

STAY, LIVE & PARTICIPATE

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

SUMMARY

The research of the graduation project focuses on the issue of ethnic enclaves in the context of low-end globalization in some fast-growing Chinese cities. The ethnic enclaves which bring a series of social spatial issues mainly refer to some foreign-inhabited areas formed by historical or commercial reasons in some big cities. This project takes the African enclaves in Guangzhou as the research object. Through theoretical research and empirical research, it summarizes the problems, challenges and potential elements that can be used of these communities. The research section mainly answers the questions of:

- How do these African enclaves influence Guangzhou's urban social space?
- What factors could be considered as evaluation criteria for the result of implementation of spatial strategies and design?

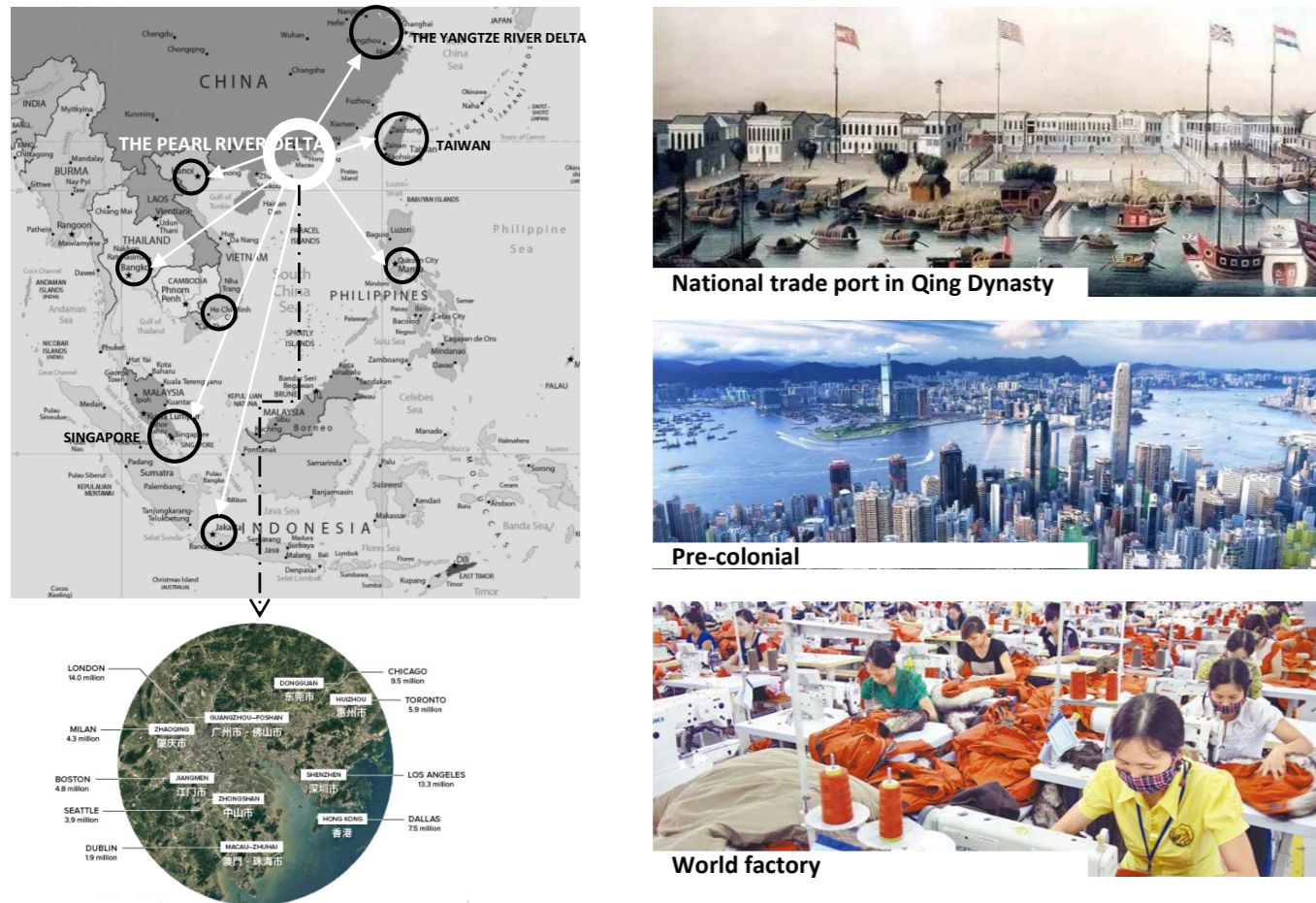
After the research, according to the summary of problems, current urban regeneration practice and institutional environment in China, the project provides a comprehensive and targeted solution through the community regeneration plan and city spatial strategy which include institutional design, spatial design and a

toolkit of design principles. This part mainly answers the following questions in terms of Better Stay, Better Live and Better Participate:

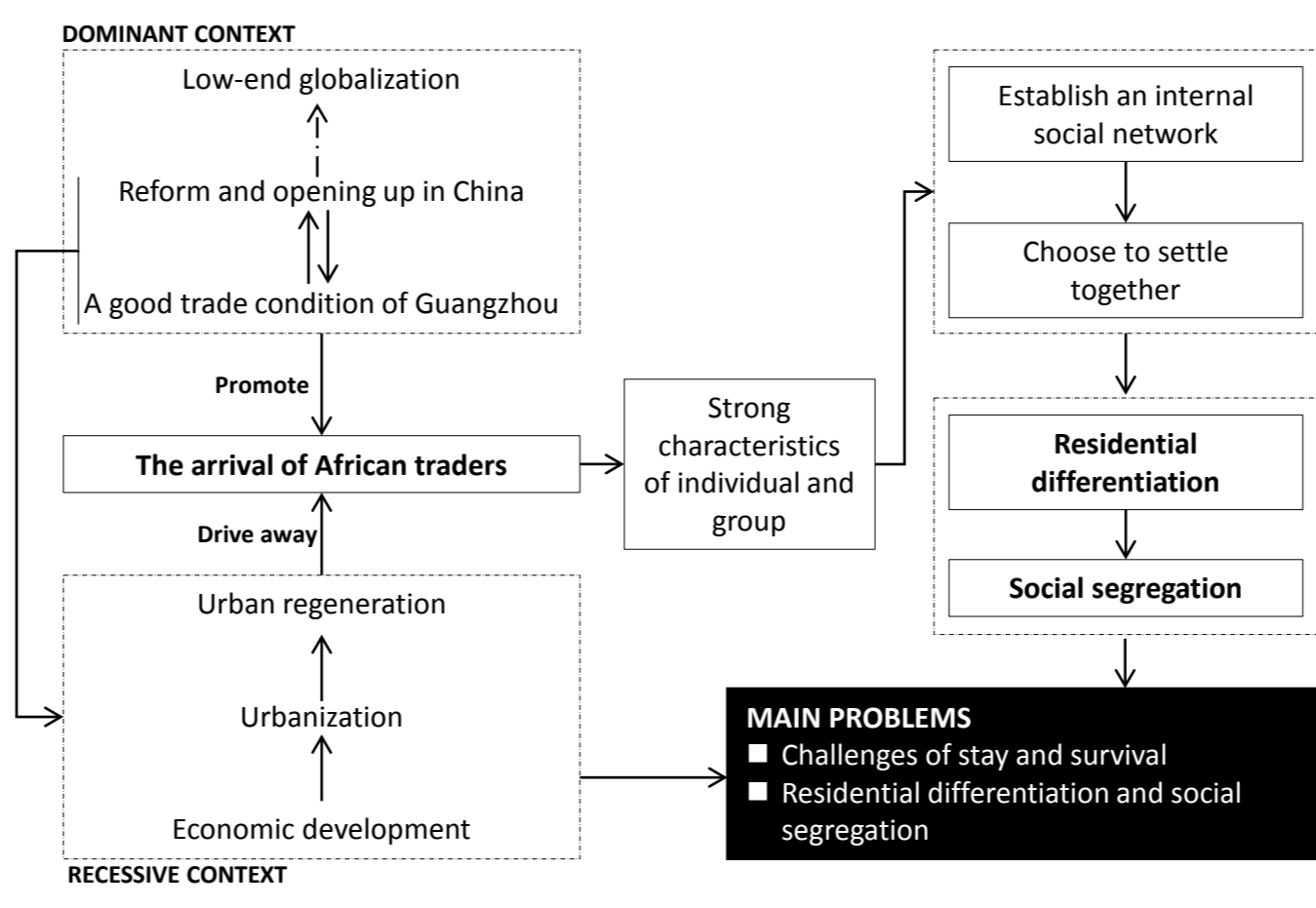
- How to make Guangzhou become friendlier to these foreigners?
- What kind of way of urban regeneration could be applied to promote the spatial quality in this transnational high density and poor condition?
- How could African enclaves better integrate into local social space during and after spatial intervention in city and community scale?

Therefore, the graduation project has a general introduction to the issue of ethnic enclave in Chinese cities. It has a deeper analysis and research on the issue of the African ethnic enclave in Guangzhou from the historical cause to the status quo. Finally, it proposes to use the solution of Guangzhou to provide an example of solving similar problems for other Chinese cities. The project compensates for the lack of attention to the spatial dimension of this issue in existing research. Because of the borrowing of many similar cases, practical experience and some of China's current institutional study, the project's transformability and practical significance have been increased. I hope that in the future, Chinese cities will pay more attention to the space and living conditions of these groups, and strive to provide them with an inclusive urban social spatial environment.

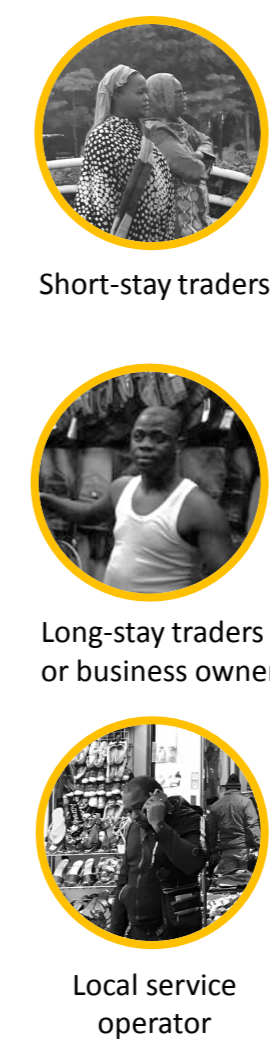
RESEARCH BACKGROUND



- Guangzhou's important position in geography and business history has attracted a large number of foreign traders.



- African traders characterized by small businesses and self-employed individuals face many challenges and cause some problems for Guangzhou

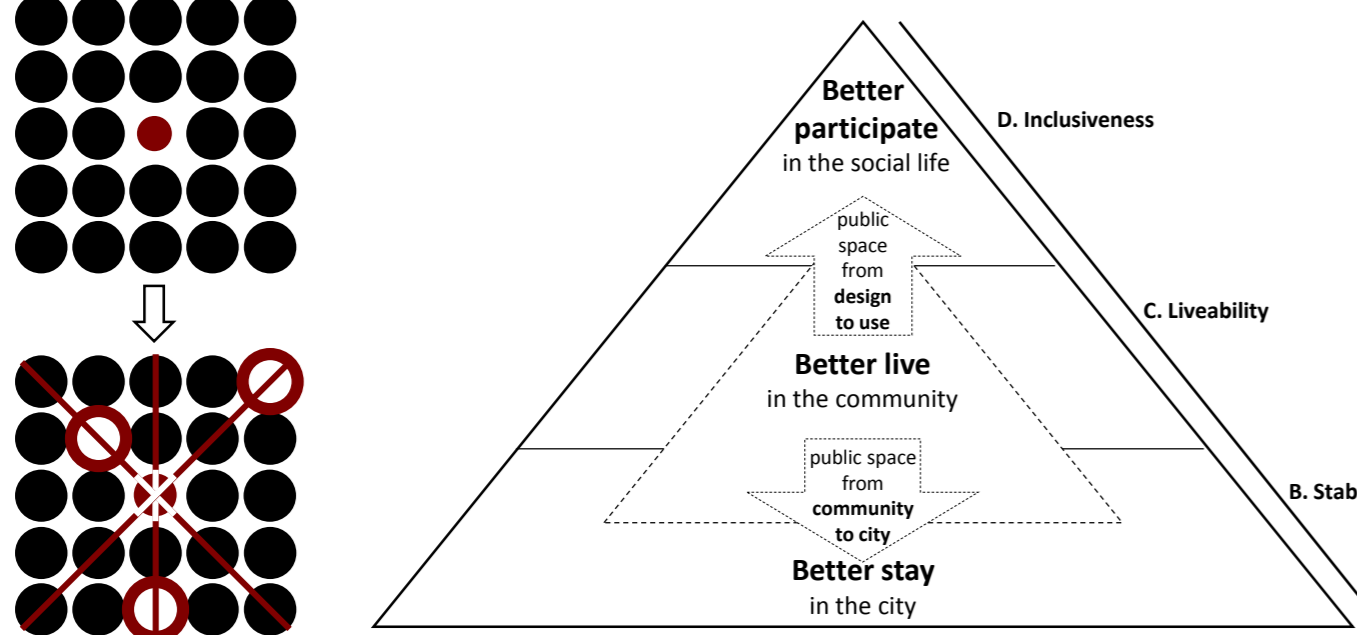


In China, with reform, opening-up, and economic development, foreign trade has been growing up in a high speed. A large number of merchants from developing areas like Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East came here to distribute low-priced, poor quality and even counterfeit products to their countries. Guangzhou, as the provincial capital of Guangdong and where accounted for about one-fourth of China's foreign trade in 2013, 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.

These communities are usually in relatively bad living conditions and segregated from local socio-spatial environment because of the huge cultural difference between people with different skins. Also some old inner city communities in Guangzhou like Sanyuanli are now on the government agenda of urban renewal. 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.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES & VISIONS



- Bringing inclusiveness, livability and stability to these traders through the regeneration of African ethnic enclaves

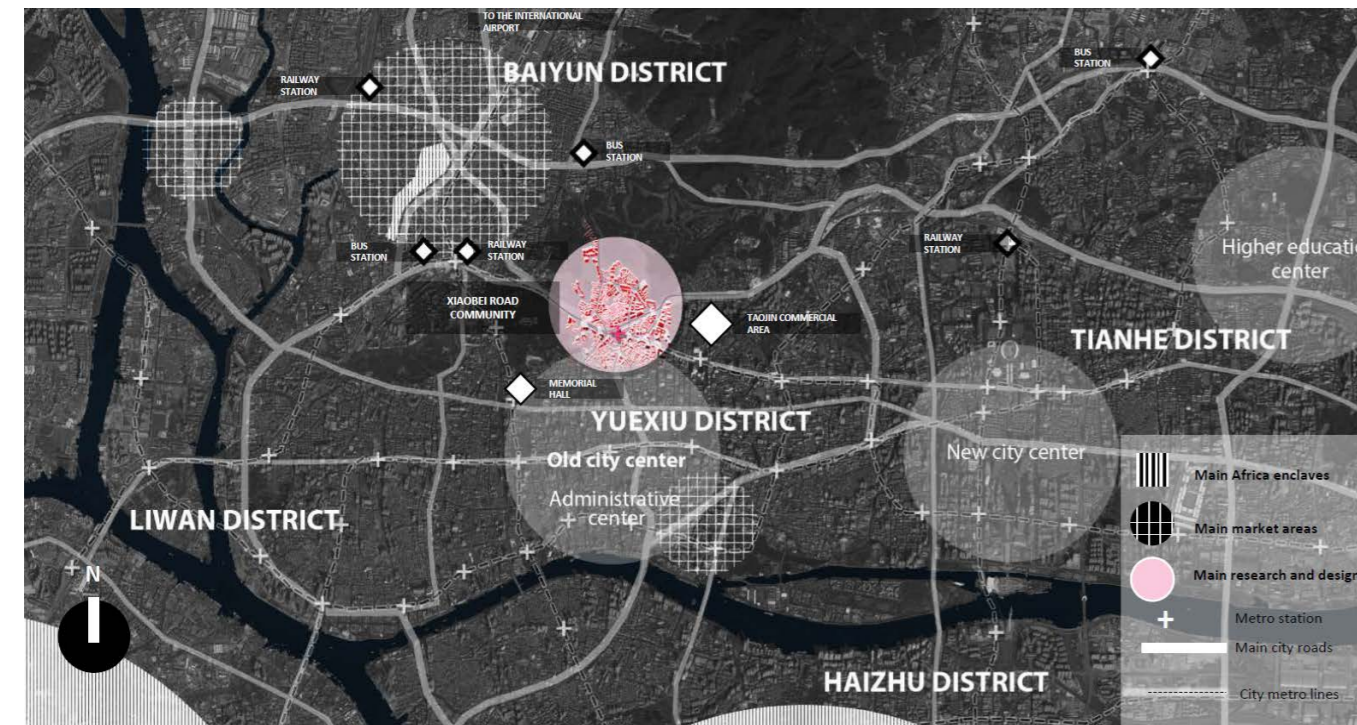


- Visions of community regeneration, participatory planning process and urban spatial strategy

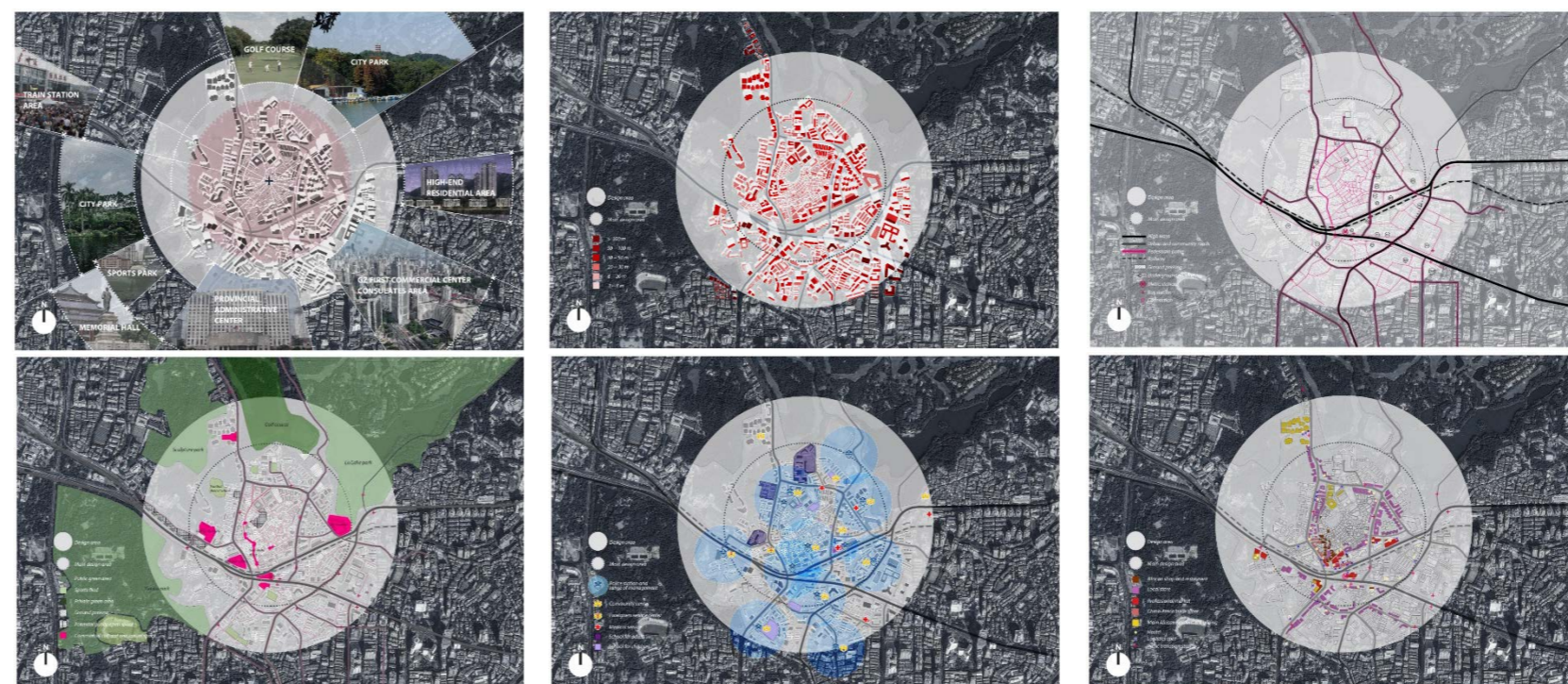
Main Research Question:
How can foreign ethnic enclaves that formed from the trend of globalization in current and future Chinese global cities transform into more inclusive places (D) for foreigners and local residents with better living conditions (C) while protect original social network (B) by using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

- According to the conceptual framework, 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. The visions include:
 - A complete community update process, which is mainly reflected in public participation
 - A series of look and atmosphere of a future updated community after design intervention based on actual issues and user needs
 - A toolkit that includes a range of effective community regeneration ways and can be used in other similar urban areas

SITE ANALYSIS



- The main area of African's activity in Guangzhou and the location of Baohanzhi street community which is the main research enclave



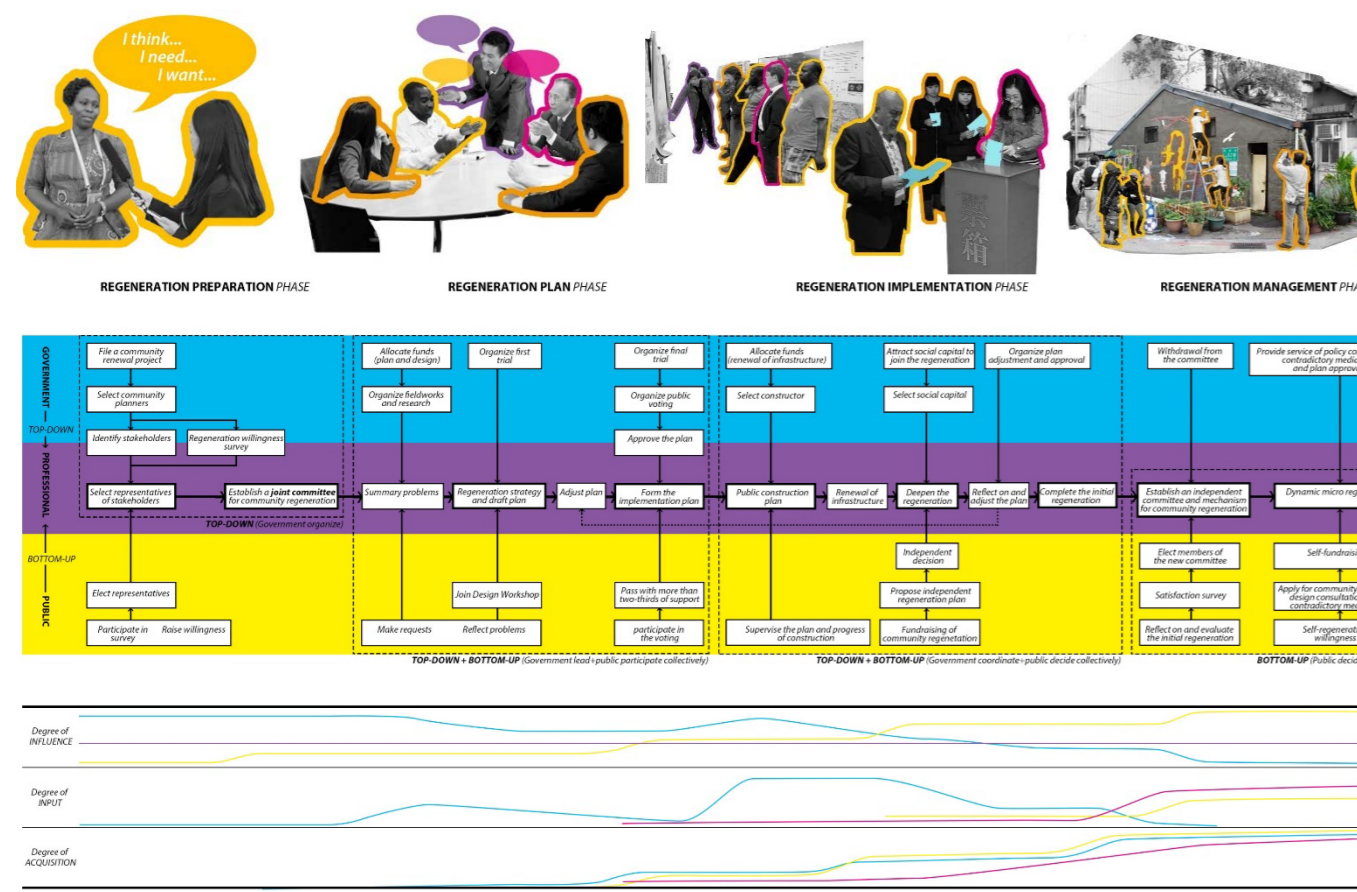
- Site analysis of Baohanzhi street community from the aspects of surrounding environment, density, transport, public space, public service and commercial service.

- MAIN PROBLEMS 1: 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.

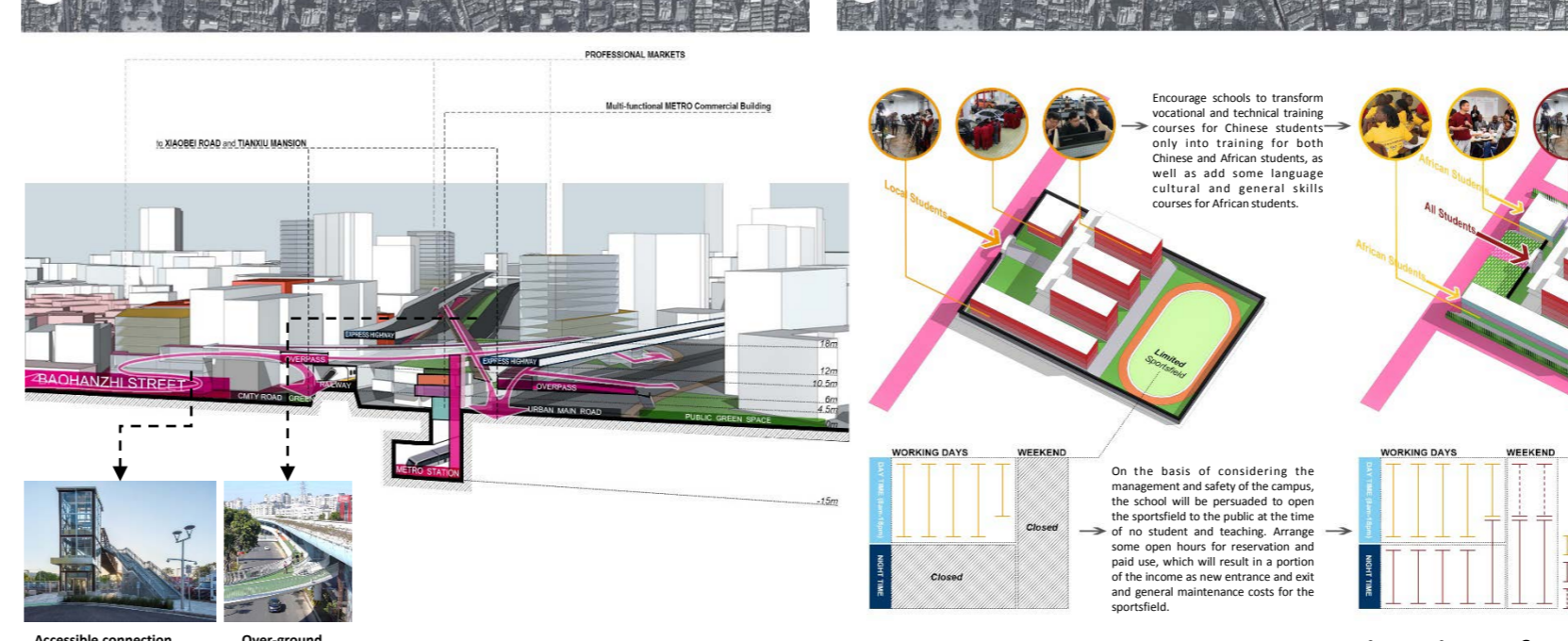
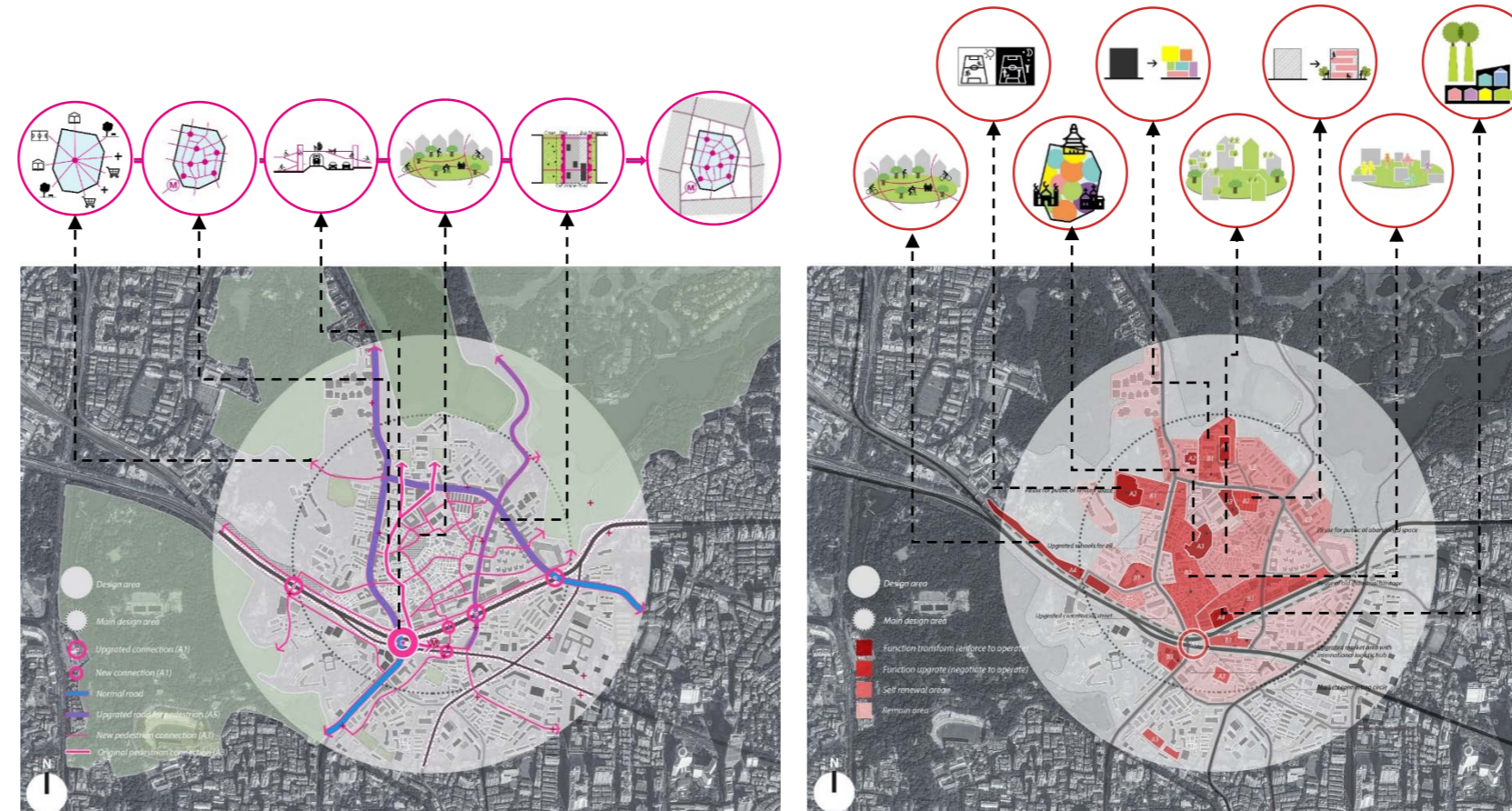
MAIN PROBLEMS 2: FUNCTIONS lack of rational arrangement

MAIN PROBLEMS 3: IDENTITY OF THE PLACE needs to be reconstructed and intensified

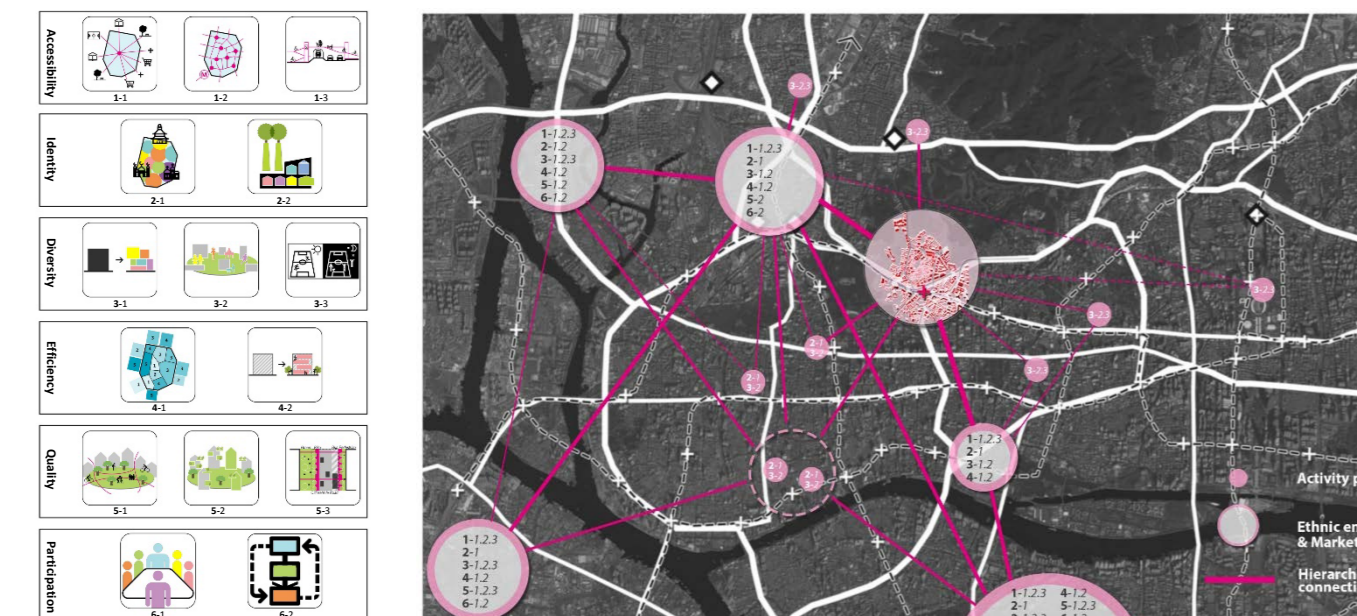
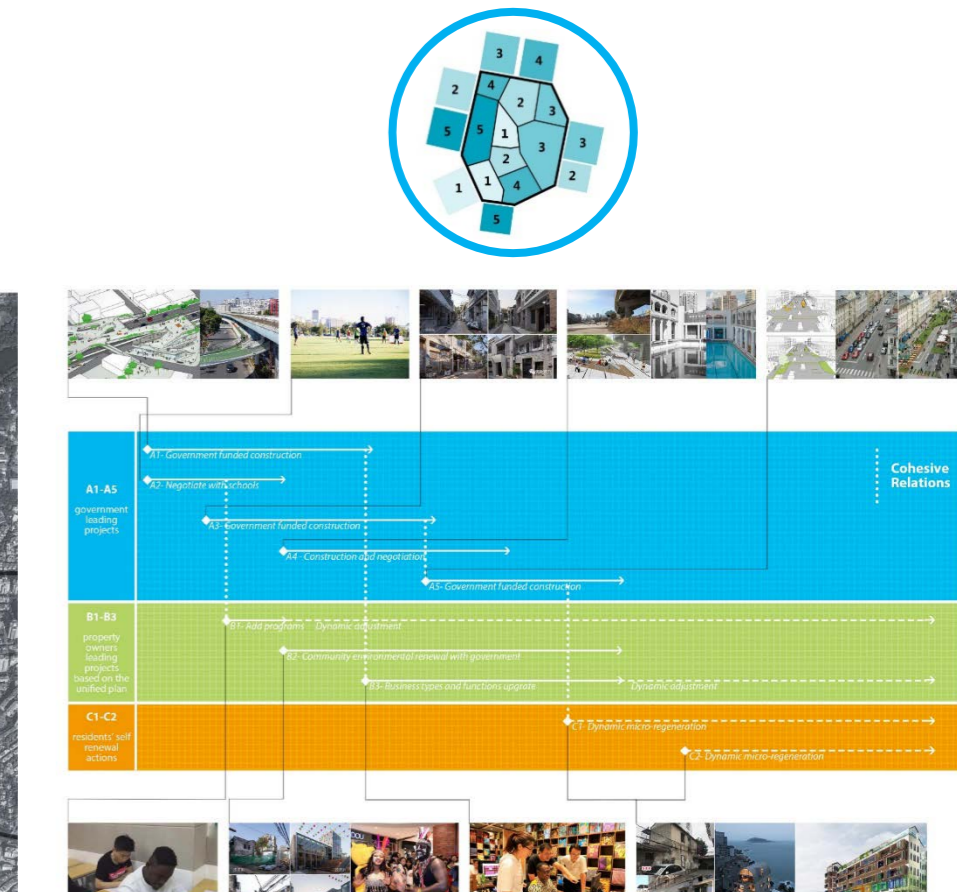
SOLUTION



- The process of community regeneration and scenarios of public participation



- The plan of community regeneration and some representative projects



- The use of toolkit for the urban spatial strategy

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