



The Slovo Park Project began in 2010 when university students began working with the community structures of Slovo Park and offered the leadership spatial design support through their course. This assistance was implemented at a small scale, but aimed to have larger impact on the greater development needs of Slovo.

The original students have provided ongoing support since 2010 through various design/build projects. Participative research, design and construction methods have been used since the project's inception.

These tools have been crucial in the development of not only Slovo Park's Development, but have been used to develop more effective co-design and research methodologies for similar engagement in other informal settlement communities.

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Strategic small projects have the power to unlock larger development opportunities

The SPCDF is part of much larger network of informal settlement leadership structures known as the Informal Settlement Network (ISN)– who are supported by South African Shack Dwellers International Alliance (SASDI). Each project initiated by the SPCDF is strategically conceived to unlock larger development opportunities.

Many key role-players support the community needs, ItoI has assisted in this facilitation by making easing access to leadership, translating important information into strategy and knowledge and allowing for the public legitimatization of Slovo Park's struggle.

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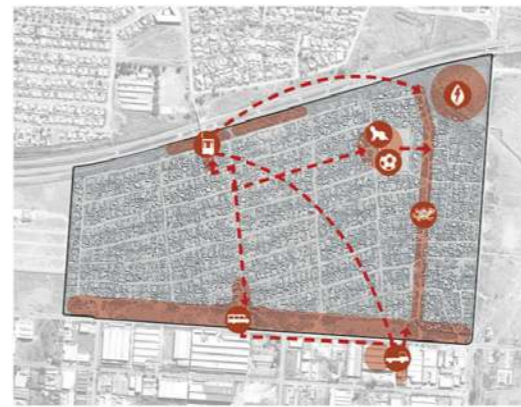
The Slovo Park Project has shown that organized communities are viable and crucial partners in their own development. This being crucial due to our government's current stigma towards informal settlements in South Africa. The project has also demonstrated the missing aspects of education in architectural schools in South Africa and given those involved the means to address this in the curriculum.

Through the participative mapping, research and design the project has uncovered a vision for Slovo Park to be self-sustaining community – as many of these activities exist in Slovo, but require a strategic linking to larger networks and distribution systems.

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The intangible aspects of Slovo Park such as the incremental phased development blue print (below) as well as the conceptual framework for the Slovo Park Development Forum (right) were far more beneficial to the leadership in the long run than the built products - but the Slovo Hall has provided the necessary platform to harness the energy within the community.



- MODAL INTERCHANGE
- MARKET PLATFORM
- PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPE
- WORM FARM COMPOSTING
- DEPOT
- DAY CARE CENTRE
- SPORTS CENTRE



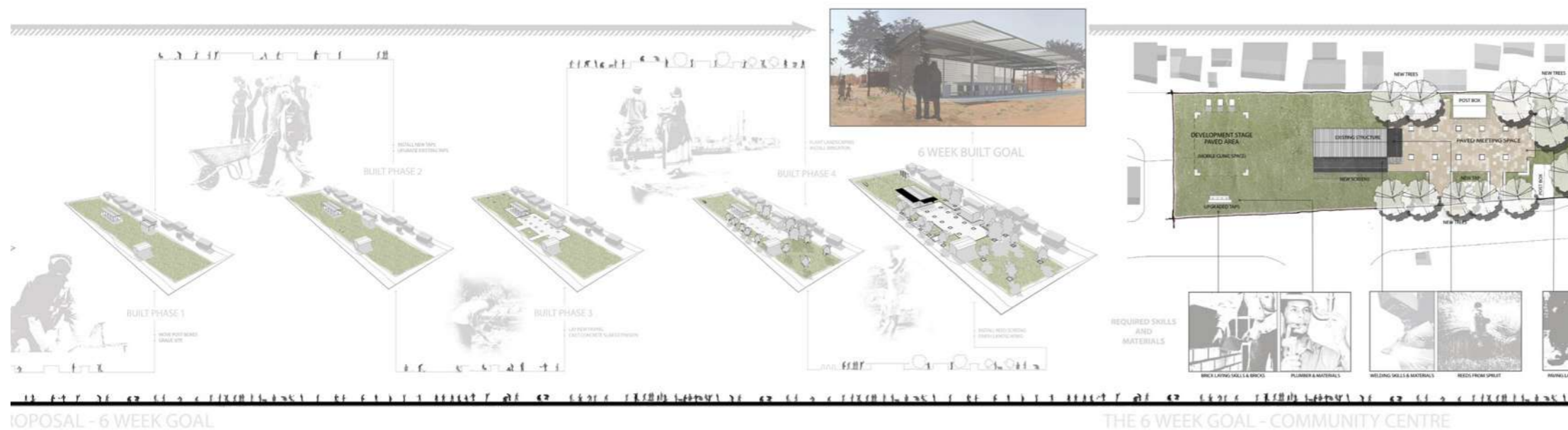
SELF SUSTAINING COMMUNITY



Lessons from the Slovo Park Project have been distilled into both the University of Pretoria & the University of Johannesburg Architecture Degrees – as well as shifting the South African Council for the Architectural Profession’s to include community architecture in their accreditation for pre-professionals.

Students of spatial design disciplines need critical experience in complex spaces. Spatial design students are the missing link between grass roots & large scale development

Clear, effective and human based communication tools including tangible models, graphic posters and even the creation of ‘Slovoopoly’, a research outcomes board game have been used to great effect in the Slovo Park Project.



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