



ISBN: 978-3-9812769-8-5

FROM ASHWA' EYAT TO HABITAT SPONTAN'E

Development Priorities in Informal Areas "TUNIS"

Habitat Unit

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Habitat Unit



Integrated Urbanism
& Sustainable Design
(IUSD)



الجامعة الوطنية للهندسة المعمارية والتصميم
ECOLE NATIONALE D'ARCHITECTURE ET D'URBANISME

DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst
German Academic Exchange Service

First published in 2018

Habitat-Unit: Chair of International Urbanism and Design.

Fakultät VI Planen Bauen Umwelt
Technische Universität Berlin.

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From Ashwa'eyat to Habitat Spontané: Development Priorities in Informal Areas – Tunis.

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This publication is part of the research project “Development Priorities and Local Perceptions in Spontaneous Housing: Learning from the Tunisian Experience in Informal Urbanism”, Funded through Transformation program by the DAAD – German Academic Exchange service (2016).

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Acronyms

- DEVEPER: Development Priorities in Informal areas – Reality, Planning and Perceptions Research project, Habitat Unit and IUSD German Egyptian Research fund- GEF (2014-2016)
- DAAD: German Academic Exchange Service
- IUSD: Integrated Urbanism and Sustainable Design

INTRODUCTION

Transformation and Informal Urbanism

Political democratic transformation processes that have been taking place in different Arab countries since 2011 deeply impact on cities and urban transformation in the region.

Made possible through a grant of the German Academic Exchange Network (DAAD) students will have the opportunity to visit and conduct research in one of the most fascinating countries of the Arab Spring movement: Tunisia.

Here, the impact of political and societal transformation on the residents of informal neighbourhoods (ashwa'eyat) will be explored. Change has created many opportunities for more local involvement and participation in urban upgrading, but also new challenges.

In preparatory sessions students will be introduced to the global discourse around urban informality drawing on a wide range of global and regional examples including ongoing research conducted at the Habitat Unit (DEVEPER).

Students will also critically examine current practices of upgrading in informal urban contexts led by governments, NGOs or international cooperation agencies such as GIZ.

During an extensive field trip to Tunis, students will then conduct research and field work in local informal areas, with a special focus on the area of Sebkheth El Sijouni.

Based on these findings we will analyse successes and failures of local policies towards informal neighbourhoods and propose new inclusive tools and approaches for participatory neighbourhood upgrading.

A key focus will be to question how governments and local residents can engage in new forms of (unorthodox) arrangements and partnerships to build a more inclusive, better serviced, resilient and just city.

Summer School 6 ECTS
Arch MA - WP, UD MA - WP

First meeting
May 16th, 10am, A624
(future preparatory meetings and lectures will be announced)

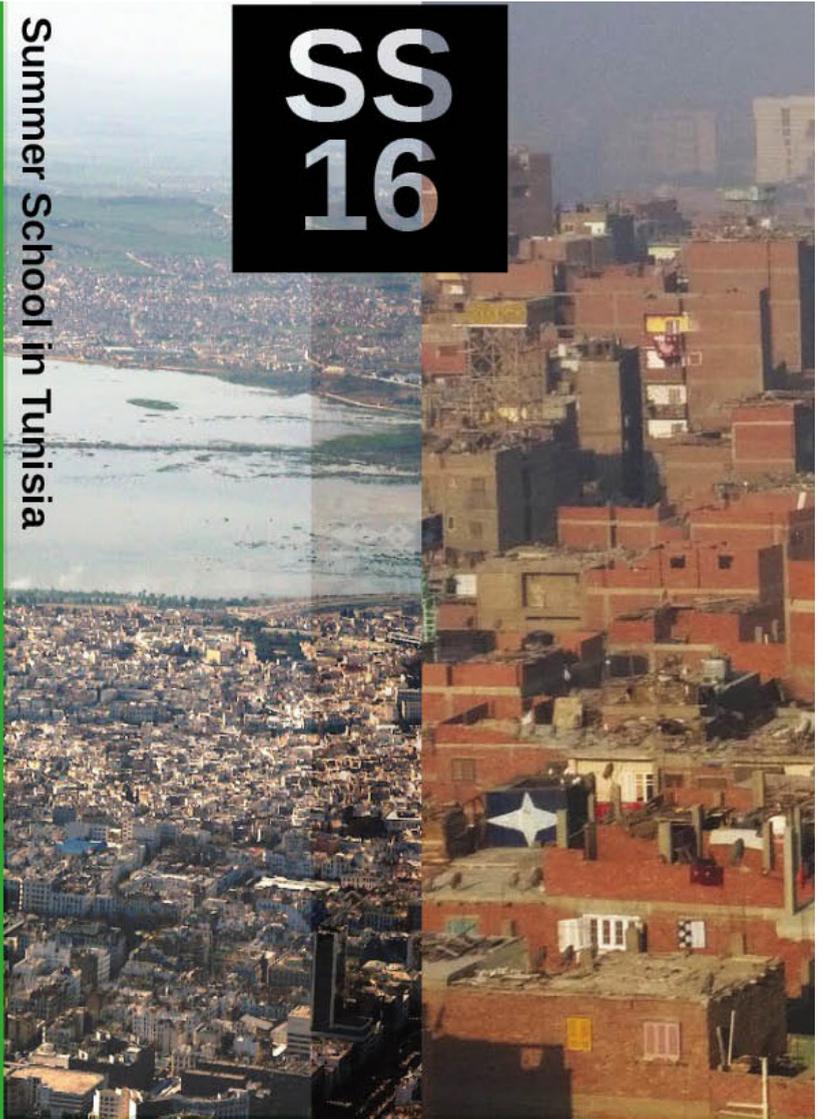
Application
A4 Motivation letter and a short CV by April 15 to
elmouelhi@tu-berlin.de

Dr. Hassan Elmouelhi

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Summer School in Tunisia

SS
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From „Ashwa‘eyat“ to „Habitat Spontané“

Habitat Unit

1. From Ashwa'eyat to Habitat Spontané:

Idea and Research concept

H.Elmouelhi, M.Salheen, P.Misselwitz

Trigger: The Role of Universities in Informal Urbanism

Political transformation processes that have been taking place since 2011 in different Arab countries have their implications on urban policies on national and local city levels, and consequently on the residents quality of life. The right to the city is still a concept that needs to be tackled within these processes. Democratic transformation has a great potential to be reflected on urban development policies, which is yet to be investigated.

The ways of dealing with the “informal” or “unplanned” urban areas are different from country to another, and usually also different from city to another or even an area to another. Learning from Cities is a method that has proven its validity along with being an approach that has been argued by several scholars (Robinson 2010) within the field of comparative urbanism.

Investigating and understanding such complex relations falls in the core research focus of Habitat Unit (Chair of International urbanism and design) – Berlin Technical University, together with IUSD Cairo Lab (Integrated Urbanism and Sustainable Design) – Ain Shams University, with a special focus on the Middle East.

In that context, the idea of conducting a seminar/summer school has emerged as a complimentary activity to the on-going research project: “Development priorities in Cairo Informal settlements. Planning, perceptions and realities - DEVEPER”, in cooperation with IUSD Cairo Lab (Integrated urbanism and sustainable design, Ain Shams University) in Cairo. This work has been supported by DAAD through the transformation partnership program in Arab countries (2016).

Main Goal and Research Questions

Accordingly, the main goal of this research in Tunisia is to understand and learn from the Tunisian experience of dealing with informal urbanism, from the national to the local level including exploring how the state manages the processes of institutionalization, especially after the transformation process that has started after the 2011 revolution. In addition, we aim at understanding the mechanisms that role the relation between different state entities that deal with issues such as public housing and upgrading of the existing informal districts. This is accompanied by an attempt to investigate and try to assess different types of urban development interventions. Another aim is to understand the mechanisms of interventions that target urban development of informal areas. This varies between initiatives done by the local residents, in addition to intervention projects done by other stakeholders including the government, NGOs or international cooperation organization. The research project provides guidelines and recommendations for urban policy and decision makers about the methods of setting up priorities for intervention. This is approached through answering some questions that include:

- What kind of change in urban policies regarding informal urbanism on the national level has occurred recently after 2011?
- Who initiates the urban development projects?
- How do different stakeholders perceive the development projects: residents, NGOs, and government?

- How do the projects match with the residents' needs and expectations?
 - What are the dynamics of decision-making process for each project?
 - What are the internal mechanisms within the community that play a role within that process (e.g. origin, religion, business, ...etc.)?

Through the support of the DAAD, conducting this short term activity is a main part of a course seminar that has been offered by the Habitat Unit for master students from different programs at TU Berlin (Summer semester 2016), taught by Hassan Elmouelhi and Salma Khamis under the supervision of Philipp Misselwitz under the title of: "Informal urbanism in Arab cities at the era of transformation: Case studies from Cairo and Tunis". The students have been exposed to different theories and approaches about informal urbanism from the international discourse, then explore together within a socio-economic and a cultural perspective how dealing with informal urbanism is perceived by different actors within the political transformation that have been taking place in Egypt and Tunisia.

The project's main general aims are as follows:

- Establishing connections between the partners from German and Tunisian universities.
- Providing knowledge to the participant students about the urban development process in the Tunisian context including local (with special focus on Sijoumi area).
- Collecting the sufficient knowledge about the urban development situation in Tunisia, that triggers specific research questions to act as a base for further research projects applications.

To reach these main aims, with an international mixed group of around (around 22 Students) the following goals are to be achieved:

- An international mixed group of around (around 22 Students) learn the following:
 - Acquire an introduction to the discourse of Complexity of informal urbanism.
 - Understand the importance of action planning and integrated planning approaches for urban intervention.
 - Get informed about the national urban policies in Tunis in relation to development projects of spontaneous areas.
 - Acquire hands on experience regarding understanding and analyzing urban problems
 - Realize different types of urban upgrading projects and stakeholders.
 - Understand decision-making processes of development projects in Tunisia.

- Identify and analyze different roles of different stakeholders in development process and consequently impacts of the projects on residents' lives.
- Get introduced – through real case study- to methods of participation in upgrading project in Tunisia.
- Analyze the implementation of the small-scale projects and initiatives.
- Knowledge transfer through the contribution of professors, experts and students in different directions (Germany, Tunisia, Egypt), through lectures, workshops and mixed working groups.
- The potential of establishment of further cooperation between the academic partners (ESAD - Tunisia and Habitat unit - Germany).
- Dissemination of the outcomes through this publication that documents the event has been issued after the summer school, which includes the analysis and the findings of the students' work, in addition to contributions from the instructors and experts.
- Getting involved in this summer school in Tunis has allowed the DEVEPER research team, with the help of the students, to criticize and evaluate the process of urban development intervention in Tunisia, a comparable context to the Egyptian, then it has been reflected on the main research focus, which is exploring development priorities in Cairo informal settlements. The difference between the two contexts would provides a fresh eye to pick out the positive and negative aspects of the process in Tunis, and try to enhance the recommendations related to top national level policies and reaching the local small scale levels in both cases.

2. Development Priorities in Informal Areas in Tunisia

2.1 International Discourse and Definitions

H.Elmouelhi

Informal Urbanism

In the wider literature, different definitions of urban informality can be distinguished, including accounts of informal urban development as: A global phenomenon of rapid urbanization that is not controlled by governments and that produces megacities in the global south (Davis 2006; UN Habitat 2009); a particular form of social interaction, which ranges between formal and informal (Etzold, et al. 2009); a result of liberalization and globalization (Al Syyad 2004); a new way of life - mode of urban existence, beyond economic sector (Roy, Al Syyad 2004); a form of government failure that varies from country to country and city to city (Gottdiener 1994); an indicator of the state of social justice (Roy 2005); an integral element that makes cities work economically, while being deprived of services and civil rights (Perlman 2005).

In Tunisia, “spontaneous housing” is the Tunisian national term for the “informal settlements”. As the French language is considered an official language besides to the Arabic, the French term “Habitat Spontané” and “Habitat informel” are the common used terms, which means “Spontaneous housing” and “informal housing”. However, informal settlements are considered mainly a new phenomenon as an agglomeration of spontaneous housings in internal deprived regions and fringes of coastal cities (UN Habitat 2010). In Greater Tunis and around major cities urban sprawl has become a major problem. In the 1970s and 1980s large peripheral informal settlements had been created (UN Habitat 2001), mostly on agricultural land, the phenomenon of gourbis (informal peripheral urban settlements) proliferated. The government’s first response was demolition and resettlement in government housing. It started then to take some steps to institutionalize the process of

solving this problem. In 1974 the National Housing and Savings Fund (CNEL) was set up, as was the Housing Land Agency (AFH) and ONAS, the national wastewater company. Thus SNIT (Tunisian National Building Society) could concentrate exclusively on the construction of social housing, leaving the associated land provision, sanitation, and finance to other institutions.

In the case of “Grand Tunis”, areas with spontaneous housing are located in the peri-urban areas, fringes of the city; they kept on growing the last 15 years as a result of the internal migration phenomenon in the region. As a matter of fact, there are several peri-urban areas at the peripheries of Grand Tunis region that have emerged throughout the previous decades (e.g. Hey Ettadhamen district, and Sijoumi area).

Its genesis results of the mechanisms of exclusion generated by the development models used in the 60’s and 80’s. In general, the emergence of “Habitat Spontané” (informal housing) is tightly linked to socio-economic exclusion and mainly affecting working-class districts of Tunisian cities and underprivileged regions in particular internal ones.

In Tunisia, informal housing could be interpreted as an alternative for those excluded from the existing housing market model. Studies have been conducted to trace this phenomenon and to understand its dimensions of actors, mechanisms and products since the 60’s. After 2011, this phenomenon of informal urbanization has become more and more visible in the Tunisian cities and regions, pushing the government to act and review its strategies and urban development policy intending to achieve integration of these new forms of urbanization.

Urban Informality and Governance in Tunisia

After studying three different African cities, Myers concludes that: "Informality means different things in different cities, people's lives vary, and the historic state-society relation as well" (Myers, 2011: 101).

This offers that the relation between the state and society is an important factor in the formation and shaping of informality. Myers does not really propose one solution that could be generalized, but rather proposes that each case has to be studied separately, and might learn from other cities.

The way states or governments deal with the issue of informality plays a role in how informal settlements progress or develop (Elmouelhi 2014). Regarding the formal informal relations, Gottdiener addresses the relation between governments of the "global South" and people saying that those relations are unsuccessful: "Ruling class domination of economy and government leads to harsh measures of social control, hyper aggressive police, death squads, and repressive political dictatorship, rather than enlightened policies of social reform." (Gottdiener, 1994: 270)

In the following part, the history of informal settlements in Tunisia will be discussed with regards to upgrading and development efforts that lead to the current situation.

2.2 Squatter Settlements in Tunisia: from Rejection to Recognition

Prof. Mouldi Chaabani

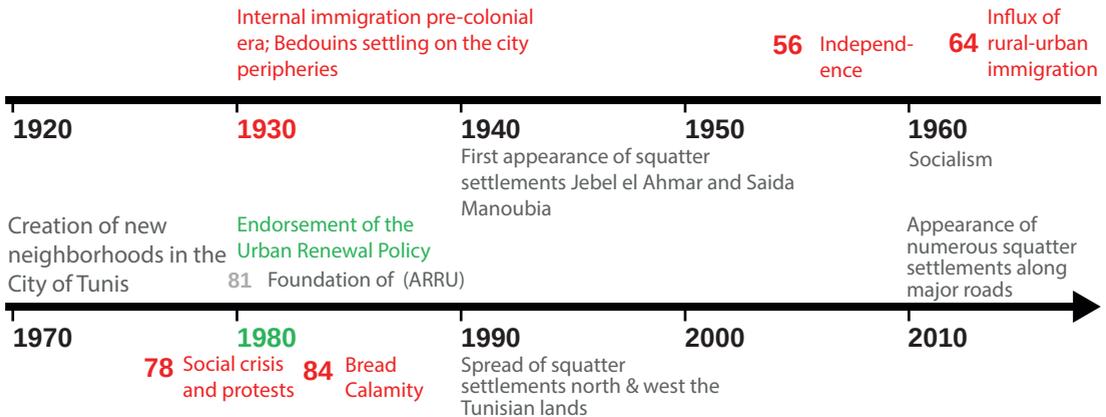


Figure 1 Squatter settlements situation development in Tunisia (source: Author).

Since the French colonial period, Tunisia has been subjected to the squatter housing phenomenon that spread on the outskirts of big cities. When studying the historical development of the city of Tunis, it is apparent that it started in the early twentieth century, with a group of moveable camps that have arrived from rural areas to settle into fixed tin buildings later on. This changed qualitatively and quantitatively in the post-independence period and in the beginning of the sixties to turn into squatter settlements built with concrete materials. This expansion is a result of the demographic growth and heavy migration from rural areas in search of jobs in the city, which the country has witnessed. This phenomenon has emerged from the political and economic choices that began with the failed socialist experiment that was destructive to the conventional agricultural system and ruined the rural-urban equilibrium. Further on, it was aggravated by the new economic policy that followed, which pushed for more liberalism focusing on transformational and export industries while encouraging investment in coastal tourism.

All of these policies continued until recent years and resulted in a disruption in the balance between internal authorities and coastal

cities, which pushed towards the rapid expansion of these squatter settlements to become highly dense, fully functioning cities lacking services, preparations and basic living facilities. They became almost isolated and marginalized areas with high rates of unemployment and organized crime, to the extent that they became a threat to national security and social peace. This was evident after the events of the so-called Bread Revolution on 26th January 1978, when the situation worsened in the capital and its surroundings because of the riots, violence and the general chaos that was led by young unemployed youth coming from Al Malasin, Jebel el Ahmar, Tadamun neighborhood and Douar Hicher.

Faced with this serious situation threatening our cities, officials realized that the continuing rejection to recognize the status quo for these neighborhoods and the indifference to their existence is an incorrect and unrealistic policy that will shake public security and stability, and drag the country into what may have dire consequences. It turned out to be more constructive to develop a well thought strategy that considers this important category of housing, deals with it, rehabilitates it and limits its outbreak.

This new policy was brought into being in 1979 when the rehabilitation and preparation project of Jebel el Ahmar and Al Malasin neighborhoods, which was funded from the World Bank, was approved.

The objectives of this project were to integrate the neighborhoods within their urban, economic and social surroundings, deliver the necessary facilities that improve their living conditions, support investments which enhance the economic activity while focusing on the participation of citizens and unemployed young men in the rehabilitation process such that they benefit directly from the project.

As a result of the success of this experiment and the importance of its findings, the supervising Ministry approved the consolidation of a newly launched policy that legally recognizes squatter housing, and created legal mechanisms and legal structures that deals with them in the whole republic. Among them are the Rehabilitation Agency and Renewal (ARRU) which was entrusted with the works of reform and rehabilitation of a thousand squatter houses across the whole republic.

2.3 The Assessment of the Tadhmun Area Rehabilitation Project & Its Implications

Eng. Fethi El Mansouri

Foreword

Since the mid-twentieth century, developing countries have witnessed an increase in the urban population that has been faster than the countries' economic growth. This was due to several factors; the accelerated demographic growth, the rural-urban migration, the overcrowding population densities, the deterioration of the economic and social conditions, and the search for job opportunities and livelihood resources in cities. This gap between the high urban population patterns and the slow pace of economic growth has resulted in difficulties to provide job opportunities, housing and services to meet the growing demands. As a result, various squatter housing patterns appeared in cities and on their edges such as the cottage-districts, the tin-districts and the dwellings that have been built on lands not pre-planned for residential uses and are lacking the provision of the necessary services. These settlements have been self-built by low income sectors that are unable to acquire formal dwellings due to their rarity or unsuitability or potentiality.

The squatter housing phenomenon represents more than 50% of the annual housing production. A number of countries have worked on formulating policies and programs to rehabilitate squatter settlements and to reduce the spread of this phenomenon, including the Republic of Tunisia. Tunisia launched its rehabilitation experiment in the late seventies of the last century and is still going on to date.

Study Area Selection

It has been agreed in this workshop, to assess the rehabilitation project of Tadamun district and Douar Hicher located in the western suburbs of Grand Tunis, both covering an area of 1700 hectares out of which only 20% has been inhabited in the late seventies of the last century and housing 50,000 residents. This area has been selected for the following reasons:

- The importance of this experiment in rehabilitating and integrating underprivileged settlements which were newly forming, the size of the project itself, the diversity of its components, and its urban and social impacts;
- The precedence and the maturity of the project which helps in evaluating its outcomes after a certain period of its completion;
- The importance of the intangible conclusions, which should be taken into consideration when formulating policies and programs to rehabilitate and explore other squatter settlements in similar countries;

The assessment of the project's outcomes will evaluate the set objectives of the project and how achieved they were, through assessing the works and establishments completed in addition to estimating the performance of the stakeholders in both the preparation and implementation phase. It also includes the analysis of the direct implications on the residents, in terms of improving housing and living conditions, the economic and social context and the municipal work in the region.

The Rehabilitation Project objectives

- Integrating neighborhoods within their urban and social surroundings;
- Improving the housing and living conditions of the residents;
- Upgrading neighborhoods and creating an economic foundation through completed investments in rehabilitation projects; and
- Enabling citizen participation in financing projects to strengthen their spirit of citizenship.

Quantitative Achievements

Quantitative Achievements were as follows:

- The acquisition and usage of the necessary land for the right of way needed for the roads and infrastructure as well as establishing public buildings for health, education and sports. The subdivision of land plots designated for self-construction to re-house families whose houses were situated in the right of way of roads or were in areas designated for the planned public buildings. The compensation for primitive dwellings and responding to the demands of the low-income housing.
- The completion of the main networks that had priority in terms of funding and implementation such as the structured road networks to connect the isolated areas, sewage networks, water, lighting and storm-water drainage systems.
- The execution of the infrastructure within the residential districts according to funding, priority and population density.
- The inauguration of public school buildings, hospital buildings and a children's kindergarten.
- The assigning over 1000 self-build home loans and renovating existing houses.

The Implementation Time Frame : what happened?

The project has been executed in an 11 years period (1982-1992). It, however, exceeded expectations by 3 years and this is due to:

- The difficulty of the area (neighborhood structure and a lot of construction prohibitions) and the vague situation of land ownership, in addition to the breaching of commitments by some of the stakeholders involved in the project, as well as contractual difficulties and the long process to obtain necessary permits.
- The additional needed time duration to implement the project expansion that was approved in the year 1989.

Conclusions

In spite of all the positive aspects of this project, a few shortcomings appeared most prominent were:

- The absence of a future vision when designing for the project. The design was mainly to upgrade the deteriorated situation of the districts by providing them with infrastructure and public facilities. However, the presence of huge plots of undevelopable lands could have been utilized within a future vision for developing the area and avoiding the informal construction phenomena.
- The subdivision program is limited to the needs of the current population distribution and limited to compensating the current constructed residential units without taking into consideration the increasing housing demands within the area itself.

3. The History Of Habitat Spontané

A.Seele, H.Elmouelhi

The development of spontaneous informal settlements started already during the period of French occupation. The first wave of rural immigrants occurred due to dispossession of land and the introduction of modern agriculture through the French. Mostly groups of people settled down at the borders of the city. The second phase of urban evolution in Tunis was after the Tunisian independence. The Europeans left the European part of the city center, Tunisia slowly opened up to international markets and lifted many regulations which slowed down the development of Tunisia and Tunis. As the capitalist mechanisms began to have an effect and the Medina continued to decay, citizens with low income began to immigrate from the city center to the outskirts of Tunis and established those „Gourbivilles“, non-permanent housing structures often built overnight. Between 1956 and 1975, this led to an increase in the urbanized areas from 40ha to 105ha.

This urban exodus took place in a very short period of time, in Ettadhamen for example the number of buildings grew from 50 to 8000 in just 12 years ('70-'82), with these events, the spontaneous urbanization of Tunis began. In 1985 more than 100.000 people were living in the Gourbivilles (today about 400.000), 3/4 of which immigrated from Tunis to the outskirts. A big part of the people who populated these newly emerged parts of Tunis came from other informal settlements (about 41%), because they were dislocated due to urban planning and/or development projects. The inhabitants of these areas were mostly workers (30%), day-workers and unemployed (25%), but also members of the middle class and employees of the third sector (13%). These numbers show, that those who lived in the HSPU 's were not only poor people.

In the 60es the Tunisian Government had to react: the living conditions in the Gourbivilles had declined badly. Because of the chaotic and spontaneous rise of the Gourbiville, these parts of the city were not supplied adequately with electricity, water and roads were not included in the cities infrastructure. 80 % of the building had no water supply, 95% had no sanitary facilities, half of them no electricity. Even though people in the HSPU always managed to find temporary solutions for such problems, like professions as a water dealer, it reached to the point where the development of urban areas had to be organized.

The government started to tear down the decayed Gourbivilles and to sell the plots to those who were willing to build. They began to make more land accessible than to improve the supply systems and infrastructures. Further official public state agencies were founded, for example, real estate agencies for tourism, social housing, industry and business. The profession of the real estate agent was introduced and a new way of the building industry was founded and financed by the the government, which made it possible to get a loan with the great result that 25000 contracts were closed until 1976. But all these measures didn't affect the lower 50% of the population strong enough. Although the incredible efforts of the government slowly started to improve important situations like the living conditions, the supply, the legal situation and the infrastructure, there were still many people who took advantage of the unclear and chaotic situation by illegally selling and purchasing land they did not possess, writing false permits and certificates of lots which were not yet made accessible.

Also, the real estate dealers gave out loans at much higher prices than appropriate, but for a lot of people, this was the only way to purchase a slot or a house. Still, eventually, these strategies led to a new form of urbanism, a horizontally expanding carpet of small units made from brick and concrete, the so-called Houches.

On average, these Houches were 188m² big, with an average of 2,8 rooms per house (65% 1-2 rooms, 30 % 3-4 rooms). Usually, a houch is built around a courtyard, in an L-form or a U-form with all the rooms orientated inwards, usually seen in different stadiums of construction, because owners could not afford the whole construction at once.

Soon this typology represented about 74% of the buildings in the Habitat Spontané peri urban. 74% of the people in HSPU 's were owners, only 21% rented a house. The average cost for a Houche was 2000-3000 TND. Almost 75% of the buyers had to spend all their money they saved on a house, about 60% were building their Houches by themselves or/and with help of proper craftsmen, almost none ordered a construction company. However, the illegal housing market led to an increase of the Houches so severe, that the slots grew constantly smaller, which was an immense problem especially for families, who were pushed further to the outskirts, often in areas which were not yet made accessible. In general.

The Habitat Spontané grew in 3 different ways. Alongside important roads, around the suburban centres or in areas, where the Gourbiville-structures were already located before. Overall the measures of the government led to an improved situation and a more organized way of urban planning, Examples of HSPU 's are Sijoumi, Ras Ettabia, Ettadhamen, and neighborhoods in the districts of Sidi H'çine, Jayara, Mnihla, and Ejoumi.

In areas where the control of the municipal is not that strict, there can be found newer areas of peripheral land around

small towns within the Greater Tunis. The majority of Tunisian commentators has a hard time seeing the positive aspects of informal housing areas.

They see only no green space, windows that open onto walls, insufficient basic infrastructure, simple and poor construction, little in the way of public services, a lack of public health, noise, and trash lying around. Sometimes their inhabitants are being described as criminals and gangs with anti-social behavior.

Tunisian simply saw the aesthetic of the urban landscape is destroyed. The municipality got blamed because of not being strict enough in their control duties. But what is rarely mentioned by the commentators of informal housing in Tunisia is that large spontaneous urban zones represent the cheapest form of housing and the only type of housing that many, can afford.

Also, an important aspect is, that these areas generate considerable employment and enterprise opportunities and that most of the informal housing is actually of quite good quality.

The Urban rehabilitation and renovation agency (ARRU, Agence de Réhabilitation et de Rénovation Urbaine) was created in 1981 and is in charge of renovating and rehabilitating old quarters and not yet regulated informal residential areas in cities. ARRU has an excellent reputation in terms of its structure, functions, and operations. From 1982-2009 over 36 informal (neighborhoods) have been revitalized in larger cities throughout Tunisia.

Stakeholders

In the process of dealing with Habitat spontané, several entities are involved. Different governmental entities whether state agencies, municipalities and different ministries. The following are some of the most important entities that play an important role in that process;

L'Agence de Réhabilitation et de Rénovation Urbaine “L'ARRU” (Government):

is a state-owned company founded by decree n. 81-69, in 1981. It is mandated to execute urban policies in the fields of rehabilitation and urban renovation on behalf of the state and local authorities, mainly municipalities. A lecture about their work and experience will be presented to our participants by one of the invited experts

SNIT - La Société Nationale Immobilière de Tunisie (Tunisian National Building Society):

Following the Law n° 57619 dated 10/9/1957, the Tunisian State has decreed the creation of the Tunisian National Building Society, (hereafter SNIT in French) the SNIT is the first national public institution entrusted with the conception and financing of building projects destined to the different social categories. However, because of the increase of the demand for housing and in view of facilitating further Tunisia's citizens' access to the ownership of their houses, the state decided in 1973 to restructure the sector so as to limit the mission of the SNIT to the sole promotion of real estate, while leaving the responsibility of the development of land plots and the financing of the buildings respectively to the Real estate and housing agency (AFH in French) and to the former National Housing Fund, now turned into a Housing Bank (Banque de l'habitat in French).

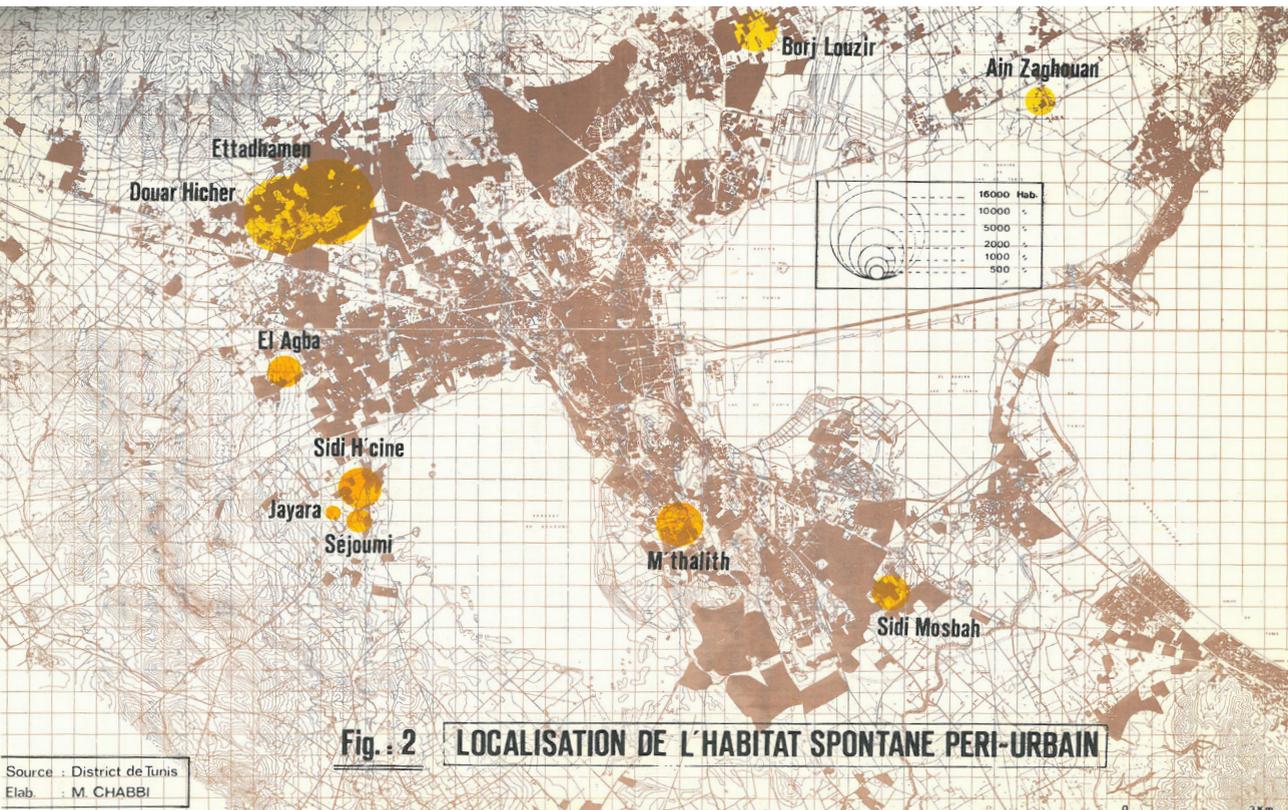


Figure 2 Location of Habitat spontané informal settlements in Tunisia (source: Author).

Methodology

Introduction to the topic through a series of lectures by professors and experts, through which the students are introduced to the topic of informal urbanism in the international discourse, the case of Cairo has been introduced, in addition to the aims of the summer school and the methodology.

Hey Ettadhamen has been selected to be the case study area and the location of our fieldwork due to several reasons:

- The importance of this experiment in rehabilitating and integrating underprivileged settlements which were newly forming, the size of the project itself, the diversity of its components, and its urban and social impacts.
- The precedence and the maturity of Ettadhamen project which helps in evaluating its outcomes after a certain period of its completion.
- The importance of the intangible conclusions and impacts, which should be taken into consideration when formulating policies and programs to rehabilitate and explore other squatter settlements in similar countries.

Fieldwork techniques have been also introduced to the students, with the introduction of qualitative research methods. Cultural sensitivity to the residents' culture has been also presented to the students to avoid any problems that might occur with the residents during the fieldwork. Three days of fieldwork has taken place, through which mixed groups of students have conducted fieldwork trying to answer the research questions, starting with understanding the current situation of the area (physical, social and economic conditions), in addition to mapping of the existing interventions in the area. Afterwards, the students' groups have worked intensively on the data analysis, SWOT analysis, and stakeholders' analysis, pointing out the cross cutting issues for the area's priorities. Through comparing the issues with the mapped interventions, 6 interventions have been selected for further analysis and proposals for development to enhance and improve the conditions of the area.



Figure 3 Illustrates part of students' and interviews in the study areas (source: Author)



ARIANA
TUNIS

CITY

HAY ETTADHAMEN PRIORITIES IN URB



É ET TADH AMEN

حي التضامن

**DEVELOPMENT
SAN UPGRADING**

4. Hay Ettadhamen Introduction and History

The district Ettadhamen is located just 7 km west from the center of Tunis. It was created 1966 according to a public program for 132 rural housing.

In 1975, the population of Ettadhamen and Douar Hicher was of 7.000 inhabitants and situated outside of the municipal area. Between 1975 and 1980 the development was spectacular due to illegal housing mechanisms. From 7.000 residents in 1975, the population grew to 166.239 by 2010. A report presents the findings of a quantitative survey realized in July 2014 by questioning 714 unmarried individuals in two suburbs of Tunis, Douar Hicher and Ettadhamen, aged between 18 and 34 were selected and interviewed according to a quota method. Out of the interviewees 40% were female and 60% male and it states that regarding their origins, roughly one third (29.9%) of the respondents' parents have inhabited the two suburbs already before the 1970s, with the biggest wave of migrants settling during the 1980s (36.4%). Since then, the number of newcomers has been constantly decreasing.

There has been a restructuring plan of the Ettadhamen District in Tunis 1985. The fact is: between 1975-1985 the Grand Metropolitan Area of Tunis had an urban growth of 3.3% per year. Three spontaneous peri-urban area of the Goubivilles exploded: from 2.560 ha which was build due to new urbanizations almost half - 1.130 ha of it were spontaneous settlements.

A lot of authorities tried to use several methods to include social contradictions in urban planning. Terms like efficiency and non-efficiency had to be defined. Interventions from the Government had to deal with a complex system of challenges and local initiatives have been overdetermined by international

participants such as the World Bank.

Today, with almost 100.000 inhabitants Ettadhamen is the largest Habitat Spontané in Maghreb.

By allowing the illegal traffic of the ground and the illegal market for land, the government gives the underclass population the needed conditions to have a home. The redistribution of the housing occupancy of the district involves an integration process. However, because of under equipment and overcrowding, the integration process is relative. Its population is excluded from urban services; they have been using the illegal character of their arrangements as an argument to negotiate with the state. As the state represents the only discussion partner, the demands are considered as duties of the State towards its people. Since 1979 urban planning has reorientated urban politics with a consideration of the integration of the popular classes. This new mission was there to regulate the social contradictions in the spontaneous housing. The organization for urban planning was in charge to conduct studies for restructuring for Ettadhamen.

The planners have decided to have a study-action approach which had two requirements

1. To include the politics in order to obtain a great deal of control against the illegal developers, right from the beginning

2. The governor of Tunis was offered to be the president of the planners' committee, this way this restructuring planning had a political legitimization.

But the Committee was kind of pseudo. Planning and projects implementations were dependent on agreements with a lot of local organizations and local politics. Still, a few actions took place:

Constructions of primary schools: 20 schools were planned long term, 5 schools were planned short term. But there were conflicts between planners and politics in the choice of locations.

Construction of a College (high school): was planned between Douar Hicher and Ettadhamen. Local politics decided to choose public ground in Ettadhamen, because they did not want conflicts with the landowners.

Relocation program: between Ettadhamen and Douar Hicher is the oldest core area. The main idea was to reconstruct out of solid material 120 „gourbis“ on parcels of 200 m² and they should be sold to inhabitants for a symbolic price. At the end the parcels size were reduced to 100 m² for each family because local politics did not want to get in a conflict with the developers, again.

As for now many interventions have taken place either initiated by the government or its inhabitants. Ettadhamen now functions like a small city of its own. Although there are restaurants, cafés, fresh markets and supermarkets, beautiful gardening, and a lot of streets have been equipped with a simple sewage system, it still looks like an informal housing structure. But Ettadhamen has a difficult reputation, still. Coming back to the survey will point out some socio-demographic aspects among the young inhabitants after the revolution.

First of all the findings show furthermore that 93% of the young people live with their families, which is attributed to economic and

socio-cultural factors. With regard to employment and education, the numbers suggest that there is mobility between the generations, meaning that younger people have better professional opportunities compared to their parents, as well as a much higher educational level.

The respondents were asked about their living conditions before and after revolution. While criminality and disputes/confrontations were perceived as the most significant issues before the revolution, one can observe a shift of interest towards the newly emerged issues of Salafism, lack of security and the revolution.

In terms of where young people spend their free time, the answers highlight the lack of recreational and cultural facilities. The major meeting points are hammams, coffee shops and internet cafés, which however are generally frequented by men. The most preferred target outside the neighborhood is Tunis city center and the beach, however, the male respondents have reported frequent problems with the police due to their association with the Ettadhamen neighborhood. The stigma appears to have a direct impact on how others treat them in their daily lives.

The survey results underline that the parents are very supportive of their children continuing their education, in fact not making a distinction between boys and girls. Despite the parents' great involvement in monitoring children's education, the respondents' school results are relatively poor with an average of



Figure 4 Shots from students site visits (source: Author).

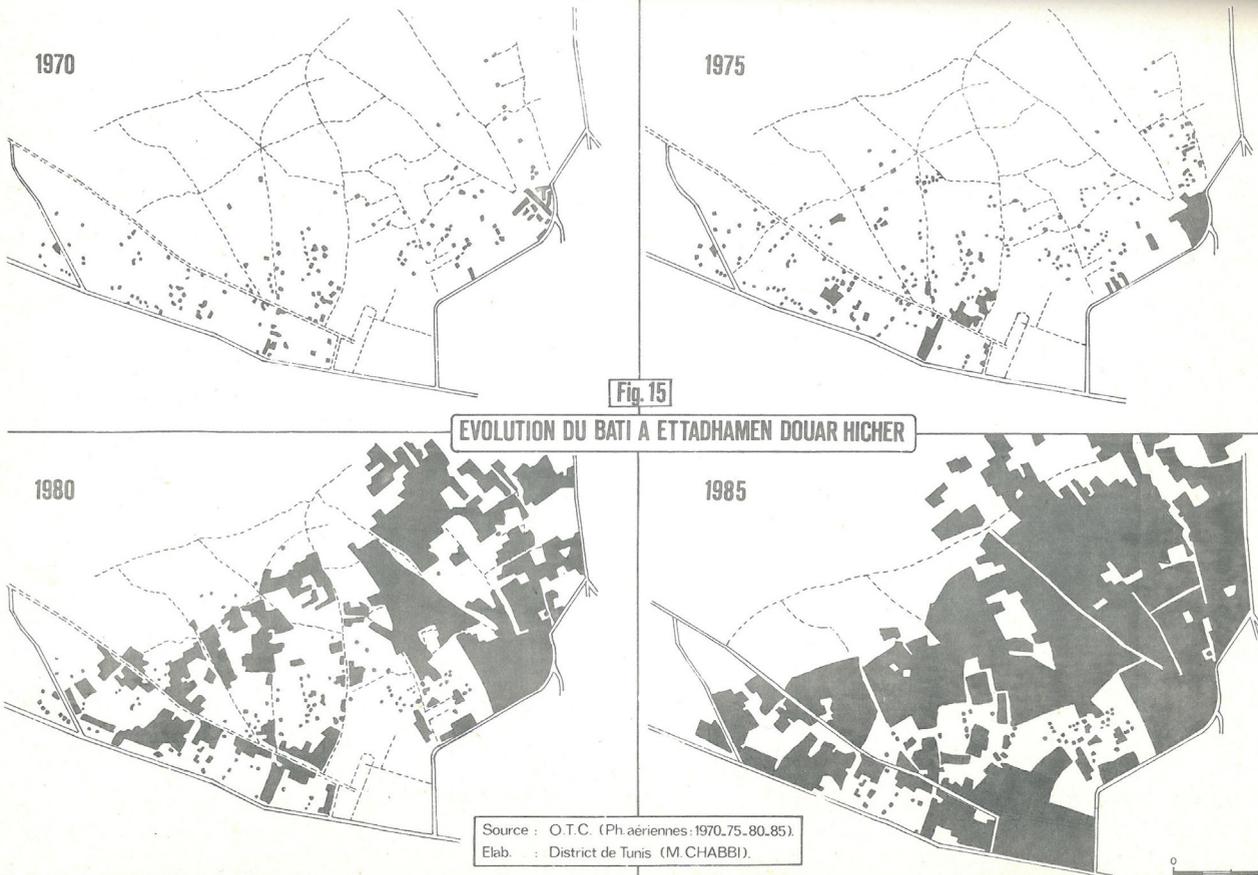


Figure 5 Evaluation of Hay Ettadhamen (source district of Tunisia).

1.97 repeated grades at school. This might be directly related to their opinion on the value of education, considering that 83.3% of the respondents view education as a means of pleasing the parents. Almost 40% is convinced that good education helps (to get) a good job.

Approximately two-thirds of the respondents believe that the educational level of the teaching staff is good, however, 53.2% find the school conditions in terms of infrastructure, location, and security bad or very bad. Another apparent problem is the consumption of drugs in educational facilities. Cannabis is the most consumed drug, followed by prescription drugs and glue.

Work followed by religion is the most important aspect in their life, however, people view work primarily as a means to meet their needs and not as self-fulfillment. 71% of the respondents consider female employment as important.

When looking for employment, almost two-thirds rely on personal relationships, rather than on institutional bodies, reflecting the lack

of confidence in the state.

Despite the high expectations of young people from the revolution, especially in terms of job creation and the improvement of their social status, many have been left disappointed. 46% believe that their situation has deteriorated and only 10% consider it improved. Major problems identified before the revolution, such as bribery, absence of executives, no freedom of speech and contempt are perceived as not improved by the vast majority. The mistrust towards politicians is manifested in the 98.8% of the respondents believing that they follow their personal interests. The potential to improve the situation of young people in the future is viewed in elections, the option of joining civil society organizations (CSOs) and demonstrations. Generally, people have high regard for CSOs and their role in society, considering them as important for helping people in need and defending citizen's rights. The participation in political life is relatively low, expressing itself mostly in discussions through social networks.

5. Thematic Groups

5.1 URBAN & PHYSICAL ANALYSIS

Urban Networks and Services

Ⓐ MAIN ACCESS ROUTES

The main streets – mixed use (commercial and residential) in the study area within Hey Ettadhamen are:

- Ibn Khouldoon Street
- Street 105 & Street 106

maintained much more than the sub-streets, filled with commercial use and vendors

Ⓑ URBAN SPACES & THEIR TYPOLOGIES

Urban spaces within the area (streets and open public spaces) are either managed by the municipality or by the residents. There is a park in the area near the municipality, and considered as the biggest public space in Hey Ettadhamen (some how it is abandoned) in addition to other spaces planned to be green areas but also abandoned. Coffee shops are one form of using urban public space for private commercial activities that serves residents (i.e. men). It has been observed that there are no public spaces for women in the area.

- Either managed by the municipality or the people
- Park as the biggest public space (*abandoned*)
- No public space for women

Ⓒ ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Trees are generally not planted in the streets, although they are needed to provide shade to protect the pedestrians from the sun in summer. Trees are planted in front of the houses as an individual intervention or initiatives by groups of neighbours from residents and shopkeepers.

- Trees are built in front of the houses as an *individual intervention*.

Ⓓ INFRASTRUCTURE CONDITIONS

Waste water canals are found in the streets gather smelly dirty water and garbage. Based on interviews with the residents, they suffer from constant electricity and water cuts. Sanitation quality in the houses are not prepared for the extensions, which leads to producing water accumulation in the streets. Means of transportation of all kinds are available (taxi, collective taxi and buses).

- *Waste water canals* of the streets gather smelly water and garbage
- Based on interviews the people suffer from *constant electricity and water cuts*
- Transport of all kinds is available (taxi, collective taxi and buses)

Ⓔ SOCIAL SERVICES

Health services are lacking except for private doctors. A need was raised by the residents through the interviews to expand the existing hospital or develop a new one.

- Health services are lacking except for private doctors
- A need was raised by the community to expand the existing hospital or develop a new one
- The infrastructure in the houses is not prepared for the extensions, which produces *water accumulation on the streets*

Architectural and Housing Conditions

Ⓐ Housing typologies

There are various housing typologies in the area:

- Housing typologies are different - more *vertical typologies* on the big streets, (average number of floors 3-5) in the main streets, with commercial shops in the ground floor
- *Horizontal typologies* (1-2 floors) on the rest of the sub-streets of the area, with less commercial activities
- Old typology is multi family houses with huge *courtyards* multi-family houses with huge inner courtyards. Additional floors are being added (vertical extensions) for family extension or real estate as a source of income.
- Additional floors are being added - *vertical extension*

Ⓑ Architectural treatments

- Houses facades are either unfinished or over decorated, but colors are controlled (grades of white and beige) according to the code of building regulations. In the main streets, advertisements and shops facades have variety of colors.

Ⓒ Building heights/conditions

- Higher on the main streets (3-4 floors), interior sub-streets (2-3 floors). Comparing Vertical vs. horizontal expansion, it has been observed that the current expansions are mainly vertical, before that it was horizontal during the initial phase of the area's establishment. Visible outdoor stairs facilitate a private entrance to the added floors.

Ⓓ Vertical vs. horizontal expansion

- Current expansions are mainly vertical, before it the extensions were horizontal.
- Visible outdoor stairs facilitate a private entrance to the added floor (i.e. first and second floors).

Urban Networks and Services Topics

Topic	Issue	Affected people	Relevance
Transport	Not affordable Not enough	Anyone who needs or wants to leave the area	Limited possibilities or high costs of exchange for persons and goods
Infrastructure	Maintenance of electricity lines and street lighting (smaller streets) not carried out by municipality	Residents living in affected streets	Unequal treatment and possibly unsafe environment
Sewage	Maintenance of connections to sewage system not carried out by municipality	Residents	Additional burden on residents and possibly unsafe environment
Waste collection	Municipality unevenly serves the area	Households living on secondary/ smaller streets	Waste is not collected resulting in conditions ranging from annoying to risky (health)
Public Spaces	Maintenance of smaller streets not carried out by municipality	Residents living in affected streets	Unequal treatment and possibly unsafe environment

Table 1 summary of urban networks and services issues in Hay Ettadhamen (source by Author)

Architectural and Housing Conditions Topics

Topic	Issue	Affected people	Relevance
Sanitation	Possibly lack of WC in some single room flats	Residents of these flats	Inadequate sanitary and hygiene conditions Possible health risks
Housing	Broker-less renting	Future renters	Cheaper access to rental market

Table 2 Summary of Architectural and Housing Conditions in Hay Ettadhamen (source by Author)



Figure 6 Urban Networks and Services in Hay Ettadhamen (source: Author)

Thematic Group

5.2 ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

In order to get a general view on the economic situation of Hey Ettadhamen, the focus was set on three following topics: market, real estate and employment. All routes, interviews and points of interest have been mapped.

The municipal market hall is deteriorated and abandoned, this is mainly due to the fees that the vendors are charged and the costs for maintaining the building. Businesses started to sell their (goods) just outside the hall. The open space just next to the market hall, is transformed into a weekly market, leaving it as a trash dump for the remaining six days of the week.

Informal economy is crucial in the area. This is mainly represented in street vendors, that do not necessarily have the permits to sell food and goods along the streets, are concentrated in the main streets, and represent an important factor for the area's economy. Alongside the usual businesses that meet the daily needs, professions can be highlighted.

In Ettadhamen, one finds a prominent market for clothing, new products as well as second hand garments. New clothes are mostly imported from Libya and China.

The second hand ware is received in the big units of shipping containers that are purchased blindly. Therefore they go by relatively low prices that guarantee a good margin of profit. Second hand clothes are either sold by formal shops or by informal street vendors.

Connected to the clothing market, but yet a independent branch, and most likely the best known one in Ettadhamen is the wedding market. Not only selling and renting wedding dresses, all other services connected to marriage are provided. These services are located at the Avenue of Ibn Khaldoun, and attract customers from all over the city of Tunis, mainly the surrounding districts. Wedding dresses, which are – according to the residents- produced in Syria and Turkey

are then decorated and finished in Ettadhamen. Other services include beauty salons, hamams (public bathrooms), catering, parties decoration rental, music bands, and celebration halls rental.

Last but not least, the construction business has to be mentioned as important profession in the neighborhood.

Since most of the houses are owned by their inhabitants (rental apartments are basically not common), building a house for the family or even the children is of crucial importance.

The real estate market is a direct market, as buildings are sold without a broker, making it easier and cheaper to buy a house. The expansion of existing houses still increases the density of Etthadamen.

Interviews revealed, that houses often are financed by Tunisians from Etthadamen who live and work abroad, e.g. in Italy, and not only send back their savings but also do the construction in the months of summer. Neighbors, often retired men, join forces and help each other on the construction site. The basic building material is delivered from other cities. Right outside Tadhmen a factory is located, producing decorative elements (decorative bricks and tiles).

In Ettadhamen, next to the sports center, north of Avenue Ibn Khaldoun, there is a second-hand market for construction material providing goods for building.

For the younger generation, it is hard to get a job matching their skills. Often trained or even well educated at universities, they mostly have to take some minor jobs other than their profession.

Adding to this, young people from Tadhmen The area residents are stigmatized by their origin, what makes it hard, almost impossible for them to find a job outside the neighborhood. This social branding of the inhabitants constrains the economic and social growth Ettadhamen area.

Economic Activities

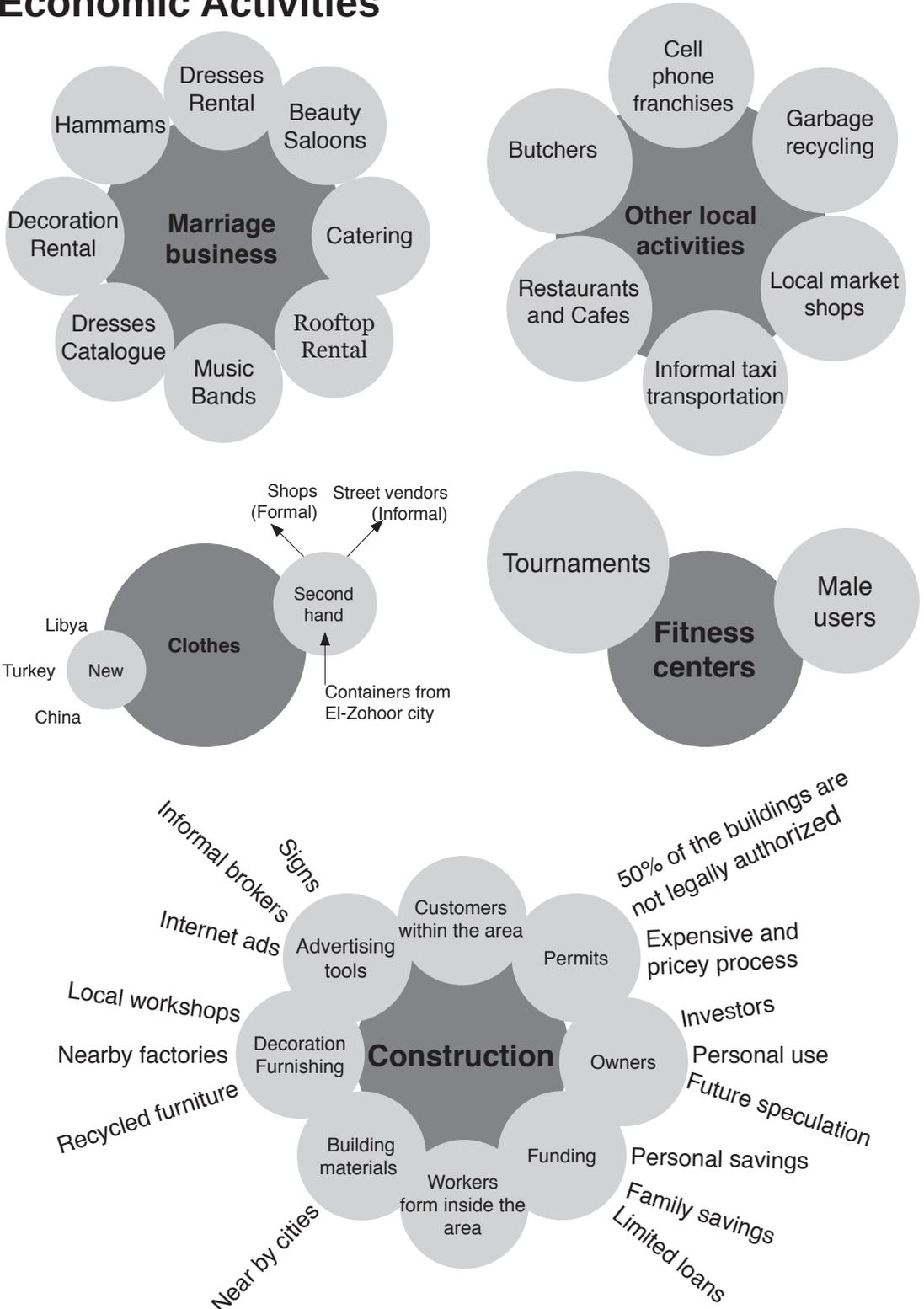


Figure 7 Represents Economic activities analysis in Hay Ettadhamen (source: Author)

5.3 ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Topic	Issue	Affected people	Relevance
Training	Local employment often not in field of training	Possibly anyone working	Inefficient and frustrating labour and/or need for re-training
Financing	Higher volume loans are inaccessible	People not employed at companies offering loans or without stable jobs (banks)	Hindering entrepreneurship and upgrade of living conditions Other available loans: Social Solidarity (<5000dt)
Water	Potable water not affordable	Low/no income groups	Satisfying basic needs takes most of income Water taken from mosque
Food	Bread not affordable	Low/no income groups	Satisfying basic needs takes most of income No formal bakeries with license and access to subsidised flour available
Economy	Stagnating and shrinking economies	Local (small) businesses, freelancers	Insecure or unstable source of income Due to e.g. dependence on countries affected by war (Syria)
Economy	Basic product upgrading/ improvement/ repair businesses	People looking for work	Provision of jobs with low training requirements
Financing	Family or community based saving	People in need of loan	Filling financing gap left by banks

Table 3 Analyzing Economic elements in Hay Ettadhamen (source by Author).



Figure 8 Examples from the economic activities in Hay Ettadhamen (source: Author).

5.4 SOCIAL/CULTURAL ANALYSIS

Overview

Hay Tadhamen is characterized by specific features, being a former informal district in the capital of Tunis. Thanks to the process of collection of information, data, assessment and site investigation, some interesting and important socio-cultural potentials and issues, strengths and weaknesses, problems and interventions could be identified in the district.

Origin, roots and social background

Most of the youth and the new generation living in Hay Tadhamen were born in this part of the city. However, their parents were born in other regions in Tunisia, especially in the North-West (Béjà, Kef, Siliana), and had to immigrate to the capital in the 60's and 70's in a rural exodus context, searching for jobs, education and better services.

Social diversity in structure and hierarchy

The relations between inhabitants and neighbours in the district are good, most of the times full of mutual help, respect and solidarity.

Not only poor people are living in this city. In fact, the population is varied and diversified. A lot of different social classes (teachers, engineers, administrators, etc.) are living in the district in harmony since 15 to 30 years.

One of the social evolutions noticed in this district is the decrease of the role of traditional rituals and the destruction of the informal hierarchy in the unplanned cities. There is no presence of informal authorities, supervising the community or playing

the role of the wise older man in the neighbourhood.

This diversity and equality create a physical coherence, there was no clear hint for social segregation or severe conflicts.

Cultural activities, Events & Seasonal Routines

The district has not a strong cultural and regular structure in organising cultural and entertaining events or annual festivals. However, weddings ceremonies, usually in the summer season are considered a big event which provides family meetings and social assemblies, and neighbours, friends and even unknown passengers are invited to participate.

The Crucial Socio-Cultural Issues

Religion

The young men with lack of education and the ex-criminals are most exposed to the possible brain-drain to terrorism and political polarization. Especially after the Tunisian Revolution, some mosques in Hay Tadhamen represented a real danger and played a big role in orienting them to the extremism and violence, as they falsified and misrepresented the real message of the religion.

Education, Jobs And Perspectives

Young educated people are facing unemployment after graduation from universities and high schools. The lack of perspectives and orientations in the city is leading youth to a total disappointment and making them think about emigrating from the whole country, even in an illegal way.

SWOT-Analysis

Strengths

The main strength of Ettadhamun was the high level of social diversity in regards to education, profession and access to resources, which led to a social integrated district without clear physical segregation and no severe social conflicts between different social classes in the proposed research area of Ettadhamun. Another finding concerning strengths in the area was that more and more stakeholders of the community and civil society provide structures for social services. The association of Rawafed can be mentioned as an example. Among other activities, Rawafed provides language courses during the holidays, a chess club and day trips to the beach as well as other parts of Tunisia.

Weaknesses

The socio-cultural group discovered that there are several weaknesses concerning the use and provision of public space. Some spaces are considered to be dangerous, because of several safety issues like drug trafficking and using, others, especially sidewalks, are most often informally misused by street vendors and shops. Another big issue regarding the use of public space as places to meet and encounter, is the lack of accessibility for women. Most frequented meeting points like cafés are only accessible for men. This fact leads to the point that women only use private space for encounter and exchange with others and finally to the result of a gender-dependent use of public space.

The group also found out that there is a lack of educational and work perspectives, especially for the younger generation, which leads to several issues. On the one hand, young people leave school early because they think that they cannot find a job independent of their educational status, but it is also because they leave school early. Most of the young people without proper education live from day to day; they try to find daily work. This leads to a vicious circle concerning educational and labour perspectives. On the other hand, the appearance of many young people on the

streets doing nothing leads to the perception of the older generation, that the youth is lazy, which leads to an inter-generational misunderstanding and a lack of a collective and coherent identity.

Opportunities

But regarding the lack of a clear collective identity of the neighbourhood, it is important to mention that identity building processes can often lead to the exclusion of groups. Therefore the missing community links and identity in Ettadhamun could also allow for diversity and an acceptance of different origins and social classes. As found out during the research and shown in the description of the Participatory Budgeting and in the different presented interventions in the latter part of the report, more and more community-based and non-governmental organizations start to establish a network to strengthen their participation in the development of the area as well as decision-making processes. Finally, it was found out, that the reality of the living conditions and the social structures is considerably better than the city wide image of Ettadhamun. This should be regarded as a main opportunity in improving the perception from outside.

Threats

Focussing on the municipality actions to tackle several issues, like insecurity and drug using, it must be said there is an ignorance of structural problems.

On the one hand it is important to mention that some of these issues cannot be solved by actions of the municipality alone and need to be tackled by different sovereign as well as private and civil society stakeholders. On the other hand, the group found out that municipality actions concerning drug usage and insecurity often just lead to a shifting of unsafe areas to others. Another possible thread is the city wide bad image and the stigmatization of Ettadhamun. It could possibly attract the "elite" to leave the area that could lead to a brain-drain of the so-called "elite" of Ettadhamun to other city districts and therefore to an economic and social decay.

5.5 SOCIAL/CULTURAL ANALYSIS

Use Of Public Spaces

Public spaces in hay Tadhamen are real encouragers and builders of gender inequality, discrimination and segregation between women and men. Those public spaces are mostly invaded by men, in particular, in the morning and late evenings. Coffee shops are dedicated to men, as they are not mixed. Only the park is considered as a safe place for women with their kids and families, in the afternoons.

Safety, Social Conflicts And Policemen’s Interventions

In case of conflicts between inhabitants, crimes or any kind of problems, the intervention of policemen is either absent or very late. So people have to defend themselves and overcome their problems personally. This can lead to many street fights and dangerous results. This point is considered as a big security issue, which entails creating a very bad image of the district. In addition, the young interviewees complained about the extreme injustice and bad behavior of the policemen towards them and the serious rupture between both sides.

Topic	Issue	Affected people	Relevance
Public Spaces	Building informal extensions on public spaces	Users of public spaces	Loss of public spaces Safety issues for pedestrians
Education	No perspective of better opportunities through higher levels of education	Students (dropping out), Graduates (unemployed) Higher education (above primary level) has bad reputation and is avoided	Reputation of Et-tadhameem prevents residents from getting jobs except state employment
Self-help	Strong neighbourhood networks	People in need	Availability of capable, relevant and immediate help Example: transport (tuktuk), saving groups

Table 4 Summary of social/cultural analysis (source by Author).



Figure 9 Various social/cultural in Hay Ettadhamen (source: Author).

6. Current status: Area's Urban Regeneration

H.Elmouelhi M. Abdel-Latif

Cross-Cutting issues for Hay Ettadhamen

	Transport	Garbage/Solid waste management	Education (Training)	Finance/Access to loans/ Income Generation/Unemployment	Streets/Urban space/Public space	Technical infrastructure	Safety & Security	Unsafe building structures	Access to Subsidized bread	Participation	Social cohesion and integration	Territorial governance	Perception (Internal/External)	Networks	Drug Addiction	Health Care	
1																	
2																	Needs investigation
3																	
4																	
5																	
6																	
7																	
8																	
9																	
10																	
11																	
12																	
13																	
14																	
15																	Cultural initiative
16																	Intangible
17																	
18																	
19																	
20																	
21																	
22																	
23																	
24																	
25																	needs investigation
26																	
27																	
28																	
29																	
30																	
31																	
32																	
33																	
34																	

Table 5 Cross cutting issues vs. Existing interventions for Hay Ettadhamen (source: Author)

Interventions

- Planted trees
- Garabage Collection and recycling
- (Swings (Political Party
- Abandoned Garden
- Rawafed NGO
- Daily Market
- Weekly Market
- Street Lighting municipality
- Gas Infrastructure
- Bollards in front of shops
- Spikes at the entrances

Issues

- Street / urban space
- Finance/ Access to loans
- Safety and Security
- Participation
- Garbage solid waste management
- Networks
- Transport
- Education
- Perception
- Drug Addiction
- Unsafe building structures
- Access to subsidized bread
- Health care

Cross-cutting issues vs. Existing Interventions

The shown table shows the results of an assessment exercise that all the participants have worked on in order to select the projects or interventions required for the following analysis. It started by listing the the “cross-cutting” issues that were concluded from the analysis phase, then the existing projects/interventions were also listed.

Each of the projects was questioned if it contributes to dealing with each of the mentioned issues. At the end, the group of participants have selected the projects that have more influence on the area by addressing a greater number of issues.

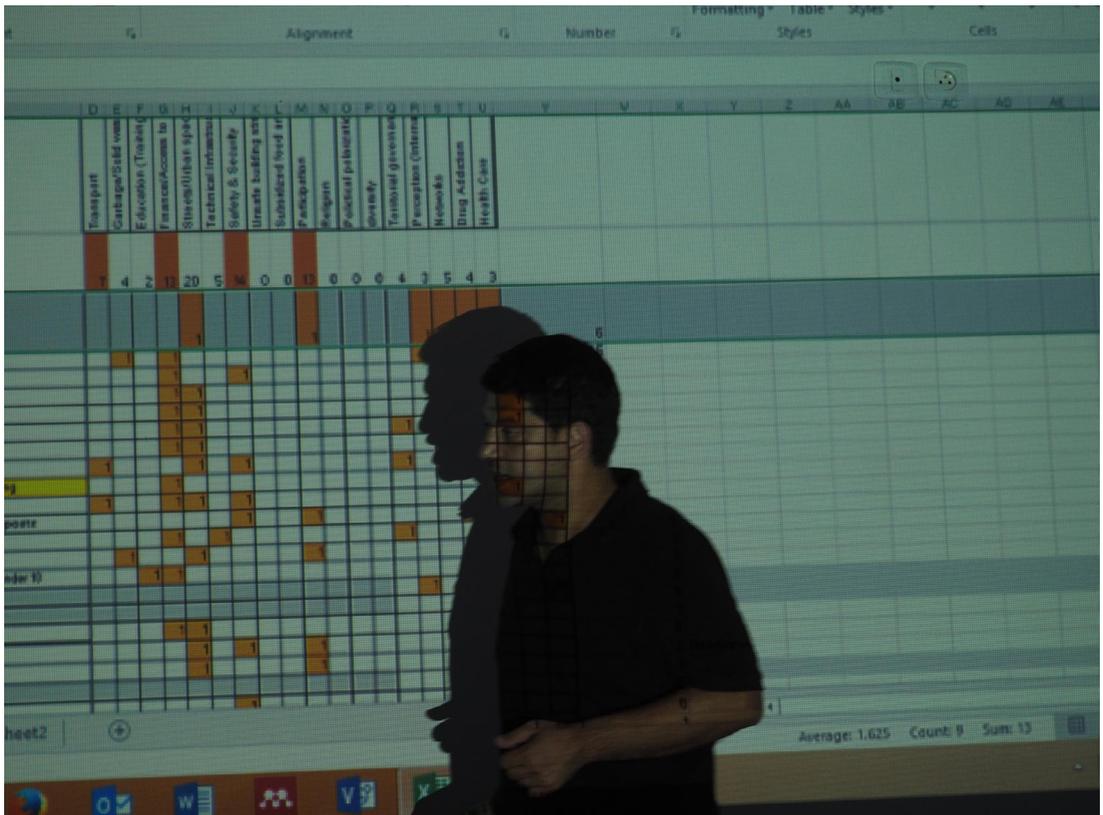
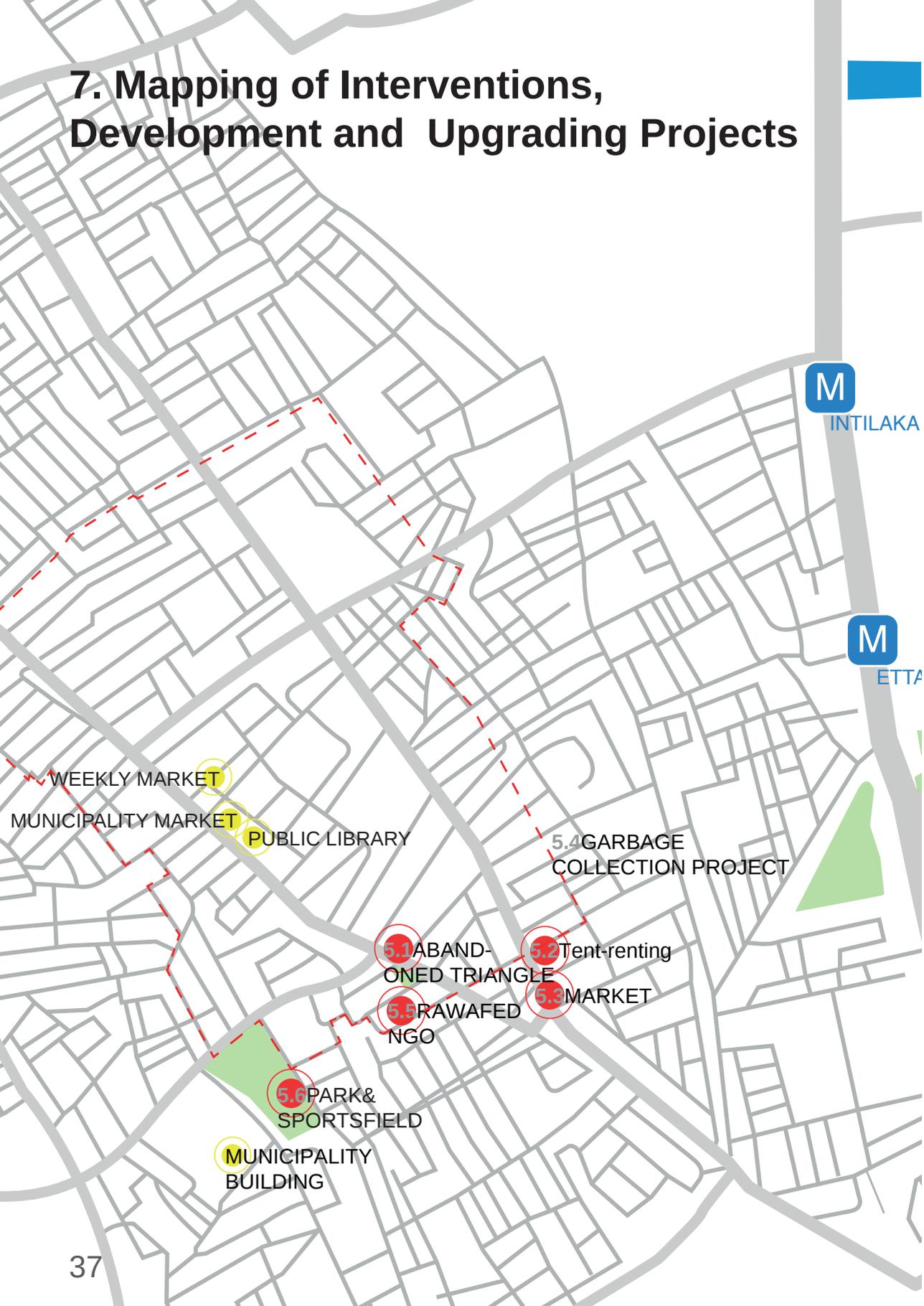


Figure 10 Conducting cross- cutting issues exercise (source: Author).

7. Mapping of Interventions, Development and Upgrading Projects



There are a lot of interesting projects and interventions made by the municipality or civil society itself. The installation of the public area of the park was a helpful project providing social contact, as families, women and kids meet there to play in the playground, discuss and spend the late afternoons. Also, the creation of the little amphitheatre in the park, where little manifestations, competitions between schools and cultural events can be presented there, is considered as a step to enhance culture and social exchange in the area. One the other hand, the lack of shadow in the park is leading, especially in the daytime, to an empty parc. People are looking for spaces with shading elements and find them outside of the parc in alleged dead spaces.

The forming of the football academy and team is also a good initiative made by locals, coaches and ambitious kids and parents. Also the Rawafed NGO is organised by volunteers from the area and teaches kids and adults educational, environmental and social skills.

In the shown map all interventions found in a specific area in Haya Ettadhamen are listed. Marked with green are interventions were the inhabitants are transforming public spaces for their benefits. This can be for their economic favors, like the informal kiosk in the triangular park, or can be seen as a benefit for the community, like tree-planting at the streets. Blue marked are NGO initiatives. Yellow is used for municipality activities.

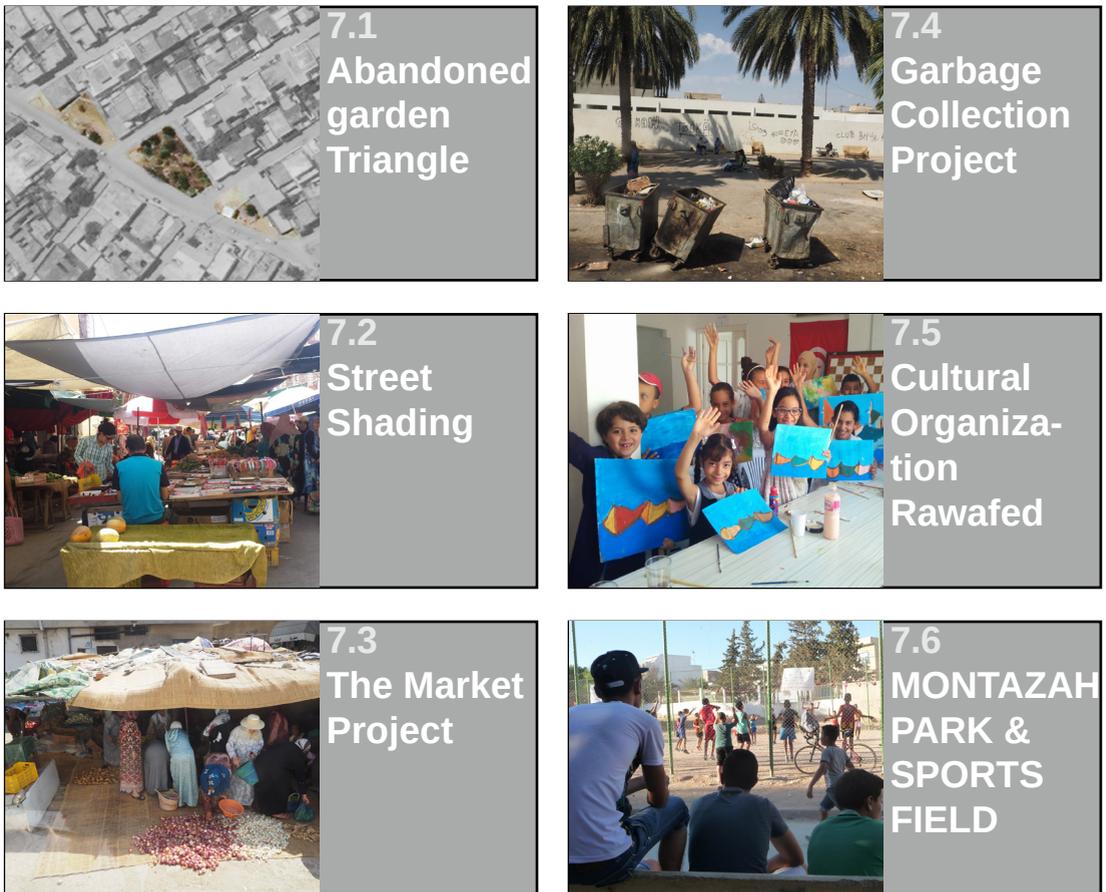


Figure 11 Interventions, development and upgrading projects distribution (source: Author)

7.1 ABANDONED GARDEN TRIANGLE

Sundus Sherif, Ayed Marwa, Merzougui
Sirine, Dhafer Amine Nasraoui,
Cornelius Giacalone, Anna Wilk-Pham,
Marina Kolovou-Kouri, Salma Khamis,



PROJECT DISCIPTION

The current project is an abandoned garden and is part of a sequence of three open spaces on the street 106 in Ettadhamen. The garden plot is surrounded by a mixture of residential and commercial uses as well as gastronomy. Around the park one can find a pharmacy, a carpentry, a café, a car service station, a construction supplies store and a kiosk.

The garden's vegetation includes three palm trees and three pine trees, yet no seating opportunities are offered and the area does not appear to function as a recreational area; passersby go rather around it. This seems to be directly linked to the garden's misuse as a waste disposal area by the inhabitants of the neighbourhood. Waste accumulates mostly in the northern corner of the garden, around a small concrete construction that houses electrical facilities.

According to people's testimonies, the garden used to have a higher number of trees, however, during the revolution people cut off most of them and used the wood for the creation of road blocks as a security measure against disturbances in the unstable situation. After the revolution, the garden did not experience further development or rehabilitation and gives an impression of abandonment.

Historically, the whole surrounding area -including the garden- was owned by a French citizen. To be able to sell it, he needed to subdivide the area according to a land use plan verified by the municipality.

PROJECT TRIGGER

The land planning norms required a percentage of the area to be open space, part of which is the discussed project. The lands were subsequently purchased by the Ministry of Social Solidarity and were assigned as housing units to employees of the company "Tunisian Airlines". The acquisition of the lands and housing units (mostly bearing structures) relied on the social security money of the inhabitants that had been accumulated over the years. If the social security money exceeded the price of the given house, the leftover money was given directly to them in order to complete the construction and furnishing of their houses. If the price of the house exceeded the money in the account of the employee, the Ministry would pay it to them in the form of credit.

In the beginning, the relevant area was envisioned as a parking lot but was never used as such because the inhabitants had sufficient parking options closer to their homes (e.g. on the street where they live or in private parking spots on their plot). To use the potential of the plot, the municipality rehabilitated it as a garden and this function remained that way until the revolution in 2011.

LOCATION	Rue 106	FUND	Municipality
STATUS	Abandoned	OPERATOR	Municipality
COST	Unknown	CONSULTANT	Dgham Samir
DATE	1976/1977		
USE	Recreation		

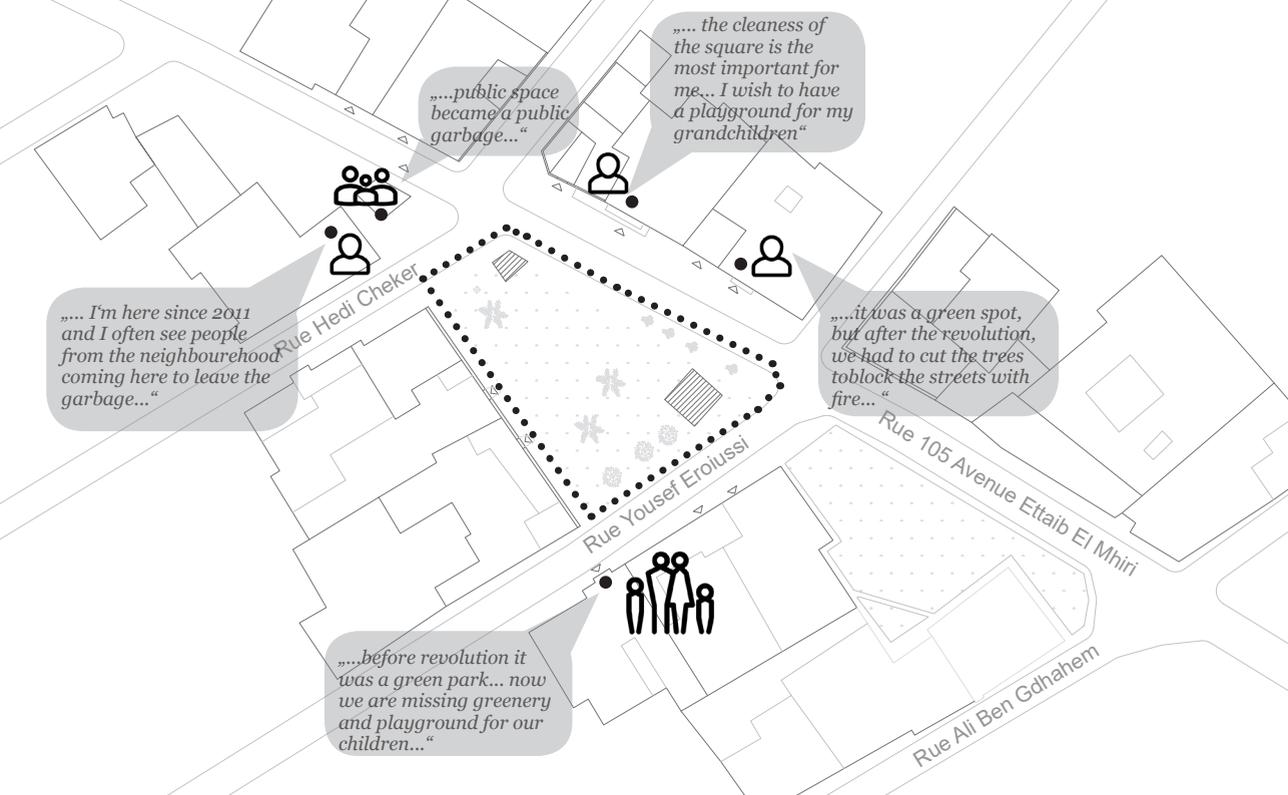


Figure 12 Area residents interviews summary (source: Author).

CONFLICTS, OBSTACLES & RESOLUTIONS

The problems resulting to the current state of the abandoned garden are related to the financing capacities of the city and understaffed cleaning services, as well as to the treatment of public space by citizens. First, the municipality does not currently have a sufficient budget for the rehabilitation of the garden and therefore there are no specific plans for its development. The disproportional fiscalization management resulted in the investment of the complete budget for green spaces development being spent during the first phase of the park next to the municipality building. Furthermore, significant staff deficiencies could be identified, since there are only three municipal workers who are responsible for cleaning all green spaces/parks in Ettadhamen district.

Problems further result from the perception and usage of the public space by the inhabitants. During the field work, people were witnessed leaving their waste there, both in the form of emptying the content of small plastic containers, as well as casually (e.g.

empty packet of cigarettes). Presumably, the area is also visited for the selection of plastic bottles and/or other recyclable objects: a man equipped with a small carriage was witnessed picking objects from the pile of waste. The disposal of garbage on the site -whether it is from the neighbours or outsiders- poses both an obstacle for the usage of the garden as such, as well as creates conflicts among the inhabitants. During 2015 a part of the garden was squatted by an unknown inhabitant and a kiosk was raised to function as a small shop. However, the immediate neighbours put pressure on the municipality to terminate any development of this project. The kiosk has not been ever used, neither has it been removed from the park though.

The efforts of the municipality for the preservation of the garden are demonstrated in the construction of a storage room for maintenance equipment on the neighbouring plot, south of the investigated garden. The function and appearance of the garden were further addressed by the delegation of Ettadhamen in 2006, by contracting urban planner Dgham Samir to propose designs for the three previously mentioned plots within the scope of the



Figure 13 Abandoned garden location (source: Author).

project "Rehabilitation of the green area Avenue Ettaib El Mhiri (105)". Due to the scarcity of financial resources, the suggested designs did not meet any implementation. The municipality has considered to sell or rent the three areas, but this has not been possible due to legal restrictions and the idea was dismissed.

IMPACT & PERCEPTION

Before the revolution the garden was perceived very well from the community as it was one of the very few green spaces in Ettadhamen. However, its use by the neighbours was limited to briefly sitting there. The lack of mention of other activities is attributed to the lack of program, seating opportunities, and shadow. During the night some male citizens would hide between the dense trees and drink alcohol which, according to the inhabitants, made the garden unsafe at night. After the revolution and since the garden has been deteriorating, the interviewees report being annoyed by its condition and by losing the precious green space.

It appears that the shared identity of the inhabitants influences their perception of responsibility and attachment regarding the

garden. Interestingly, the neighbours that have inhabited the area since many decades complain that it is people from other neighbourhoods that come (even by car) to dispose their waste on the garden; while the owner of a carpentry who settled there after the revolution claims it is also the immediate neighbours of the garden that do so.

Inhabitants appear to view the municipality as the relevant actor with power for any development of the garden. Besides mobilizing in order to stop the squatting action (kiosk), they have also tried to put pressure on the municipality to take control of the area and rehabilitate it. However, when it comes to individual or collective initiatives to tackle the issue of waste or function themselves, one can observe the lack of communal organization and the absence of tight relations among the inhabitants. Presumably, this can be related to the perception that the rehabilitation of the garden is not in their hands, nor is it their responsibility.

Regarding future perspectives, the neighbours have expressed their wishes for the development of the area to a green area, including for example a playground for kids.

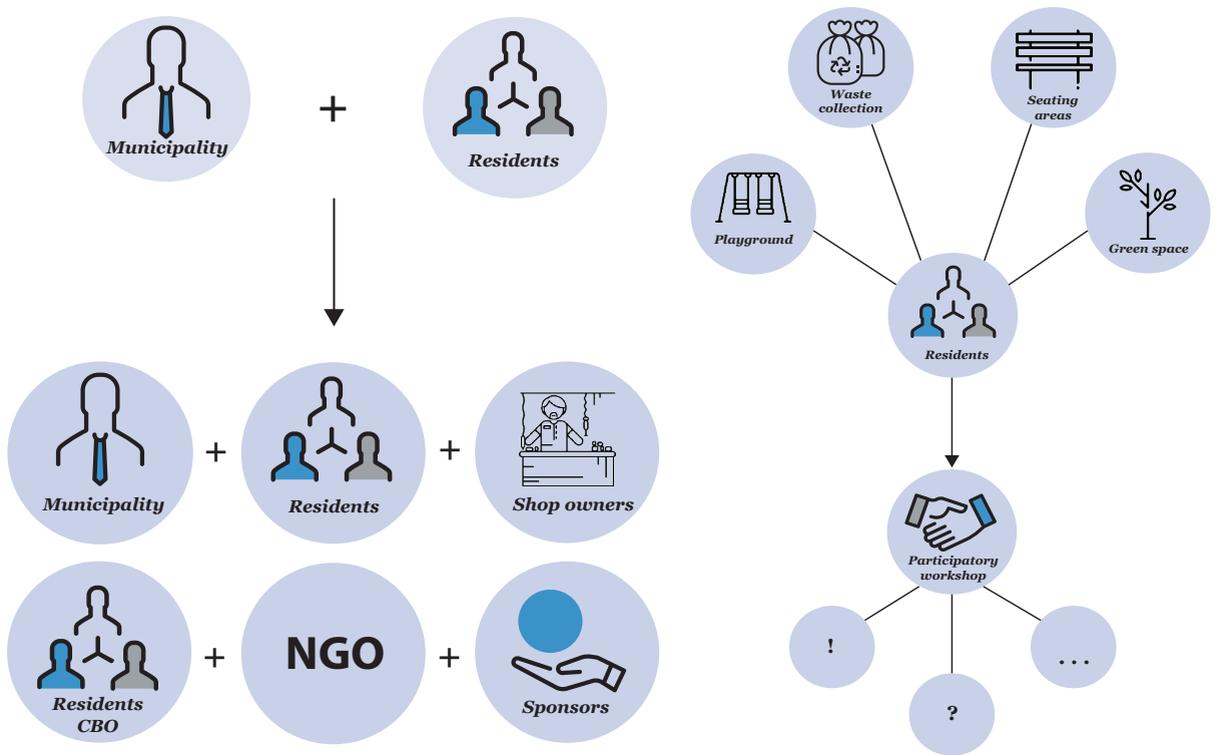


Figure 14 Stakeholder organization and participation process (source: Author).

PROPOSAL

Our future vision would include the involvement of more actors in the development of the garden in addition to the municipality and the immediate neighbours, such as the surrounding shop-owners, the creation of community based organizations (CBOs), the NGO Rawafed (which is located right next to the garden) as well as the possible attraction of sponsors.

The identified deficiencies are predominantly related to two issues: the scarce financial resources and the management of the park. In an attempt to address these issues, we propose the development of income-generating activities that would be profitable not only on an individual level, but also benefit directly the park (e.g. funds for its maintenance). These activities could include urban gardening and/or the usage of the area for the organization of cultural, education, athletic or other events. Additionally, an investment of the municipality and/or other sponsors (e.g. Rawafed NGO, small companies that wish to be represented in the garden) would be a significant contribution to the rehabilitation of the park. Particularly an investment by the municipality could

be perceived as an important gesture by the inhabitants, considering that, despite the availability of capitals for the development of green spaces, all funds were allocated for the park right in front of the municipality building, ignoring the necessity for other small-scale projects for the community.

Regarding the management of the garden, clear responsibility division would be important for its sustainable rehabilitation. That implies both, the management of the garden in terms of the coordination of different activities, communication with the future sponsors etc. as well as the assignment of responsibilities/tasks such as the execution of the physical interventions, cleaning the garden, planting further trees.

Specifically, from the conducted interviews with the inhabitants following needs could be identified: more green for the garden, seating opportunities, a playground and an efficient cleaning service. In addition to these wishes, we propose the realization of a participatory workshop, that would enable more voices to be heard and more needs to be addressed. The possible future interventions that we envision for the garden include urban gardening, garbage collection, defining the borders



Figure 15 Development concept of the project (source: Author).

of the garden (different materials/ surfaces, NO fence), using the area as a multifunctional space (e.g. community cafe, street food, events), shading (e.g. vegetation, tents) as well as raising awareness for the importance of the garden for the community and the threats that come with its misuse.

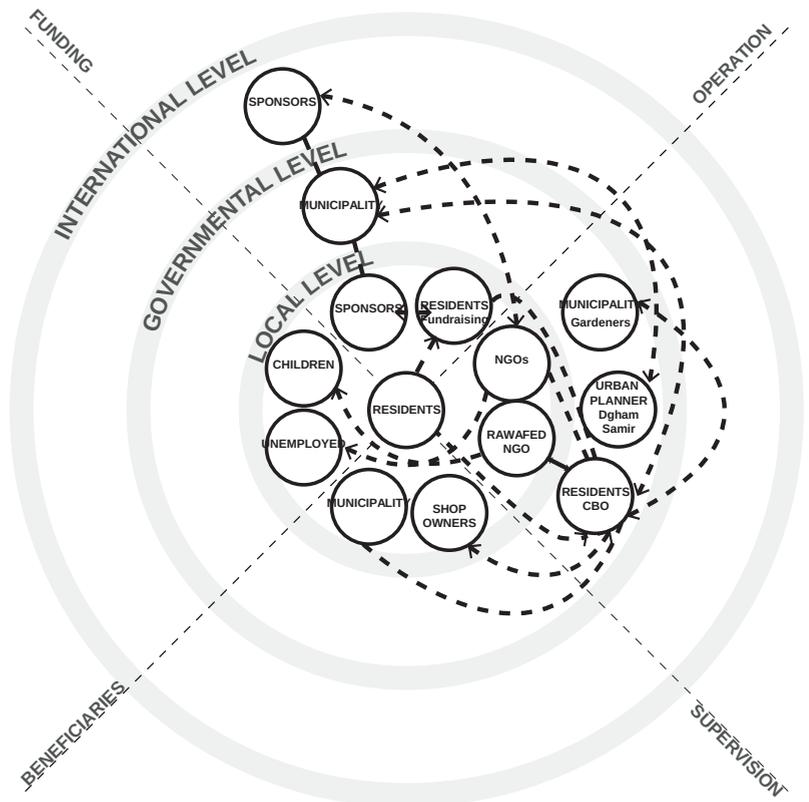


Figure 16 Project stake holder management (source by Author).

7.2 STREET SHADING

Abderrahmen Ezzine, Arianna
Tiberti, Eva Sule, Jennifer
Gehring, Maha Kouas, Rim Bchir
Mohamed Alfiky



PROJECT DISCRIPTION

For special occasions such as weddings, funerals and social events, canopies and tents can be rented from shops providing wedding equipment. These canopies and tents create temporary shadows for a specific group of people during the event but also for the general public before and after the event. The canopies and tents can be installed in the secondary streets of the whole district of Ettadhamun. They don't necessarily have one specific location only, but several ones (cf. location map).

This description focusses on the use of the canopies in the streets, the tents are mentioned for the sake of completeness. Because the tents are restricted to fulfilling a social service to a specific group of people defined by the event it is rented for only. Using a tent, this group is separated both spatially, socially and regarding the time of its use. A general public interest is not given. In contrast to this the focus on canopies was chosen due to consideration of the interest of the general public, as canopies provide shadow and shelter for everyone at least sometime during their implementation (before and after the event). During the research it became apparent, that the intervention grew out of the difficult climatical conditions of the area and entails several social issues.

PROJECT TRIGGER

Though the climate in Tunis and the coastal region of Tunisia is mediterranean, the sun exposure can be very hot and even harmful from midday to the late afternoon. Due to haze, the sun radiation is very diffuse and can cause sky glare. Permanent structures to provide the inhabitants with shadows are not existing in the main, secondary and tertiary streets in Ettadhamun. The streets and public spaces (e.g. the park) lack shades and shadows, which renders them inaccessible during midday and the afternoon. Thus, the inhabitants of Ettadhamun have developed daily routines and strategies to avoid the direct sunlight and heat. During the interviews with inhabitants from a mixed range of gender and age, several patterns of avoiding sun radiation were described, which will be explained more in detail in the following pages.

LOCATION	Narrow Streets	INITIATOR	Wedding
STATUS	Temporary	&OPERATOR	Shops
COST	15-20 Dt/d		
DATE	na		
USE	Shading device		



Figure 17 Interviews summary of shading streets project (source: Author).

METHODOLOGY

The subject of street shading was researched by a group of six students from Germany, Tunisia and Egypt. During two field trips the issue was detected by two groups of the workshop. In the next field trip in the study area ten interviews with twelve persons from Ettadhamun, varying in age and gender as well as observations on the topic were conducted.

In the interviews we asked questions on the intervention with canopies and also questions on the need for shading. We specifically wanted to speak to both men and women, since we hypothesised, that there might be different perceptions depending on gender and thus, their use of public spaces. This guideline was used for the interviews:

Questions on the intervention

- When/why are the canopies put up?
- Who puts them up?
Do you need the help of neighbours?
- Where do the canopies come from?
- What is the material of the canopies?
- Are there any difficulties with the setup

Questions on the need for shading

- Do you feel comfortable in the sunlight?
Are there any problems?
- Would you like to have more permanent shading?
- Do you have a proposal how more shades can be created?

Unfortunately it was not possible to find any examples of the interventions during the observations. Since the canopies are installed temporarily and for special occasions only, they are not visible all the time. However, all persons we asked for interviews knew the topic and could give us information about it.

PROCESS DESCRIPTION

The process of the installation of canopies does not consist of a multitude of different steps nor actors involved. Since it is a temporary intervention, it is more a time-circle than a time-line, lasting from one day to three days in total.

Person A can rent a canopy from one of the shops providing wedding equipment for a wedding, a funeral or another celebration (e.g.

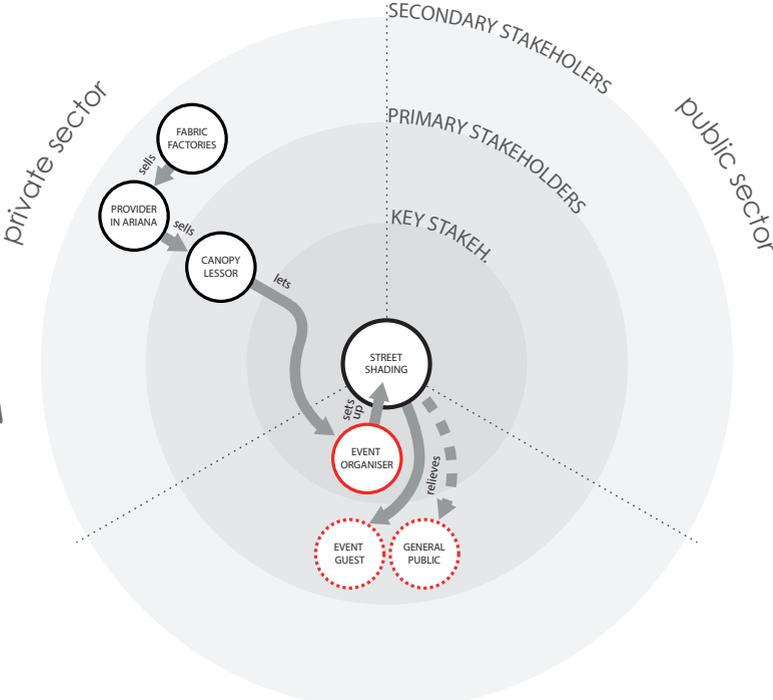
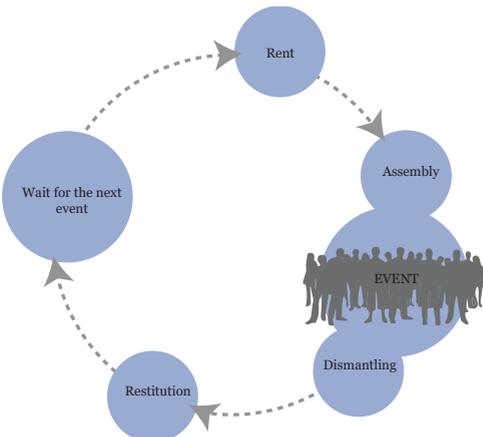


Figure 18 Time circle of canopies installation and stakeholder management (source: Author).

social/cultural event of an NGO). Depending on the size and shape of the canopy, the standard price is 60 dinars for three days, or 15-20 dinars for one day. One business found lets the canopies for free in case of funeral, to show solidarity with the family. There is no permission needed for renting, canopies can also be self-made from polyester or other fabric.

After renting, the canopy has to be installed by people themselves, after the event, the canopies have to be returned to the shops.

STAKEHOLDERS

The main stakeholders in those existing interventions of street shading are either from the private sector or the civil society. Currently, there seems to be no engagement of the public sector in this specific subject. In this analysis the focus is set on civic initiatives benefitting the general public, rather than merchants trying to protect their goods and attract customers for instance in the street markets.

Although making shades manually to protect items on a long-term basis also occurs, the predominant intervention entails event

organisers renting shades for different ceremonies and installing them outdoors above a small square, alley or most often simply the street in front of their houses, since the space inside the houses is not sufficient for large gatherings.

Thus, the key stakeholder in the topic of street shading is an event organiser. This can be an individual or a group of people, an association organising cultural events or even a political party in the election time. The choice between a tent or a canopy and the size of it depends on the dimensions of the space to be covered, the purchasing power of the people as well as the weather and season. In the summer renting simple canopies is preferred. However, in the winter tents are chosen in order to protect the celebration space from cold, heavy rain and wind.

In the district of Ettadhamun some shops specialized in letting furniture and equipment for weddings (guest's chairs, wedding chair, tables, decorations etc.) also let tents and canopies. The lessors can, thus, be considered primary stakeholders. As mounting and setting up tents requires more effort, the lessors help the event organisers in putting the structure in place.



SNEAK IN THE SHADOW

Figure 19 Impressions of the current status of the streets without shading (source: Author).



The shades are bought from providers. Those supplying the interviewed lessors are based in the governorate of Ariana. The providers in turn seem to be buying the shades and tents from some local fabrics factories. Both of those actors can be considered secondary stakeholders.

The main beneficiaries in the case of temporary street shading are a targeted group of people – the event guests. However, as the shading is usually set up some time before the event and is possibly not removed immediately after the end of the event, passers-by benefit from the shade as well. Furthermore, although no permission for the shading is needed from the neighbours, it is common they help in setting up and dismantling the shades, also since there is no existing infrastructure (e.g. hooks) for the shades. As the beneficiaries and involved ones, these stakeholders can be considered primary stakeholders.

The interaction of key and primary stakeholders lasts usually up to three days at a time, which is the time span between renting-installing and dismantling-returning the shades.

IMPRESSIONS

DAILY MARKET IN ETTADHAMUN

Another perspective on the daily market, which is covered with different shapes and colours of canopies along the whole street. Visitors, vendors and goods are protected by the shade created by the canopies. Thus, the canopies are removable, they are not permanent structures.

Source: Gehring

CANOPY FOR INDIVIDUAL USE

A canopy in one of the side roads of the market. It was installed by a single person to provide shade for his car, the canopy is hanging above his parking spot. In the evening, the canopy is taken down due to safety reasons.

Source: Sule

CANOPY

A folded canopy from one of the shops providing wedding equipment and the canopies.

Source: Gehring



KIDS IN THE SUN



LESS CUSTOMERS

NEED FOR INTERVENTION STRATEGIES TO AVOID THE SUNLIGHT

Most of the inhabitants will spend time outside only after the late afternoon, before that, they spend time in their homes, watching the children or at work. Many state that they are used to this routine, which can be described as a common code and behavioural structure in their daily lives.

While getting from one point to the other in Ettadhamun most of them try to walk on the little informal sidewalks. Since most of the buildings are one to two storeys high, the building walls provide short shadows on the sidewalks, which people try to make full use of by „sneaking from shadow to shadow“. This means, that people try to get from one to the other point quickly using the shadows and do not stay in the sunlight for a long time.

GENDER

Conducting the interviews it became evident, that there are significant differences in the perception of the issue between genders.

Men described their strategies for avoiding sun exposure, but did not value it a problem at all. In contrast to that women not only described their routines and impacts of the issue, but also rated it a serious problem. Most women we talked to gave pieces of advice on how to solve the problems as well, which men didn't do.

Men have more possibilities to make use of the public space than women have, due to the traditional "salons du thé", which are gender segregated. There are many more of these cafés for men than for women, which are also not supposed to walk in front of these cafés. Additionally, men can make use of the shade more easily by pulling up some chairs at the shadow, creating meeting points in the public spaces, whereas women are not allowed to do so. As well, women would probably change sidewalks in case there are men sitting in the shadow, which causes them to walk in the direct sunlight. The gender segregation leads to women actually using the public spaces less than men and if they do so then mostly in direct sunlight, which can also help explain why they perceive the issue as a serious one.

SAFETY

A topic always referred to while talking about the shading was safety, from which we conclude that it has a big importance and a prioritisation for the interviewees.

One aspect mentioned was the park in Ettadhamun, which had been redesigned recently for the sake of safety. Before the redesigning, it was a space of fear and rather unused by the public because of drug traffic/use. The dense vegetation with trees and bushes that it had provided the people with a lot of shadows, but at the same time the vegetation rendered the place confusing and chaotic, with various opportunities to hide and remain unseen during e.g. criminal activities. For families, especially women with their kids, it made the park unusable in the evening. Redesigning the park a lot of the trees were cut in the area, leading to an open landscape exposed to the direct sunlight from midday on. Because of this, people will only use it in the late afternoon when the sun radiation is not so harsh anymore. This was not seen as a problem by the interviewees, they stated the park has a very different character in the morning and in the evening.

When talking about solutions for providing shade in the streets, most interviewees put emphasis on the fact, that these solutions should not entail confusing or unclear landscapes. Safety is perceived more important than the issue of direct sunlight.

Another aspect that was revealed from the interviews concerned consequences arising out of the strategies of avoiding the direct sunlight from midday till late afternoon. Since most of the people are staying in their homes, work or café in the middle of the day, only some people are in the streets. This intensifies the issue of safety, first, because criminal activities can take place more easily and second, because the lack of people and "eyes" on the street create a feeling of an unsafe and dangerous environment, even if it is not the case.

FUNCTIONS OF THE STREET

Conducting the interviews it also became apparent, which important needs the streets

meet for the inhabitants of Ettadhamun. Most of them can not afford to live in big homes, so the streets become an extension of their properties. They use the streets to spend time together, especially when it comes to special occasions such as weddings and funerals, when their homes are not providing enough space for all visitors.

The street works as an economic trade road as well via shops and markets. As we saw, the daily market was all covered with selfmade canopies, providing not only the visitors and vendors with shade, but also the products such as fresh fruit or fish. For the market it is essential to have the canopies, it can not work the way it does without them. A young woman selling sweets in a shop also stated, that on very hot days, when there are no shadows in front of the shop, less customers come. The shadows may work as an encouraging factor for the economy of Ettadhamun as well.

CONFLICTS, OBSTACLES & RESOLUTIONS

Some obstacles render the intervention not as successful as it could be due to social, cultural and economical factors.

First, the intervention is costly to install and is not for free. If shade is demanded, the inhabitants of Ettadhamun have to pay for it. The single installations also are time-intensive and cost a lot of effort, sometimes due to the complicated installation.

Secondly, the self-improvised procedure can be dangerous, for example if a canopy has to be installed high up a roof. Since there are no safety measures, there is danger of collision with strong winds and sudden rain, which can hurt people.

Thirdly, they are not ecological (as the materials are flammable and composed of nylon, polyesters, textiles etc.), they do not provide any kind of recycling and they do not represent a durable and strong structure that can confront the extreme climate, with all its vicissitudes and changes (like heavy winds and sudden rain). Last, the biggest obstacle is that the intervention is only temporarily and short lived.

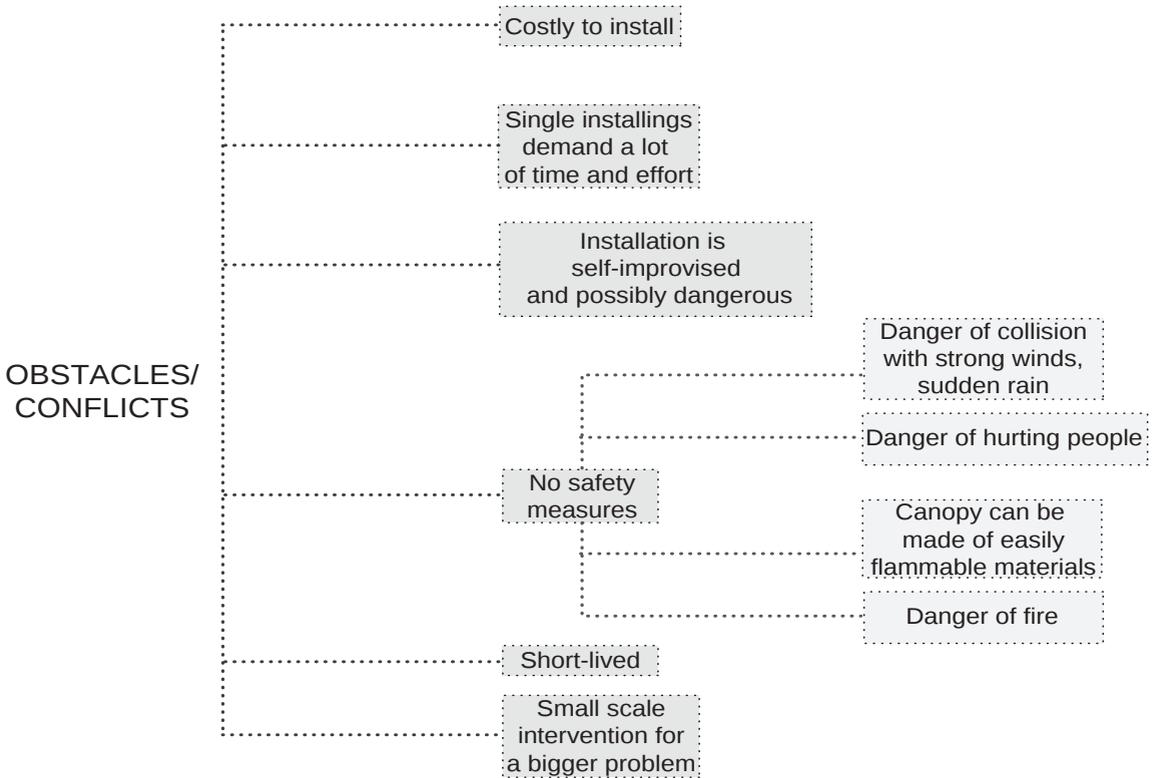


Figure 20 Obstacles and conflicts facing shading street project (source: Author).

EVALUATION OF AIMS VS. OUTCOMES

The existing interventions are individual attempts to provide shading, taken by the local stakeholders, principally the inhabitants of Ettadhamun. Those interventions can often be considered as a citizen participation to temporarily overcome an important problem in the area.

The aim of the intervention is to create appropriate spaces for ensuring the protection of customers, guests, cars, shops or homes from direct sunlight or rainy weather in the winter. While this specific aim is generally reached – the shade for items or guests of social gatherings created and business in the markets boosted by the shade – the outcome is not completely satisfactory or efficient, considering many weakness and potential threats.

The first weakness in the outcomes is that the interventions are extremely temporary, mostly depending on the occurrence of possible ceremonies.

Secondly, the intervention is limited spatially to a very small section of a street or other

public spaces, making the relief from direct sunlight not significant for the general public. The spatial constraints may, of course, also limit the event itself.

Thirdly, the intervention usually further enforces social boundaries between different groups of people, since during the events they offer shade only to the event attendees. However, as the issue of direct sunlight is a large-scale problem spread on a big territory, we can thus conclude that the current intervention is not sufficient for meeting the need for shading.

Moreover, the existing small, improvised and hazardous interventions can be characterized by incoherence and lack of a clear concept for shading. The solution to the problem is not sought in a district or even a single street level.

New suggestions are needed to make the public spaces impeded by direct sunlight more usable and beneficial socially and economically, allowing the general public and especially the youth to flow in and experience the unexplored potentials of these sites.

PROPOSAL

This proposal for an intervention can be seen as a manual for all different kinds of streets in Ettadhamun rather than one specific proposal for an intervention in a certain place in Ettadhamun. In the following four different scenarios were developed for three different typologies of streets: wide, regular and narrow streets, each requiring a different physical structure creating shade and shelter.

The proposed solutions derive from this analysis as well as the recommendations from the interviewees. The latter included tents and canopies, trees, vines covering the street and ground floor setbacks and arcades for shading within the building typology. Inspirations and references were researched online from different countries with a comparable climate. The stakeholder analysis also can be understood as a manual rather than a mere description of the next possible steps. There are at least two different scenarios, in which either the municipality or an NGO will take action first to implement some interventions first. But of course, it can and should be also the people integrated in the design and implementation process of the intervention.

Due to the multiple obstacles the inhabitants face due to current direct sunlight in the streets and the extreme limitations of the current intervention, new proposals are needed. In our data collection we gathered information indicating that:

- heavy shading structures are not allowed by law (Rim Zaabar, Ministry of Housing);
- light shading structures might get stolen for the purpose of reusing the building material (interview 3);
- shading might create conditions for increased crime e.g. shrubs and bushes (interviews 2 and 3).

Thus, an intervention offering long-term shading should be a light-weight structure unlikely to get stolen, which would keep clear sight at eye-level, not creating dark corners.

STAKEHOLDERS

We recognise various potentials in the interplay of actors able to engage in the implementation of the intervention proposals. Among others these include increasing capacities of the community through recognising and ad-

ressing issues of the neighbourhood via joint activities and shared responsibility, the opportunity to strengthen and improve the inhabitant's relations to the local authorities and/or strengthen collaboration with existing NGOs, all of which can lead the way to more co-operation and improvements in other spheres in the future. Naturally, there is also a danger of conflicts within those possible new or extended relations. We see miscommunication and false expectations between parties as a significant threat, as well as stakeholders not keeping to their end of the agreements e.g. not delivering equipment within the timeframe or amount agreed upon or not providing sufficient maintenance.

Within the intervention proposals, generally four roles of stakeholders can be seen: the initiators, the providers, the executors and the beneficiaries. However, these roles can overlap and each one stakeholder carry several of those roles simultaneously depending on the specific situation in the context.

Considering existing resources and legitimacy we sketched out two main scenarios with two different initiators and providers.

In scenario A the local municipality is a crucial actor introducing the intervention idea to the community, incentivising them to participate and providing the necessary materials. In scenario B these tasks are taken over by an NGO. Ideally in scenario B, the NGO could also inspire the citizens to gather in a CBO to organise the intervention execution and potentially continue in the future with joint upgrading actions and a united protection of their rights. In both scenarios the local inhabitants (house owners or CBOs) act as the executors of the project, being also the main beneficiaries in addition to the general public. The task of maintenance can be carried by the community as well as by the municipality or NGO depending on the specific context, capacities and resources. Academia acts as one of the initiators conducting the initial needs assessment and analysis, generating the intervention ideas and approaching the municipality or NGO as the other initiators with these ideas. In collaboration with them, academia can also further take part in analysing the situation on the ground and in propos-

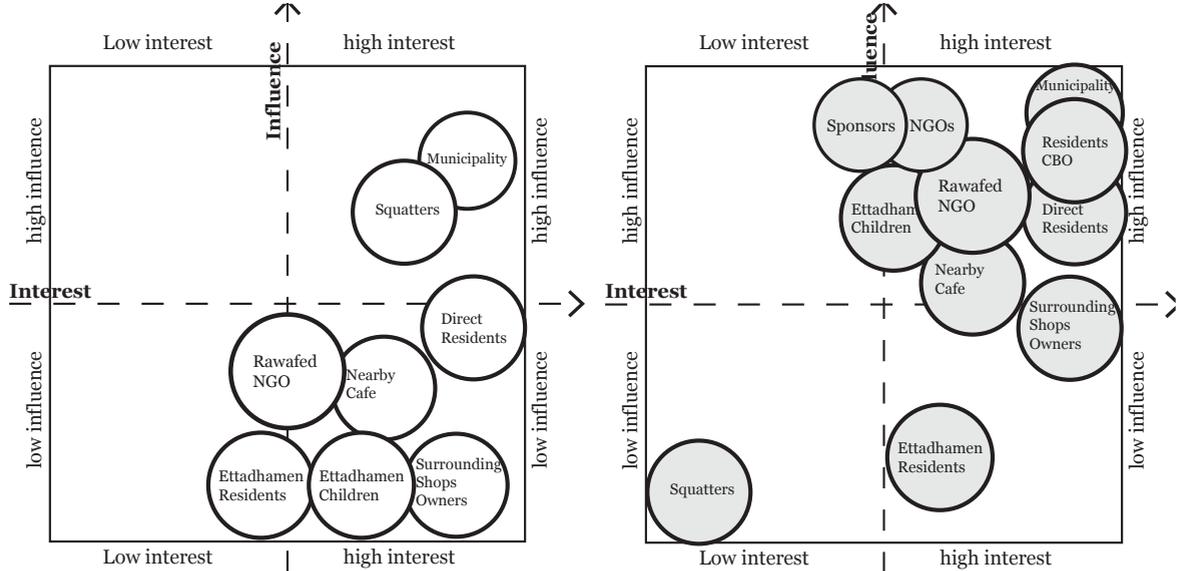


Figure 21 Stakeholder management of street shading project (source: Author).

ing specific action plans.

While as the municipality or NGO would be providing the materials in the case of some proposed interventions, it is also possible for the inhabitants themselves to act as providers for instance by creating shading out of old fabrics.

CONCLUSION

Though seemingly a topic of secondary importance in an informal settlement, the information gathered from the local inhabitants of Ettadhamun reveals that there are many hidden aspects related to street shading making it significant. Issues of unsafety and economic decline on streets empty of people, as well as danger on children's health and high discomfort in using public spaces surfaces, rendering the lack of shade a serious problem. Most notably the collected data clearly indicated that due to different social status and boundaries of men and women in the local society, the lack of public shading further disadvantaged the women. The working group established that providing adequate street shading, not only helps women in running their daily errands, but provides more freedom of movement and can consequently play an important role in empowering women in the society.

The working group also detected that bigger scale interventions for shading have a high community activism and capacity building potential. For instance in the proposed 3rd scenario the inhabitants could each plant

a vine in front of their property, growing the sense of personal responsibility for public space, and yet, provide for the structure for the vines as well as care for them together with the neighbours. If such community building is successful, it could lead to activism on other fields for combating other problems in Ettadhamun.

We see that the interventions can kick off by being implemented on only one street of Ettadhamun at first. When already in the state to provide sufficient shading on that street, it is likely the inhabitants would feel and see the benefits of the shading and realise the usefulness of implementing similar measures on more streets. Being motivated to expand and care for the shading themselves can not only further strengthen community activism and create a positive momentum, but makes the intervention self-sustainable.

The current interventions are inadequate and do not meet the needs. They tend to be costly, time-consuming, hazardous, spatially and socially limited and on a short-term basis. Yet, a solution of simple means could be devised relatively easily with the help of some funds and a central actor to incentivise the community.

Other more long-term solutions would merely require a change in the legislation for building houses of a different typology, without any actual structural changes to be made.

Any of those means requires the build-up of knowledge and first of all, awareness of the problem.



Figure 22 Project's first proposed scenario (source: Author).

SCENARIO 1

WIDE STREETS - TREES

In the first scenario, an actor will take action on the wide streets of Ettadhamun district. This actor can be the municipality, an NGO or the inhabitants themselves, which would be one of the most ideal scenarios. The NGO/municipality/people will plant the trees on both sidewalks. Planting trees will come at a certain cost but it will enhance the microclimate providing fresh air and a pleasant shade in the summer. Moreover, the trees may reinforce the identity of the street and give back to the inhabitants their space (e.g. Rua Goncalo de Carvalho Street, located in Porto Alegre, in Brazil).

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Enhancing the microclimate, refreshing the air, binding pollutants, reducing the temperature
- Community action potential
- Educational potential for children.

OBSTACLES:

- People might resist cleaning the streets from leaves
- Someone has to maintain the trees (e.g. watering, path of growth)
- Need a lot of space (roots and branches)
- Costly

REFERENCES

“Rua Goncalo de Carvalho”: a street located in Porto Alegre, in Brazil. It is flanked by trees on either side and became internationally known after a campaign for its preservation in 2005.

It is over 500 metres long, with over 100 Rosewood trees planted on its sidewalks. A Portuguese biologist named it “the most beautiful street in the world”.

Rosewood trees:

- Natural Range: Brazilian Atlantic Forest
- Heavy, strong and persistent
- Able to withstand a broad range of climatic conditions (from tropical lowland forest to sub-montane forest)
- Height can reach 24 m (7 floors)
- For conservation officially classified it as vital



Figure 23 Project's second proposed scenario (source: Author).

SCENARIO 2 REGULAR STREETS - CANOPIES

In the second scenario, an NGO/municipality/the inhabitants will take action on the regular streets with shades canopy installations built from recycled old fabrics. The NGO/municipality/the inhabitants will involve the inhabitants in the recycling and building process making thus the canopies will be personalized and adjustable. There are already examples of these installations in the Medina, the old town of Tunis built from nylon, ropes, and steel nails.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Recycling old fabric pieces
- Recycling garbage as shading
- Community action potential
- Beautification of streets
- Can be flexible and individually adjustable

OBSTACLES:

- Expensive
- Needs infrastructure for fastening
- Needs to be a safe structure because of heavy wind, should not stop wind circulation
- Needs to be a durable structure because of the extreme climate

REFERENCES

1. Curtain in the Medina of Tunis
 - All over the street flanked by shops
 - Recycled from old curtains
 - Handmade by stakeholders
 - Hooked and fixed on wall primitively
 - Material: nylon + ropes + steel nails
2. Recycled Shadow, Spain
 - Street art installation of recycled paper windmills
 - Meva architectural collective
3. Calle del Arenal, Madrid, Spain
 - Colourful shading over a shopping street



Figure 24 Project's third proposed scenario (source: Author).

SCENARIO 3 NARROW STREETS - VINES OVER STREET

In the third scenario, an NGO/municipality/the inhabitants will take action in narrow streets. Vines could be a beautiful and cheap solution. We can find streets with grapes in Calle Ciegos, Jerez, Spain as well as in Molyvos, Lesvos in Greece.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Cheap
- Beautification of the neighbourhood
- Enhancing the microclimate, refreshing the air, binding pollutants
- Not 100% shade, but lets some light through
- No leaves in winter, providing enough light in the street

OBSTACLES:

- Needs to be maintained constantly (e.g. cutting back, water), which might provide jobs
- Lizards who like to live on the vines

are likely not to be favoured by the inhabitants

- Leaves of Yasmine are not very big, maybe not enough shade

REFERENCES

1. Molyvos, Lesvos, Greece
2. Peloponnese, Greece
3. Calle Ciegos, Jerez, Spain / Grapes plants

What kind of trees or plants can be used? Those, that

- Can survive in the area's ecosystem.
- Do not need a lot of care.
- Are not bad for foundation.
- Do not hide the sun in winter.
- Are deciduous vegetation (lose their leaves in winter so the sun can shine through windows and on the street)

Good examples for plants in Tunis:

- Bougainvillier: persistant, rapid growth 6-8 to height.
- Jasmin: semi persistant, rapid growth



Figure 25 Project's fourth proposed scenario (source: Author).

SCENARIO 4

LEGAL REGULATIONS

In the last scenario, we wish to involve local stakeholders to initiate legal regulation efforts. Although this solution may cost more money than the last three scenarios it will raise the importance of the issue and may pave the way to a more permanent solution. However, these newly implemented laws could be perceived as pressure and may create opposition as well in the unplanned settlement of Ettadhamun.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Permanent solution
- Expressing the importance of the issue
Raise awareness for the issue both from the official and public perspective

OBSTACLES:

- Laws might be ignored
- Could be perceived as pressure and create opposition
- Very long process of implementation because of the tight corset of planning regulations in Tunisia

- High costs for implementation

REFERENCES

1. Arcades in the Médina of Tunis
2. Avenue of Habib Bourguiba

7.3 THE MARKET PROJECT

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Faika Saidi, Mohammed Fawzi,
Nusi Tassah Yannick, Iman Charara,
Yasmine Halawa



In 1989, the daily market has been established in Rue 106 by the ministry of local affairs to serve the area residents. The cost was 300,000 DT.

In 2012, the project has been initially operated, and officially opened in 2013 with partially unsuccessful operation. The main problem, that influences the main function of the commercial units (shops) is that they have small insufficient areas, and the internal parts are impermeable for the users.

PROJECT DISCRIPTION

PROJECT TRIGGER

The settlement of Hey Ettadhamen has been established in the 1980s. The area lacked a lot of services. As the area was un-planned, the government decided to introduce some services including the local market.

LOCATION	Rue 106	FUND	Ministry of local affairs & local community
STATUS	Abandoned	OPERATOR	Local Merchants
COST	300 000 DT		
DATE	1989 (2012)		
USE	Market Area		

The Market Project Plan

The area A is the weekly market, while area B is the municipality daily market



Figure 26 The Market Project Plan (source: Author).

The Timeline of the Intervention

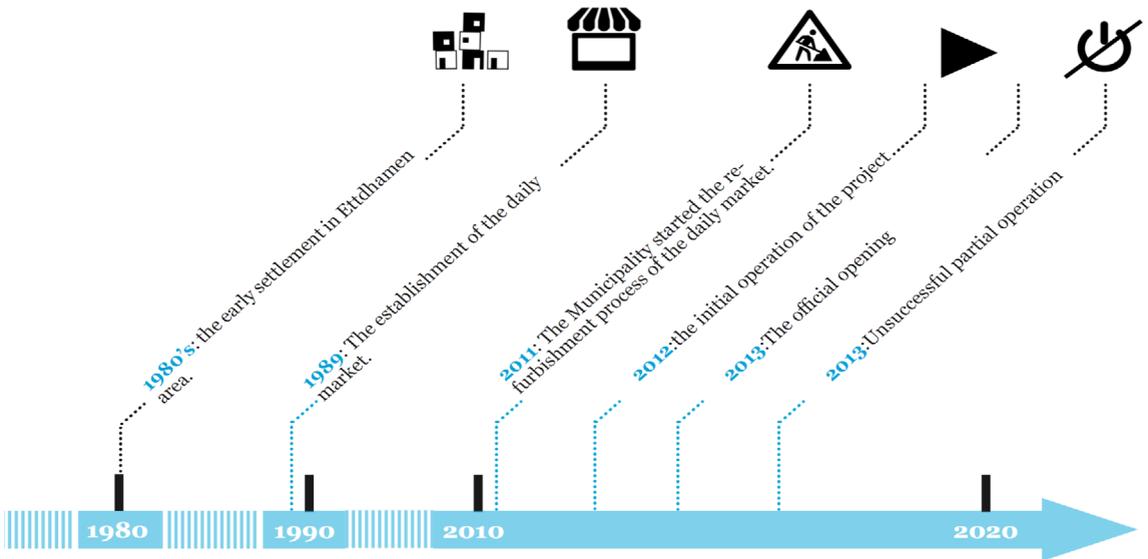


Figure 27 The Timeline of the Intervention (source: Author).

The market place intervention was a response to the community needs of a new market specially after the expansion and development of Ettatdhamen spontaneous area. The intervention was not a one step project, It was an incremental process as shown in the timeline.

Stakeholders and Process Analysis

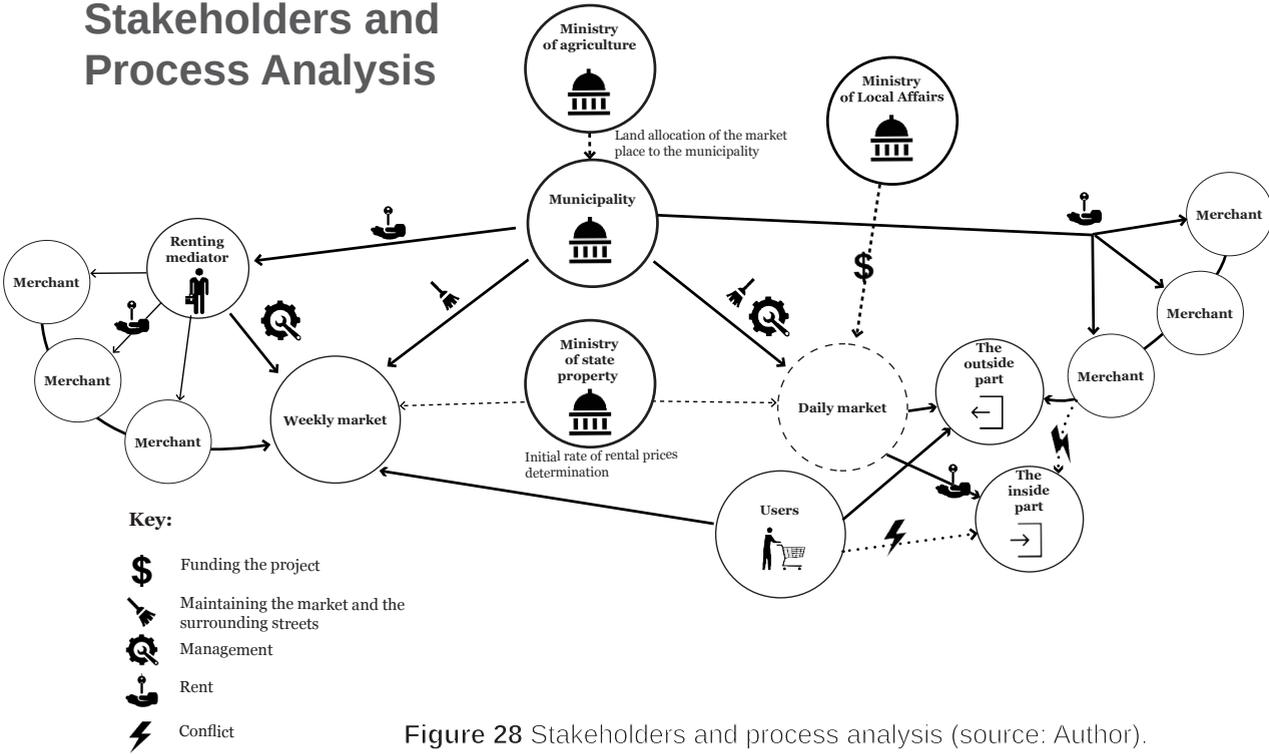


Figure 28 Stakeholders and process analysis (source: Author).

The Problems of the Market Intervention

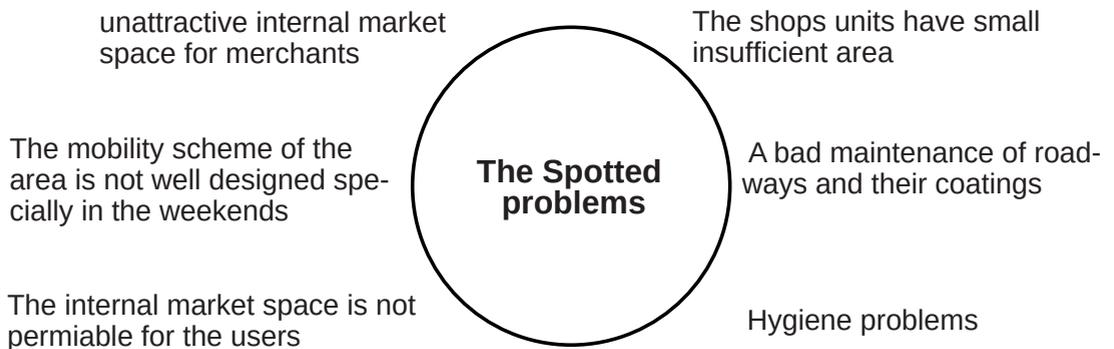


Figure 29 The Problems of the Market Intervention (source by Author).

We must know precisely what are the constraints that development program must respect. This requires that we investigate the current market characteristics, its operation and its management for analysis. The most common problems of a market can be divided broadly into physical, social and managerial problems.

The Reactivation

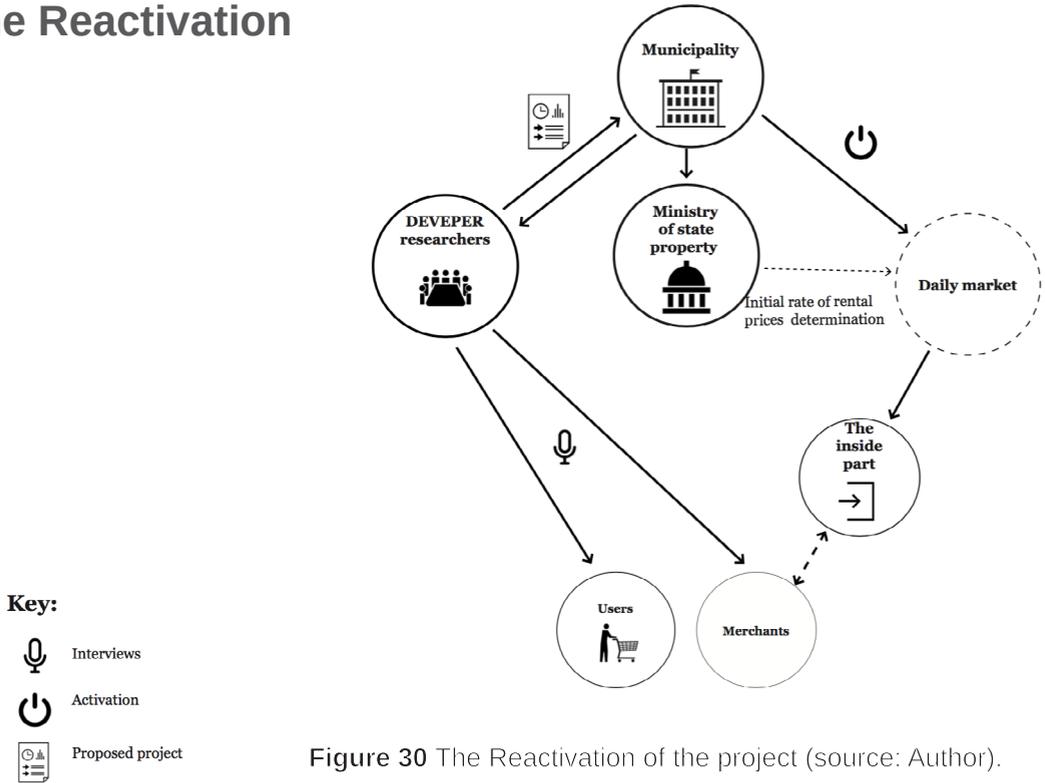
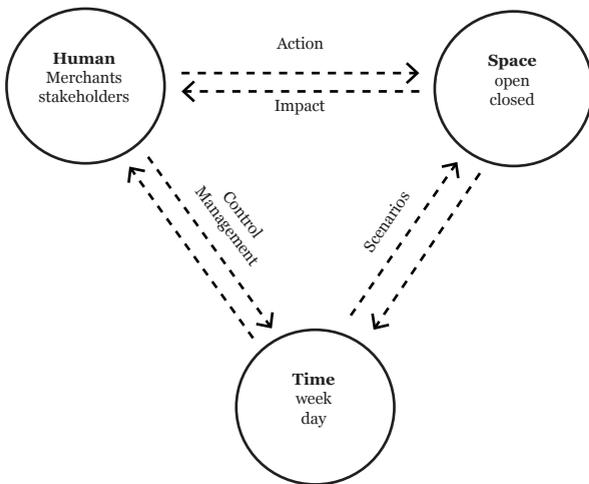


Figure 30 The Reactivation of the project (source: Author).

Toolkit of the Proposed Activities



The daily market in a specific place including permanent stands or mobile ones that can be used daily or weekly. In this table there is a brief profiling of the different activities and their suggested place

Activities		Spatial needs
Vegetables, fruit and flowers		Open space (stands outside)
Dried vegetables and cereals		Open space (stands outside)
Subsidised bread		Covered space
Cooked dishes ("street-food")		Covered space
Fresh meat		Covered space
Fresh fish and dried fish		Covered space
household articles and utensils of home		Open space (stands outside)
fabrics and clothing		Open space (stands outside) Or in a covered space
Sale of various items (the most frequent)		Open space (stands outside) Or in a covered space
Sale of poultry		Open space (stands outside)
Hand made crafts		Open space (stands outside)
Toys for kids		Open space (stands outside)

Figure 31 Toolkit of the proposed activities (source: Author).

The Proposed Future Space/Time Scenario

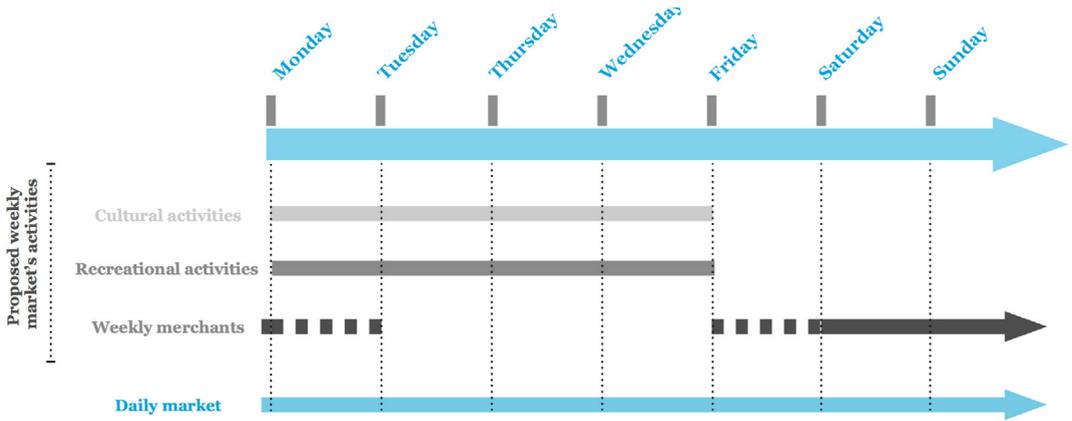


Figure 32 The Proposed Space/Time Scenario for the Future (source: Author).

The market place intervention was a response to the community needs of a new market specially after the expansion and development of Ettatdhamen spontaneous area. The intervention was not a one step project, It was an incremental process as shown in the timeline.

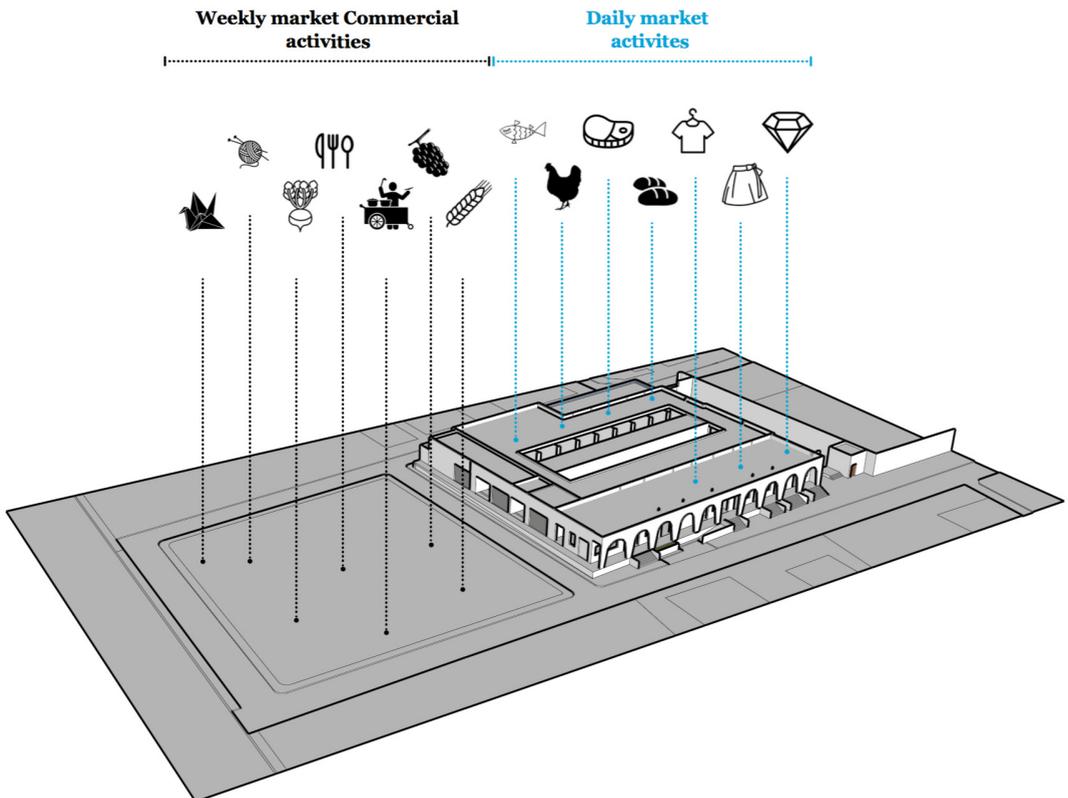


Figure 33 3D illustration of market distribution (source: Author).

7.4 GARBAGE COLLECTION PROJECT

Ahmed Yassine, Hebat Allah
Hendawy, Jasmin Shata, Ma-
nuel Heckel, Rym Klila



Recyclable waste collection by the municipality is unevenly available throughout the area of Ettadhamem and if so waste is typically not sorted/separated. A local initiative in the community emerged around 10 years ago both as a way to generate income as well as to fill the gaps left by the municipality's service provision. Waste is collected, sorted and sold to larger companies that ultimately export it to national or inter-national recycling companies for further processing. This intervention combines individual benefits, i.e. income generation, with a service to the community, i.e. waste collection.

PROJECT DISCRPTION

PROJECT TRIGGER

Ettadamun community were triggered by diverse factors to start the community-organised waste management system which was initiated by the beginning of 2000. The area had been suffering from garbage pilling up in the open spaces that caused health problems, pollution and made the area unattractive. While at the same time there was no effective formal system for recycling implemented by the municipality. Moreover, the youth in the area suffered from high unemployment rate and there was a need to generate an income independantly.

LOCATION	Ettadhamen	INITIATOR	Local
STATUS	Operating	&OPERATOR	Collectors
COST	Uknown		
DATE	2005		
USE	Service		



CONFLICTS , OBSTACLES & RESOLUTIONS



Places of garbage partially occupy the public space



≠



Different waste collectors present in the area may have conflicts in regard of having the same interest in the same area



Garbage cause health hazards to the waste collectors



Conflicts and competitions arise between waste collectors



The informal/illegal activities cause problems between the collectors and the municipality

Figure 34 Conflicts, Obstacles & Resolutions of garbage collection project (source: Author).

Schematic Process

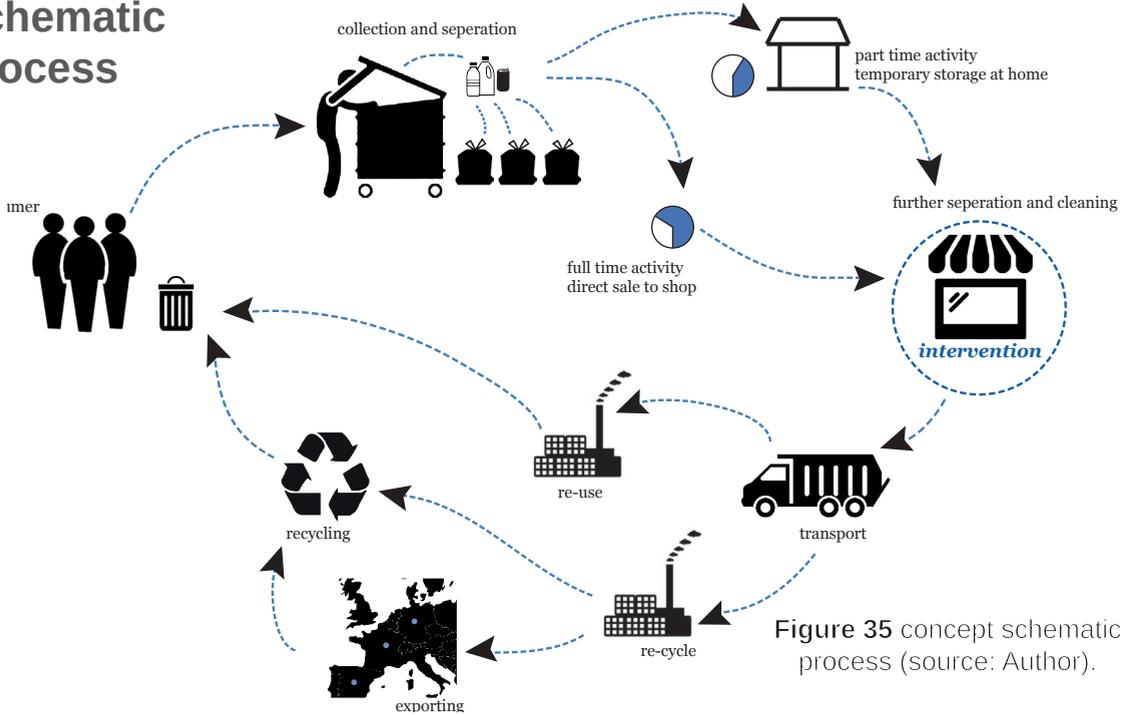


Figure 35 concept schematic process (source: Author).

IMPACT & PERCEPTION

SOCIAL

- Increased sense of ownership
- Area more attractive for outsiders
- Conflicts between neighbors for waste disposal

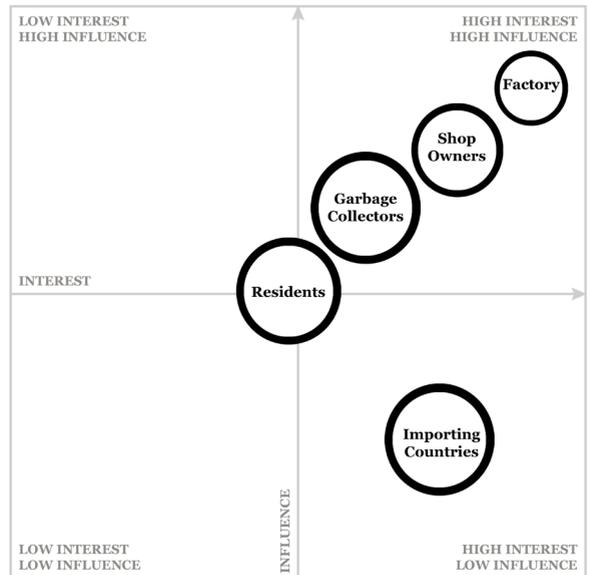
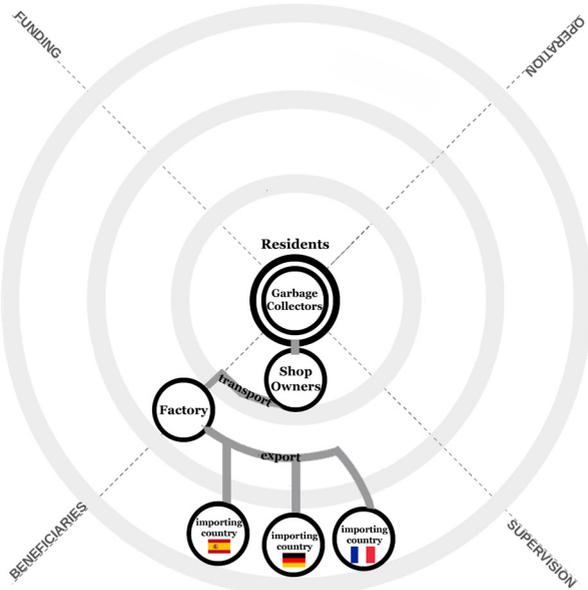
ECONOMIC

- Unemployment rate decreases with local youth working as garbage pickers

- Solid waste generates income for the families of Ettadamun
- Reused waste generates revenue for the locals/community

ECOLOGICAL

- Reduced air pollution
- Collection, reuse and exporting of garbage reduces harm to the environment.



7.5 RAWAFED CULTURAL ORGANISATION

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Mejda Najjar, Shaimaa Abouel-
magd, Cibele Kojima de Paula,
Nina Peters



PROJECT DISCRIPTION

The NGO Rawafed is working with children and the youth in Ettadhamen. Through organizing intellectual and cultural activities, the young citizenship of Ettadhamen should be engaged to be an active part in the society and have access to extra curriculum cultural offers. In order to support cultural work in the area, Rawafed coordinates its work with local and governmental authorities. Additionally, it cooperates with other local and international organizations and institutions to create networks and build bridges to diverse cultures. It aims to strengthen the culture of citizenship in the area, to encourage participation and preserve the values of the revolution. Rawafed is contributing in human development directed to children and young people.

Participants can receive chess classes and take part in regional and international competitions. They also have the opportunity to improve their educational skills, especially in languages (French, English and Arabic). Furthermore, Rawafed organizes cultural and recreational trips in order to raise children's interest in Tunisia's cultural, historical and geographic qualities.

A further aim of the organization is to strengthen the role of women, especially in Ettadhamen. Through organizing campaigns in the main roads of Ettadhamen, the local park and several educational and cultural institutions, the organization contributes to improve and enhance the local environment and public spaces.

PROJECT TRIGGER

The founders realized that children in Ettadhamen lacked concentration in studies and showed low self-esteem. Fathers were the whole day in cafes, so children would take their role models from TV. Additionally, there is a lack of open-spaces in Ettadhamen where children can go, so that TV and drugs became a popular pastime. The youth centres do not work due to lack of care, there are no activities offered and children are usually sent back home.

LOCATION	9 Nahaj Youssef Rouissi	INITIATOR & OPERATOR	Local Residents
STATUS	Ongoing		
COST	Rent 200 Dt/m		
DATE	2013		
USE	NGO		

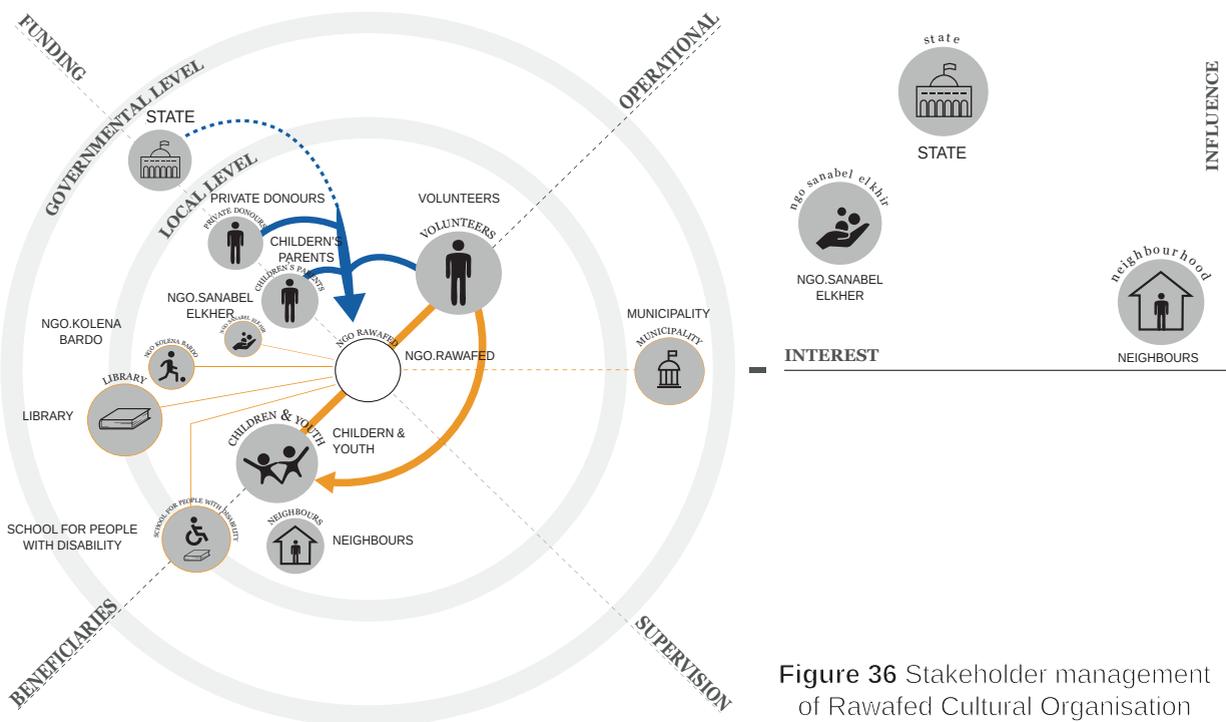


Figure 36 Stakeholder management of Rawafed Cultural Organisation (source: Author).

CONFLICTS , OBSTACLES & RESOLUTIONS

Rawafed used to receive some governmental funding in the past. The State funding covers the rent, activities and salary for up to four fixed workers (e.g. cleaning, administration, etc). Since its relocation in 2014 this funding felt apart. In order to get access to State funding in Tunisia, NGOs have to be registered. The registration requires a long procedure with a lot of paperwork and long waiting lines. If a NGO is registered and changes its address, it needs to apply anew for the funding and go through the whole process again. It is not possible just to change the address in the documents. Now the NGO is financed by its members. Each of the volunteers pays 30 dinars per month to pay the rent. Children, youths and adults pay 5 Dinars per month to participate in all activities. Additionally, Rawafed receives some donations.

Ettadhamen does not have many open spaces, which leads to a lack of space for recreational activities (e.g. lectures, cinemas, competitions). The public library has an open space but it is used mostly for storage. After closing around 1pm, the space is used

by youths that use drugs, alcohol and leave their garbage behind. Volunteers of Rawafed clean it and help to take care of this space. Furthermore, the NGO got the permission to build another floor on top of the public library and use it as a cultural space. The procedure of obtaining the construction permit took a lot of time. Volunteers made use of their personal connections to authorities and people in the municipality to accelerate the process. The construction should start in the end of 2016. The additional space will allow several uses, for instance for movie screening, theater plays, exhibitions or lectures.

RAWAFED'S OBJECTIVES:

1. Contributing to the enrichment of the cultural scene
2. Organizing intellectual conferences and art activities
3. Contributing to the establishment of the citizenship culture , the values of the revolution & improving aesthetic perceptions
4. Embracing, supporting and promoting the emerging talents in Ettadhamen
5. Coordinating with local and governmental authorities to support cultural work in the area



6. Cooperating with local and international authorities/organizations to build bridges of cooperation and interaction with diverse cultures
7. Teaching children and youth chess and taking part in regional and international competitions
8. Contributing in improving education materials for children and youth
9. Informing about the cultural, historical and geographic qualities of Tunisia through organizing cultural and recreational trips for the engaged and registered members
10. Supporting the efforts of the educational, cultural and recreational institutions in the area through building networks to organize mutual activities
11. Contributing to the improvement of the environment and the public spaces through organizing cleaning campaigns in the main roads of ettadhamen, the local park and several educational and cultural institutions
12. Strengthening woman rights and the role of women, especially in Ettadhamen
13. Developing the art and creativity potentials through establishing new associations for various art and creativity

activities in theater, cinema, literature and fine arts

IMPACT & PERCEPTION

By creating one of the only cultural institutions in Ettadhamen the Rawafed Organisation receives inhabitants from a 500m radius around their location. It provides educational skills and supports citizenship education, children are better at school now and also women have the chance to complete their high school degree. This is strengthening their role in the area and contributes to the development of women's rights. Children have an elevated self-esteem and learn abilities to be productive. Due to events such as chess-competitions and art exhibitions, they have the chance to proudly show what they learn. Through cleaning campaigns in the neighbourhoods, Rawafed creates a positive perception by the local community. Public spaces and streets are getting cleaner and greener, contributing to a change of perception about Ettadhamen in Tunis. In addition to that, inter-municipal events that award children with high grades at school contribute to a more positive image of Ettadhamen.

7.6 MONTAZAH PARK & SPORTS FIELD

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Hosea Dirschauer, Max Lewar



PARK

The park is the only public leisure place in the neighbourhood. It was opened in 1999 and gained infamous prestige due to its misuse by drug addicts and homeless people occupying the park at night. This eventually led to a quick deterioration of the green area and vandalism of the parkfurniture, increasing fears and prejudices about the Park. It was partly revived shortly after the revolution. The trees were thinned to ensure a higher visibility and new benches were installed. Due to the lack of funds, not all the suggested improvements have been realised.

FOOTBALL FIELD

The sports field was turned into a soccer-pitch with the help of a private donor. Up till now, there is a regular soccer training for the youth each day of the week starting in the afternoon. These sessions are organised by the local residents themselves.

Since the acknowledgement of the municipality of the activities is rather poor, residents struggle to obtain a legal status for their association, that could be responsible for the organisation of the soccer activities. Additionally there are soccer tournaments, that are popular within the whole area, making it an attractive public space.

PROJECT TRIGGER

PARK

The revolution in 2011 changed the peoples awareness of their neighbourhoods and empowered them in their relationship towards the Municipality, which in return made the officials feel more responsible towards the citizens.

The first official upgrading took place in 2011 followed by other additions in 2014. The first informal interventions took place in 2015.

FOOTBALL FIELD

There is high demand for a space for children to play. Public space for sports and leisure is almost non-existent, therefore existing public spaces have to be used the most efficient way. Turning the space in a functioning sports field is a huge addition for the community and helps turning the park into a open public space.

PROJECT DISCIPTION

LOCATION	Montazah	FUND	Municipality + Donors
STATUS	In Use	OPERATOR	Local Residents
COST	Unknown		
DATE	1999		
USE	Leisure + Sports		

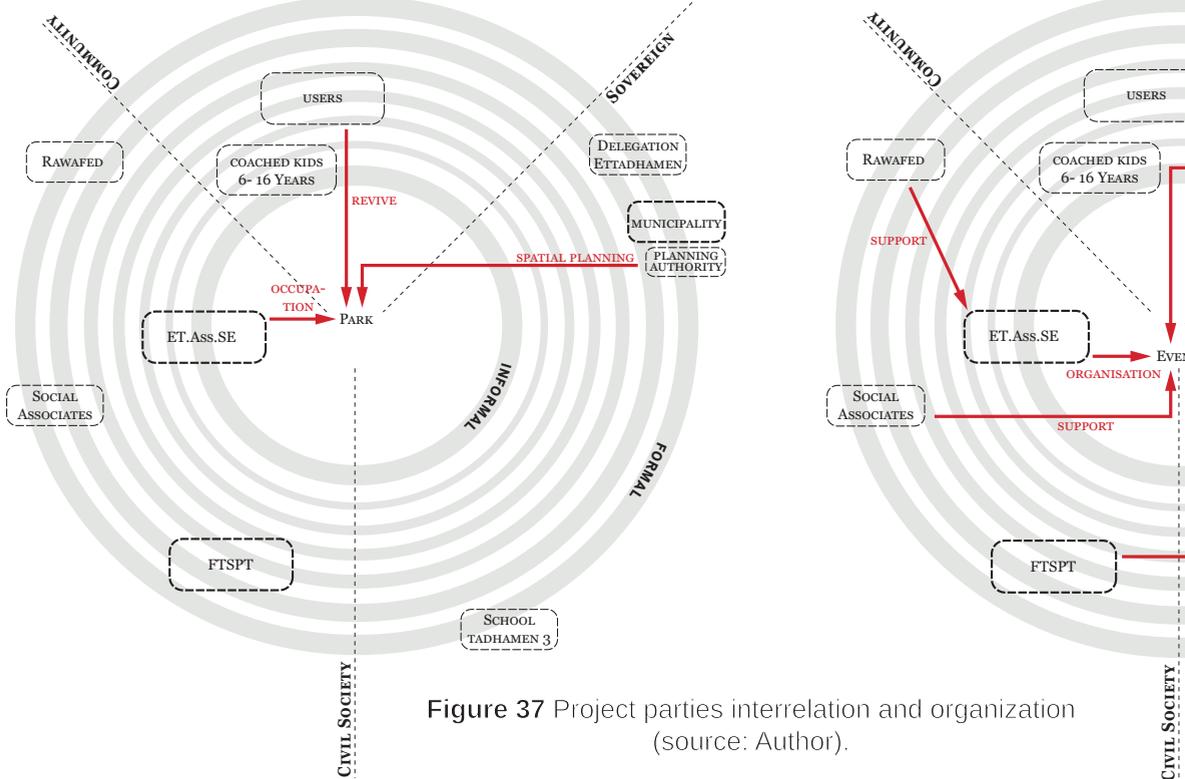


Figure 37 Project parties interrelation and organization (source: Author).

OBJECTIVES & TRIGGERS

The main trigger for the alteration of the space was the revolution in 2011. It changed a lot in the set of mind of the local citizen and the municipality.

In the initial phase, the public space was neglected and offered no leisure facilities and suffered from the abuse by drug addicts and homeless people.

The revolution empowered the citizen, in return making the municipality more responsible towards the local population.

This newly gained self-esteem is aimed to tackle several objectives. The main goal is to establish an accessible and safe public space, which offers sports and leisure activities for the neighbourhood.

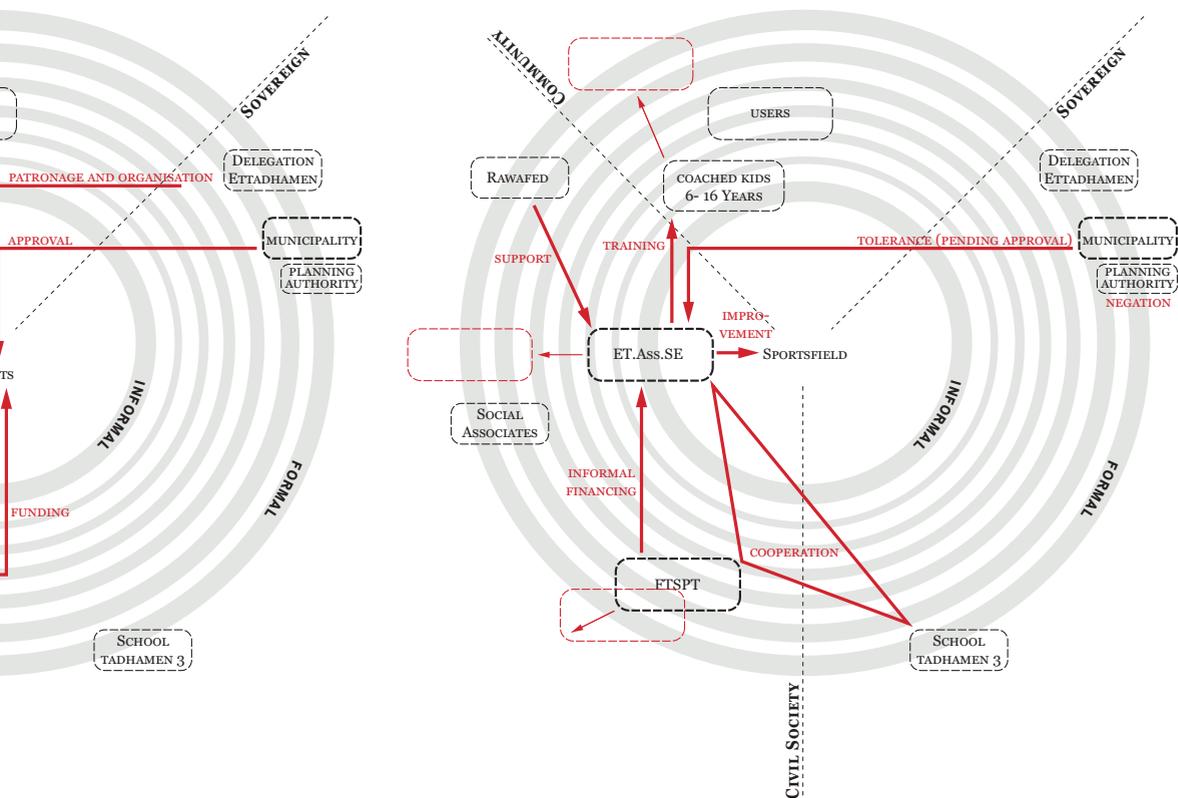
STAKEHOLDERS

The project demonstrates a well-functioning symbiotic correlation between formal and informal stakeholders. While the municipality - as one of the main formal stakeholders - funded and implemented the physical upgrading of the park and provided the space for

a sports field, local residents have organized themselves in an informal association – Et-tadhamen Association for Sports and Entertainment (ET.Ass.SE) – to specify the uses of the area. The informal ET.Ass.SE has physically adapted the space to its specific needs and has taken the responsibility of organizing activities in the park and the sports field. It cooperates with a local elementary school and multiple formally registered NGOs. These activities are tolerated and supported by the municipality. Moreover, the ET.Ass.SE receives informal funding and support from the Fédération Tunisienne du Sport pour Tous (FTSPT) – a formal federation belonging to the Ministry of Youth and Sports. These informal activities and correlations are expected to be formalized as soon as the ET.Ass.SE is formally registered as a formal NGO.

PARK

Montazah Ettadhamen was known before the Tunisian Revolution as a hub of criminality and drug abuse which limited its accessibility for most of the local residents. After 2011 the municipality undertook several beautification measures of the park: trees were trimmed,



lighting and seating opportunities were installed. The ground of the park is yet to be greened. The park is comprised of typical “green” (to-be) areas, a small concrete-built amphitheater with a view over the green area and a fenced sports field. The planning authority of the municipality proposed a redesign plan; the implementation, however, has not been planned yet. Since the beautification efforts of the municipality the park has grown popular for the local residents of all different age groups, especially in the afternoons when the days sun weakens. Besides the use as a public green space the park has also turned into an event location where several regular and seasonal events take place.

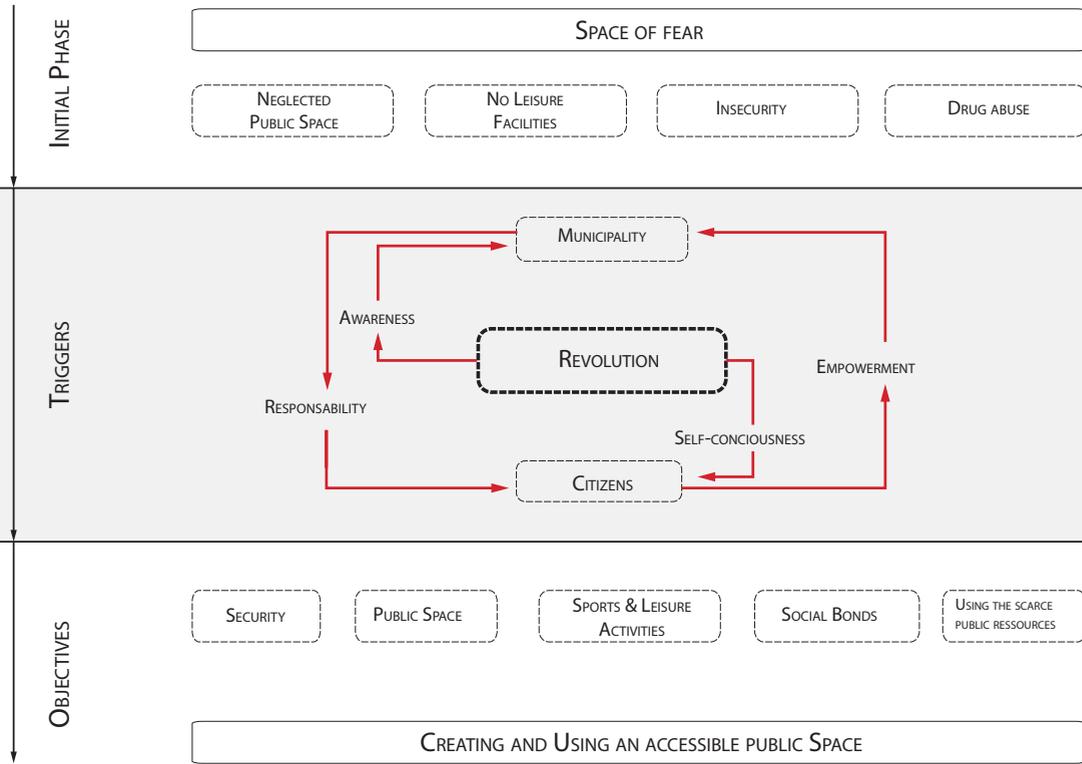
ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Beside the regular events of the academy, the park and the sports field have become home of several seasonal events organized by the Delegation of Ettadhamen and/or the FTSPT in coordination with the ET.Ass.SE and the municipality. On the Revolution Day, Ettadhamen Spring Festival, the Ramadan tournament, on the Tunisian Independence Day, Ettadhamen Summer Festival and other

events both sports and cultural activities take place in Montazah Ettadhamen. The events where several local NGOs (e.g. Rawafed, Ettadhamen Association for Inclusion) and schools are invited to include football and boule tournaments for young boys and girls, seniors and the differently abled. Furthermore, the sports activities are accompanied with public music and theater performances by both local residents and professionals.

SPORTS FIELD

The sports field included in the beautification efforts of the municipality was a fenced sandy area with installed floodlights. The informal ET.Ass.SE. was however determined to turn the sports field into a designated football field. Therefore, with the informal financial and technical support of the FTSPT the ET.Ass.SE. acquired football goals and equipment for football training (e.g. soccer shirts, cones, balls). With these efforts the sports field is housing a children football academy. The academy is managed by the ET.Ass.SE. in cooperation with an elementary school and the FTSPT. A concrete pathway next to the sports field is used by the ET.Ass.



SE. as a “boule” training area for adults and seniors. The remaining pathways and the amphitheater are used for the physical training. During the daily training in and around the sports field the park turns into a meeting point for families and local residents to watch the activities and enjoy the atmosphere. Due to the informal character of the association, nevertheless, the academy is not yet acknowledged as a formal entity.

CONFLICTS & GAPS

The obstacles can be divided in two main groups. One being the problem of insufficient funds. The second one is the lack of a legal status of the organizers. As long as they are not officially acknowledged as a legal association it is impossible to get official approval of the activities.

In addition to these obstacles, there are several conflicts causing frictions between the stakeholders. An important one is the persistent negative image of the park, making it harder to improve the public opinion and to raise awareness.

The missing authorization by the municipality,

leads to another obstacle, in making it almost impossible to acquire official financial funds for the project.

Some of these conflicts have already been informally resolved.

Until the association is not yet formally accepted, funding is provided informally by private donors. Since the capacities of the municipality are limited, the informal activities on the sports field are tolerated.

Another conflict that has already been taken care of is the limited spatial capacity and the high numbers of children that want to take part in the soccer training. The locals themselves have rented a gym in the nearby neighborhood to offer more space for the children during training sessions.

Montazah Entity

shortage of space / social exclusion

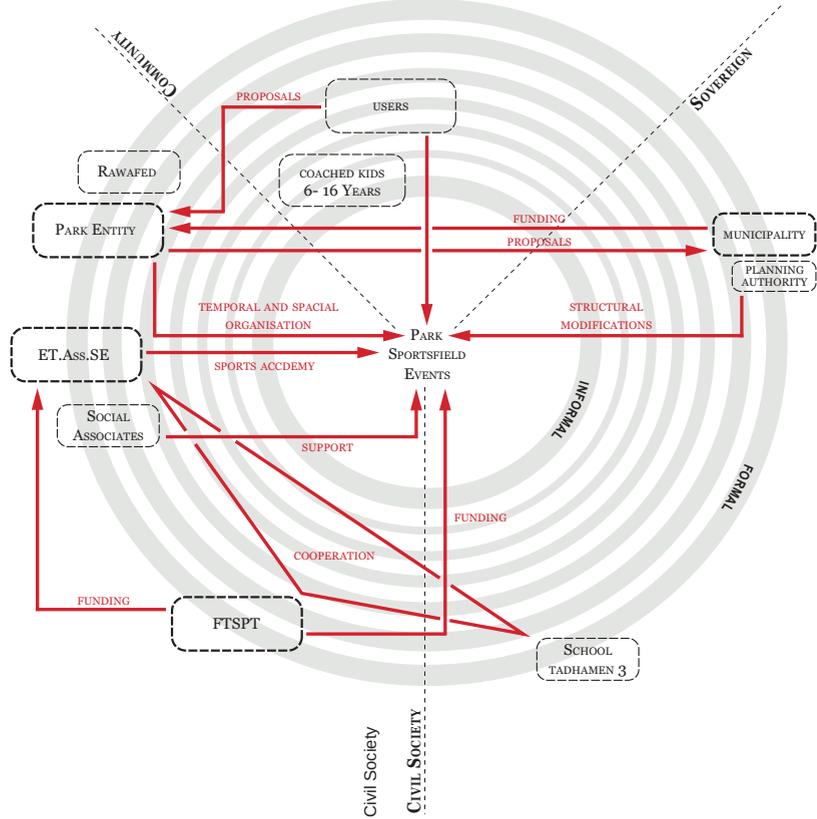
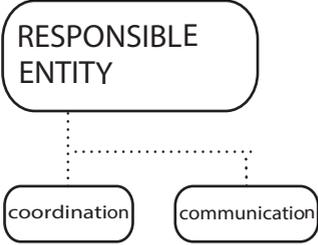


Figure 38 Project concept for mulation (source: Author).

PROPOSAL

The scarcity of leisure activities and open spaces in Ettadhamen demands a good coordination. Facing the inefficiency in the distribution of the valuable open space, motanzah entity will be responsible for the temporal and spatial coordination of the parks use. Taking into account the diverging demands of all user groups, the entity will ensure a fair and even division of the spatial resources. Furthermore montazah entity will serve as contact point for citizens who have proposals for spatial changes in the park or want to start a project such as the football school. Receiving these ideas, and forwarding them to the municipality will be the second task of montazah entity. To ensure the easy access to this new service, the entity will work in the abandoned administration building in the southeastern corner of the park. Neighbors should feel encouraged to actively take part in the parks development.

PROJECT TRIGGER

Analyzing the problems arising in the usage of the park, the spacial scarcity and thus the exclusion of some children and user groups from the provided facilities, seem to be the most urgent challenges. Linking this to the fact, that just about 25% of the parks area are in a condition to be uses as active space, reveals the inefficient handling of the scare open space.

STAKEHOLDERS

To the many stakeholders that are already involved in the park, montazah entity will be added as a new player. But very important though is the partial restructuring of the responsibilities and links of the different stakeholders that comes with its establishment. Only the entity will be responsible for the organization of the park. It will be short linked to the municipality that still is responsible for the spatial upgrade and maintenance. All other stakeholders will still be involved in the processes in the park but organized and coordinated by the entity. Thus the broad network of stakeholders will be clarified.

8. REFLECTIONS & CONCLUSION





8.1 Change In Approaches towards Habitat spontan 

H. Elmouelhi, Marwa Abdel Latif,
M. Saheen, P.Misselwitz

It was clear for the research team how things are changing in the recent years regarding the perception of different stakeholders towards the Habitat Spontan . In such a short field research time, some preliminary conclusions that could be presented in the form of reflections could be listed as follows.

Changes in the Perception Towards the Area by Different Stakeholders

At the beginning of the workshop the students had some fears to work on an informal area, especially go to Hey Ettadhamen. This is due to its bad reputation among the Tunisians in general as an informal area that suffers from poverty and crimes. In addition, it has been highlighted in the media several times after different incidents that included clashes between the police and fundamentalists who live in the area.

This was not only the perception of the students, but also some of the professors. In the preparation phase, and after being in the area several times, and establishing some connections with NGOs and residents, a conclusion has been achieved that the area is very suitable for the students work.

After some days in the field, and after working closely with the residents, the students have declared how their perception about the area has dramatically changed, in such a short time, in a way that they have felt safe and comfortable, on the contrary to their fears at the beginning. This result was corresponded to the students' parents, to their architecture students who have not joined the workshop, and their relatives.

As a consequence of the workshop, l'ESAD professors have decided that such kind of

fieldwork is essential for architecture students, not only master level, but also bachelor, in order to cover the urban dimension within their study.

On the other hand, the state has moved in different direction after the political changes in 2011, targeting the youth by providing some social and cultural facilities that protects the youth from being attracted to extremists groups, and also to fulfil their needs.

New Roles of NGOs

It has been shown how the NGOs have started already to lead in relatively new roles, which is urban upgrading that have not been common for the civil society in Tunisia.

The common role for most of the NGOs was to provide micro credits to the residents as a part of the economic development of urban poor areas. Aiming at helping them improve their living conditions, either directly by upgrading their house, or through small and medium enterprise that helps them to generate an income. Recently, as shown in Hey Ettadhamen, some NGOs started to provide social services related to children of the area. One example that has been shown is the work of Rawafed NGO.

In addition, they started to take over some urban management issues through some initiatives in Hey Ettadhamen that have been explored by the students; for example: the football playground and the participatory budgeting.

Open Street Map Project

International Alert has been training young people in Ettadhamen to use OpenStreetMap, a global collaborative mapping tool updated by volunteers. The tool has never been used in Tunisia and provides an opportunity

for communities to mark out their local neighborhood, which doesn't even exist on the likes of Google Maps. Among those trained are many unemployed young graduates. The project not only offers them an alternative to criminal activities, but also gives them confidence to believe they can make a positive change in their society.

8.2 Participatory Budgeting Project

New Relation between the government and residents (Trust and cooperation)

Abdulrahman Hilal, Hassan Elmouelhi

On the governmental agenda during this transformation phase that has been taking place since the revolution in 2011 in Tunisia, dealing with spontaneous settlements is becoming a priority by the state and also eradicate poverty and instauration of social justice after 2011 (Carnegie Middle East Centre 2011).

The participatory budgeting is one of the most obvious clues on that change in the relation between the government and the residents. Initiated in 2012, the idea of participatory budgeting has been developed as part of "International Alert's" (a non-governmental peace-building organization) efforts to strengthen youth participation in Ettadhamen and Douar Hicher. It is the result of collaboration between various local NGOs in Ettadhamen (united in the "I Change" network) and the municipality. The goal of the project is giving local residents a voice in decision-making over the council's budget spending in 2017. The Main process can be explained as following:

1- Studies and mapping: Several NGOs began with field studies that have examined the physical conditions of neighborhoods using OpenStreetMap, which is a global collaborative mapping tool updated by volunteers to mark out their local neighborhood, to identify the location of issues and areas that require interventions from the government. A good example is mapping the garbage collection points, lighting deficits and potholes. The young volunteers have received several trainings from International Alert. Among those trained are many unemployed young graduates. The project not only offers them an alternative to criminal activities, but also gives them confidence to believe they can make a positive change in their society. This tool has never been used in Tunisia before and provides an opportunity for communities to mark out their local neighborhood.

2. Citizens' Forums: During the Muslims holy month of Ramadan in 2016, the "I Change" network of NGOs has organized four citizen forums during four weeks in the headquarters of the Hay Ettadhamen Municipality. These forums, sponsored by the Rosa-Luxemburg Foundation, have taken place in 4 different neighborhoods: "14 janvier", "18 janvier" and "4 avril". The forums have been implemented with organizational support from Local & Global Agency. The Tunisian Observatory for Economy and other NGO association provided a number of training Sessions and coaching for both the volunteers and the municipality. This shows the role of international cooperation in promoting local initiatives. The Change network's volunteers have promoted the forum for participatory budgeting on weekdays (Monday till Friday) using flyers, leaflets, door-to-door methods and loudspeakers. The meeting was held during the week-ends. Saturday was for explaining the process to the attendees and presenting projects while Sunday was for voting and results. Local residents elected four infrastructure projects to be prioritized in their neighborhoods (public lighting, paving streets, roads and beautifying the city). In addition, three representatives from the residents have been elected (one man, one woman and one young person) to follow up on the selected projects and monitor their implementa-



Figure 39 Ettadhamen's youth center (source: Author).

tion together with local NGOs. The forum was attended by volunteers from “ATID Association” (The Tunisian Association for the Integrity and Democracy of Elections) to supervise the voting and counting. A final report of the participatory budgeting is in process.

3. Results and reports: After the results announcement they prepared the final report for the Participatory budgeting (Detailed report for “International Alert”, Mensal Report for “Rosa Luxemburg Foundation”). For the winning chosen projects, another budgeting study should be done by the municipality financing the projects eventually.

4. Peoples impressions: The first impressions from the residents were positive, as most of the people were happy for the initiative and they consider it as a good experience but they have doubts about the implementation, and they have shared their hopes to see these projects in reality. However, Hey Ettadhamen is one of twelve municipalities in Tunisia that initiated participatory budgeting from a total of 246 Tunisian municipalities. The success of the on-going process was possible through the cooperation between international organizations, local authorities and a strong network of local NGOs as well as an active local community.

The Main process

Studies and mapping

NGOs began with a field study that examined the social and urban conditions of neighborhoods using OpenStreetMap, a mapping tool updated by volunteers to mark out their local neighborhood, areas that require interventions from the government, such as garbage collection points. So they used to have a huge platform of Ettadhamen that engaged authorities and requested improvements to local services.

Meeting Organizations

The NGOs have organized during Ramadan 4 citizen forums during 4 weeks in the headquarters of the Hay Ettadhamen. These forums took place in 4 different neighborhoods: “14 janvier”, “18 janvier” and “4 avril”. They were sponsored by the Rosa-Luxemburg Foundation and were implemented with organizational support from Local & Global Agency. The Tunisian Observatory for Economy and other NGO association provided a number of Training Sessions and coaching. From Monday to Thursday the NGOs members used to promote the forum for citizens using presentations, flyers, leaflets etc. and the big meeting was on Saturday and Sunday. Saturday was for explaining “the Participatory budgeting”, presenting projects and Sunday was for voting and giving the results. Residents elected four infrastructure projects they felt should be prioritized in their quarters (public lighting, paving streets and roads, and

beautifying the city) and three representatives (a man, a woman and young person) to follow up on the selected projects and monitor their implementation with the NGOs. The meeting was visited by volunteers from “Atid Association” to supervise the voting and counting processes during the forum. It is also recorded and distributed for participants and citizens.

Results and reports

After the results announcement they prepared the final report for the Participatory budgeting (Detailed report for “International Alert“, Mensal Report for “Rosa Luxemburg Foundation”). For the winner projects, another budget study should be done by the municipality financing the projects eventually.

Peoples’s Impressions

The first impressions were positive, people were happy for the initiative and they consider it as good experience, but they are also hoping to see these projects in reality .

Figure 40 Part of the meeting and people's impressions about results (source: Author).



8.3 Cairo and Tunis Cases: Lessons Learnt Success Factors for Interventions

Although the Tunisian urban context in general differs from the Egyptian one due to the different city scales, historical and geographical settings, different processes and procedures, but still both cases share some similarities (e.g., language, culture and the fact that both are passing through political transformation). The similarities extend to the informal areas’ conditions and their need for interventions. This could be pointed out in a way that allows exchange of experiences.

Comparing the preliminary findings of the DEVEPER research project in Cairo and this project, it is found that the “Political Will” and enablement government levels acts as a crucial factor for a successful Urban Regeneration of any area subject to intervention projects. However, this would not guarantee the projects’ success unless actively involving all the relevant stakeholders along the process and enabling local NGOs. In addition, an important success factor is maximizing the use of resources through good governance and management of the project after its implementation.

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