

## PROJECT IDEA

Korogocho Streetscapes is an urban laboratory that suggests an inclusive way of working with urban development through activities and small-scale, high-impact implementations within the public space and the streetscape. Instead of traditional design and planning processes the project focus on temporary and direct interventions aiming at creating safer, more democratic and inclusive public spaces. The project is working with the streets as a common performance ground to integrate sports, art and play in strengthening the Korogocho identity. This is done by collaborations and activities preformed in the streetscape, target children and youth often left out in decision-making processes.

The initiative is action-based, to create visible changes and trust in the community. By nurturing the rise of optional and spontaneous activities to take place in the streetscape, the streets are transformed into places of self-expression, influence and arenas for every-day life for all. So far several interventions and regular activities has been taking place in Korogocho and Nairobi, such as open street events, roller-skating, football tournaments, street-art, pop-up concerts and the Nairobi Placemaking week. In 2016 a local culture hub was established, from where the various project ideas can developed, improved and then carried out in the streetscape.

Korogocho Streetscapes works with inclusive development processes. By culture and sport activities as powerful tools in changing society and the identity of public space. The project runs the yearly Koch Fest, a 7 days festival to celebrate public space. In 2016 the project brought its ideas to Down Town Nairobi during the Nairobi Placemaking Week, se picture on top.



# KOROGOCHO STREETSAPES ASF SWEDEN & HOPE RAISERS YOUTH INITIATIVE



1. Cooperate for fair and sustainable development initiatives in active collaboration with disadvantaged people or communities. This process shall follow principles of human solidarity, non-discrimination and will be aimed at promoting their self-sufficiency;

Public space in slum areas is scarce, forcing all public activities to be played out in the street. Strong power relations restrict public space in slums from being a democratic arena and one of self-expression, altogether affecting the identity and the place attachment in the slums. The streets are often appropriated by those in power (criminals, vehicles, police, community leaders, etc). Children and youth, often under-represented in decision-making processes, have limited opportunities to change their community or themselves. The slums hold very limited space for cultural expression. The project Korogocho Streetscapes suggests an inclusive way of working with sport- and cultural activities in streets in order to engage youth in urban transformation processes. When young people are taking part it nurtures a connection to the streetscape and to the city as a whole. Experienced social inclusion in the city and the belonging to a greater context decreases the feeling of marginalization and segregation. The allowance of individual expression in the public realm leads to improvement of security and safety and nurtures individual initiatives of improving the public space.

The activities organized by Korogocho Streetscapes temporarily turns the streets into playground and comfortable extensions of the private home. By involving children in the pedestrianization of the streets the project also works for personal development and positive change among youths, trying to prevent youth to involve in criminal activities and giving them a chance to develop their skills in sports and art.

6. Share knowledge, promote discussion, reflection and awareness, and collaborate in the advancement of the 'social production of habitat';

The lessons learnt from the Korogocho Streetscapes can form the basis for a citywide approach on how to work with youth and public space. Ideally, the project also tap into the Nairobi Public Space project, a collaboration between UN-Habitat and the City County of Nairobi. It aims at improving the delivery and access to good public spaces with a focus on disadvantaged urban residents, stating that this can be a powerful strategy to improve equity in the city and to combat crime and discrimination. The goal is also to empower grass-roots organizations through strengthened partnerships and networks that improve their capacity to involve a greater scope of residents in their activities. Through the projects virtual and physical platforms the networks grow and create a stronger voice in relevant issues, influence decision-making processes and unite common understandings and thoughts, especially important for the Kenya election in 2017. Through knowledge-exchange and public forums the project promote discussions, spreads awareness and knowledge of the greater social impacts that sport- and art activities can generate in urban planning processes. As such they are sharpening the social production of habitat in Korogocho and Nairobi.

The streets in Korogocho are the only public places where every-day activities can take place. As such the streets design does not correspond to its function as public spaces and as extension of the private home. Korogocho Streetscapes focus on children and youth, groups that are often left out in decision making processes. The project also works with knowledge exchange, in 2016 as part of organising Nairobi Placemaking week (see picture on top). By establishing new network the methods, knowledge and best-practices can be spread to a wider public, locally, nationally and internationally, illustrated in the diagram to the left.

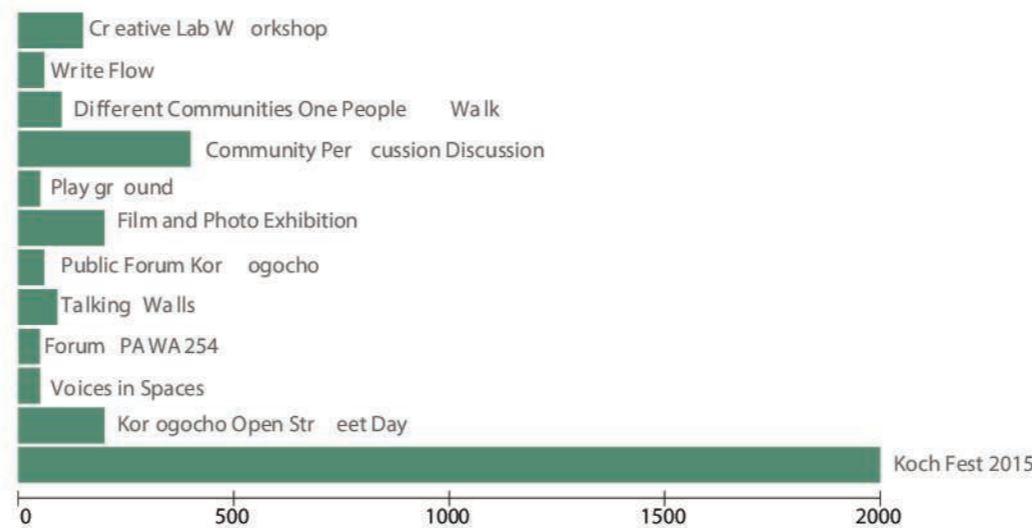
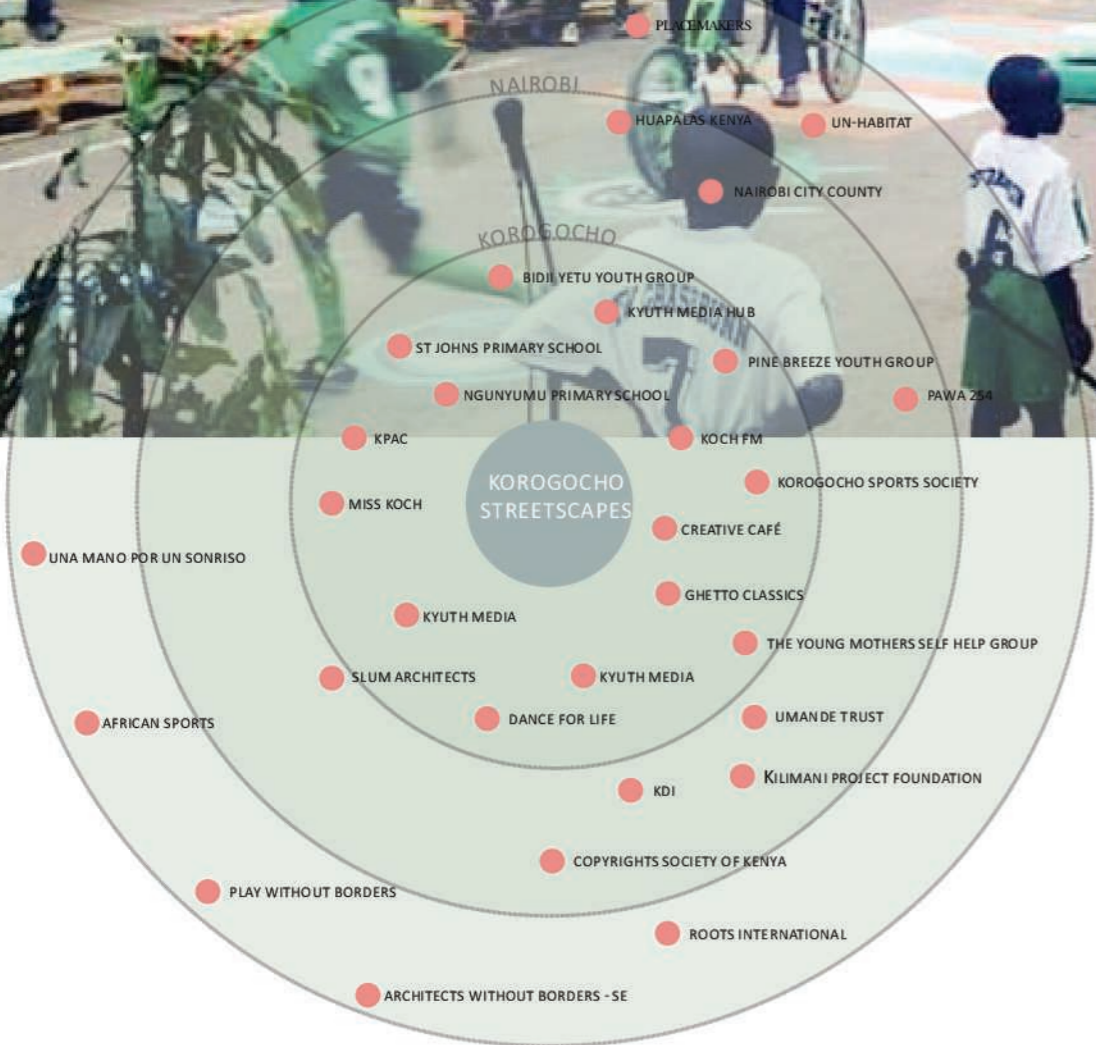


Diagram illustrating the amount of participants that took part in each activity during 7 Days of street democracy, 2015



8. Support participatory, democratic, multicultural and interdisciplinary processes and approaches in strengthening community solidarity as a factor of rural and urban social development;

Children and youth in Korogocho that will join the activities supported by the project will increasingly be able to use the streets as a common performance ground to develop skills in sports, art, play and other cultural activities. Ideally, the streetscape becomes a space of opinion formation and personal development. With activities being carried out in the street, they present alternative development paths to these youth. The residents in Korogocho experience visible improvements and a more people-oriented streetscape through increased green areas, improved seating possibilities, public art through the talking walls project, music shows etc. This will improve the perception of the streets, improving the Korogocho identity, as well as safety and orientation within the area.



Korogocho Streetscapes supports local initiatives and works for urban social development through different activities and implementation. The project runs different programmes with different purposes but with the objective of strengthening the community solidarity by democratic actions. Talking Walls transforms the walls along the streets, the sign project aims at strengthening the identity, small interventions such as brought forward during community forums facilitates the every-day life and gives direct impact. All activities are open for everyone to join and by using the streetscapes as stage, the project can involve the bigger public.