

Adaptive Architecture and Urbanism

Rethinking Flooding Cities for Sustainable and Egalitarian Habitat

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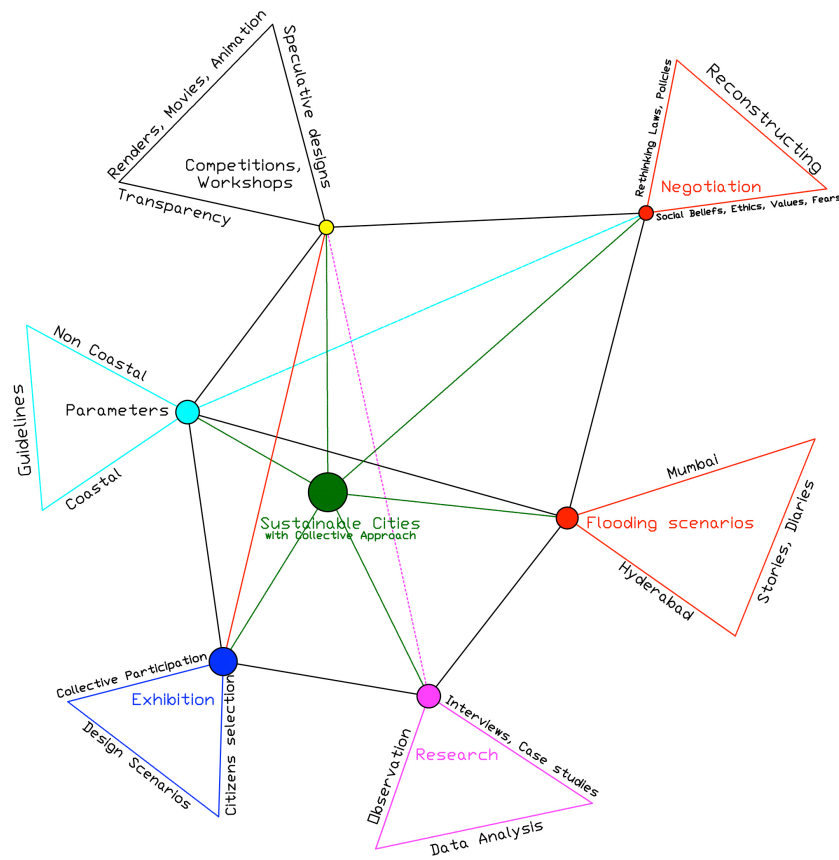
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Keywords: Flooding Cities, Collective Approach, Speculative Design and Adaptive Architecture

ABSTRACT: Climate change is not a future scenario any longer that is going to happen in forthcoming years, it has already happened. Climate change in the form of flooding affects millions of people and their infrastructures across the world, especially in often densely populated coastal, riverside and low-lying areas. It is affecting the environment, the economy and social and political relations. And the worst affected are urban poor and neglected communities. Countering climate change is imperative for flooding cities. In order to instigate positive change, cities need to develop more coherently by including all inhabitants in a shared conversation and everybody needs to take part in it. I argue, one way to bring this about is through design practice as a speculative means.

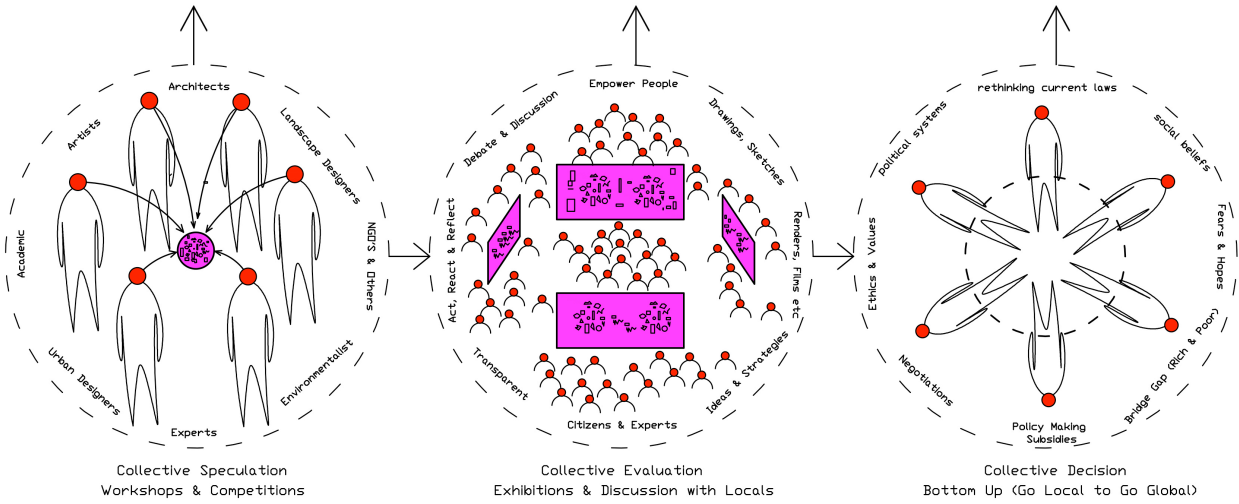
I will present parts of my own work as conducted in my studio Ketham's Atelier Architects, and the NGO Thinking Hand, which I co-founded in 2015, in Hyderabad in India. My research focuses on the development of a speculative design method that can act as a catalyst for collectively

redefining our relationship to reality. It is based on the assumption that a collective research method in practice can make a difference and open up new ways of thinking through scenarios concerning climate change and especially flooding. My research aims to create formats to collectively speculate, negotiate, and reconstruct flooding cities for more hopeful futures. In my thesis, I aim to refine my ongoing practice with various community groups together with multiple actors such as experts and politicians to further emerging common narratives, for larger impact, to combat climate change. Currently, our work is based on spatial learning by collectively drawing, modeling, presenting, discussing, and assessing what-if scenarios in workshops and design competitions, and disseminating the work to a wider public through exhibitions. While, in my thesis I address a number of cities as case studies, such as Mumbai and Hyderabad, I will reflect on the mediating formats of my research process including workshops, competitions and exhibitions. Research studies are done in collaboration Thinking Hand NGO, Ketham's Atelier and other originations.



Re-search Form & Shape

Drawing By Kethan Santosh Kumar (Author)



Collective Approach
 Drawing By Kethan Santosh Kumar (Author)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I'm grateful to my supervisor Prof. Marjan Colletti (Head of the Institute), for continuous support and guidance for Research and funding for workshops, conferences from the Institute of experimental architecture, Hochbau and PhD Research work supported by a scholarship from Vice-Rector for Research Univ.- Prof. Dr Ulrike Tanzer (young research grant for 2020 to 2022). And additional thanks to the 1669 committee International conference grant from the University of Innsbruck. Further, special thanks to Thinking Hand NGO and Ketham's Atelier team, Hyderabad, India.