

Symposium

Finding Stories

**The role of immaterial culture
in city planning**

**30 January 2016 at the Amstelkerk,
Amstelveld 10, Amsterdam**

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It seems obvious that culture and immaterial heritage are important components for regeneration plans in cities. However, it remains a challenge to find the often hidden stories representing the culture of the existing communities and to then incorporate them in planning and design.

The Municipality of Amsterdam and the Government of Zanzibar – both managing UNESCO World Heritage Sites - are working on the development of strategies for heritage-based urban regeneration in Zanzibar. This developed from a particular interest from Zanzibar in the collaboration between the private and public sector in Amsterdam when it comes to using heritage as driver for development. This already led to the establishment of Hifadhi Zanzibar, a company following the model of Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV.

Now the focus is on the heritage based regeneration of Ng'ambo, a less known area just outside of the world famous Stone Town, but equally interesting in historic sense. Next to mapping of the tangible component, it is essential to uncover the cultural and socio-economic framework in the area. This integral approach is the key principle of the UNESCO Historic Urban Landscape approach, for which Ng'ambo is an important pilot project in East Africa.

The mapping of the intangible heritage of the area – based upon intensive community involvement - is about to start. This is the reason to organise the symposium Finding Stories as part of a workshop with colleagues from Zanzibar and Amsterdam.

This symposium is partly open for public. The public programme (between 9-13:00 hrs) includes among others:

- Project introductions by Aart Oxenaar (Director Department Monuments and Archaeology City of Amsterdam), Muhammad Juma (Director Department for Urban and Rural Planning Zanzibar) and Antoni Folkers (African Architecture Matters)
- Key note lectures on the relation between tangible and intangible heritage (Dr. Gabri van Tussenbroek, City of Amsterdam) and the relevance of the UNESCO Historic Urban Landscape Approach (Karim Hendili, UNESCO).
- Cases from Casablanca (by Abderrahim Kassou), Benin, Chad and Morocco (by Franck Houndegla) and Mozambique (by Silje Elroy Sollien)
- A panel discussion on tools and techniques for involving intangible heritage in urban planning and the relevance of this for the urban climate.

The afternoon sessions are closed and specifically focused on the Zanzibar case (from 13.00 hrs):

- Tools and techniques for Finding Stories in Ng'ambo
- Translating Stories in Urban Planning and Design for Ng'ambo

The results will be presented and discussed in a public conclusive session between 15.30-17:00 hrs.

If you are interested to join the public programme, please register by sending an e-mail to office@aamatters.nl. You will receive payment instructions for the participation fee:

- Regular: € 20,00 per person
- Reduction fee for students: € 10,00 per person (please provide copy of student card)

Please register before 27 January 2016, then you will receive a more detailed programme.

The symposium is organised by AAmatters, also involved in the collaboration between Amsterdam and Zanzibar. This symposium is financed through funding from RVO, Stimuleringsfonds and Dutch Culture.

SPEAKERS SYMPOSIUM

Dr. Aart Oxenaar studied Art history and Archaeology at the University of Amsterdam. After his Master degree he worked for the Netherlands Architecture institute as author and curator. He was founding coordinator of the Centre for Architecture and Urban Planning in Tilburg. From 1998 until 2014 he was the director of the Amsterdam Academy of Architecture. Since January 2015 he is the Director of the Department of Monuments & Archaeology of the City of Amsterdam.

Dr. Muhammad Juma is an architect and planner from Zanzibar and currently the Director of Urban and Rural Planning on the Zanzibar Islands. From 2009-2011, he has worked as an in-house consultant for UNESCO World Heritage Centre in Paris, on the domain of Heritage and Urban Conservation on African continent. In Africa he is a pioneer when it comes to the development of instruments and methods to ensure sustainable development of cultural heritage in Africa.

Dr. Antoni Folkers is an architect and urban designer. He commenced his professional career as researcher and designer in Ouagadougou before joining the Institute for Tropical Building (IFT) of Dr G Lippmeier in Starnberg, Germany. Together with Belinda van Buiten and later Geoffrey Wilks, he is founding director of FBW Architects & Engineers. Since 1984 he has been involved in a wide variety of architecture and urban development projects on the African continent. In 2001, he co-founded ArchiAfrika and in 2010 African Architecture Matters. Folkers published a wide range of articles and few books on architecture and urbanism in Africa.

Dr. Gabri van Tussenbroek has recently been appointed as Professor Urban Identity and Monuments, especially for Amsterdam, at the University of Amsterdam and an architectural historian at the Department for Monuments and Archaeology from the City of Amsterdam. Besides that, he is member of the editorial board of the 'Bulletin van de Koninklijke Nederlandse Oudheidkundige Bond'.

Karim André Hendili is architect DPLG (French state graduation) with a master degree in cultural heritage conservation (focus on the Arab region). He holds a position of Programme Specialist at the Arab States Unit of the World Heritage Centre (UNESCO HQ's, Paris) and is the coordinator of the World Heritage Cities Programme. This includes the promotion of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (2011) and the coordination of UNESCO's contribution to the UN response to the issue of urbanization and sustainable development driven by UN-Habitat.

Abderrahim Kassou is an architect and anthropologist. Besides a professional practice as architect, he was the president of Casamemoire and currently is member of the National Council of Human Rights. He is also involved in several other organisations involved in the cultural rights field. He co-founded the non-profit organisation Architecture et Développement, which aims to promote sensitive and appropriate architectural and urban interventions in zones of development.

Franck Houndégla is a designer specialized in exhibition and museum design, enhancement of public spaces and heritage sites in France and abroad. Project manager for architect and exhibition designer Philippe Delis from 1990 to 1996, he created the studio Bi.cks with Jean-Paul and Jean-Luc Augry Mairet - active from 1994 to 2002. Currently he is a PhD student in Architecture (Université Paris-Est, Laboratory IPRAUS - Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture Paris-Belleville).

Dr. Silje Sollien is an architect and has done her PHD at the Royal Academy School of Architecture, Copenhagen, 2011-2013. She has worked mainly with heritage conservation and urban development in Ilha de Mocambique in 2011-2013. She has done her PHD-research on the project 'The Macuti House in Ilha de Moçambique: Transforming the other side of a World Heritage site', concerning the lack of urban planning and management guidelines for Macuti Town.