



**7 IDEAS
THAT CAN
MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

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'a Social Design Festival' was initiated in Goa to incubate and showcase socio-environment design successes. It engaged with 150 people from diverse fields over 5 days, demonstrating how design can address social and environmental issues.

a Social Design Festival

This festival was organised by Kokum Design Trust.

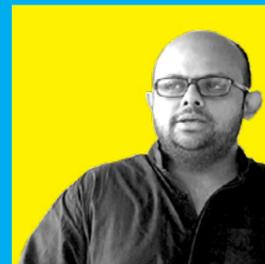
Avik Sarkar
Industrial Designer



Reboni Saha
Industrial Designer



Ruturaj Parikh
Architect



Dean D'Cruz
Architect, Planner



Rahul Basu
IIM Alumni



KOKUM DESIGN
TRUST

Social problems are often design problems, yet design is rarely called in to be part of problem-solving efforts.

With its potential unseen, design continues to be used for surface skills alone and has not had an impact on public life that it should have had. Much effort is still wasted on ill-defined problems and ineffective application of broad-spectrum solutions.

Despite this, social design, or efforts of socio-environmental improvement have been informally active across a wide demographic in India. It is time to engage with and celebrate these efforts by bringing it into the mainstream narrative through a festival.

'a Social Design Festival' seeks to seed, incubate and showcase socio-environment design successes; it will reach out to government agencies, the design fraternity and active citizens/groups who will network to take this further.

Kokum seeks to connect government, designers and active citizens, while highlighting inspiring stories for a better India.



Seven workshops as hackathons, time problems grounded in reality.

The aSDF workshops were three-day events leading to a two-day seminar. They were designed for multi-stakeholder engagement, providing a platform where participants were mentored by design experts, subject experts and facilitators, grounding otherwise abstract projects with workable solutions.

These workshops evoked a response through a journey of empathy, allowing participants to take home realizations and design ideas that can make a difference.

The seven workshops were under the following verticals:

- #1 Design + Environment
- #2 Design + Institutes of Learning
- #3 Design + Cities
- #4 Design + Products for Waste Recovery
- #5 Design + Learning Space
- #6 Design + Craft
- #7 Design + Resilience

This collateral is meant to be a summary of the diverse and exciting issues handled at the workshops, and deliberately highlights only a part of the rich and varied results that emerged from the experience.

MENTORS



Rahul Srivastava
Co-Founder of urbz



Samidha Patil
Architect, urbz



Kareena Kochery
Architect, urbz



Doctor Aran Lobo
Marine Conservationist

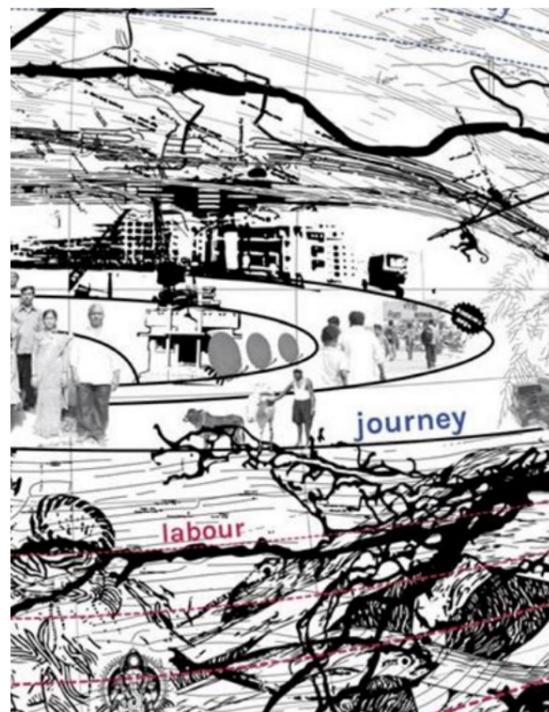
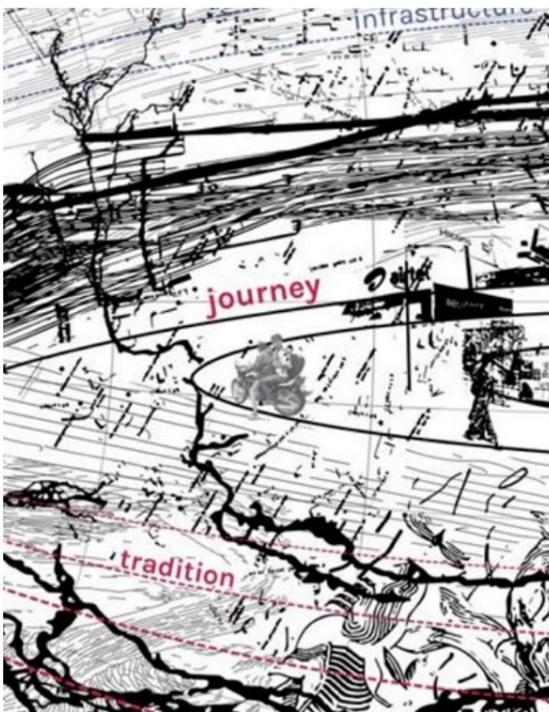
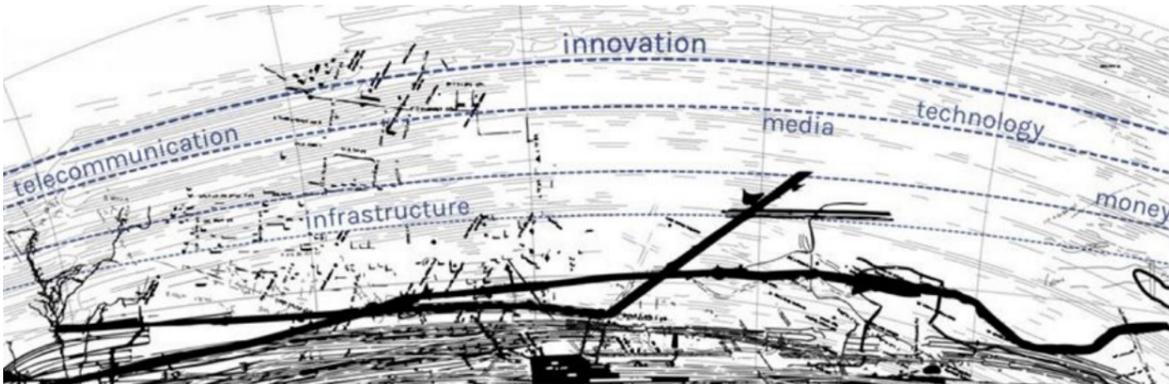
01 DESIGN + ENVIRONMENT

‘Goa is best understood through its waterways.’

GOA: DIVERSE HABITATS AND CIRCULATORY URBANISM



Circulatory Urbanism



01 DESIGN + ENVIRONMENT

Goa has been historically shaped by mobility systems linked to rivers and the sea. Its habitats have responded to local, regional and global forces along these waterways to create a distinctive network of villages and towns.

These are interspersed with fields and forests with each settlement connected to the others through roads. For this state, it is a continuing challenge to balance this structure with emerging metropolitan land-centric models that often override older systems.

Goa really should be considered as a series of networks of habitats – towns, cities and villages that are connected via waterways and roads and inhabited by highly mobile populations. These have always been shaping how local and regional markets emerge and expand connecting villages and urban hubs in very dynamic ways.

By making waterways as important as other mobility systems like railways, roads and air, the state will be able to build on the water as the historical foundation of its

civic infrastructure. This includes the revitalization of all water bodies - traditional tanks, wells, ponds, lakes and canals.

Such an emphasis will help us integrate the monsoons into the modern infrastructural needs of the state to create a healthy ecosystem around water bodies and make water the basis of thinking about the future of the state.

MENTORS



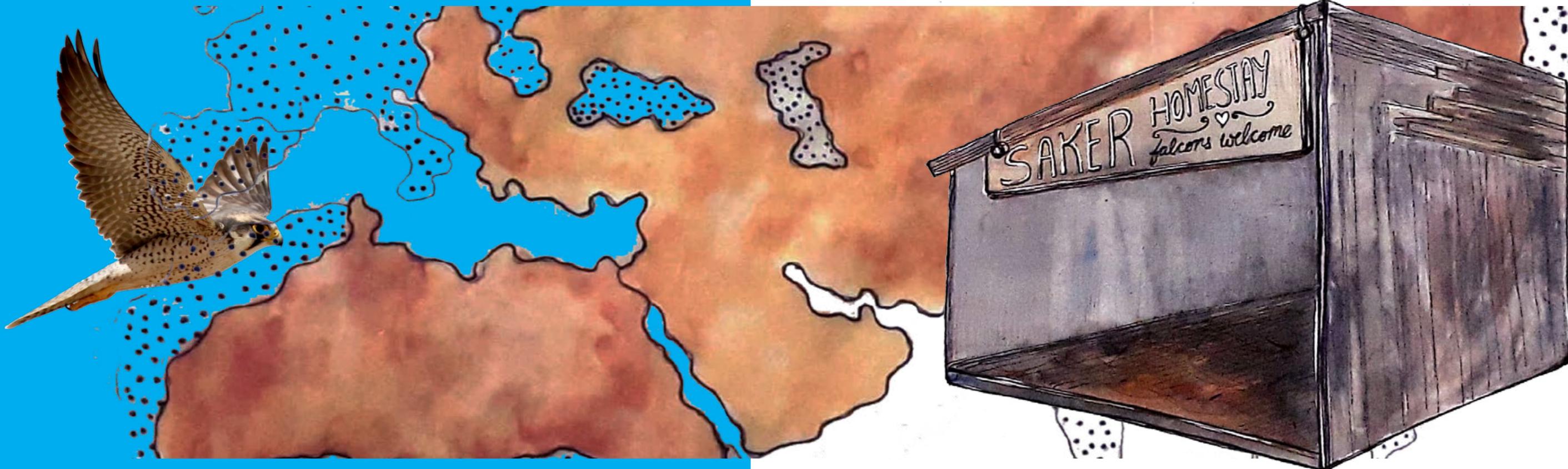
Priyanka Bista
Co-Founder of KTK-
BELT Project

Ganga Limbu
KTK-BELT research
fellow

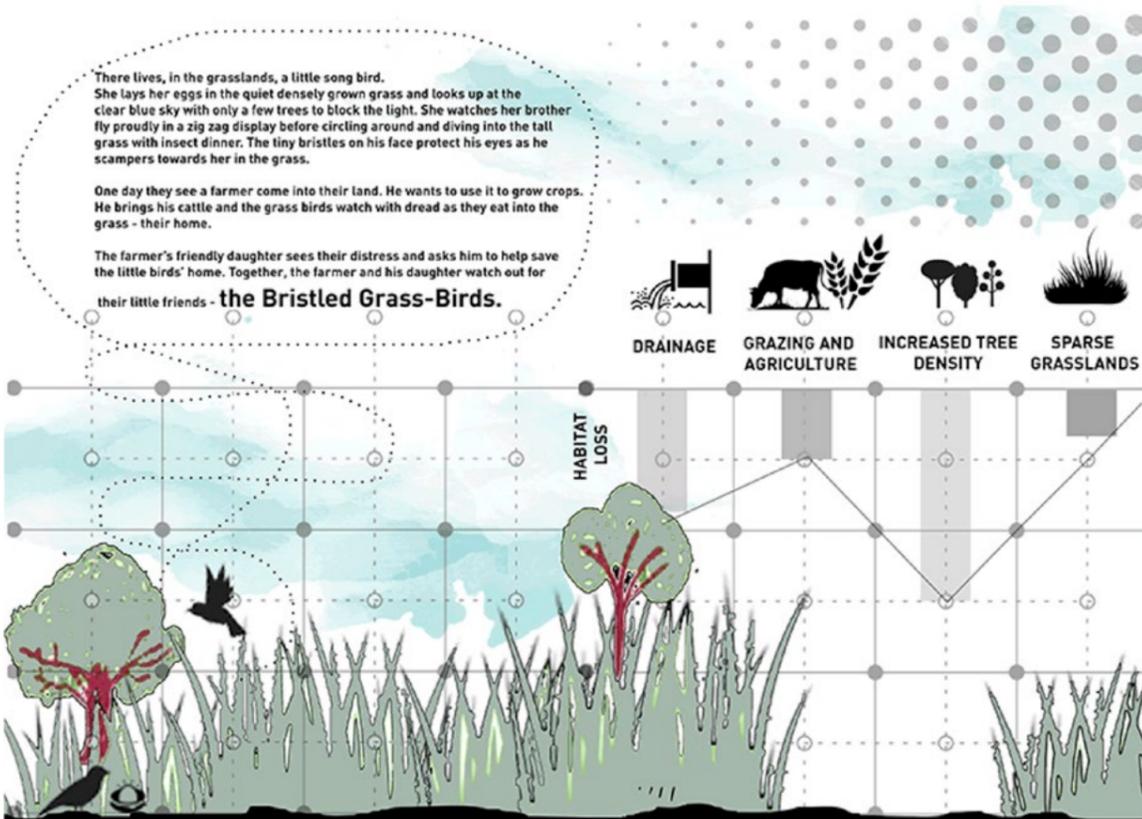
02 DESIGN + INSTITUTES OF LEARNING

When architecture considers birds as equal stakeholders and users of the spaces.

BIODIVERSITY AND ARCHITECTURE



02 DESIGN + INSTITUTES OF LEARNING



The Green Building movement that started in the 1970s has evolved extensively with numerous certifications. Still, today, the criteria for biodiversity conservation has been marginally addressed.

By simply building a nesting site on their known routes and allowing them to nest as they naturally are inclined to do, we achieve success in active conservation.

The idea is to consider bird conservation and architecture as one, especially in the light of the habitat loss that each new construction brings with it.

This is a journey of empathy that anyone can take.

To understand how it feels to touch, feel, smell like a bird.

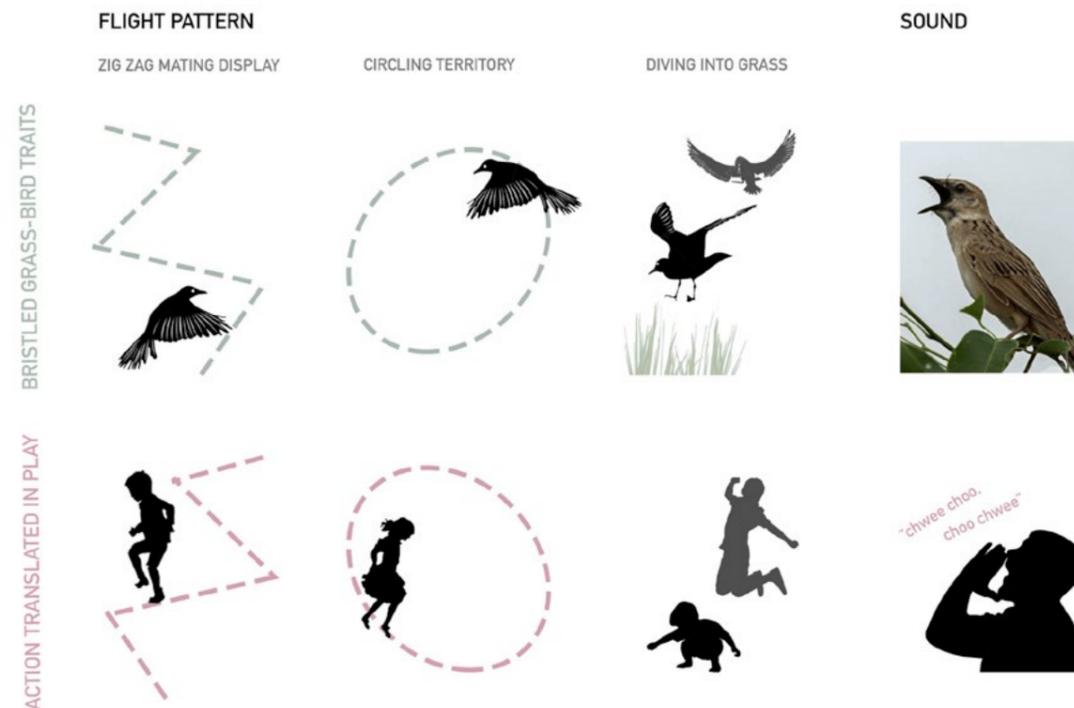
Then look at how they navigate and move through space.

Then spatially articulate the experience of being a bird.

Create a trail with interpretation point(s) to materialize this experience.

Use architecture as a platform to connect people with birds.

The Saker Falcon bird, for example, usually breeds in nests built by other species, either in trees, on cliffs or on human artefacts.



MENTORS



Malini Krishnankutty
Associate Professor,
IIT-B



Dean D'Cruz
Co-founder of Mozaic



Oliver Goodhall
Co-Founder of We
Made That studio

URBAN MOBILITY
IN PANAJI



03 DESIGN +
CITIES

Vibrant streetscapes
democratize mobility,
increase urban biodiversity
and help resolve flooding.



03 DESIGN + CITIES

18th JUNE ROAD is located in the heart of the Panaji City, a conservation area lined with restaurants and businesses, attracting both tourists and locals.

differently-abled as well).

05. Encouraging activities on the street that create a vibrant public street for tourists and locals alike.

To address inclusive mobility and urban flooding in Panjim, several strategies were conceived to be implemented in a phased manner through a participatory process.

01. Pedestrianising 18th June Road and redesigning the street to transform the central spine of downtown Panjim into a vibrant public space.

02. Incorporating a giant stormwater collector, with swales, into the new street design to ensure that the city's downtown no longer floods in the monsoons.

03. Re-routing traffic and street parking management for the entire downtown, to improve mobility and access in Panjim.

04. Street design using universal design principles would ensure greater social inclusion (for persons of all ages, gender and for the

MENTORS



Reboni Saha
Co-founder of Mozaic



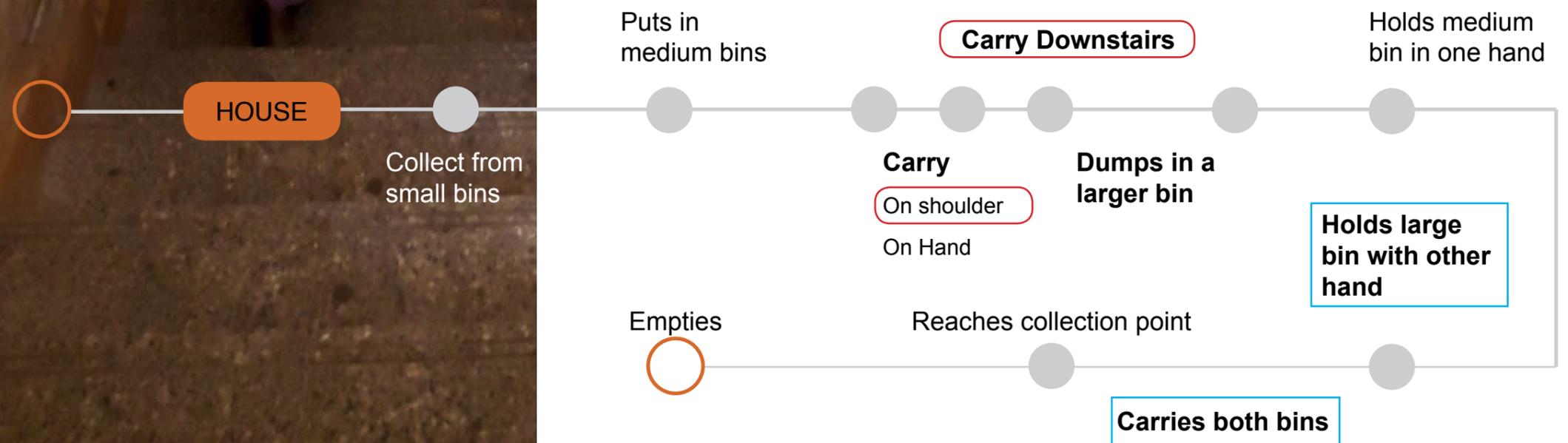
Avik Sarkar
Co-Founder of Ethos

DESIGNS FOR
EFFECTIVE WASTE
RECOVERY



04 DESIGN +
PRODUCTS FOR WASTE RECOVERY

EMPOWER waste
collectors.





04 DESIGN + PRODUCTS FOR WASTE RECOVERY

Panaji is the capital of Goa, a dense development with a mix of old and new settlement lining the banks of the Mandovi river. This is a city that pioneered the method of waste segregation more than 15 years ago while others had still not come to terms with the garbage crisis.

Tourism and lack of space are the biggest factors that inform the waste management logistics, and participants were taken through a first-hand experience of these issues courtesy the Corporation of the City of Panaji.

The immense complexity of the task at hand was an eye-opener, as well as the unique approach of being a 'public-bin free' city, with the door-to-door collection, sorting centres and sweeping of streets keeping streets litter-free.

Participants identified certain need gap areas after spending time visiting sites and observing the systems, their diverse backgrounds enabling selection of unique problem areas for action.

Several solutions emerged which serve as a brief for any ensuing projects, all fitting broadly into two themes.

EMPOWER and build # OWNERSHIP in the waste collectors, allowing opportunities for social mobility.

ENGAGEMENT with public and generation of AWARENESS of waste management practices.

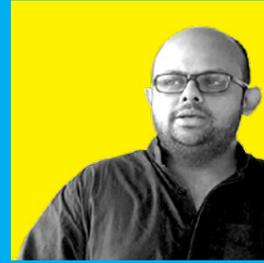
MENTORS



Harsh Patel
Co-founder of
PlayGroup Studio

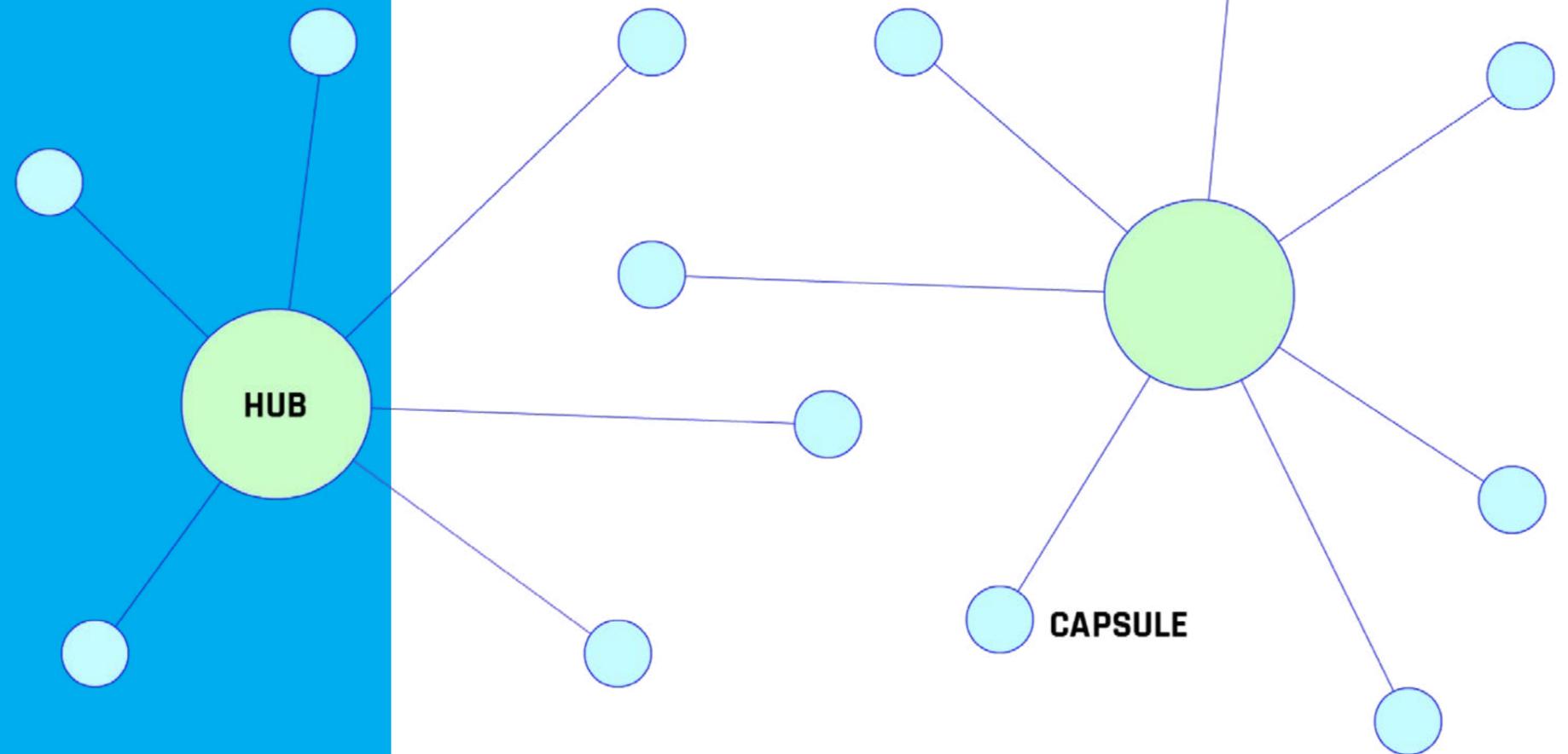
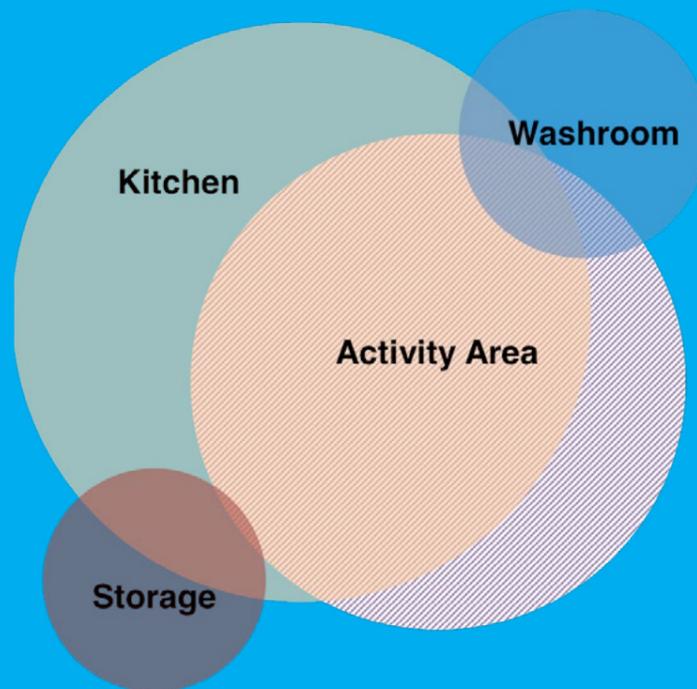


Bhavana Hammed
Co-founder of
PlayGroup Studio



Ruturaj Parikh
Co-founder of Matter

DESIGN OF CHILD-FRIENDLY ARCHITECTURE



05 DESIGN +
LEARNING SPACE

A 'Pattern Language' for
Anganwadis.

05 DESIGN + LEARNING SPACE

The intent was to generate a 'pattern language' – a set of design principles for creating an ideal environment for a child-friendly Anganwadi.

PATTERN 01 Location: 'Where' should one ideally locate the Anganwadi?

The 'hub-and-spoke' was proposed where the act of cooking food and distribution of Take-Home-Ration happens at a 'HUB': a designed space with the capacity for ancillary functions. The 'SPOKE' Anganwadis then become small centres that cater only to the children through 'activity areas'.

PATTERN 02 Quality of Space: What factors should one consider while designing an Anganwadi? The team proposed five basic elements of such a space as: light, play, walls, views and volume / form.

PATTERN 03 A Social Space: Can an Anganwadi be a space for equality and breaking stereotypes? 'Kitchen', when placed as the 'CENTRE' of the Anganwadi, can

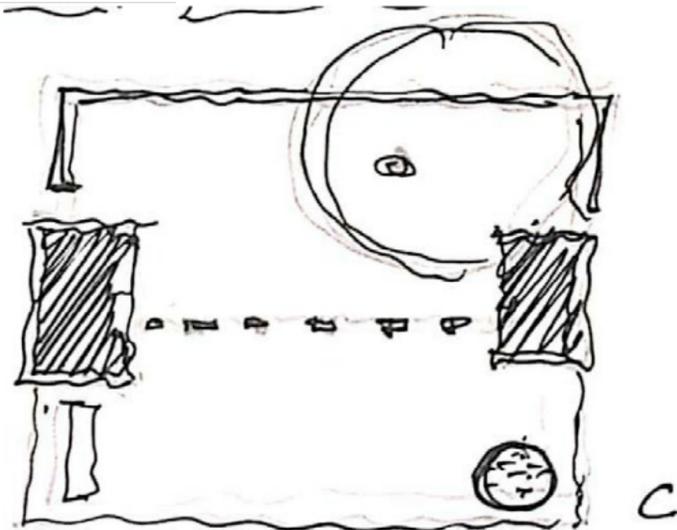
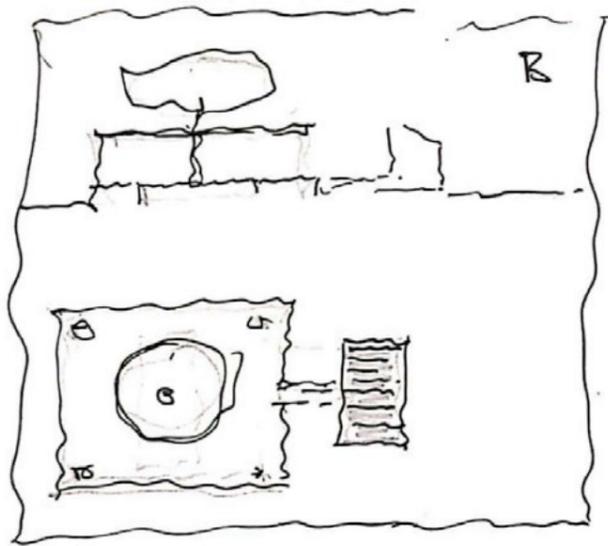
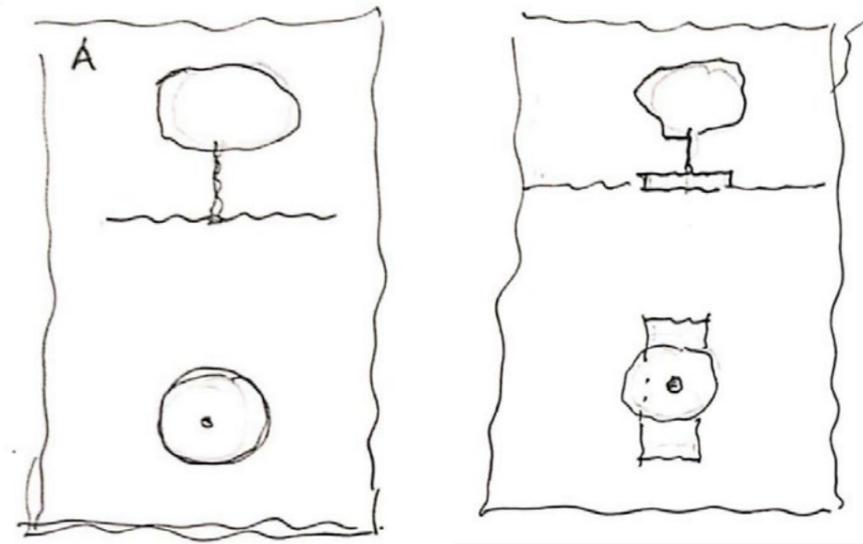
break many stigmas.

PATTERN 04 Making of the Space: 'How' should one make an Anganwadi?

A participatory process that involves local communities in the building of an Anganwadi can foster a sense of ownership and pride even while giving employment to the local people in the process of construction.

PATTERN 05 Communicating what?: What should an Anganwadi centre communicate to the people? The Anganwadi design should communicate safety, hygiene and quality to adults and parents, enthusing children through response to scale, colour and elements of play.

PATTERN 06 Program: What else can an Anganwadi do / be? The Anganwadi hours between 5 pm to 8 pm could be transformative in nature. Programmes like a community library, computer classes, language classes and vocational training can be added to the basic program of the centre.



MENTORS



Ayaz Basral
Co-Founder of The
Busride Lab



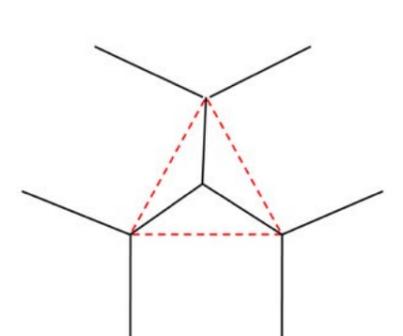
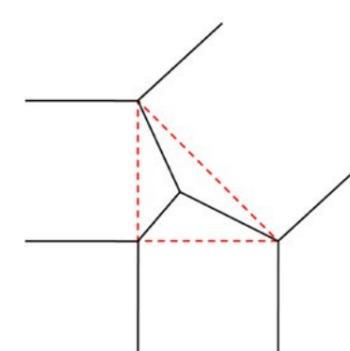
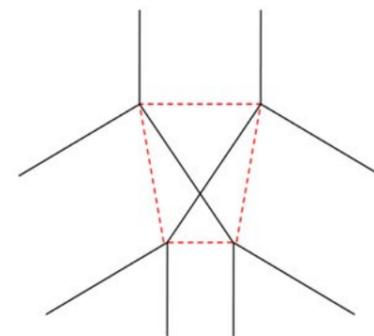
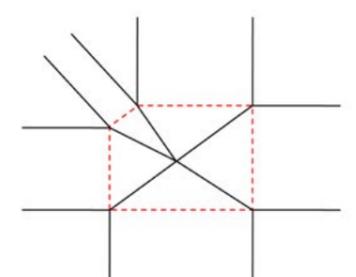
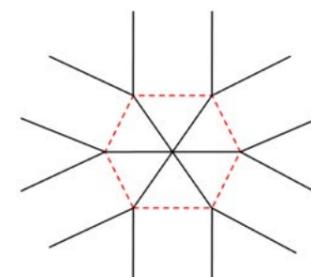
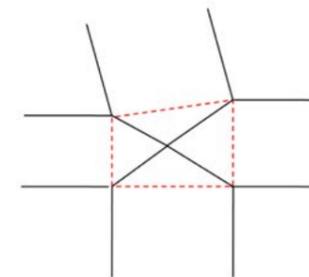
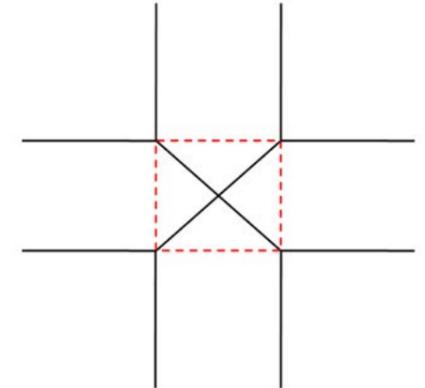
Poonam Verma
Conservation Architect

FUTURE OF CRAFT



06 DESIGN +
CRAFT

Craft as therapy.





06 DESIGN + CRAFT

We tend to view the magnificent tapestry of Craft in exceedingly narrow terms.

As a domain in need of help.

As a means of livelihood.

As a dislocated artefact.

Or as a relic stuck in time.

With aSDF, we understand Craft and Craft process to be central to what makes us Human. Craft is a timeless activity, older and wiser than disciplines like Architecture and Design, with a lot more to offer in our current time of need. Our workshop and interaction with the traditional weavers at Cotigao stressed the peaceful and meditative aspects of Craft, an artefact for personal use only, not for sale. This was the aspect of the Craft we chose to bring into our touch starved world. We began looking at craft as a means of therapy or meditation which increases focus, concentration, mindfulness and engagement with self while also providing a digital detox of sorts.

Our first step into re-introducing this amazing craft into our lives would involve creating a series of

Crafts Kits, that allow a beginner's engagement and introduction into the magical world of Leaf weaving. Future kits were envisioned to provide access to exploring different aspects of the Craft as well, with gradually ascending levels of complexity and narrative, creating a new set of weavers to personalise the tradition and expand it's utility.

MENTORS



Sanjay Prakash
Principal consultant at
SHIFT

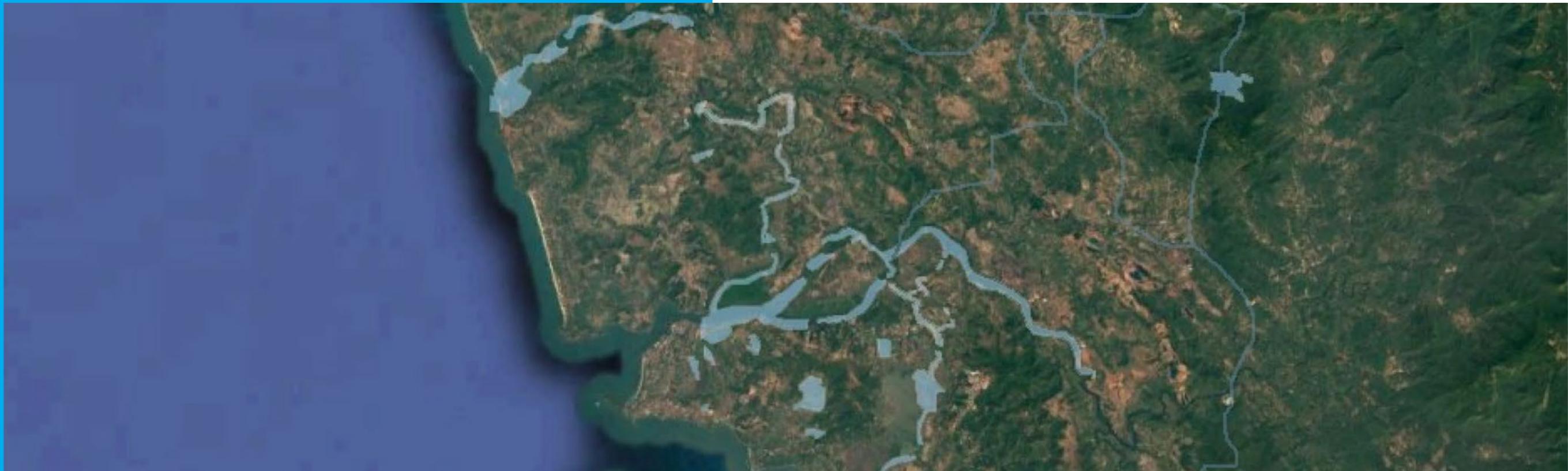


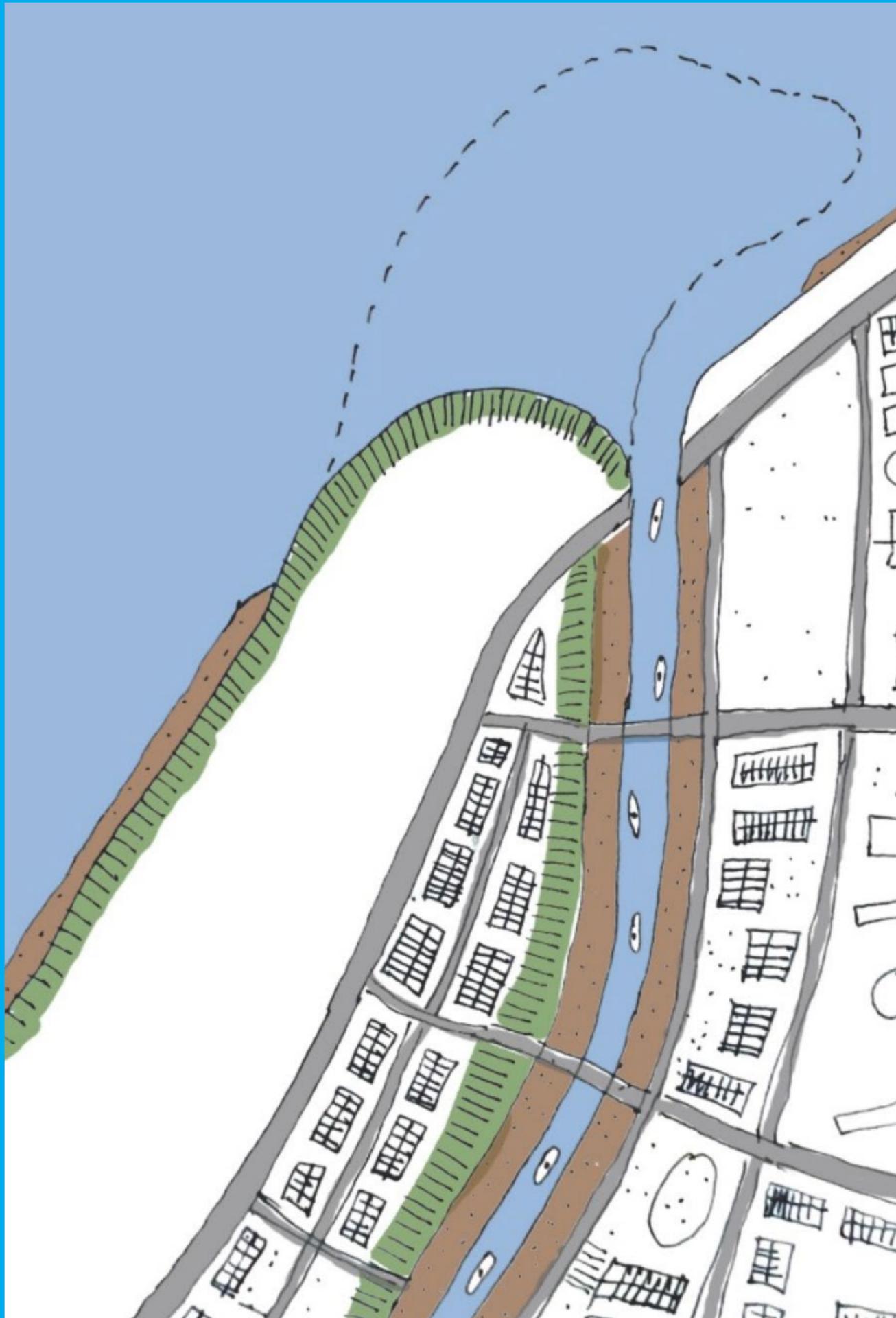
Mohan Rao
Co-founder of INDE

07 DESIGN +
RESILIENCE

REVIVE space for
city rivers

PLANNING FOR RESILIENT CITIES





07 DESIGN + RESILIENCE

Climate change is an emerging reality, with settlements increasingly facing the challenges of urban flooding. With this background, strategies for mitigation at the local and regional levels need immediate attention.

In regions with a rich history of land and water management, these strategies can be derived from traditional systems; land-water interfaces and evaluations of land potentials offer a more potent opportunity as an adaptive planning tool to address development and resilience.

The coastal settlement of Panaji offers an important opportunity to develop such mitigation strategies, where land and water are not seen as a duality – where the water is restricted and contained from the land – but as a more interrelated system. Traditional settlement and land management patterns of the region where water is allowed to expand, spread and finally be absorbed within the land system are important frameworks to understand, revive and adapt to meet current development

challenges.

Strategies include widening of flood plains, integrating agriculture practices as the surface of absorption, creating ‘seasonal’ public spaces, integration of urban services; equally important is the strategy of linking natural systems back to the city’s fabric in a socially and culturally appropriate manner.

The team studied the importance of resilience against negative water events and demonstrated that development and resilience are two sides of the same coin, not opposed to each other. Only by adopting approaches that treat these two aspects as an integrated whole can conventional planning have a hope of being successful in ecology like Goa’s.



'a Social Design Festival' is an annual event. Please log in to www.socialdesignfestival.com to register for the 2021 edition.

You can also write us to connect@kokum.co for collaborations.

a Social Design Festival



**Social
Problems**
are
**Design
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