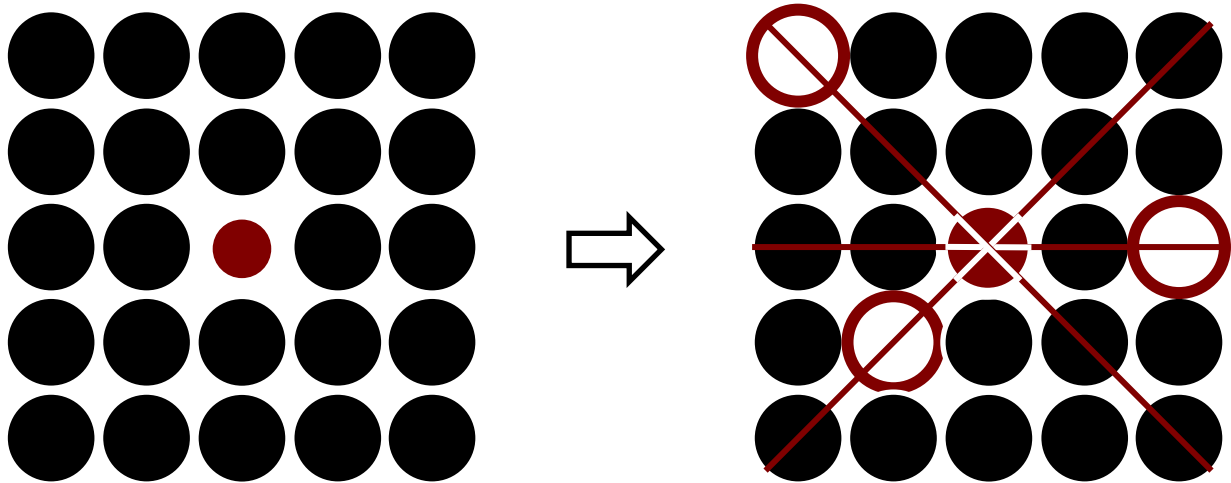
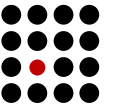


Figure 18 Conceptual framework. Own image

OBJECTIVES AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS

3.2 Sub-research Questions and Potential Outcomes

According to the problem analysis, my sub-research questions are proposed for deepening and materializing the research objectives. At the same time, from the perspective of **theoretical study and empirical study**, here will introduce how to answer these questions and finally get **potential outcomes** in response to research objectives.

SQ1. How do these African enclaves influence Guangzhou's urban social space?

1.1 Demographic: Who are these African traders?

1.2 Spatial: Where do they live? What is their living form and condition?

1.3 Economic: Who do they do business with and in which ways?

1.4 Social: What do African traders and other stakeholders think of each other? What kind of connection do they have with local society?

Theoretical study: The current research on the Africans in Guangzhou is sorted out, but it is necessary to consider that the situation may have changed over time, so this part is more focused on empirical research.

Empirical study: Based on fieldwork, it will answer these questions via collecting data in questionnaires survey, interviews, etc.

Outcomes: Portraits of African traders and African enclaves in Guangzhou. Other specific concerns such as their demands will be answered in the next few questions.

SQ2. Better stay in Guangzhou: How to protect original social network of African traders in Guangzhou via spatial strategies?

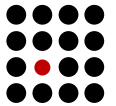
(Although the majority of Africans in Guangzhou live in several communities, they actually use other spaces in the city such as churches and football fields. Therefore, their social networks must be carried out on a city scale)

2.1 How does the current social network manifest in the urban space?

2.2 How to protect it based on current conditions and inspirations from other case study and community regeneration practice?

Empirical study: Through the fieldwork, the data collection and mapping will focus on the social network relationships and its spatial manifestation.

Outcomes: Overview of conceptual understanding of social networks and means of protection of social networks. The current social network structure of Africans in Guangzhou



SQ3. Better live in their community: What kind of way of urban regeneration could be applied to promote the spatial quality in this transnational ethnic space with high density and poor condition?

(Due to the complex property rights issues and cost issues, there is little chance of updating the living space itself. Public space, as a platform for communication between people in the city, has stronger social value, so in this part main focus will be put on public space)

3.1 What ways could be chose based on current Chinese urban renewal practices and possible paths?

3.2 What's the demand of people live in here?

3.3 What public spaces can be used in and around these communities? What are the possibilities for renewal?

Theoretical study: Study China's urban regeneration path and policies to ensure the feasibility of project implementation.

Empirical study: I need to do the fieldwork to understand the real needs of African residents and local stakeholders. Look at the existing retrofits or upcoming retrofits to find strengths and weaknesses of them. Combine existing public spaces and places that can be developed into public spaces.

Outcomes: Some viable urban regeneration ways. Overview of potential public space that can be transformed. Overview of interest claims and some basic transformation ideas.

SQ4. Better participate in the local social life: How could African enclaves better integrate into local social space during and after spatial intervention in city and community scale?

4.1 In what form can African residents in Guangzhou participate in the transformation of their community?

4.2 What role can public space play in promoting social integration between foreign ethnic and local society?

Theoretical study: Study the role of public space transformation in promoting social integration and existing success cases. Study the form of public participation in community transformation.

Empirical study: Investigate African residents' ideas toward participation in community transformation and other stakeholders' attitudes.

Outcomes: overview of public space transformation modes and public participation form based on social integration

SQ5. What factors could be considered as evaluation criterions for the result of implementation of spatial strategies and design?

Theoretical study: Organize appropriate evaluation criteria based on existing research and cases

Empirical study: Organize evaluation criteria based on the needs of African residents and other local stakeholders

Outcomes: An evaluation criteria that combines existing experience with actual needs

4. RESEARCH METHODS AND RESEARCH DESIGN

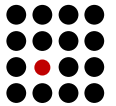
--- Description of Methods

--- Connection with RQs

- Theoretical framework
- Empirical analysis framework
- Fieldwork design
- Final outcomes

---Complete Research Design





4.1 Description of Methods

The methods for answering sub-research questions have been broadly divided into two categories, the theoretical study and the empirical study. Research methods are techniques for collecting data (Bryman, 2012). Thus I chose the following methods to make the research more effective and comprehensive:

Literature review (LR): This method consists of three parts

The first part mainly aim at the understanding of key concepts in the graduation research such as low-end globalization, social networks, social integration, and public space and the existing research on African enclaves in Guangzhou.



Besides, there are two more different types of literature review.

The second **(Cases)**: The project focuses on two types of case studies, one of which is the case of community renewal or redevelopment in the inner areas of Chinese cities. These cases may have been successful or failed. Another case study is to pay attention to how other countries use spatial strategies to promote social integration between foreign ethnic communities and local social space. The author will pay more attention to the use of public space.



The third **(Policy)**: Policy study is more dependent on China's current situation, such as the transformation of urban villages and the way of foreigners' management. Access to information is not limited to professional papers, but also includes government documents, relevant laws, and local government regulations.



Semi-structured interview (SI):

Questionnaires have certain limitations because it is difficult to find enough samples in short-term field work. Semi-structured interviews will be an important addition to understanding local stakeholders.

Interviews with African traders will focus on their internal social networks and attempt to analyse the operational mechanisms of their social network.(Fig.19)



SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

P1

How long have you been studying this phenomenon?
What kinds of public spaces they use often? For what purpose?
Is there any interesting finding from your research?
What are the new trends of African traders in Guangzhou recently?

P2

Do your department focus on this phenomenon? And is there any response that reflected in urban planning and urban design?
If you want to transform those old communities, do you have any consideration about them and any solutions to the placement problem?

P3

How many Africans in the community have legal registration? How many illegal are estimated?
How do you manage and serve them?
Do you have many reports and complaints from local residents and merchants about them?
What kind of complaint is usually?

P4

Are they your main customers?
How do you feel about doing business with them?
Is there any problem with them like languages and currency?

P5

How do you feel about living nearby the African community? The same with any other Chinese community or unsafe?
Are you usually in contact with these Africans? To what extent?
How long will you go into this African community? What restricts you from wanting to go in?
If the environment improves, would you be willing to go in and experience African culture and food? What kind of change will make you feel comfortable and safe?

P6

Business: How do you do your business? Is there any difficulty?
Living condition: How do you think about your living environment? Is there anything that can be improved?
Connection with locals: Do you want to have more contact with local people and learn some Chinese culture except for business dealings with them?
Public space and activity: What kind of activities do you usually participate in? Where are these activities held?
Social network: Are there several leaders in your community? What do they do to organize you and other people? Do you have kids and family members here? What do they do here in Guangzhou and where?

Figure 19 Interview questions design. Own image

Historic analysis (HA): This method is mainly used to understand the formation process of African enclaves in Guangzhou, and explores the inevitability and existing obstacles in the process of development.



RESEARCH METHODS AND RESEARCH DESIGN

4.1 Description of Methods

Questionnaire survey (QS): As an important part of the field work, the survey will help the author to learn more about the group of African traders now living in Guangzhou, as well as local stakeholders' attitudes and opinions on their settlement and spatial impact. This method is mainly targeted at African traders, about their preference and experience.



(Fig.20)

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR AFRICAN TRADERS
This questionnaire is estimated to take up 5 minutes to fill in
If you have problem with it, I can help you to fill in

1. Which country are you from? _____
2. Which year did you come to Guangzhou for the first time?
3. How do you know here?
a. friends b. family members c. trading companies d. Chinese merchants e. others
4. How many times do you come here in one year?
a. 1-2 b. 3-5 c. over 5 d. long-term live in China
5. How long do you live here per stay?
a. within 1 week b. 2-4 weeks c. over 1 month d. I have my own property here in China
6. What kinds of products do you distribute?
a. clothes, bags and shoes b. electronic products c. other goods d. no fixed types, based on needs and profits
7. Who do you do business with?
a. Chinese wholesalers b. Chinese manufacturers c. African wholesalers
8. What's your monthly housing expenses?
a. within 100 dollars b. 100-200 dollars c. 200-300 dollars d. over 300 dollars
9. What's your daily expenses except for housing?
a. within 2 dollars b. 2-4 dollars c. 4-8 dollars d. over 8 dollars
10. How many companions do you have here?
a. with family members (no kids) b. with family members (with kids) c. some close friends d. some siblings e. I'm alone
11. Do you have any Chinese friends here?
a. some Chinese friends b. Chinese intimate partner (boyfriend/girlfriend) c. no Chinese friends

Figure 20 Questionnaire design. Own image

Observation & Photography (OP): During the field work, this method will always run through the entire process. It will mainly record the real life status of the local residents, the spatial environment of the communities and the spatial form of the African enclaves and public space they usually use in Guangzhou. It will help a lot for further space design.



Data collection (DC): Some basic data can be obtained through data review in advance, such as using the statistical yearbook to understand the basic information of the demographic, industrial and economic status of the study area. However, it should be noted that since many African traders are not officially registered with the local government, the authenticity of the data must be confirmed by fieldwork.

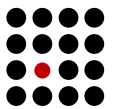


Mapping (MP): Once have obtained enough data, spatial records, and interview records, the author will tag the information on the map. For example, how social networks are embodied in space and which areas can be divided into different categories. Once this information is reflected on the map, the next spatial analysis can be performed.



Spatial analysis (SA): Based on mapping, this step will analyse the spatial characteristics of the study area. Trying to find the spatial structure of the study area and the flow of various elements.





4.2 Connection with RQs

Combine the results of each research questions with the research methodology to form the second half of the research framework (Fig.21).

Theoretical framework:

Current research about the site: The foregoing has already mentioned a lot of detailed research on the site and the phenomena that have occurred here (Li et al, 2008) (Yang, 2009) (Mathews & Yang, 2012) (Fang & Liang, 2010) (Zhao & An, 2017), so the first step is to make a preliminary understanding of this phenomenon through these research, collect some major data and analyse the historical reasons for the formation of these transnational ethnic enclaves.

Social network: This part mainly understands the concept of social network and how social network is embodied in the social space of the city through literature review and case study. Also the cases of protection of social networks are concerned.

Urban regeneration in China: A path to a viable urban regeneration will be sorted out through urban regeneration case studies and policy studies in China (especially in Guangzhou). It is best to find typical cases in Guangzhou.

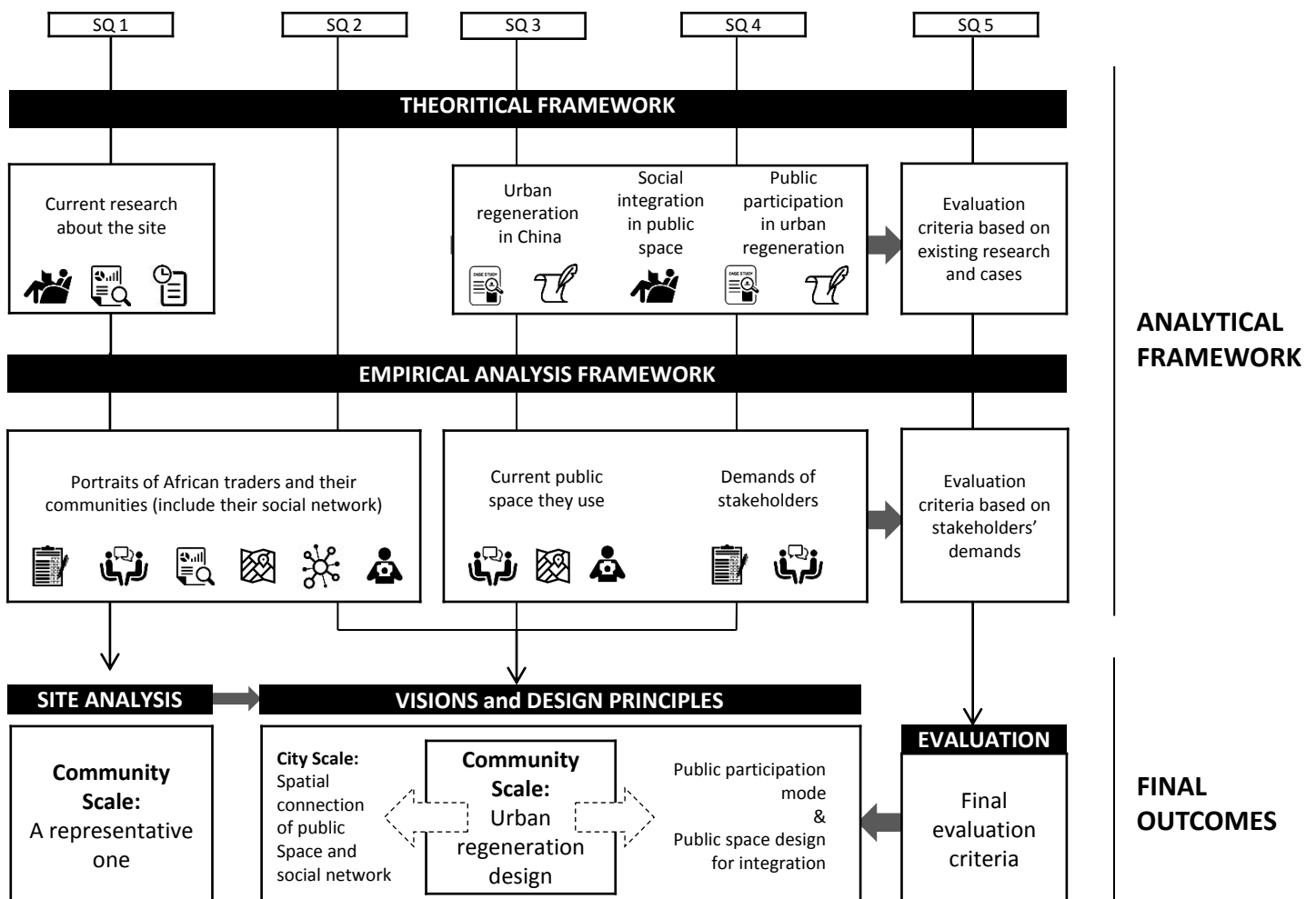


Figure 21 Second half of research framework. Own image

RESEARCH METHODS AND RESEARCH DESIGN

4.2 Connection with RQs

Social integration in public space & Public participation in urban regeneration: First, through literature review, understand several key concepts such as social integration and public space (Massey et al, 1984) (Howarth, 2002) (Gehl, 2011). Then through relevant cases and related policies reveal how to achieve social integration in this project by public space (re)development and how to achieve public participation in urban regeneration.

Finally, through these theoretical combing and case studies, **a criterion** for evaluating whether the goal is achieved is obtained.

Empirical analysis framework:

Portraits of African traders and their communities (include their social network): This is a key step in this empirical study. It mainly updates and supplements the results of existing research through various methods in

fieldwork, and focuses on the spatial environment of their communities in order to carry out the preliminary design for further design.

Current public space they use: Compared with the previous step, this step is more detailed to focus on the public space that Africans often use in Guangzhou from the community to the city scale, to find clues through interviews, and to find spatial characteristics through mapping and image recording.

Demands of stakeholders: Learn about the needs and opinions of as many stakeholders as possible through questionnaire survey and interviews.

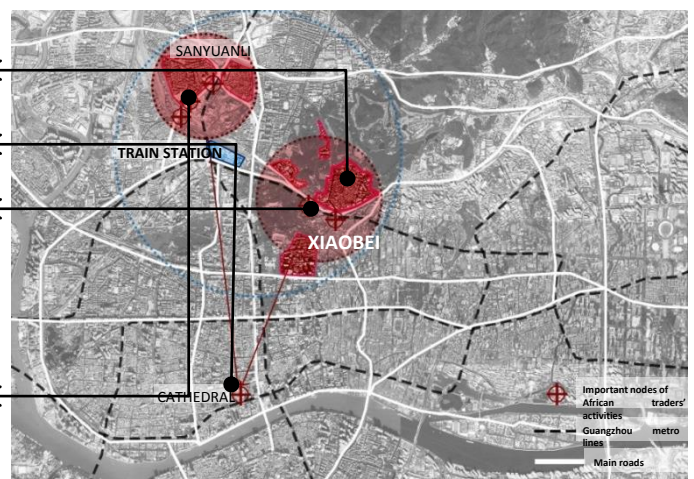
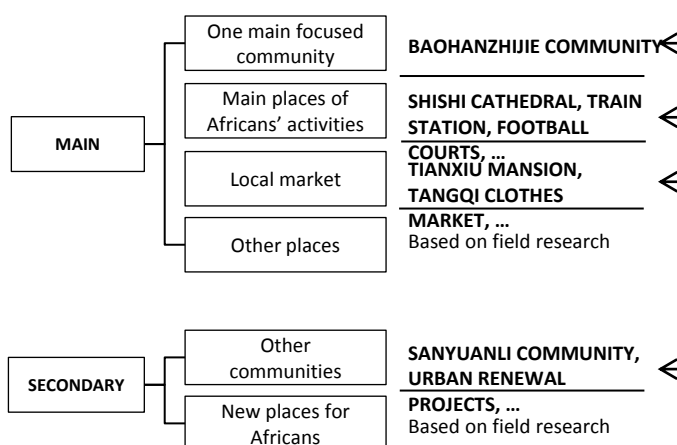
Finally, another **evaluation criterion** is formed mainly through the demand of stakeholders.

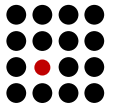
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FIELDWORK PLAN (Focus on SQ1, SQ2, SQ3.1 3.2, SQ4.1, SQ5.1)

TIME: 06/DEC – 14/DEC

POTENTIAL LOCATIONS:





POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS OF INVESTIGATION via Questionnaire and Interview:



**P1. Local scholars
of urban study**

interview



**P2. Urban
planning officers**

interview



**P3. Community
officers**

interview



**P4. Local
merchants**

interview



**P5. Local residents
and businessmen**

interview



**P6. Leaders of African communities
Short-stay African traders
Long-stay African traders
interview & questionnaire**

OTHER CONCERNS



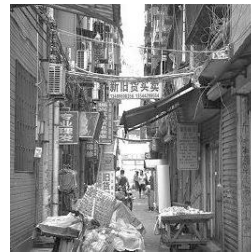
Transportation around
the community



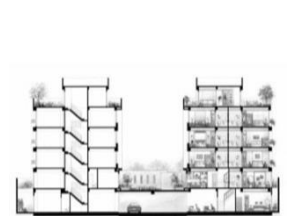
Living condition



Types of stores in the
community



Street environment of
the community



Form of the building
and street in the
community



Functions and other
public facilities around



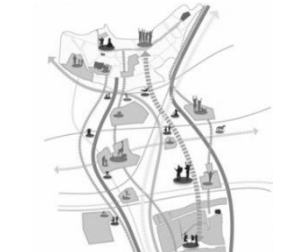
Location of market and
logistic hub



Shape of public spaces
they often use



Activities they have and
their locations



Scope and path of their
everyday activities

RESEARCH METHODS AND RESEARCH DESIGN

4.2 Connection with RQs

Final outcomes:

SWOT analysis: Understand the characteristics of the site through understanding and research on the status quo.

Visions: Through the above theoretical study and empirical study, combined with the existing research goals to obtain more specific visions, to launch specific strategy and design.

Evaluation : Through the above two evaluation criteria, a final evaluation criterion for the project is obtained.

The final solution will first protect, optimize and connect the urban public spaces often used by African communities that also related to their social network through **urban-scale spatial strategies** (Fig. 22). At the same time, from the perspective of inclusiveness, it comes to the **public (mainly African residents) participation model** in the urban renewal design (Fig.23), and a series of **urban public space design** aimed at social integration. Finally, the combination of the former two will lead to a detailed **regeneration design** for a selected African community (Fig.24).

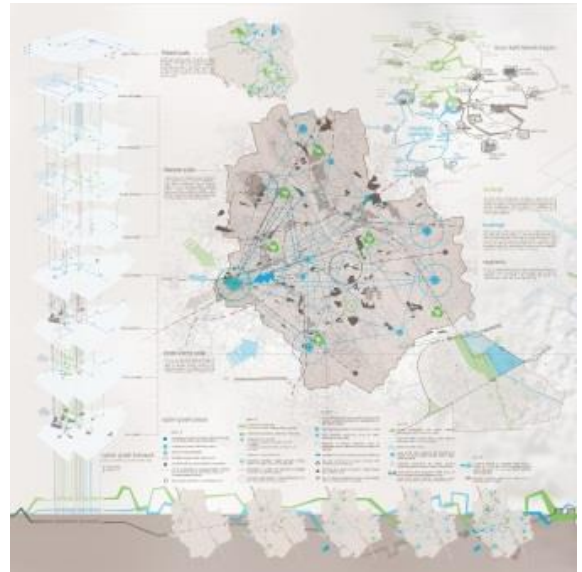


Figure 22 Example urban spatial strategy

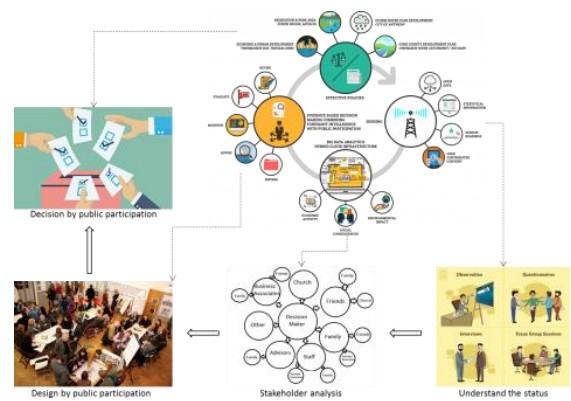


Figure 23 Example public participation in urban design

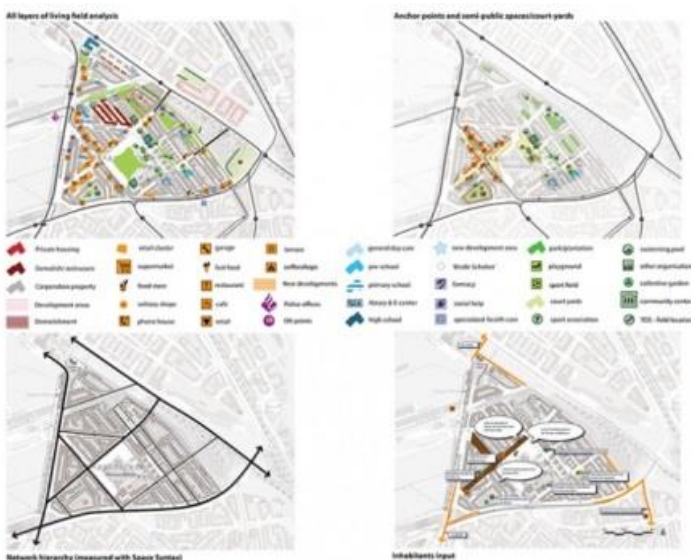
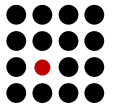


Figure 24 Example community regeneration design





4.3 Complete Research Design

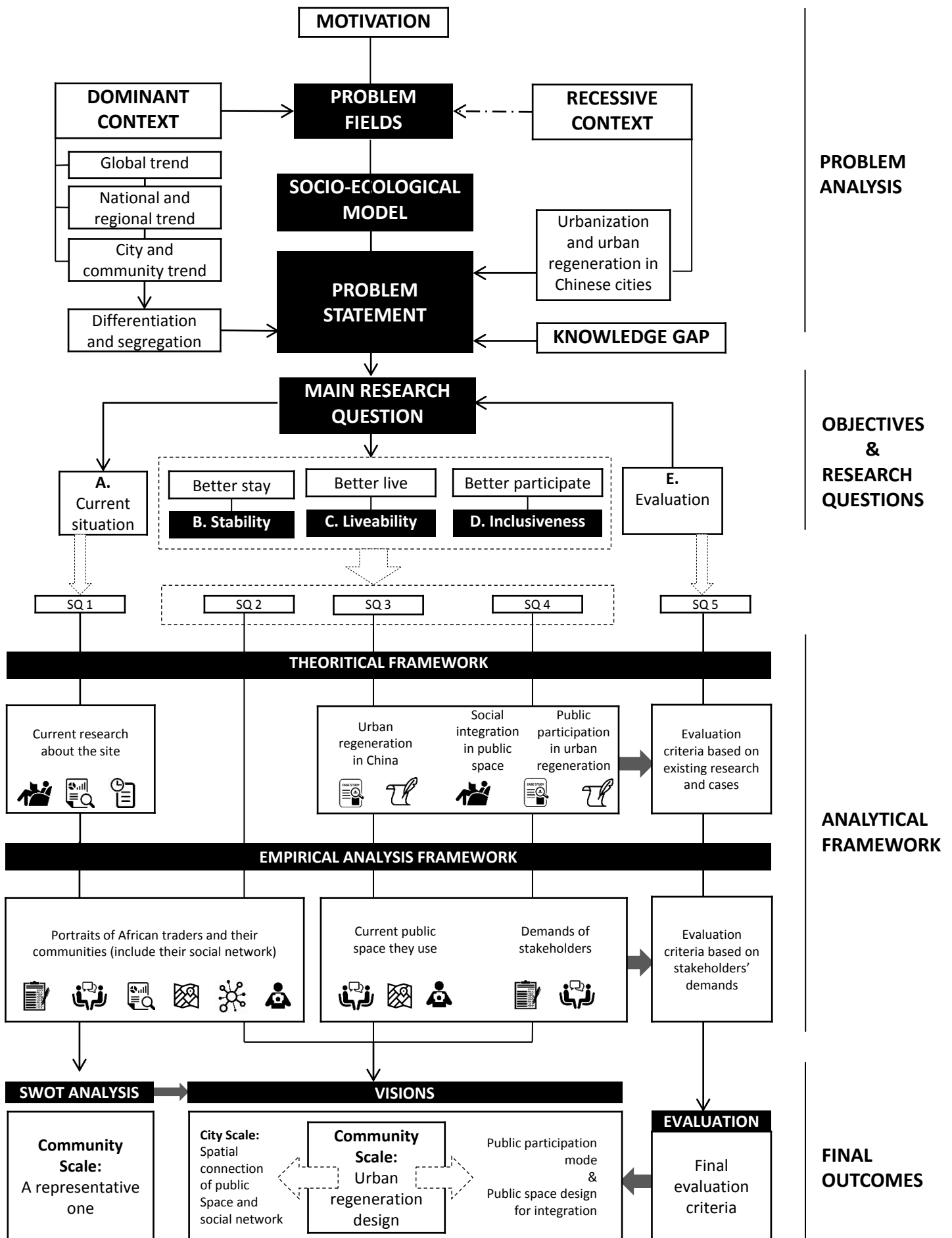


Figure 25 Research framework. Own image



5. RELEVANCE AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

--- Relevance

- Societal relevance
- Scientific relevance

--- Ethical Considerations



5.1 Relevance

Societal relevance

On the one hand, due to the continuous advancement of globalization and the continuous opening of China, China will be more integrated into the world in the future. At the same time, due to China's own developed manufacturing industry and increasing labor costs, we can also meet the future Chinese cities will attract more businessmen and labor from all over the world. In addition to Guangzhou, there will be more cities with the similar foreigners' community mentioned in this paper. For this once closed country, the residential differentiation that based on nationality and ethnicity will profoundly affect the social space of future Chinese cities. If we let this phenomenon happen and develop, these communities will bring unpredictable social impacts to the city due to the huge cultural and living differences between foreigners and local residents. What is happening in Guangzhou is the best example and warning. Therefore, this thesis attempts to understand the real needs of these foreigners by studying the formation and operation mechanisms of such communities, thus giving their communities a more viable and more inclusive regeneration plan and design. Such a series of measures can also be summed up and applied to ethnic enclaves in other Chinese cities in the future. Let foreigners stay in China better, live better and participate better in local society. Even the ethnic enclaves of other countries can be used for reference.

Scientific relevance

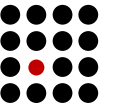
According to the previous chapter's knowledge gap, because of the late opening and the low degree of openness, such foreign ethnic enclaves in Chinese cities are also formed late and the number is not large. Furthermore, there are currently not many studies on these communities. The existing researches are more to explain the formation mechanism of these communities and the status quo of residents from the perspective of sociology and geography but lack of spatial perspective. However, a major starting point for solving the series of problems brought about by the existence of these communities is through the spatial transformation and upgrading, as well as the public participation in planning and designing process. Therefore, this thesis is to study this phenomenon from a spatial perspective. Find the characteristics of the space and propose corresponding countermeasures when produce a model of urban regeneration for the African enclaves in Guangzhou.

RELEVANCE AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.2 Ethical Considerations

A large part of African traders in China have no legal identity registration in local government which means they are defined as the 'Sanfei' (illegal immigration, illegal residence and illegal work) personnel (Fang & Liang, 2010). At the same time, they also distribute a large number of counterfeit and shoddy products (Li et al, 2008). So we can imagine that lots of them don't want to be investigated and exposed. Even though the starting point of my research is to find a way to help them. There would still be a lot misunderstanding and doubt for my study from these hidden traders. How to obtain the most authentic and reliable information while protecting their privacy is my greatest consideration. At the same time, in the face of some of the illegal businesses they engage in, such as counterfeit goods and drug trafficking, I will not investigate these issues in depth for considering my own security issues. But from a planner's point of view, I could think about how to make their business environment more legitimate and transparent, so as to actively guide them to do legitimate business activities.

When it comes to the final design implementation, it mainly emphasizes the independent participation of this group. I can only provide a tool box that can be used but not a finalized design. Otherwise, the better participate is impossible to realize. In addition, it is also necessary to consider whether the intervention of design will destroy its original life form. For example, making the community a distinctive African commercial district to attract locals and tourists may lead to excessive consumption of culture, thus squeeze the living space of people who actually use here. Therefore, moderate intervention is very important for my design outcomes.

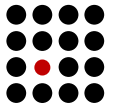


6. THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

--- Social Integration in Public Space (AR3U023)

--- Public Participation in Urban Regeneration





6.1 Social Integration in Public Space (AR3U023)

Public space, an important carrier for promoting the social integration of African residents and local residents in Guangzhou

ABSTRACT:

Many cities have experienced different levels of residential differentiation after urbanization had reached a certain stage, which leads to social segregation rather than social integration (Popenoe, 1973). As a carrier of urban public life, public spaces were developed in many cities to avoid social segregation. These attempts have achieved good social integration effects without deliberately planning mixed communities (Yang, 2006) (Amin, 2002). This paper focuses on the foreign ethnic communities in China and the resulting social segregation. It will first discuss the formation of residential differentiation and the role of urban public space in the process of promoting social integration. Through the case study of some public space developments and public events holding that weaken the problem of social segregation between different groups of people in other cities, the corresponding opinions on the design of public spaces, space governance and public activities are proposed. Specifically, it points out the positive role of public space in promoting the social integration. Taking the spatial transformation of the African enclaves in Guangzhou as the research case, it explains the causes of social segregation and the mechanism of internal operation of the communities. Finally, it will discuss how the experiences that learn from the case study above can be implied in the public space of African enclaves in Guangzhou.

KEYWORDS:

Residential differentiation, social segregation, social integration, public space, ethnic enclaves in Guangzhou

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. What is residential differentiation? What are the reasons for the formation of this phenomenon?
2. What is the significance of urban public space for the city? How to link public space to social integration?
3. How do other countries and regions use public space when dealing with the residential differentiation and social segregation?
4. How are the African enclaves in Guangzhou formed? Why is there a social segregation from the local urban environment? Considering the specific situation of the African enclaves in Guangzhou that were analysed before, what can be worth learning from the cases?

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0. Introduction

Along with the process of reform and opening up, China has undergone tremendous changes in economy, society and urban space in the past 40 years. These changes interact and influence each other. High-speed economic development and urbanization have made the urban social space constantly transform and reconstruct, and the differentiation of social space has become the main feature of contemporary Chinese urban social space (Li, Wu & Xue, 2006). The most obvious one is the differentiation of residences based on income levels, ethnic religions, and domestic immigration provinces. The city has formed a series of well-characterized communities such as various high-end gated communities, Huimin district in Xi'an, the urban village that organized by the Jiangsu migrant workers in Beijing and so on. There is also a type of residential differentiation that has developed in recent years but not yet widely recognized. This type is differentiated according to the nationality of residents. The Korean city of Beijing Wangjing area and the African enclaves of Guangzhou are the representative of this type. It was formed because the opening up and trade development in China brought a large number of foreign traders to some cities such as Beijing, Guangzhou, Yiwu and so on. Some of these traders even choose to live in the Chinese cities for a long time. Their settlement has brought about tremendous changes in urban social space and many social problems for China has never experienced such an obvious wave of transnational migration in the past. As far as the status quo is concerned, a large number of these ethnic enclaves are separated from the local social space, and there is no more exchange between them than business. The author's graduation research is about the African enclaves in Guangzhou. Current researches on these communities are mainly based on the work of Li, Gordon and Yang. However, their researches only answer the social spatial characteristics of such

settlements, how the social space mechanism is formed and what causes the Social segregation phenomenon. (Li et al, 2008)(Yang, 2009)(Mathews & Yang, 2012). Recommendations for promoting social integration have not been proposed from the perspective of space development.

As an important carrier of urban social life, public space has always played an important role in promoting social integration. Can it also solve the problem of the integration of this transnational social space (Portes, 2000) with the local urban environment? What kind of public space can be accepted and shared by locals and foreigners with great cultural differences? This paper first discusses the concepts of residential differentiation, social integration, and public space. Then it analyses the cases of public space development and public events holding in other cities that promote social integration between different groups of urban residents. After case study, it introduces the historical causes and current status mechanisms of the African enclaves in Guangzhou. The paper finally puts forward specific suggestions for the future development of public space in Guangzhou's African enclaves, about the ways that this Chinese city could use to respond to the social segregation between foreign communities and local social space.



Figure 1: Residential differentiation in Johannesburg, South Africa. Source: <https://www.bjp-online.com/2017/11/unequal-scenes-a-new-perspective-on-an-old-problem/>

1. Key concepts

1.1 Residential differentiation

So what exactly is the phenomenon of residential differentiation? In 2016, American photographer Johnny Miller started a photography project called Unequal Scenes and tried to show the world the huge visual differences of living conditions in cities through the lens language (Fig.1)(Lawrence, 2017). Yet in the eyes of urban researchers, the phenomenon in which residents of different races and income levels choose or be forced to live in different areas of city is the so-called residential differentiation. This is the reflection and representation of social differentiation and social stratification in the urban spatial pattern, which is reflected in the situation in which homogenous people gather and live in heterogeneous populations (Qin, 2010). This phenomenon is common in many cities around the world (Fig.2), and also includes Chinese cities (Fig.3) that are in the process of high-speed urbanization (Chen, Wu & Li, 2015) (He, S., & Wu, F. 2007).

In the long history of urban development, the residential differentiation and the subsequent social segregation have always existed and are inevitable. As early as the 1930s, the



Figure 2: Residential differentiation in Sao Paulo, Brasil. Source: Xinlang Weibo



Figure 3: Residential differentiation in China. Source: Xinlang Weibo

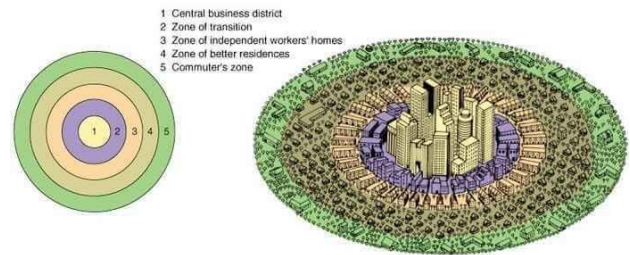


Figure 4: Concentric Zone Model by Ernest Burgess. Source: <https://planningtank.com/settlement-geography/burgess-model-or-concentric-zone-model>

concentric zone model (Fig.4) of the Chicago School on the urban space structure showed that the American city had formed a kind of residential differentiation which is affected by the income level (Burgess, 1928). In addition to this, there are also different types of urban communities formed according to people's ethnicity, religious beliefs, and cultural backgrounds like the Chinatown around the world and Singapore's Little India.

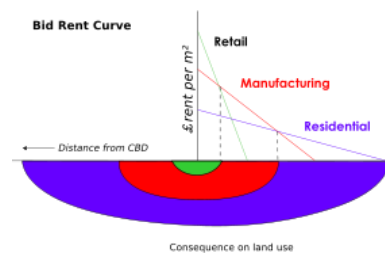


Figure 5: Bid Rent Curve. Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bid_rent_theory

From an economic and social perspective, the phenomenon of residential differentiation and social segregation is reasonable. According to Alonso's bid rent curve (1964)(Fig.5), the market economy will effectively allocate the limited land resources of the city which results in some phenomena, such as the dilapidated settlements in the city centre, are gradually being driven away by capital and then transformed into luxury apartments or commercial centres similar to the surrounding areas. From the social side, people with the same race or belief are more likely to gain mutual trust and mutual recognition. However, from the general experience, **the phenomenon of residential differentiation and social segregation and will lead to a decrease in communication between different groups of people in the city, deepening the barriers and reducing the efficiency of urban operations.**

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1.2 Social integration

Social integration, as opposed to social isolation, was earlier defined by Park and Burgess, the representative of the Chicago School. They first studied this concept in 1921 through the concept of assimilation (Nee & Alba, 2012) and defined it (1969) as "a process of interpenetration and fusion in which persons and groups acquire the memories, sentiments, and attitude of other persons and groups and, by sharing their experience and history, are incorporated with them in a common cultural life." Due to the needs of author's graduation research, this paper pays more attention to integration from the social spatial perspective. Massey et al (1984) argue that the social spatial integration which could be discussed at different spatial scales is an important step of social integration. For example, if we use community as the basic unit of urban social space, then the smallest scale comes from the integration of individuals or families with mainstream groups. The second level is the integration between different types of groups within a community. The third level is the integration of different communities, focusing on how heterogeneous communities break through the inherent concepts and integrate into local urban spaces, such as "stigma" communities and surrounding communities (Howarth, 2002). **The objective of this study is to find some potential ways to promote social integration between African communities and local social space in Guangzhou.**

1.3 Public space

The public space in the city refers to the space that is open to people for free, such as pedestrian streets, squares and parks. Different from space in urban residential buildings, office buildings, and schools, which are only used by single or minority groups, public space can attract and accommodate people of different income levels, different races, and different cultural backgrounds for its openness and publicity. **Therefore, it could be a great platform for people in the city to**

communicate with each other and also a good tool to eliminate social segregation and promote social integration.

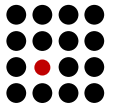
2. Case study

2.1 Relieving confrontation and nervousness in Sao Paulo

Many cities like Barcelona and Sao Paulo are experimenting with the use of truly inclusive and highly open public spaces to resolve existing social segregation in cities, thereby promoting social integration. According to Yang's research (2006), he introduced some changes that happened in the city of Sao Paulo, Brazil, around 2000 to 2006. In 2000, the increase in the gap between the rich and the poor led to the emergence of social contradictions, especially spatial segregation between them. The rich areas were isolated by the walls and guards. As a result, tax revenues in other urban areas had dropped sharply, and the quality of public services had continued to decline. This had led to the relocation of some middle classes, further exacerbating the segregation. The local government saw the seriousness of this problem and restored the function of public space through urban design, so that residents can eliminate the opposite emotions by participating in the activities that held in the public space. With further attracting investment to improve the urban environment, this strategy has gradually shown its effect. In 2006, the city's public security situation had obviously improved, and the vitality had gradually recovered with the participation of the residents.



Figure 6: Local news about the Narborough road.



2.2 Inter-ethnic integration in Leicester

On the other side of the globe, Leicester is becoming one of the most culturally diverse and inclusive city in Britain. For example, according to some news and reports, it has recently become the first city in the United Kingdom that the white person is counted as a minority. Besides, the Narborough road (Fig.6) of this city was named the UK's "most diverse" road in a research project by the London School of Economics (Hall, King & Finlay, 2015). How did they stand out from many British cities? It is necessary to mention a large number of public events that reflect cultural diversity, which is held annually in the city's public streets and plaza (Amin, 2002). These activities are often celebrated for one group of people, but everyone in this city can enjoy. For example the celebration for Eid, the Leicester Caribbean carnival, Diwali, an Asian 'Mela' or fair, and the City of Leicester Show, which "includes Asian and African music and food as well as traditional English pastimes such as horse Racing" (Fig.7) (Winstone, 1996, page 39). These initiatives are attracting a large number of tourists to increase the visibility of the city, but more importantly, to enhance the understanding and trust between people of different ethnicities in the city, so that everyone could talk and laugh with each other in the public space.



Figure 7: Various multi-ethnic celebrations in the public space of Leicester.

2.3 The potential role of public space in the process of social integration

The above two cases show that whether it is due to income level and social class differences or differences in ethnic and cultural backgrounds, the problem of residential differentiation and social segregation, and the subsequent negative effects could be actively reconciled and dispelled in the urban public space. This is

closely related to the inclusiveness and multi-heterogeneity of the public space mentioned above. Because of these qualities, different types of people can participate in urban public life randomly or in a planned way, communicate with others and learn about different cultures in public spaces. These can be used as gentle and soft ways to eliminate misunderstandings and barriers and build trust and friendship between different people. In addition, the public space itself has a strong connection with social public life. Gehl (2011) compares urban public space to the living room in the home where has no need to emphasize privacy as the bedroom, but to give everyone the opportunity to participate in family life as much as possible. He believes that the hierarchy of social groupings is reflected by a hierarchy of communal spaces. Just as family life tends to be carried out around the indoor communal space of the living room, urban public life will also be carried out around outdoor communal spaces such as commercial street, community centre and square. **Therefore, how to design and utilize public space will play a key role in promoting social harmony and integration in the city.**

3. African enclaves in Guangzhou

3.1 History and current situation

As mentioned in the introduction, the formation of the African community in Guangzhou is the result of the combined effects of globalization and China's reform and opening up. Looking further, the Pearl River Delta region in which Guangzhou is located has been the most open region in China since modern times. There have the earliest open trading ports in Qing Dynasty, the former colonies of Hong Kong and Macau, and the manufacturing clusters known as the world's factories. It is close to Southeast Asia and the world's major sea freight lanes which made it the starting point for the China Maritime Silk Road. It is far from the political centre of Beijing which means to have greater freedom to carry out reform and opening up

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practices. In addition, Guangzhou itself is the core node of trade in this region, and holds the country's largest trade fair (Canton Fair) every year. As a result, the region has become China's most attractive place for foreigners (Fig.8), and Guangzhou has become Asia's largest gathering place for Africans (GDA, 2014).



Figure 8: Permanent foreign residents population in China, the 6th National Census. Own Image
Source: National Bureau of Statistics

African traders are mainly self-employed with low cost. The products they buy are mostly low-quality, non-guaranteed products like counterfeit clothes, bags and shoes. Therefore, they choose to come to China to purchase and sell to Africa personally (Yang, 2009). In this way, they need to find a place to stay in Guangzhou that is cheap, close to major transportation hubs and trading markets. Since the 1990s, the number of African traders who have come to Guangzhou to find business opportunities has soared and several well-known African communities (Fig.9) have been formed here (Lin, 2014). This coincides with the view that Thomas Friedman (2005) proposed in his book 'The World is Flat' that the 21st century is the 3.0 era of globalization. He believes that after entering the new century, globalization will rely more on individual participation than on trade between large multinational corporations and countries. Some former third world countries like China will move to the centre of this stage.

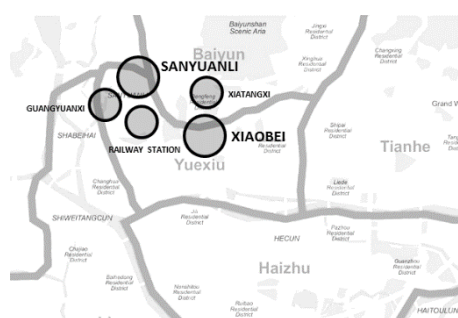
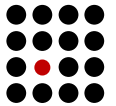


Figure 9: Main African communities in Guangzhou city. Own Image

The reason why they choose to live together is very similar to the reasons for the formation of ethnic enclaves in other parts of the world. As traders, especially self-employed individuals, their access to business information is more dependent on exchanges between individuals (Lin, 2014) (Yang, 2009). This requires a full trust between each other. For these foreigners who know almost nothing about China, cultural identity and language communication are the foundation of the trust. As a result of the increase in the number of African traders and the strengthening of their social network, these African enclaves are becoming more and more obvious in this city. Local residents choose to actively isolate these outsiders due to some stereotypes and misunderstandings. They either don't offer homes to African traders or take the initiative to move out of these African enclaves (Li et al, 2008). Therefore the ethnic-based residential differentiation inevitably appeared in Guangzhou. After several times of African demonstrating their dissatisfaction with the management of the local government via protests (Fig.10), the confrontation between this group and the local society accumulated day by day, and social segregation further deepened.



Figure 10: African protest in Guangzhou, 2009. Source: VOA News



3.2 Public space in the communities

Although the main purpose of these African traders coming to Guangzhou is to do business, it seems that they do not have much time and energy to carry out other activities, especially activities with local communities. But from their eating, religious activities and sports activities, they use more or less urban public space. Several typical public spaces are listed below (Fig.11) (Li, Lyons & Brown, 2012).

- In the famous local African community Baohanzhijie, there is a main commercial street, which serves as a public space to provide them with some necessary living services and a large number of authentic African and Muslim foods. But unfortunately, there are few local Guangzhou people here
- There is a century-old church in the old part of Guangzhou. The mass held here on every Sunday afternoon is almost a figurine of Africans. At that time it is also rare to see believers in local or other countries in the gatherings here
- They will also hold football matches at regular times on some courts
- The markets they trade can also be seen as a public space, at least where they have some contact and communication with the locals.

In general, their use of urban public space is in a certain degree of exclusiveness (Lin, 2014), but since they are using space that belongs to everyone, then these spaces have the potential to become a place to promote the integration of the African traders group and local society.

3.3 Inspirations from case studies

According to the analysis on the current situation of social segregation between Africans and locals in Guangzhou, what we can learn from the previous cases is to first further explore and sort out the public spaces they often use and their characteristics. Target those public spaces and enhance their spatial quality. For example, commercial streets in African communities can be rehabilitated, combining their own ethnically distinctive shops and restaurants to attract locals and tourists to consume and get cultural experiences. In addition, some public activities could be held in conjunction with public spaces, such as the China-Africa Football Friendly Tournament and cultural exhibitions in the outer square of the church to promote mutual understanding between believers in different countries. Finally, the trading market itself can use the public exhibition area to display the products of various countries to attract more local citizens to experience, so that the market is no longer a trading place but a communication complex. Gap and confrontation are not formed in a day, so understanding and blending cannot be achieved in a short time. **Public space may act like a Band-aid, slowly healing the scars between Africans and locals in Guangzhou.**

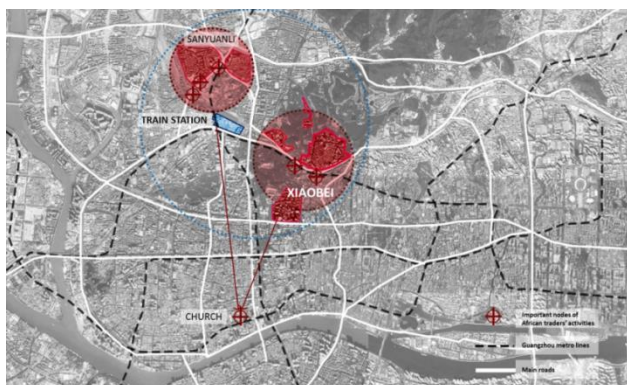


Figure 11: Range of African traders' public activities in Guangzhou. Own image

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4. Conclusion :

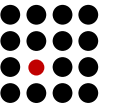
Urban development is inseparable from human mobility. Whether it is economic and market factors or ethnic and cultural factors, residential differentiation and social segregation are bound to hinder the development of cities. We could deal with these problems through economic and policy instruments, but also to promote social integration from the physical space, such as urban public space as an important platform to achieve this objective. In the author's graduation project, Guangzhou could promote the active integration of African communities and local social space by studying other cities' ways of improving public space quality and holding some inclusive public activities.

From a longer-term perspective, with the further globalization and the deepening of China's opening up, it is expected that more foreigners will come to China for study, work and business activities in the future. Their choice to live in a certain range is in line with the principles of interpersonal psychology. Therefore, if the urban public space that can promote the interaction between different people cannot be modelled in advance based on existing experience and success cases, then there will be more segregated communities of foreigners' in the future Chinese cities.

REFLECTION ON THE THEORY STUDY IN AR3U023

The main purpose of this course is to teach formal academic writing rules and procedures. I learned a systematic approach from conception to completion of academic papers, and tried to get rid of some of the rigor and inefficiency in writing. What impressed me was that we were told to write abstracts, introductions and conclusions first. I used to get some conclusions when I was almost ready to complete the paper, but writing one end at the beginning gave me a clearer understanding of the framework, scope and structure of the paper, so that I would not lose my way on the process of writing. Yet this also brings a problem. Target-oriented work often makes it difficult to find new ideas, which restricts the emergence of different possibilities of the article. Next I should try to better grasp this degree.

In addition to learning the method of writing a academic paper, several times of communication with the teacher also led me to explore ideas in the direction of theoretical study. In the beginning, the topic I wanted to write was either too broad that could not be clearly expressed in this thousand-word essay or lack the feasibility and basis of research. It will take a long time for me to have the ability that I could find a suitable starting point when I get a topic immediately. I should practice more in the future.



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6.2 Public Participation in Urban Regeneration

CHINESE URBAN COMMUNITY RENEWAL FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is an important part of pursuing a democratic policy. Is there any precedent for public participation in some urban regeneration projects in Chinese cities? This section explores the concepts of public participation and urban regeneration, as well as the possibility of public participation in urban regeneration.

KEYWORDS: Chinese cities, community renewal, community building, public participation, community planner

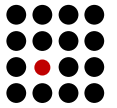
RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. How do the concepts of community renewal and public participation emerge and how they develop?
2. What is the general situation of research and practice on community renewal and public participation in mainland China?
3. How do different Chinese cities incorporate public participation in the community renewal process? What are their results? What is worth summarizing?
4. What are the similarities and differences between the African community in Guangzhou and the above cases? What could Guangzhou do based on the case study?

0. Introduction

China experienced a high-speed urbanization process in the 40 years after the reform and opening up. The urbanization rate has increased from 18% at the end of 1978 to the current level of 59% (National Bureau of Statistics, 2018). While high-speed urbanization benefits and feeds back economic prosperity, it also creates a series of urban and social problems. In particular, some metropolises that are almost saturated in the development space have experienced many major urban diseases, such as traffic congestion, air pollution and deterioration of the living environment. **Therefore, Chinese scholars and relevant government departments generally believe that these big cities are in urgent need of urban transformation to deal with these problems. On this basis, urban planning in these high developed cities has also gradually entered the era of inventory planning from the era of increment planning.** The Shenzhen Master Plan (2010-2020) and the Shanghai Urban Renewal Plan (2015) are the representative examples of practices in Chinese cities.

Inventory planning means to promote urban function and achieve urban revitalization by rationally planning stock resources and using methods of urban renewal (Luo, 2013). It places more emphasis on re-finding or saving public goods that have been lost or are about to be lost (Wang & Shao, 2015). In the past, in the incremental development of cities, we often saw the development of new town that led by local governments and developers to pursue large scale, high speed and high economic efficiency. In contrast, because the



issue of property rights, the types of stakeholders, the status quo of built environment, and the implementation process are more complicated, it is more inclined to achieve urban environment improvement, promotion of residents' quality of life and continuation of urban culture through long-term consultation on a small scale in inventory planning. **Therefore urban community has become an important carrier for the implementation of stock-based renewal. It is also the small scale and the complexity mentioned above make the community renewal closer to the ordinary people and public participation in this process more important.**

The purpose of this paper is to study the theoretical development and practice cases of public participation in community renewal, and to summarize the planning model that meets the current situation of community renewal in Chinese cities and has a high degree of public participation. Combined with the Guangzhou African ethnic enclaves that my graduation project focuses on, the participation of foreign residents in Chinese communities is also taken into consideration.

0. Important Concepts

As mentioned above, the important spatial carrier for inventory planning is the community, and the implementation process requires long-term multi-stakeholder consultation. Two important concepts (community renewal and public participation) would be covered in this article.

1.1 Community renewal concept that combines community building and urban renewal

Community renewal is a reflection of urban renewal at the community level and an integral part of community building. The essence of urban renewal is the optimal adjustment of urban functional structure and the sustainable reuse of urban space. Urban renewal is accompanied by the development of the city. Its purpose is to solve urban problems, seek to continuously improvement

on the economic and social conditions and improve the quality of the living environment. Urban renewal methods are broadly divided into redevelopment, rehabilitation and conservation (Wu, 1994).

Community building is a process that “residents who live in the same area continue to collectively deal with their living issues, solve problems, create common living well-being and establish close social connections between each other” (Zhuang, 2015). **The purpose of community building is to create a beautiful living environment and achieve sustainable development through the improvement of the physical spatial condition, the optimization of functions and industrial structure and the protection of historical culture. These make community building has a lot of similarity with the purpose of urban renewal.** Community renewal can therefore be understood as a community building effort through the ways of urban renewal.

1.2 Concept of public participation derived from the practice in urban planning

The idea of public participation was first proposed in the “Declaration on Social Progress and Development” read out at the 1969 UN General Assembly. In a broad sense, it can be interpreted **as the behavior of the public participating in social affairs that have a certain impact on their own interests and producing certain positive or negative effects.** But this concept has a relatively longer history in urban planning. As early as 1947, the planning system created by the UK's Urban and Rural Planning Law allowed the public to express their opinions on the planning results (Li, 2015). In the concept of Advocacy Planning proposed by Davidoff in 1965, the core idea was to encourage ordinary citizens to participate in the process of urban development and to protect public democratic power (Davidoff, 1965). Based on this theory, the famous “Skeffington Committee Report” in 1968 which is considered as the milestone proposed measures for public participation in urban planning from both the citizen and

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government perspectives (Child, 2015). In 1969, the "Ladder of citizen participation" theory proposed by American scholar Amstein provided a reference standard for the measurement of public participation (Amstein, 1969) (Fig.1). The 1977 Machu Picchu Charter which incorporated public participation emphasized that the urban development process requires constant communication and participation by citizens, governments, and planners.

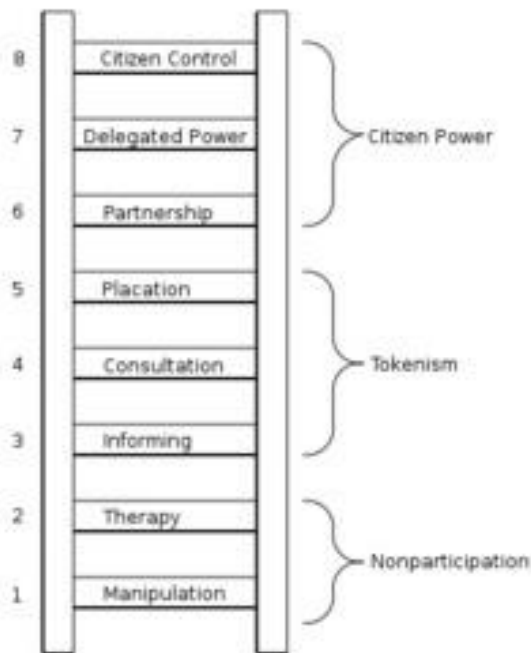


Figure 1. Ladder of citizen participation.

The focus of this paper is on the improvement of the spatial and human environment in the old communities in large cities and how the residents can participate in this process to the maximum extent. The residents here will not only be limited to locals who own property rights but also short-term residents such as foreign traders.

2. Existing research on community renewal and public participation in China

Theoretical research on community renewal and public participation in China is generally later than that in Western developed countries.

2.1 Chinese urban (community) renewal research and practice in the last 40 years

The first phase of research and practice of urban renewal in China after the reform and opening up was about the first 20 years. During this period of time, based on the experience of urban development in Western countries, Chinese urban research scholar Chen Zhanxiang discussed the concept of "urban metabolism" in 1980. He believed that the city is constantly moving and developing, always undergoing continuous renewal and transformation, and **proposed three renewal approaches which include reconstruction, protection and maintenance.** Wu Liangyong discussed the concept of "organic renewal" in 1994. He pointed out that urban renewal should start from the perspective of protection and development and achieve sustainable development. At this stage, the practice of urban renewal in China was mainly through the way of local government-funded housing renewal, reconstruction work based on the urban master plan and only a small number of renovations and upgrading. The second phase was between 1998 and 2008. In 2004 and 2005, Zhang Pingyu and Wu Chen discussed the concepts of "urban regeneration" respectively; in 2007, the concept of "urban renewal" was elaborated. This concept emphasizes the transformation of urban declining areas and improving both the physical and non-physical environment of the city. But urban renewal during this period relied on real estate development. The pursuit of maximum economic value led to the transformation of a large number of old communities into new gated communities. The radical changes in the physical environment also led to the disappearance of the intangible environment such as the original social network and community atmosphere. **After 2008, although the real estate development model still led the majority of urban renewal, due to the efforts of relevant practitioners, government departments and local residents, community renewal began to focus on the regeneration**



of both physical and non-physical environments and some bottom-up behavior also began to appear. This will be discussed in detail in the case study below.

2.2 Public participation in China

The research and discussion on the concept of public participation in China also began at the beginning of reform and opening up, but due to the political environment of China it developed slowly. Before the 21st century, the study of public participation focused on the introduction and discussion of Western public participation theory and practice, such as Shi Nan's "Looking at Canada's Urban Planning System from Legislation" in 1990, and Liang Henian's "Public Participation: Experience and lessons of North America" in 1999. After that, the research gradually turned to the analysis of the status quo of public participation in China and the discussion of the construction of public participation mechanism, such as Sun Shiwen's "Public Participation in Urban Planning" in 2002 and Hao Juan's "Analysis of China's Promotion of Public Participation in Urban Planning: Obstacles and causes" in 2007. After 2011, as the practice of public participation in urban planning gradually increased, these practical cases became the object of research, and people began to try to find a complete form of public participation for a system suitable for China's national conditions.

Although Chinese research on community renewal and public participation started late, the pace of development is not slow, especially theoretical research has a positive

impact on practice. In recent years, we have been able to see more and more practical cases of community renewal and public participation. Therefore, I will select some representative cases for analysis.

3. Community renewal practice cases with public participation in China

Since the site selection for the graduation project is in the old city of Guangzhou, I hope to draw a feasible approach from the public participation practice in the existing community renewal in China. The application and development barriers of the community planner system in Shenzhen and the public participation model of Shanghai in community planning will be discussed in this section.

3.1 Four different types of community planner in Shenzhen

Shenzhen is a test field for China's reform and opening up and one of the first cities in China who try the community planner system (Zhao, 2013). The concept of community planners which originated in Western countries is opposed to government planners. The so-called government planner refers to the planner who is engaged in the traditional planning and management and mainly serves the local government (Wu & Wang, 2012). Unlike the previous one's role of top-down blueprint maker, community planners emphasize coordinating liaisons between top and down and representing the public from a professional perspective. Whether in the United States, the United Kingdom, or Taiwan, community planners have promoted

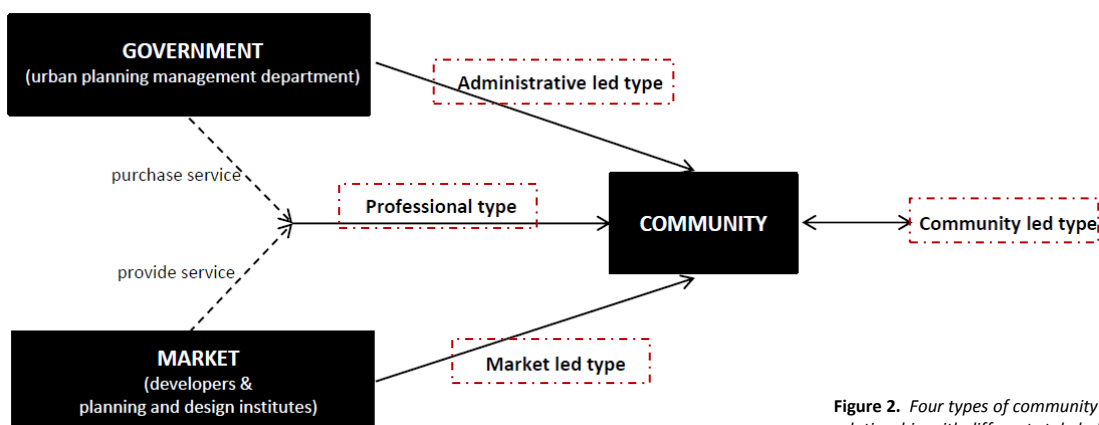


Figure 2. Four types of community planner and their relationship with different stakeholders.

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public participation in community building practices in recent decades. Shenzhen has been piloting the community planner system since 2009 and mainly tried four types of community planners (Wu & Wang, 2013) (Fig.2).

- The first type relies on the administrative power that assigns community planners who can provide planning service for communities from top to bottom. This is because the planning administrative department itself reflects on the traditional planning management system and tries to carry out planning management from a new perspective. **Although this has found new ideas for high-level urban planning decision-makers, it is easy for them to be limited by fixed thinking at work.**
- The second type is also dominated by administrative forces. These community planners employed by government departments are mainly from various urban planning and design institutions in Shenzhen, and **receive financial support from the administrative department**, which is similar to the community planner system in Taipei.
- The third is community-led. Some communities that have formed certain planning awareness can take the initiative to hire community planners who can actively prepare community renewal plans for them and negotiate with government departments on the renewal plan. This form seems to reflect the public participation and could strongly mobilize the enthusiasm of the community residents, **but it also has certain requirements for the economic strength and development awareness of the community. In the future, if more private capital and public welfare funds are involved, it will promote more communities to actively participate in the renewal movement.**
- The fourth type is market-driven. The community and developers jointly hire professional planers and designers to plan

and coordinate with the government. **This kind of approach belongs to market-oriented operation, pays more attention to economic benefits and might easily ignore the interests of community tenants and vulnerable groups.**

Based on the ladder of citizen participation, I tried to place these four types of community planner according to their degree of public participation (Fig.3). Overall, Shenzhen has taken the first step in exploring the community planner system, but we can clearly see that both top-down assignments and bottom-up hires have certain drawbacks. Therefore, the next step for the local government should actively consider how to combine several forms to achieve a balance of power, capital and public interest, so that community planners can better carry out their work and coordinate the interests of all stakeholders.

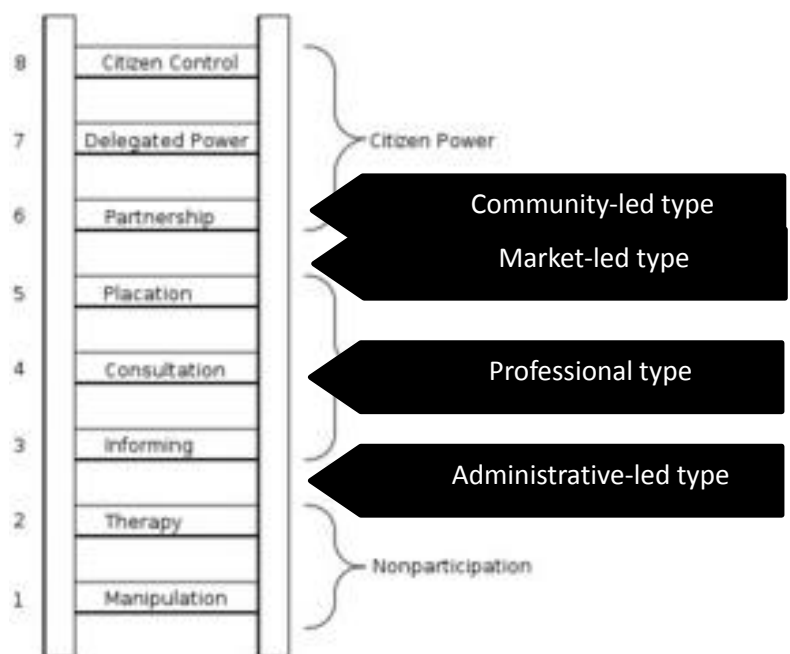
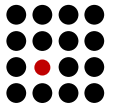


Figure 3. Participatory degree of four types.



3.2 A more mature and sophisticated way of public participation in Shanghai's community renewal

Shanghai is also one of the first cities in China to try public participation in urban renewal. In the process of inventory planning and urban renewal, Shanghai has emphasized the micro-renewal of community space. This way is to maintain the environment and improve the quality of the space on the basis of retaining the original community. This approach weakens the role of government and developers compared to traditional urban renewal and reconstruction, allowing bottom-up mechanisms to participate in the process of community building.

As Shanghai is at the forefront of China's urbanization process, many districts nowadays have been mixed with various buildings with different ages and tenements. Many communities have developed early and now have deteriorating phenomenon of architectural quality and public space environment. Therefore, in order to optimize the community environment, improve living standards and explore community self-governance and co-governance, many regions have begun community renewal planning practice.

For example, Pengpu Town in Jingan District proposed the **P+P model (Planning + Participating)** in the community renewal plan called "Beautiful Homeland", which is the combination of dynamic planning and public participation. This model mainly relies on the community's "three meetings and one agent platform" and "1+5+x" co-governance mode (Fig.4). Among them, the three meetings refer to the decision-making hearings, contradictory coordination meetings and government affairs review meetings that established by the community residents committees, so that in the process of decision-making, coordination and evaluation in community renewal can absorb the participation of the community public. The only one agent refers to the residents' agency system. The "1+5+x" co-governance model refers to a management platform for community renewal composed of one community government leadership, five relevant responsible persons and representatives (mainly including community police, residents committee, owners' committee, property party and the residents) and some other representatives (such as volunteers). Based on this framework, there is a certain level of public participation at each

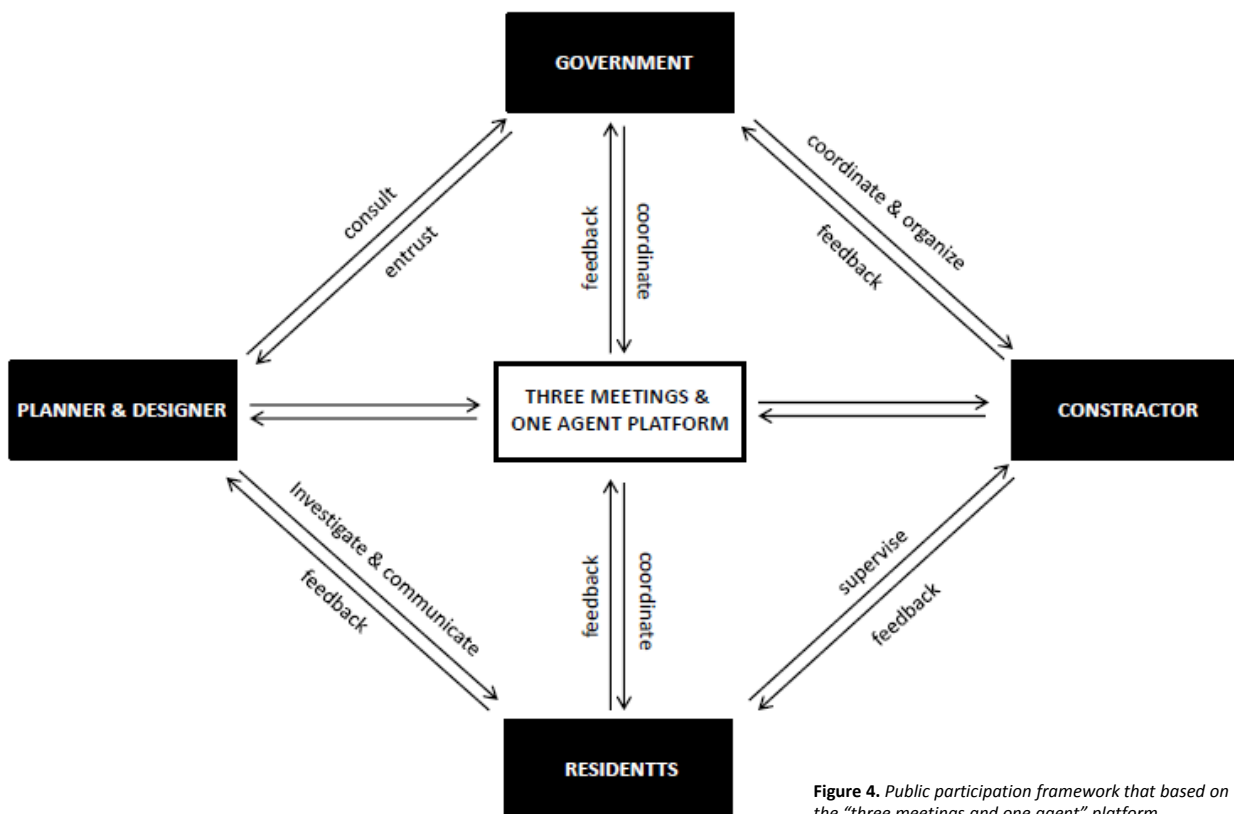


Figure 4. Public participation framework that based on the "three meetings and one agent" platform

THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

stage of the project. The planning and decision-making stage is the core of the project and the most concerned, so the public participation at this stage is also the most representative (Fig.5).

Through the practice in Shanghai, it can be seen that the most effective way to implement public participation in the context of China's strict urban planning control system is to choose a way that combines bottom-up and top-down approaches. This will be feasible now and for some time to come.

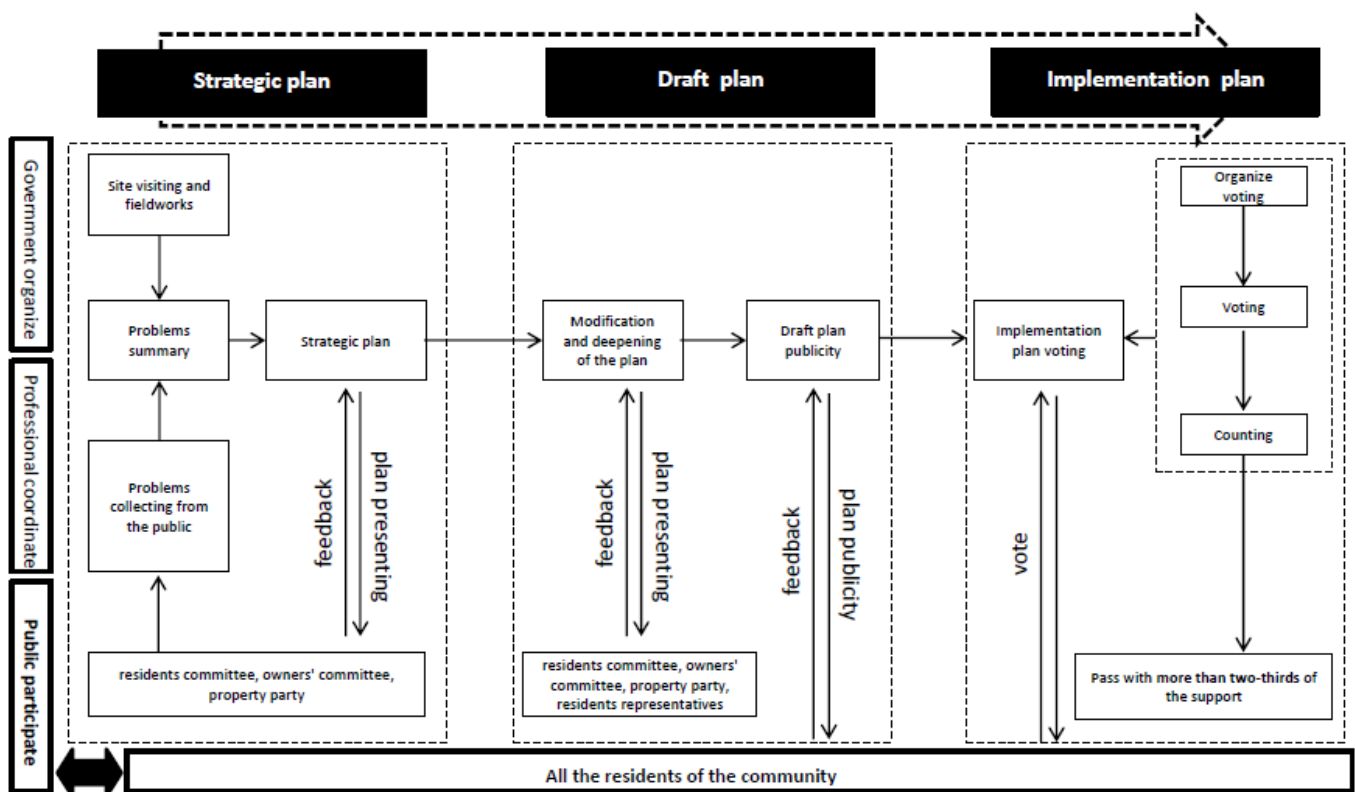
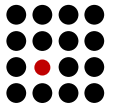


Figure 5. Public participation in the process of renewal plan's making..



Figure 6. Before and after community renewal in Shanghai.



4. Enlightenment from the cases on the implementation of public participation in the renewal process for the African ethnic enclave community in Guangzhou

Under the premise that Guangzhou and the cities in the case have the same urban governance system background, **the following similarities and differences** are summarized:

Similarities:

- They are located in some big Chinese cities with long developing times and large scale of development.
- These areas with relatively long development times, despite being in the center of cities, began to experience de-urbanization phenomenon such as functional declining, environmental degradation and industrial moving away.
- The community is relatively complex in terms of resident types, function composition and spatial environment, which involves a lot of stakeholders and different needs for community renewal.

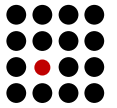
At the same time, there are some other characteristics of the African ethnic enclave community in Guangzhou that are worth noting. In terms of personnel composition, a large group of African traders and businessmen is rare in Chinese cities. These people, whether they are renting apartments or renting for operating stores, their role of tenants and foreigners have made their voices in the community under the existing system very low.

Based on the above comparison, I think it is feasible to imitate the public participation mechanism in Shenzhen and Shanghai in the renewal of the African ethnic enclave community in Guangzhou, but it is necessary to give special consideration to the forms of participation of these foreigners, such as how to organize them to participate in community activities, how to pick the representatives of them and so on.

7. EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

- History of Guangzhou's Development
- The Origin of China-Africa Trade in Guangzhou and its Mechanism
- The Formation of African Enclaves and Their Main Features
- Site Analysis and Conclusions
- Case Study





7.1 History of Guangzhou's Development

*Guangzhou is an important central city in China and one of the four first-tier cities (Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen). In the course of the millennium development of the city, **we can find all kinds of clues to form the size, characteristics and culture of the city.***

*Since the political, economic and social environment here is constantly changing, I will **describe the development of Guangzhou in three stages.***

Pre – 1949

Step by step to become the country's most important external window and gateway

With a history of more than 2,100 years (Xu & Yeh, 2003), Guangzhou is a national historical and cultural city in China. Although its specific founding time is not conclusive, but since the Qin Dynasty (Qiu, 1998), Guangzhou has always been the administrative center of the province or the region. It is the political, military, economic, cultural, and scientific center of South China and the birthplace and

prosperity of Lingnan culture. In this long development process, with the social, economic and political changes of the world and the country, Guangzhou has undergone several major changes, which has made the city gradually form the status and function of today.

After entering the Tang Dynasty, Guangzhou became one of the three major commercial cities in China and an important port in South China (Liu, 1975). It was an important node on the route that connecting ancient China and the Middle East. As it became China's largest port city and one of the world's most famous ports, Guangzhou's popularity has spread to the world (Xu, 1985). The decline of the Silk Road on the land gives this city a huge opportunity for development as a starting point for the Maritime Silk Road. The goods of ancient China, Southeast Asia, the Middle East and even further places are exchanged here for each other (Fig.26, 27), and the city has thus deeply engraved the character of commerce.



*Figure 26 : the pottery figurine the Northern barbarian tribes in ancient China, Guangzhou
Source: <http://big5.huaxia.com/zt/zhwh/10-019/1948713.html>*



*Figure 27: The Scene of Ancient Guangzhou Port
Source: <http://www.hua168.com/gonglve-329660.html>*

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

However, this is not always prosperous. By the time of the Ming Dynasty, due to piracy and certain national defense needs, Emperor Hongwu withdrew his previous support for foreign trade and implemented a series of maritime bans (Haijin) (Vai Glahn, 1996). These bans prohibited private foreign trade and only allowed trade between official delegations. Several important ports along the coast of South China, such as Ningbo, Quanzhou and Guangzhou, were forced to close (Von Glahn, 1996). In the 17th century, the Qing government also implemented a similar policy that lasted until 1757 (Xu & Yeh, 2003).

In 1757, the Qing government reopened the trade port of Guangzhou, which made it the only foreign trade port in China at that time. The monopoly position made the city unique in China, with almost all of the commercial companies' headquarters set up here (Chan, 1995). At this time, Guangzhou had already begun to attract a large number of foreign businessmen to come. When they came to China, they needed to find a designated dealer to represent them which was the so-called "Thirteen-Hong" (Fig.28). Wu Bingjian, the world's richest man at the time, was one of the traders in Guangzhou's Thirteen-Hong (Fig.29). The prosperous business environment



Figure 29: The Portrait of Wu Bingjian
Source: http://www.sohu.com/a/213888875_528910

also spawned the rise and flourish of regional handicraft industry. By 1840, Guangzhou had already owned 1 million residents (Xu & Yeh, 2003), which laid the foundation for later industries, especially labor-intensive manufacturing industries.

Not good for a long time, the sudden Opium War has greatly affected the prosperity here. In addition to the great damage to the city caused by the war, the signing of the Sino-British Nanking Treaty made Guangzhou no longer the only foreign trade port in China. The colonial Hong Kong and several other trading ports were constantly taking away the trade volume that once belonged to Guangzhou (Barnett, 1964), the status of the foreign trade center was gradually replaced by Shanghai (Fig.30).



Figure 28: The Thirteen-Hong c. 1805, displaying the flags of Denmark, Spain, the United States, Sweden, Britain, and the Netherlands
Source: http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/rise_fall_canton_04/gallery_places/pages/cwC_1805_E78680_Flags.html

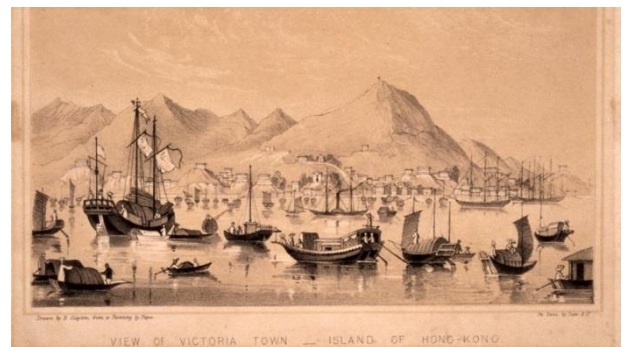
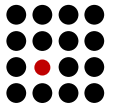


Figure 30: Hong Kong opened up and became another major trading port
Source: <https://www.master-insight.com>



During this period of decline in business, Guangzhou was not entirely silent in Chinese history. Because of several uprisings and riots, Guangzhou became one of the cradles of the Chinese people to overthrow the feudal dynasty (Fig.30, 31) (Wang & Staff, 1997). With the establishment of the Republic of China, Guangzhou also began the construction of modern cities. In 1928, the Guangzhou Urban Planning and Design Agency was established. In 1930, the first official planning and design document in the history of urban planning and development in Guangzhou, the "Guangzhou Urban Design Summary" (Fig.32, 33) was published, which divided Guangzhou into four functional areas: industrial, residential, commercial and mixed functional areas and basically constructed the overall layout of the modern city of Guangzhou (Zou, 2017).



Figure 30: Oil Painting of Guangzhou Uprising, He Kongde and Zheng Hongliu, 1962

Source: http://photo.81.cn/2018yhldhsjy/2018-09/26/content_9299582.htm



Figure 31: Cemetery of 72 martyrs who overthrew the feudal dynasty, Huanghua Gang, Guangzhou

Source: http://www.gzsdfz.org.cn/zjgz/ycls/201411/t20141106_14014.html

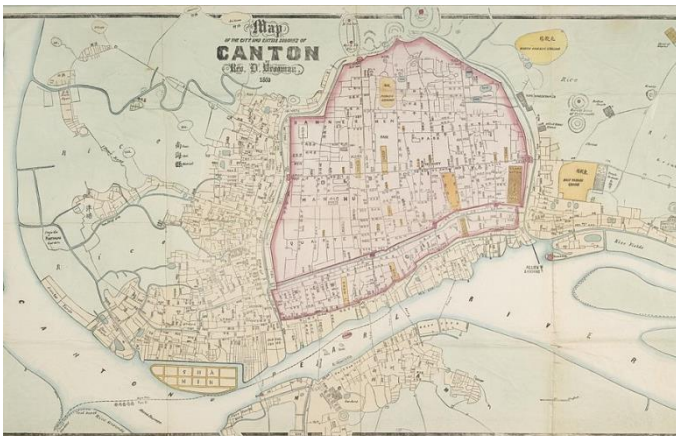


Figure 32: 1860 map of the "City and Entire Suburbs of Canton", one of the first made after the treaties that permitted foreigners full access to Guangzhou's walled city

Source: <http://www.nla.gov.au/apps/cdview/nla.map-lms636>



Figure 33: Urban planning of Guangzhou (1930)

Source: Caton-A Word Port. *The Far Eastern Review*. 1931.

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

1949 – 1978

The arrival of the communist China era. Stagnation, waiting for the opportunity in the closure

The establishment of the new communist China did not immediately bring new impetus to the development of Guangzhou, but made the commercial atmosphere here even worse. The socialism under the leadership of the Communist Party needed to eliminate the capitalist economic form and promote the development of the public ownership economy and production relations (Fisher, 1962). Guangzhou, a once commercialized city, was transformed. The country's dependence on the development of heavy industry is completely inconsistent with the characteristics of the city. Different from some places like the Northeast China, because Guangzhou lacks of heavy industry foundation and is far away from the raw materials such as coal and ore needed by various industries, it was difficult for here in this period to make great breakthroughs in industrial development and economic construction. Therefore, before 1978, the function of Guangzhou as a business center

and South China gateway was almost disappearing (Xu & Yeh, 2003). Losing the support of development, the city of Guangzhou could only stand still.

However, during this period, the central government established the China Import and Export Fair (Canton Fair) in Guangzhou to get foreign exchange (Fig.34, 35), although the scale and the delegations invited to participate in the meeting have been strictly controlled to a small extent. The rare window of foreign exhibition and exchange in China in that era laid a foundation for the development of import and export trade after in Guangzhou. Some businessmen from African countries had started to build an economical bridge between China and Africa in Guangzhou since then.



“My grandfather participated in the Canton Fair twice as a member of our national business delegation in the 60s of the last century.”

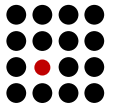
--- Said by a Nigerian student having dinner at an African restaurant in Baohanzhi Street



Figure 34: The first Canton Fair (1957) at the Sino-Soviet Friendship Building
Source:
http://www.ce.cn/ztpd/xwzt/guonei/2009/jjchi/jjchjtkcj/200908/13/t20090813_19772147_1.shtml



Figure 35: Socialist trade affair under the leadership of the Communist Party
Source: <https://ask.imiker.com/question/30808>



1978 – Up to now

One of the earliest and greatest beneficiaries of Reform and Opening-up

With the end of the Cultural Revolution, China's national policy began to turn to economic construction. The implementation of reform and opening up had ushered in another major development opportunity in Guangzhou. Due to its special geographical location and development history, it became one of China's 14 coastal open cities in 1984 and was once again identified as China's southern gateway. Affected by these policies, Guangzhou quickly resumed its position as a South China commercial and trade center.

For example, Guangzhou's professional markets are the earliest developed, the most diverse, the most professional, and the most employed in China (Fig.36). Until 2016, this "Millennium Business Capital" has more than 1,000 professional markets, accounting for nearly one-seventh of the country's total. The annual transaction volume is more than one trillion yuan (Chinese legal currency unit) which accounts for nearly 60% of Guangzhou's GDP. Global buyers are gathering. It is expected to further transform the commercial resources of the professional market here into a global procurement center.

At the same time, the Canton Fair has also undergone tremendous development during this period. The scale, frequency, transaction

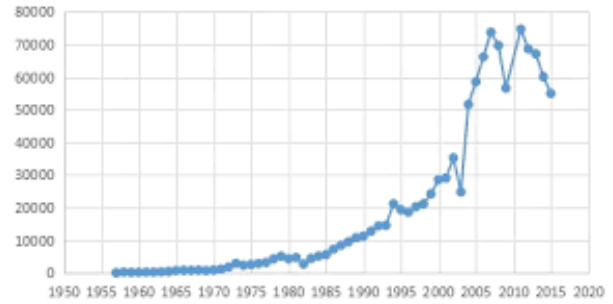


Figure 37: Statistics of Trade Volume of Canton Fair in Calendar Years (million dollar) and the latest giant Canton Fair Pavilion
Source: <http://xu58.com/news/report/698.html>

volume and number of exhibitors have been growing at a high speed (Fig.37).

The development of commerce and trade and the development of manufacturing in the region complement each other and make progress together. In the Pearl River Delta region, the manufacturing industry has always occupied an absolute advantage. The proportion of it among the three major industries has remained at around 50%. It is the main driving force of the regional economy and known as the world factory (Fig.38).

Because the regional light industry manufacturing industry chain is very complete, most of them are low-end processing and manufacturing enterprises that lack high-tech added value. For example, toys produced in Guangdong account for 70% of the total value of Chinese toys and for half of the world's sales. There is also the world's largest production base for small household appliances. The output of small household appliances such as rice cookers and electric fans accounts for 90% of China's. In addition, the trade form of The "Three-plus-one"



Figure 36: Various professional markets in Guangzhou
Source: <https://t.cj.sina.com.cn/articles/view/6524345316/184e19be400100dzni>

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK



Figure 38: World factory in Pearl River Delta
Source: <http://news.iqilu.com/china/gedi/2011/0704/500882.shtml>

trading-mix (Sanlaiyibu) was also born in the Pearl River Delta region at the beginning of the reform and opening up. This form includes processing of incoming materials, assembly of incoming materials, processing of incoming samples and compensation of trade. It specifically refers to the provision of equipment, raw materials, and samples by foreign companies (including the construction of factories by foreign investors) who are responsible for the export of all products. And for Chinese companies, they are responsible for providing land, factory and labors. This provides sufficient initial motivation for the development of the regional industry and brings great convenience to foreign investors at the same time.

The development of commerce leads the economic growth. In 1978, Guangzhou's GDP was only 4.3 billion yuan, but by 2017, this figure has exceeded 200 billion yuan (Fig.39). The rapid advancement of the economy has also led to an astonishing increase in the population size and urbanization of the city. As mentioned in the previous part, Guangzhou had 1 million inhabitants in 1840. After a hundred years to the founding of the People's Republic of China, there were about 1.5 million people. In the early days of reform and opening up, there were 3 million people. However, the current permanent population of the city has exceeded 14.5 million (Zhou & Bian, 2014) (Fig.40). A large part of the rapid increase in urban population comes from the attraction of internal immigrants. In the early days of reform and opening up, China's population mobility was very low, but by 2016, the resident population of Guangzhou had more than 38% of the population come from other provinces. **In addition to demonstrating the economic vitality and opportunities of the city, this reflects the openness and inclusiveness of the city.**

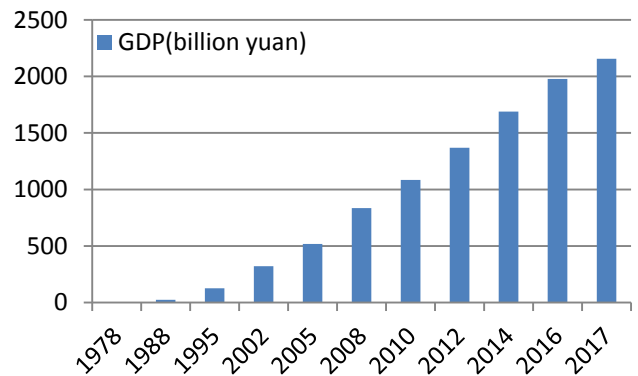


Figure 39: GDP data of major years in Guangzhou since 1978
Source: Guangzhou Statistics Bureau

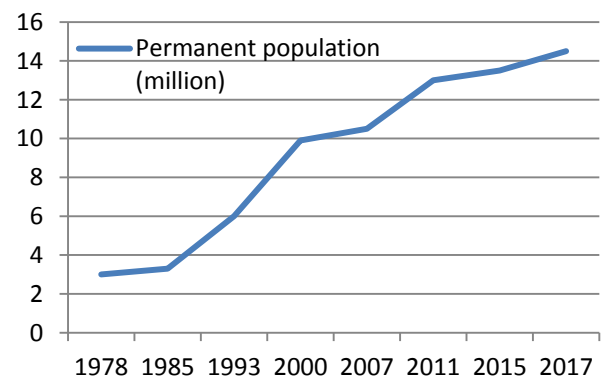
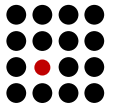


Figure 40: Permanent population growth in Guangzhou since 1978
Source: Guangzhou Statistics Bureau



At the same time, with the establishment of the land market and the real estate market, a large number of urban development projects started under the promotion of growth coalition that made by foreign capital, domestic capital and local government (Yang & Chang, 2007; Ye, 2011). These developments include new residential area, commercial area, office area, and urban public spaces. Therefore, urban built-up area has expanded quickly to accommodate the

surging people and economic development needs (Xu et al, 2015). The following picture can intuitively reflect the scale and speed of urban expansion in Guangzhou since the reform and opening up. Especially compared with 1930 at the beginning of Guangzhou's modern city development, the scale of the city has been completely changed (Fig.41).

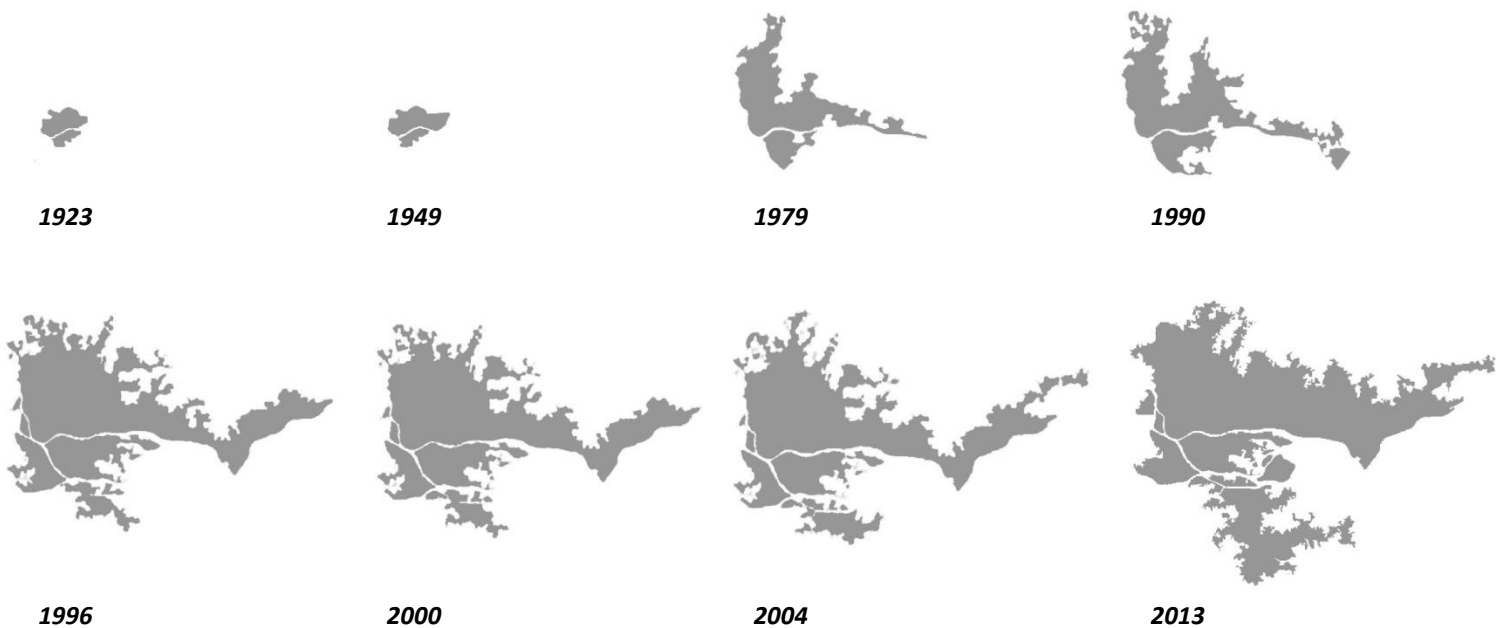


Figure 41: Expansion of the built area of Guangzhou
Source: *Spatial-Temporal Characteristics and Driving Forces of Urban Sprawl for Major Cities of the Pearl River Delta Region in Recent 40 Years*, Xu et al., 2015

Summary

All in all, the history of Guangzhou's development is a history of China's contact and communication with the world. In the past 40 years, China's reform and opening up policy has brought tremendous development to the city of Guangzhou. In this process, Guangzhou has also brought unlimited opportunities to the world. Not just Chinese, gold prospectors from all over the world can find their own resources and possibilities here. This includes businessmen from Africa, and the data shows that Guangzhou is already the largest African gathering place in Asia (GDA,2014). The next part will explain this interesting phenomenon.

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

7.2 The Origin of China-Africa Trade in Guangzhou and its Mechanism

Guangzhou attracts businessmen from all over the world, including a large number of businessmen from Africa. They have flooded into the city from a certain stage. So what drives them to choose Guangzhou?

Good diplomatic relations and compatible supply and demand

As a result, a stable and lasting friendship has been established between China and Africa

Since Egypt first established diplomatic relations with China in 1956, a large number of African countries have followed to establish diplomatic relations with China immediately. Good political relations enabled the two sides to maintain close cooperation in economic and trade exchanges. The trade between China and Africa began with the unilateral economic assistance of China but gradually developed into a comprehensive and mutually beneficial economic and technological cooperation and commercial trade (Yu, 2006).

On the one hand, Africa has abundant natural resources such as gold, natural diamonds and copper. China can import large quantities of these to meet the needs of domestic consumption and industrial production. On the other hand, the market of more than 800 million people in Africa is also an ideal export destination for Chinese products (Yu,2006). Especially since the establishment of the China-Africa Cooperation Forum in 2000 (Fig.42), China-Africa trade had taken a new step. According to statistics (Fig.43), bilateral trade between China and Africa has been in a relatively stable growth stage since 2000. In 2008, the trade volume between China and Africa broke through the \$100 billion mark (Wei & Hou, 2010). In addition to the official trade between countries, the folk business interaction between China and Africa are particularly close. **In particular, the channels for Chinese goods to enter Africa are much diversified, which is inseparable from the African demand characteristics of products from China.**

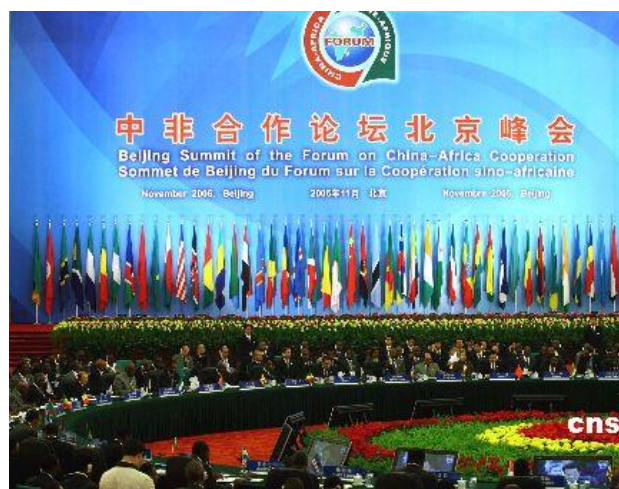


Figure 42: Beijing Summit Round Table of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, 2006
Source: <http://news.sohu.com/20061105/n246206743.shtml>



“People in our country like Chinese goods very much, such as the children's clothes I bought here, cheap and beautiful!”

--- Said by a Ghanaian trader in Sanyuanli

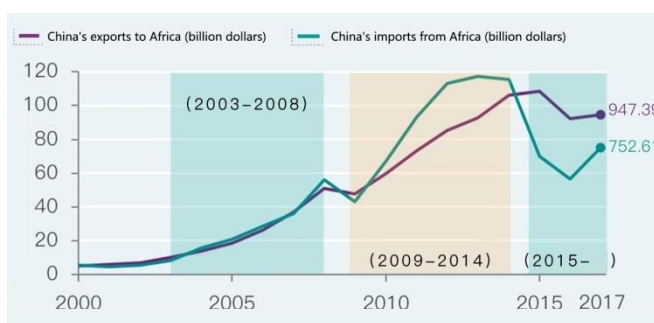
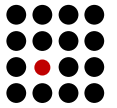


Figure 43: China-African bilateral trade volume since 2000
Source: Customs head office



Various factors prompted African traders to choose Guangzhou

With the increasingly close official contacts, private trade has become frequent.

Analyzing China's export trade to Africa, we could find that the trade mainly based on light industrial products and semi-finished products with high demand in Africa, such as textiles, clothing and other products. These are precisely the main products of the manufacturing industry in the Pearl River Delta region where centered on Guangzhou. In addition, as mentioned in the previous article, Guangzhou, as the “Millennium Business Capital”, has more than 1,000 professional markets with a scale of nearly 1/7 of the country (Wei & Hou, 2010). The annual transaction volume is more than one trillion yuan which makes global buyers gather. Almost everything is ready to meet

African traders' needs. Therefore, after the financial crisis broke out in Asia in 1997, African trader who had been doing business in countries such as Bangkok and Jakarta in Southeast Asia were eager to seek new places to make money. They soon discovered that Guangzhou in South China had a well-stocked, affordable and giant market. Here, they can easily buy all kinds of products such as pots, pans, coats, socks and basic building materials that are needed in their countries at an affordable price (Fig.44). Coupled with convenient shipping, goods can be shipped back to the African continent for sale at an ideal cost. So at the beginning of this century, the first step for many Africans to go abroad was in Guangzhou, China. According to statistics from Guangdong Province, in 2000, the population of Africa in Guangzhou was 6,000, and after five years, it grew to 20,000 people, the average annual growth rate is 33%. This greatly exceeds the growth rate of other foreign tourists (average 11.5%) (Li et al, 2008). African visitors to Guangzhou have gradually become the largest group of foreigners entering (Zhao & An, 2017). The city has even become the largest gathering place for Africans in Asia.



Figure 44: African businessmen buy a wide variety of goods in markets in Sanyuanli Own Image

“I remember that there were not many Africans in our market around 2005. Now you see that there are almost no Chinese buyers.”

--- Said by a wholesaler who has been operating the clothing business for many years in Xiaobei Road.



EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

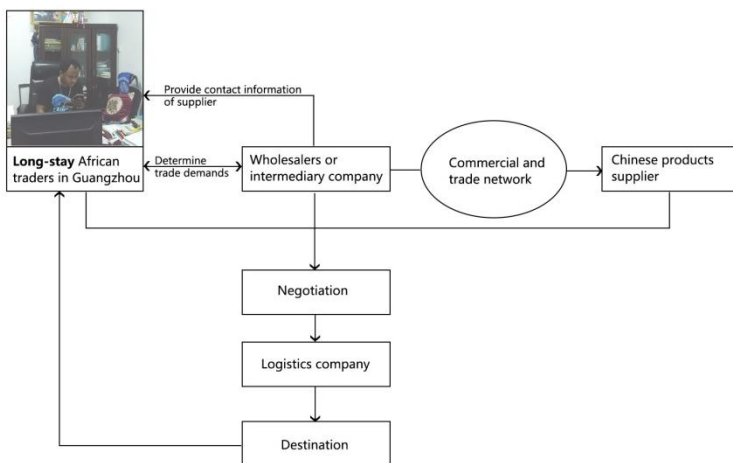
The formation of China-Africa non-governmental trade network

A low cost trade form that relies on the participation of individuals. A globalization from below

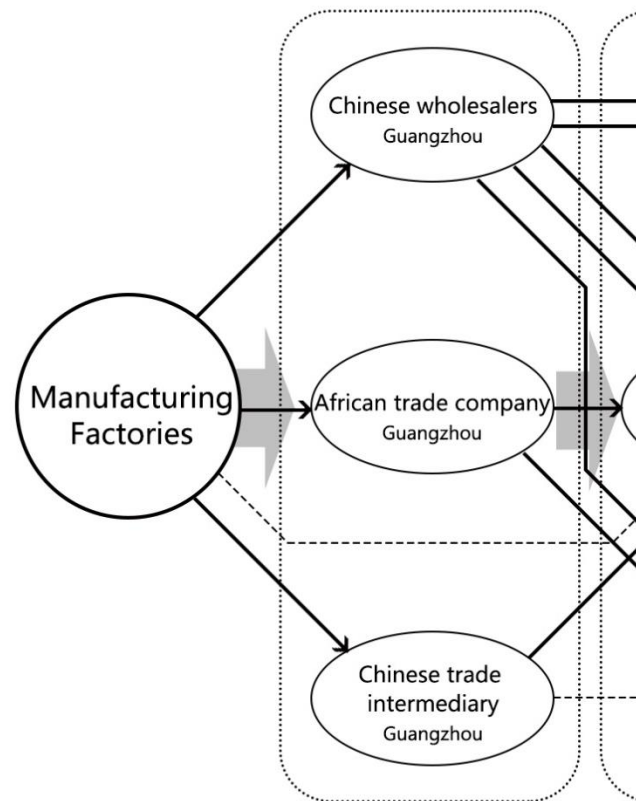
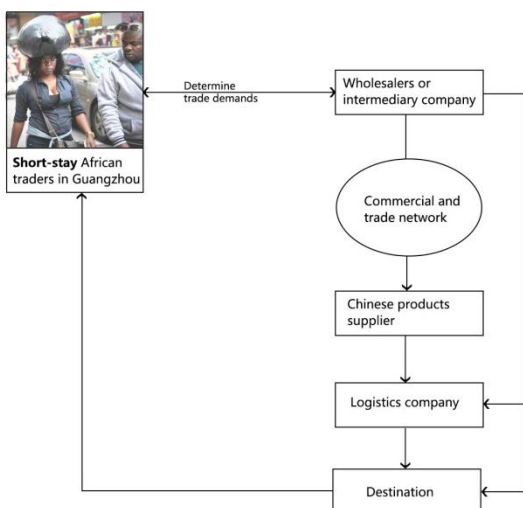
After coming to China, **how do African traders with different language and cultural backgrounds finally deliver the goods from this world factory to their own consumers? Is there any difference between them?**

According to the existing research literature and my field visits, the African traders in Guangzhou are mainly divided into two types. One is to long-stay in Guangzhou for trade and business, and some of them even open a

shop or a commerce company here. Through Chinese wholesalers, intermediaries or manufacturers they place large orders for purchases and then export Chinese products to other African traders who come here or directly to African trading companies. Some of them have achieved good results and already purchased valuable commercial houses in Guangzhou (Li et al, 2008). The other is to come to China for a short stay, through the intermediary agencies to understand the purchase channels or directly scattered to the professional markets to buy goods and then sent back to Africa, and then sold by the local sales network. This group mainly concentrated in Guangzhou around the time when the Canton Fair was held. Two

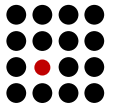


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The Pearl River Delta

Figure 45: Two ways of trade for African traders in Guangzhou Own Image



different forms of business can be represented by the two diagrams next to here (Fig.45) (Li et al, 2008), and the combination of the two, together with all the links from production to consumption, shows that a product can go through five links to be in the hands of African consumers (Fig.46). Therefore, although their trade is not too large, the process is complicated and cumbersome. Because there is no professional team and strong financial support, almost all of them need to come to Guangzhou to find the wholesalers and manufacturers to choose and order to avoid unnecessary losses and troubles (Yang, 2009). **This has led to the entry and residence of a large number of African traders each year. The African enclaves that have become more and more obvious have gradually formed in Guangzhou.**

Summary

The arrival of African businessmen has its inevitable historical and market reasons. Find out how they do business can help me understand some of their social networks in Guangzhou. This will have a certain effect on how to promote their integration with the local society.

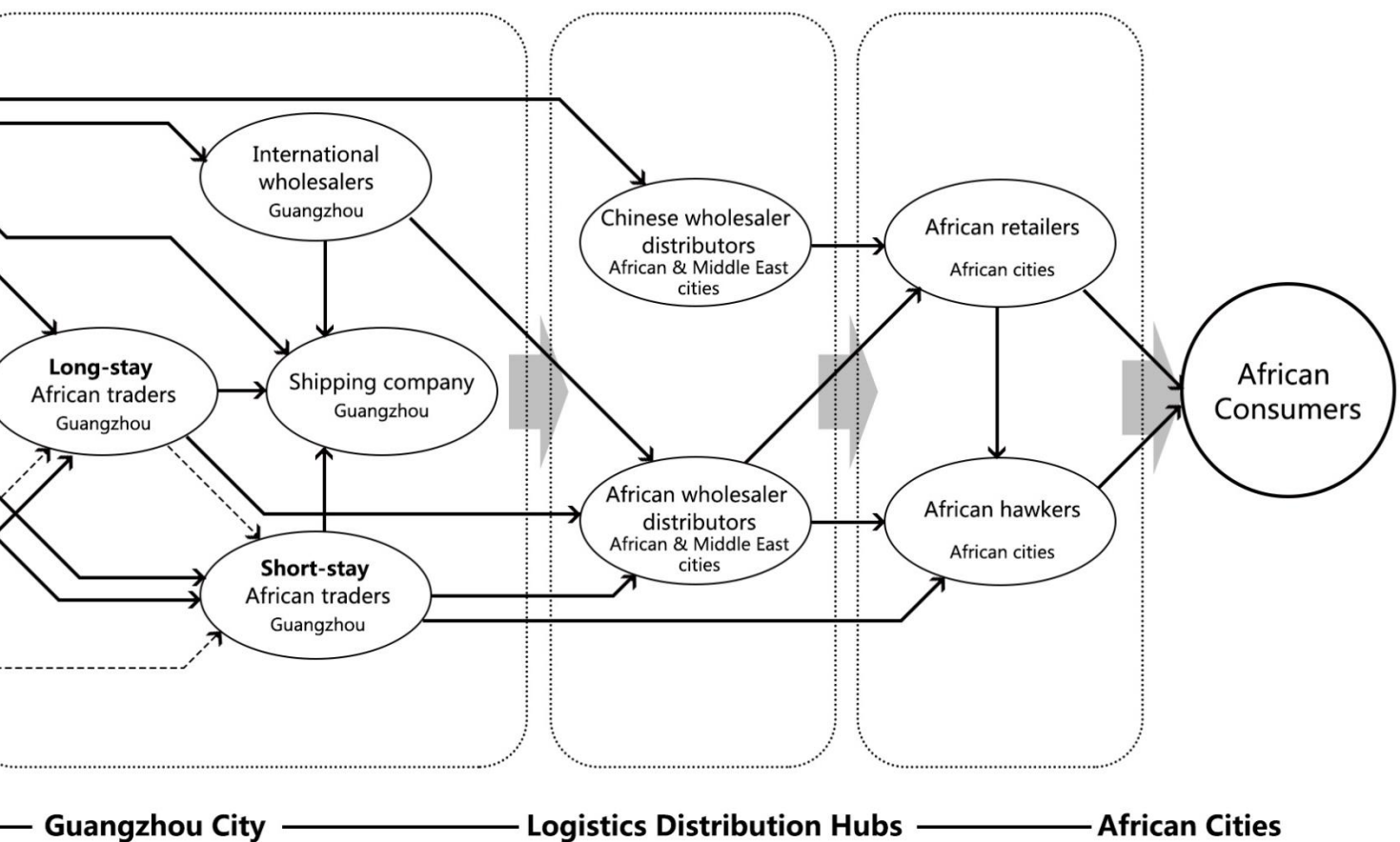


Figure 46: Value chain of China-Africa non-governmental trade network. Own Image

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

7.3 The Formation of African Enclaves and Their Main Features

The concentration of African traders has its subjective and objective reasons. In any case, this is a social phenomenon that cannot be ignored in this city.

***So how did these African enclaves form?
What is the difference between them?***

The professional markets represented by Sanyuanli attract African traders like magnets

The "Guangzhou Dream" of Africans is inseparable from business. The taxi driver in Guangzhou is familiar with the business map of African traders



"If you need groceries, go to Huanshibei (Xiaobei), clothing to go to Sanyuanli, motorcycle accessories can be found in Luochongwei, and small electronic products are concentrated in Dashatou wholesale."

--- Said by a Guangzhou taxi driver



Figure 48, 49: Different markets' scenes with different quantities of African traders Own images

The taxi driver gave a glimpse of some of the most popular market areas for African traders in Guangzhou. Those are basically consistent with the area and location I have learned from reading the literature (Fig.47). Through my fieldwork, some of the markets mentioned here are almost filled by African traders (Fig.48), and some are only sporadic with some African traders (Fig.49). Because according to statistics, African traders coming to Guangzhou mainly want clothing and daily necessities (shoes, toys and small electronic products). Guangzhou has a large number of professional markets, so they have a very clear classification (Xu & Yeh, 2003). They are distributed in all directions of this Chinese commercial capital (Wei & Hou, 2010).

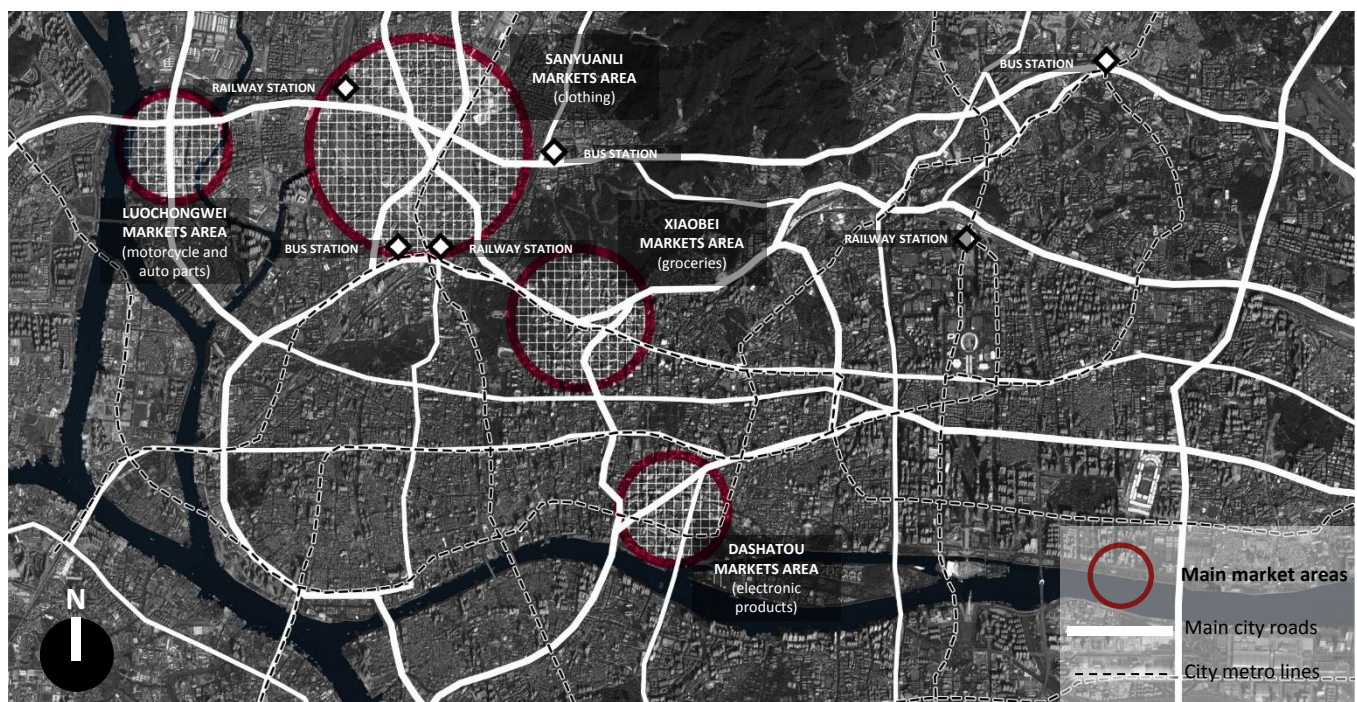
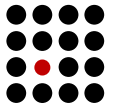


Figure 47: Map of the distribution of markets that liked by African traders in Guangzhou



In my fieldwork, I was deeply impressed by the clothing-oriented trade market around the Sanyuanli area. Let's first introduce this African traveler's first choice for clothing.

More than a hundred years ago, when the "Guangzhou Peace Treaty" was signed, the foreign army passed through Sanyuanli, but they were attacked by the bloody Sanyuanli people and the nearby rural people. This makes this area enough to be called "the origin of China's modern revolution." (Fig.50)



Figure 50: Oil painting of Sanyuanli battle in Qing dynasty.
Source: <http://history.sina.com.cn/his/zl/2014-10-24/1754105256.shtml>

However, history will not only stay in the glorious place, as time goes by, the revolutionary smoke here dissipated. Sanyuanli opened a new era in the period of Guangzhou's market economy and opening up (Xu & Yeh, 2003). Because it is close to

railway station, the Guangzhou Bus Station and the Provincial Bus Station, and the Old Canton Fair Exhibition Hall is in its south, the Airport Expressway is in its north, the location advantage of Sanyuanli is quite obvious (Fig.51). At the beginning of the rise of the market in the 1980s, as long as Hong Kong listed one leather goods, it could be found here in a few hours. Therefore, the leather goods business made here famous to Chinese traders. At present, the Sanyuanli business district operates nearly 10,000 merchants, with an annual transaction volume of more than 20 billion yuan, and is known as the 'first market of finished leather goods in China'. At the same time it is also one of the largest clothing trading markets in Guangzhou and also the famous clothing inventory market (Fig.52). These cheap clothing, relatively large market scale and correspondingly more diverse choices have become the reason why African traders are rushing. The existing literature shows that African traders here are mainly short-stay type, and many are still "Sanfei" (illegal immigration, illegal residence and illegal employment) persons (Zhao & An, 2017). They come quietly to the city and stay here silently, just want to take the goods away, so generally they don't want to stay for a long time and avoid being interviewed which will increase their risk of detention and repatriation. These made me more interested in this place. Since it is also very close to where I live, after arriving, I chose this place for the first stop of my fieldwork.

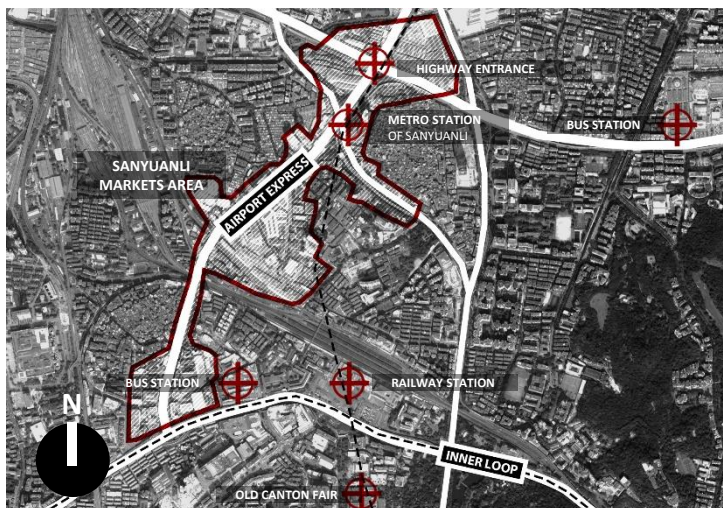


Figure 51: Good transportation location of Sanyuanli. Own Image



Figure 52: Tail goods selling on the ground of Sanyuanli Own Images

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

First impression of the African markets in Guangzhou

(Fig.53)

The first time I came here is near the evening. When I walked out of the subway station, I was covered by the huge elevated roads and dense markets under the road (Fig.54-1). For me who grew up in China, I am familiar with this dense and large-scale urban scene. The only difference was that some merchants with different skin were also picking up goods in these wholesale clothing stores. But this was far from my previous imagination of the concentration of Africans here, and it made me a little disappointed. Are they withdrawing from Guangzhou? Or is there a choice of other markets in Guangzhou for them? With doubts, I continued to go along this major markets street which near the main road. The number and volume of the clothing professional market here surprised me (Fig.54-2), because in other Chinese cities, such a large wholesale market area is often comprehensive. Therefore, I firmly believed that I still had the opportunity to see them here.

Fortunately after turning around a corner, a commercial wholesale speaker that repeatedly played its own ads in Chinese and lame English drove my attention. Looking at the store, there was an African trader who was bargaining with the boss. After that, I seem to be coming to an African commercial street or Chinatown in Africa. Chinese and English, Chinese businessmen and African businessmen, Chinese restaurants and African restaurants are comparable here (Fig.54-3, 54-4).

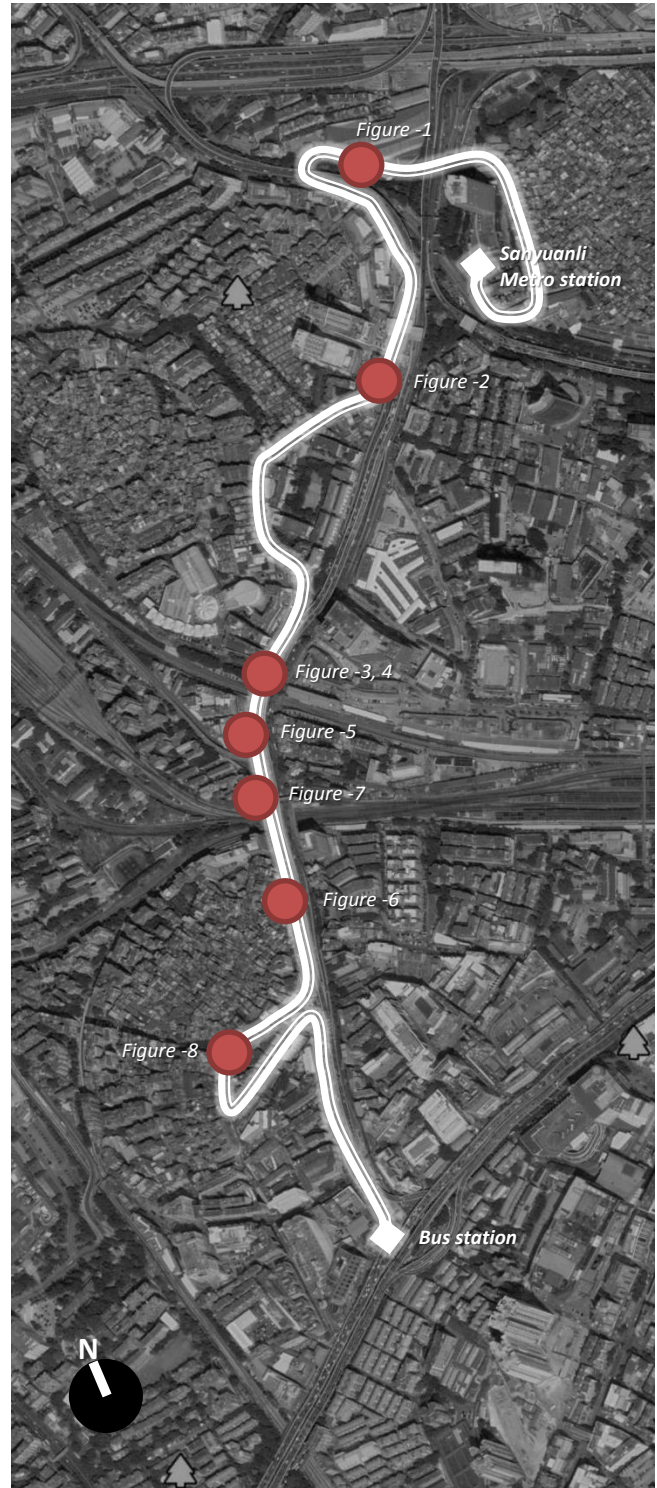


Figure 53 My roadmap of the fieldwork in Sanyuanli for the first time

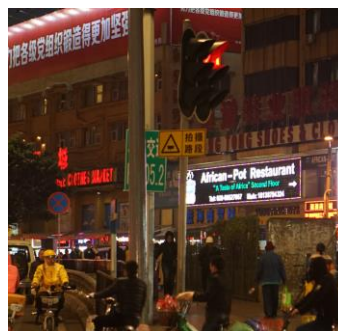
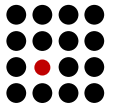


Figure 54-1,2,3,4 : Different scenes I recorded during the fieldwork in Sanyuanli Own images



Along the street, in addition to the booming clothing store business, there were other two types of business. First was telecommunications service. Chinese merchants sold mobile phones, temporary calling cards and VPNs here which show that many African traders had come to here directly after entering China (Fig.54-5). The second was the small hostels along the street. These hostels did not look too expensive. There were always some African traders carrying goods in and out of the door (Fig.54-6). In addition, there are many businessmen on the street who use the bridges and corners to squeeze out space for selling their goods which also explained the prosperity of the place (Fig.54-7).

From the satellite image, we can observe that the two sides of the main road are the market, and the periphery of the market is surrounded by some dense urban villages. I thought that many Africans could live in it. But inside is the atmosphere of the normal Chinese village in the city. In the evening, the old man goes out for a walk and the children play on the narrow streets (Fig.54-8). I did not see an African in these communities. The quiet and slow-paced atmosphere there was totally different from the street outside. This may be because Africans in Sanyuanli are mainly short-stay type, and a small amount of renting needs will be rejected and isolated by residents of the communities. On the other hand, this area also attracts a large number of traders from other provinces in China. For landlords here, the native renters are naturally the first choice (Xu, 2009).

Even if there are still some people who can't accept the entry of outsiders, and the people who come here start with the same purpose of making money. I am pleasantly surprised to see that people from a multicultural background can coexist in one place. English, French, Mandarin and various Chinese dialects are mixed here. It seems that it is difficult for us to hear Cantonese. This reflects the diversity and inclusiveness of the city. The extremely high space utilization efficiency here also reflects the wisdom of ordinary people. Of course, as an urban designer, we can make these spaces and people's integration here better.



"After coming to China several times, I learned a few Chinese words for bargaining. And I gradually found that the English of these Chinese wholesalers is getting better and better, ha-ha."

--- Said by a Kenyan trader



"There have always been some Africans who want to rent a house in our community, but we are still not at ease and no one agrees. We are not discriminating against them, but we feel that it is convenient for renting to people who speak Chinese."

--- Said by a resident in the urban village around Sanyuanli



Figure 54-5,6,7,8 : Different scenes I recorded during the fieldwork in Sanyuanli Own images

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

Transnational ethnic enclaves represented by Xiaobei gradually formed around the markets

After coming and staying here, the Africans are about to have a new life.

Africans have chosen different forms of residence depending on their types of trade they operate (long-stay or short-stay) (Li, Lyons & Brown, 2012). Short-stay type generally chooses to live in hostels next to markets. For example, Africans in Sanyuanli may live in a hostel for 100 yuan a day (Yang, 2011). The previous section has shown this kind of hostels that are open to the main roads and markets. They are basically aimed at these African traders. For long-stay type, people choose to rent a house to reduce the daily rent, and even some have achieved commercial success, they have already purchased the commercial house. For example, the Xiaobei Road area mentioned in the previous section also has several professional markets that many African traders like, and a large part of them are here to choose to rent in the Tianxiu Mansion or the nearby old residential areas (Fig.55).



Figure 55: Housing that African traders prefer Own Image

When people live in a place for a long time, they will naturally need other life services. Supporting services such as African restaurants, supermarkets, and food markets also followed to enter these areas (Fig.56). The market here is not an ordinary Chinese food market. For example, some are meat shops selling beef and mutton, which are

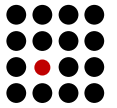


Figure 56: Different African restaurants in Guangzhou Own Image

aimed at the Muslim groups of these African traders and some residents of Xinjiang, China (Fang & Liang, 2010). The addition of these exotic elements of life has made these communities characterized by a relatively complete African community. These elements with African characteristics further attracted more African traders who were newly arrived. In addition, the urban regeneration and real estate development in Guangzhou is also the reason for the African's concentration in these specific areas, because many of the surrounding old communities have been transformed into new gated residential areas and commercial areas which have better housing quality, living environment and higher rent (Mathews, 2016). African traders have to choose the only remaining areas with cheap rentals.



"I love the food in this restaurant which reminds me of the taste of my hometown."
 --- Said by a Algerian trader in one of the Muslim restaurant



As the number of households of these foreigners and other ethnic groups' members continue to increase, local residents have gradually be forced to move out of these communities instead of denying their renting demands and segregating them forwardly. At present, several African enclaves in Guangzhou are mainly distributed in Yuexiu Dengfeng street, Kuangquan street, Baiyun Sanyuanli, and Xiaxia street which could be shown in the following map (Li et al, 2008; Mathews & Yang,2012) (Fig. 57).

some areas in the city are occupied by a group of people. And then locals will find a new world when they go to those places again, even though those buildings are still the appearance of old Guangzhou houses.

The second stop of my fieldwork was the Baohanzhi street community in Xiaobei road, the largest African community in Guangzhou that was mentioned a lot of times in the previous literature reading.



“There is a Chinese breakfast shop near my store, but since Chinese customers had come here less and less, they closed down it in the last two years.”
--- Said by a grocery store owner

Xiaobei road is located in Yuexiu district of Guangzhou, north to Huanshi Middle road and south to Dongfeng Middle road. It is more than 1 kilometer long and adjacent to the Taojin commercial area in the east, Yuexiu Park, the memorial hall of Sun Yat-sen in the west and Guangzhou Railway Station which shows the central location of it in the city (Fig.57).

In short, **the formation of such transnational ethnic enclave is a process from quantitative change to qualitative change.** Many times when local people have not paid attention,

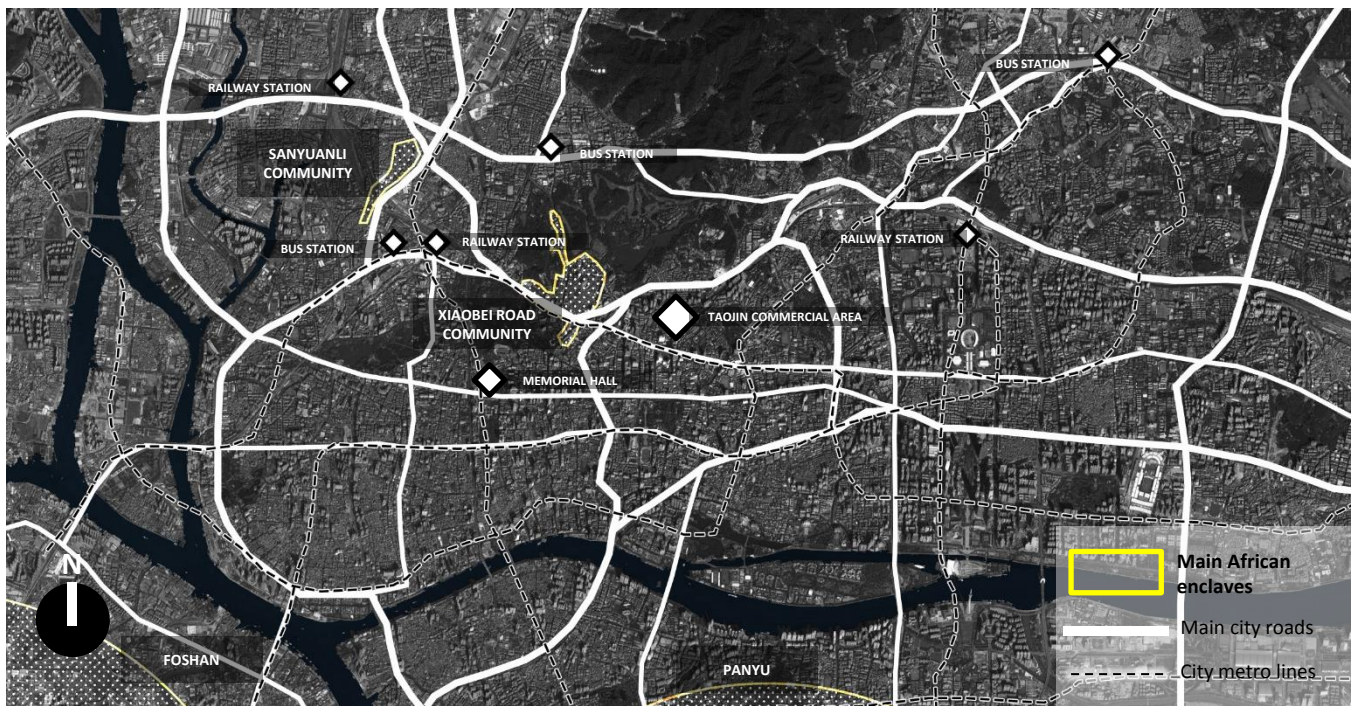


Figure 57: Map of main African communities in Guangzhou and surroundings of Xiaobei road. Own image

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

However, it was the seats of the north border of Guangzhou City during the Ming and Qing dynasties (Fig.58), hence the name Xiaobei. In addition, the name of Dengfeng community in Baohanzhi street is also derived from their only way for ancient Guangzhou people to go up the nearby Baiyun mountain.



Figure 58: Two ways of trade for African traders in Guangzhou
Own Image

During the Republic of China, due to the convenient transportation, there had been a downtown area with many teahouses, department stores and grocery stores. In recent decades, due to its location near the airport high-speed entrance, Guangzhou Railway Station, two subway stations, transportation passenger stations, the provincial government and various institutions, it was very lively at the beginning. Office workers chose to live around here.

However, due to industrial upgrading and the shift of office locations, local office workers had gradually left here in the late of 1990s (Southern Daily, 2015).

In addition, there are several professional wholesale markets such as Yueyang market, Jinxiang commercial market, Tianxiu mansion and China-Africa trade market. Therefore, after 2000 this area began to gather in large numbers of African traders (Yu,2006). Because these traders are mostly entering China for trade activities in the early days, and quite a few of them have a lot of business volume which means they have shops or commerce companies, and most of them are registered in China through legal channels, so most of the African traders here are long-stay type. As a result of these newly coming, their renting drove some local residents to even move out of the area (Xu,2009). For example, the Tianxiu mansion and Beixiu mansion in the heyday were once considered to have more than half of the households were Africans. Nearby the two buildings are Baohanzhi street community and various trade markets (Fig.59). The process of formation of this community was the same as described above. With long staying, people naturally have various needs of life. Gradually,

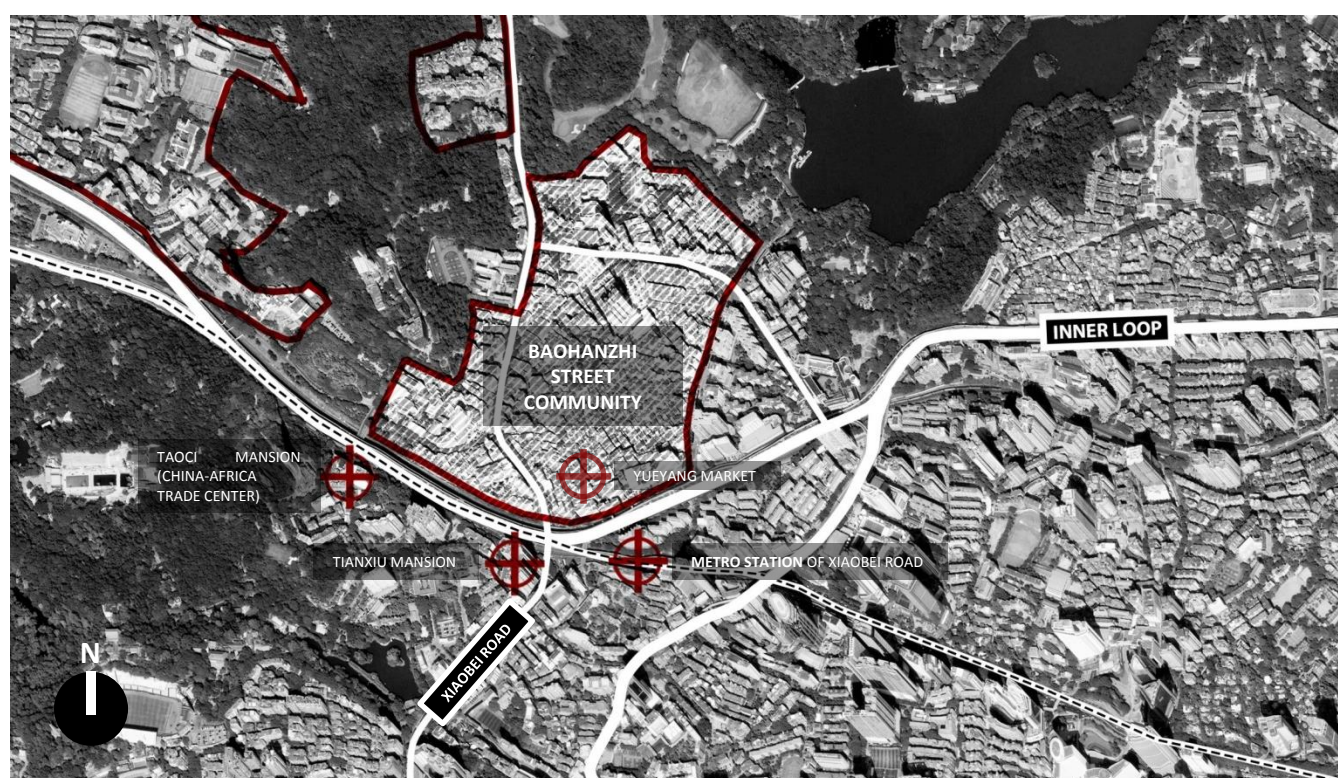
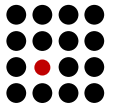


Figure 59: Location of Baohanzhi street community in Xiaobei road.

Own Image



this huge African life circle that includes professional markets, housing and living services came into being.

When people don't understand each other and have some traditional deep-rooted misunderstandings about each other, the entry of one party in one place means that the other party will withdraw (Qin, 2010). With the increasing number of Africans living in the Baohanzhi street community and some surrounding residential areas, the number of locals was decreasing, and the African communities' segregation from the local social space was becoming more and more obvious. In addition to this, there is another reason for the fact that Africans in these communities are less willing to interact with locals. They hope that they can come to Guangzhou to earn lot money so that they will return to their country to live an ideal life. Most of them have never considered establishing a living circle that integrates with local society (Li, Lyons & Brown, 2012).

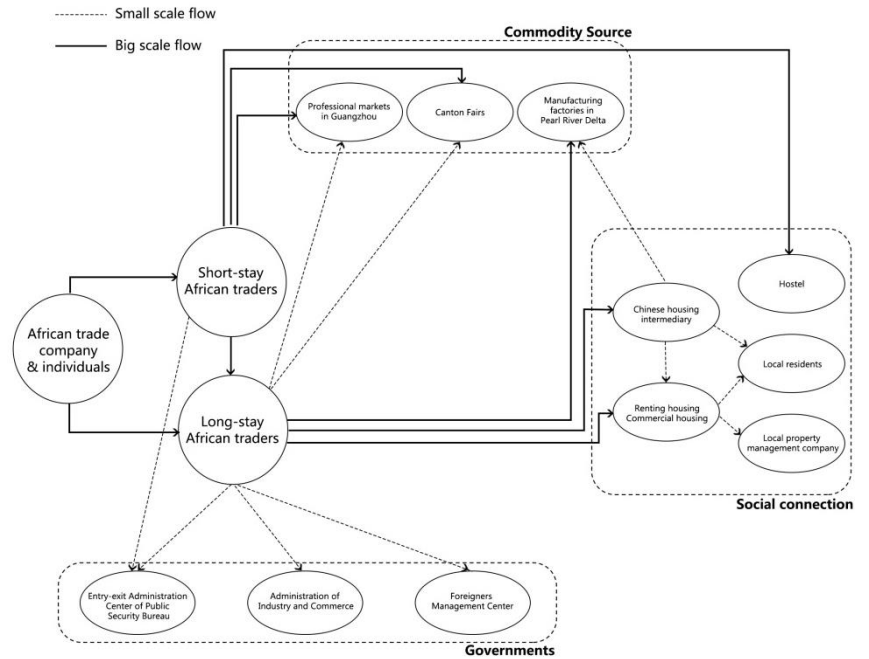


Figure 60: Social network diagram of community life inside African enclaves in Guangzhou Own Image

It is worth mentioning that this community was also included in one of the 23 regions in the Yuexiu district that will be undergoing urban regeneration last year (Fig.61), which makes the African traders who live here will be facing with problem that I mentioned in the problem analysis. This time, I also hoped that I can record the different scenes there which might be disappeared in the future as soon as possible.



"In fact, the crime rate in this area is not as high as that rumored outside. We hope that people can understand and accept these Africans. This is one of the goals of our work."
 --- Said by an officer of Dengfeng foreigners service center

However, they have to deal with some local people and institutions in the community life (Zhao & An, 2017). According to literature research and fieldwork findings, the following social network diagram of community life inside African enclaves in Guangzhou is summarized (Li et al, 2008) (Fig.60). The nodes in these networks are almost the only local members that are in contact with Africans. In the future, I hope that more local people can have a chance to come in this social network and try to understand their culture.

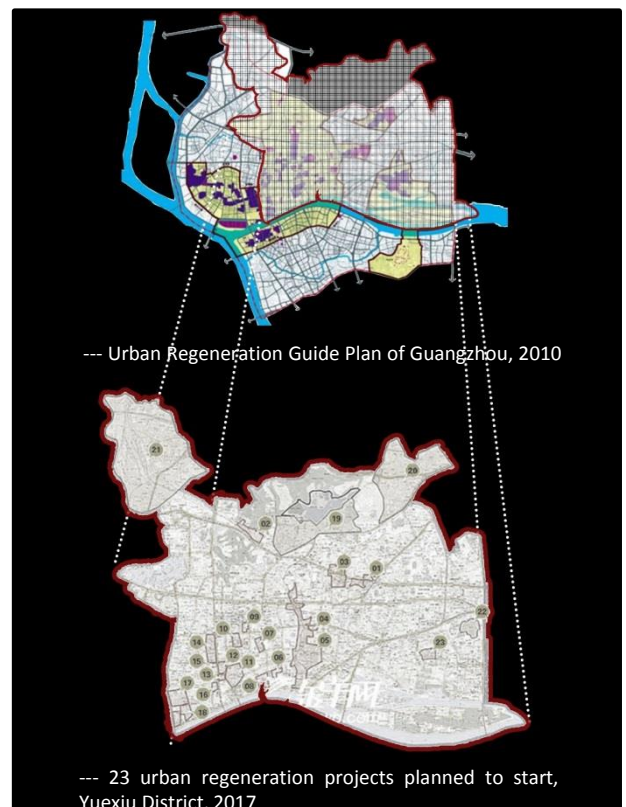


Figure 61: Urban regeneration plan in Yuexiu district, 2017 Source: Guangzhou Urban Planning Bureau

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

First impression of the African enclave in Guangzhou

(Fig.62)

On the first day I came to Xiaobei. I started walking from a famous spot in Guangzhou, the memorial hall of Sun Yat-sen who is the founding father of China (Fig.63-1). The opposite side of the memorial hall is the provincial people's government. There is also a military area near the Xiaobei road. All of these elements show that this area is the political center of Guangdong Province and an important place in the modern history of this country. Going north along the main road, Tianxiu Building soon appeared in front of me. Just like the clothing market in Sanyuanli in the past few days, it was crowded and busy. African traders, Chinese wholesalers and Chinese logistics companies' staffs were moving together on piles of goods (Fig.63-2). But what different is this is not a professional market, a variety of goods ranging from clothes to electronics such as television could be found in the commercial area of Tianxiu mansion. It is more like a professional market only for the needs of African guests. Another similarity with Sanyuanli is that there also have huge elevated roads, subway stations and even train lines (near Guangzhou railway station) (Fig.63-3), which shows the convenience of transportation here. To enter Baohanzhi street, I need to fly to the sky and then go to the ground (walking through the pedestrian bridge and passing through the passage under the train line) (Fig.63-4). From this point of view, this community does indeed segregated from the nearby urban areas spatially.

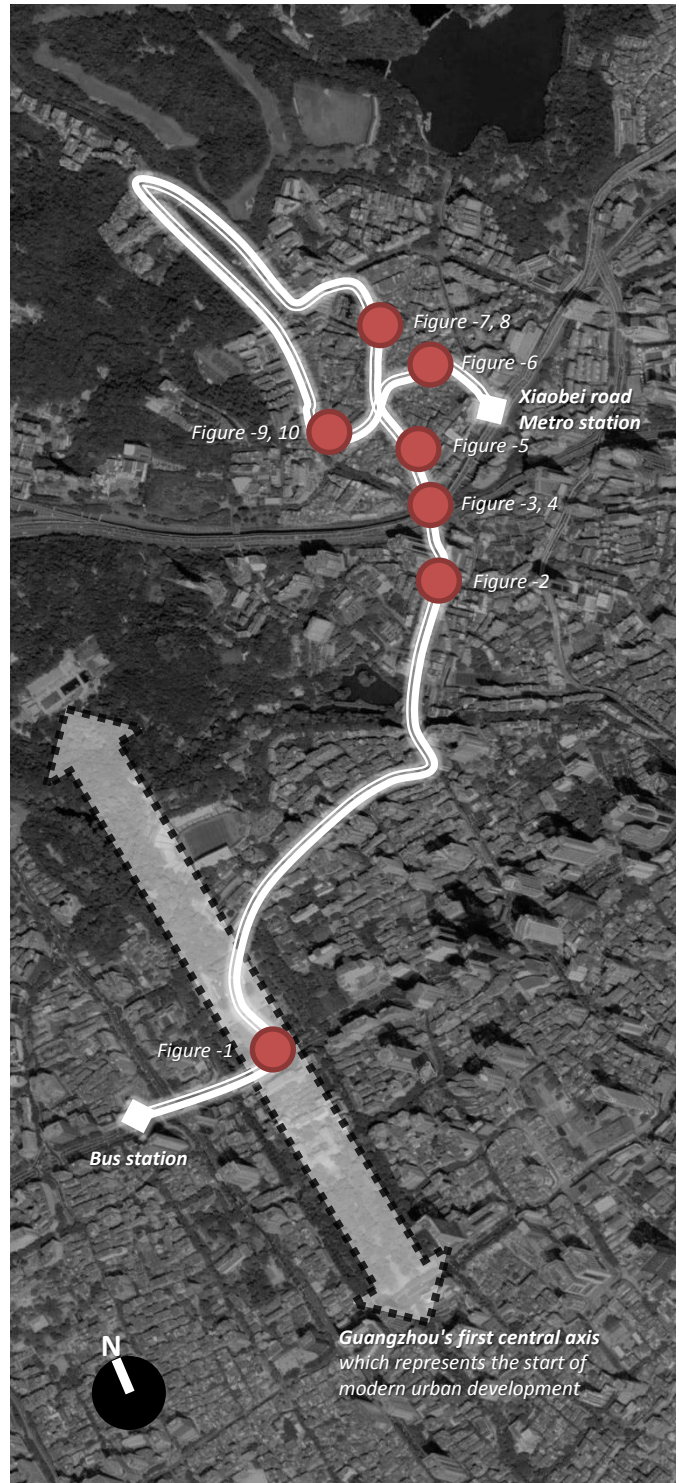


Figure 62 My roadmap of the fieldwork in Xiaobei road for the first time

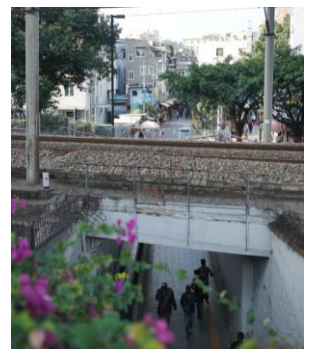
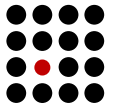


Figure 63-1,2,3,4 : Different scenes I recorded during the fieldwork in Xiaobei road Own images



Get into the Baohanzhi street community, the first building is the famous Yueyang market in various literatures (Fig.63-5). This market building should be a large commercial building in the early year, but now, especially for me who just go back from Sanyuanli, it is not too big. The goods inside are similar to the Tianxiu mansion. Leaving this modern market, I entered a typical Guangzhou urban village area with a lot of informal settlements along the street. Most of the buildings here are the so called handshake building (Fig.63-6). The density is awful which makes visitors feel the harsh living environment here. The width of the main street of Baohanzhi street can only for passing through one car, so it is basically a pedestrian street (Fig.63-7). But this pleasant street scale for pedestrian using brings together a large number of African restaurants and other living services (Fig.63-8). Many of the stores and restaurants are held by some Africans who come to Guangzhou. They strive to provide their compatriots with a convenient and homely feel. Unlike Sanyuanli, more scenes that I witnessed here were Africans' chatting in the middle of the day and just coming out of the restaurant to show a satisfying smile. Here is full of the atmosphere of life.

ground floor of each informal residential building, these African traders were buying the products they need. Some of the shops that sell clothes and publicity materials even could provide African flags and political propaganda products (Fig.63-10). The appearing of things that full of regional characteristics in another country that tens of thousands of kilometers away shows the power of globalization. It surprised me.

The arrival of African traders brings prosperity to this place definitely. Yet at the same time, the social segregation also compresses their survival and working space, so that although they have come to this metropolis with an area of more than 1,000 square kilometers, they can only do business in these two-meter-wide alleys.



"I have been doing business in Guangzhou for almost ten years. Unlike some other market area in Guangzhou, the environment in Xiaobei's markets has not improved."

--- Said by a Togo trader

This street is not long. I had not seen other trade markets or trade shops along the main street. I thought the first visit would be over at that moment. However, when I walked into the narrow alleys, I found more exciting scenes. These alleys, which originally seemed to be the negative space in the traditional Chinese high-density urban villages, have various foreign trade shops (Fig.63-9). On the

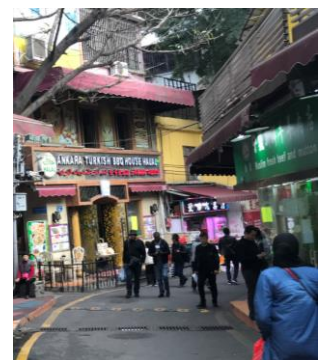


Figure 63-5,6,7,8,9,10 : Different scenes I recorded during the fieldwork in Xiaobei road Own images

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

Other social connections and urban spaces they use

Although their original intention was only to do business here, but over time, they began to have other activities and space use, which is the embodiment of human nature.

In addition to the external and internal links necessary for survival and business mentioned above, as well as the social connections resulting from the purchase of life services, African traders and their families in Guangzhou will also carry out other entertainment and cultural activities. Some activities exist within their communities, and some activities have begun to make them gradually integrate with local communities.

As we all know, religious activities are relatively inactive and not widely distributed in China. But many Africans coming to Guangzhou are Christians and Muslims. Therefore, the only churches and mosques in the city have become important places to attract them while doing business. During the fieldwork, I went to the church of Shishi Sacred Heart of Jesus Cathedral, the most famous of these religious sites (Fig.64). According to the propaganda display column of the church, the English Mass is held every Sunday afternoon, and from the photos, there were indeed a large number of Africans coming to the event at that time (Fig.65). The staff of the church told me that the African believers here are mainly students and some African traders. Interestingly, a large number of students have become businessmen in China-Africa trade after graduation. Therefore, these two different types of Africans have the opportunity to conduct some exchanges at this fixed meeting time each week. They can talk about each other's learning and working conditions, exchange some useful information about policies and business, and establish a certain internal social contact.



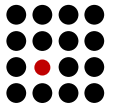
Figure 64: The church of Shishi Sacred Heart of Jesus Cathedral Own Image



Figure 65: Church promotional photos Own Image



"Africans who come here to pray are mainly college students and successful business people, because they generally have a better education and more free time."
--- Said by a staff of the church



In addition to religious activities, sports, especially football, are also popular among these Africans. At present, there are three main ways for them to participate in football (Yang,2011). One is that they go to some colleges where African students are more concentrated, and use the convenient free football field to play with the students (Fig.66-1). One is that some Africans with certain football talents and professional training have been invited by some local football clubs or schools to train local children (Fig.66-2). The last is to create their own community football team in some African enclaves with the support of the local government. Such teams generally have both locals and Africans because the local government wants to promote their integration with local society (Fig.66-3).

As the local community's attention to these Africans increases, more African traders are involved in various activities outside of their busy work (Yang, 2011). For example, in 2017, under the sponsorship of local companies, the African Football Match was held at the Tianhe North football fields (Fig.66-4).

The map below shows the distribution of the main African social activities in Guangzhou (Fig.67). As mentioned in the previous theoretical study, these urban public spaces can be a good carrier for promoting the social integration of Africans and local residents in good design and governance. In the next step of design, these places will also become my important focus.



Figure 66-1,2,3,4 : Africans join the football community in Guangzhou in different forms



"In 2013, we used the government's purchase of special services and the help from Wang Haige's professional social work organization to serve this community football team and promote the integration of foreign friends of different ages and nationalities with local residents."

--- Said by an officer of Dengfeng foreigners service center

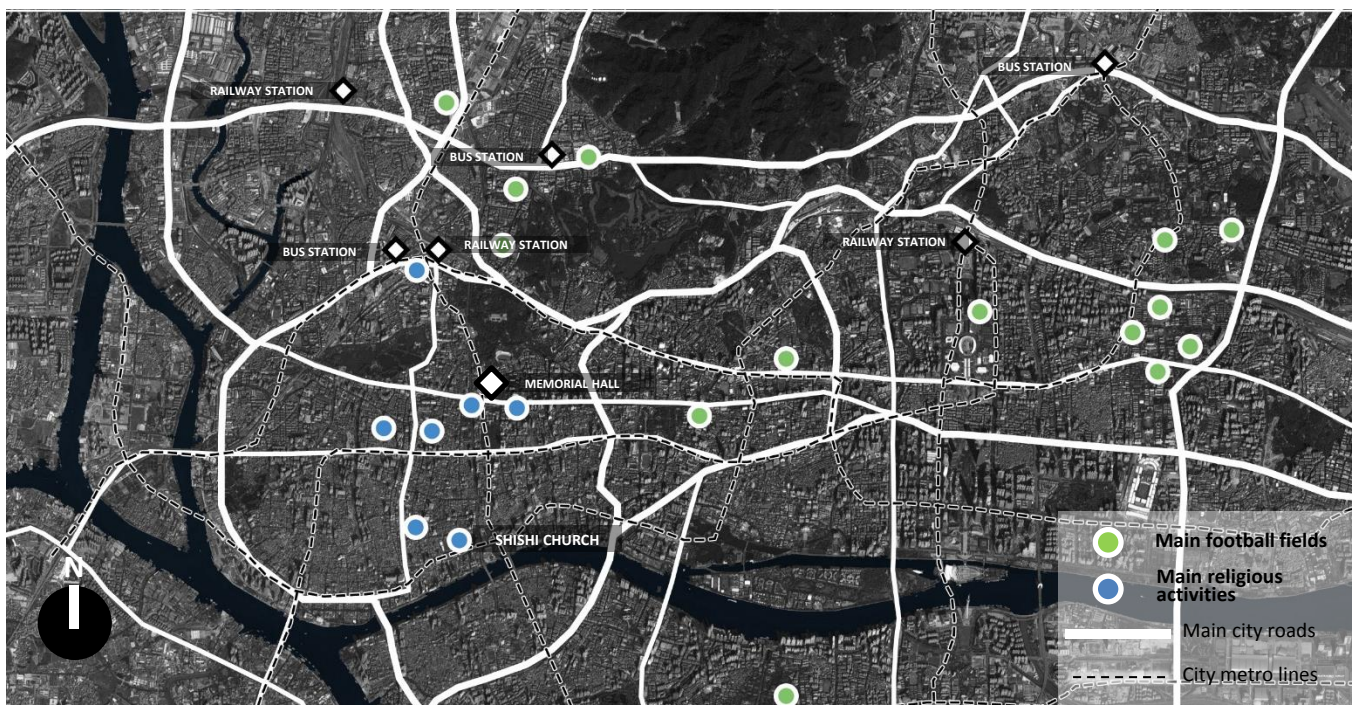


Figure 67: Map of the distribution of the main African social activities in Guangzhou Own Image

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

Summary of the distribution and activity range of Africans in Guangzhou and site selection for next stage of design intervention

Based on the above mapping of markets, communities and other venues used by Africans in Guangzhou, I have summarized this map of African activities in the city (Fig.68). It can be seen that their range of activities has a certain concentration and is not very scattered. Therefore, I will select some of the representative areas for the next step in spatial design intervention to achieve my research objectives.

Most of the locations shown in this African activity map in Guangzhou had been visited during my fieldwork. Unfortunately, a few places I did not go. According to previous research, these places have not many Africans living and working. Besides, some of the places I went to also did not gather too many Africans. The most concentrated areas of Africans are the Sanyuanli and Xiaobei Road mentioned above. Among them, Sanyuanli is dominated by trade activities, and there are not many African residents and other African elements in the community. Therefore, in the end, I chose the Baohanzhi

street community in the Xiaobei Road, which is more mature for its African atmosphere of community and highly concentrated by Africans, as the main location of the potential design (Fig.68). Next, I will conduct a detailed analysis of the space and other factors in this place and give a rational design strategy.

Ethnicity and nationality distribution of Africans in Guangzhou

According to the fieldwork and the introduction of references, Africans in Guangzhou can be divided into two types according to their beliefs: Muslims and other believers.

Among them, the Muslims are mainly living in the communities and professional markets near Xiaobei Road. According to the researchers' estimates, at least half of the Africans who have lived in Guangzhou for a long time are Muslims, followed by Catholics and Christians. In Xiaobei Road, only Xiushan Building, Tianxiu Building and Guolong Building have gathered African traders from more than 50 countries. Due to geographical relations, a large part of Africans here do not speak English. They mainly use French and Arabic to communicate. Therefore, when they conduct trade transactions, they often need

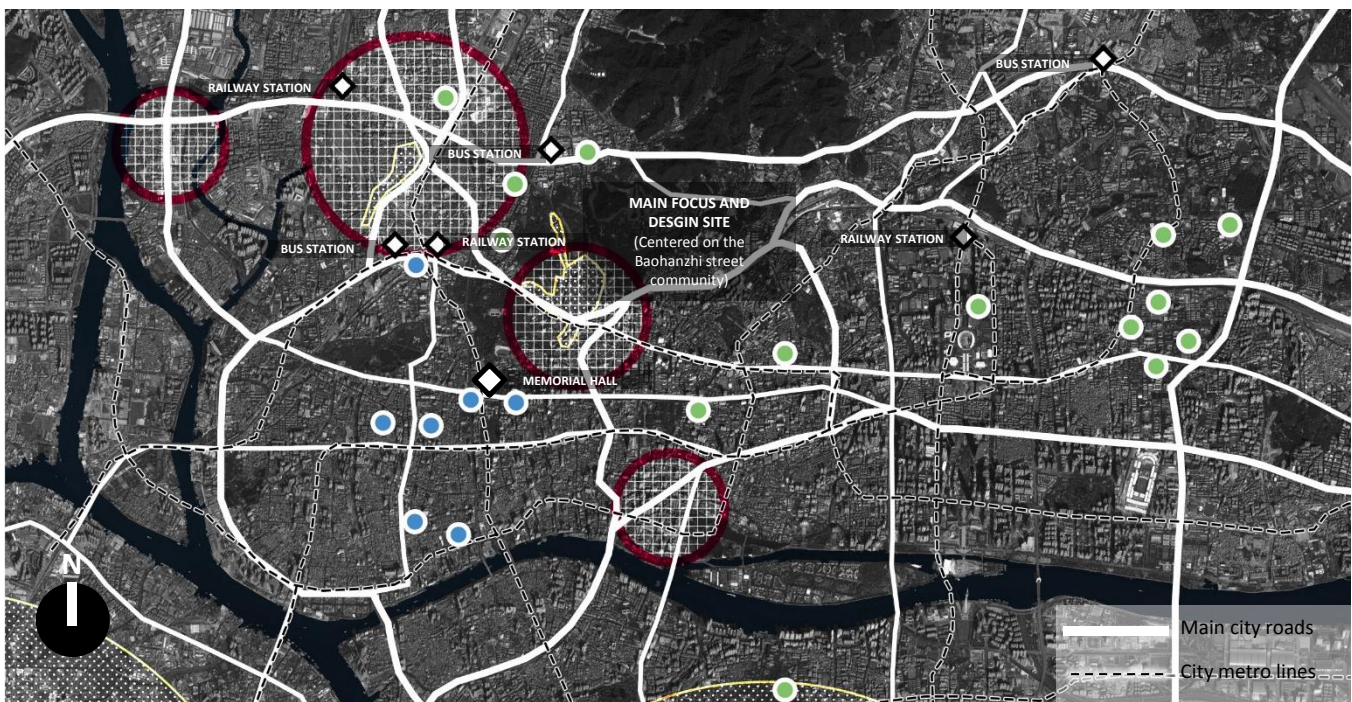
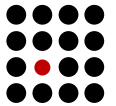


Figure 68: Map of main activity area of African traders in Guangzhou Own Image



to hire some Chinese translators to help them. Most of the Africans here come from Central African and West African countries, such as some Gold Coast countries Mali, Nigeria, Togo, Ghana, Senegal and Congo. These countries have a long history and tradition of foreign trade. With the rapid development of trade in textiles and electronic products between China and Africa since the beginning of 21st century, traders in these countries have naturally flooded into trade center cities like Guangzhou. Similar cultural backgrounds and religious beliefs have made them choose to live together. From the large number of halal restaurants and beef and mutton shops near Xiaobei Road, you can feel this special cultural atmosphere. In addition to their own countries, even some European countries like Spain, Italy and the entire West Africa region have their sales network. Every year, a large number of Chinese-made textiles, cosmetics and electronic products go from Xiaobei Road to the world.

Another concentrated African enclave for the traders, Sanyuanli, is dominated by English-speaking Catholics. Almost all of the English-speaking Africans encountered during my visit to the Stone Church were mainly doing their business and living in Sanyuanli. The African traders there mainly come from English-speaking African countries like Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, etc. They mainly carry out clothing and footwear trade in Sanyuanli. It is worth noting that the Africans here are lower-key than the Africans in Xiaobei Road in both existing research literature and government statistics, and lack accurate statistics. According to some existing studies, a large part of the Africans here are the “Sanfei” persons mentioned above in official record. They have no legal status when they sneak into the country. They do not want to be exposed here, so their specific identity statistics and business surveys are often difficult to develop and deepen.

SUMMARY

The formation and development of these African enclaves is clearly along the path of the history and development of Guangzhou. Of course, social segregation here also connects with it.

Visits to these African enclaves have allowed me to see some real problems and discover the potential and entry points of community transformation. Promoting social integration, improving urban spatial quality and protecting their native social relationships are still fundamental to my thinking when I walked through these communities.

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

7.4 Site Analysis and Conclusions

*The African ethnic enclave of Xiaobei Road is the most representative of the African settlements in Guangzhou because it has the most comprehensive functions including housing, market and living services. At the same time, it is also an urban area with strong complexity. Therefore, in this part, I will mainly analyze the current environmental and functional problems and potential spatial resources according to the specific conditions of the site from the perspectives of **Surrounding urban environment, Buildings' height and density, Transport, Public space, Public services and Commercial services.***

design toolkit and operation mechanism for the renewal of other African communities in Guangzhou and foreign ethnic enclaves in other cities in China. According to the observation, records and interview with stakeholders during the fieldwork, I will analyze the spatial status of the area and the problems behind it by using the method of layering. I will try to summarize the core problems from the layering that closely related to the needs of users which also provide a starting point for further design.

According to the previous part of the visit and analysis of several typical African communities in Guangzhou, I choose the Baohanzhi street community on Xiaobei Road and its surrounding areas to become the core area of the research and further design (Fig.69). I hope that through the analysis of this area, I can find a suitable regeneration path and framework for this community, and more importantly, provide a model that includes

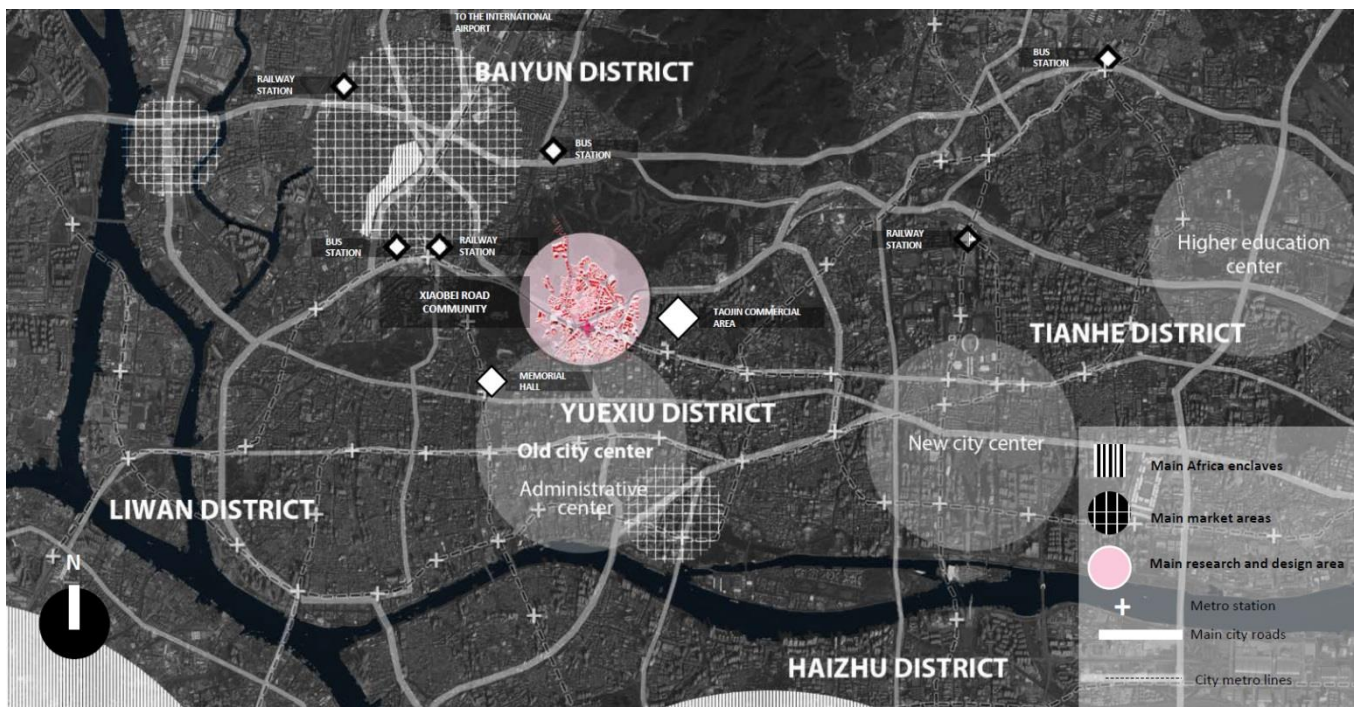
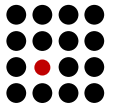


Figure 69: Location of the site in Guangzhou city. Own Image



1) Surrounding urban environment

Because it is in the vicinity of the birthplace of modern Guangzhou City and belongs to the old center of the city, this area has experienced many changes brought about by the adjustment and upgrading of urban functions in last several decades (Fig.70). For example, part of the surrounding public green space is transformed into a golf course with a limited entry. As the core business district and foreign consulate district of Guangzhou in the past, Taojin was the most prosperous place in the city. But now with the move of the city center, it has gradually lost its former aura. There are also some unchanged things in these changes. For example, the administrative center of Guangdong Province has been located here since the establishment of People Republic of China. The tall and majestic administrative buildings and closed camps have always played a serious role here. From the perspective of the built environment, our site has not changed much in these decades, as many of the old communities and buildings are still being used(Fig.71). **However, it can be found from**

the previous introduction that both the residents and the business have realized self-renewal. Therefore, the urban environment also needs to be updated to adapt to new needs.

From the perspective of function, the site lacks contact with the surrounding environment and is treated as a corner that has been forgotten by the city. Therefore, in the process of regeneration, in addition to eliminating gaps through industrial and environmental upgrading, **it is also necessary to re-establish connection between the site and the surrounding area. Especially high-quality urban public resources like parks.**



Figure 71: 80s and 90s old residential buildings

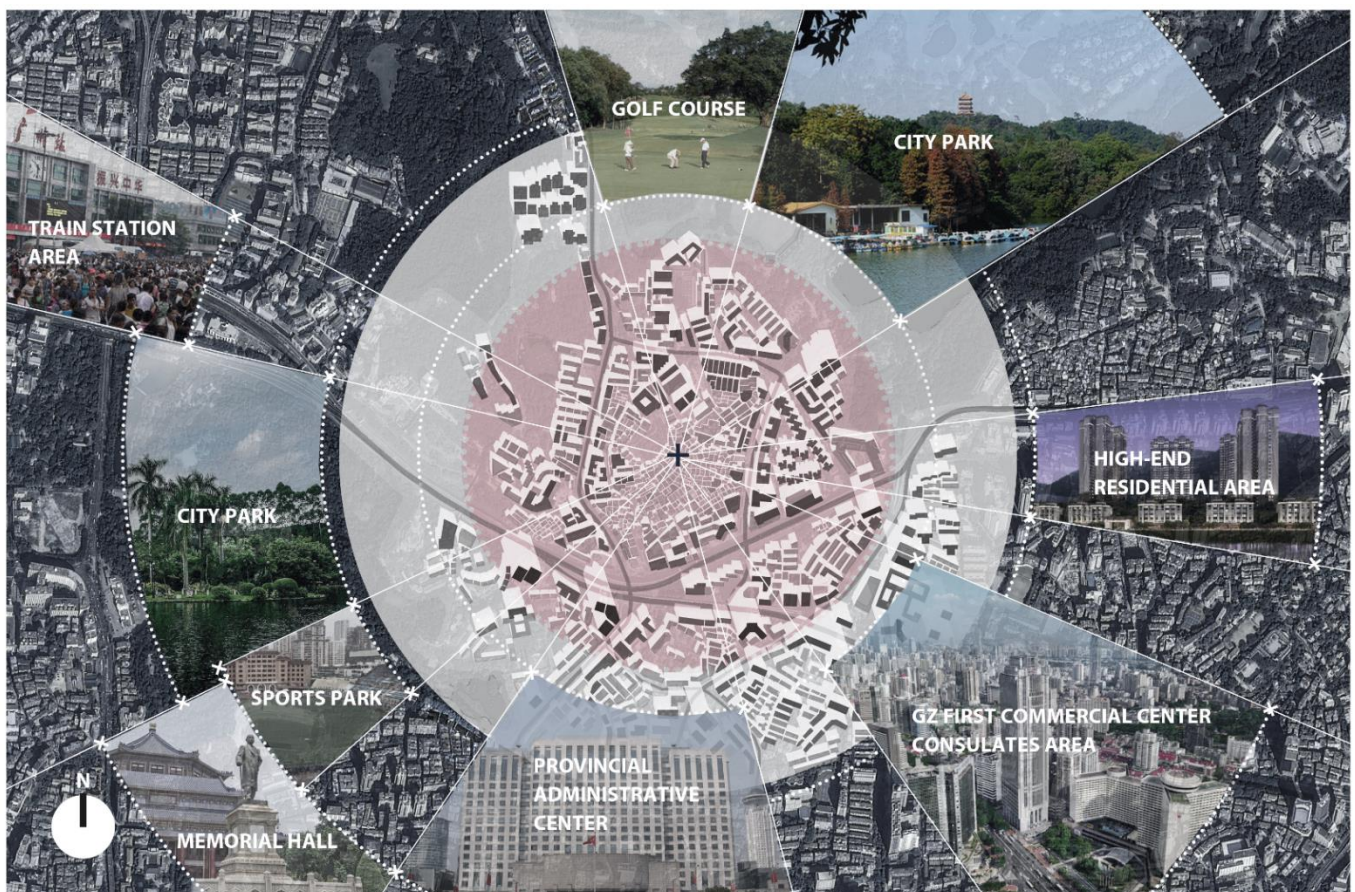
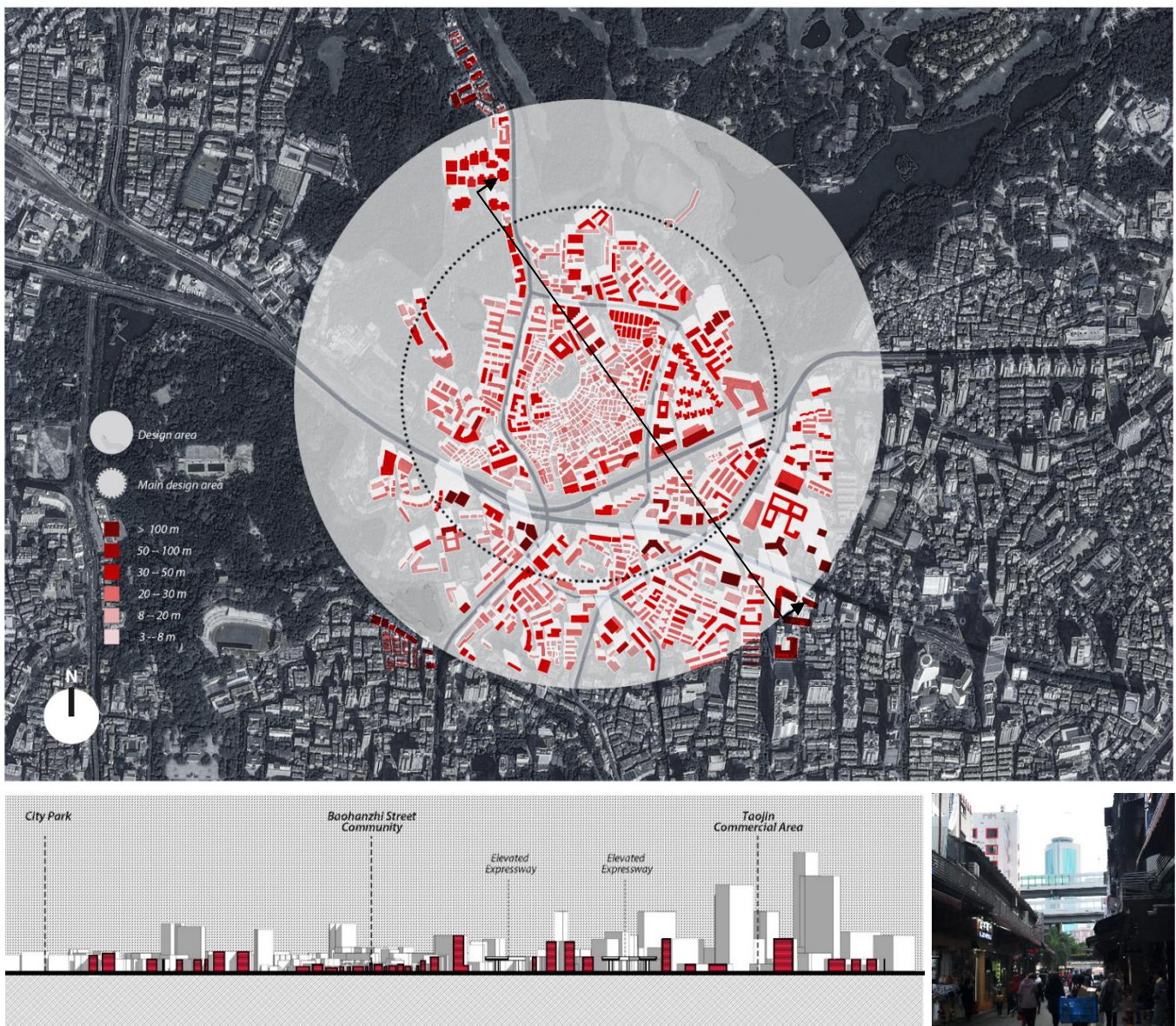


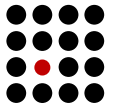
Figure 70: Surrounding urban environment analysis Own Image

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

2) Buildings' height and density analysis

The main area of the site are dominated by the built environment of low heights and high density, while the surrounding areas are mixed with different types of buildings, including super high-rise buildings, high-density dwellings and low-density enclosed courtyards (Fig.72). **The low-rise buildings in Baohanzhi street community provide a sense of scale suitable for human while continuously compress the area of the open space.** The elevated expressway and the high-rise buildings facing the street make the community like a scar that has been carefully wrapped by the city. No one sees it so a few people wants to have some change for it. **In the core area of the site, it is possible to consider increasing the height of some buildings in exchange for density relief.**





3) Transport analysis

From the analysis in 1.2, it can be seen that not only the height and density of the building in the research area caused the isolation between the blocks, but also the elevated expressway (Fig.73). A detailed analysis of the transport of the site reveals that this area is a gathering place for the city's main vehicle traffic. The analysis of pedestrian traffic is also. **Two elevated expressways and one railway crossing intersect here, so that some plots between the north and the south are separated by huge infrastructures.** different in the north and south blocks. The walking network on the south side are more dependent on the sidewalks on both sides of the road, so the density is not large. The north side is derived from the urban village, so the density of pedestrian ways is quite large which makes a good foundation for walking communities. At the same time, the quantity of parking spaces in the main design area is much less than that in the surrounding new buildings. **Therefore, the main area is more suitable for the development of the pedestrian network.**

But on the other hand, the pedestrian traffic on the north side is relatively independent. The vehicle traffic in this area is three-dimensional, but the pedestrian traffic still stays on the ground. For example, we can see that when people want to walk across the elevated roads, railways and main roads, there are very few choices for them. **It is very inconvenient for traders who frequently transport goods across the sides because of the lack of necessary barrier-free facilities** (Fig.74). The pedestrian network in the study area is in urgent need of darning.



Figure 74: People can only use a few overpasses to cross traffic barriers.

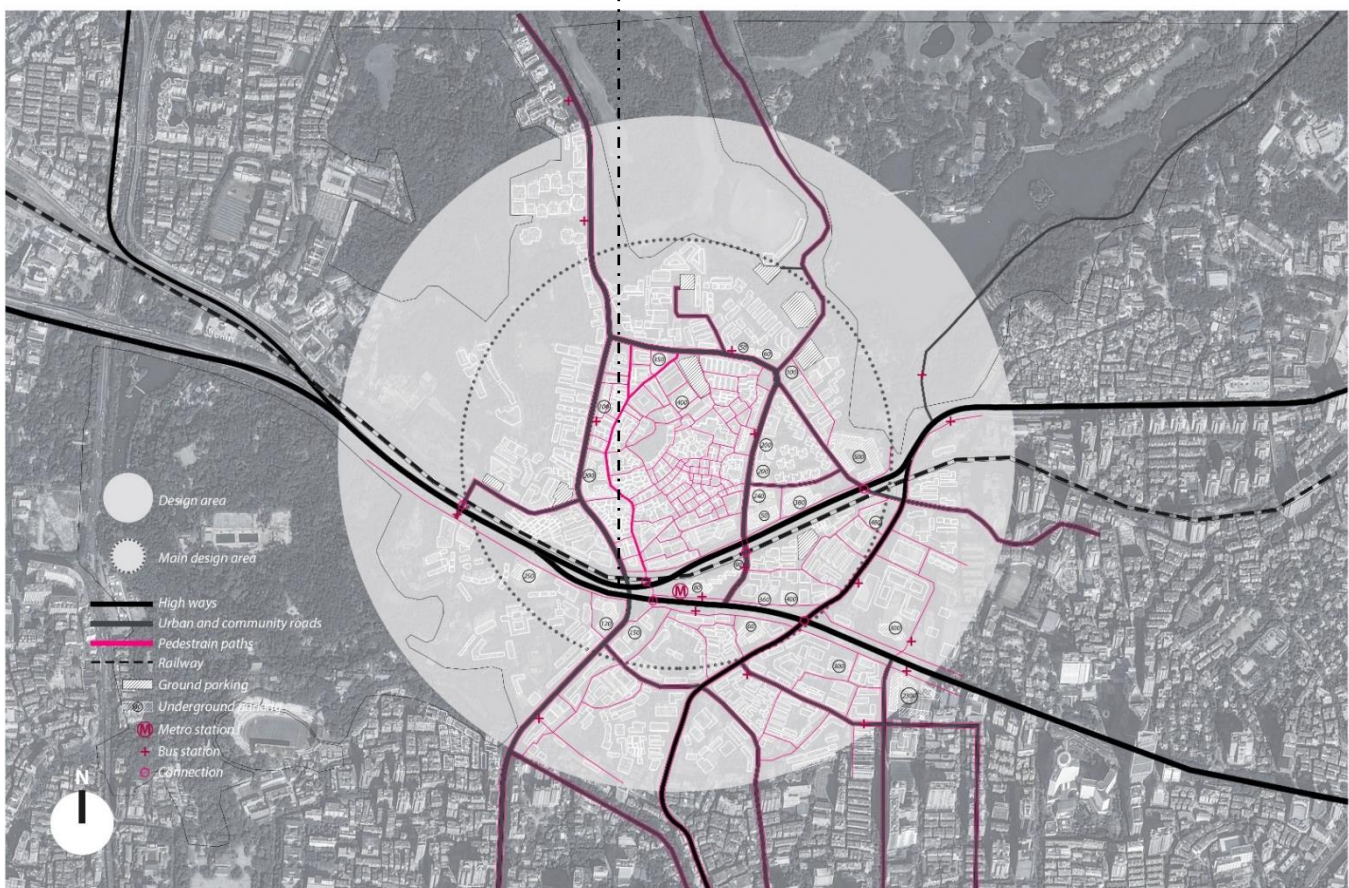


Figure 73: Transport analysis - Own Image

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

4) Public space analysis

- The site and its surroundings have good resources of public spaces such as city parks, sports facilities and public cultural buildings. Some spaces are widely used, and the use of some spaces is greatly limited, such as sport field in schools and some ground parking lot (Fig.76).
- There are some public spaces in the site that have been designed and refurbished, but these spaces are still fragmented and lack good walking links.
- There are some abandoned vacant spaces in the site that can be used to become

good public spaces (Fig.77).

- There is a lack of public space in the venue for religious activities such as churches and mosques.

According to the results of theoretical research, public space is a good carrier for promoting social integration in urban renewal. Therefore, these existing and potential public spaces will be integrated for public use.



Figure 77: Some green open space is abandoned and closed.



Figure 76: Some open space is used to be parking lot in low efficiency.

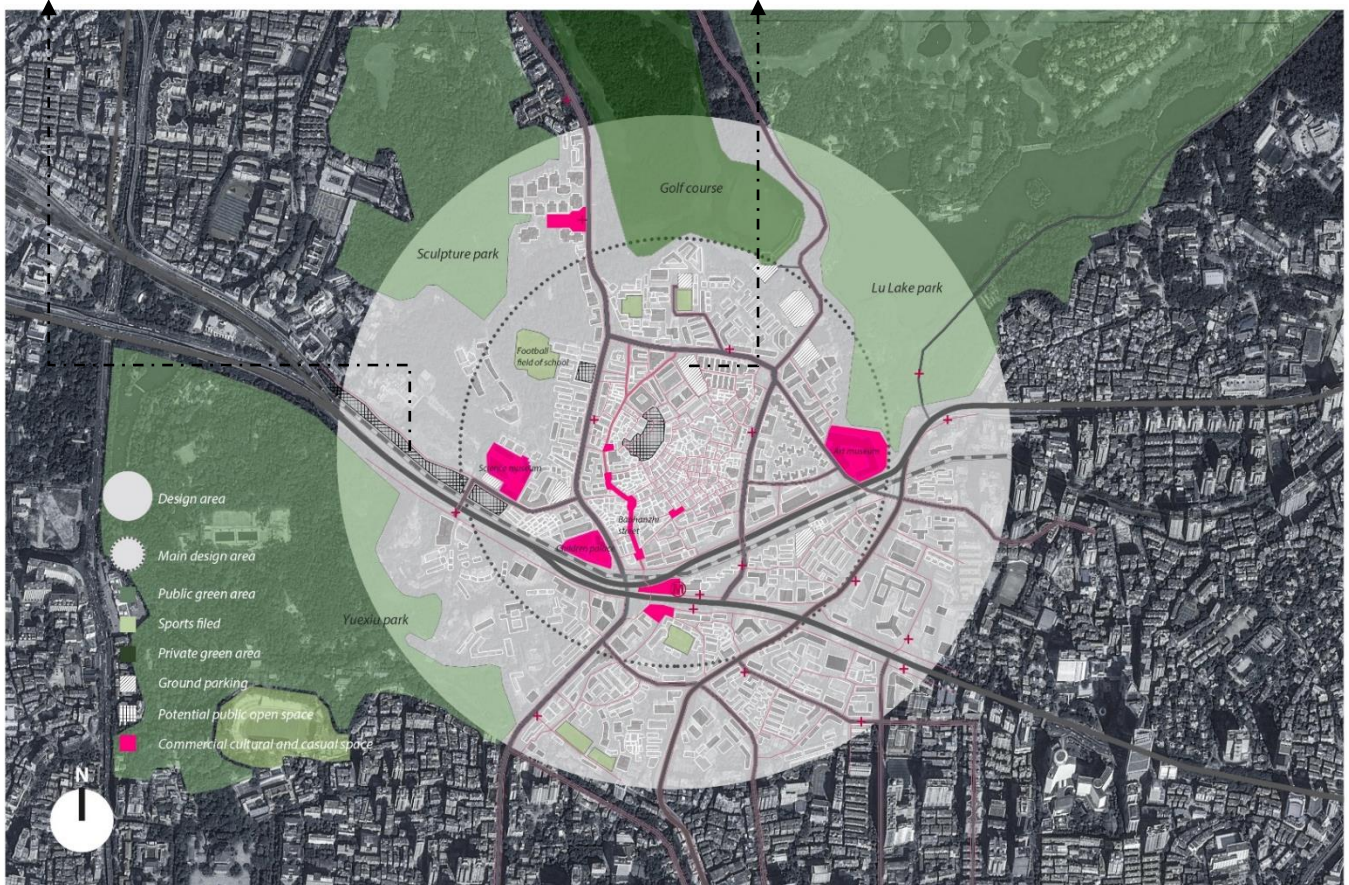
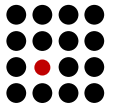


Figure 75: Public space analysis. Own Image



5) Public services analysis

- The site has excellent school resources, including primary, middle and vocational training schools. At present, these schools are aimed at local residents and Chinese students, which limits their role. In the future, these schools can be considered to receive children of African traders and set courses on vocational and language training for these traders, so that they and their next generation can better integrate into the local society (Fig.79).
- The density of the district security station is significantly higher than that of the surrounding area. It is understandable that this is because the local government treats foreigners as unstable factors. However, through fieldwork, this has led local residents to believe that the existence of these Africans is unsafe, and that Africans also feel the sense of exclusion from local society. This way is not conducive to social integration.



Figure 79: Schools in this area are only open for some Chinese students.



Figure 78: Public services analysis Own Image

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

6) Commercial space analysis

- Here is one of the first and most concentrated places in China-Africa's trade in Guangzhou, so the medium and large scale professional markets are mainly distributed along the sides of the city's main road (Fig. 81).
- The small businesses of the community are mainly distributed along the ground floor of the buildings on both sides of the life-type access road, which is the same as the general situation in Chinese cities (Fig. 82). Many hotels for the temporary residence of African traders are also located along these roads.

- It is worth noting that there are a large number of commercial services related to African life along the road of Baohanzhi Street, which is an inner street available for small vehicles and pedestrians. This makes it full of exotic customs (Fig. 83).
- International logistics spots are also widely distributed in this region as important nodes in the trade process. In addition to relying on various professional markets, they are also located near temporary or long-term residences of African traders. However, many logistics spots that located at the ground floor shops on both sides of the road often occupy urban public space resources by destroying walking environment. (Fig. 84).



Figure 81-84: Professional markets, living commerce and their supporting services in this area.

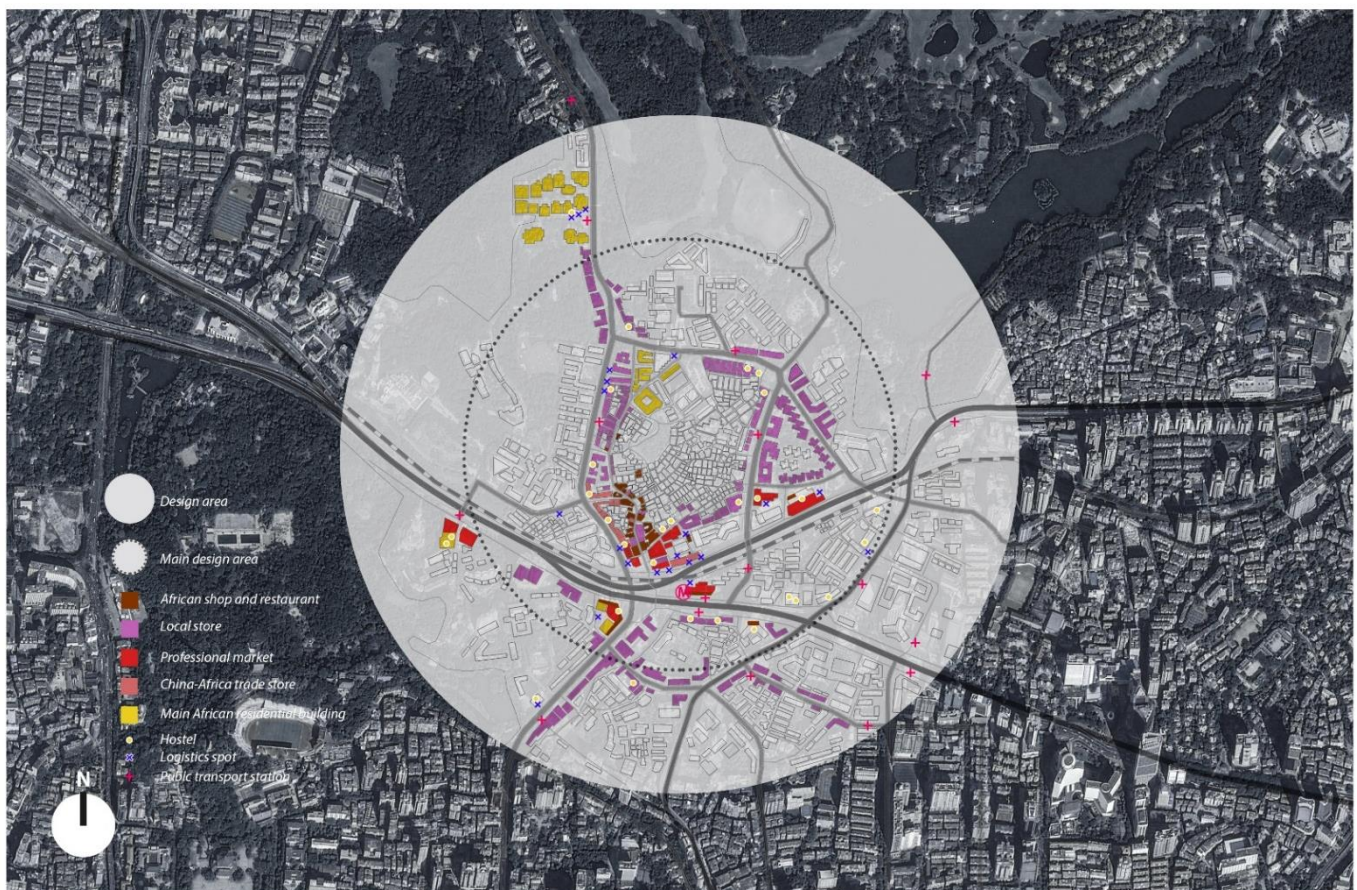
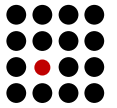


Figure 80: Commercial services analysis. Own Image



Layering of Site Analysis

In the analysis of the above six aspects, there have been many conclusions, such as the fragmentation of the pedestrian network, the inefficient use of school resources and the vacancy of space. However, in order to find the design ideas and framework for the community regeneration in the next stage, it is necessary to integrate these problems and sort out the key issues. I will mix these existing analyses in a layering way and try to find some commonalities (Fig. 85). These commonalities lead to the core problems of the site.

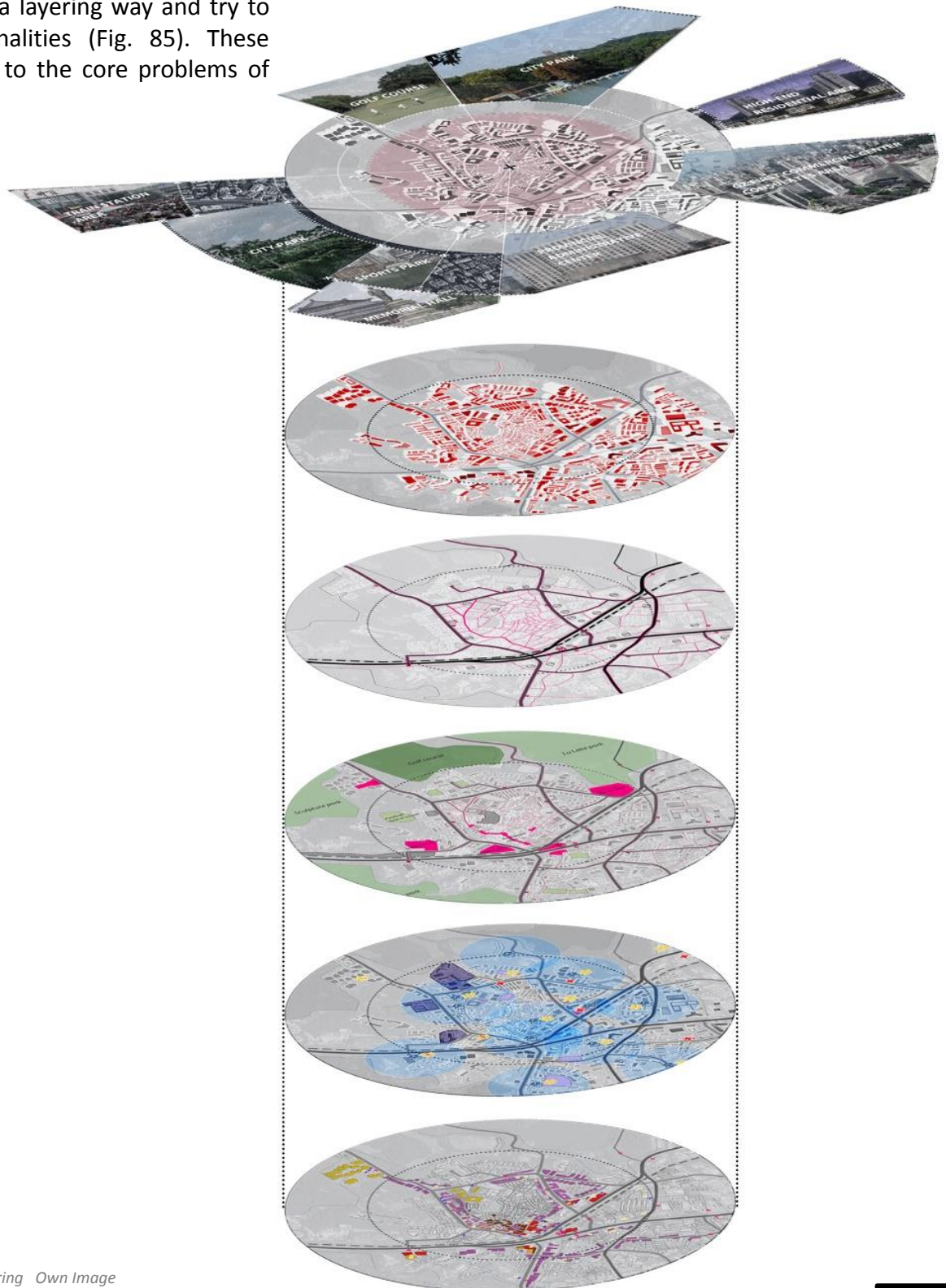


Figure 85: Site analysis layering Own Image

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

SITE ANALYSIS CONCLUSIONS: SPATIAL DISCONNECTION between different areas

- The site was divided by huge transportation infrastructures. In particular, the developed pedestrian network of the Baohanzhi street community is not well connected to the surrounding public spaces and urban areas, so few locals could walk to here.
- There are some vacant spaces in the site that not only do not function, but also become negative spaces that hinder the connection.
- There are also some spaces for leisure that have become closed areas due to management factors, which are difficult for residents to use. They can only choose to go further.
- The high-density environment in the main area of the site and the surrounding urban environment are also fragmented. The main area need to be further opened by increasing the open space.



Figure 86: Spatial disconnection in the site. Own Image



SITE ANALYSIS CONCLUSIONS: FUNCTIONS lack of rational arrangement

According to the above analysis, although the site is rich in functions and can meet the needs of African traders and local residents for living, medical caring, safety and trading, there are still some problems. Some spaces are completely vacant and not utilized. Some functions can play a better role. Some functions are too dense. And some functions are still missed for Africans. So I'm going to summarize these places and classify as **functions that can be reused, upgraded, and can be transformed** (Fig.87).

| TYPES | | POTENTIAL REGENERATION WAYS |
|-----------|-------------------------|---|
| REUSE | Vacant space | For public use like parks, square, religious activity and public event |
| | Vacant buildings | For public use like religious activity, public housing and office |
| UPGRADE | Schools for children | Receive foreigners' children |
| | Schools for adults | Set vocational and language training courses for Africans |
| | Sports field in schools | Open for the public during no teaching time |
| | Logistic spots | Re-design and change the flow of cargo |
| | Professional markets | Add more functions like stores selling African goods to attract locals |
| TRANSFORM | Security station | Use some extra stations to become space for community services and activities |

Figure 87: Summary of functions need to be changed Own Image

SITE ANALYSIS CONCLUSIONS: IDENTITY OF THE PLACE needs to be reconstructed and intensified

The identity of the site which also be called the feature includes many aspects, some of which come from people's impressions, some from their functions and some from the space itself. Some of these features are negative, such as a bad environment. Some are neutral, such as many Africans living here. Some are positive, as there are many authentic African cuisines here. Therefore, I hope that in the later stage, we can reconstruct negative identity and strengthen positive identity through spatial strategy. This is summarized here in the table below (Fig.88).

| TYPES | | POTENTIAL REGENERATION WAYS |
|----------|---|--|
| NEGATIVE | Urban village with bad environment | Environmental beautification, adding open space, organizing public events and attracting new comers and industries |
| | Unsafe place | Reducing patrol, establish platform for communication between local and African |
| | Forgotten place | Find the characteristics and strengthen the propaganda and connection |
| POSITIVE | A place with African characteristics | Branding the African things here, public events of African culture |
| | Good pedestrian network | Connect it with surrounding urban space like commercial area, parks and transport stations |
| | Humanized scale of street and buildings | Prohibit motor vehicles from entering the core area. Increase the public use of internal space to improve usage. |

Figure 88: Summary of the Identity of the place. Own Image

Summary:
The conclusion of these three main problems of the site will guide my next urban renewal design.

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

7.5 Case Study

Aside from the factors of a large number of foreign immigrants in the site, this place is about to face the process of community regeneration. Therefore, I need to find some design strategies inspired by other urban renewal cases that have similar background and problems, especially those that have been completed and achieved very good results in China (Fig.89).

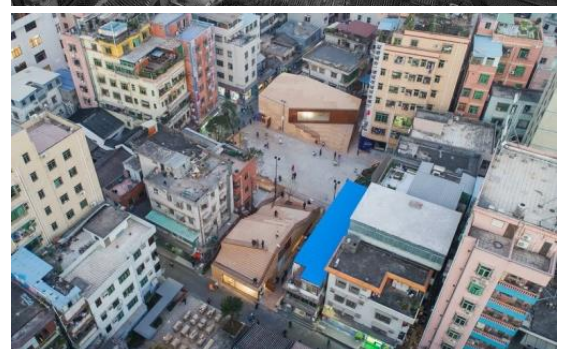


Figure 89: Many urban villages in Chinese cities have same issues.

CASE 1:

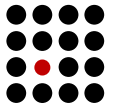
Nantou Old Town Urban Regeneration in Shenzhen (Source: <http://www.urbanus.com.cn/>)

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| RENEWAL MODEL | Local government organize --- Urban researcher, designer & artist lead --- residents selectively participate |
| GOALS | Less disturbance to resident; Enhance environmental quality of public space ; Leave enough space for future development |
| STRATEGY | Set different zones with different themes --- find the most important line that could reflect on the structure and history of the area --- acupunctural renew some important nodes and public space |
| FEATURES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Import some public cultural event like UABB as catalyst of community renewal ■ Turn negative space into vigorous public space with high accessibility ■ Use of vacant buildings and space for public ■ Limited financial support, heuristic private living space renewal |
| COULD LEARN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Attention to the cultural regeneration could strengthen the identity of place ■ Use of public space and high accessibility are the base of promotion of spatial environment ■ New comers give original residents different ways of thinking ■ Spatial design based on a way of story telling |
| COULD CHANGE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lack of public participation. Changes made by professions and artists might ignore the needs of ordinary people ■ Need more attention to the original social environment |



■ “Zone – line – node” spatial design strategy

■ Use of vacant buildings and space
 ■ New connection and new public space

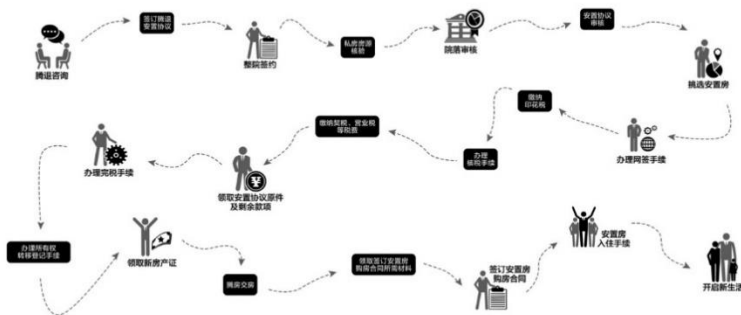


CASE 2:

BAITASI REMADE in Beijing (Source: <http://www.btsremade.com/zh>)

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| RENEWAL MODEL | Local government lead --- State owned company operate --- Social forces (urban researcher, designer & artist) and residents participate (TOP DOWN) |
| GOALS | Enhance environmental quality; Enhance the regional business types; Improve regional infrastructure; Strengthen the sense of belonging of residents |
| STRATEGY | Adjust the regional population structure through reducing population density --- attract high-quality industries to settle in --- renewal of infrastructure and other public facilities --- import cultural events and activities --- build up sense of community to inspire bottom-up renewal |
| FEATURES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Micro-circulation, organic renewal. Focus on a long process ■ Combined with innovation and culture. Import some public cultural event like Beijing Design Week as catalyst of community renewal ■ Voluntary principle of land acquisition ■ Implementing environmental renewal through profits |
| COULD LEARN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Attention to the cultural regeneration could strengthen the identity of place ■ New comers give original residents different ways of thinking ■ Appropriate encouragement to move out to get more space for public using ■ Attention to the protection of local culture and collective memory |
| COULD CHANGE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Top down mode, lack of public participation. ■ Possibility of gentrification |

Through research of the historical and cultural connotations of the Baitasi area, **public activities and projects involving the residents** in the area will be promoted, and the integration of social forces that focus on the regeneration of the old town area will be absorbed, and the **brand promotion ideas (sense of belonging)** will be developed to enable the residents to actively participate. The **place identity** conveys the common ideas and values of the region. Finally **achieves bottom-up self-organizing governance**, and seeks a balance of top-down hierarchical governance and self-organizing governance.



■ Use of traditional way of compensation for demolition but non mandatory anymore



■ Realizing the revival of the Hutong culture in the region through innovation and culture, returning to the spirit of residence

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

CASE 3:

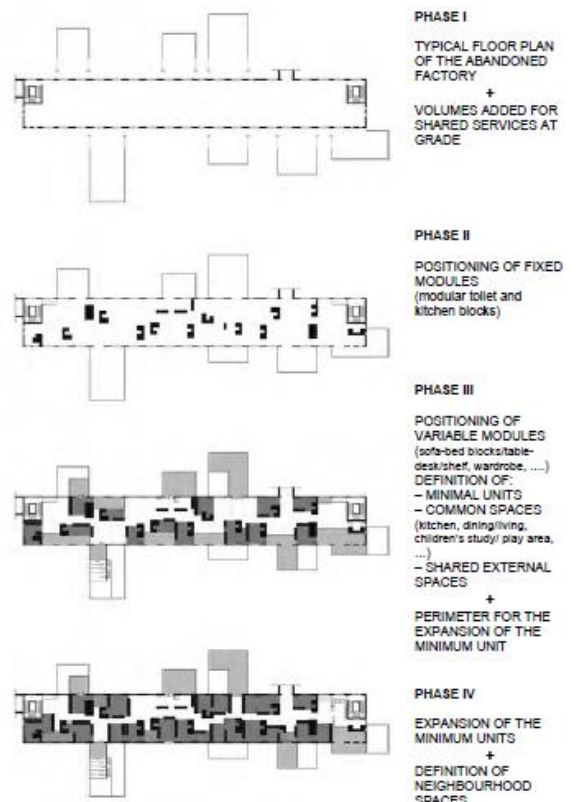
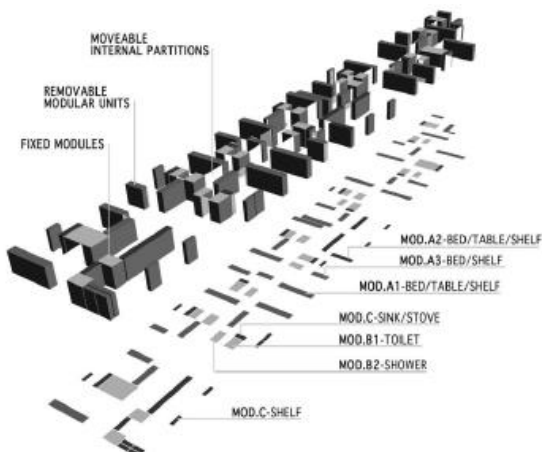
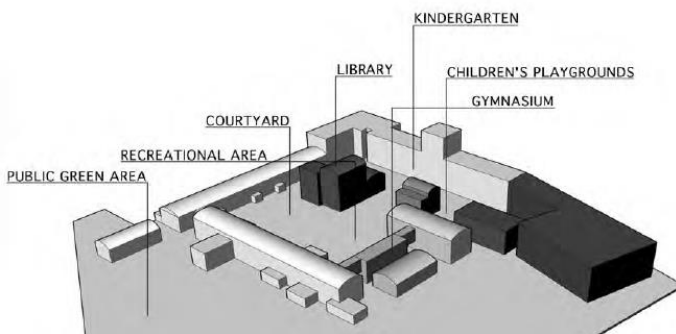
Urban Regeneration + Social Integration. Rome as a Case Study

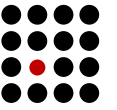
Rome as an emblematic example.

Management of multiple forms of social exclusion

Activation of process of Participatory Urban Planning

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| RENEWAL MODEL | Local government lead --- State owned company operate --- Social forces (urban researcher, designer & artist) and residents participate (TOP DOWN) |
| GOALS | Re-qualify and define a new identity; Offer housing, public services and workshops for productive activities to immigrant communities; Reinforce the desire for participation and involvement in the fabric of social and community relations, for a greater integration |
| STRATEGY | Use its industrial past (existing but unused heritage) character. As a great opportunity to have the urban regeneration of older industrial buildings Sense of neighborhood and community: the general hypothesis for transforming the use of industrial complex begins with a functional mix of residential and service spaces. Open spaces: ideal for the encounters considered necessary to the activation of processes of integration and for favoring the creation of a social fabric. |
| FEATURES | Flexibility, Adaptability, Elasticity on the concept of flexibility that, without modifying the structure or elevations of the existing building, reuses them as containers for a new universe, a new system, consisting of removable modular units, open to continual changes , and able to adapt to a wide range of needs . Now anti-historical – of the immutability of uses and the invariability of typological layouts to accept objectives of a general adaptability to the conditions of the existing building and the free transformation of its interior spaces Flexible concept that works from the bottom up , where everything can be established collectively by users, who can decide the characteristics of the space based on needs and desires. |
| COULD LEARN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The concept of flexibility that works from the bottom up ■ Use of old buildings despite of their original functions |





8. DESIGN CHAPTER

--- Visions of African Enclaves Regeneration in Guangzhou

--- Process of Community Regeneration

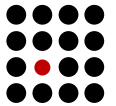
--- Design Principles

--- Regeneration Plan for *Baohanzhi Street Community*

--- Regeneration Projects

--- A Toolkit for the City





The main purpose of this chapter is to introduce that how the initial project research objectives are achieved through design and how the initial research questions are answered by the results of spatial intervention. Therefore, although a specific problem analysis has been made for the selected site, the design still needs to be carried out according to the originally set objectives.

In order to respond to the three objectives (**Better Stay, Better Live, Better Participate**), the chapter will narrative one by one but I exchange the initial sequence of them. (Fig.90)

- First, I will focus on community-scale urban regeneration. I will start with action planning which means designing the whole process of the regeneration, so I can first implement the concept of public participation. Participating in local social life with local residents also allows them to better integrate with this city.
- The next step is to make these foreigners better live in the community through community regeneration plan and design. Here is mainly to use the shaping of public space to promote social integration.
- In the end, some feasible ways of intervention which are concluded in a Toolkit will apply to the entire city to make Guangzhou more conducive to their stay.

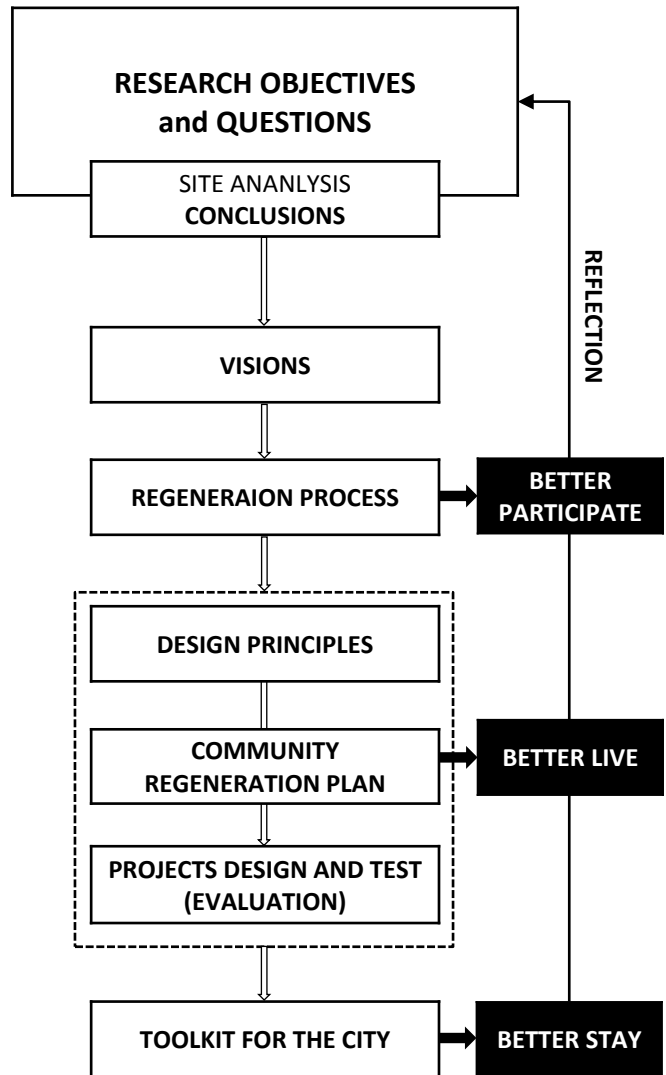


Figure 90 Framework of the Design Chapter. Own image

DESIGN CHAPTER

8.1 Visions of African Enclaves Regeneration in Guangzhou

According to the conceptual framework (Fig.91), to achieve the three goals one by one, I will use **Better Live** as a core goal. During the process of achieving this goal in the community scale it can achieve the goal of **Better Participate** at the same time, and after realizing better live in the community the means and results of community regeneration can be summarized as a toolkit applied to the whole city to achieve the African's goal of **Better Stay** in Guangzhou. Therefore, the vision of my project will be divided into three parts:

- A complete community update process, which is mainly reflected in public participation (Fig.92)
- A series of look and atmosphere of a future updated community after design intervention based on actual issues and user needs (Fig.93)
- A toolkit that includes a range of effective community regeneration ways and can be used in other similar urban areas (Fig.94)

The design of the community regeneration as the core will be based on the analysis of the specific site in the previous chapter. There are three main considerations to respond to the three main problems (**SPATIAL DISCONNECTION** between different areas, **FUNCTIONS** lack of rational arrangement, **IDENTITY OF THE PLACE** needs to be reconstructed and intensified). The future will be:

- A Pedestrian and Environment Friendly Community
- A Mixed Community
- A Multicultural Community

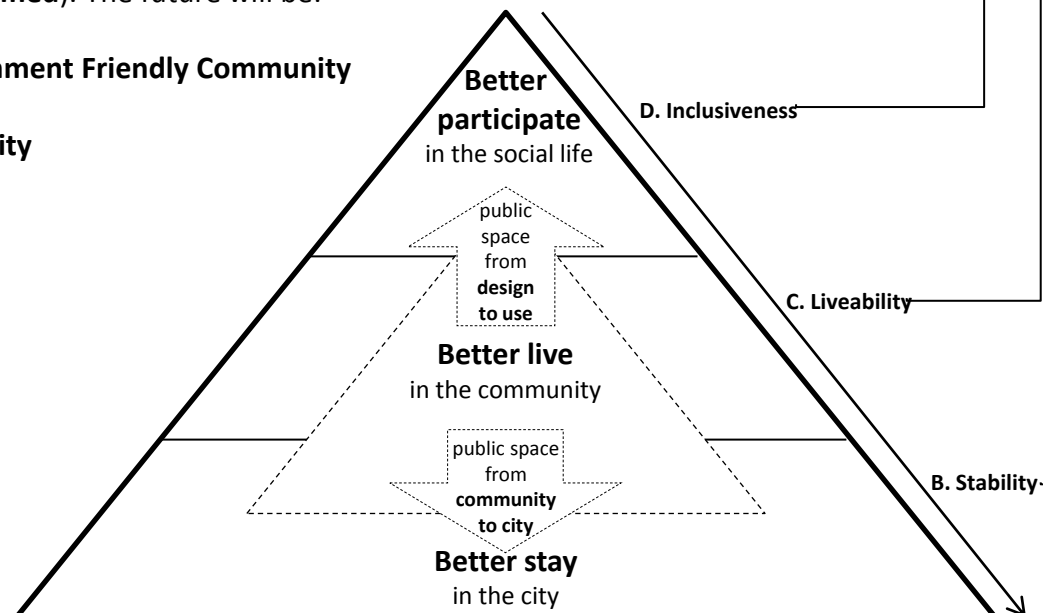
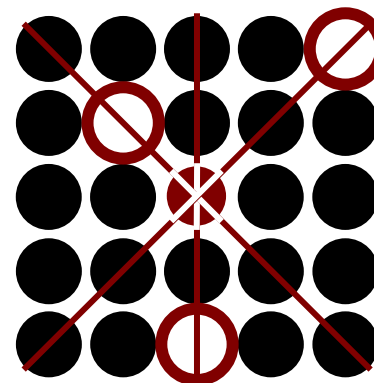
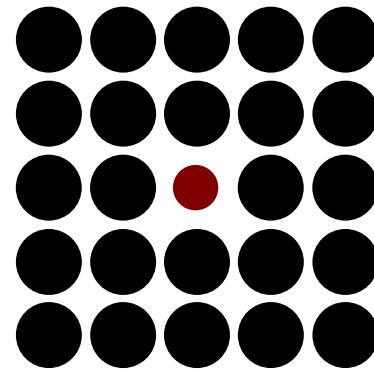
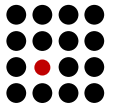


Figure 91 Conceptual framework. Own image



Public Participation Vision in the process of community regeneration

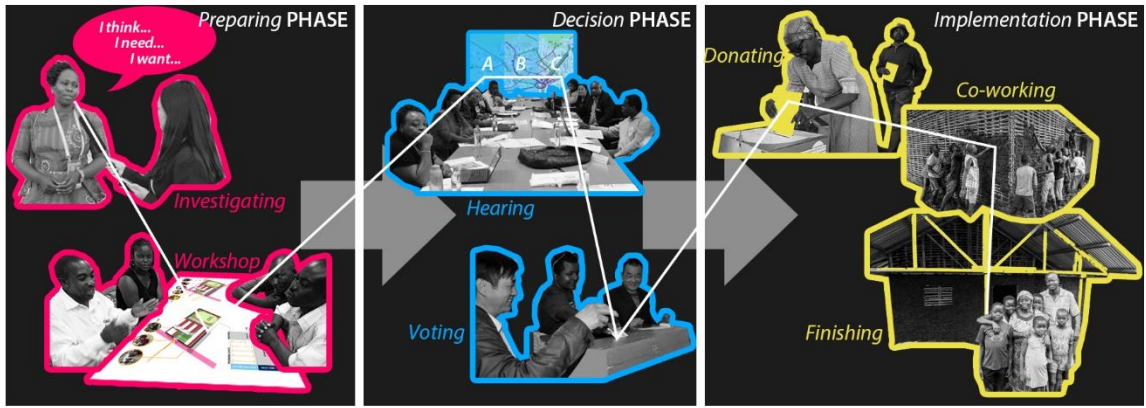


Figure 92 Vision of public participation process in community regeneration. Own image

The participation of the public, especially these vulnerable African traders, is taken into account in different forms at every phases of community regeneration.

Community Regeneration Vision

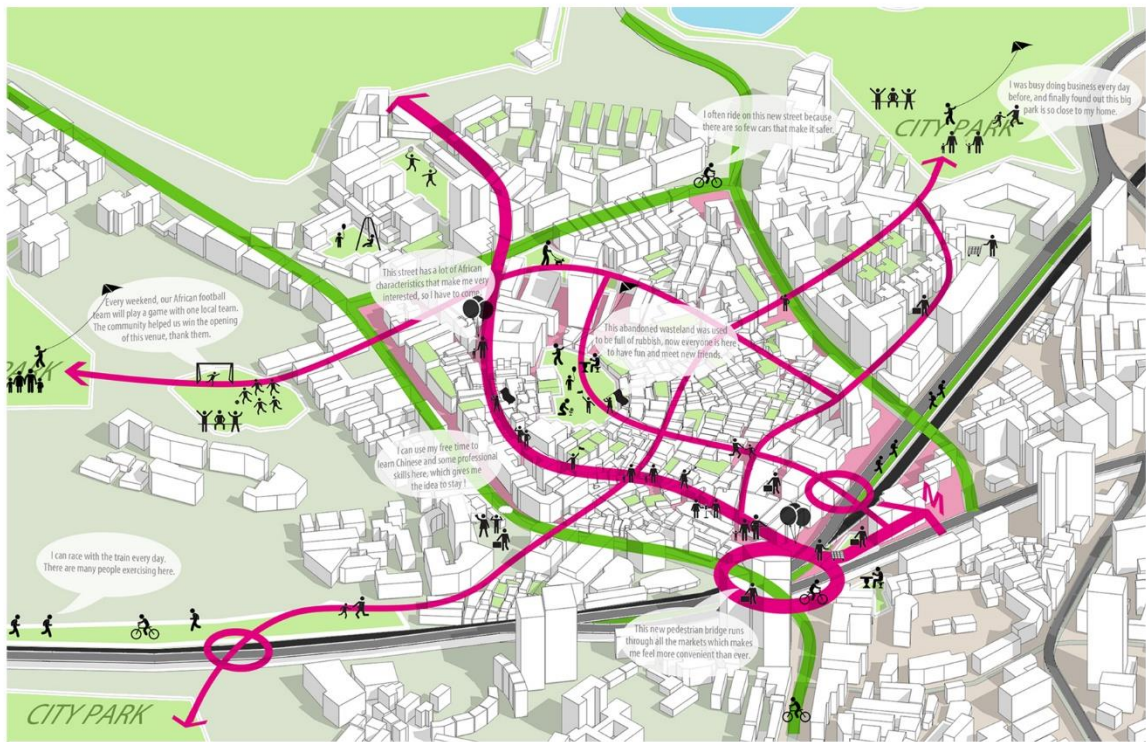


Figure 93 Vision of community regeneration plan. Own image

This is a macro vision that demonstrates the look of a dynamic and inclusive community after the implementation of planning and design.

Based on the core issues identified in the previous analysis, there will be three more specific visions in the next page.

City Strategy Vision for all the African in Guangzhou

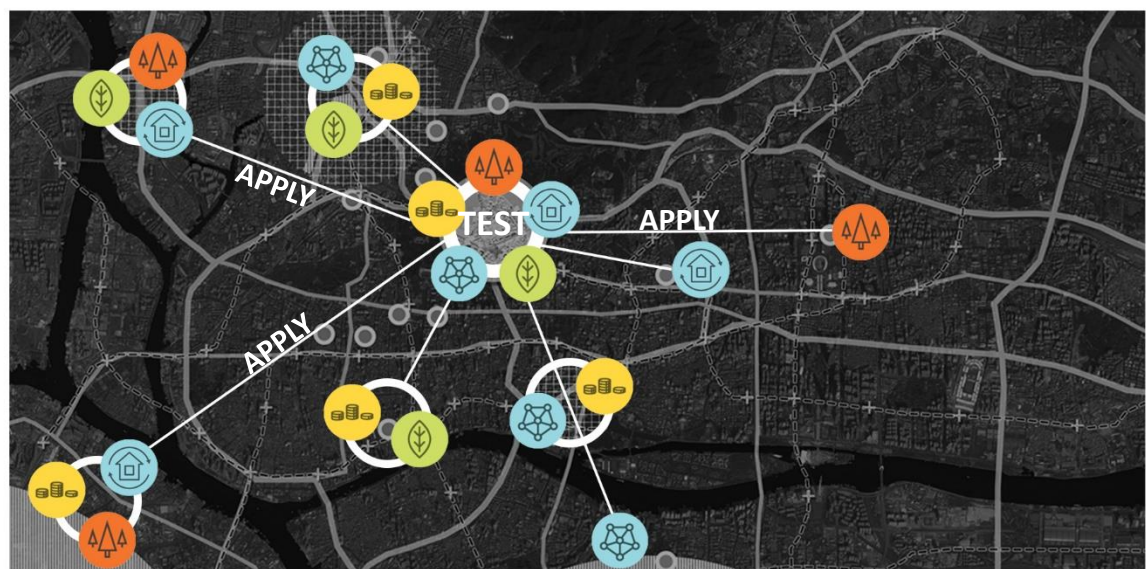


Figure 94 Vision of city spatial strategy. Own image

The vision at the city scale is relatively vague, as the means of implementing the project need to be tested in practice in selected community before they can be promoted in the city.

DESIGN CHAPTER

Community Regeneration Vision

A Pedestrian and Environment Friendly Community



Figure 95 Vision 1 of community regeneration plan. Own image

Here will has good internal and external connectivity and high accessibility to high quality spatial sources. The potential public space sources will be used for everyone with a sustainable environmental consideration. It will provide African traders and local residents a convenient and high quality environment to do business, work and live (Fig.95).

A Mixed Community



Figure 96 Vision 2 of community regeneration plan. Own image

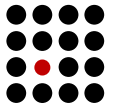
The functions here will be abundant to meet everyone's needs and be used very well and efficiently by everyone. African traders and local residents will do many new activities and enjoy new community life together (Fig.96).

A Multicultural Community



Figure 97 Vision 3 of community regeneration plan. Own image

The community will have a special local characteristic which could make here a unique place in the city . The most obvious characteristic will be the multi-cultural atmosphere which includes traditional Chinese culture and diverse African culture with great integration (Fig.97).



8.2 Process of Community Regeneration

The regeneration process and model design is based on the status quo of China's old town renewal cases to ensure its feasibility, and then on this basis to make some new attempts according to some new concept and ideas. Therefore, this part mainly refers to two cases in Shanghai and Shenzhen which strengthen public participation in the process that have been discussed in the Theoretical Framework chapter.

As two cases that have been implemented and have achieved good results, as summarized in the previous part, there are merits and improvements. This time, I will further explore how to achieve a higher level of public participation in community regeneration and governance.

There are **four basic principles** for the design of the regeneration process: (Fig.98)

- **The process design needs full coverage.** The process is in dynamic change from some aspects like roles, influence and interrelationship of different stakeholders.
- **There will be an increase of the range of people involved in and the degree of their participation**
- **There will be a decrease of governments' influence on the community affairs and cost of governance.**
- **Although the above two are positively related to the public and private input in the regeneration, the final result will point to a multi-win situation. Public participation also allows them to better integrate with each other.**

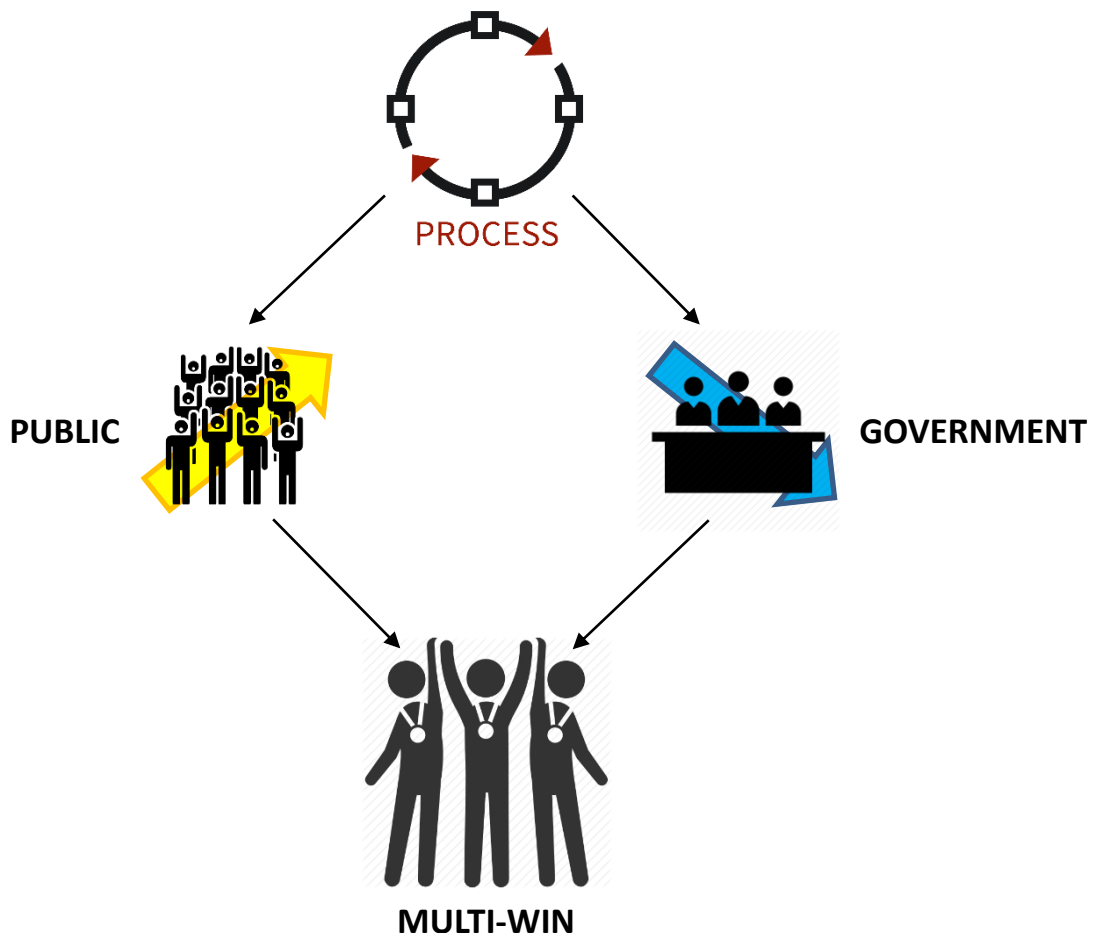


Figure 98 Framework of principles of process design. Own image

DESIGN CHAPTER

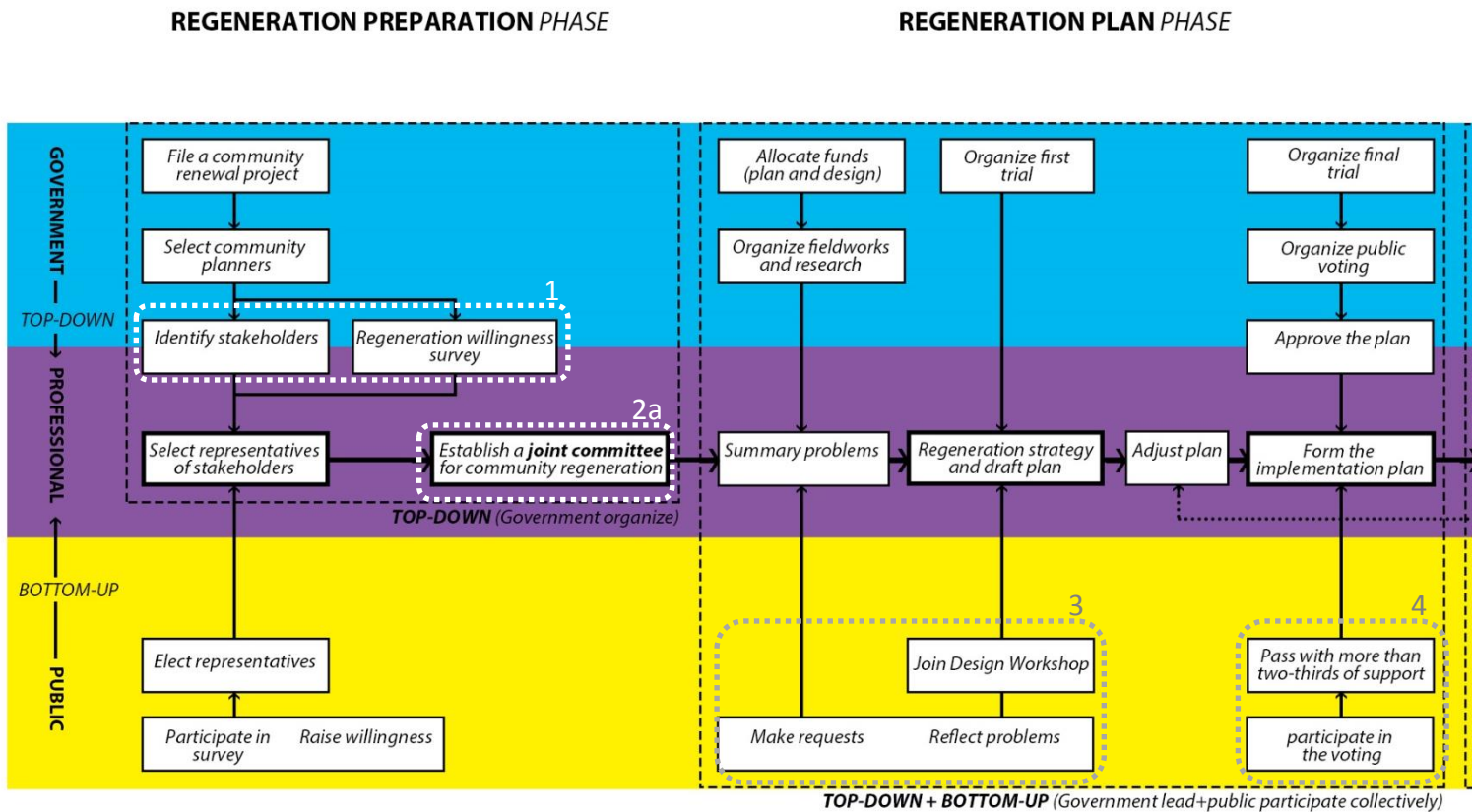


Figure 99 Framework of Community Regeneration. Own image

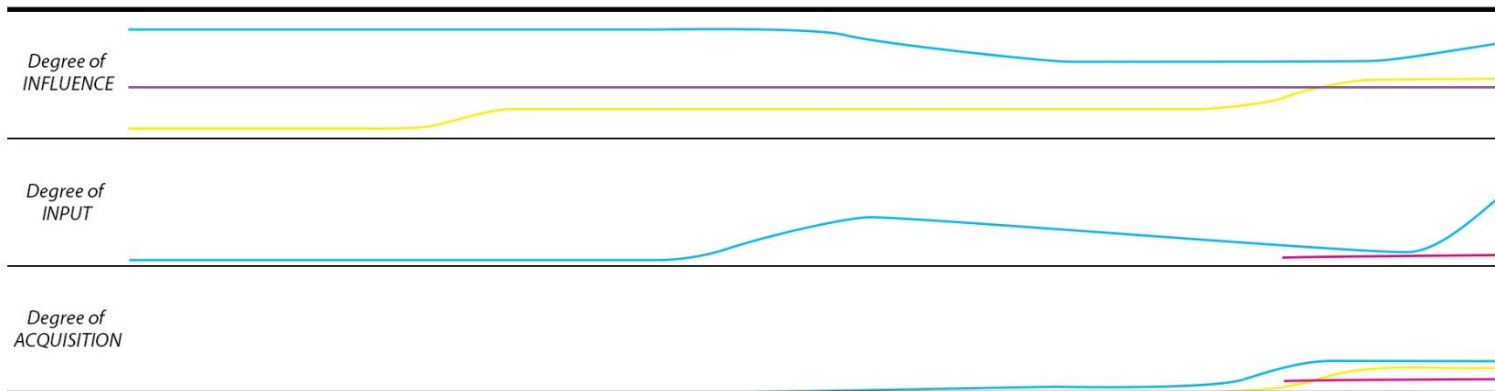


Figure 100 Dynamic change in the process of community regeneration. Own image

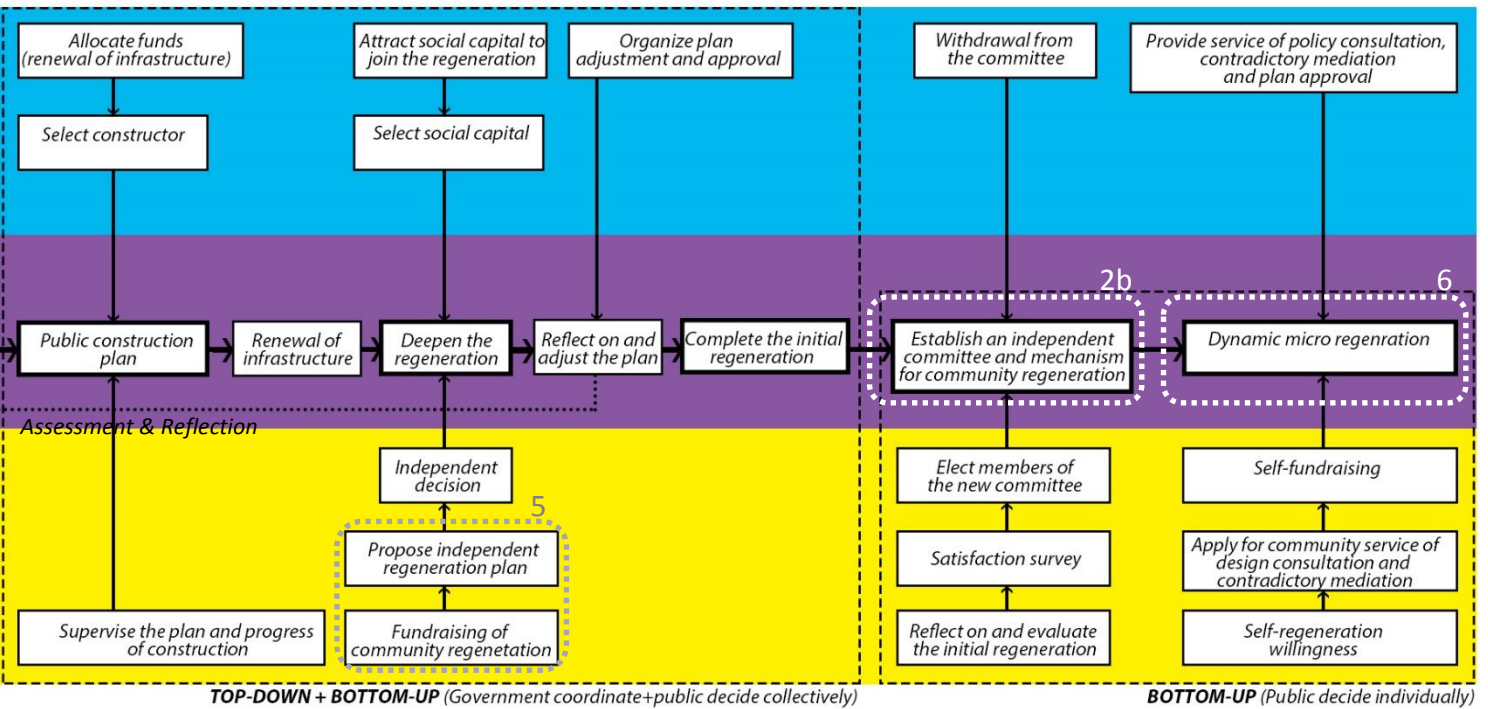
Based on the Vision and process design principles, I divide the whole process into **four phases**: Preparation, Plan-making, Implementation, and Management (Fig.99). The work at each phase is done by public, professionals and the government. The mode of cooperation implementation will gradually change from the top-down of the government-led to the bottom-up of the public autonomy. In this process, the influence, input and acquisition of the three parties will also change dynamically (Fig.100).

It is important to emphasize that the public has different ways of participating in community regeneration at different phases which are the core of this section. I will introduce **six typical forms of public participation and social integration through scenarios later.**



REGENERATION IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

REGENERATION MANAGEMENT PHASE



Reflection on BETTER PARTICIPATE

Through the design of this regeneration process, it is mainly hoped that all stakeholders can be included in the process through different types of public participation in different phases. For these Africans, they are originally marginalized people here and their voice is weak. But in reality they have large numbers of people. Therefore, this public participation design can enhance their participation as a part of the city in social activities, and on the other hand, they can promote the integration with local society through their communication with the government, planners and other residents in the process.

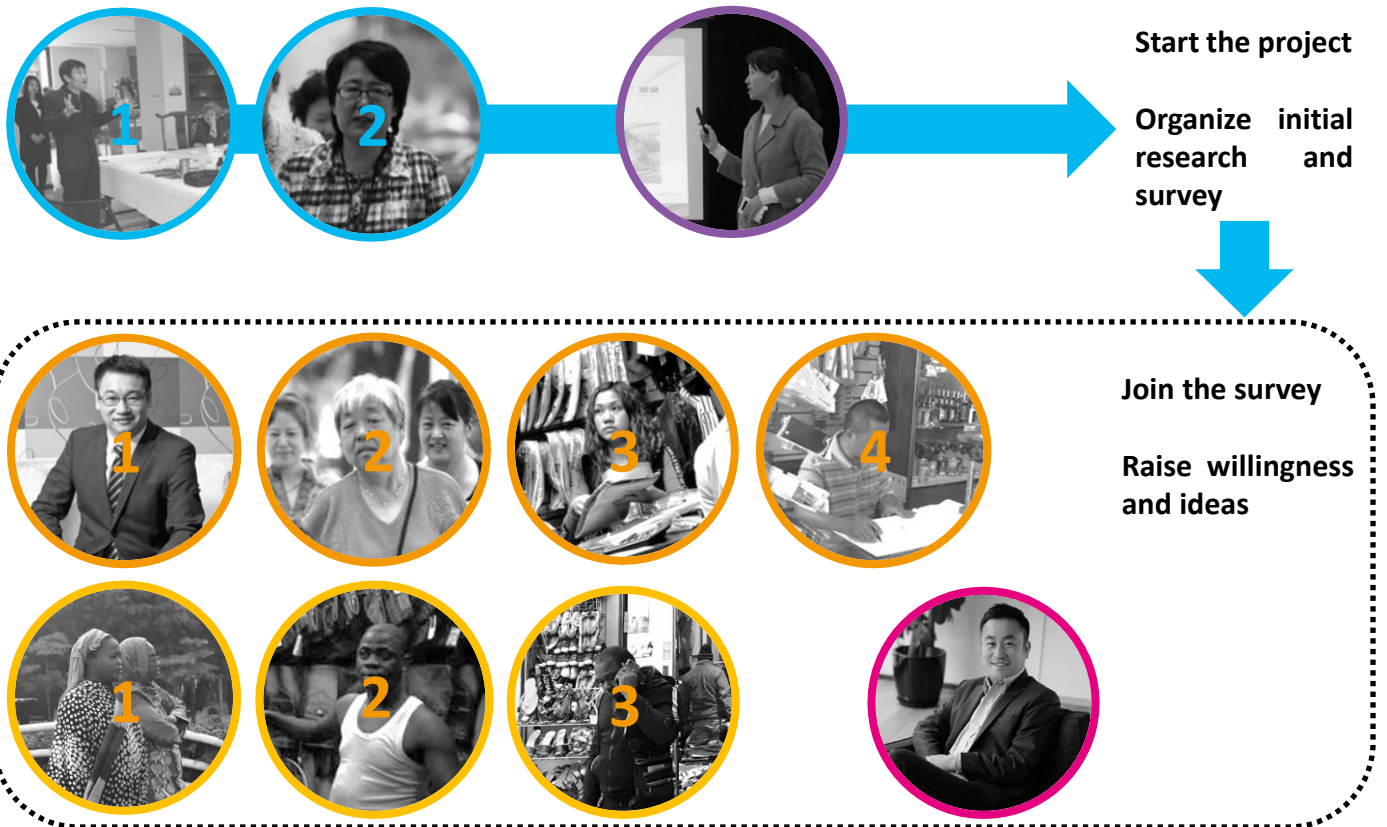
DESIGN CHAPTER

SCENARIO 1: Stakeholders Identification + Initial Survey

The project will be government-led at the beginning, so they will hire professionals to investigate the basics of the community. One of the most important aspects is to sort out the stakeholders that will be involved in community regeneration, classify them and understand their willingness and the organizations that can represent them (Fig.102).

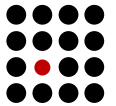


Figure 101 Scenario 1 of public participation. Own image



| Groups of STAKEHOLDERS | | DISCOURSE POWER | CONNECTION with the community | CONCERN | ORGANIZATION | Potential ways of PARTICIPATION |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Government | 1 City urban planning department | Strong | Medium | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speed and Quality of urban planning implementation Governmental expenditure | Urban planning department | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize community regeneration plan Examine and approve plan and design |
| | 2 Local government office | Strong | Strong | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community environment Public security Governmental expenditure Attraction to the public and investors | Sub-district office Community police station | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize regeneration activities Allocate funds |
| Professional | Community planners | Medium | Weak | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of result Balance of all the stakeholders | Individual | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help clients to make plan Coordinate stakeholders |
| Local Chinese | 1 Property owners | Strong | Strong | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value of property | Owners' committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the survey and give advice Select representative Vote for the plan Supervise the implementation Self-funding to make some regeneration |
| | 2 Residents | Medium | Strong | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community environment Public security Quality of public life (public space, public activity) | Residents' committee | |
| | 3 Operators of trading business | Weak | Weak | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More traders to come Market environment | Chamber of commerce (market) | |
| | 4 Operators of community service | Medium | Strong | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community environment Attraction to the public | Chamber of commerce (community) | |
| African | 1 Long-stay traders | Weak | Strong | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market environment Community environment Quality of public life (public space, public activity, religious activity) | Chamber of commerce (African trader) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the survey and give advice Select representative Vote for the plan Supervise the implementation |
| | 2 Short-stay traders | Weak | Medium | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market environment | Religious group | |
| | 3 Operators of community service | Medium | Strong | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community environment Attraction to the public | Chamber of commerce (community) | |
| Potential investors | Potential investors | Medium | Strong | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community environment Attraction to the public Public security | Real estate company Individual | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest and run business in the community |

Figure 102 Stakeholders' identification Own image



SCENARIO 2: Establish the Joint Committee (A & B) and Update

With reference to the form of the Community Renewal Committee established in Shanghai, there will also be a multi-party platform to represent everyone.

Joint committee of Shanghai: one community government leadership, **five** relevant responsible persons and representatives (mainly including community police, residents committee, owners' committee, property party and the residents) and **some other** representatives (such as volunteers)

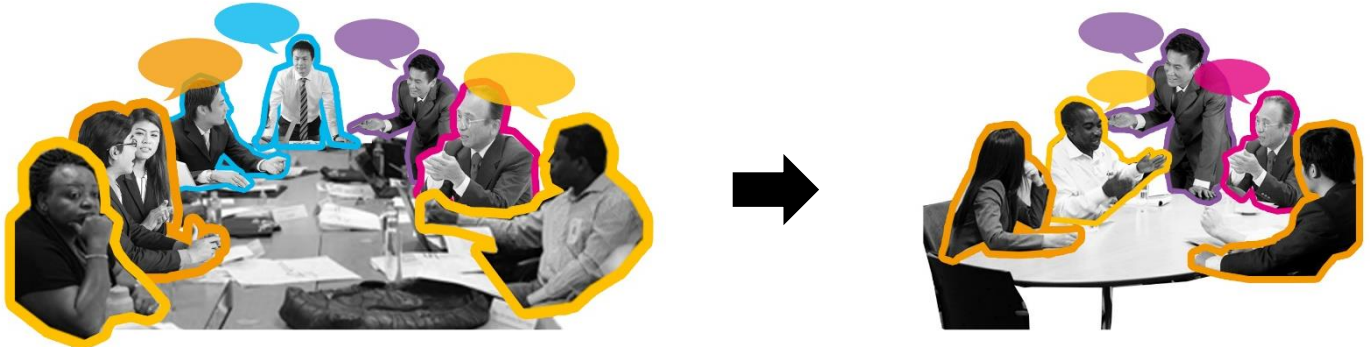


Figure 103 Scenario 2 of public participation. Own image

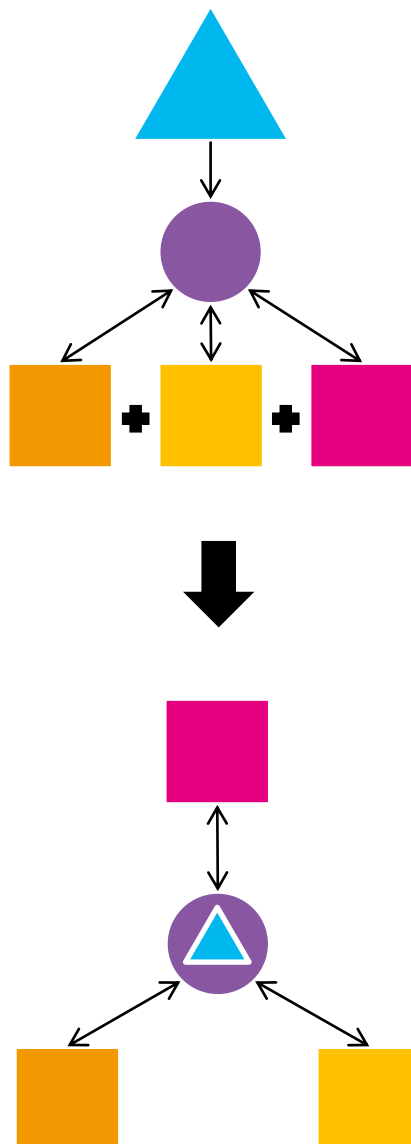


Figure 104 Change of the structure of the joint committee. Own image

Joint committee A (Co-Governance):

- The Government part is made up of officers from the **city urban planning department, sub-district office and police station**
- The Public part is made up of representatives elected from **owners' committee, residents' committee, different chambers of commerce, African religious groups and other tenants**
- The Professional part is made up of **community planners.**

In this process, the main task of this committee is to coordinate the contradiction between the government's vision and the needs of public by professional part, and finally obtain a win-win initial regeneration.

Joint committee B (Self-Governance):

- The Government part will be hidden in the professional part to provide some service for the community.
- The Public part will be separated into different groups to defend the their own interest.

In this process, the main task of this committee is to motivate and promote community micro-regeneration, manage common funds and coordinate the contradiction among the public needs from different groups and individuals.

DESIGN CHAPTER

SCENARIO 3: *Workshop for designing the community together*

Public workshops on community regeneration design organized and assisted by professional planners and architects, enabling stakeholders to express their wishes and ideas through design, so that designers can find the starting point based on realistic demand and make up the difference between their ideas and the public.



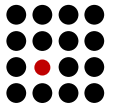
Figure 105 Scenario 3 of public participation. Own image

SCENARIO 4: *Public Voting for the Implementation Plan*

The community planner will provide the community with several regeneration plans based on the results of previous research and workshops. After fully understanding the content of the program, the community residents will choose one of the most satisfying plans to vote.



Figure 106 Scenario 4 of public participation. Own image



SCENARIO 5: *Public Donation for Community Renewal Fund*

After the community regeneration is carried out to a certain stage, community residents will lead this work which requires a certain amount of community renewal funding as support. The funds will be composed of **government subsidies and community residents' donations**. Therefore, it is necessary to establish a fund management committee based on the original joint committee to be responsible for fundraising and use. **Such participation can better reflect the identity of the residents.**



Figure 107 Scenario 5 of public participation. Own image

SCENARIO 6: *Co-working to build own community*

With the support of the Community Renewal Fund, the community can micro-renew some of the community's public spaces in a self-organizing manner. In order to save costs, promote the integration of community residents and foster a sense of belonging, they will be encouraged to participate in the activities of community renewal construction.

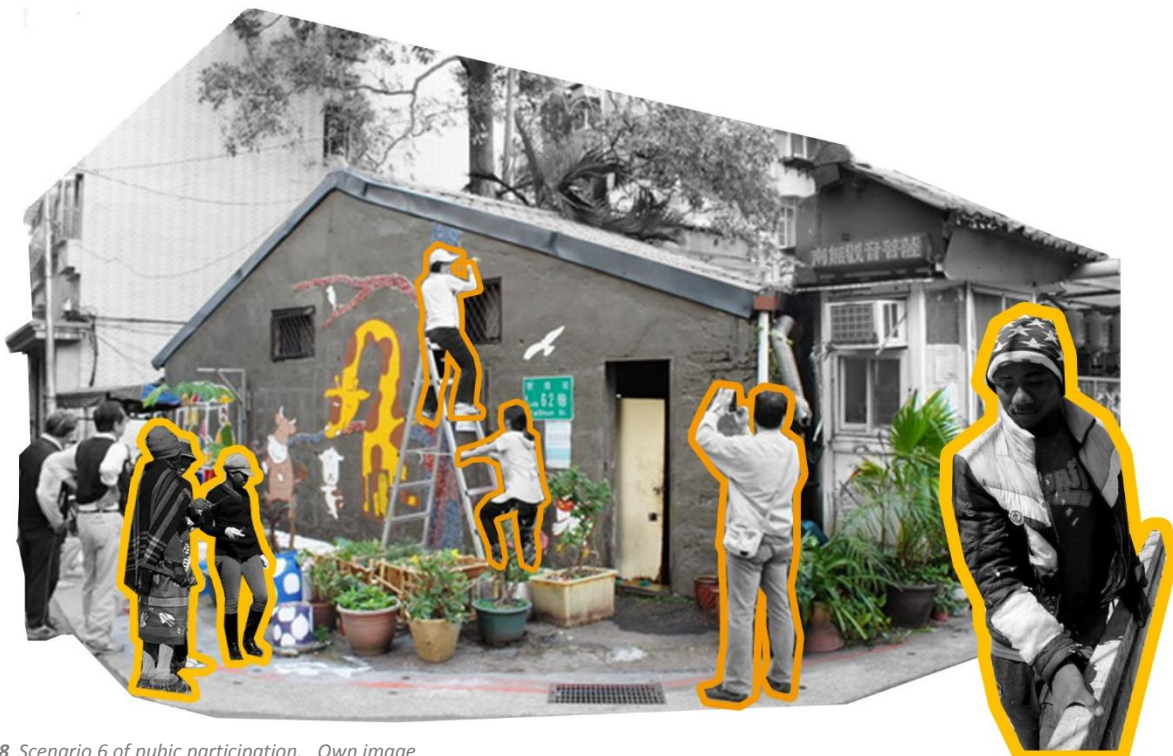


Figure 108 Scenario 6 of public participation. Own image

DESIGN CHAPTER

8.3 Design Principles

The spatial planning vision of the community regeneration in the previous section is more general. In order to find the starting point of design, a series of clearer design principles are needed. As a result, several key words of design principles have been derived from main problems of the site and planning visions. All of the keywords which include **Accessibility, Quality, Efficiency, Diversity and Identity** are capable of responding to two or three planning visions (Fig.109).

Later I will specifically propose design principles based on these keywords.

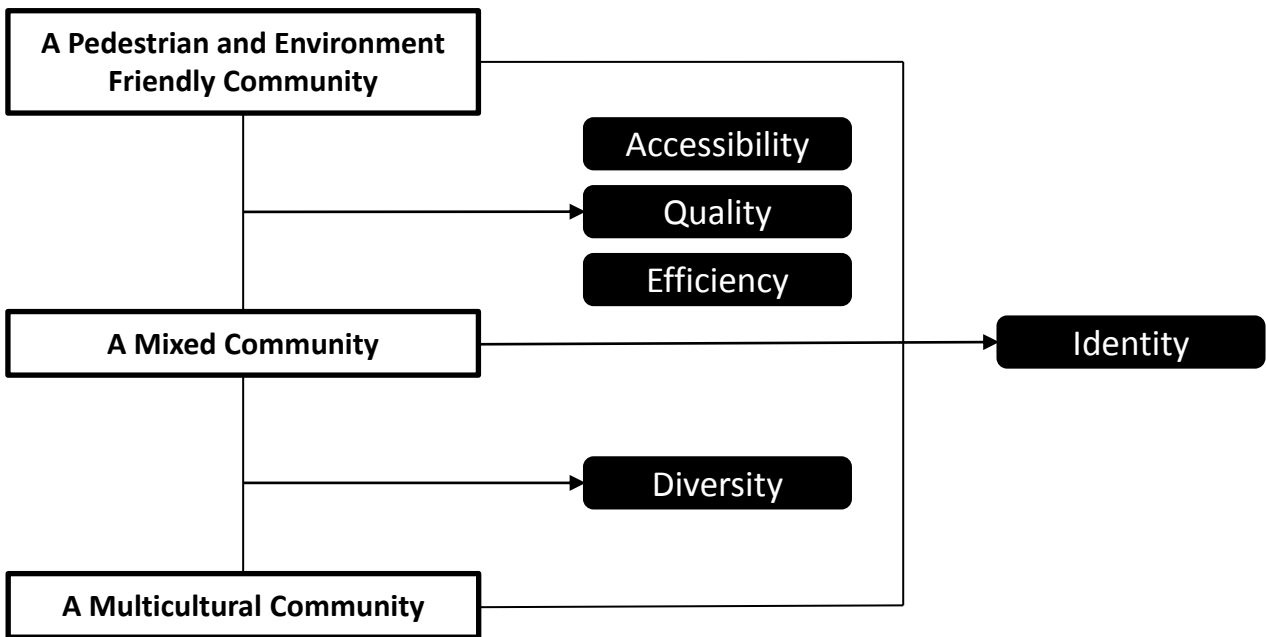
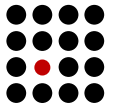
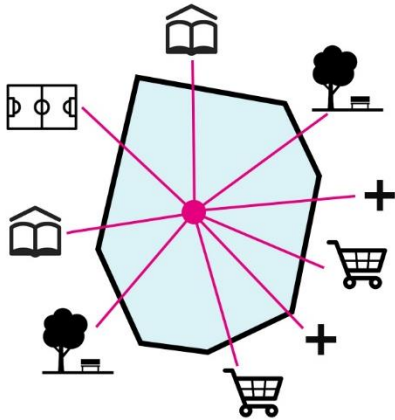


Figure 109 Framework of design principles from the vision. Own image

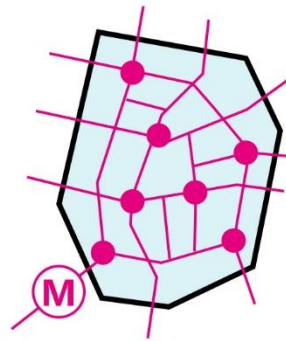


Principle 1: Accessibility

A major problem with the site is the spatial separation from the surrounding urban environment, and there are also many obstacles inside. For ordinary citizens and individual African traders, there is no good walking environment and barrier-free facilities for them to live and work. Therefore, the accessibility here needs to be reorganized.



Connect to the surrounding services and facilities



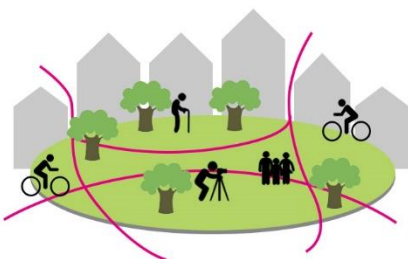
Complete pedestrian network



Supporting accessible infrastructures

Principle 2: Quality

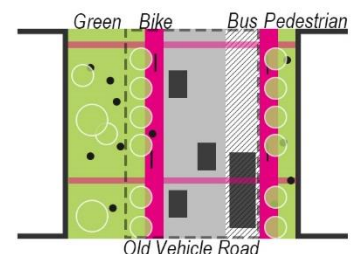
Because it is a typical Chinese urban village, the living environment is rather bad. Some open spaces are not being used very well. Improving the environmental quality here is the basis for ensuring a Better Live for the residents here.



Maximum green open space



Green building

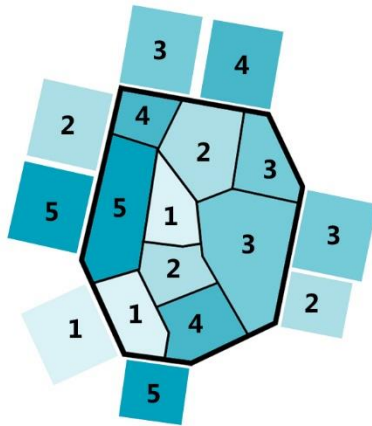


Street for public life

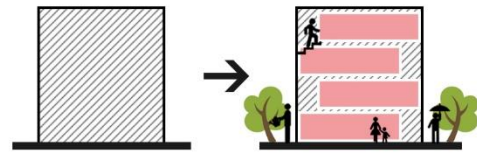
DESIGN CHAPTER

Principle 3: *Efficiency*

Although there is a large building density here, many buildings and functions have not been used very efficiently. There are even some buildings and spaces that are vacant. Therefore, it needs to be reused. In addition, the entire regeneration process takes into account funding and possible uncertainties, and in order to achieve better results, it will also adopt a strategy of phased planning and implementation.



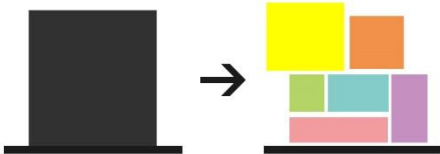
Phased development



Vacancy reuse

Principle 4: *Diversity*

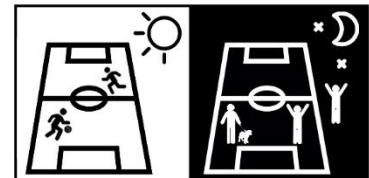
Although there are quite a large number of people in this area with different nationality and beliefs, the functions here and the use of some buildings and spaces are single. We must ensure that everyone here is considered on the basis of diversified use of space.



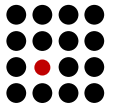
Diversified functions



Space for everyone



Diversified use of time

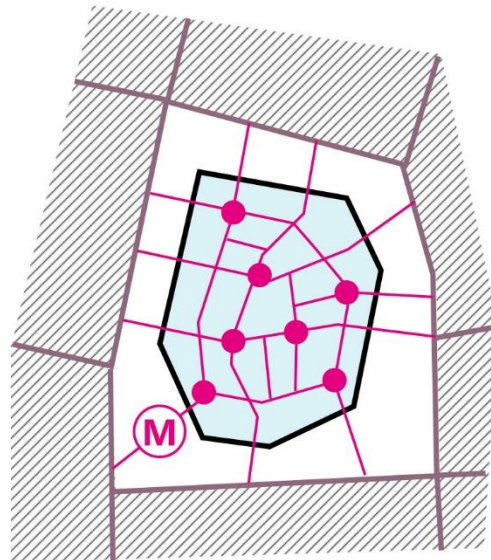


Principle 5: *Identity*

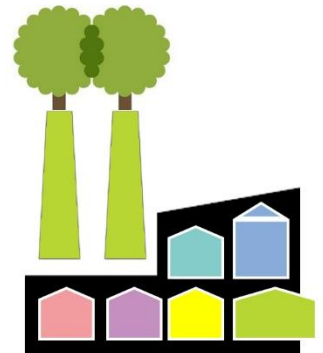
As the site analysis concludes, although there are many potential features here, they have not yet been used as a whole. Therefore, these characteristics need to be reused and strengthened.



Multi-culture



Unique good environment
for slow-traffic compared
with surroundings



Revival of memory of
the site

SUMMARY

At this point, the preparation for the design has been completed. These design principles will be reflected in the actual projects. It should be emphasized that these design principles are not fully consistent with this site and need to be tested by community regeneration implementations, and the results of the tests can be used for similar areas' regeneration of the city.

DESIGN CHAPTER

8.4 Regeneration Plan for *Baohanzhi Street Community*

The plan will start with the **infrastructure**, then enter the community to **partition**, and finally divide these points that need to be regenerated into different types of projects for **Phasing**.

STRATEGIES: Infrastructure Base Plan

According to the design principles, I first planned the infrastructure regeneration of the site, which is equivalent to the base of the entire regeneration design. This part is mainly to solve the problem of accessibility of the site and create a good internal and external connection as the basis for the latter design.(Fig.110)

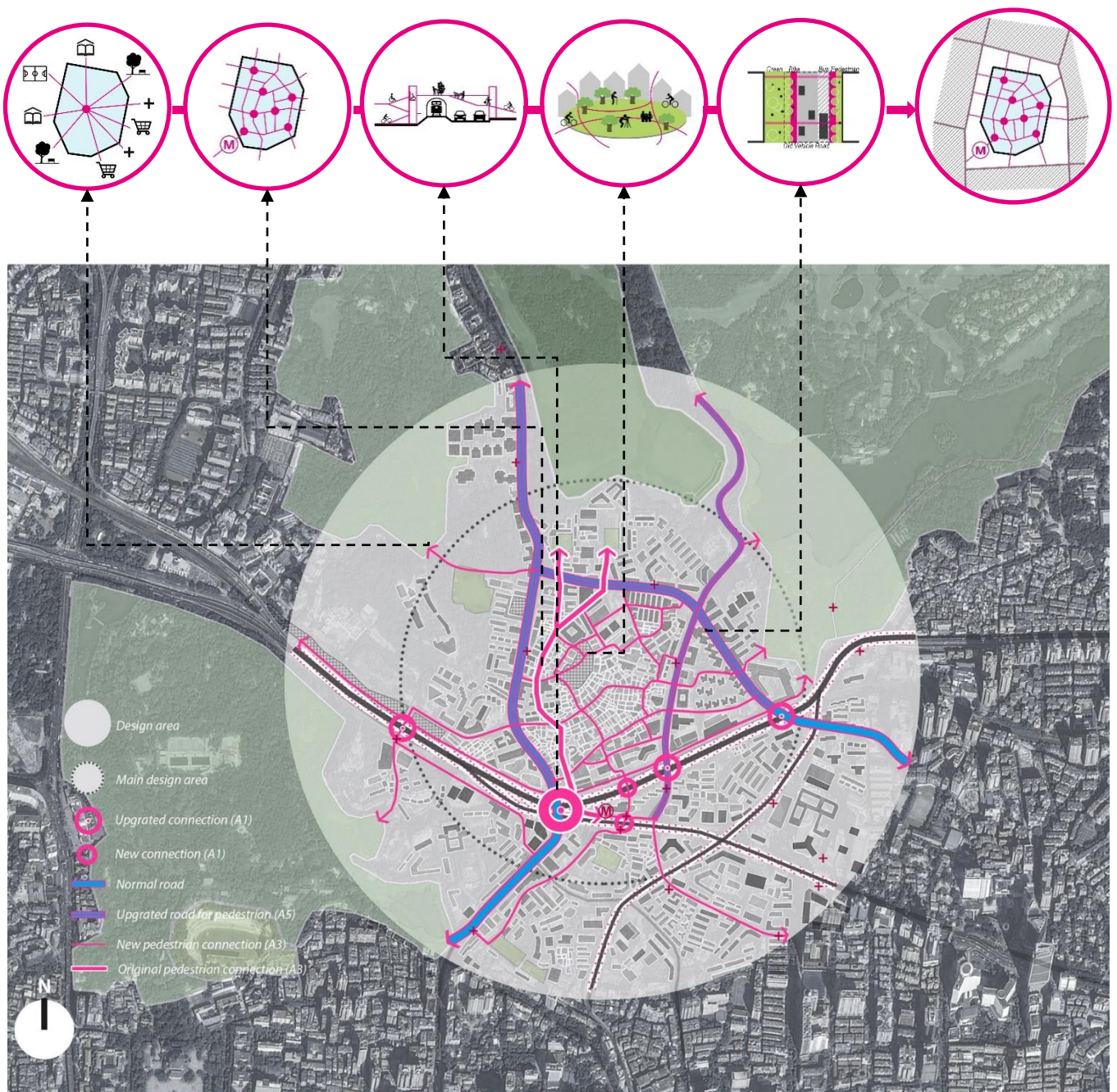
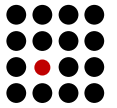


Figure 110 Infrastructures Base Plan. Own image



STRATEGIES: Project Zoning Plan

Due to the complexity of the site, unified traditional zoning planning cannot be performed. I divided the site into four types in the Project Zoning Plan (Fig.111):

- **Function Transform:** The function of these areas is no longer satisfied with current needs, so changes need to be made. Such as turning abandoned open space into new community park.
- **Function upgrade:** The capabilities of these areas have some potential, but some upgrades are required to meet some design principles. Such as school setting some new courses for Africans.
- **(Micro) Self-renewal:** These areas cannot be unified in regeneration plan due to the fact that property rights are dispersed among individual residents. They need to be encouraged to self-renew.
- **Remain area:** These areas are temporarily unable to receive regeneration requirements due to property rights issues (like new gated residential area). But they could be included in the future plan.

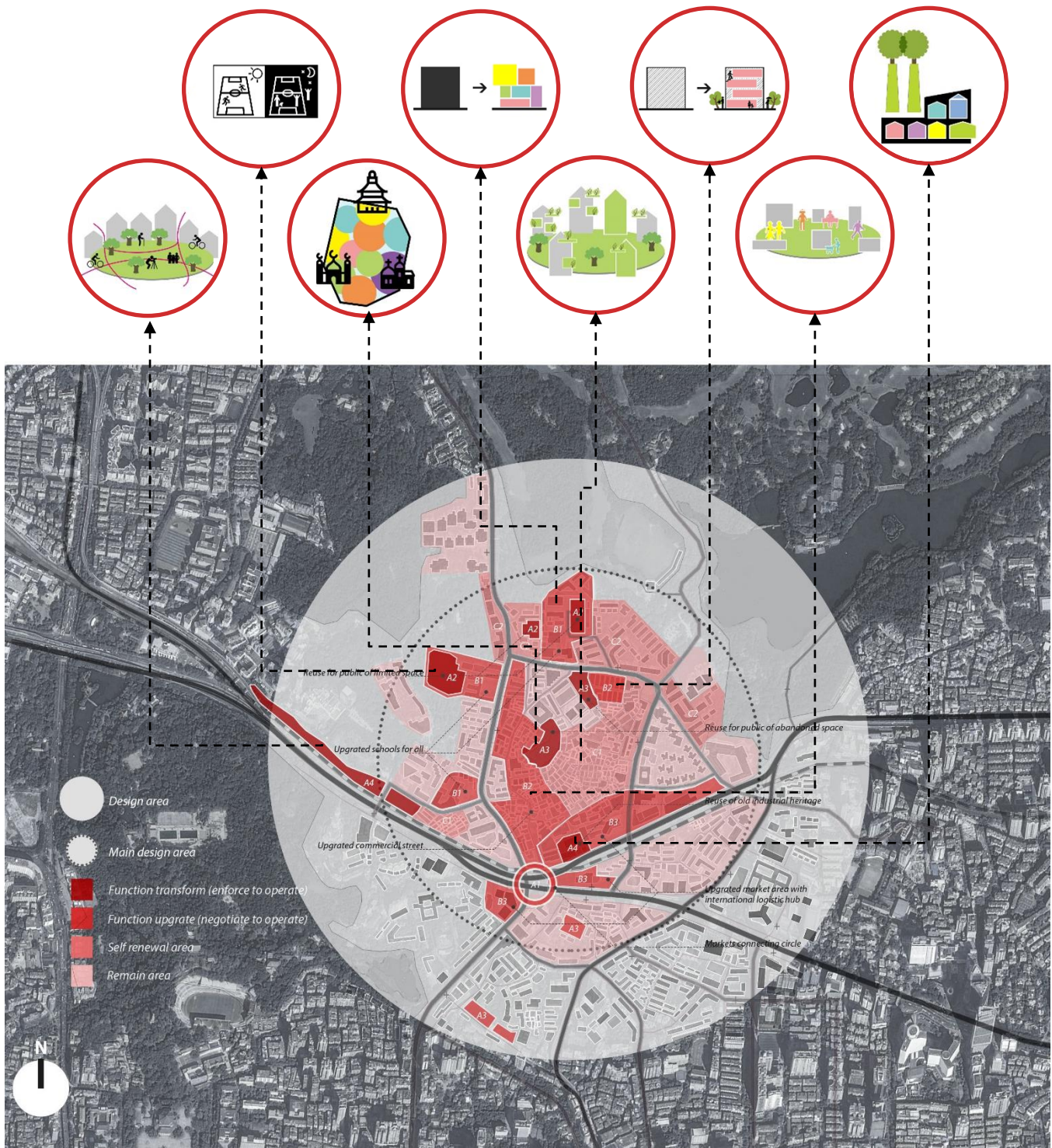


Figure 111 Projects Zoning Plan. Own image

DESIGN CHAPTER

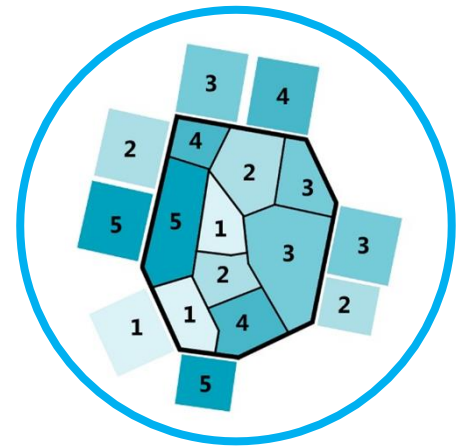
STRATEGIES: Phasing

Some specific transformation designs are mentioned in the first two strategies. They will be divided into three categories (ABC) as projects in different phases according to the different leading roles:

A is a series of public welfare projects that are fully government-led and funded. Mainly based on the transformation and reuse of roads and public spaces.

B is coordinated and implemented by the property owner on the basis of self-organization but still based on the unified planning from the government. It mainly includes the upgrade of some functions and the inclusive utilization of space.

C refers to the update that is completely implemented by the residents themselves, mainly the transformation of the house, which can obtain certain design and coordination support from the community.



The following timeline shows the implementation schedule and examples of these projects (Fig.112). It is worth noting that there are some cohesive relations between some projects, that is, the next project will be implemented after a project is successfully implemented.

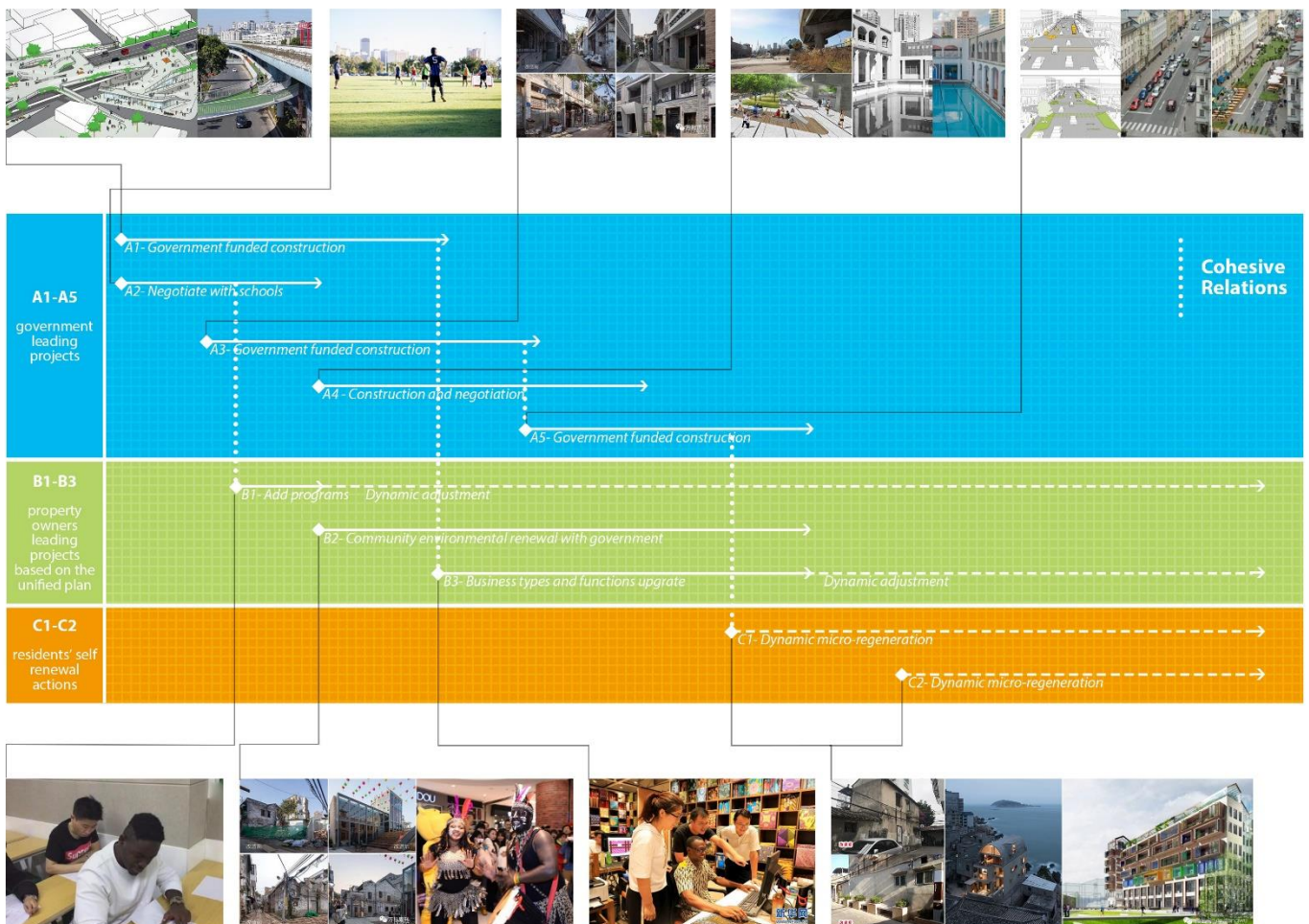
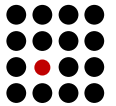


Figure 112 Projects timeline. Own image



Master Plan

The design principles have been implemented in the specific locations of the site through the integration of design strategies. Therefore, the Master Plan for community regeneration is now available. The Master Plan in the next page will show how the area looks after the regeneration is completed.

However, it is always difficult to express the details of the design and the effect after the implementation through a Master Plan, so I will select **7 specific projects from the plan according to their categories**. And through their results of implementation, they can **respond to the research objectives and questions and evaluate the effectiveness of this community regeneration**.

Reflection on BETTER LIVE

The starting point of these design principles is to improve the livability of the community, with some elements of public participation and social integration. I hope that after the community update is completed, it will be a place where African traders and local residents can work together.

MASTER PLAN

COMMUNITY REGENERATION
of BAOHANZHI STREET

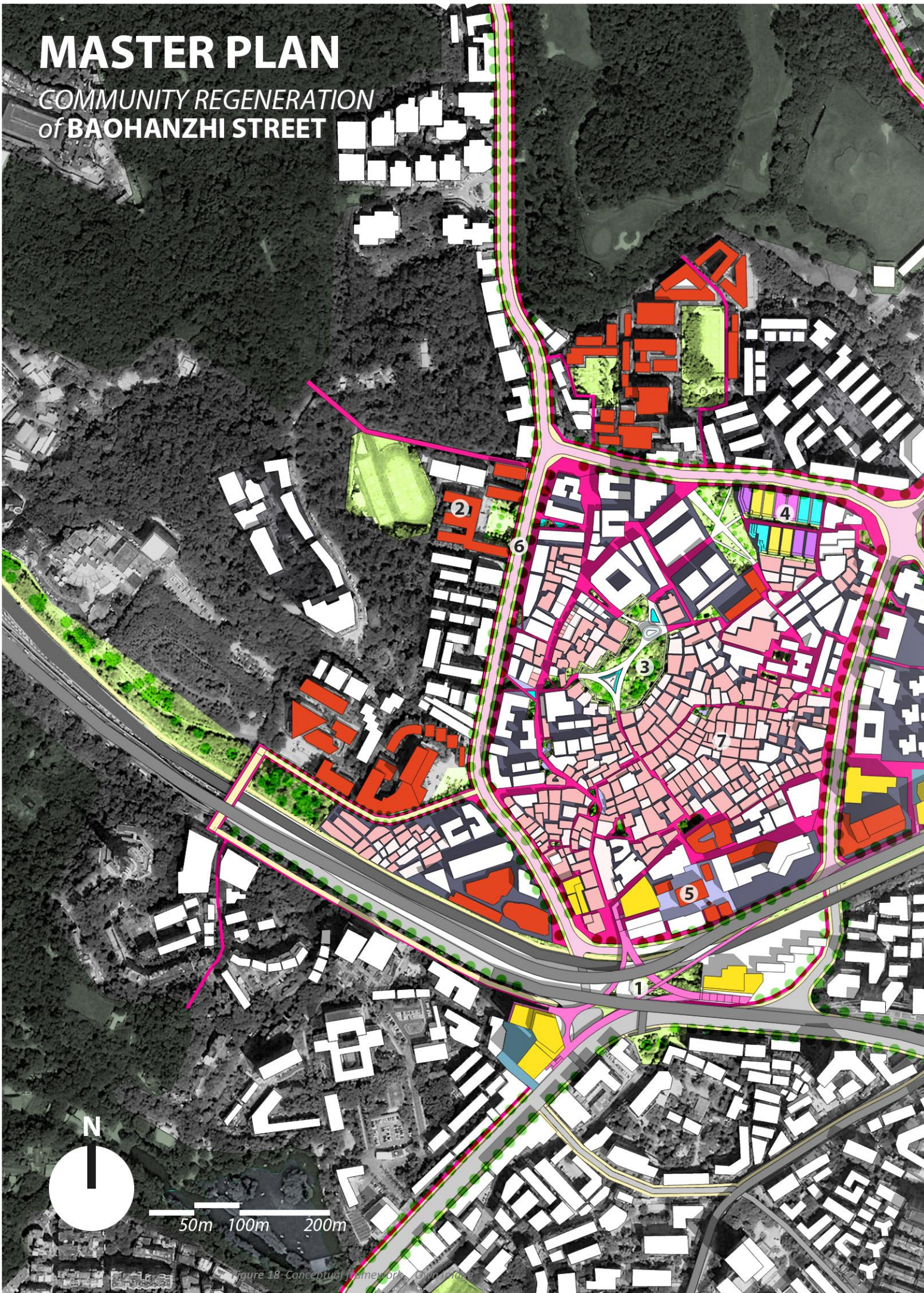
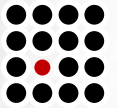


Figure 18 Conceptual framework © Omnidisc



REPRESENTATIVE PROJECTS IN THE PLAN

- 1 A1: New connecting system
- 2 A2+B1: School open-up plan
- 3 A3: New community open space
- 4 B2: Collective housing plan
- 5 A4: Old factory regeneration plan
- 6 A5: Community road regeneration
- 7 C1: Self-renewal village housing

-  Public green space
-  Current urban parks
-  Public buildings
-  Pedestrian network
-  New type of community road
-  Accessible corridor (bike lane)
-  Square space
-  Logistic hubs
-  Urban village housing
-  Professional markets

DESIGN CHAPTER

8.5 Regeneration Projects

Project 1: New Connecting System

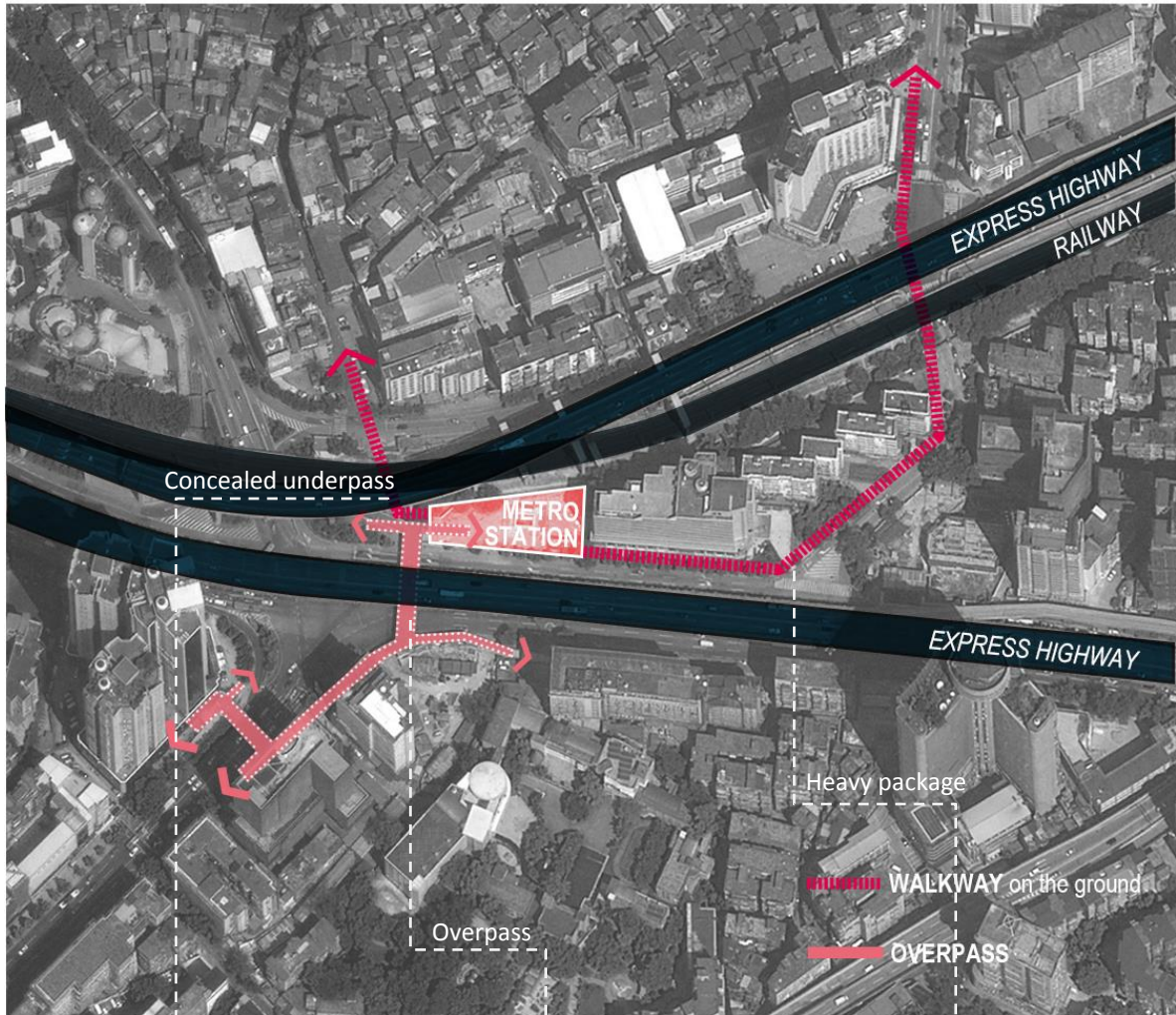


Figure 113 Current transport condition of the entrance. Own image

The original contact between Bao Hanzhi Street and Xiaobei Road relied solely on two walking paths and one overpass. They span two main urban roads, two urban express highways and a railway, and carry a large number of people from the Metro station and three adjacent professional markets. Therefore, the pedestrian transportation here is extremely inconvenient and crowded (Fig.113). In order to ease the flow of people here and create a comfortable and convenient walking environment, the regeneration will follow these steps:

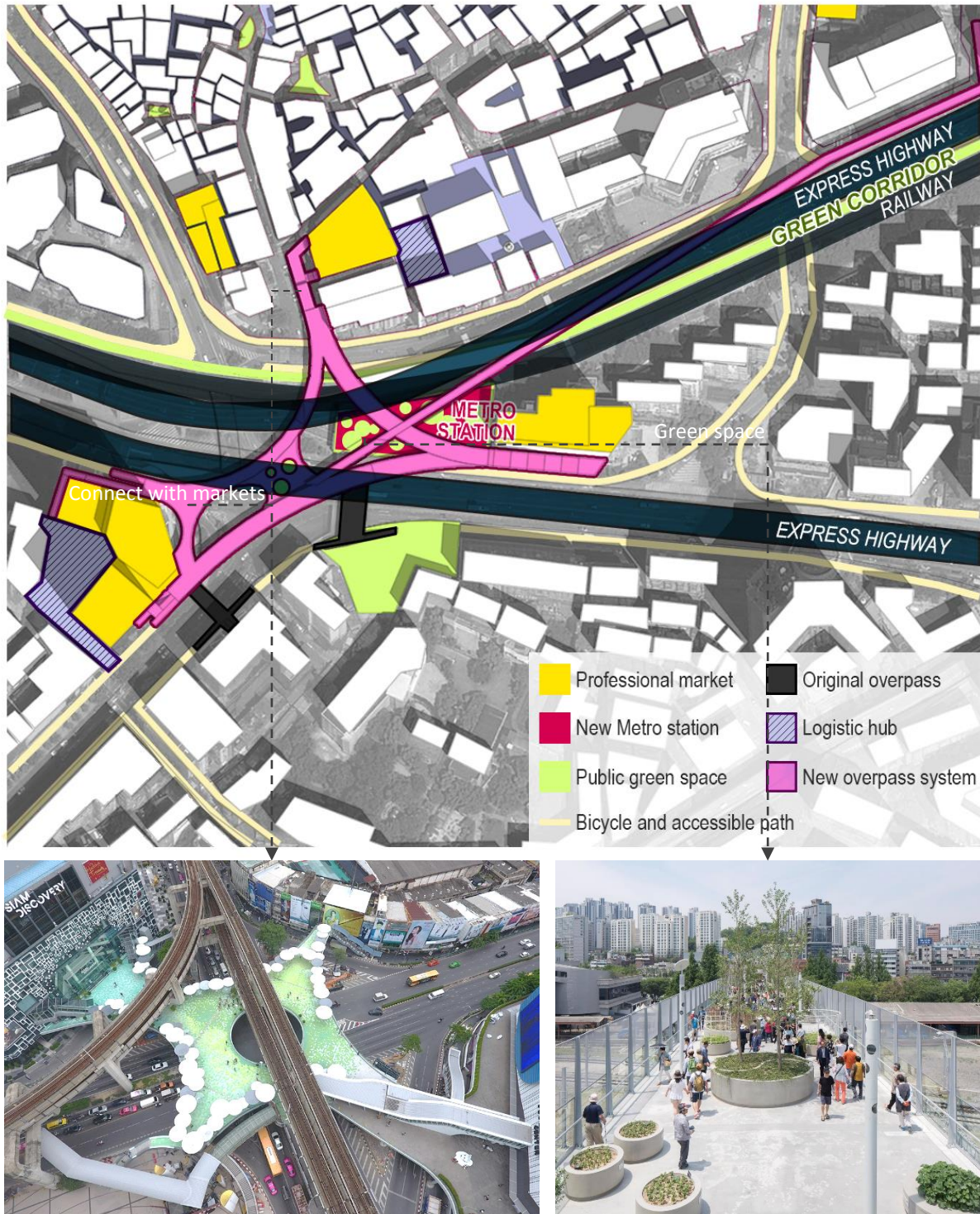
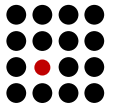
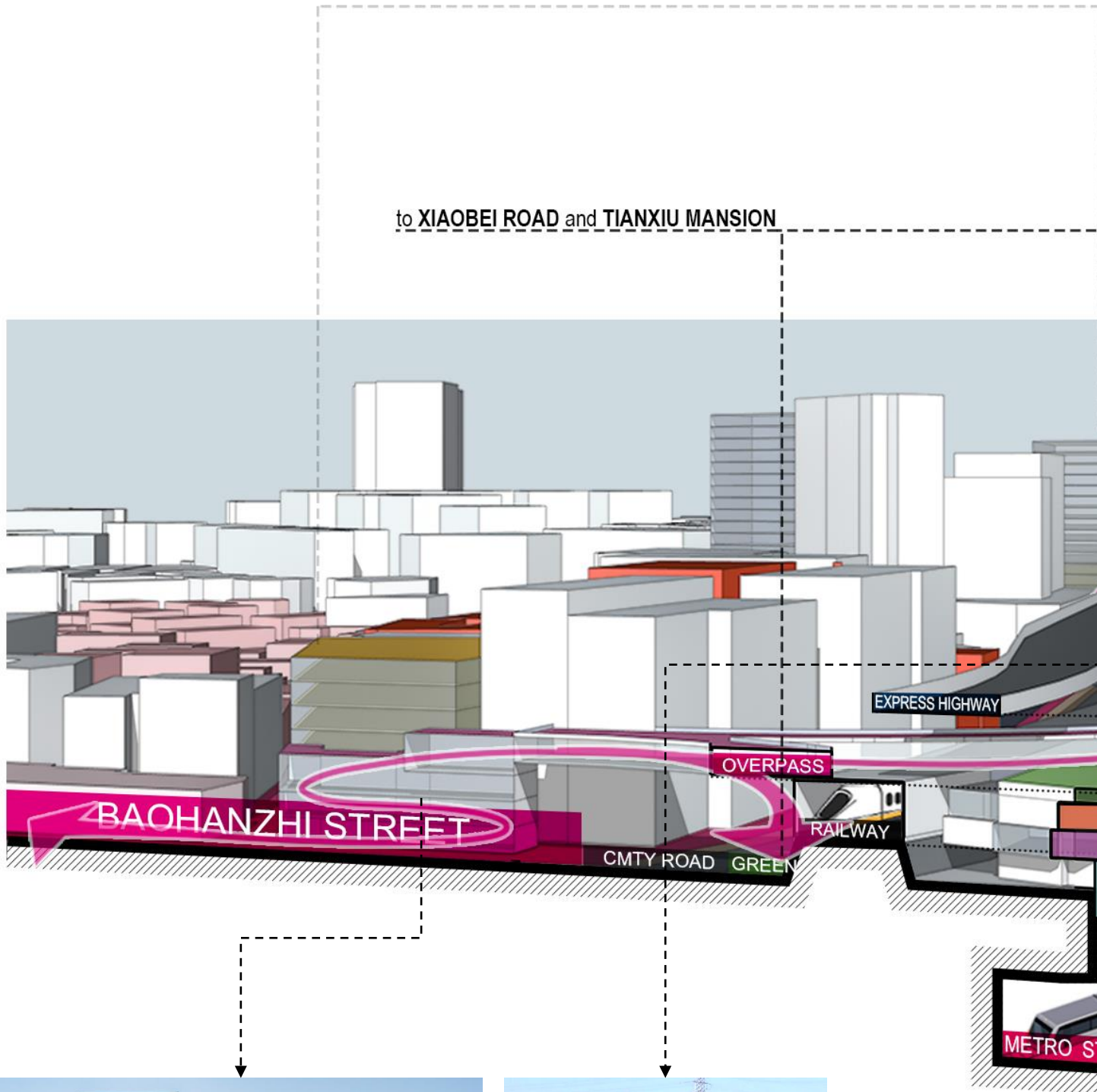


Figure 114 New connecting system. Own image

1. Add several connections on the basis of the original overpass, connect several plots and several professional markets with the subway station as the core.
2. Convenient barrier-free access connection directly between the market and the logistics center can make traders feel good to use all the markets in this area.
3. Adding a multi-functional building on the top of the Metro station to directly integrate the station with the overpass and pedestrian network.
4. Create some recreational and green space around the pedestrian network using roofs and other places.

DESIGN CHAPTER

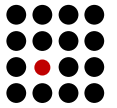


Accessible connection with Overpass



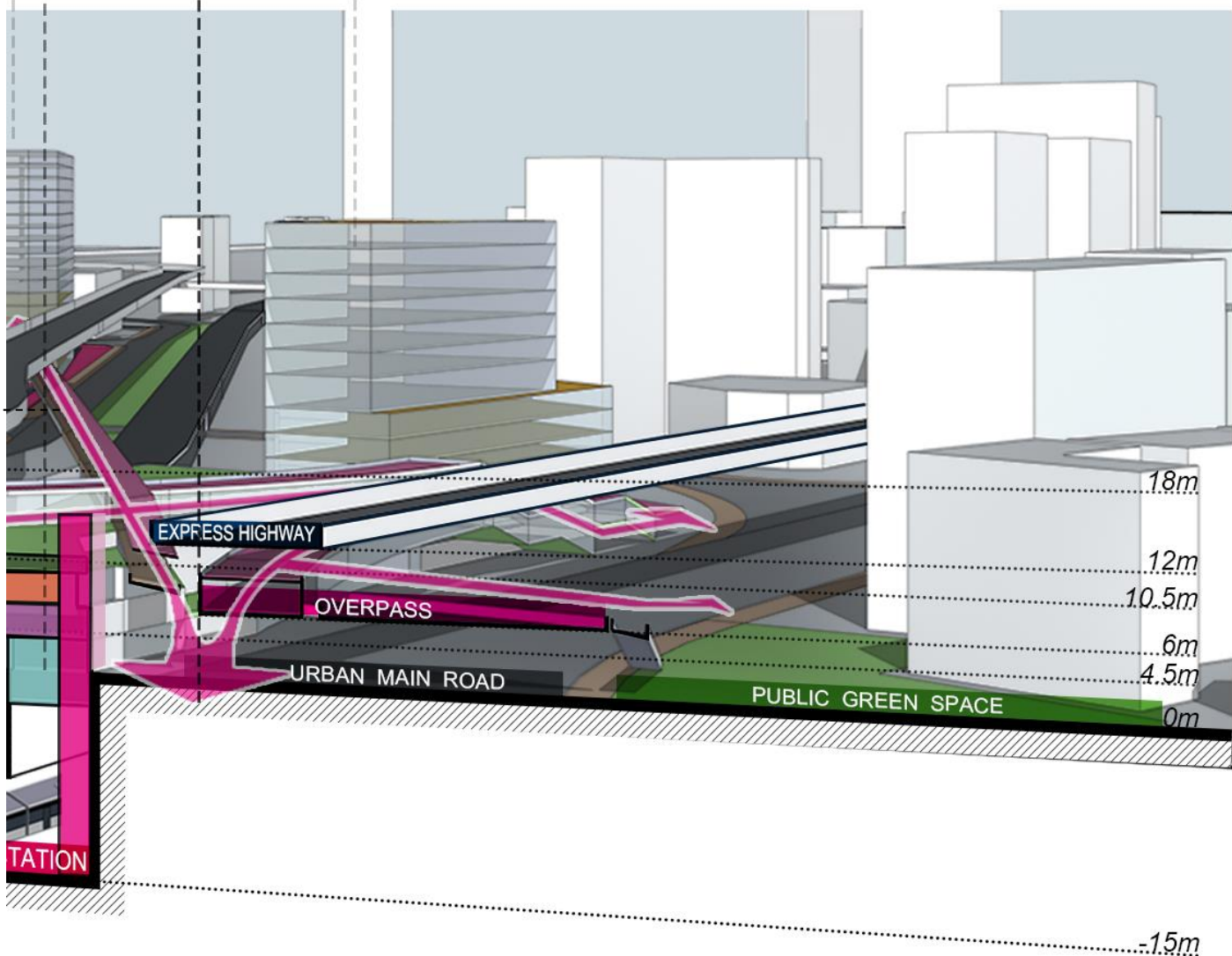
Over-ground Bike Lane

Figure 114 New connecting system. Own image



PROFESSIONAL MARKETS

Multi-functional METRO Commercial Building

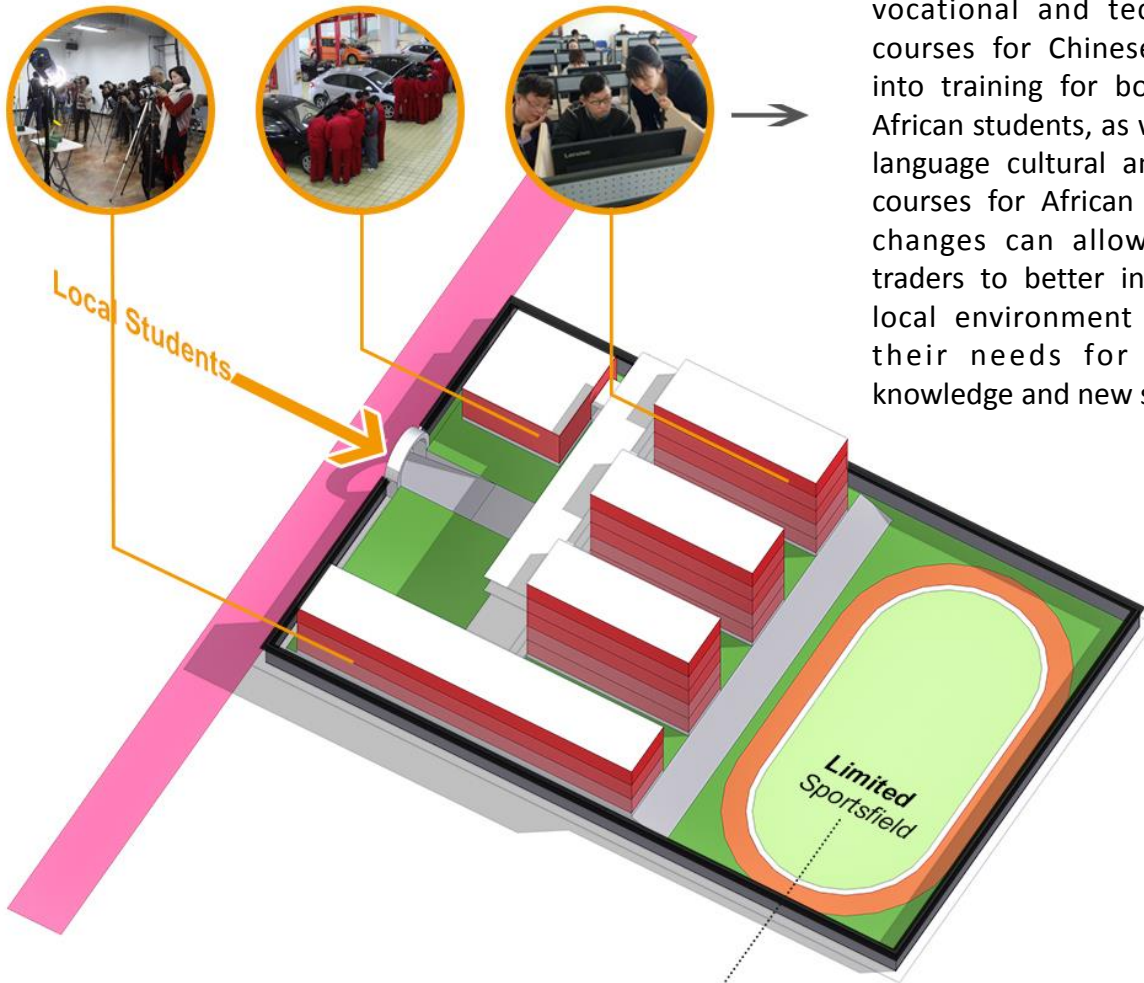


Results of the Project:

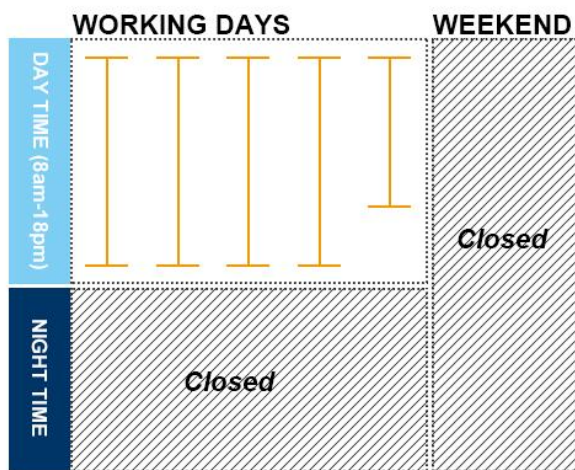
This project is mainly to solve the problem of the isolation of the area from the surrounding urban environment and to connect several separate professional markets more conveniently. While establishing a reasonable space connection, the requirements for barrier-free access are also considered. On the one hand, it promotes the arrival of urban residents to here, on the other hand, it enables African traders who are mainly self-employed to work comfortably and conveniently here with their heavy packages.

DESIGN CHAPTER

Project 2: Schools Open-up Plan



Encourage schools to transform vocational and technical training courses for Chinese students only into training for both Chinese and African students, as well as add some language cultural and general skills courses for African students. These changes can allow these African traders to better integrate into the local environment and also meet their needs for learning new knowledge and new skills.



According to previous analysis, the school's sportsfield is a public space with great potential in this area. However, the current opening of the school sportsfield is only for school students, and there is a lot of time for vacancy. Therefore, on the basis of considering the management and safety of the campus, the school will be persuaded to open the sportsfield to the public at the time of no student and teaching. Arrange some open hours for reservation and paid use, which will result in a portion of the income as new entrance and exit and general maintenance costs for the sportsfield.



Space for
ONE
to
ALL

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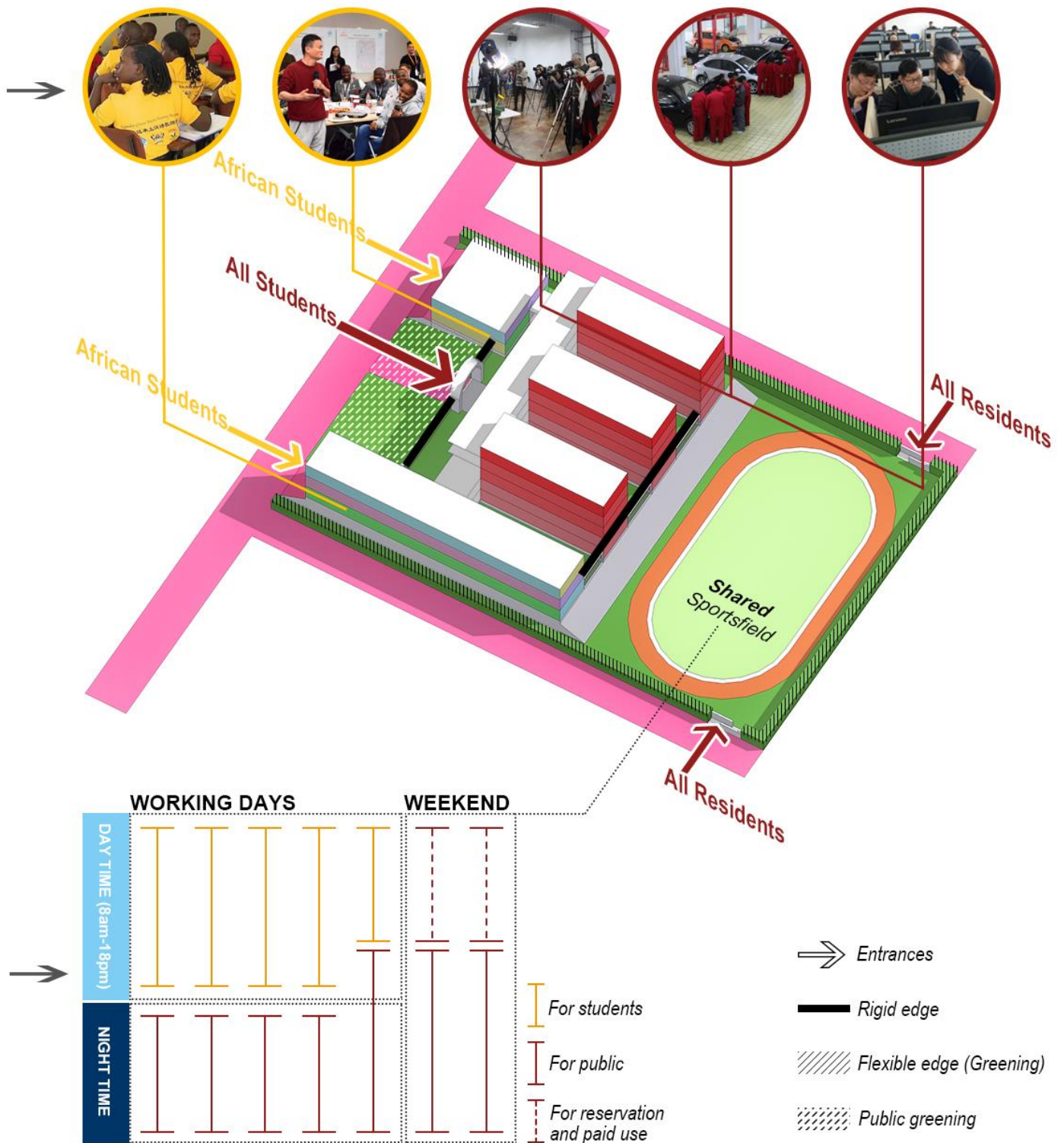
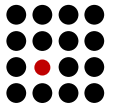


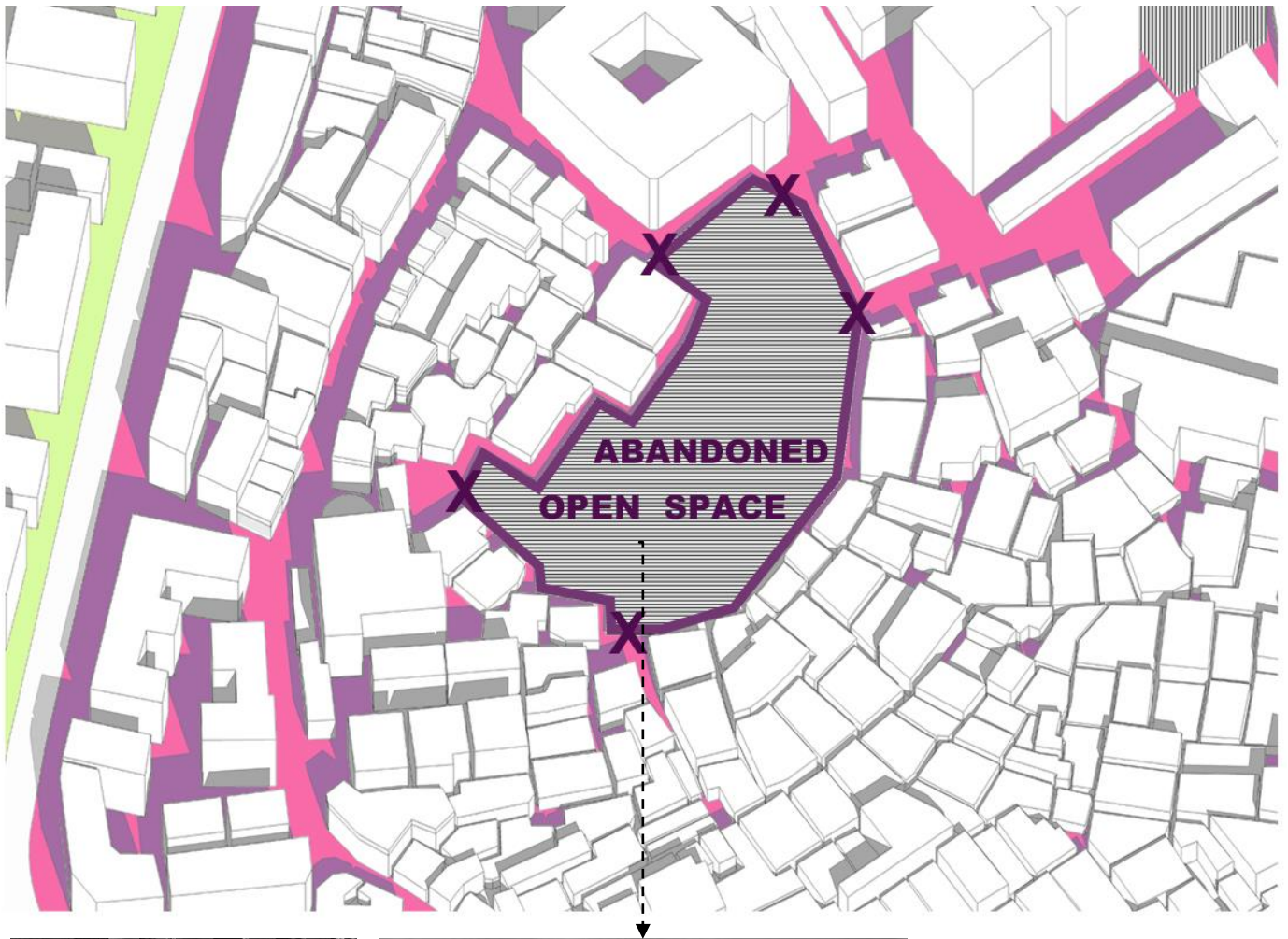
Figure 115 Schools Open-up Plan. Own image

Results of the Project:

Through the adjustment of the school curriculum and the upgrading of school space management, this project will enable Africans and ordinary residents to have the opportunity to receive vocational training and enjoy community leisure time and space. The study of skills allows them to achieve broader development in China and the opening of public spaces allows them to enjoy the welfare of the citizens, which can promote their integration with the local society.

DESIGN CHAPTER

Project 3: New Community Open Space



Domestic garbage



Construction waste



Polluted water

This land is the largest open space in the community, but it has been abandoned for a long time and becomes a scar. The surrounding roads are blocked here. When reusing this land, we must consider the convenient connection of the surrounding walkways. At the same time, use the open space here to create a vibrant community leisure place for the residents to use together, and plan to hold different types of public events in the future. (Fig.116)

Results of the Project:

The form of this project is actually common with similar urban village renewals. It mainly aims to bring high-quality public life to residents through the upgrading of existing space. But what is different in this project is that it uses the fundraising and construction of public buildings to promote the participation of residents, so that the project can also bring a sense of belonging to the community residents including the Africans.

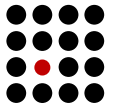
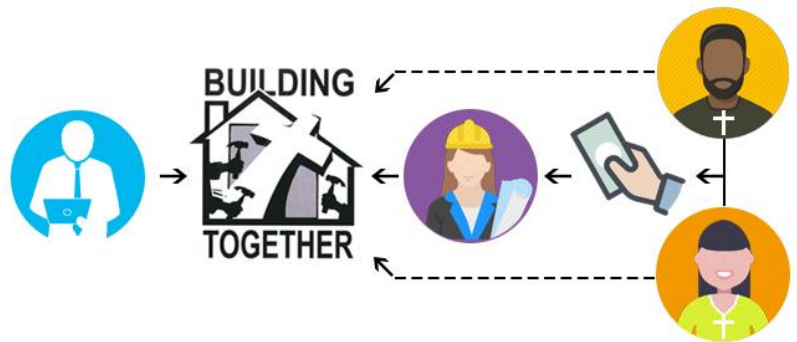


Figure 116 New Community Open Space design. Own image

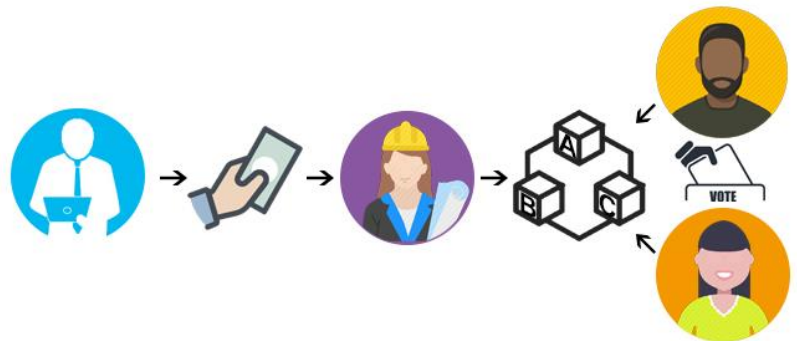
The Religious Building

This building is designed to address the religious activities of Africans in the community. During the regeneration process, the government will approve the construction of a religious building in this site. Local believers will voluntarily organize fundraising for the design and construction of the building, and later fundraisers will arrange the management.



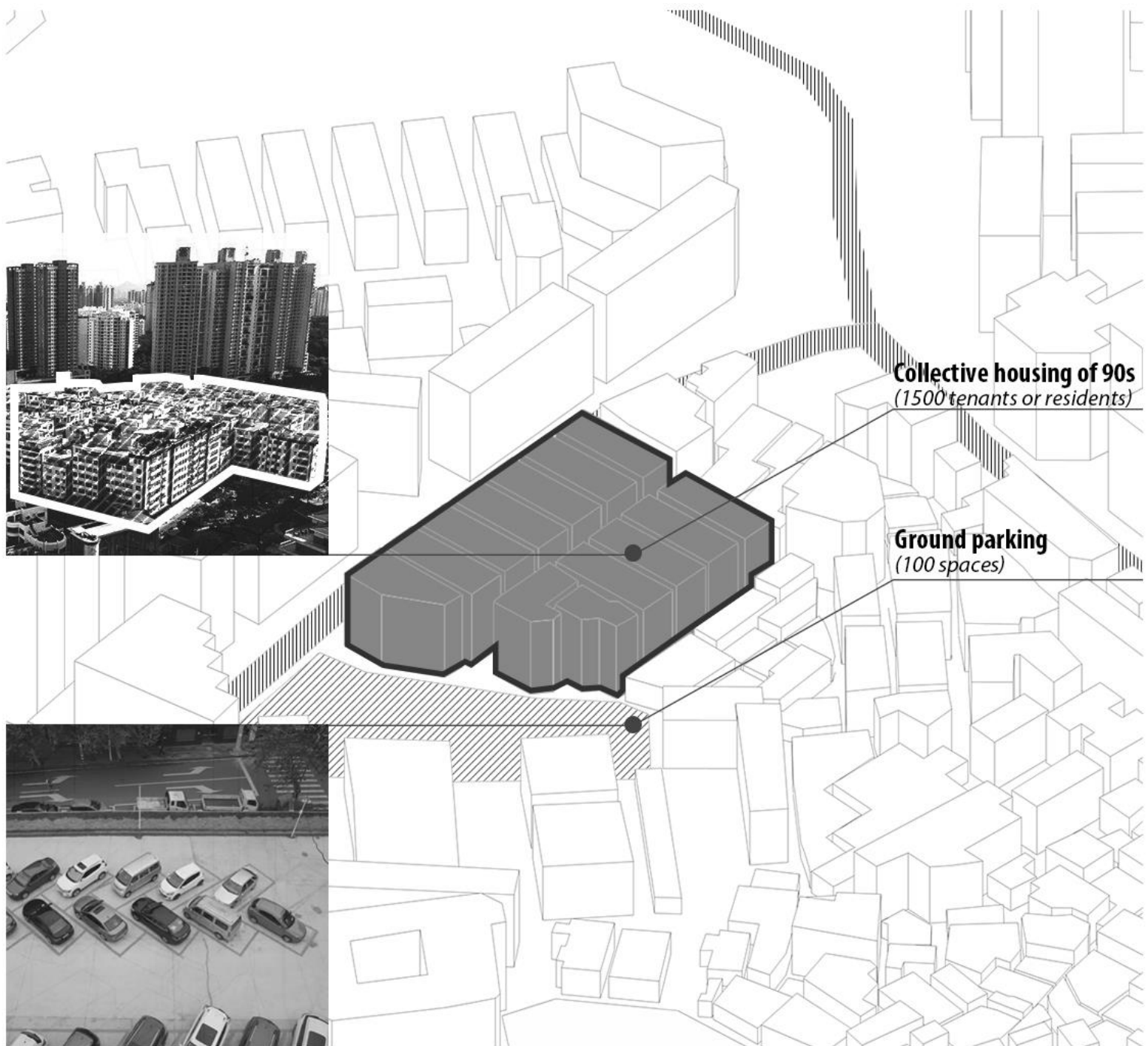
Multi-functional Viewing Building

This one will be invested and built by the government. In the early stage, the government organized the design of the design plan, and the community residents participated in the voting decision on the plan. Later, it was managed and operated by the community.

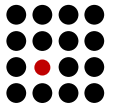


DESIGN CHAPTER

Project 4: Collective Housing Plan



In this community, in addition to the self-built houses of the villagers, there are also some collective housing built in the 1980s and 1990s. Due to the lack of unified property management, the living environment here is worsened, which also leads to high vacancy rates. Considering that its property rights are relatively concentrated, it is possible to carry out an overall transformation. The strategy and form of this project referenced a nearby youth apartment project in Shenzhen. It also upgraded such a collective building in a urban village to a mixed-use, user-oriented gathering residential space for low-income people to have long-rent or short-rent. (Fig.117)



COMPLETED CASE

SHENZHEN Shuiwei Lingmeng Youth Apartment

A youth sharing community of "life + living + leisure + gathering talents + entrepreneurship"

Source: DOFFICE, 2017

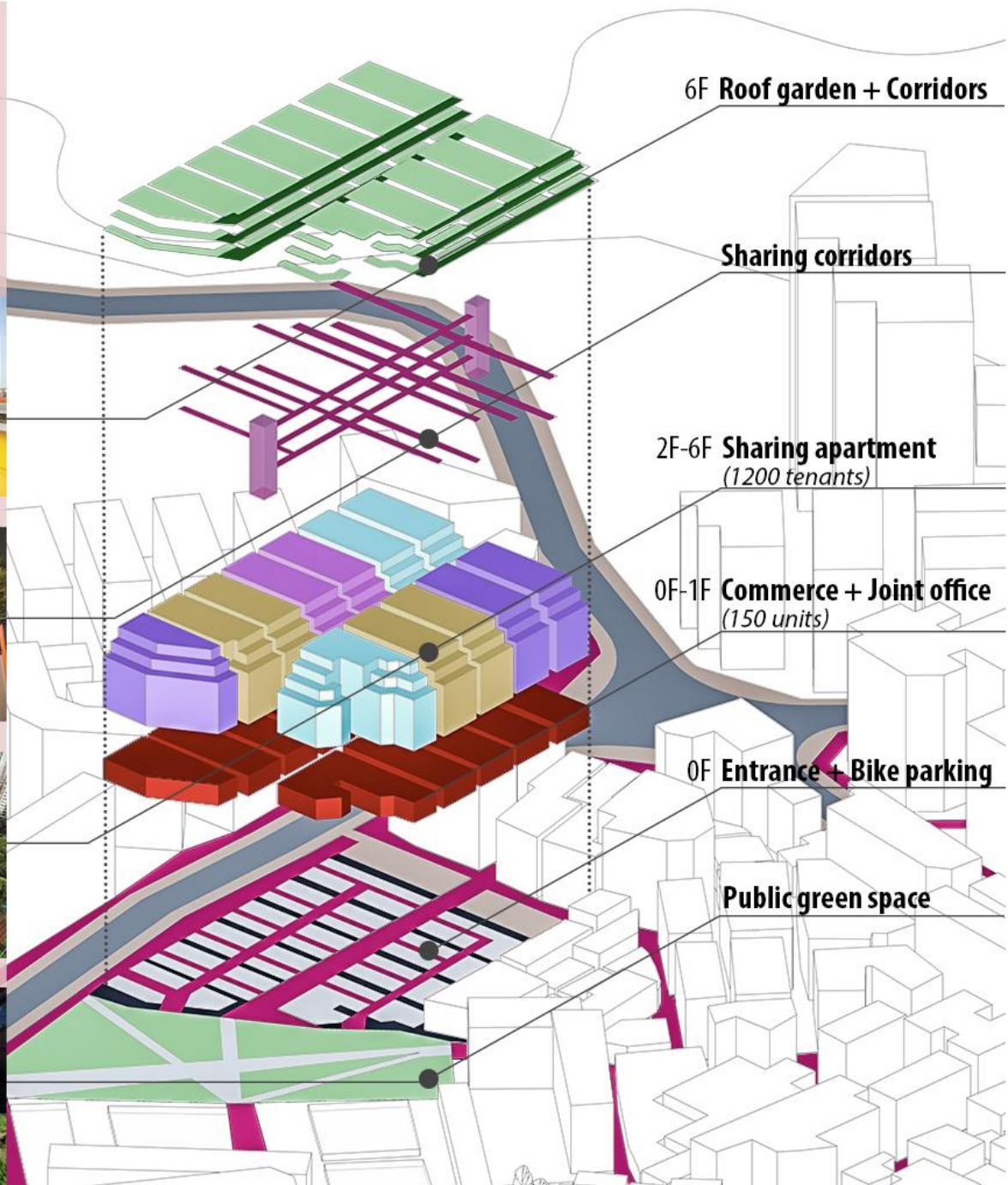


Figure 117. New Collective Housing plan. Own image

Results of the Project:

This project mainly reflects the reuse of vacant space. It can gradually increase the living environment of residents or potential tenants. At present, African traders often only rent hostels or residential buildings in bad living environment and there is still the risk of being deceived. The entry of a unified short-term or long-term rental apartment will give them more reliable choices to achieve Better Live.

DESIGN CHAPTER

Project 5: Old Factory Regeneration Plan

Collective Housing for
Youth and Traders



Community Landmark

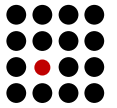


Public Plaza



Figure 118. Old factory regeneration Own image

Due to the long development time of this area, there are some early development heritages, such as abandoned factories. Obviously, it is no longer suitable for industrial producing appearing here, but these old factories and chimney are the collective memory of the site and have great cultural and historical value. Therefore, it is hoped that these resources will be protected and reused. The process of reusing needs to meet the design objectives and principles. (Fig.118)



Joint Office Space



Cultural Exhibition Space



Results of the Project:

Based on the principle of improving publicity, livability and the efficiency of space utilization, it will use open space to create a public plaza and use the original factory building to create collective housing, office space and exhibition selling space to meet the needs of African businessmen and local residents for public life, living and office. It can alleviate the lack of space in these areas and enhances the quality of space.

DESIGN CHAPTER

Project 6: Community Road Regeneration

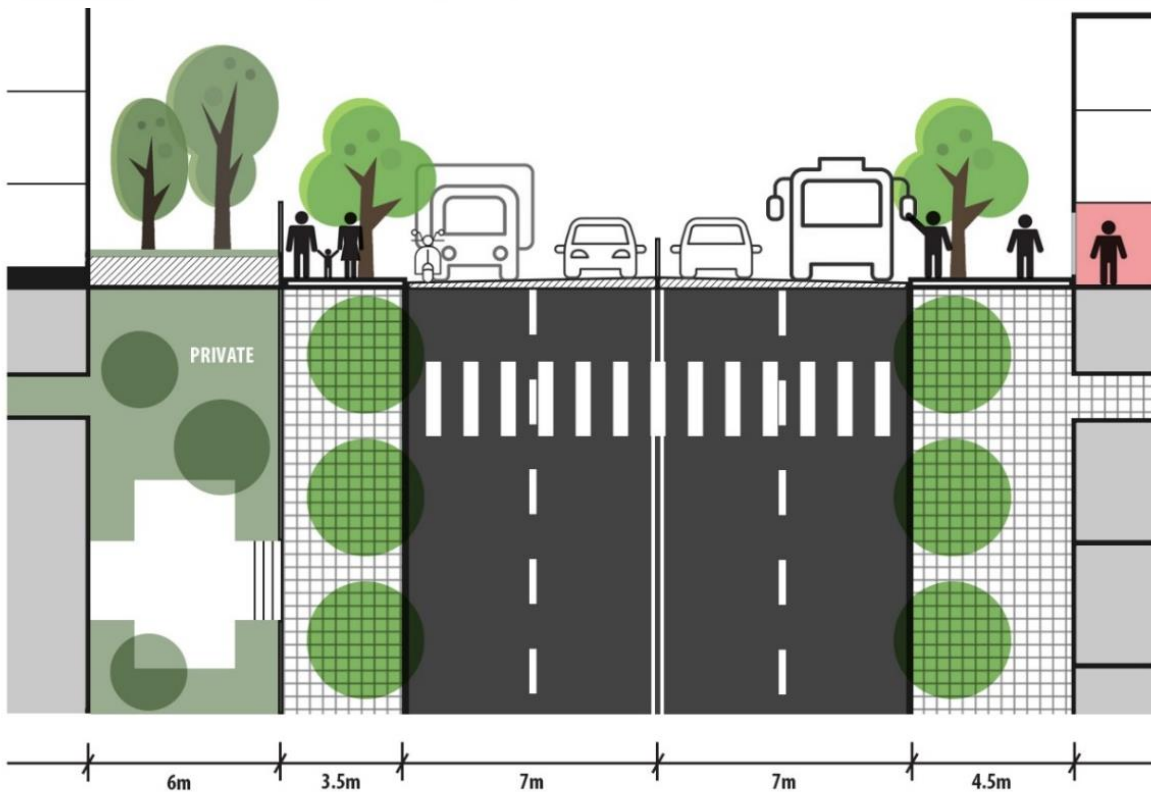
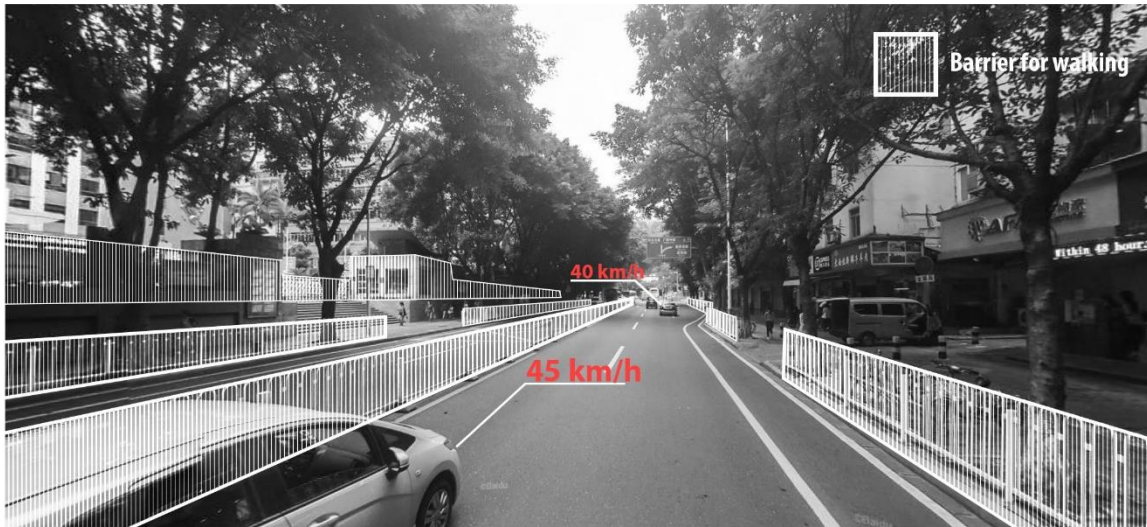


Figure 119 Current community road. Own image

From Current Roads

According to the fieldwork, the current urban road around the community is a four-lane motor vehicle-only road. And in order to ensure safety, a fence is placed in the middle of the road to make walking across the road more inconvenient. There are some good public space resources around the walkways, which are still in a semi-closed state, and pedestrians can't use them very well.(Fig.119)

To New Community Roads

Due to the scarcity of parking space on the site and the need to build a pedestrian friendly community, it will transform these urban roads around the community into new type of roads as the community is renewed to a certain stage. In the section, the four lanes are mainly changed to two lanes for private cars plus one bus lane that enter into the community. A special bicycle lane is added. The walkway is connected to the public space available in the surrounding area, and some stairways are added to activate the second floor of the commercial space. It will also add some the necessary deceleration facilities on the road.(Fig.120)

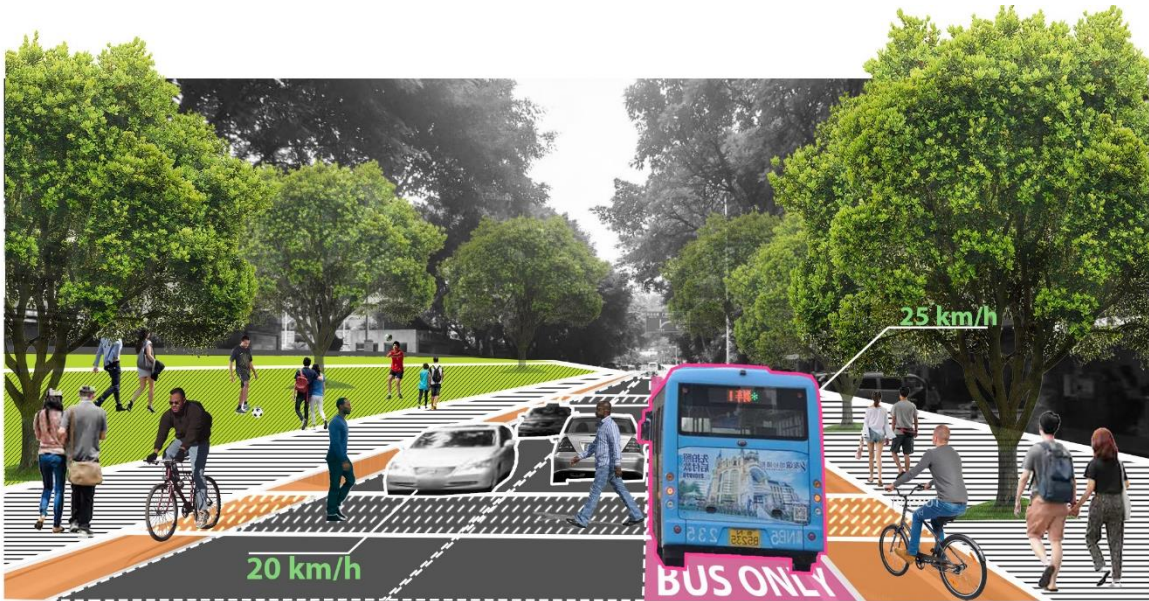


Figure 120 New community road. Own image

Results of the Project:

The transformation of community roads has improved the safety of the community's walking environment. At the same time, it has also increased the use of pedestrians and the surrounding public spaces. From another perspective, it has increased the public space of the community and improved the livability of the community.

DESIGN CHAPTER

Project 7: Self-renewal Village Housing



Self-renewal Housing

Residents spontaneously renew their homes with the assistance of community planners and architects, and the community will provide certain design funding subsidies. Designers bring here the concepts of ecology, green and sharing.



Co-create Garden

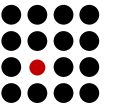
Residents, community and planners use the corner space of the village to create some small leisure venues. The community beautification work does not require the employment of a professional construction team, but is done by the residents. While cultivating the residents' sense of ownership, it is conducive to the maintenance of the environment.

Results of the Project:

Encouraging and supporting residents to improve the quality of their homes and some negative spaces can increase the livability of the community as a whole.



Figure 121 Vision of self-renewal housing in the community. Own image



DESIGN CHAPTER

8.6 A Toolkit for the City

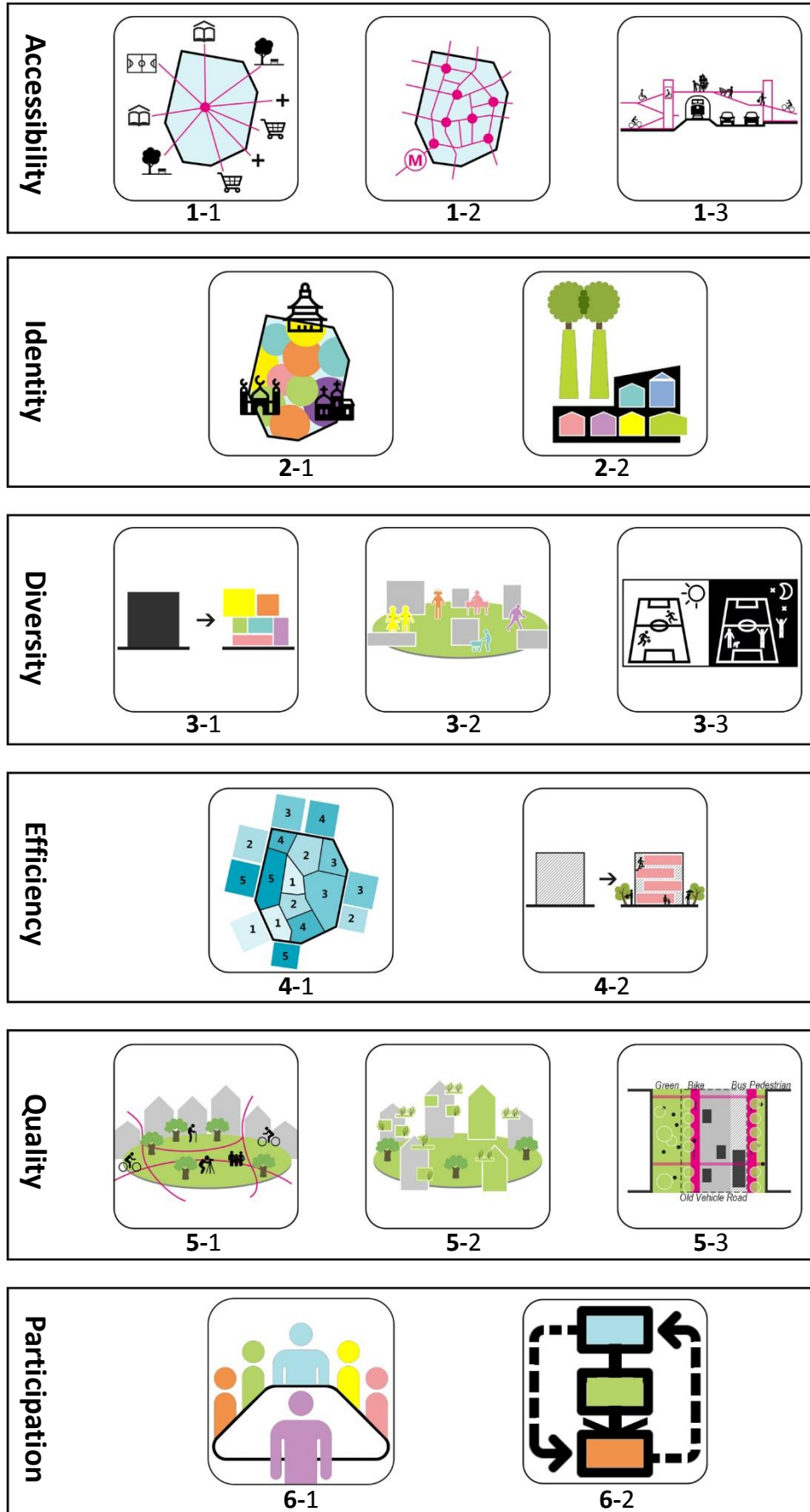
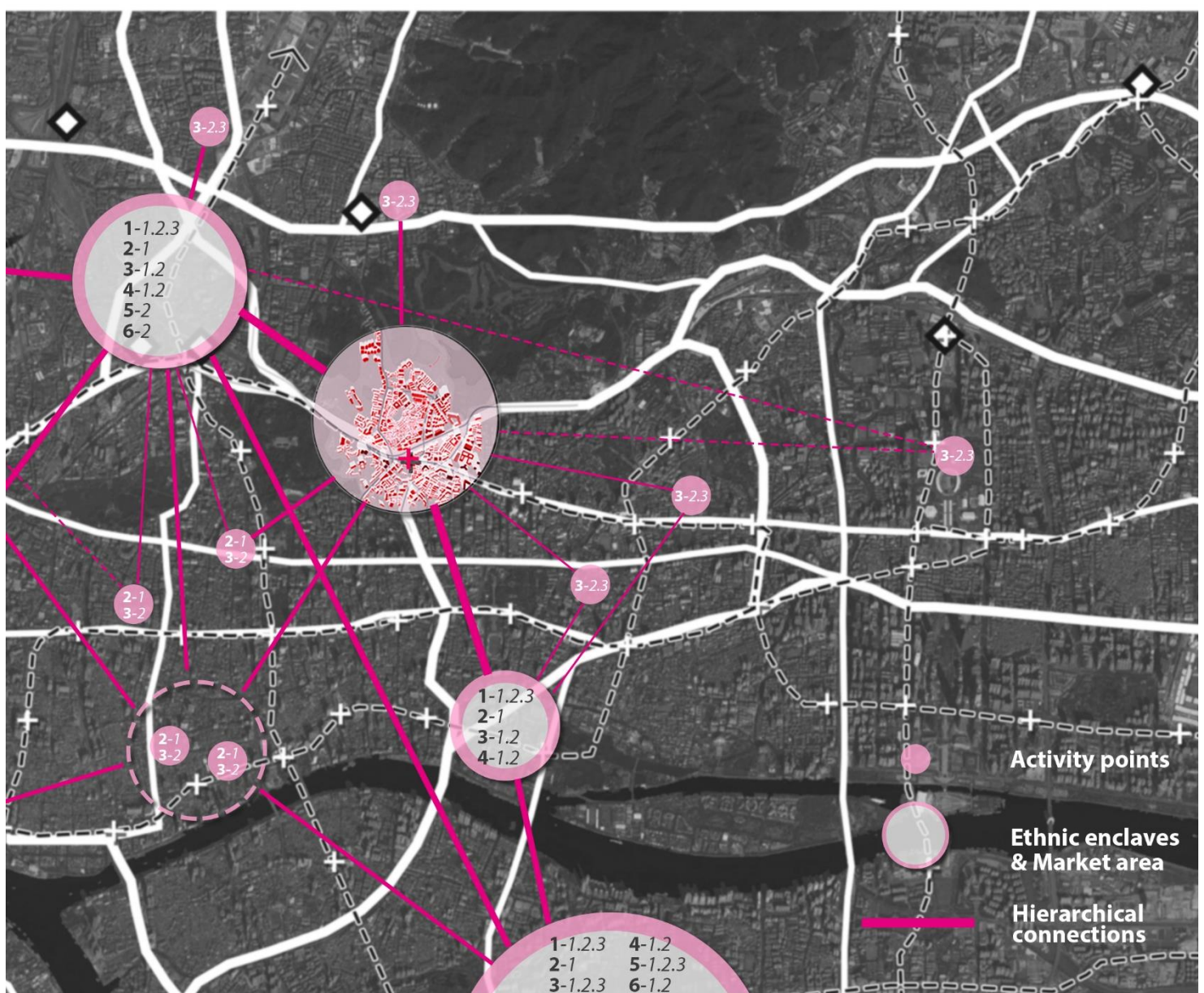
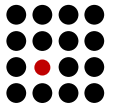


Figure 122 The Toolkit. Own image



Figure 123 Urban spatial strategy for African traders in Guangzhou. Own image



According to the process design and spatial design of the previous community regeneration, a series of institutional and design tools and principles were summarized. In reality they will be tested by practice to determine if they can be included in the Toolkit based on the evaluation of the final results (Fig.122). At the same time, the Toolkit will also guide the scenarios in which these tools are applicable.

The goal of applying the Toolkit is to transform the entire city of Guangzhou into a city that is friendly to African traders. Therefore, according to the map of African activities obtained in the previous survey, the urban environment was upgraded for these ethnic enclaves, China-Africa markets areas and activity points. At the same time, it will strengthen contact with each other to facilitate their different activities in the city (Fig.123). Ultimately they are able to enjoy the public resources and social life here.

Reflection on BETTER STAY

An urban development strategy that fully considers the living habits and cultural background of Africans can make the city more friendly to this group. I believe this result can protect the living space of African traders in Guangzhou, attract more Africans to work and study here and promote the relationship between the two places and the development of globalization.

9. CONCLUSION

According to the research framework (Fig.124) , I did research on the phenomenon of the African ethnic enclave in Guangzhou and gave corresponding solutions from the perspective of urban design and spatial governance. I hope that these can inspire other Chinese cities that encounter similar phenomena in the process of urbanization.. To conclude the graduation project, I will elaborate from two aspects.

1. Conclusion of the Research

First of all, this phenomenon does exist in some Chinese cities, of which Guangzhou is the most obvious. However, their scale and liquidity are fluctuate with factors such as globalization and industrial transfer. From now on, the number of African traders in Guangzhou is in a downward trend. Secondly, their settlement in Chinese cities has caused certain social segregation problems. Because of cultural differences and some inherent misunderstandings, they have been struggling

on the edge of urban life and accumulated some unnecessary contradictions with locals. Both their physical and institutional environment inhabited are rather poor. Although some scholars have paid attention to these issues, this group of people have not received attention from the governance level. So these require further research and ways to resolve conflicts and problems.

In addition, the research and practice of the integration of foreign ethnic groups and local social space are mostly from other countries. In China, we only have some research and practice on the renewal of similar urban villages and public participation for local residents. So there is an obvious gap here.

It is undeniable that this is a very new topic that needs us to pay attention to. However, during the research process, it also shows that there are many breakthroughs and potentials to solve this problem. After years of development, these enclaves have formed

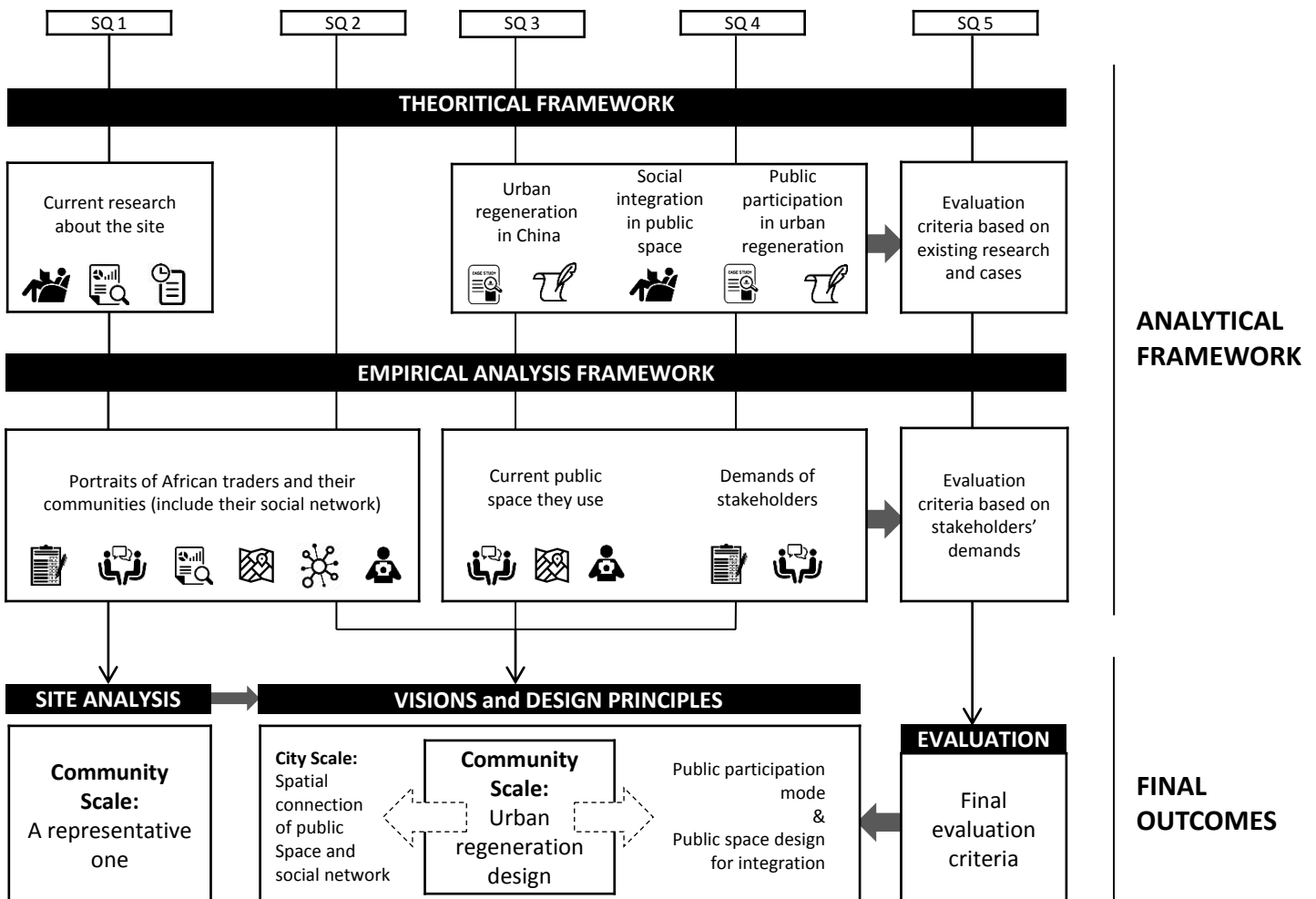
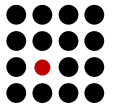


Figure 124 Part of the Research Framework. Own image



a certain order, have a certain living atmosphere, and the business types are rich. At the same time, the community also put forward some ideas and made some attempts to promote integration between them and local social space. Therefore, for researchers, following these rules and existing experience can continue to improve these study and practice.

2. Conclusion of the Design

The starting point of the design is to respond to the questions and conclusions from the research. Therefore, for the African ethnic enclave in Guangzhou, I explored ways to improve the status quo from the regeneration spatial design and process.

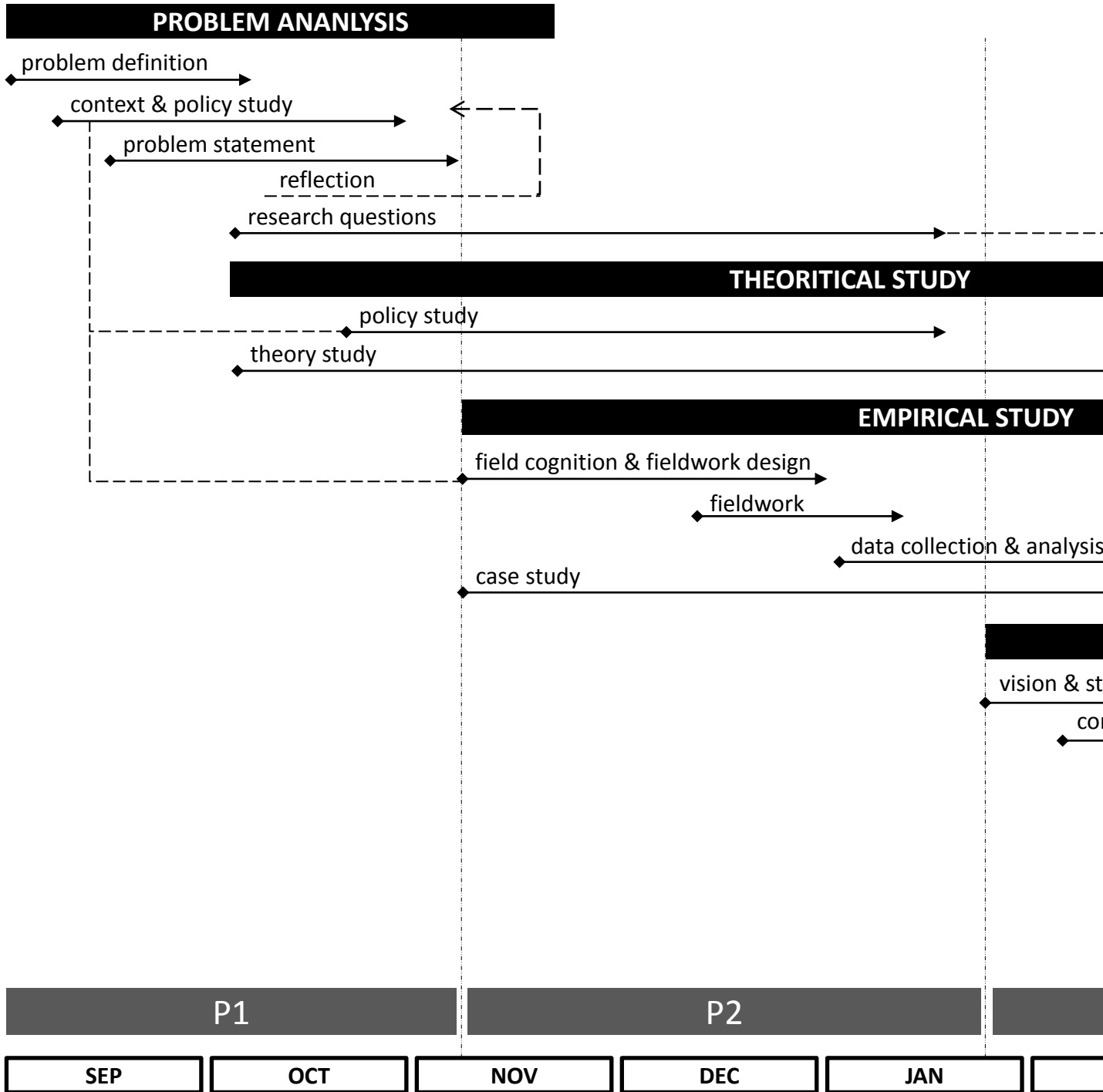
Since I proposed the three progressive objectives of Better Stay, Better Live and Better Participate, I originally wanted to start from the city scale, first propose the most basic spatial strategy to protect this group. Then I can go deep into the community regeneration design for the improvement of their living environment and finally explore how they can better participate in local social life.

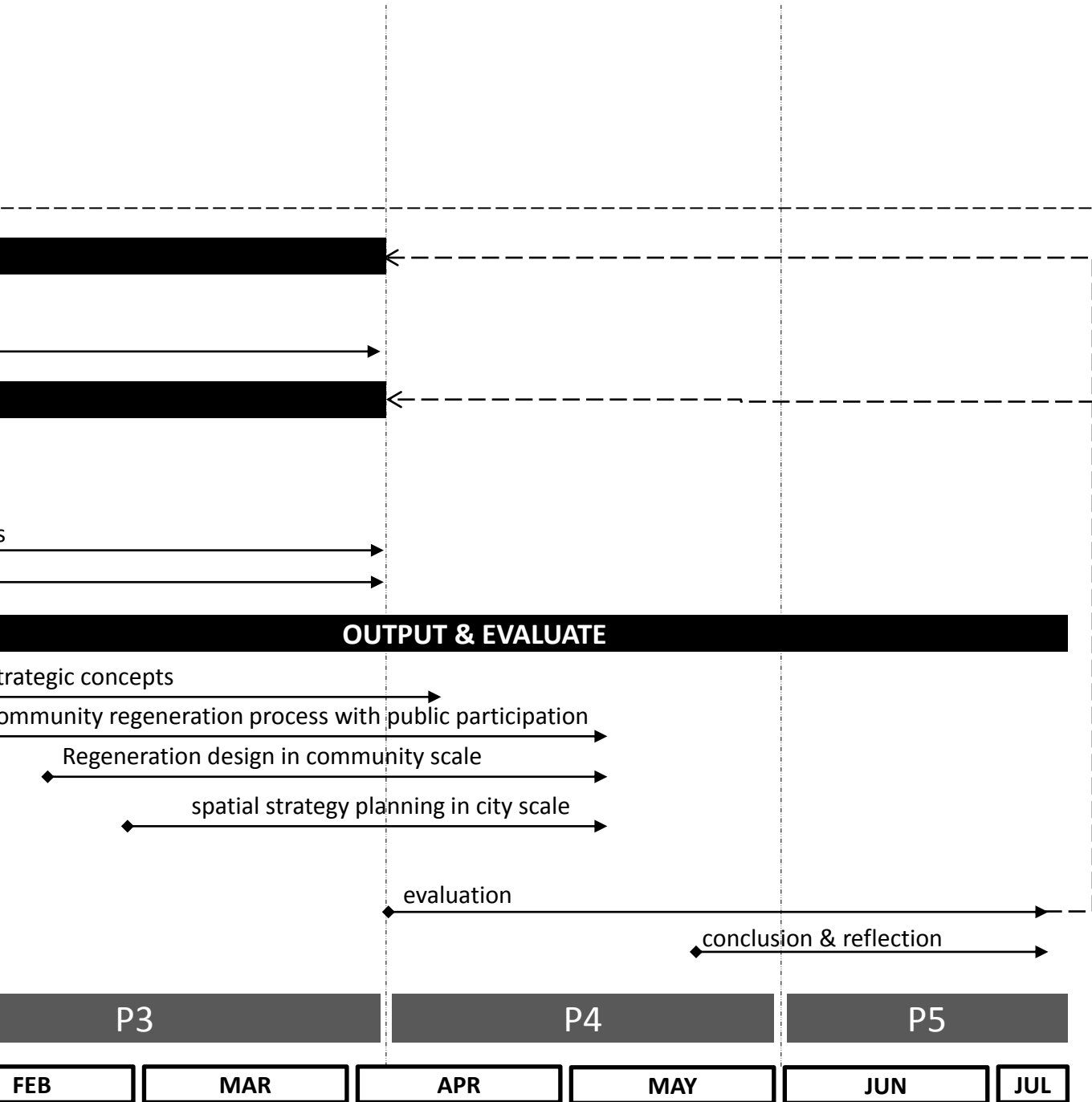
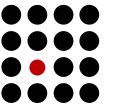
However, after some explorations in the early stage, I found that such an order is difficult to find specific measures. Even if there do have some measures, they cannot be verified by the practical cases. Therefore, the realization of the objectives needs to be carried out from the bottom up. First, specific work at a small scale to meet the needs of stakeholders needs to be done. Then it can be promoted at the city scale.

For the design outcomes, I have a regeneration design for a selected community based on the previous analysis and user needs. The regeneration method not only refers to some cases but also considers the different cultural backgrounds and living habits of Africans which is not covered in the cases. At the same time, a dynamic regeneration planning and implementation process based on public participation was designed. This includes the participation of many stakeholders, such as the government and the public. It has reference significance for urban renewal in China. Finally, I summarize the results of the previous two parts and form a series of design and planning principles as a toolkit to be applied to other relevant areas in the city. This help me to meet with the objective of Better Stay.

All in all, by design, I found answers to the research questions and responded to the research objectives.

10. TIME PLAN AND REFLECTION





TIME PLAN AND REFLECTION

Time flies very fast, the graduation project has been going on for 8 months. So far, my graduation project has basically completed the process of building the framework, doing the research and finding the solutions. Comparing the graduation plan written eight months ago, this process allowed me to implement this plan but also find some places that were different from my expectations. There were many new gains and insights. So next I will review my work from the six aspects to the present.

1. Relationship between Research and Design

In the past two months, my main job was to get the conclusions from the previous theoretical research and empirical research, and respond them by design. Although my undergraduate background is the urban design direction which makes me familiar with the use of urban design approaches, but this is still a very interesting process. Because after a long period of research on the phenomenon of ethnic enclaves in Chinese cities, I was able to have more targeted solutions. This makes my design more realistic, rather than the subjective operation from the satellite image. I

hope to solve every problem found in the research through design. For example, some may solve the user's livability problem through specific space design and some promote the disadvantaged foreign groups' integration with local society through the strategy of public participation. No matter what kind of means, it can make a causal relationship with the previous conclusions to make my design results reliable (Fig.125). Therefore, I am now more aware that design is not a brush used by our designers to depict our own imaginary picture, but a tool for building solutions to the conclusions and problems of concrete research.

2. Scientific Relevance

Although there are many studies on foreign ethnic enclaves in Chinese cities, especially in Guangzhou. But their focus is mainly on explaining the causes and basic conditions of this phenomenon. My main purpose is to improve the environment of these ethnic enclaves and gradually promote the integration of these residents with the local community. Therefore, the difference between my research and the previous research is how to look at the impact of this phenomenon. Mine is from the perspective of urban space and finding solutions from the perspective of urban spatial design. This is good for me to combine urban design with research.

When I studied it, I found that the urban spatial form cannot be separated from the urban governance system. Because the design of some systems leads to the segregation of social space, but to break such segregation, we must make certain changes from the institutional level. For example, the density of the communities I surveyed is very large and there is a lack of public sports space which is strongly needed by African traders. After in-depth observation, I discovered that some good public space resources in the community, such as the playground of the school, were closed for 24 hours for management and so-called safety reasons. Therefore, it is necessary to open it at some time when there is no student to use. This

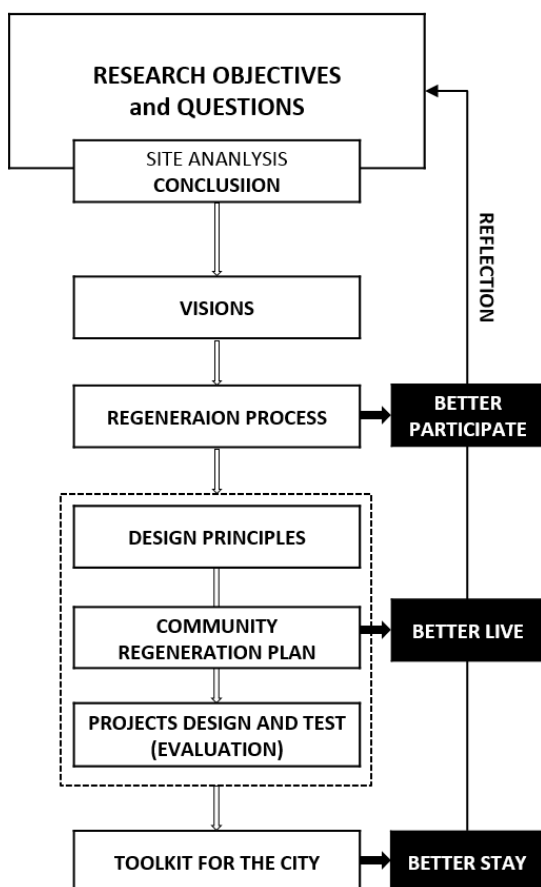


Figure 125. Design Framework based on the Research objectives and questions. Own Image

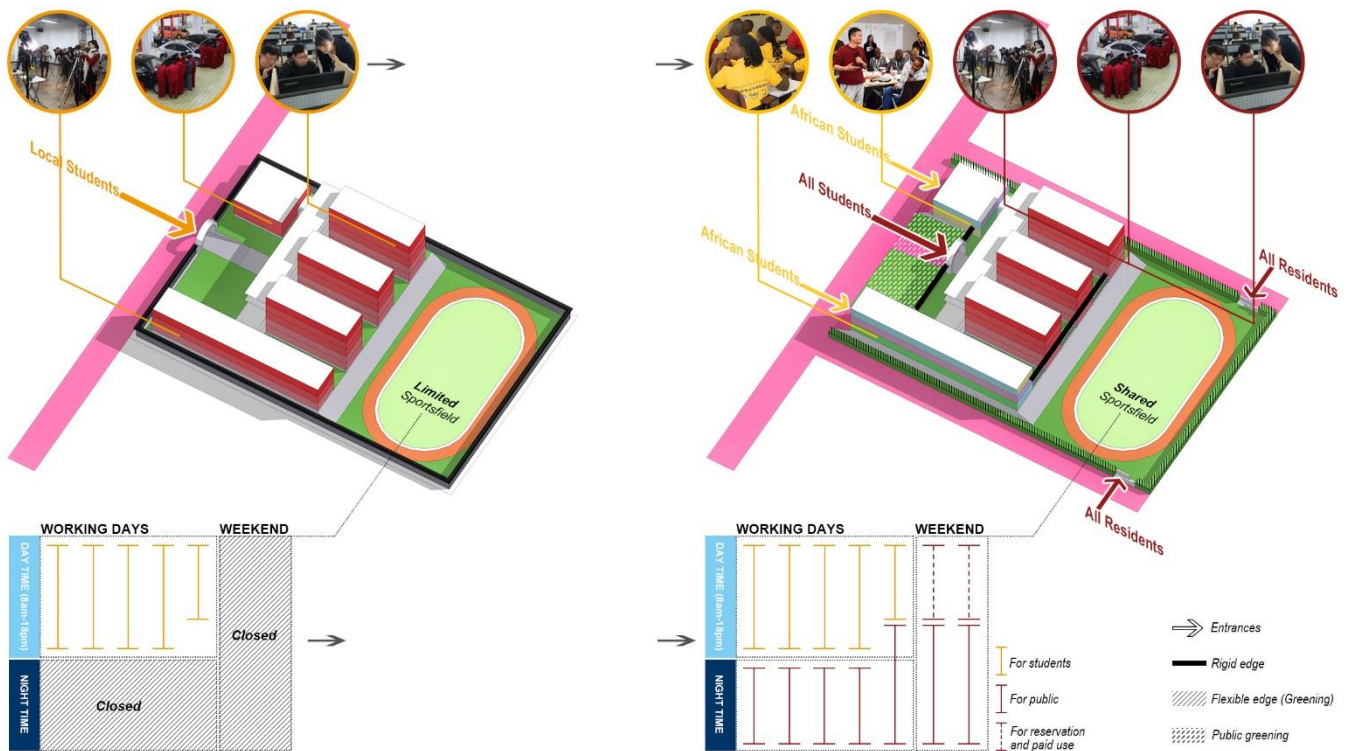
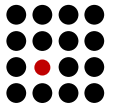


Figure 126. Spatial and institutional regeneration of the use of schools in the community. *Own Image*

action will need both a spatial design and an institutional management design which could respond to the relationship between privacy and publicity (Fig.126). These findings have given me more attention to institutional discussions and practices of other urban regeneration cases in China. Together with spatial design, these example of institutional strategies have been reflected in my design.

Comparative planning research is also an important method of studio. I mentioned that I have paid attention to some institutional attempts of other cities' urban regeneration projects in China. At the same time, I also paid attention to other countries' efforts to integrate ethnic enclaves with local social space, whether the outcome is good or bad. Because of the particularity of the background conditions of the phenomenon I am concerned with, it is impossible to find a very similar case that is ready-made. Only by summarizing experience from different cases can I support my research.

3. Relationship with Urbanism and Complex Cities

In the previous section, the relationship between the graduation project and the Studio has been discussed from a methodological perspective. My topic is in many directions, such as low-end globalization, urban villages, informal urban space, urban spatial governance and public participation. Therefore, it is necessary to look at this issue from many trans-disciplinary aspects. This one-year graduation project is a process of comprehensive application of the methods previously learned at Urbanism. It includes the analysis and design of urban spatial form, as well as the institutional analysis of urban problems and the formulation of related strategies. This is a process of simplifying complex urban problems.

TIME PLAN AND REFLECTION

4. Transferability of the Project Results

The purpose of my research is clear: to explore how to create an inclusive and friendly urban environment for these vulnerable foreign traders to facilitate their lives and work. On the one hand, the study has made up for the lack of attention from the current researches to the spatial aspects of the existing African ethnic enclave research in Guangzhou. For example, I sort out the public space resources in the community and then analyze and explore how these space resources can be used in the context of gathering many foreigners and local residents. On the other hand, by comparing the institutional and process design of urban regeneration projects in other Chinese cities, I have found a set of feasible planning implementation paths. In my design framework, I especially reflect the concerns of Africans and the use of the concept of public participation echoes the goal of promoting social integration. Therefore, I believe that my graduation project has certain transformability in reality which means it can be used as a reference for the local government to promote the regeneration of these communities, both from the institutional and the spatial design aspects.

5. Ethical Consideration

The ethical consideration I wrote in my graduation plan are mainly to respect their privacy issues when doing my fieldwork, because some of them do not have legal identity in China and just want to do their own trading business. So in the fieldwork I try to not shoot the respondents or ask them for some details. When my research and design is almost completed, I realize the bigger problem is that if their group and their living space are really concerned by the society and these places actually implement some urban regeneration, will it affect their normal life and by contrary lead to the difficulty of survival in their original communities. For example, I mentioned in the plan that I want to enhance the identity here by shaping the multi-cultural atmosphere here which is conducive to the integration of society and culture. But fame may also lead to over-commercialization in the

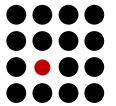
area so the people who used to trade or stay here have to leave. However, I don't think there is a perfect plan to predict the future. Only continuous evaluation, continuous feedback and continuous adjustment can respond to new changes and challenges which make it always be on the right track.

6. Limitation and Future Focus

One year of research and design time is relatively short for this topic. I know my flaws well during the project. For example, in terms of depth, my graduation project is far less than those that have been published publicly. They draw conclusions through years of observation and tracking which make them to better understand the dynamic changes of phenomena. However, it is difficult for me to study on the changing trend of these ethnic enclaves due to the limited time. It makes my conclusion and prediction lack a very important basis for the judgment of the future. In addition, the changes in China's policy environment are also very fast. I have researched some of the existing urban renewal cases that have achieved good results, but there are still some ongoing projects that haven't been published yet. Their practice has new attempts that I didn't know.

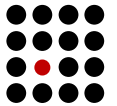
Therefore, in the future, I hope that I will continue to study this topic or even participate in the practice. I can focus on supplementing the content based on the shortcomings I have discovered to get more effective and reliable results.

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