

Global Maker Space(s)  
 Spaces, practices and infrastructures for commons-based urban production

As global urbanization accelerates, informal settlements, especially in the cities of the Global South, will be where the majority of new urban citizens will live. The way these inhabitants construct their dwellings, or consume and produce resources like energy, food, water, information and manufactured goods will decide if we as a global society will succeed in transitioning towards sustainability and address existentialist threats such climate change, poverty or resource depletion.

Accra | Horley - Schweizer - Sigler

02 / NORMALIZING DISASSEMBLY

"I think [the attitude of not having this fear to open something up, that's an attitude / something that can only be learned in a group ... There are so many people desperate for manuals, but it's a lot of work to do them."  
 - Stefanie Wuschitz

**GAMEBOY COLOR**

**SAMSUNG GALAXY S9**

**IPHONE 12**

In the context of weak and poorly resourced states in the Global South, the impetus for transitioning has to come from within urban societies themselves. The studio investigated the potentials of bottom-up approaches towards collaborative production, consumption and learning. Based on the principle of low-threshold access and use, rather than capital investment, we will investigate urban workshops, makerspaces, hackerspaces or repair shops. This studio reflects how can a new maker culture enable local communities and support user driven urban transformation processes and co-production of neighborhoods. Are there counter strategies to create urban futures

that are accessible, inclusive and open source, especially for inhabitants of rapidly growing informal settlements? What could be a role for architects and planners?

Students of this studio analyzed the spatiality and architecture of existing makerspaces in global south and linked commodity flows, and develop programmatic and architectural proposals for these as part of a broader urban design and intervention strategy to enhance existing and generate new spatial interfaces between the city and makers, neighbors and global networks. We collaborated closely with Prof. Michelle Christensen and Prof. Florian Conradi (Einstein Center Digital Future), both experts for critical maker culture and open science, and a network of local initiatives across cities such as Medellín, Rio de Janeiro, Accra, Lomé, Lagos, Yogyakarta and Surakarta as clients and collaborators to design strategic scenarios and proposals for infrastructural interventions to evolve them into a series of catalysts for grassroots-driven urban transitioning towards sustainability.

### Students

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### Teaching

Dr. Moritz Ahlert, Prof. Michelle Christensen, Prof. Florian Conradi and Prof. Dr. Philipp Misselwitz

### Network Partners

Sename Koffi Agbodjinou (Lomé), Gameli Adzaho (Accra), Max Becker (Medellín), Juliana Canedo (Rio), Rebecca Enobong Roberts (Lagos), Ania Wilk-Pham (Surakarta), Stefanie Wuschitz (Yogyakarta)