

# WORKSHOP FOR STUDENTS OF THE PROGRAM ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING IN ETHIOPIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING IN MEKELLE

TITLE:

## BUILD THE CONDOMINIUM STREET FURNITURE! “SLIM” EDITION

All over the world countries face the rural exodus and increasing of urban population which results in housing problems in cities. The formation of slums is inevitable. Ethiopia itself was confronted with statements of diverse institutions that up to 80% of housing in its capital Addis Ababa were classified as slums. More or less exorbitant claims about traditional kebele houses and daily real life led into an enormous challenge.

The Ethiopian Integrated Housing Development Program (EIHD) was established as a reaction to national and international claims about housing challenge in the country. The program set an ambitious initial target of constructing 400 000 standardized and affordable condominium units between 2006 and 2010. The apartments are in multistoried blocks where communal areas are shared by inhabitants - low and middle-income Ethiopians.

As already third experience of cooperation between Mekelle University and Cigler Marani Architects, at the occasion of “International Conference on Affordable Housing, Mekelle 2014” (10-12/11/2014) there was a workshop called “The condominium Street Furniture” organized for students of 5th year of bachelor architecture program. The goal of the workshop was a design of urban equipment for public space. The public space that is more or less overlooked in context of numerous precipitously constructed condominiums... Today’s attention is focused on maxiscale of block composition and urban pattern or flat dispositions. But people are influenced by the common and public space design as well or even more... The public space is abandoned, people face the problems of lack of the safety, comfort, orientation, spirit if the space and identity.

The workshop “Condominium Street Furniture” (01-14/11/2014) was focused on architecture in combination with product design of different objects of public equipment (benches, traffic barriers, bollards, streetlamps, traffic lights, traffic signs, bajaj stands, shaders, kiosks, trashbins...) in relation with social (=safety), cultural (=art and appearance), anthropological (=function and usefulness) and environmental aspects (=sustainability and material).

The original proposed workshop “Build the Condominium Street Furniture” (03-04/2015) has an aim to build the most successful appropriate results of previous workshop into the field – an overlooked condominium at the periphery of Mekelle city, in Quiha. The leitmotif is recylation. Students have designed different models and patterns using the old buckets, PVC tubes, covers etc.

The original workshop was presented to the Czech Embassy to get the grant from Local Small Scale Project Programme. Unfortunately, the proposal didn’t gain the funding.

BUT... the organisers do not lose the courage. As the workshop has very high quality potential to be implemented in the Architecture Programme Curricula, the “slim version” is proposed to the university authorities...

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# BUILD THE CONDOMINIUM STREET FURNITURE! “SLIM” EDITION

## AIM:

To find ways how to perceive, feel, understand and deal with public spaces and people's needs, with neglected areas, hidden spots, how to turn them into the places overflowing with INSPIRATION and MOTIVATION, how to REVIVE it to attract the people to care about it, how to think progressively and SUSTAINABLY, how to contribute to the DEVELOPMENT...

## ACADEMIC FRAME:

It is a playful approach to explore how low-cost materials and tools and crafts can be used to shape public space. And how the public space shapes its users...

The workshop itself will be considered like a block course in the beginning of the spring semester instead of the course “Arch 5422 Low-cost strategies in design” of the spring semestre of the academic year 2014/2015. It will be part of their mandatory curricula for all students of 5th year of bachelor programme.

## SUB-THEMES:

how to use secondary materials - how to recycle, how to make the users feel the ownership of the public space, how to learn from the PUBLIC space, architecture as a contribution to the development, URBAN REGENERATION, finding focal points of public attention, phenomena and archetypes, campus as a place to live, presentation techniques...

## LOCATION:

Instead of the public condominium in Quiha as proposed originally, the “slim workshop” proposes to build up the prototypes of students design in the campus of the Mekelle University, in Arid, where the faculty of architecture is located as well.

## BENEFICIERS:

As the aim of the workshop is to build up REAL prototypes of street furniture in the campus, the project will have REAL users. The students and academic staff will profit from the build prototypes of sitting areas, shades and rubbish bins.

## RESULTS and indicators:

There will be 10 different spots with sitting places and shades and rubbish bins built up by students of 5th year of study during a week of the workshop in field – in the campus in Arid.

There will be pre and post presentation and evaluation of the project done by interviews and taking pictures before, during and after the construction (3months after the installation).

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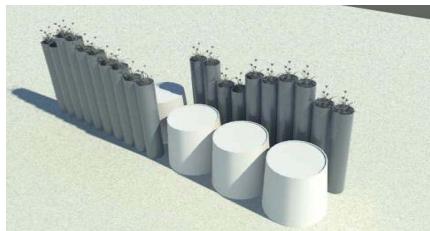
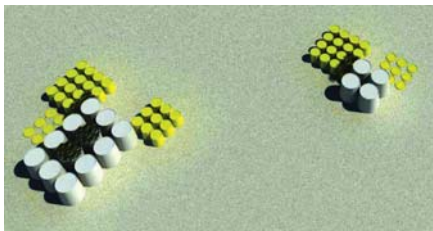
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## BUILD THE CONDOMINIUM STREET FUTURE! “SLIM” EDITION

**TIMEFRAME:**

At the occasion of “International Conference on Affordable Housing, Mekelle 2014” there was organised a product design workshop called “Condominium Street Future”. The goal of the workshop was a design of urban equipment for public space that is more or less overlooked in context of numerous precipitously constructed condominiums... The students designed very appropriate sitting areas, shades, clothes hangers and shades reusing the material that might be found at the site or in close surroundings.

In the proposed workshop they will develop the pattern and details of the most appropriate designs and results of last workshop (buckets, PVC tubes, fabrics. clothes...) and implement them in field. As the material choice is limited, very well-thought, detailed and sophisticated .results are expected.



0	2 weeks	01-14/11/2014	Students workshop “Condominium Street Fu(rni)ture” at the occasion of the International Conference on Affordable Housing “The Affordable and the Profitable” in Mekelle
1	5 months	Dec-Apr/2015	Preparation phase: logistics and administrative (recuperation, arranging contracts of material donation with construction firms...)
2	1 week	May/2015	Design of the exact patterns and compositions of each of the 10 spots during the studio class with students
3	1 day	May/2015	Public presentation of the project in Arid Campus (Friday)
4	1 week	May/2015	Building at the site of Arid campus
6	1 day	May/2015	Opening ceremony (1 Friday)
7		May/2015	Evaluation (interviewing the students, staff, taking pictures by students)
8		May/2015	Reporting (by CMU)

**NUMBER OF STUDENTS:**

approx. 90 students from the last (5th) year of study in spring semestre. They will participate on mandatory basis in the workshop session as in the part of their block course Arch 5422 Low-cost strategies in design of the spring semestre of the academic year 2014/2015



WORKSHOP FOR STUDENTS OF THE PROGRAM  
**ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING**  
 IN ETHIOPIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY,  
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**BUILD THE CONDOMINIUM STREET FURNITURE!  
 "SLIM" EDITION**

COSTS:

1. Personal Costs	free - tutor Michaela Solnická (salary, visa, insurance) of the workshop is covered by Cigler Marani Architects (partner of Faculty of Architecture)
2. Per Diem	free
3. Training Costs	free
4. Travel Costs	25 000 BIR - international flight ticket Ouagadougou - Mekelle - Ouagadougou
5. Equipment	free
6. Goods	free
7. Material	2000 BIR - colours free - buckets, PVC pipes, fabrics, recyclation and public collection free - metal material collected within campus
8. Transport	free - organised in the campus itself, no need of local transport
9. Contracted Services	free - university maintenance team - contracted welding
10. Other Costs	1 000 BIR - opening ceremony with music - organised by students club (music) 2 000 BIR - printing of presentation posters, printing of banners

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION