

| **12,915,158** people | **13.3** per cent literacy rate gender gap |
| **4,649,457** population economically vulnerable | **63** per cent
population born outside Istanbul | **2,710,802** private vehicles |
470 football clubs | **2,500** natural plant species | **23** average
age | **39** district municipalities | **44** per cent forest | **67** per cent
state-owned land | **260** km coastline | **337** local newspapers |



Bridging Place, Space and People

Collaborative Interfaces in Istanbul, Turkey

April - June 2010

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Acknowledgements

We, the Urban Development Planning 2009/2010 group, would like to extend our gratitude to all those who made the trip to Istanbul possible for the duration of 9-21 May, 2010.

Many thanks to DEPO for offering their support and hospitality in making this trip possible. We would especially like to thank Zehra Tonbul for coordinating our field research, Orhan Esen for his insightful facts and interpretations, Murat Cemal Yalçınтан from Mimar Sinan University, for his fresh perspectives, Yaşar Adanalı for introducing us to the context, Mete Göktuğ, for sharing his experiences as a community architect and Dr. Tuna Kuyucu of the Sociology Department, Boğaziçi University.

We deeply appreciate the help of Ulaş Akın and Murat Vefkioğlu from IMP, Uğur İnan and Sema Zeyhan from IBB, and Mustafa Özkul and İskender Günes from UMMR and value their cooperation. We would also like to thank Prof. Alper Unlü, ITU; consultant to Kartal District Municipality for sharing his insights about the Kartal project.

We are also grateful to Nilgün Kivircik of the Tarlabaşı Project Office and Neşe Erdilek of Bilgi University Community Center of Tarlabaşı for providing us with insight into the project and the social issues prevalent in the site respectively.

We would also like to thank the members of the Hurriyet, Güvensu and Yakacık neighbourhood associations for the time we were able to spend in the neighbourhoods as well as Şükrü Genç, Mayor of Sarıyer. We deeply acknowledge the contribution of the residents of Tarlabaşı and Sarıyer for taking the time to speak with us and share their voices, and our translators without whom the fieldwork would not have been possible.

We would like to extend our thanks to the staff of the Development Planning Unit for the sleepless nights and their endless flexibility, especially Cassidy Johnson, Caren Levy, Ruth McLeod and Camillo Boano, Melissa Garcia-Lamarca and William Hunter for putting tremendous efforts into organizing this trip despite the unfortunate turn of events, and Isis Nunez for her commitment and patience. And finally, a warm thanks to Eleni Kyrou, who has challenged and guided us every step of the way.

Abbreviations

AKP	The Justice and Development Party (Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi)
BTYK	Supreme Council for Science and Technology
CA	Community Association
CAT	Chamber of Architects of Turkey
CEPF	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
CF	Conceptual Framework
CHP	Republican People's Party
CKMP	Republican Villagers Nation Party
CS	Civil Society
CBD	Central Business District
DHKP-C	Revolutionary People's Liberation Party–Front
DPD	District Planning Department
DPU	Development Planning Unit
DSP	Democratic Left Party
EC	European Commission
EFT	The Environment Foundation of Turkey
EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
IBB	Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality
ICI	Istanbul Chamber of Industry
IMDP	Federation of Neighbourhood Associations
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMP	Istanbul Metropolitan Planning Unit
LG	Local Government
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MHA	Mass Housing Authority
MEF	Ministry of Environment and Forestry
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NES	National Economic Strategies
NIMBY	Not in my back yard
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
SESI	Social Ecology Society of Istanbul
SJ	Social Justice
SMA	Sustainable Mahalleler Agenda
ECACIR	Environmental and Cultural Administration Cooperative of Istanbul Residents
SPO	Chamber of City Planners
TEMA	Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, for Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats
TUBITAK	Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey
TOKI	Housing Development Administration
UDP	Urban Development Planning
UMMR	Union of Municipalities of Marmara Region
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WB	World Bank
YUMFED	Architectural Matters of Human Settlements Association

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Sonuç Raporları

Amaç. Aşağıdaki raporun genel amacı İstanbul'daki mevcut dönüşüm güçlerini daha iyi anlamak ve kentsel gelişim etrafındaki tartışmalara katkıda bulunmaktır. İncelemeler, tanımlanmış kısıtlamalar ve fırsatlar sonucunda dört strateji önerilecektir. Amaç farklı aktörlerce farklı ölçeklerde uygulanmış önerilerle politika seviyesinde değişimler önermek ve o ölçekte olumlu dönüşümlere yol açmaktır. Bu stratejileri temel alarak ilişkili aktörlerin ihtiyaçları, çıkarları ve kapasitelerini ortaya koyan bir öneriler çerçevesi oluşturulacak ve bu çerçevede etkileri değerlendirilebilecektir.

Yöntem. İstanbul'daki alan çalışmasından önce, ikincil kaynaklardan, yayınlanmış akademik makalelerden ve politik dokümanlardan ikincil bir araştırma ve ön analizler yapıldı. İstanbul'daki araştırma resmi ve gayri resmi seminerler ve toplantılar, yarı-kurgulu röportajlar, kentin içinden geçen yürüyüşler ve rehberli otobüs turlarından oluştu. Gözlemlenen bulguların analizinde farklı araçları kullanılsa da, odak noktası kurumsallaşma ağı iddi.

Anahtar bulgular. Toplanan bilgi ve veri analiz kanalları olarak gördüğümüz beş tema etrafında şekillendi: "Sosyal çeşitlilik ve toplumsal seferberlik," "Küresel-yerel ekonomiler ve geçim," "Arazi ve yapısal çevre," "Kahverengi ve yeşil gündem," "Yönetim, planlı müdahale ve kaynak yaratma." Bu temalardan yola çıkarak birbiriyle örtüsen üç ana bulgu tespit edildi. (i) Gayri resmiliğin çoğu gri kategoride yer almaktadır ve resmi ve gayri resmi aktörler arasında işbirliğine dayanan ara yüzler açığa çıkarmaktadır. Katılı, tepeden inme kurumsal ve yapısal süreçler sonucunda oluşan gri ara yüzler tabandan yukarıya doğru birlikler oluşturmaktadır. (ii) Zaman ve mekâna bağlı ölçek farklılıklarını aşılması gereken sınırlar ortaya koymaktadır. Hızlı ve dönüştürücü değişimler zamanlarında, mevcut kurumsal ve hiyerarşik yapı hem zamansal hem mekânsal olarak yeterli tepkinin ortaya çıkışmasını sınırlamaktadır. (iii) Kentsel gelişim söylemleri determinist (belirleyici) ve karşılıklı olarak dışlayıcıdır. Her ne kadar ilgili aktörler çeşitlilik kavramını projelerini haklı göstermek için kullansalar da oldukça dışlayıcıdırlar ve İstanbul'un (kültürel, mekânsal ve kurumsal) çeşitliliği, var olan planlama vizyonu içerisinde kaybolmaktadır.

Stratejiler. Kurumsallaşma ağı içinde, fırsatlar ve potansiyel sızma noktaları tespit edilmiştir. Bunları elde etmek için, iki yapının kullanılması gereklidir; mikro-dönüşümler (ulaşılabilir amaçlar için bir dizi adım) ve ortak bir vizyon=Sürdürülebilir Mahalleler Gündemi. Bu gündem İstanbul'da hedefteki grupların yeni işbirlikleri için harekete geçmeleri ve uzun vadeli dönüşümsel bir değişim için mikro-dönüşümler içinden hareket etmelerini tasarlamaktadır. Dört strateji şu şekildedir: (i) "Topluluğun harekete geçmesi, ilişki ağları ve işbirliklerinin güçlendirilmesi ile politik seçeneklerin baskısını arttırmak," (ii) "Toplumsal organizasyonlar ve uluslararası kuruluşlar arasında yeni işbirlikleri ile mikro-dönüşümü güçlendirmek," (iii) "Yerel demokrasiye inancı geliştirmek için belediye başkanları için bir destek sistemi oluşturmak," (iv) "Planlama söylemini değiştirmek ve planlamacı ve bürokratlardan bir kapasite oluşturup, Stratejik Eylem Master Planlarından uzaklaşmak, katılımcı ve esnek planlama süreçlerini teşvik etmek."

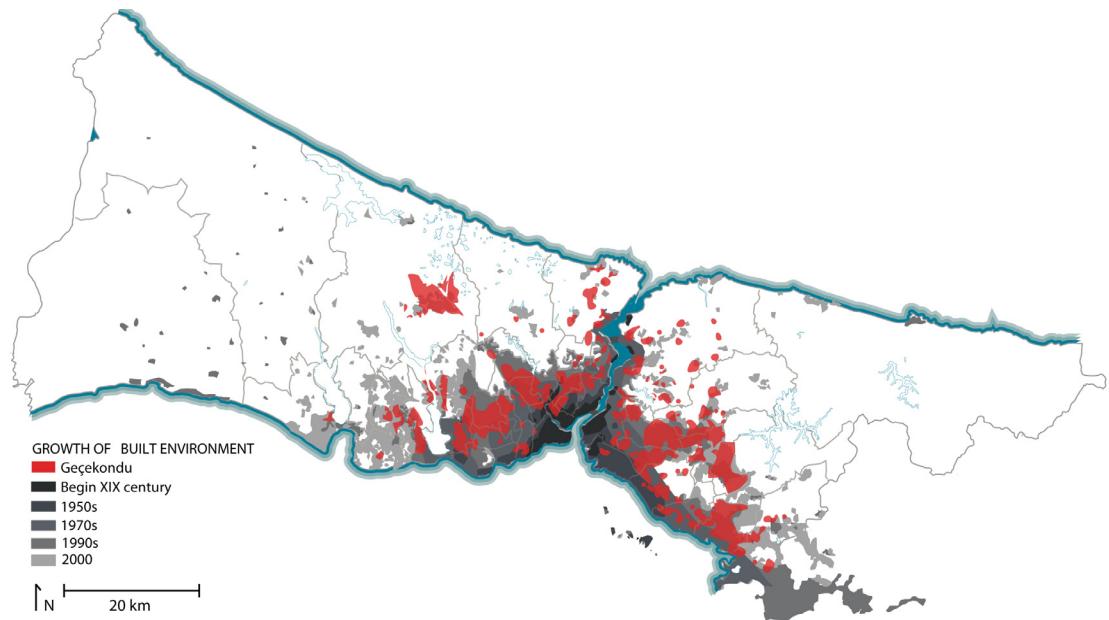
Executive Summary

Purpose. The overall objective of the following report is to develop a better understanding of the current forces of transformation in Istanbul, and to contribute to the debates around urban development. From the diagnosis and the identified constraints and opportunities, four strategies will be proposed. The aim is to eventually suggest changes at the policy level, through the implemented recommendations at different scales by various actors, resulting in positive transformations at scale. Based on these strategies, a framework of recommendations will be provided which will address the needs, interests and capabilities of the involved actors, and through which their impact can be assessed.

Methodology. Prior to the fieldwork in Istanbul, secondary research and preliminary analyses were gathered, mainly through grey materials, published academic reviews and policy documents. The research done in Istanbul was mainly constituted of formal and informal lectures and meetings, semi-structured interviews, transect walks and guided bus tours. The analyses of the observed findings took place using various tools, however mainly focusing on the web of institutionalization.

Key findings. Analysis of the gathered information and data occurred through 5 themes which we saw as channels of analysis: “Social Diversity and Community Mobilization”, “‘Glocal’ Economies and Livelihoods”, “Land and Built Environment”, “Brown and Green Agenda”, “Governance, Planned Intervention and Resources”. From these themes, three overlapping key findings have been identified. (i) Much informality is in the grey¹ category, and reveals collaborative interfaces between formal and informal actors. As a result from the rigid, top-down organizational and structural procedures, grey interfaces are being created which facilitate bottom-up alliances. (ii) Scalar differences in time and space present boundaries to be overcome. In moments of (rapid) transformative change, the current institutional and hierarchical structure, forms a boundary for adequate reaction, both in time and space. (iii) Urban development discourses are determinist and mutually exclusive. Istanbul’s diversity (cultural, spatial, institutional) is removed in the current planning visions, even though involved actors might use the notion of diversity to justify projects, which are highly exclusive.

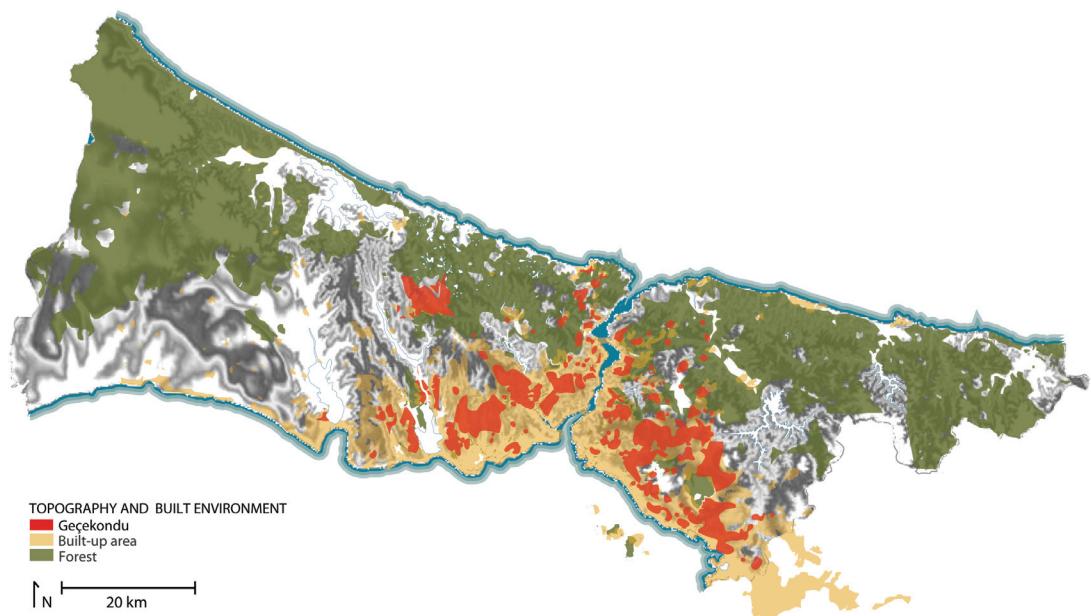
Strategies. Through the Web of Institutionalization, opportunities and potential entry points have been identified. To achieve these, two constructs need to be used; micro-transformations (a series of steps for achievable goals) and a shared vision: the Sustainable Mahalleler Agenda. This agenda envisions the mobilization of targeted groups in Istanbul in order to build new alliances and move through micro-transformations towards a long-term transformative change. The four strategies are as follows: (i) “Strengthen pressure of political constituencies through community mobilization, networking, and reinforcing of alliances”, (ii) “Reinforce micro-Transformation I with new alliances between community organizations and international bodies”, (iii) “Create a support system for mayors to develop commitment for local democracy”, (iv) “Change planning discourse and build capacity of planners and bureaucrats to shift from Master Plans to Strategic Action Planning, promoting participatory and flexible planning processes”.



01_ Introduction

Istanbul owes its considerable dynamism to its strategic location, historical association and status as an important global metropolis. Dominant contemporary mandates driven by the state focus on promoting Turkey's EU accession and boosting the service sector in a bid to affirm Istanbul as a world-city. The restructuring of the macroeconomic, social and political arena has heightened socio-spatial segregation and inequalities – the consequences of differential integration into global processes and capitalist systems (Karaman:2008). Within the context of Istanbul's institutional planning framework, 'urban transformation' asserts a global city vision to which the many informal settlements and impoverished inner-city neighbourhoods are seen as detrimental. These areas are being targeted for re-development geared towards middle and upper classes considered lucrative(Karaman:2008).

The rapid industrialization of Istanbul in the early 1950s prompted an influx of migrants, who built self-help housing known as *geçekondu*². Whilst widely deemed illegal – these structures were usually built under the benign auspices of the state, often situated on state-owned land (Uzun, et. al:2010; Candan, et. al:2008). Pre-2001, the state granted amnesties³ to many of these squatter settlements as a means to garner political support and prevent the creation of new ones (Uzun, et. al:2008 citing Uzun, et. al:2005:205). With on-going de-industrialization since the 1980s, there remains little incentive to maintain this 'tacit contract' with the *geçekondu* settlements. Changing perspectives are also reflected in the dominant discourse prevalent in society, wherein *geçekondu* populations are increasingly regarded as marginal to the city's identity and its urban processes.



Real estate development has become a driving force in changing the face of the city in the context of the newly-emerged 'entrepreneurial local governance' model. This is manifested as partnerships between municipalities and private construction companies, usually for the construction of up-scale mega-projects, within the rhetoric of re-development. In this context, the Mass Housing Authority (MHA/TOKI) - created in 1984 to deal with the problem of housing in illegal settlements - emerges as a major player in the current process of Istanbul's urban transformation (*ibid*). Powered by enabling legislations and directly linked to the prime ministry, TOKI-led public-private partnership projects have significant socio-economic impacts on the populations residing in the areas designated for redevelopment, which are often located in the peripheries. With a public mandate to upgrade the city and capitalize its spaces for housing stock, this body now caters more to the high and middle-income markets.

Consequently, housing is highly contested as multi-sectoral activities in the urban realm compound issues around its production and provision. Existing multi-stakeholder debates with respect to housing involve community organizations, local authorities, academics and practitioners amongst others. This paper attempts to understand the housing agenda within wider social, environmental and spatial concerns to re-contextualize debates about its future in a transforming city.

Such aspirations point towards collaborative partnerships between different actors in order to address informal settlements city-wide. The **overall objectives** of the exercise are:

- I. To develop **an understanding of the current forces of transformation** operating in Istanbul and the visions they entail, and to **identify opportunities and constraints** in order to address changes in living conditions of urban poor women and men, and their relationships with the state and the private sector;
- II. To **propose recommendations** that may be implemented at different scales by a multitude of actors, based on our conceptual understanding of transformative change. The aim is to eventually suggest changes at the policy level in order to produce effects at scale. These recommendations aim to reinforce each other in order to promote a positive transformation that mediates the tensions prevalent within the urban realm;
- III. To **provide a framework** in which recommendations address the needs, interests and capabilities of actors in the context of Istanbul, and through which their impact can be assessed. This tool further contextualizes recommendations and broadens the scope of stakeholder involvement.

The recommendations have been constructed first through a theoretical framework developed to position ourselves as actors/planners, referring to a particular definition of urban transformative change and considering the desired values and outcomes to promote with any intervention. Methodologies of research and limitations are then considered, after which a diagnostic framework around 5 themes⁴ that address a range of social, political, economic, and spatial issues within urban space. These are developed to identify main findings, constraints and opportunities in the development of Istanbul. The report concludes with recommendations - their rationale, operationalization and monitoring and evaluation – linking back to the conceptual framework and its primary goals and objectives.

Transformative Change

A process that creates and/or renegotiates structure, agency and their interactions, strategically embedding social justice and well-being into the systemic conditions of urban life.

02_Conceptual Framework

In contemplating how to bridge space, place and people for informal settlement upgrading, and what this might mean for the diagnosis and proposals established by external planners, the conceptual framework for **Transformative Change** establishes the guide through which four questions may be responded to:

I. What is the context in which planners work and how may its characteristics be read?

Contemporary cities, and in particular developing cities, are not singular or homogenous, but rather exist as sites of both reciprocity and disjuncture - where urbanization is not a linear and uniform progression in time and space (Balbo:1993). Marcello Balbo describes it by stating that "in a fragmented city, physical environment, services, income, cultural values and institutional systems can vary markedly from neighborhood to neighborhood, often from street to street" (1993:24), describing the implications for growth as each part and sector of the city seems to function autonomously yet systemically impacts on the rest. The conditions of the urban realm therefore involve a multiplicity of stakeholders, multidimensional concerns, multi-scalar needs and competitiveness, in-certitudes, diversity and contentious power relations. In a word, the urban realm is becoming increasingly uncollaborative (Brand&Gaffikin:2007).

II. What transformation is the goal of our recommendations?

Addressing this uncollaborative context would thus require a transformation that addresses the systemic conditions of the city, and embeds within them desired changes. For this purpose, embedding transformative change is considered through Giddens' *theory of structuration*. In it, structural forces created by the multiple layers⁵ generated within and outside of the urban scale interact within a dynamic and recursive loop with the agency of individual and collective urban inhabitants, who both use and constitute the structures themselves. In other words, structure and agency continuously form and reform the public realm, at once within it and constituted by its forces, neither entirely autonomous (Giddens&Pierson:1998 and Healey:2006). Embedding transformative change in a system such as this would entail identifying both agency (of individuals and/or collectives) and the way in which their actions can reform the structures they are a part of.

The goal of transformation is to target both the multiple deprivations and the inequalities in the urban realm so as to address the various processes that form conditions of poverty and vulnerability. Therefore, transformative change requires engaging with well-being and social justice in the city. For this purpose, two main frameworks have been developed:

Social Justice - The elimination of institutionalized domination and oppression that goes beyond the mere material distribution of benefits and assets. (Re)negotiating societal relations both in the physical and socio-political realm that enable self-development and self-determination (Young:1990).

Well-being - This is an extremely subjective concept that is not clearly defined. It is often defined and measured by participatory methods on how well one feels and functions in a given time and space, without jeopardizing the ability for future generations to attain their well-being.

III. What kind of planners and planning are needed?

In an effort to create and/or renegotiate structure and agency and their interactions, planners would be required to take on the role of reflexive actors who facilitate enabling processes. This would mean being non-prescriptive in their recommendations, focusing on mutual learning, knowledge sharing and co-production, and re-thinking frames of reference through listening, facilitating, mediating and contributing. In this way, knowledge becomes a continuous and inclusive process between agency and structure – inclusive of diverse discourses, or their validities, priorities and use, and aiming to co-produce a process of empowerment and self-determination.

By addressing the complexities of experiencing urban life and planning in a way that is at once flexible and responsive to contextual interrelations, planners engage in collaborative planning – “an inclusive dialogic approach to shaping social space” (Brand&Gaffikin:2007:283). Collaborative planning is based on inclusive participation in the planning process, and aims to address conflict power relations in structure and agency.

The **hypothesis** of this proposal is that within the uncollaborative urban realm, there exist **places of interface** that hold within them opportunities to create and/or renegotiate existing collaborations as places to strategically embed social justice and well-being into the systemic conditions of urban life.

IV. What would be the tangible and operational outcomes?

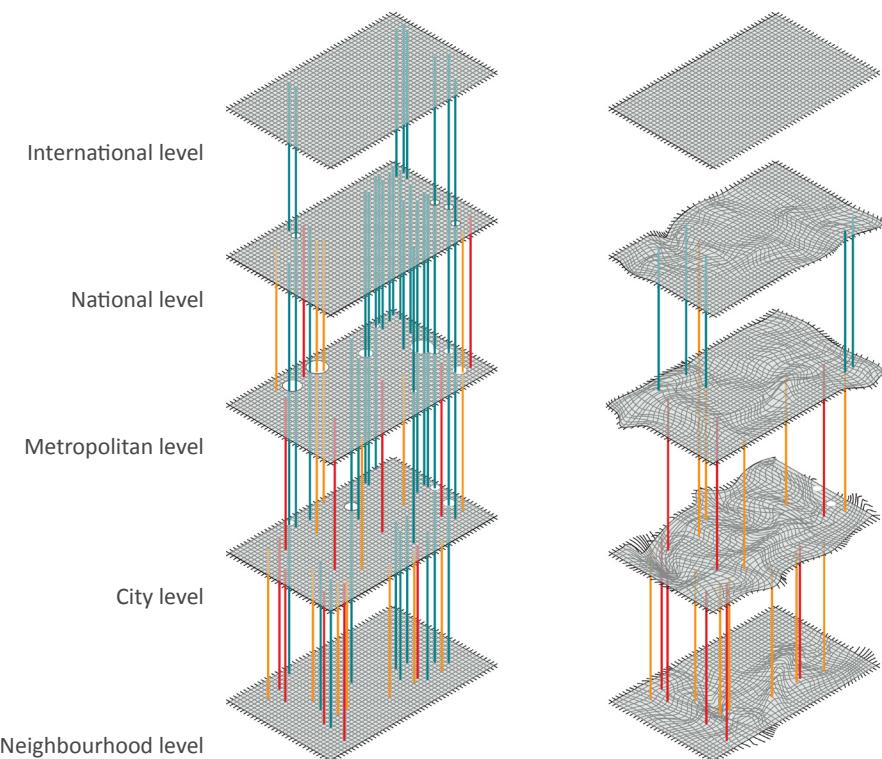
The collaborative process is an iterative one, and its aim would be to embed social justice and well-being in a way that responds to realities on the ground through each of the criteria below while continuously constructing its own capacities as a mechanism. Through participation in the field, **indicators** for each of these are identified and form part of the strategic interventions proposed.

(Re)distribution - The equal access to goods, services and resources

Inclusion - The lack of systemic exclusion (spatial, social, political, economical, institutional) and the promotion of mechanisms that enhance entitlements and opportunities, allowing and stimulating individual and collective diversity

Participation - The possibility to actively be involved, both individual and as a collective, in determining one's action and the conditions of one's action (Young:1990:37)

Sustainability - A system with a carrying capacity to endure and modify itself, through an effective use of resources



Analysis of Power Relations in Decision Making

03_Methodology

3.1_Research Methods

Prior to arrival in Istanbul, secondary research and preliminary analyses were conducted over a range of five themes. Sources consisted largely of grey materials, published academic reviews and policy documents, including the Istanbul Master Plan (IMP:2007).

'The Five Themes' stated in the terms of reference:

- (1) Social Diversity and Community Mobilization
- (2) 'Glocal' Economies and Livelihoods
- (3) Land and the Built Environment
- (4) Brown and Green Agenda
- (5) Governance, Planned Intervention and Resourcing

The fortnight spent doing research in Istanbul consisted of primary data-collection consisted through formal and informal Q&A sessions, transect walks and bus tours (see Appendix 2a and 2b for further

explanation of research methods). A total of 33 semi-structured interviews were conducted involving the residents of Tarlabaşı and Sarıyer (see Appendix 6 for interview transcripts and Appendix 3 and 4 for background on Tarlabaşı and Sarıyer). Where possible, efforts were made to cross-reference information gathered from lectures and informal discussions. This included triangulating material within and between sites, extending the review area to the Galata locality and posing related questions to various state and non-state actors.

3.2_Analysis Methods

The main diagnostic tools outlined below directed a critical analysis of main findings:

I. Transformation in Time and Space: Main events in Istanbul's recent history were plotted according to scale of occurrence and place in defining ideological, physical or institutional change in an effort to identify and understand key trends in the wider transformation of Istanbul's political economy and policy. Concentration on the cause-and-effect of events fostered greater contextual understanding of the impact of global and local processes on current planning and governance (see Appendix 7 for timeline).

II. The Web of Institutionalization (Levy:1998): was employed to assess the various components over the course of research and analysis (see Appendix 8 for an explanation of this tool). From the preliminary analyses, the Web has been utilized to map degrees of institutionalization through formal, informal and grey mechanisms⁶, identifying each as types of interfaces.

Modes of **Decision-making** in Urban Processes:

- 1) Formal** – according to regulation and legislation
- 2) Informal** – having no regulatory grounding
- 3) Grey** – between formal and informal; examples may include actors who are formally recognized in the institutional framework but who also manoeuvre in informal ways, formally recognized actors without grounding in legislation or informal actors who move within the gaps of regulation and legislation.

This uncovered (1) the range of **actors** involved and their scope of influence; (2) the culture and **power relations** between them; (3) the extent to which **social justice and well-being** are embedded in urban processes; (4) their **impacts** in the given context.

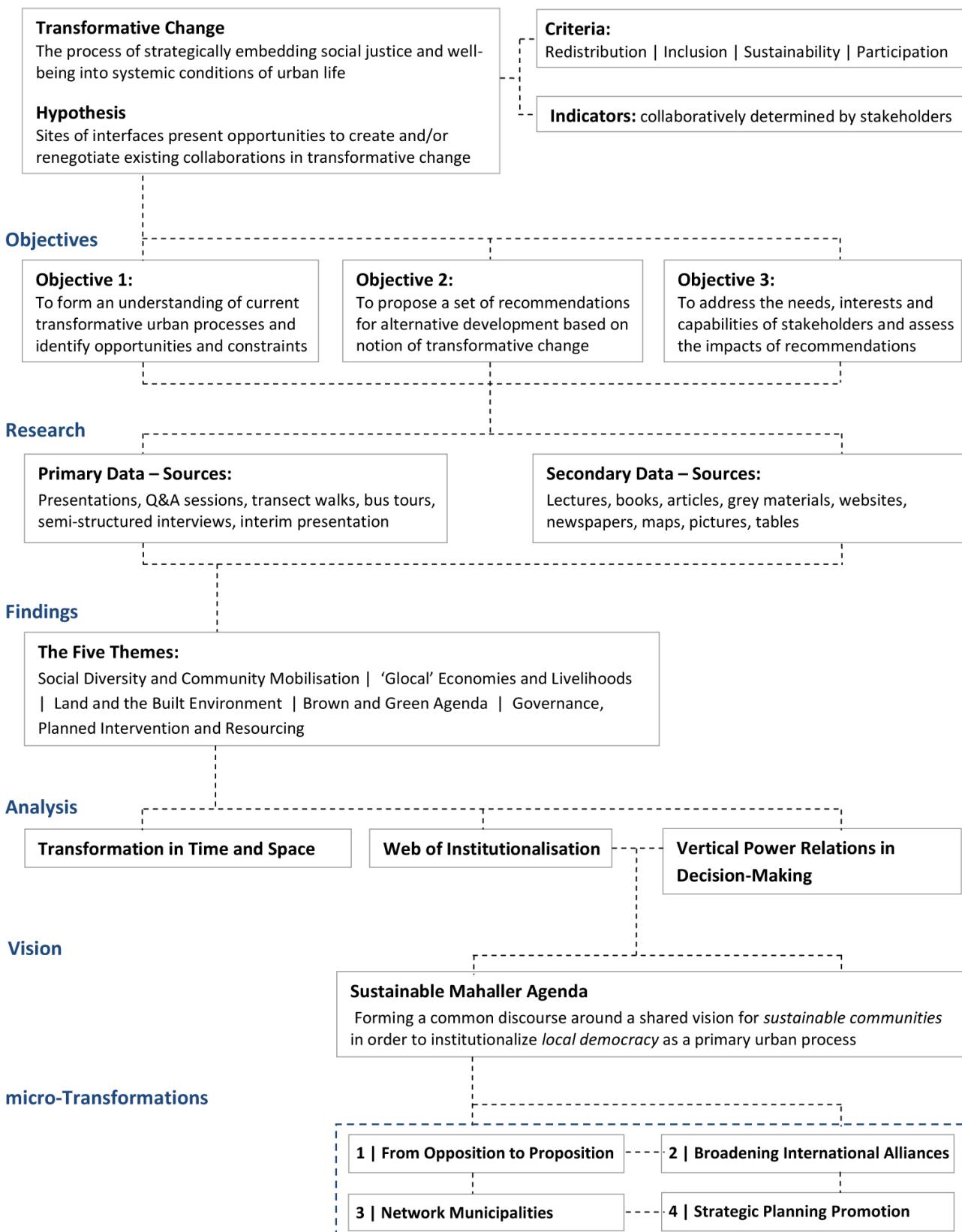
Secondly, processes featured in the initial analysis were distilled according to five thematic 'Webs' and supplemented by topic-specific research. Findings were measured against the criteria of social justice and well-being.

Thirdly, constraints and opportunities were highlighted within propitious processes. These were cross-referenced across 'themes' to frame an overarching rationale for recommendations. These were in the form of strategies developed from 'routes' through multiple 'Webs' and judged based on their capacity to reinforce each other towards achieving ends.

3.3_Analysis of Power Relations in Decision-Making

A vertical analysis of actions and relations as identified in the web of institutionalization was used to clarify cross-scalar agencies. Decisions which bypass authorities or protocols at a certain level (i.e. international to local) are indicated by 'cavities' in the structural webs.

Conceptual Framework



3.4_Limitations

I. Time and Resources

The limited period of time pre-, during and post-fieldtrip to a great degree affected the level of preparedness, and also had implications on the scope and depth of observation. Of the fortnight spent in Istanbul, semi-structured interviews were largely confined to 1-2 days.

II. Gaps of Information

Preliminary research proved highly informative in presenting a multi-faceted overview of Istanbul's history and development plans, yet provided limited insight on 'realities', such as the experiences and perspectives of local residents, politicians and planners. Due to the unavailability of TOKI representatives, there is a current lack of information on the administration's perspectives on housing provision and Istanbul's development as a whole.

III. Language Barrier

Most communication was facilitated by interpreters, which restricted interpersonal interaction and firsthand interpretation by the research team. Additionally, interpreters of various backgrounds came with particular knowledge and biases of their own, which were reflected in their explanations to varying degrees.

IV. Assumptions and Personal Biases

The research team's unfamiliarity with the context of Istanbul, on topics relating to gender, class, religion and Turkish culture of politics are acknowledged. As in any situation, urban processes and social relations are viewed through particular cultural and professional paradigms.

“There is a great diversity in the neighborhood, but the differences among the people are not the problem, the government is.” (male, 35)

“I’m a resident of Tarlabaşı, of course! Not of Istanbul.” (male, 35)

“No one will listen.” (male, 28)

“The government is playing games.” (male, 28)

“They are changing this place. We don’t want to leave here – we will have to travel too far for work. Our lives are here, what should we do?” (female, 51)

“This has broken our dreams.” (male, 36)

“We do not want anyone to eat our rights!” (male, 36)

04_Findings

Below are the summarized findings for each theme.
(see Appendix 9 for analysis through the Web of Institutionalization)

4.1_Urban Economy and Livelihoods



Historically, Istanbul has been the centre of Turkey’s economic production as well as an international junction of land and sea trade routes. Its advantageous location, human and infrastructural assets enable the city to act as an industrial zone and junction for service and capital flows. The potential to further establish Istanbul as a major financial and logistics centre has fuelled contemporary ambitions for a ‘global-city’ (Sassen:2002). Neo-liberal policies in the 1980’s encouraged economic deregulation and dismantlement of import-substitution policies. Endorsing integration into the EU and the global economy; funnelling foreign direct investment into infrastructural development; and the promotion of tourism and culture have supported this vision. State-driven initiatives reshaping Istanbul’s economic landscape to attract foreign investment and promote international competitiveness have led to de-industrialization of coastal zones, gentrification the inner city, and a desired of its historical peninsula. Current metropolitan economic strategic plans include the decentralization of the central business district (CBD) and development

of commercial zones along the Marmara, the expansion of service-sector processes, and the reduction of production and service functions in key areas to boost Istanbul's touristic and cultural role.

Despite the push for de-industrialization, Istanbul continues to be Turkey's manufacturing centre generating 45 per cent of the country's wholesale trade. Despite over 20 per cent of Turkey's industrial workforce being situated in Istanbul, there has been a strong push to rid the centre of manufacturing for environmental as well as aesthetic reasons. Although Istanbul carries the national output and labour force, it also has the highest unemployment in the country (OEDC:2008). This low productivity is offset by the informal economy, which represents approximately 30 per cent of the city's labour force (*ibid*). The privatization of welfare provisions (such as healthcare, education), lack of social pensions for the poor and inappropriately designed and located housing provision, further compound vulnerabilities and poverty. While the shift to a service economy has been received with strong financial and political backing from local and international bodies (such as the IMF), in Kartal for example, there exists no formal proposition to reinvest in the human capital of informal or industrial workers (OEDC:2008b). For economic sustainability, further research is required on small-scale industrial processes, capacity-building programs and adequate employment provision.

4.2_Land and Built Environment



The built environment is dually produced, on one hand by a centrally regulated master plan approach and on the other by organic, bottom-up citizen efforts fuelled by unsatisfied housing and services needs. On the formal scale, due to the plan's rigidity and lack of responsiveness to constant changes, it cannot accommodate for a fast growing city, thus producing a socio-spatially segregated urban fabric. Along with spatial concerns, regeneration projects have spatial and economic impacts on the social nature and livelihoods of involved communities. Environmental concerns such as earthquake risks and forest encroachment are being used as justification for redevelopment and displacement. On the local scale, citizens responded by illegally settling in what are now valuable central locations, creating tension between the two visions of Istanbul. The private sector, in partnership with state-led bodies, also plays a major role in the production of the built environment, fuelled by lucrative profits in the construction and contracting industry (Uzun:2003). This globally prominent sector is very heterogeneous with large companies having greater access to the market and stronger links with state-led bodies for undertaking redevelopment projects.

The link between citizens and representative political structures is weak; hence they have no direct influence on policy and organization through the private production of the built environment. On the municipal level, the routes through which women and men can impact policies constitute mainly of interaction with formal channels, thus creating barriers. On the other hand, political commitment emerges as a potential interface to influence policy and planning on an inter-mahalle level, through platforms of communication between neighbourhood representatives. In terms of delivery of plans and projects, self-help, bottom-up forms of provision of housing and services create an opportunity to tap into the capacities of people living in illegal settlements.

4.3_Social Diversity and Community Mobilization



Istanbul has historically been a city to which people from all over Turkey (and abroad) were drawn to. Due to high numbers of migration (today 500.000 per year or 1 per minute), the ethnic and religious make up of Istanbul is highly diverse. Rural-urban migration often results in cross-fertilization of knowledge, which can be found in the provision and distribution of resources and types of community-led construction. Social and political spaces tend to be highly gendered contexts, with cultural and religious derivatives informing responsibilities, codes of conduct and power relations, such as the form and level of involvement in neighbourhood associations. Whilst both gender groups generate income, women dominate unpaid reproductive roles, while men are more active players in voluntary community management and in decision-making within constituency-based politics.

Case studies (Sarıyer, Tarlabaşı, Kartal) revealed major concerns within vulnerable neighbourhoods, which include insecurity of tenure, quality of provided or claimed urban services (such as water, electricity, etc), and the lack of influence in decisions which affect their welfare. Though there is often a strong will to construct community associations to resist policy decisions which threaten tenure-security, there also appears to be minimal lobbying around issues of capacity-building, knowledge sharing, training and education and a poor level of communication or collective action amongst neighbourhood associations. With no clear, feasible alternative propositions within rights-based discourse other than conservation of the existing, these proposals risk being over-ruled as NIMBY-ism. Associations sometimes find political commitment from local government (as in Sarıyer), but as associations lack formalized position within the institutional framework, these commitments have no implications on the policy-making processes. Whilst various civil society groups are formed on the basis of ethnicity, religion and residence, even amongst neighbourhood associations, there is no organizational and revenue-generating consistency and most exist on a voluntary basis.

By using the existing knowledge, coordinating at multiple scales and widening the scope of alliances to include other progressive actors, community associations will be able to apply more pressure on policy-making processes, in resource management and the delivery of public goods and services. With more research – on the current and potential value of collective lobbying and public participation, roles and relationships of various stakeholders, and better understanding the linkages between governance and urban livelihoods – local government and communities may better integrate social-sensitivity into policy making.

4.4 Brown and Green Agenda



Major issues such as climate change, water and air pollution, deforestation, drought and urban sprawl put at risk northern forest and water reserves, and adversely affect the biodiversity and ecosystems critical to the well-being of Istanbul's natural environment. The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) has designated Turkey, and Istanbul in particular, as a hot spots for environmental degeneration. Within the brown agenda, increasing inner-city migration, unmanaged small-scale industry and insensitive build have negative environmental effects, such as reduced water and air quality, the loss of open space, and pollution. While reducing the production sites, new human activities in redeveloped industrial sites continue to adversely affect natural ecosystems through mass development. These are some of the few central urban sites 'empty' and large enough for mass construction to meet global economy service demands. Within the green agenda, environmental protection is co-opted and translates in policy and mixed with notions of cost-recovery and productivity. Similarly, regeneration processes using natural and heritage protection arguments are appropriated by policy-makers for redevelopment, profit and gentrification.

The increasing pressure from international bodies to incorporate green ethics into Turkish policy has amplified local environmental politics. This includes the recognition by the Turkish government and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the need to incorporate an environmental agenda into legislation in light of its EU candidacy. In Istanbul, contestation and pressure for environmental issues comes mainly bottom-up from universities and NGO areas, though motivations and a lack of a common discourse can cause disjunctions. Much emphasis is placed on renewable energy sources as Turkey imports over fifty per cent of its energy requirements while its geographical location has advantages for sustainable energy development.

Whilst Istanbul presents a potentially favourable context for environmental legislation in Turkey, there exist no integrative laws on land use and land protection at the national level. Even with the introduction of the Environmental Law (that include the EIA Regulation under decree), preparation of Environmental Management Plans at municipal and district level is not mandatory. Furthermore, the limitations of the legal framework and lack of coordination between environmental experts and various state bodies are indicative of weak political will and resource allocation which allow for unchecked deforestation and unsustainable urbanization. This is exemplified in the 2009 Istanbul Environmental Plan which includes plans for third bridge over Bosphorus despite high levels of air pollution due to traffic congestion. On the ground, there is still a low level of public knowledge on the importance of sustainability issues and the impacts of environmental degradation on urban livelihoods. There is an urgent need for integrative environmental governance to monitor development and the conversion of land use.



4.5 Governance, Planned Intervention and Resourcing



Turkey's regulatory and legislative centralist structure means that all processes go through its hierarchical and sequential government mechanisms. Amendments to policy and planning, including those requiring urgent responses by local government to realities on the ground, are met with rigid and prolonged processes and practices. Policy is therefore informed by the organizational legislative structure and an increasing portfolio of legislature, due in part to the adoption of new regulation linked to EU accession, generates disparities between rhetoric and implementation. Bypass mechanisms for this framework exist only top-down, including power of state-owned for-profit companies on the national and metropolitan level, and go towards reinforcing mistrust in and between government bodies and their agendas, reduce accountability on the ground and reinforce confusion in domains of authority and responsibility. Types of multiple interfaces between local government and citizens provide both constraints and opportunities as points of entry for instilling change. Institutionalized platforms for dialogical participation, bottom-up influence on policy and planning and transparency in governance are not provided in formal procedures. Consultation mechanisms obstruct scaled-up responses and government and citizens are mainstreaming customized grey channels as forms of co-production in delivery, actively reframing the use of participation and only showing signs of expanding local political commitment. The mainstreaming of grey activities for subsistence-level delivery means that conditions of informality and illegality on the ground are frozen while acquiring a wide room for manoeuvre and maintaining benefits for the higher strata of government. No platform for democratic dialogue and representation has developed and while increasing capacities for organization, mobilization and lobbying are evident on the neighbourhood level, they have no executive or legislative status.

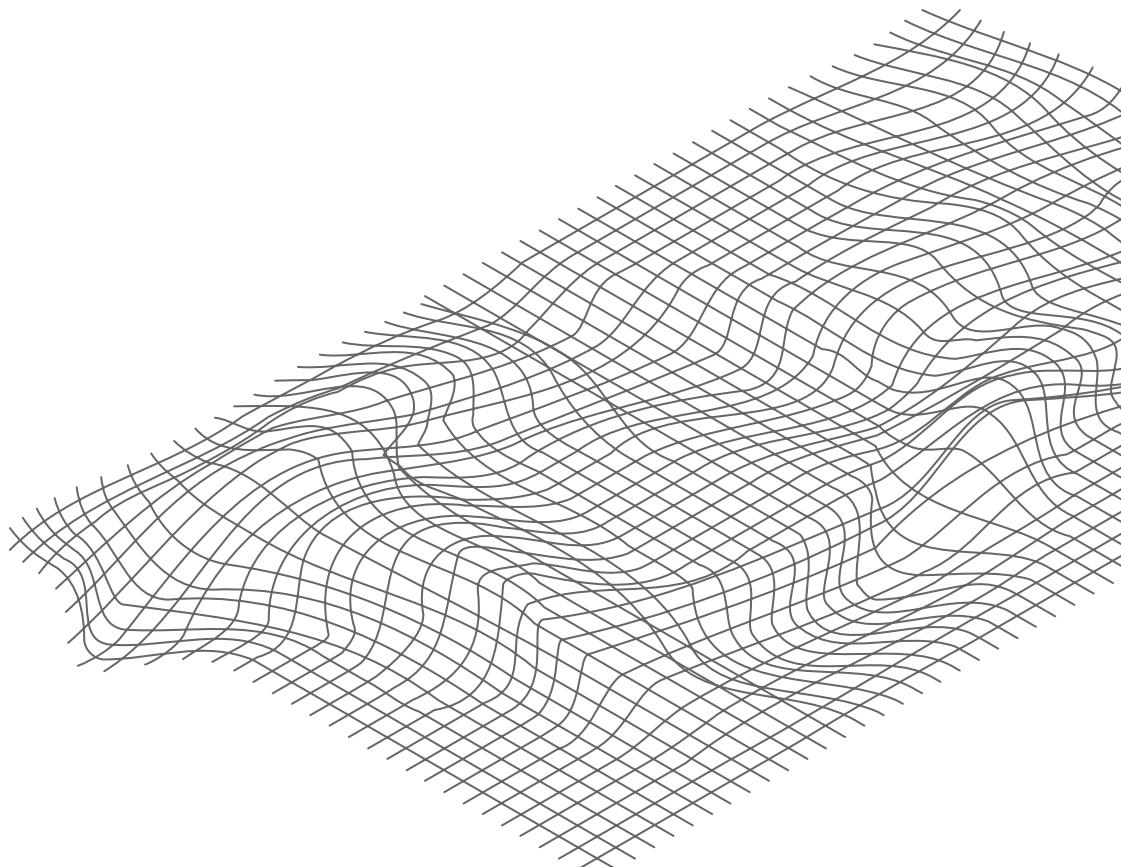
Cross-boundary platforms of knowledge-sharing, advocacy and consultation exist in the forms of federations and unions, though political divides remain barriers to active collaboration between mayors. Monitoring and evaluation procedures are lacking in planning and may provide an opportunity for citizen participation to have bottom-up effects as an entry point.

4.6 Key Findings

I. Much informality is in the grey category, and reveals collaborative interfaces between formal and informal actors. These interfaces shift through the spheres to allow a responsive flow where top-down rigid organizational and procedural structures fall short – where a lack of policy and organizational transparency, accountability, participation, commitment and representation mean that citizens have little impact bottom-up. Grey interfaces with the Citizen Sphere thus present several opportunities for strengthening grassroots mobilization for change by promoting local level alliances and tapping into research and theory building actors as integral participants. Political Commitment, under every theme, is in the grey category, indicating the need for stronger affiliations and alliances. Constraints detected imply crucial gaps with relevant targeted areas of the web, in particular where Policy and Planning would make transitions into implementation at the Delivery of Programs and Projects. This is where inflexible systems are met with a malleable and responsive collaborative interfaces for the aim of supplying informal settlements at a minimum level – while this may be essential for the survival of district governments and communities, its temporality appeases with the potential to arrest development and change.

II. Scalar differences in time and space present boundaries to be overcome. For example, sporadic resistance and mobilization on neighborhood levels are met with urgency in district governments, while metropolitan responses are slow and long-term. Central government's legislative system forms procedural barriers to timely response, equipped to address macro-strategies and relate them to international-scale visions. Spatially, transitions of plans, for instance, are only supported in top-down leaps of scalar specificity, where contextuality and knowledge can only enter institutional processes top-down. Furthermore, imaginations for future development are constrained into local administrative boundaries and geographic limitations. Men and women's experience of reality cannot inform any institutional formal system bottom-up.

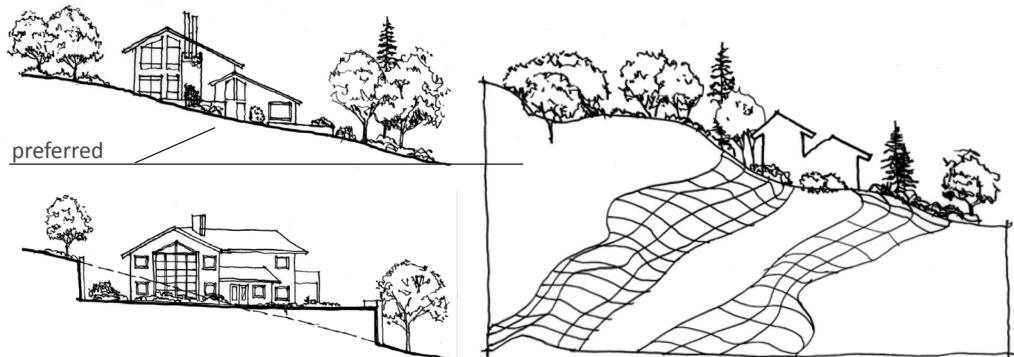
III. Urban development discourses are determinist and mutually exclusive, fragmented across the cityscape. The layers of histories and stories, and complexities of fabrics and heritage evident in Istanbul's social, cultural, spatial and institutional forms are selected and removed from context in contemporary visions. In a sense, the multiplicity of Istanbul's development is reduced into a duality of visions of new versus old. Rhetorical appropriations do seem to blur these polar distinctions; for example, private developers adopting the mahalle for "new mahalle" (Tolga:2010) to market gated communities; TOKI co-opting the housing rights and welfare paradigms; neighborhoods equating identity, community and survival with static preservation and unchangeability. Within the web, reciprocal interest or acceptance of diverse terms and definitions seem to have little room to flow through.



05_ Strategies

The findings and diagnosis have identified gaps between transformative change and certain realities on the ground in Istanbul. In order to strategically embed social justice and well-being into the urban life of Istanbul a vision of local democracy is required - one that constructs **local democracy** bottom-up, mitigating centralist top-down procedures and forming a common discourse around a vision for urban transformation and development. Analysis through the Web of Institutionalization has generated opportunities as strategic points of entry and streams for interventions to induce such a change and two constructs have been identified to achieve this. The first has been termed **micro-transformation** to indicate a series of steps for achievable goals that have been identified for renegotiating with structures, tackling constraints through a multi-scalar and multi-stakeholder approach. The second is the development of a shared vision – the **Sustainable Mahalleler Agenda (SMA)** - for the mobilization of targeted actors and stakeholders in order to build new alliances and navigate through micro-transformations towards a long-term transformative change.

The four micro-transformations developed below relate to the common Agenda in a strategic way and have been formulated to address different time periods and scales during the process, explicating the rationale, operationalization, monitoring and evaluation of each. The web is used as a framework for the formulation and assessment of each micro-transformation. Finally, the strategies are aggregated to consider how they form a process for transformative change, including an overall monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the reinforcing capacity and synergetic impact of the strategies towards transformation based on the criteria developed in the conceptual framework.



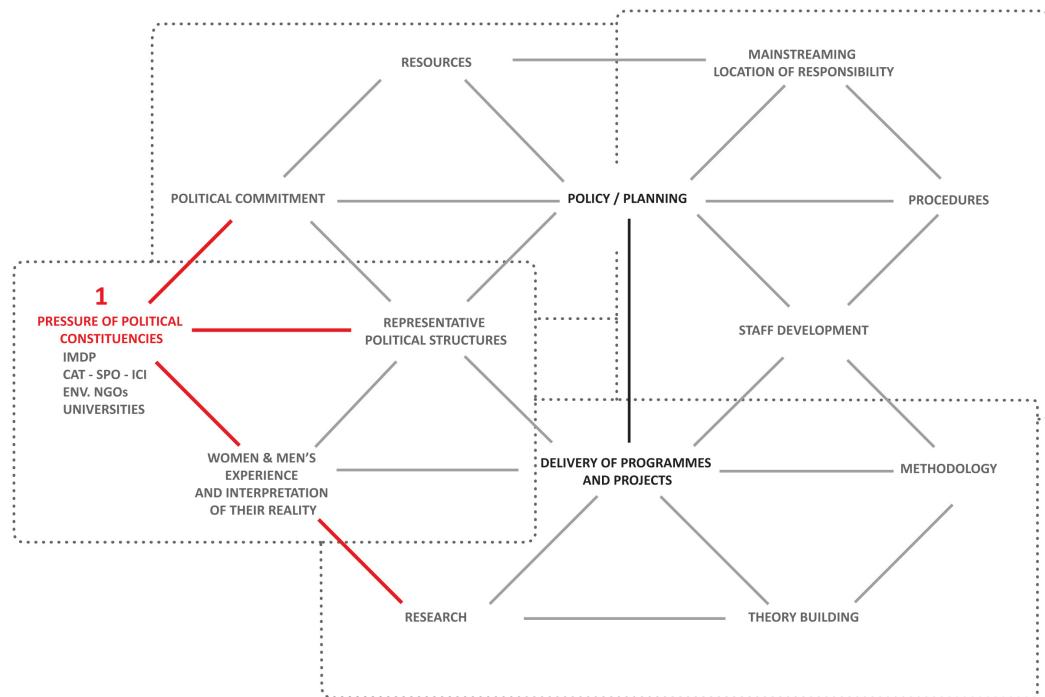
Taken from [City of Calgary \(2009\)](#), Slope Adaptive Development Policy and Guidelines & Conservation Planning and Design Guidelines. Land Use Planning and Policy. Planning, Development and Assessment, Calgary, Alberta.

Sustainable Mahalleler: A Shared Vision for Istanbul's Neighbourhoods

According to the findings, the development of a vision for mobilization must include a shared discourse appropriated by Istanbul's vulnerable groups with a common tangible, physical and spatial product as an aim. Linking the two has the potential to become a driving force through the web of institutionalization. This is a crucial element for the collaboration and motivation of key stakeholders, with immediate developments on the ground that respond to needs and the sense of achievement necessary to propel the mobilization onwards.

The **Sustainable Mahalleler Agenda** connects environmental and social capital into one vision for a quality of life in the city. It incorporates the preservation of natural landform and resources such as water basins, conservation of species in micro- and macro- ecologies particularly in the forest areas as well as the urban culture in historical inner city neighborhoods. It draws on sustainable community adaptation to the benefits of hillside topography and proximity to water bodies for natural urban ventilation, water purification and re-use, and pollution reduction. Furthermore, it incorporates neighborhood design and housing typologies that are closely related to the vernacular of Istanbul's *geçekondu* – building on local knowledge of the landscape that use staged grading for the minimization of excavation and landfill, height that is appropriate for airflow, community density for livelihoods and accessibility, and adequate use of infrastructure. There is room for the incorporation of new ideas and technologies for eco-development, including the increase of household insulation for energy preservation, alternative energy production, water re-use, small-scale agriculture, walkability, etc.

This agenda developed by communities could bring together interests from several actors in a process able to promote social justice and well-being. However, this Sustainable Mahalleler Agenda involves not only opportunities but also risks to be considered. For instance, actors interested in a different agenda around environmental issues could co-opt the agenda, an example learned from the seismic risk discourse (see Appendix 10) used to support *geçekondu* evictions and demolitions by certain citizen elites and governmental agencies. This and other risks have been addressed in the operationalization of the micro-transformations through the building of stable and resilient alliances, and the formation of a robust discourse based on science, theory of human rights, confronting the negative perceptions that often link poverty and urban environmental degradation through physical and cultural development.



micro-Transformation

I. FROM OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION

Strengthen pressure of political constituencies through community mobilization, networking, and reinforcing of alliances.

I.I Rationale:

The discourse that surrounds the neighborhood associations for the urban poor and the residents in the traditional *geçekondu* has been that of resistance against evictions. However, acting in resistance has not increased the neighborhood influence on housing legislation but has isolated these communities politically, spatially and socially. In fact, further isolation has allowed for developers such as TOKI to appropriate the discourse on the basis of protecting the land, culture and heritage. Resistance movements grounded in housing-rights based argument have proven to be ineffective and unsustainable (Tait:2008 and Gündogdu and Gough: 2008). This is due to two reasons; first, the community organizations that currently exist functions spatially within the administrative boundaries on a small scale. The logic of their actions is confined to the logic of the political and administrative systems that form the legislation they are resisting against in the first place. In order to overcome this, community mobilization must transcend the administrative and spatial confines to form a new organization that goes beyond these boundaries. The current federation that links the municipalities is only a platform to meet; with the SMA, there is a platform to mobilize and reinforce alliances beyond municipalities. Second, the community organizations are formulated around resistance and not propositioning against legislation. The new discourse of mobilization will shift away from housing rights to the SMA discourse. Furthermore, armed with a cause and an alternative plan, this large-scale vision is better equipped to involve a broader range of new alliances that transcends class or ethnicity.

I.2 Operationalization:

Initiators

- Community led opposition groups (NGOs, civil initiatives, neighborhood organization)
- Federation of Neighborhood Associations (IMDP)

Collaborators

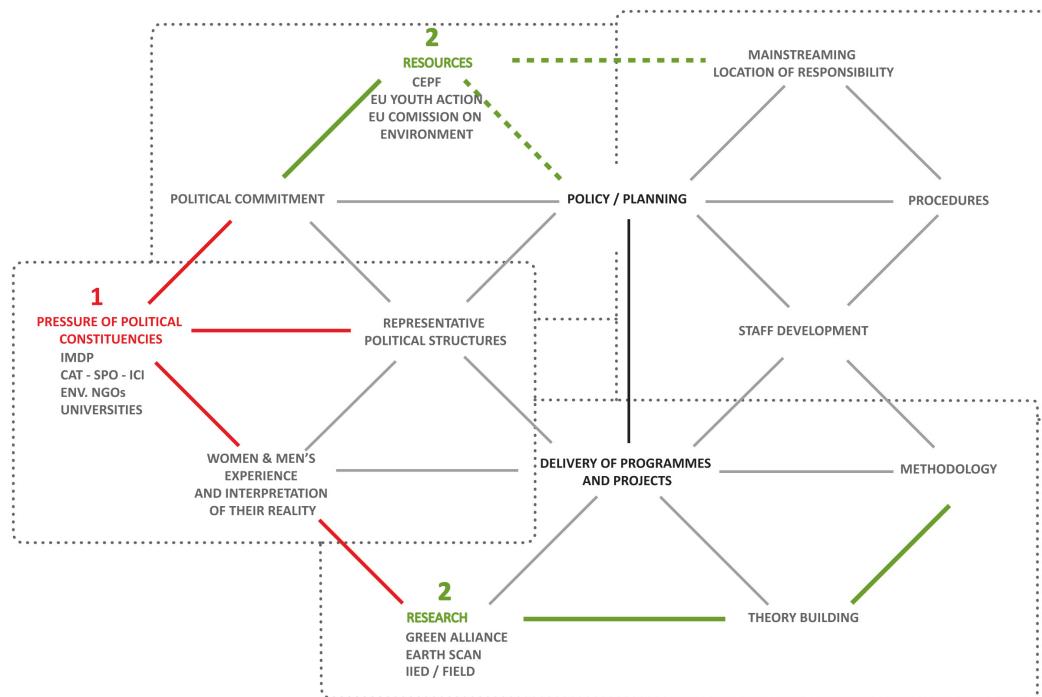
- Universities (eg Istanbul University)
- Chambers of Architects of Turkey⁷ (CAT)
- Chambers of City Planners⁸ (SPO)
- Istanbul Chamber of Industry⁹ (ICI)
- Potential Environmental NGOs:
 - Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, for Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats¹⁰ (TEMA)
 - Doğa Derneği¹¹
 - Social Ecology Society of Istanbul
 - Environmental and Cultural Administration Cooperative of Istanbul Residents
 - Kadikoyu Bilim Kultur ve Sanat Dostlari Derneği (KADOS)

Operations

- Organize the existing opposition groups and communities involved in IMDP around the SMA across municipalities. This is the most essential and crucial step in the series of action plans. This will move the discourse away from a housing-centric resistance discourse to a more holistic environmental discourse, creating room for diverse actors to engage with the community movement. However, this does not negate the importance of the housing discourse. Instead, it enhances the housing discourse as a vital element within the SMA.
- Compose a strategy framework using the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund¹² template to further solidify the community agenda and a 'community ecosystem profile' as a promotional tool for NGO involvement with the communities.
- Engage organized communities in active surveying of local environmental issues assisted by local or national environmental NGOs, such as Doğa Derneği. The aim is to create a more active participatory process in formulating local knowledge, horizontal knowledge sharing and trajectory of future plans.
- Create workshops for the communities in mapping of landscapes and fabric and assessing impact analysis of the built form. The university student led groups such as the Ecology Club at the Istanbul University can initiate these workshops, incorporating the youth and future policy-making generation in participatory mechanisms and grass root activities.
- Utilize spaces of women congregation such as local maternal health clinics or local gathering spaces as a point of knowledge dissemination. The current resistance environment does not involve women's participation in civil movement activities. However, framing the sustainable agenda around environmental health, will raise conscious awareness of the effects of environmental variables in day-to-day activities.
- Involve the Environment Technical Support Group of ICI to assist with carrying out studies of community led environmental legislation assessment. Alliance with ICI may lead to identifying local green knowledge and innovative green technology development.
- Engage members of SPO and CAT in the evaluation of the community proposals with technical assistance to legitimize the proposed plans.

1.3. Monitoring and Evaluation:

What to Monitor	How	By Whom and When
* Extent of strengthening of collective mobilization around SMA / targets / goals	* Number of collective projects executed / undertaken	* Representative committee comprising of elected members from Neighbourhood Associations, NGOs, civil initiatives, universities, chambers. Project numbers to be assessed yearly
* Targets/ goals to ensure: 1.Their adaptability and responsiveness to the changing needs of the individual associations 2.Their alignment to the broad SMA as well as local needs	* Number of collective projects executed / undertaken	* Representative Committee to have a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) sub- committee comprising of members from the community and few technical advisors. Representative M&E Committee comprising of elected representatives from Neighbourhood Associations, NGOs, civil initiatives- in consultation with individual associations. Targets to be reviewed quarterly.
* The impact of previous targets/ projects and their incorporation into future targets	* Evaluation of completed projects using Indicators of reiterative learning developed by the Representative M & E Committee in a participatory way with the member associations	* Representative M&E Committee comprising of elected representatives from Neighbourhood Associations, NGOs, civil initiatives- in consultation with individual associations.Targets to be reviewed at the end of the
* Extent of women's mobilization around SMA	* Number of women attending meetings; number of women in M&E Committee	* Representative M&E Committee comprising of elected representatives from Neighbourhood Associations, NGOs, civil initiatives- in consultation with individual associations. Quarterly review.



micro-Transformation

II. BROADENING INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCES [Transcending Scale to Go To Scale]

Reinforce micro-Transformation I with new alliances between community organizations and international bodies

2.1. Rationale:

The SMA creates new opportunities for the community to ally with international players, both in resourcing and research. This is in hopes to impact on the ground capacity building of men's and women's experience and delivery of projects. Historically, community organizations have had incidence of international media advocacy to put pressure on local legislation, like in the Sulukule¹³ case ; however, this type of resistance-based international attention is short-lived. By mobilizing around the sustainability agenda, the movement inherently becomes an ongoing movement where alliances become partnerships. Broadening strategic alliances at international level are crucial for boosting lobbying capacity of the proposals, increasing funding for neighborhood upgrading and developing organizational capacity and training in sustainable development. The SMA creates a space for multiple disciplines and domains to come together. For international organizations and donors, the agenda provides a platform for action research as well as an opportunity to bring media attention to the organization's cause. Both national and international research groups/universities are able to engage in scientific development as well as planning development. The involvement of international allies directly with the community organizations ensures the bypassing of central decision-making and brings resource and training benefits directly to the community. This will eventually increase visibility of neighborhood movements in the political domain.

2.2. Operationalization:

Initiators:

- Mobilized community group and networks from micro-Transformation I

Collaborators:

• Potential Donors:

- Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund¹⁴ (CEPF)
- EU Youth Action¹⁵
- EU Commission on Environment Grant¹⁶

• Potential Research/Publication Partners:

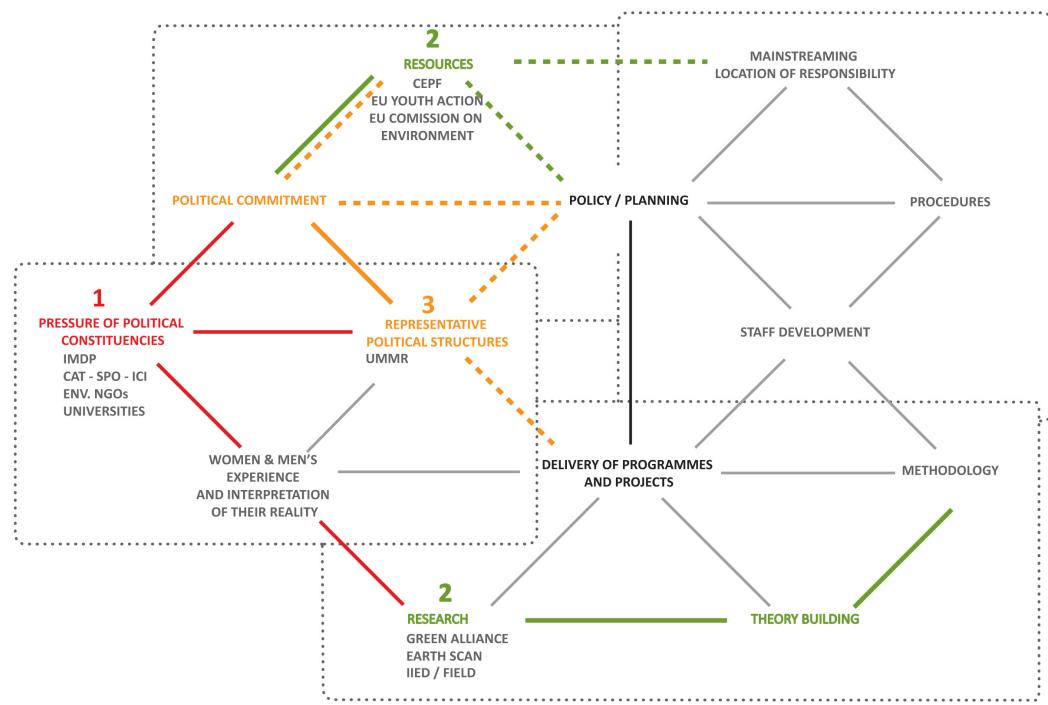
- Green Alliance¹⁷
- Earth Scan¹⁸
- International Institute for Environment and Development¹⁹ (IIED)
- Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development²⁰ (FIELD)

Operations:

- The communities should identify not only local and national organizations but also international organizations that are involved in grass root environmental advocacy. This can be done by utilizing already existing networks such as TEMA's international relations sub-office or by applying to international funds that directly funds civil movements.
- Link youth led community activities with EU Youth in Action fund for community movement funding. This fund directly funds youth led initiatives, which would promote participation in community activities by younger population.
- Advocate for Istanbul to be placed in the list of investment areas in the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. Currently, Istanbul is identified as a "hot spot"²¹, yet no investment has been made.
- Strategically mobilize community activities around international conference agendas and benchmark days (eg Global Earth Day and World Water Day) in order to gain media coverage nationally and internationally. (see appendix 11 for future international conferences)

2.3. Monitoring and Evaluation:

What to Monitor	How	By Whom and When
* The compatibility of local mandate with that of the concerned international NGOs and assessment of the suitability of International NGOs	* Evaluating compatibility of International NGOs mandate on basis of definition of problems and goal formulation (from micro-Transformation I), defined in a participatory manner by the Representative Committee	* To be done by the Representative M&E Committee at each point of identification of new member in Network
* The relevance of reports/ supporting documentation prepared by International agencies with respect to the Committee's goals	* Evaluation of recommendations/ solutions/ideas proposed by the international agencies on the basis of definition of problems and goal formulation defined in a participatory manner by the Representative Committee	* To be done by the Representative M&E Committee at each point of proposal preparation and submission
* The risk of elitist hijacking of the process	* Evaluation of plans and proposals to assess their applicability to SMA framework with community input	* To be done by 'Network Committee' comprised of representatives from 'Neighbourhood Representative Committee', international and national NGOs
* Extent of visibility of broadening alliances – information dissemination- through media and other sources	* Number of newspaper and magazine articles published around issues (whether they support the broad targets or not), number of press conferences etc	* To be done by the Representative Committee to undertake media outreach activities. To be assessed every six months.
* Extent to which mobilization around common SMA has affected policy and planning	* Number of evictions (increase or decrease), incorporation of Committee's recommendations into policy and planning	* To be done by the Representative M&E Committee each year



micro-Transformation

III. NETWORK MUNICIPALITIES

Create a support system for mayors to develop commitment for local democracy

3.1. Rationale:

The 39 District Municipality mayors have little room for maneuver to contest metropolitan or national planning decisions in the current Turkish political institution. However, despite this context, there are a number of proactive mayors who are involved in enhancing local democratic processes, bringing the decision-making to a smaller scale and allowing the interactions manifested in the grey interfaces to emerge into the formal political realm. This strategy provides a support platform for the mayors to have greater influence for social and environmental initiatives as well as mobilization around the SMA. The existing capacity and commitment to social and environmental issues in the district offices requires increased support in order to foster greater local democracy. By fostering a network for knowledge sharing and capacity building representative political leaders can have greater lobbying power to influence policy, planning and delivery of programmes in their districts. This process would also ensure and increase community constituents voice and influence in the decision-making process and hopefully the scaling up of local initiatives. The SMA creates a platform for the mayors to mobilize around a less historically and culturally contentious issue. There are less rights or moral connotation attached to the issue of environmental sustainability and this creates a safe ground for multiple parties to come together and engage in dialogue.

3.2. Operationalization:

Initiators:

- Mayors involved or interested in local democratization mechanisms

Collaborators:

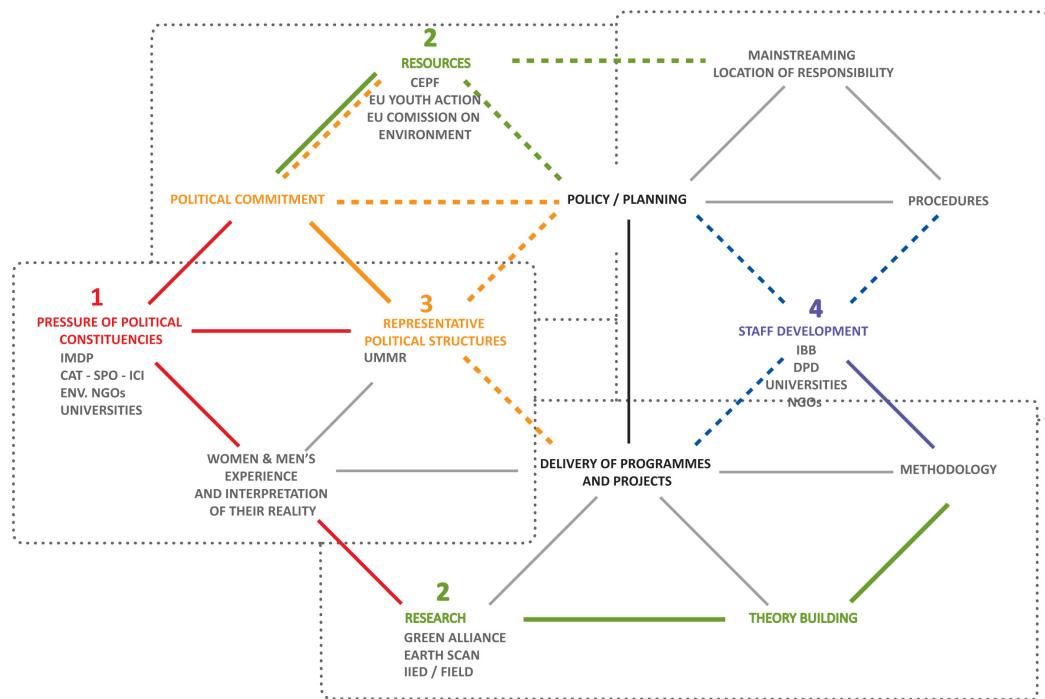
- Union of Municipalities of Marmara Region (UMMR)
- National organizations mentioned in micro-Transformation I
- International organizations mentioned in micro-Transformation II

Operations:

- Utilize the existing UMMR platform and network of mayors to connect mayors that are already engaging in small-scale democratic activities.
- Formulate the mayoral network around the four key terminology already used in the UMMR's goal: democratic; participative; transparent; and accountable.
- Utilize the UMMR's Turkish-German Centre for Environmental Mgmt platform for environmental management knowledge sharing.
- Align political itinerary with community-led activities by incorporating the sustainable agenda language into the workshops so as to connect the grass root activities with formal political representation.
- Introduce participatory mechanisms and know-how workshops that are feasible and reflective of local demands; this can be mediated by international consultants. Examples of workshops are: participatory budgeting on local environmental protection issue workshop; or open council meetings workshop to increase formal participation from the community.
- Engage in local product promotion discourse to vitalize the local economy. This market specialization process should engage the local population in product development and collaboration. This would give the mayors leverage in economic decision-making due to the specialized nature of the local economy.

3.3. Monitoring and Evaluation:

What to Monitor	How	By Whom and When
* Incorporation of SMA in plan formulation	* Number of plans prepared and evaluated incorporating local targets of SMA	* By DPD; during each plan making stage
* The extent to which mayors capacity has been strengthened as a result of the network	* Number of programs related to the SMA that mayors have been able to implement in their districts, with the support of the Network Amount of resources that have been diverted from municipal funds to environmental projects in communities	* Network to assess this for each municipality on a bi-annual or annual basis
* The extent to which collective mobilization has affected policy, planning and the delivery of programmes	* Number of projects materialized in municipalities and across municipalities as a result of joint mobilization	* Mayors and District planning Departments, yearly review
* Extent to which innovative mechanisms for participatory involvement with constituencies have been incorporated at district municipality level	* Number of participatory programs like participatory budgeting and open council meetings etc	* Mayor and District Municipality. Review of initiatives to be done every year



micro-Transformation

IV. STRATEGIC PLANNING PROMOTION

Change planning discourse and building capacity of planners and bureaucrats to shift from Master Plans to Strategic Action Planning, promoting participatory and flexible planning processes.

4.1. Rationale:

The current planning system in Istanbul and Turkey incorporates environmental concerns in the master plans (IMP:2007). However, with the pressures and changes mentioned in the findings, city policy and planning is not able to keep up with the pace of change and increasing migration that creates pressure in the city. The SMA discourse safeguards the long-term transformation against the harmful developments with a more responsive and reflective way of planning.

The strategy proposes the training and capacity building of planners and administrators to promote a more flexible planning that enable greater participation with already existing partners (privates and public) and with the added value of NGOs, universities and communities. The IMP can benefit from an impact assessment and evaluation of projects on the ground, contributing to its learning and development capacities. Therefore, the incorporation of mechanisms for project follow-up may be a point of entry for communities to collaborate and engage in the institutional framework, providing a platform for local knowledge and values to be integrated into planning processes. In turn, its responsiveness to the lived experience of the built environment provides room for action research, theory-building and increased capacities on the ground and in planning departments for contextual response.

By creating a new proposition for land use and its environmental significance for communities, strategic planning provides a new insight in development policies. It invites for both scientific and cross-cutting reasoning that contribute for an efficient context-specific approach dealing with city problems

that relate land-use and environment with issues of transport, economies, education and particularly housing. Currently, IBB/IMP works with an approach based on master plans, translating NES into spatial plans, using rigid zoning, which can be inefficient in long-term land development. That also reflects in the land-valuing and housing construction that follows market logic with implications for the poor communities and natural environment.

Strategic planning can permit mitigation of the environmental impact of housing development at the level of policies but also at the level of implementations. Creating spaces of environmental debate and contributions of knowledge from engaged NGOs and communities can boost a more sensitive design approach. Eco-friendly building materials, grading and low-rise typologies, would certainly increase the opportunity to create a new economic market around green innovation, energy efficiency and local economy. In sum, plan strategically is beneficial to establish a rapport between professionals and users, mutually reinforcing knowledge and responsibilities.

4.2. Operationalization:

Initiators:

- Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality/Istanbul Metropolitan Planning Unit (IBB/IMP) planners
- District Planning Department (DPD) planners

Collaborators:

- Universities researching on participatory methods on environmental impact assessment and action (eg Istanbul Technical University)
- NGOs from micro-transformation I
- NGO with interest in local democratization issues such as accountability and transparency
 - ARI HAREKETI²²
- NGOs with interest in green innovation
 - Environment Foundation of Turkey²³ (EFT)
- Supreme Council for Science and Technology (BYTK)
- Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey²⁴ (TUBITAK)

Operations:

- Assess the rapid urban environmental changes by correlating the environmental legislation assessment produced by the Ministry of Environment and Chambers of Industry with the IMP environmental master plan.
- Involve university departments such as the environmental engineer department from the Istanbul Technical University to conduct research in participatory environmental impact assessment and local democratization NGO advocates in IMP staff development workshops.
- Use participatory research conducted in association with university departments, NGOs and community organizations/SMA network to revise existing environmental guidelines for plan formulation.
- Renegotiate IMP environmental planning and strategy development with climate change agenda developed by UNDP's 2007 Climate Change Report.
- Assist in capacity building workshops by environmental NGOs such as TEMA to reframe the district scale planning discourse around participatory environmental impact assessment. The mayors in the support network in micro-Transformation III should take the initiative to instigate this discourse.

- Invite the contribution in planning of strategic partnerships with national actors (such as TUBITAK, BTYK), universities and NGOs that use a participatory approach with communities in environmental and innovation issues. The engagement with communities creates opportunities to develop local and sustainable green solutions and economies that are sustainable.
- Attend international sustainability related conferences (see appendix 11 for future conferences) in partner with the IMDP members.

4.3. Monitoring and Evaluation:

What to Monitor	How	By Whom and When
* Incorporation of local environmental demands in Metropolitan plan formulation, zoning regulations etc.	* Number of plans prepared and evaluated incorporating local targets of SMA	* IBB, IMP in partnership with DPD to form a Planning Committee. Gradual periodic transition (biannually) from Master planning approach to Strategic plan approach. Mid-term review as well as end of master planning period. Assessment also to be made at level of Representative Committee
* Impact assessment of staff training and capacity building programmes with respect to the procedural aspects of plan preparation	* Number of plans prepared incorporating environmental concerns and participatory mechanisms post the training programmes	* Planning Committee. To be coupled with yearly review of training programs
* Safeguarding of land with ecological value, or from potentially harmful development	* Number of projects not approved/ sent for revision based on non-compliance with environmental norms	* Planning Committee. Review to be conducted as frequently as project approvals data is assessed within the planning framework
* The extent to which participatory involvement of communities has been incorporated into the planning processes	* Stages in the planning process where participation mechanisms are in place and type of participation	* Planning Committee. Mid-term review as well as at the end of master planning period

Strategic Intervention for Transformative Change

Aggregating the four micro-transformations as a strategy for transformative change recognizes the opportunities to reform the recursive loop between structure and agency in order to embed social justice and well-being into the systemic conditions of urban life. Each constitutes an integral component in a series of changes that build on diverse interests and identities in Istanbul by renegotiating existing collaborative interfaces to tackle or circumvent uncollaborative powers. On the ground, the micro-transformations' cumulative objectives go towards strategically placing the four criteria for social justice and well-being at the core of (eventual) institutional reform of local democracy by reinforcing:

- (i)** Legitimizing citizen mobilization and collective action, providing a constant support system from other interest groups on varying scales, to ensure an increase in resources and capacities that cannot be directly obstructed by central government or TOKI, and can develop new discourse approaches to meet needs on the ground and thus prepare for participatory planning
- (ii)** Creating horizontal linkages to expand knowledge sharing and inclusive collective action beyond administrative and political boundaries, raising awareness and building a major constituency on the metropolitan and national level, increasing lobbying leverage and a voice in debates
- (iii)** Strengthening capacities in district governments for redistribution decision making with the aim of increasing decentralized procedures, resource management and policy enforcement and evaluation
- (iv)** Aspiring towards systemic sustainability – socially, micro-economically, ecologically, and institutionally – as a shared vision for Istanbul.

Well-Being	Social Justice
Redistribution	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * quality of build satisfying ones' needs * density according to ones' needs * quality of environment according ones' needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * available mechanisms for housing according to needs * what are the criteria that make one eligible for social housing/ housing that meets ones' needs
Inclusion ability to meet conditions for inclusive practices with respect to gender, ethnicity, religion	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * availability of meeting spaces according to community's need * availability and quality of facilities (i.e health care and education) for various groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * responsiveness of economic plans to various sections of the population (in terms of livelihoods, education, healthcare accounting for city population growth * spatial integration with the rest of the city
Participation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * to what extent people are participating and under what conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * evaluation of levels of participation city-wide, also in terms of local diversity and gender
Sustainability	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * resilience of planning, people, built environment to changing demographic, economic trends in time. * developments sensitive to overall city sustainability in terms of natural resources (encroachment), ecosystems, (pollution) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * level of mainstreaming of health, education, environmental, livelihoods, education concerns in organizational procedures. * evaluation and impact assessment in planning and for iterative learning to build capacity



06_Conclusion

To understand the systemic conditions of urban life means to uncover those processes that accumulate and amalgamate a series of recursive relationships into what appears to be static conditions. In reality this loop forms and reforms possibilities and predicaments. Understanding these structures means that one can target them directly through their procedures, actions and discourses.

The study of Istanbul for planned intervention brought an analysis of multiple interfaces of collaboration in the city. Seen as existing opportunities, their reaffirmation can build a contextually specific vision, born from within local structures and processes. The added element for embedding new dynamics is therefore the collective action through a common agenda.

Our recommendation for the Sustainable Mahalleler Agenda stems from its holistic view of the city. Without being exclusive to any community or area, this new layer can be juxtaposed over existing, complex processes and procedures, to increase room for maneuver. Because this Agenda is a domain that has been little explored to date, actors can guide its discourse as it translates to realities on the ground, addressing multi-sectoral and multi-dimensional needs. Linking strongly to the previous discourse of housing and tenure rights, it strategically redirects attention to qualities of the built environment rather than its use or exchange values. This Agenda has the capacity to empower actors and stakeholders to demand transformative change in pursuit of social justice and well-being.

07_Endnotes

1. Between formal and informal; examples may include actors who are formally recognized in the institutional framework but who also maneuver in informal ways, formally recognized actors without grounding in legislation or informal actors who move within the gaps of regulation and legislation.
2. Literally meaning ‘built overnight’.
3. Amnesties are laws put into force to legalize slum and squatter settlements and giving them right to build to a higher density (Köktürk:2003; Uzun and Cete:2004).
4. See ‘Five Themes’ in ‘Methodology’ section: page XXX
5. These includecultural, social, economic, political, spatial norms, values, powers and processes.
6. For example, grey mechanisms allow legal actors to act outside of regulation, and the government to interact with actors who are not recognized by law as having any administrative or executive rights.
7. For more information please refer to <<http://www.mo.org.tr/eng/>>
8. For more information please refer to <<http://www.spo.org.tr/>>
9. For more information please refer to <<http://www.iso.org.tr/en/>>
10. For more information please refer to <<http://english.tema.org.tr/>>
11. For more information please refer to <<http://www.dogadernegi.org/>>
12. This grant directly funds small-scale local initiatives. This fund will also serve as a potential network of horizontal knowledge sharing.
13. Sulukule case: “Save Sulukule” was an international campaign to stop the demolitions planned by the municipality in February of 2008. The petition, through media advocacy, gained international support, which in fact pushed the planned demolition activities. It was once the international attention phased out the government proceeded with the demolitions.
14. For more information please refer to <<http://www.cepf.net/Pages/default.aspx>>
15. For more information please refer to <http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth-in-action/programme/doc126_en.htm>
16. For more information please refer to <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ngos/index_en.htm>
17. For more information please refer to <<http://www.greenalliance.org.uk/>>
18. For more information please refer to <<http://www.earthscan.co.uk/>>
19. For more information please refer to <<http://www.iied.org/>>
20. For more information please refer to <<http://www.field.org.uk/>>
21. CEPF has designated 34 “hot spots” worldwide. These sites must fulfill two criteria: contain at least 1,500 species of vascular plants as endemics; and have lost at least 70 percent of its original habitat. For more information, please refer to the CEPF website.
22. For more information please refer to <www.ari.org.tr/english/index.asp>
23. For more information please refer to <<http://www.cevreonline.com/>>
24. For more information please refer to <www.tubitak.gov.tr/>

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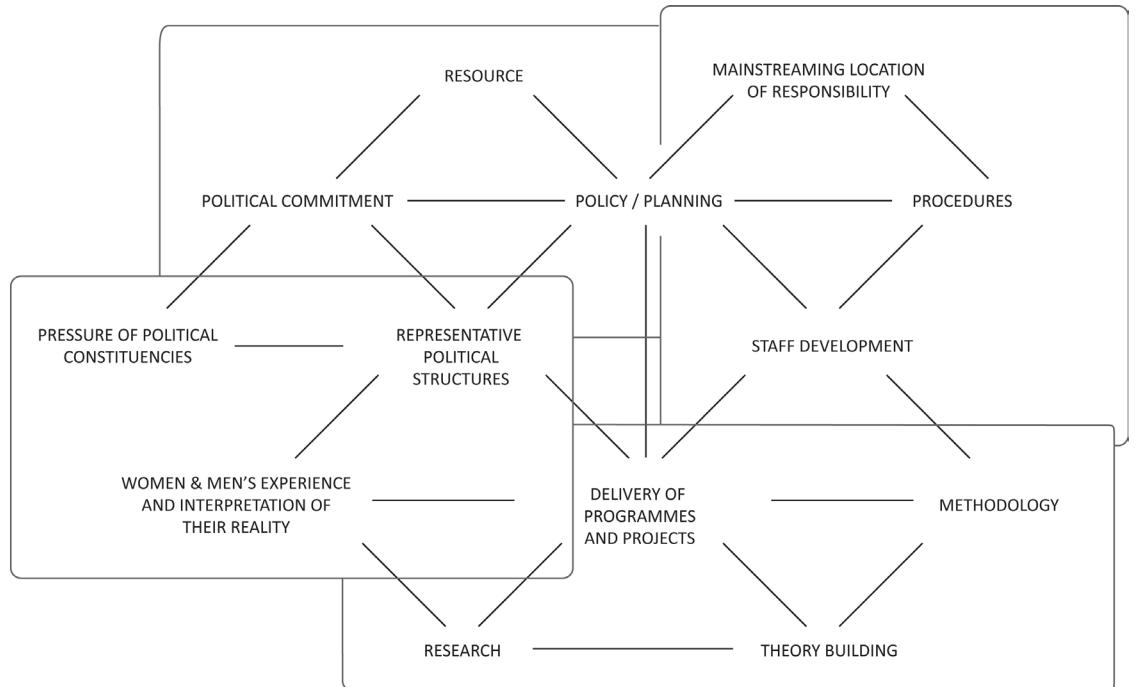
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WEB Resources

- <http://aiaeurope.org/events/2010/Istanbul/abstracts.html>
- http://isites.harvard.edu/fs/docs/icb.topic206786.files/9.Residential_Architecture.11.26.07.pdf
- http://www.beyoglu.bel.tr/download/tarlabasi_yenileniyor.pdf
- <http://www.bsnn.org/turkey.html#kad>
- <http://www.conservationtech.com/IstanCon/keynote.htm>
- <http://www.dogadernegi.org/english/>
- <http://www.euranet.euengTodayNewsEnglish-NewsIstanbul-s-Capital-of-Culture-controversy>
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- <http://www.theresponsivecity.org/category/what/?>
- <http://www.toki.gov.tr/english/partnerships.asp>
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09_Appendix

01_ Web of Institutionalization



Levy, C. (1998) "Institutionalisation of Gender through Participatory Practice" in Guijt, I. and Shah, M.K. (eds.) The Myth of Community: Gender Issues in Participatory Development, Intermediate Technology Publications: London.

'The Web of Institutionalisation' is a tool originally developed by Caren Levy (1998*) to better understand and operationalise the mainstreaming of gender-sensitivity into critical elements of development and planning. Within this project, it was used to structure and inform various components of the fieldwork, including observations, analyses, and the subsequent diagnoses. The Web is comprised of 4 core spheres – citizen, policy, delivery and organisation – which collectively consist of 13 elements, each representing a critical site of power in the process of institutionalizing transformative change. Understanding the diverse and multi-dimensional interactions amongst actors involved in decision-making process and their consequences is crucial to identifying constraints and opportunities relating to the desired transformation. Truly transformative change in the urban realm can be said to have happened when these elements and relations between them reinforce the conditions for change across scale.

02_ Methodologies and Meeting Schedule

2.1_Explanation of Methodologies

Methodological tools:

The different tools outlined below, were used during the Istanbul fieldtrip (9 – 21 May 2010) for collecting information and data.

Bus Tours and Transect Walks

- The entire group of students was divided in half, after which both groups went on a guided bus tour, covering different parts of Istanbul (Western loop by the first group, Northern loop by the second group). The aim of these tours was to get a general sense of the city and its transformative history, which was reflected in the various neighbourhoods the groups visited.

Transect Walk

- Guided walking tours in the neighbourhoods surrounding Galata, to gain a better understanding of the spatial and social aspects of the area. Both in the transects walks as in the guided bus tours, opportunities were given to pose several questions to get a more clear understanding (through the professional's insights) of the spaces and forces of transformation in Istanbul.

Formal presentations.

- Several meetings with and presentations from professionals, representing multiple institutions, organizations and other stakeholders, were held, in order to provide us with clear understandings of the relationships, processes and procedures within and around the institutional framework.

Semi-structure interviews.

- On two different sites, semi-structured interviews were conducted, following a set of questions which were based on the criteria of the groups understanding of transformative change. The aim of the interviews was to collect the particular perspective of transformative changes in Istanbul and its mahalleler, through the voices of the citizens. By using a semi-structured format, there was room for a more informal flow of conversation, which probably often led to a more personal insight in people's lives and feelings, than if we would have conducted structured (and thus rigid) interviews.

2.2_Meeting Schedule Istanbul

Meeting schedule Istanbul (representatives and communities)

Date	Place	Representatives	Observation
Sunday, 9 th May 2010	Galata Derneği	Esen Avdel	All groups
Monday, 10 th May 2010	Samatya Zeitinburnu Tozkoparan Suleymanye Tarlabasi Galata Fenerbalat Depot	Orhan Esen Dimitra ? Yashar Adanali	Group A Group B Group B
Tuesday, 11 th May 2010	Besiktas Depot Galata Levant Karankiytoy	Julia Strutz Murat Yalcitan Orhan Esen	Group A Group B Group B
Wednesday, 12 th May 2010	IBB IMP	Sema Zeyhan Ulaş Akin Murat Vefkioğlu	All groups
Thursday, 13 th May 2010	UMM Tarlabasi	Mustafa Özkul İskender Güneş Mete Göktuğ	All groups
Friday 14 th , May 2010	Tarlabasi Beyoğlu Municipality Sarayer Kartal	Zehra Tonbul Nilgün Kivircik Şükrü Aydın Sevgi Atalay Can Çavdar İbrahim Doğan	Group A Group B Group B
Saturday, 15 th May 2010	Maltepe Başibyük	Erdoğan Yıldız Yılmaz Yasak	All groups
Sunday, 16 th May 2010	Tarlabasi Sarayer	Fieldwork with community	Group A Group B
Monday, 17 th May 2010	Tarlabasi Kartal	Neşe Erdilek	Group A Group B
Tuesday, 18 th May 2010	Kartal IMP	Tuna Kuyucu Murat Vefkioğlu	
Wednesday, 19 th May 2010			
Thursday, 20 th May 2010	Depot	Istanbul Presentation	
Friday, 21 st May 2010			
Saturday, 22 nd May 2010			
Sunday, 23 rd May 2010			
Monday, 24 th May 2010			
Tuesday, 25 th May 2010			
Wednesday, 26 th May 2010	London	DPU Presentation	

03_Appendix Tarlabası



Located on the European side of the city on the slope downwards to Dolapdere, Tarlabasi is part of the Beyoğlu district of Istanbul. The quarter is comprised of 8 Mahalleler and is split by Tarlabası Boulevard leading towards Thaksin Square.

This residential sector has a rich history of being home to middle class and poor minority groups of Istanbul. Greeks, Armenians and Levantines built up the narrow streets until forced population exchange took place at the foundation of the Turkish Republic in 1923. Non-Turkish communities were forced out, and those that remained suffered from the Wealth Tax imposed in 1942 that further weakened and persecuted residents of Tarlabasi. With the owners in exile, those in exile from other areas occupied these Levantine homes. Kurdish migrants forced from their villages during the “unspoken war”, Roma people from Greece, Iraqi refugees and transvestites excluded from society make up the thousands of residents in the area (Saybasili, 2007).

While the buildings decayed with no owners to provide upkeep, Tarlabası Boulevard was constructed to slice through the city and by the mid 1980s, this central area was cut off from Beyoğlu. Gelata, north of the boulevard has become a tourist destination and shopping district while South, Tarlabası has degraded in an urban slum with a dangerous reputation. Many houses have become completely dilapidated, 40% of buildings remain empty (Tarlabası, 2010) formal service provision is low and the

streets are littered with trash. Petty crimes and thefts are common. Headquarters to the Kurdish National Party, Tarlabası is the main site for protest and Kurdish mobilization efforts. Heavy police presence can be seen in this area, the entrance on Tarlabasi displaying a water cannon tank to ensure order is kept.



The families settled in Tarlabası are aware of these dangers, but nevertheless have close ties within their communities. Businesses and small scale production of mussels and furniture is a major source of livelihoods, the informal economy is flourishing and low wage work is within walking distance. For new immigrants and migrants, Tarlabası is the launching pad towards Europe, but many have lived their entire lives in these winding streets that hang with laundry, attending schools nearby.

The Bilgi University Community center is working to improve community cohesion within this diverse neighbourhood. Providing classes for women and children and advocating for the rights of the people in the community, though Municipal support for the project is very low.

The Beyoğlu Municipality is motivated however to upgrade Tarlabası Caddesi and rid central Istanbul of this eyesore on Istanbul's global city vision.

The Municipality in partnership with TOKI and GAP Construction Company under Çalık Holding Corporation is acting on Law 5366 'Law on the Protection of Deteriorated Historic and Cultural Heritage through Renewal and Re-use' to make a transformation zone in Tarlabası.

The first phase is meant to begin in 2010, and involves the re-design of 9 blocks by 7 architectural firms in Turkey. The rebuilding in traditional style will in fact keep only the semblance of facades and create semi-private inner courtyards for the new residents.

The current owners have been offered compensation for their buildings, and those that do not agree have had their property expropriated by the Municipality - a power granted by Law 3566. Tenants who cannot afford the new units will be provided with the opportunity to purchase smaller apartments in TOKI mass housing located in Kayabasi, on the outskirts of the city. Residents will be removed from their livelihoods in the new housing complex, if in fact they can afford to re-locate.



Proposed Regeneration Plan Site- Tarlabaşı Project Office (2010) http://www.beyoglu.bel.tr/download/tarlabaşı_yenileniyor.pdf



It is evident that the physical infrastructure of Tarlabaşı Caddesi requires upgrading and that the 3-4 story Levantine townhouses should be preserved for their historical value. What should be questioned is the manner that this project proceeds and who benefits from the regeneration project. The projected increase in land value will gentrify the area for middle class service sector workers, shifting the urban poor from their homes. The complexity of the ownership, rentals and housing rights within the Mahalleler needs careful analysis to ensure that those who have already suffered forced migrations do not have to endure forced evictions from their homes.

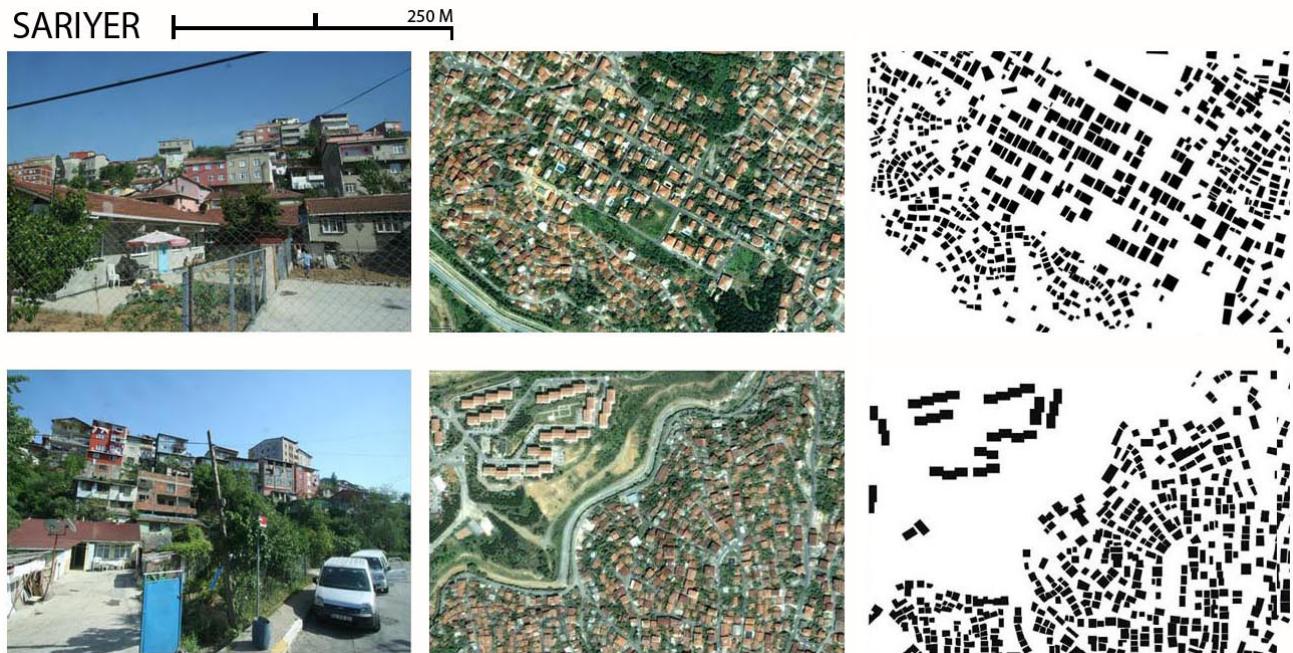
The level of participation from homeowners, tenants and business people has come in a tokenistic manner informing certain stakeholders but is completely absent on the ground. While large posters market the project on İstiklal pedestrian shopping street, the residents of Tarlabaşı have little information.

The tradition of oppression in this inner city area should end with this project, paving the way for positive urban Transformation in Istanbul.

04_Appendix Sariyer



Located on the northern tip of European Istanbul, Sariyer district has a privileged geography, overlooking both The Bosphorus and The Black Sea. Formerly a peripheral area, Sariyer became the site for settlement for many rural Turkish families in the 1950s and 1960s looking for jobs in the city, mostly from Anatolia. Settling on state-owned land, migrants transformed this area from unoccupied land to low density, detached single-storey gecekondus that later expanded both horizontally and vertically. Until a few years ago, these neighbourhoods lacked any form of service provision, which fuelled a self-help mobilization of local efforts and resources to provide a sewer system as well as water and electricity services. As the city was expanding, Sariyer acquired an increasing central location, and thus became an attractive location for luxurious summer homes and beach resorts. As prices kept rising, high-income housing started replacing illegal settlements, especially on coastal areas, creating a socio-spatially fragmented area.



As these settlements were built in organic forms, local planners, architects and contractors played a crucial role in this process. Despite the 'distorted urbanization' characterization of the area, a high level of organization is manifested in the structure of neighbourhoods and streets. Sultan Mehmet, located in the southern part of Sariyer, is one of the district's largest gecekondus, and has been the target of many state initiatives for evictions and redevelopment. It accommodates Armutlu neighbourhood, which was built by DHKP-C, a Turkish Revolutionary leftist organization, later deemed a terrorist organization by the Turkish Directorate General for Security. This mahalle serves as an example and image of resistance for other gecekondus, suffering police raids and armed attacks and staging two death fasts (1996 and 2001) (TAYAD, 2001). The neighborhood survived the attacks solely due to its solidarity networks. In addition to political networks, this mahalle is part of a neighborhood association that compromises 18 mahalleler and allows for collaborative efforts and stronger resistance.

On the district level, IBB designed a redevelopment plan for Sariyer that conflicted the residents' interests. This plan undercounted the real population; hence causing a discrepancy in the population counts rendering it unfeasible, and incompatible with the settlements' reality. Although some mahalleler in Sariyer were given amnesty, many were not reflected in municipality plans and hence any formal response was not possible. The new local government, in place since 2009 however, is a fresh change away from top down planning and aims to create a Sariyer development Action Plan instead of the proposed IBB master plan. However the local body has no legitimacy to do that at this point. The current mayor of Sariyer, Şükrü Genç, a social democrat aims to promote a more bottom up mechanism in the plan formulation process and create a platform for participation in the district. As a member of CHP (Republican People's Party), the new mayor was able to appeal to most residents of Sariyer due to the mainly leftist ideology characterizing the area's political arena. The current stage is premature and does not give any guarantees for a more inclusive and participatory plan. However, given the rapid political turnover of local governments, as well as short-term intentions of plans, residents do not expect concrete outcomes and structural changes in the near future.

05_Appendix Kartal



Situated in the Eastern side of the city on the Marmara Sea, Kartal district is situated between the districts of Sultanbeyli, Sancaktepe and Pendik. It has a population of about 542,000. There are two types of *geçekondu* settlements in Kartal. The first is the land ownership by the district municipality and the other is land owned by the treasury. The neighbourhood on the municipality land was granted tenureship. The households were permitted to sell the houses and/or develop upwards to form mid rises, a typical housing typology in the Istanbul peripheries. The neighbourhoods on the Treasury's land are not able to gain tenureship from the district municipality. On top of this, as of 2002, all pre-titles granted from the Metropolitan Municipality were cancelled. Currently, Kartal is undergoing major deindustrialization and it the new site for a CBD in the Metropolitan Master Plan. Announced in the summer of 2007, the plan incorporates cultural and leisure activities close the water, while the CBD and residential developments are planned further inland, closer to a main transit intersection. This to alleviate certain pressures off Istanbul's current CBD in Levant-Maziak by generating a polycentric coastline, to stimulate economic activity to the East of the Bosphorus with new wealth that would effect adjacent areas for regeneration and to integrate a population of 100,000 residents. However, due to political fractions, the adjacent district mayor, Pendik, and Kartal's mayor do not coordinate activities nor communicate.



The newly elected mayor of Kartal, Dr. Altinok Oz of the CHP Party who replaced the ruling AKP party in 2009, has spoken out against this plan and with his administration and backing of *geçekondu* neighbourhood associations in his constituency. However, like many districts in Istanbul, the discourse is about resistance and demonstrations. Many of the residents, with the help of academics, have expressed their desire to maintain the village style life and upgrade in-situ, with vertical extensions and gardens as well as improved transportation systems.

The developments are held in court at the moment due to a lawsuit against the development plans. Mayor Oz has proposed an alternative plan to the Metropolitan CBD Plan. This proposal incorporates more green spaces and open spaces for the residents. However, when asked about the economic feasibility and potential of his proposed plan, the plan is reliant on maintaining small industries and does not propose an alternative economic plan to the proposed CBD. This has been submitted to the Metropolitan Municipality, but is yet to receive a response.

06_ Interviews



Sunday May 16, 2010 four groups of students went to **Tarlabası and Sarıyer**, to conduct semi-structured interviews from local residents. Each interview-group was based on one representative of the three UDP groups and two representatives from BUDD. Because of this structure, the asked questions during the interviews were a mix of questions each workgroup made up beforehand, based on the different theoretical frameworks.

Guiding questionnaire UDP Group EK

Redistribution

- Where do you work? What do you do? Is it far from here? How do you get there? Do you have a neighborhood clean-up day? Did you build this house by yourself? Did you grow up here?
- Are you able to access services (such as water, electricity, gas, schools, health care) with relative ease? Are these affordable? How do you think these services can be improved?
- Do you feel these provisions have improved or degraded in the past few years? What do you think are the reasons for this improvement/degradation?
- Istanbul is transforming in many ways. What kind of changes in the city would you like to see? What role do you see the various groups within your community playing in the recreating the city according to your own visions?
- Could you describe your typical day?

Inclusion

- Are you aware of the development plans of your area? Are you/why are you concerned about them?
- Who do you talk to about them? Where are you from? Is everyone from the same area?
- What are the formal (and informal) ways in which you currently engage with municipal (or other) authorities? What type of support are you seeking to gain and in what form?
- Do you feel your local government (or muhtar) responds to your needs within the community and Istanbul as a whole? Can you suggest ways in which they may be held accountable?
- Do your shared goals (in the mobilization for rights) increase your sense of belonging within the community? Or do you feel differences within groups affect your collective capacities?
- What is your relationship with your neighbors?
- Do you belong to any neighborhood association? Are there groups within the communities which are less active in neighborhood associations or community platform?
- Do you have adequate space to meet with various groups to discuss your priorities and plans according to your different needs?

Sustainability

- Where do you see this mahalle in the next 10 years? Would you want your children to live here?
- What does Istanbul mean to you? Do you feel part of it?

Participation

- Are you involved with the local Neighborhood Association? How often do you attend? Who initiates meetings within your community and with external actors (such as architects, lawyers, academics, NGOs, etc)?
- How do your community leaders manage meetings or gather your views? Are you able to express your needs and make suggestions without any problems?
- Have previously shared views/information impacted your experience/facilities in your neighborhood?
- Do you have anything you would like your muhtar to know?
- If you could change one thing about Istanbul or your neighborhood, what will it be?

Guiding questionnaire BUDD

Household profile

Name

Age

Gender

Education

What is the size of the family living together in this household?

Place of birth?

Where have you lived up until now?

Years of residence at current location?

Tell us about your typical day. Where do you go? Who do you meet? What do you do? (job/job title, family, hobbies, social activities)

Who supports the household?

Are you owner or tenant in this space?

If owner... Type of deed (tapu or hisse), own house and/or land?

Household spatial questions

What have you improved, renovated or added onto your house?
What are your plans for the future?
Why are you making these changes?
Tell us about your ideal home (rooms, features, location, gated, tenure, neighbors)?
What is your opinion on living in a highrise building? (Have you lived in one?)
What do you like most about living here?
What do you like the least?

Mahalle scale questions

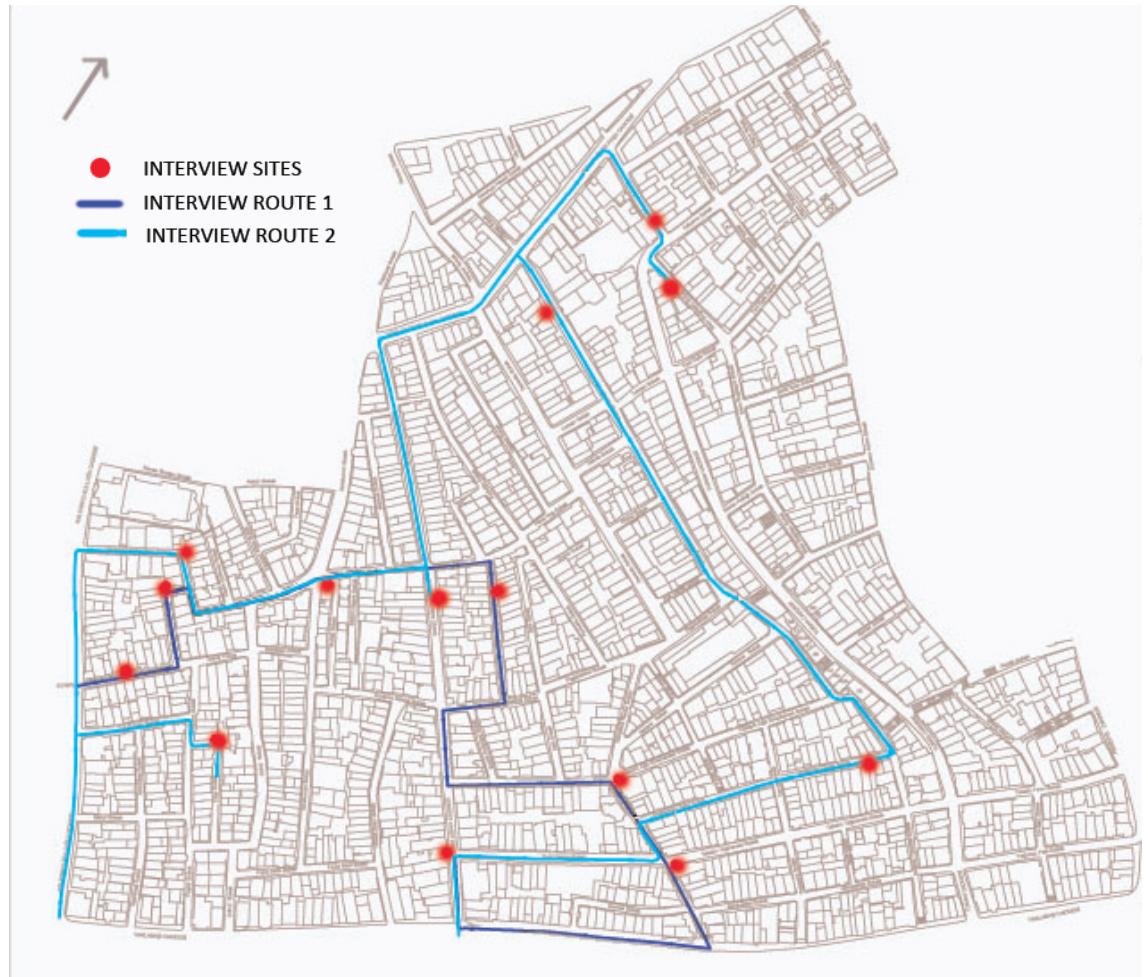
What is your relationship with your neighbors?
How often do you speak with them?
Where do you meet them (domestic, public, parks, coffee shops, community centers)?
Do you make use of communal spaces in the mahalle? Are they adequate for you communal needs?
What is your perception of your mahalle (identity, security, quality of life)?
What do you think are the main problems of the mahalle (services, infrastructure, facilities)?
How long are you planning to stay in this mahalle?

Urban scale questions

Do you feel connected to Istanbul as a city (citizen, outsider)?
Do you feel the city responds to your needs? Explain.
What are positive and negative aspects of Istanbul (space, infrastructure, transportation, environment and social inclusion)?
Where do you travel within the city outside of your mahalle? Specify areas and reasons for travel (get a sense of spatial mobility)?

Development plan questions

Sarıyer: What is your awareness of urban transformation plans for this area? How did you learn about these plans?
Are you involved in any associations that deal with issues of housing (what is your role)?
Tarlabaşı: What is your awareness of the development plan in this area?
If yes: what do you think about the plan? If no: what do you think should change?
What is the one thing you wish you could tell your muhtar? And your mayor? Your prime minister?



Conclusion interviews Tarlabaşı

During the interviews in the field of Tarlabaşı, we focused on the residents' perception of the area and the changes that occurred during the past years or decades, ever since the citizens lived in Tarlabaşı. To get a better sense of the processes of transformation through the eyes and voices of the interviewee's, we asked about positive and negative changes, both within the community and their livelihoods.

The overall feeling of the Tarlabaşı citizens with regards to the current changes that happen within the neighborhood is negative. Notions of insecurity (towards provision of housing, land tenure etc.), crime and lack of influence on decision making processes are three of the major themes that came up through the interviews. The interpretation of the inhabitants of Tarlabaşı on transformation within the community, focuses mostly on the change in social diversity and the future projects in the community. Mostly women mention the flow of immigrants in the past years, and how these new citizens force out former residents. "A negative change she has seen is the flow of new migrants who have come into the area. A result of this shift is that locals leave." (female, 2010, Tarlabaşı) and "changing ethnic composition of migrants" (male, 2010, Tarlabaşı). One woman talked about the fact that the area became "dirty". With this she does not only mean the physical area, but also the inhabitants (referring to Kurds, Greek orthodox etc.). With regards to the physical changes that are planned for the future, not everyone is clear about their content. There is a mutual agreement though, that the current inhabitants will be forced out of their houses to make room for the new developments.

When we asked the people who were interviewed, what kind of changes they would like to see within the area of Tarlabaşı, the reply mostly concerned maintaining the status quo. Most of the respondents like living in Tarlabaşı and do not want to leave.

When grounding the findings of the interviews within the definition of transformation, one has to keep the four criteria of social justice and well-being in mind ((re)distribution, inclusion, sustainability and participation). Within Tarlabaşı it appears that there is a lack of formal participation or interaction between the residents of the community and the local municipality. Although there are informal interactions between for instance the Muhtar and some of the (mostly male) residents, the overall feeling was that not much came out of these participatory methods. "no one will listen" (male, 2010, Tarlabaşı), "The government's aim is not that we stay, so we are not asked" (male, 2010, Tarlabaşı). Also inclusion within Tarlabaşı can be seen as problematic. On an individual and collective basis (well-being), problems arise, mostly with the emphasis on religion and culture. Because Tarlabaşı is an area with several minorities who are often less accepted within society, this makes the area fragmented. On a larger and more structural scale, the inhabitants of Tarlabaşı do not feel part of Istanbul. Although it is a cultural given that people in Turkey first of all refer to the town or village in which they (or their parents) were born, when asked to make the distinction between being part of Istanbul or Tarlabaşı, all the respondents replied to feel part of Tarlabaşı, not Istanbul. "I am a resident of Tarlabaşı, of course! Not of Istanbul." (male, 2010, Tarlabaşı). It appears that Tarlabaşı is almost an island within the Istanbul area, concerned with own issues and problems and without interest towards the rest of the city. Because of this exclusion, there are also no formal connections between the neighborhood (representatives) and the local government. The (re)distribution of services appears to be in order, as is the maintenance, which is provided by the municipality. When it comes down to the distribution of certain goods, such as knowledge sharing and opportunities to oppose, propose and negotiate, there is a lack of possibilities. "For 50 years they say they will improve this area, but nothing ever changes." (male, 2010, Tarlabaşı).

Conclusion interviews Sariyer

The area of Sariyer struggles with, in comparison with Tarlabası, different problems. The differentiation starts with the location of the two communities. Tarlabası is established in the historical center of the city, whereas the area in Sariyer is a typical gecekondu area which was established as a result from the increasing migration to Istanbul. This has an impact on the delivery or distribution of services (“The government did not supply an infrastructure, thus the people built everything themselves.” (male, 2010, Sariyer)) and on the insecurity around land tenure. Through the small interview sample, it appeared that the citizens of Sariyer are aware of the threat of having no land tenure, especially in regards to the future generation plans. And, although most of the respondents have no clear vision of the plans.

Within the community, there appears to be a greater sense of cohesion when comparing the situation with Tarlabası. During the interviews, the citizens hardly mention ethnic or religious differences between the neighbors and other inhabitants. “The people don’t want to leave the neighborhood community; they have each other.” (male, 2010, Sariyer), and, as another interviewee (late 70s) sais, “there is a very strong sense of belonging”, he feels a reluctance to engage with others beyond the community of Sariyer (male, 2010, Sariyer). The strong sense of belonging also follows from the fact that also in Sariyer, the interviewee’s feel part of Sariyer (after their hometown), not of Istanbul. In this observation, there seems to be no difference between the two neighborhoods.

An important way to collaborate within the community, is through the community association, which is highly active in this region. Many of the people that were interviewed were either part of the organization, or a member of the association. Reasons not to be part, can be found in the fact that people do not have time to go to the meetings, because of working hours (women) and lack of daycare for their children. Another reason is that they are renters of the property they live in. A couple was interviewed that did not attend the meetings, because of the previous mentioned reasons. Of all the people that are interviewed, this couple lives the shortest period in Sariyer (6 years). Although they are not part of the association, they are against eviction (couple, 2010, Sariyer), but their objections are not put into a collaborative voice of the community. Half of the interviewed residents of Sariyer claim to be part of a community association (within or outside the area of Sariyer). This number, when comparing it to Tarlabası, is significant different. The level of participation within the community is thus much higher.

From the different interviews two visions towards transformation came through. On the one hand, a part of the interviewee’s did not see any form of transformative change in both their neighborhoods and in Istanbul. They thought everything kept being the same. On the other hand, other respondents wanted changes in their access to services like water and electricity and they wanted to be heard by the local government through their community association.

When we relate this to the conceptual framework of transformation, we see that at the level of distribution of services, such as water, electricity, maintenance etc., improvements can be made. Also the lack of equal distribution of rights to, for example land tenure, can be seen as a negative impact within the theoretical framework. Participation among the community inhabitants and between the community association and the municipality is well presented, although these connections often take place in informal interfaces. The inhabitants do have their doubts about the actual results that come out of these relations. Although one respondent mentioned that he visits other neighborhood associations to collectively ask for rights from the government (male, 2010, Sariyer). Another possible struggle is the short term VS long term vision. The community often want to see results at the short term (like AKP did), while the mayor (CHP) tries to emphasize on the long term projects, to make the changes in the neighborhood more sustainable. On these two scales, there seems to be a different aim, although the means (participation between the community and governmental institutions) seem to be the same.

Overall gaps of information: although the research team has tried to interview more women, it appeared to be more difficult to approach them. Also the lack of youth in our research must be acknowledged. It is unclear how young people view their lives in both Tarlabaşı and Sariyer, and what impact the current transformative changes have on their daily life and future

Sample size

	Male	Female	Total
Tarlabaşı	12	5	17
Sariyer	10	6	16

Age make up

	0 - 20	21 - 40	41 - 60	> 60	unknown
Tarlabaşı	3	7	4	3	0
Sariyer	0	6	5	3	2

Member Community association

	Yes	No	Unknown
Tarlabaşı	0	16	1
Sariyer	7	3	6

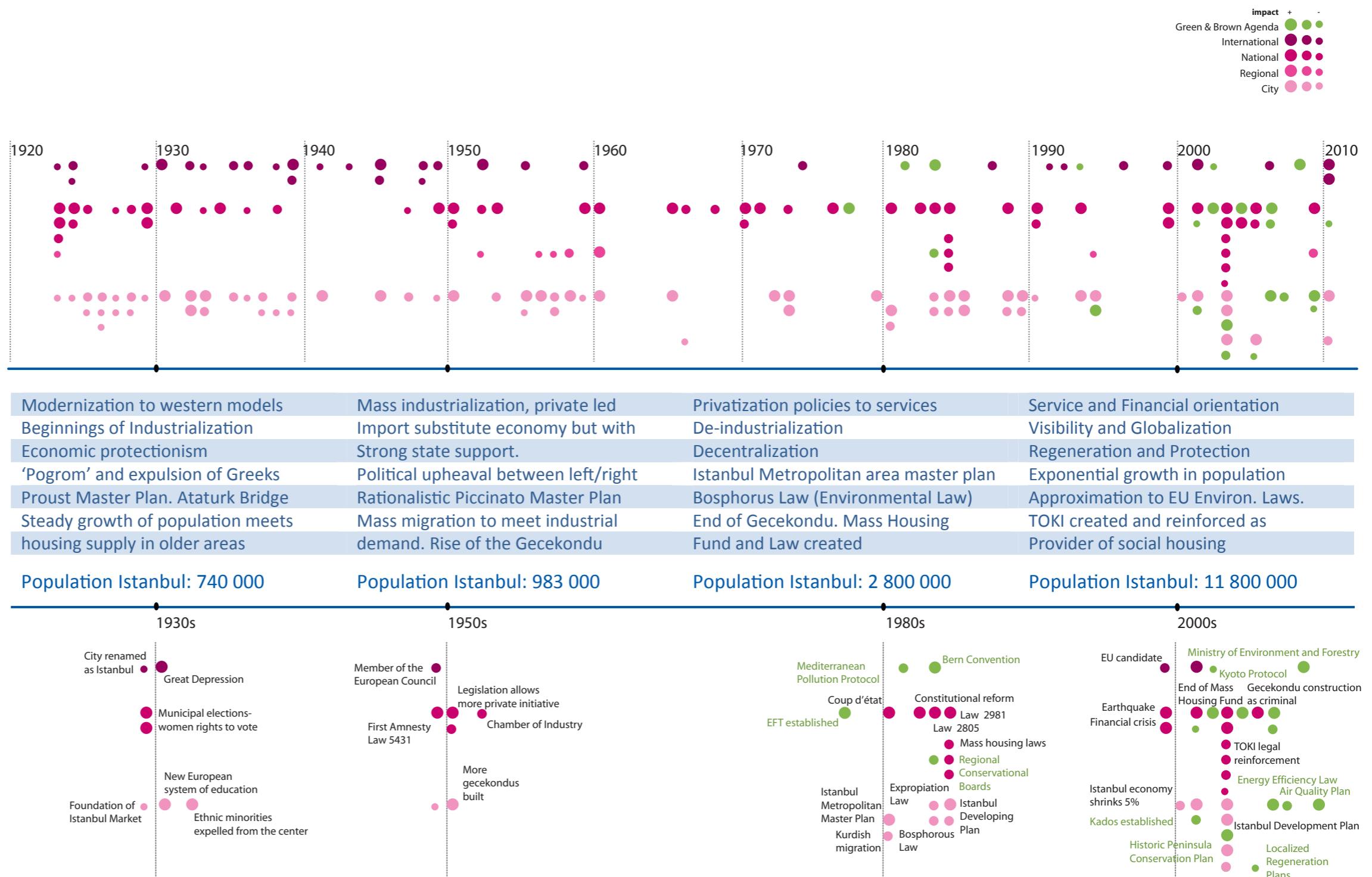
Ethnicity

	Numbers	Percentage
Turkish	6	18,2%
Kurdish	7	21,2%
Other/unknown	20	60,6%

Knowrhometowns

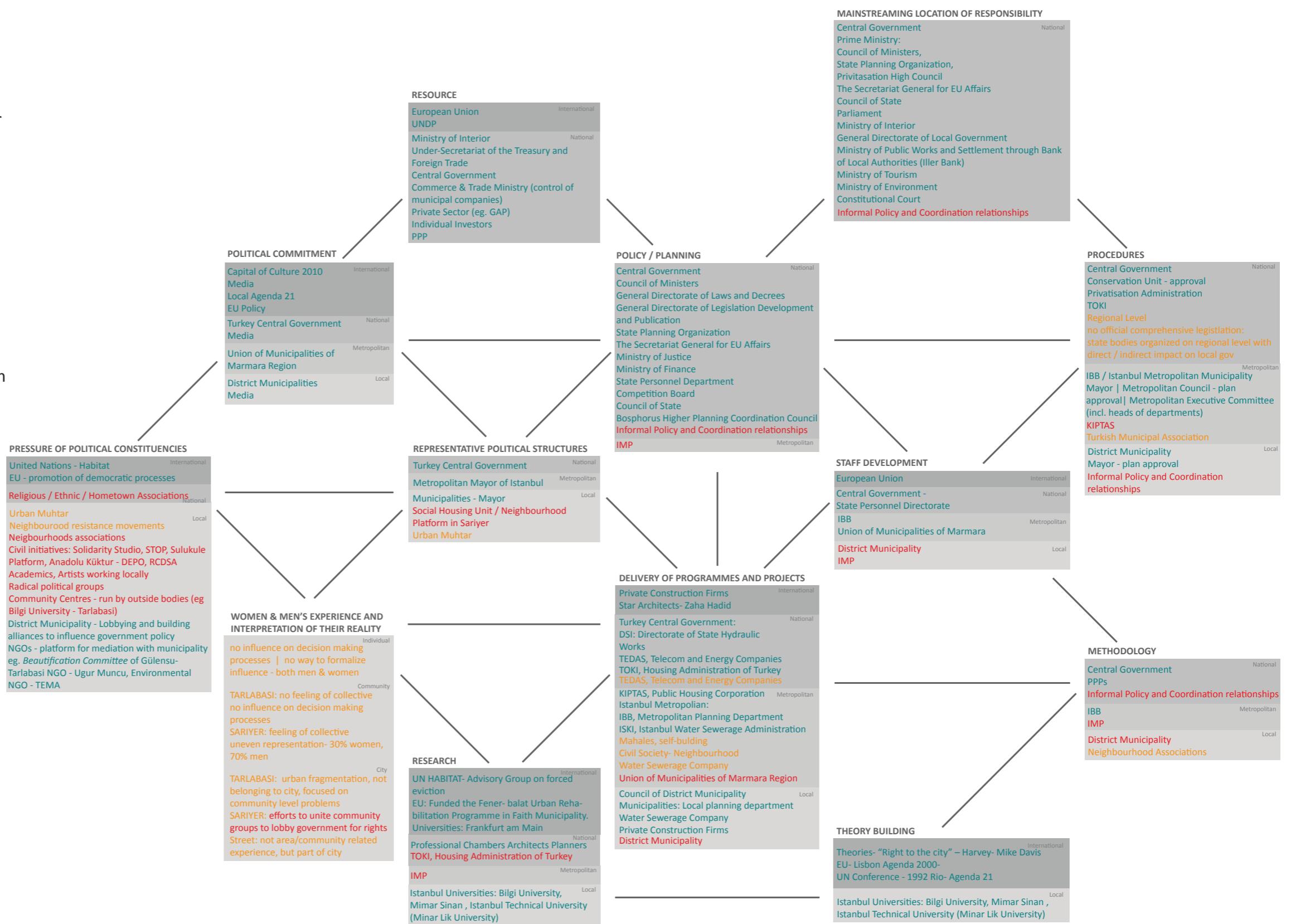
Mardin	Batman	Amasya	Angolia	Mardek	Kaiseri
East Turkey	Armenia	South-East	Anatolia	Gurun	Silvas
Tokat	Resadiye	Malatia			

Timeline of Istanbul's Transformation



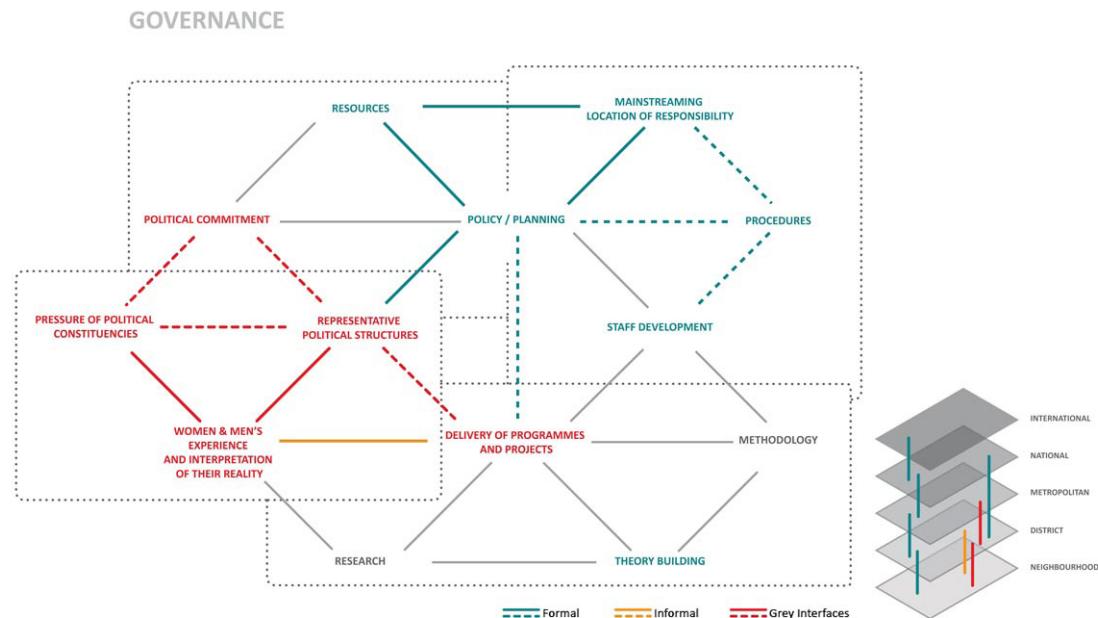
The Web of Institutionalization

The Web of Institutionalization is the platform to express the procedural relationships and mechanisms between and amongst actors in the given political, social and spatial context of Istanbul. Major institutional actors in each procedure have been identified as well as their mechanisms in shaping the urban realm. The multiscaleity of these relations and processes are expressed in the differing shades of grey. Through these procedural relations, power relations emerge, giving light to potential alliances. There are more formal relations built in to the policy and organizational sphere where as there are more informal relations in the citizen sphere activities. However, in every sphere, there is a mix of formal and informal (ie grey) relations at the local level. Through other methodological tools, further exploration of these relations needs to be conducted in order to assess the possible constraints and opportunities of these interfaces.



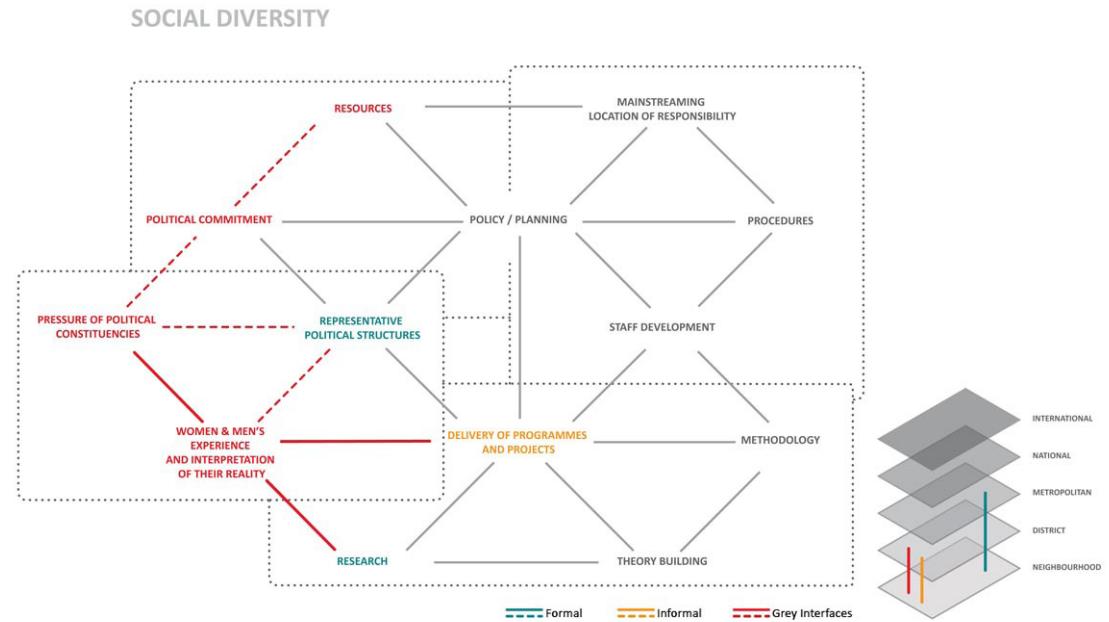
09_ Findings: Web

9.1_Governance Web



GOVERNANCE	
MAIN FINDINGS	
Redistribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> central government failing to meet needs on the ground District municipalities suffer from low capabilities to control internal affairs and weak political ties, resulting in gaps in productivity and distrust of government. A co-existence of civil society organizational structures and municipal regulatory bodies overlap forms an informal delivery subsistence response.
Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> citizens with no decision-making mandate No citizen or neighbourhood organization is recognized with regulatory or executive powers, and their representative roles are not overseen or consistent. Urban Muhtar have no executive powers. Interaction with district governments is therefore not representative.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> public consultation – scaled-down tokenism leading to resistance Regulation on formal participation does not allow for dialogue, knowledge sharing or responsive policy and planning. Procedures minimize citizen mobilization, consolidating top-down power structures in both time and space, ensuring little room for manoeuvre and generating citizen resistance.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> policy informed by organizational structure Institutional structures and regulatory processes form top-down, unresponsive policies and procedures. No evaluation or monitoring is mainstreamed into procedures, indicating that no policy or plan can incorporate other forms of knowledge, needs and generate iterative mechanisms.
CONSTRAINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> grey interfaces and informality help to ossify the status-quo Activities outside regulation are almost mainstreamed into procedures, maintaining conditions of informality and illegality on the ground, removing representative accountability at all scales.
OPPORTUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> multiple interfaces between civil society and local government Needs on the ground are met through bottom-up capacities and horizontal platforms, indicating a strong citizen sphere mobilization and room for monitoring and evaluation in delivery and research.

9.2_Social Diversity and Community Mobilization Web



SOCIAL DIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

MAIN FINDINGS	
Redistribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision and distribution of services provided by community Due to the lack of formal regulations, regarding the delivery of services to (informal) neighborhoods (geçekondu), the local community started to provide these services themselves through informal infrastructures.
Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual and communal voices have no place in institutional framework Because of diversity in the communities, not every individual will feel represented by the Muhtar; community associations currently operate in informal and grey interfaces, because there is no acknowledgement of them in the institutional framework. Due to the exclusion in decision making processes, there is little sense of belonging to Istanbul, focus upon community.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Segregation in possibilities, means and ends Due to the lack of distribution in childcare services, women are often less in the position to participate in community associations. Within the legal framework, participation (as an end) is often used to justify planning decisions, while informal participation between local government and associations (as a means), has no formal implications on decision-making processes.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little collective intent and maintaining status quo Community association often strive to maintain the status quo by resisting changes, without using opportunities to focus on the future. Due to little collective intent between communities, collaborations through community networks are often unsustainable.

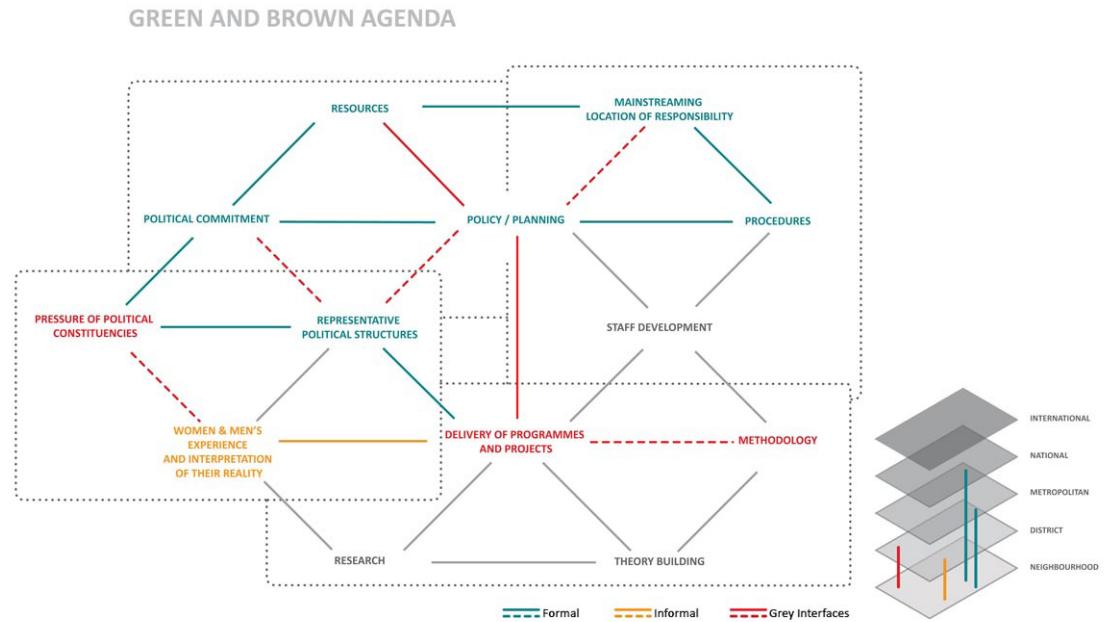
CONSTRAINTS

- Lack of recognition within institutional framework**
Because of the grey interfaces between local government and communities, the lack of recognition of these relations prohibit them from formally pressuring and influencing policy processes.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Strengthening interfaces between citizens and local government through formal platforms**
Using existing formalized platforms (networks, NGO's, CBO's) and progressive leadership between municipalities with a common goal, more influence and acknowledgement can be achieved in the institutional framework.

9.3_Green and Brown Agenda Web



GREEN AND BROWN AGENDA

MAIN FINDINGS	
Redistribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Areas of investment are centred in economic potentialities of particular groups rather than wider environmental protection or social investment. City regeneration results in gentrification and a poor access to green and public spaces to low income population. New forms of segregation such as gated communities are privileged whilst older areas lay derelict wait uncertain regeneration processes. Development of new infrastructure puts pressure over protected areas, (such as in Maltepe and Sarayer).
Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growing awareness of environmental problems. Across the population spectrum though perceived in different ways by different levels. Universities and NGOs, well organized and supported by international bodies are in the forefront of the issue.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil society is absent from participate or occasionally only through consultancy. Participation is understood solely with private level sector. Contestation for environmental issues comes mainly from University and NGO. There are no mechanisms to include community participation at the decision-making level for environmental issues. Policy formulation follows a top-down direction from national to metropolitan through regulation and implementation.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies are often inconsistency, mixing notion of cost-recovery and productivity with environmental protection. A great deal of mitigation policies (earthquake, regeneration, heritage)are formulated and used arbitrarily, applied where the potential for economical impact can exert more influence

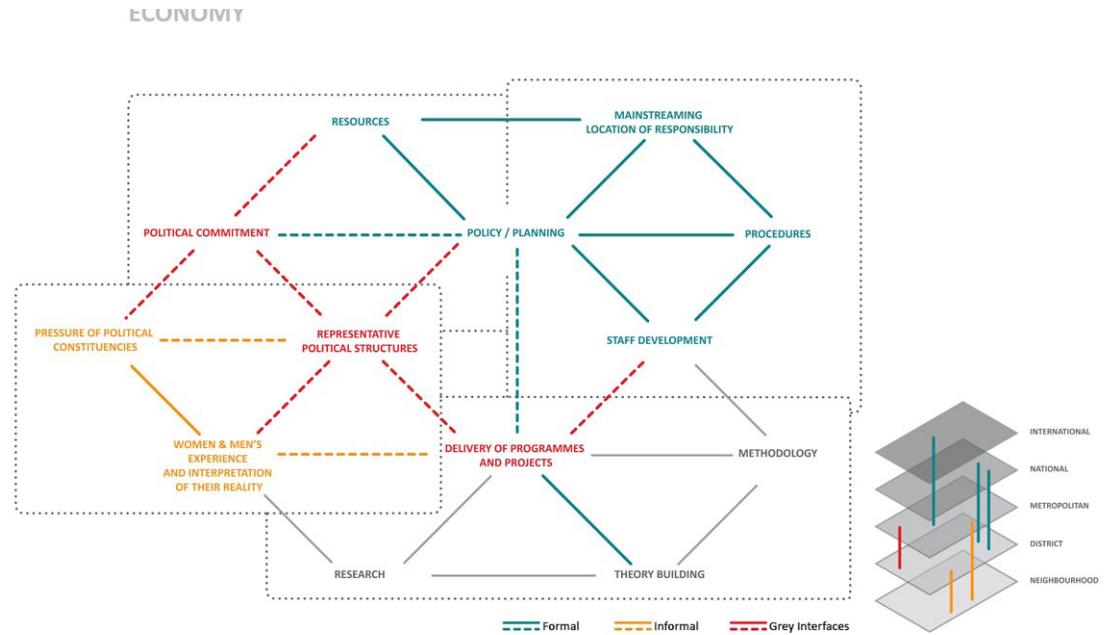
CONSTRAINTS

- Top-down approach from national level policies limiting manoeuvre of metropolitan and district levels and resisting to participation from NGOs and civil society. Narrow interpretations of environmental issues satisfy private interests and create disjunctions between needs and deliveries.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Level of awareness on environmental issues across allows the possibility to create bridges between communities interests in issues of housing with NGOs with issues of environment by re-defining 'environment' and join forces in lobbying moving away from partisan discourse in communities towards a political discourse based on 'environment' and 'sustainability' allowing the participation of a wider political spectrum and creating room for manoeuvre.

9.4_Urban Economy

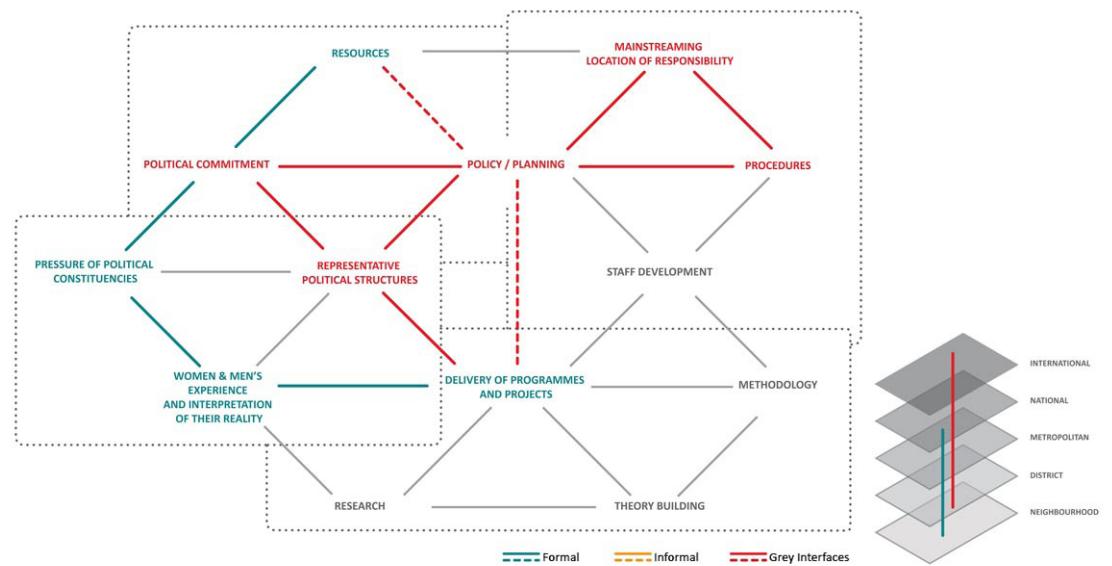


URBAN ECONOMY

MAIN FINDINGS	
Redistribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Privatization of land and services has fostered inequality Switch from use value to exchange value of land, privatization of health care and education. Neo-liberal policy formulation driven by market agendas in a bid for global city objectives have created greater cleavages of inequality.
Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> De-Industrialization has increased unemployment and greater dependence on informal sector The shift away from industrialisation and manufacturing towards service sector led economy has left many unskilled labourers unemployed. The continued migration has further encouraged employment in the informal sector accounting for 30% of Istanbul's economy. Sweatshop producers are intrinsically linked to global markets yet workers have no protection and are often exploited and put in dangerous working environments.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilization in Opposition With the market and private developers leading the decision making process there is little room for direct involvement from citizens. Participation involves information sharing at best from developers and planners. Mahalle involvement comes in resistance to projects and policies but has no official mechanism to impact transformative change.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased consumerism and individualism The emerging middle class is driving the housing market and encouraging peripheral growth and sprawl over protected lands. This in turn has also created greater automobile dependence and subsequent congestion and pollution.
CONSTRAINTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grey interfaces and informality help to maintain the status-quo There is no accountability mechanism to oversee delivery of the planning and policy interventions. Market driven economy does not allow for local responses or solutions. 	
OPPORTUNITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple interface types in civil society and local government Research and theory building from academic institutions should play a stronger role to influence policy and planning reflective of Men and Women's reflective interpretation of reality. 	

9.5_Land and Built Environment, Private Sector

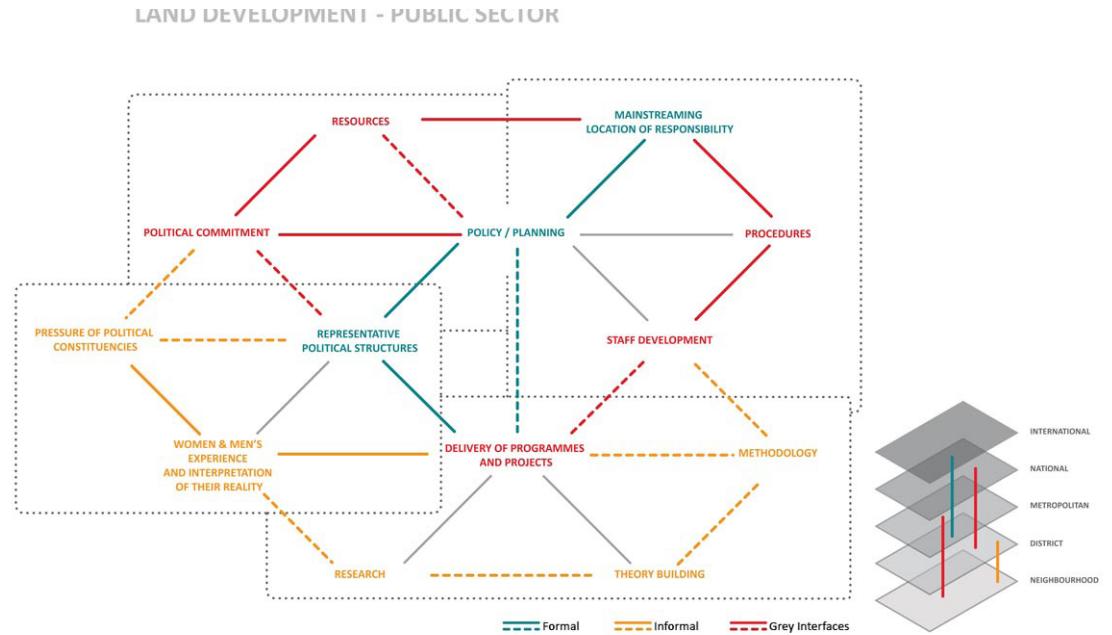
LAND DEVELOPMENT - PRIVATE SECTOR



LAND AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT – PRIVATE SECTOR

MAIN FINDINGS	
Redistribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redistribution through market forces Renewed attention of market forces towards regeneration of inner city areas for lucrative profits through the exploitation of the rent gap (Uzun, 2003), thus displacing informal settlements to the peripheries, affecting their livelihoods and social networks, and encroaching on public space. Redistribution is happening without any entitlements to subsidies for housing, hence increasing vulnerability of displaced populations.
Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe socio-spatial fragmentation Clear boundaries in the spatial fabric of the city.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of citizen participation in private sector developments Weak channels of communication between the two actors.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Earthquake vulnerability and forest preservation being used as major drivers of redevelopment of city fabric.
CONSTRAINTS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal links between citizens and formal elements Women and men's experience element is disconnected from the representative political structures; hence citizens have no direct influence on the policy or organizational sphere in the private production of the built environment.
OPPORTUNITIES	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity of citizens in self-help provision of services Formal axis is weakened by the interface of political commitment, which has the capacity to influence the policy/planning element of the web.

9.6_Land and Built Environment, Public Sector



LAND AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT – PUBLIC SECTOR

MAIN FINDINGS	
Redistribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-help and informal provision of services Service provision to informal settlements through self-help and informal channels that lie outside the executive mandate of the representative political structure
Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe socio-spatial fragmentation Ethnic tensions in displacement projects.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation only at the final stages The level of participation in the planning procedure remains at plan finalization stage rather than preparation.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tensions between the visions of transformation harboured by state and civil society Environmental: Private developments violate building byelaws and planning norms affecting the environment and jeopardizing existing settlements, for example, breaching height restrictions along the stretch of the Bosphorus thus having severe negative environmental impacts by blocking the air cleansing effect of the winds from the Bosphorus and other river areas (National Turk, 2010)

CONSTRAINTS

- Weak impact of citizens on policy and planning**
The formal axis that extends through the 4 spheres creates a barrier for the citizen sphere to influence the other spheres, disconnecting the flow. The routes through which the women and men's experiences can affect the policies mainly constitute interactions with formal channels, thus creating barriers.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Delivery sphere as a potential link between citizens and policy**
The delivery sphere presents an opportunity for dialogue with the formal axis in the other 3 spheres. Interfaces are dominant in the policy sphere and form a potential link between citizens and policy-making bodies.

10_ Environmental Agenda: Earthquake

Environmental | Sustainable Building Typologies

Culturally Appropriate Typologies

"We shape our buildings, there- after they shape us" (Winston Churchill, Doxiadis, 1968, 25).

Under a mutually beneficial agreement with the government, villagers came to Istanbul to work seasonally in the factories while maintaining a house in the countryside at farms. They built low-rise homes on the slopes and hilltops affording them magnificent views and proximity to employment in the valleys. With no rent to pay and food costs low from farm harvests and garden plots, the gecekondus were able to support themselves and maintain a decent lifestyle. They struggled for services and schools and managed their communities with local leadership.

As migration has increased, the gecekondus have densified in the city center. Often referred to as 'distorted urbanism' with haphazard laneways and mixed construction styles and materials, the post-gecekondus reflect the diversity within them. De-industrialization has prompted informal manufacturing and sweatshops to appear, contributing to both the local and global economy and creating a new middle class

Under neo-liberalist policies of free market de-regularization, land in Istanbul has shifted from use value, to exchange value. The prime real estate of these settlements has led to a fierce campaign by developers and Turkey's Mass Housing Agency TOKI to bulldoze the land and build gated communities for the rich and tower blocks on the outskirts for the poor, of seemingly similar quality.

Millions of residents in Istanbul's gecekondus and post gecekondus are being forcibly evicted and left with no choice but to move to TOKI high rise mass housing units. On the periphery of the city, these towers are removed from the livelihoods that the urban poor rely on. Access to employment is low and the costs of transportation to the center are not manageable.

The gecekondus people are being forced to uproot their lives, where many have close community ties and sense of belonging. High rise living cannot accommodate the village lifestyle that can be seen in the gecekondus, and satisfaction rates with the units are very low. The TOKI units are smaller, do not allow space for gardens and individuals are often burdened with unexpected costs for rent, food and often back taxes on previous homes.

The forced evictions bring with them a forced shift in culture and way of life. Gentrification of the city has meant that residents must adapt to dense tower block lifestyles that are automobile dependant and reliant on purchased food goods. The generations that shaped Istanbul's diverse landscape are in turn having their lives re-shaped by TOKI.

Earthquake Resistant Typologies

The high risk of another massive earthquake in Istanbul has prompted reforms and restrictions for building codes. A new Law under proposal would red line areas of the city for demolition, modernizing and ‘transforming’ the urban realm. With over 80% of residential and commercial space considered as ‘distorted urbanism’ the implications for residents of Istanbul is significant and profiting by developers enormous. Individuals who receive notice of their building’s impending destruction will be offered TOKI mass housing on the outskirts of the city if they do not have any other property. These tower blocks are smaller, removed from livelihoods and are costly.

Moreover, the tower block typology has itself been proven as unsafe in earthquake resistance. The low-cost construction has diminished the quality of the structures Kazaz, 2005), while many others have been built in inappropriate places, as seen in Maltepe. The 1999 earthquake demonstrated that high rise buildings were further at risk than traditional modes of Ottoman construction. Mustafa Erdik (2000) in his analysis of the Koceli and Duzce Turkey earthquakes (August - November 1999) demonstrated that “new buildings appeared more vulnerable than older ones, which may also be explained by a change in building typologies”.

Langenback (2000) advocates for learning from traditional vernacular to improve the housing stock while maintaining cultural identities. By not consulting local knowledge and cutting corners on costs, TOKI has put people at undue risk. A more suitable typology must be found that meets the needs of the local population and in turn keeps them safe from this imminent threat.

11_ Environmental Agenda: Conferences

	Date	Name	City/Country	Host	Description	Website
1	22 – 25 June 2010	International Conference on Sustainable Social and Human Development	Sudbury, Ontario, Canada	Ontario International Development Agency (OIDA) & International Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Law (ICIRL)	The Summer Congress 2010 aims to exchange and share all stakeholders' experiences and research results about all aspects of Sustainable Human and Social Development, good governance, human rights, ethics, and discuss the practical challenges encountered and the solutions adopted.	www.ontariointernational.org
2	20 – 22 July 2010	International Conference on Sustainable Community Development 2010	Putrajaya, Malaysia	Universiti Malaysia Putra	The conference provides an international platform for researchers, graduate students and practitioners in the field of sustainable development to share information and accomplishments, to discover the challenges of the future, and to offer ideas for advance practices that meets the needs of the present and simultaneously recognizing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.	www.ipgas.upm.edu.my/icosd2010
3	19 – 20 August 2010	International Unity in Diversity Conference	Townsville, Queensland, Australia	Townsville Intercultural Centre	The conference seeks to expand issues related to the global economic crisis, migrant settlement, mental health, education, skills and employment and youth issues, to encompass challenges in Aged Care, Disability and Indigenous Economic empowerment.	www.unityindiversityconference.com
4	1 – 3 September 2010	Climate Change: Health and Ecology	Uppsala, Sweden	National Veterinary Uppsala, Sweden	An international conference linking research from different branches of research. Research fields include physiology, ecology and evolution, veterinary and human medicine and wild-life conservation.	tiny.cc/SVA_Climate2010
5	19 – 21 November 2010	2010 Pilot International Conference on Global Sustainable Development, Theme: Climate Change, A Challenge to Businesses in the 21st Century	Kampala, East Africa, Uganda	Pilot International	An international conference linking research from different branches of research. Research fields include physiology, ecology and evolution, veterinary and human medicine and wild-life conservation.	www.pilot-int.org
6	25 – 26 November 2010	Gender, Sustainability & Climate Change	Linköping, Sweden	Linköping University	The Gender, Sustainability and Climate Change symposia aims at problematizing current positions and in developing knowledge about the gendered processes and motivations regarding societal climate change adaptation and mitigation, with a special focus on first world settings.	www.liu.se/genusforum

Appendix 11_ Environmental Agenda: Conferences

	Date	Name	City/Country	Host	Description	Website
7	5 – 7 December 2010	2nd International Conference on Climate Change & Sustainable Management of Natural Resources	Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, India	ITM Universe	This Conference will examine evidences and causes of climate change (natural & anthropogenic). Impact of climate change on humans and ecosystems. Mitigation of climate change through technological, social, ethical and political responses.	www.itmuniverse.in
8	6 – 9 December 2010	ACES: A Community on Ecosystem Services	Phoenix, Arizona, United States	ACES	ACES, brings together government, non-governmental organization, academia, tribal, and private sector leaders to advance the use of ecosystem services and related science in conservation, restoration, resource management, and decisions.	www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aces
9	6 – 8 December 2010	Greenage	Istanbul, Turkey	MSFAU Faculty of Architecture (Mimar University)	The symposium aims to raise consciousness by highlighting green ecological solutions in various scales; from built environment to natural environment, from society to individual. Therefore the new step in recognized as GREEN AGE.	greenage.msgsu.edu.tr
10	15 – 17 December 2010	First International Conference on Sustainable Urbanization (ICSU)	Hong Kong, Hong Kong	Faculty of Construction and Land Use (FCLU) of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	This conference series is launched to provide an international forum for the international scientific/engineering community to examine these challenges and to find effective solutions to ensure a sustainable process of urbanization and sustainable operation and management of urbanized areas.	www.polu.edu.hk/fclu/ICSU2010
11	12 – 14 July 2010	Sustainable Development and Planning 2011	New Forest, United Kingdom	Wessex Institute of Technology	The conference addresses the subject of regional development in an integrated way as well as in accordance with the principles of sustainability.	www.wessex.ac.uk/11-conferences

12_ Environmental Agenda: Article Extract

Gülmez, N. and Uraz, T., (2007) “**Vernacular Urban Fabric as a Source of Inspiration for Contemporary Sustainable Urban Environments: Mardin and the case of ‘Mungan House’**” in

W15 – Housing and Urban Sustainability. Sustainable Urban Areas International Conference, Rotterdam

Introduction

For about a few decades we have been in the process of comprehending what risks our world and the living beings are faced with stemming from the global heating and exhausting reserves of fossil energy. According to Myerson (2004), ecology provides the new great narrative of modernity. He underlines Lyotard’s contrasting point of view that ‘*the great narrative*’ became unsuccessful in terms of presenting and justifying a modern world in a holistic way; yet, there is a new uniting force, regarding a great progress of science, which undoubtedly is dominating everyday life. This new critical position conveys itself in a different way: it is scattered, has no center, immanent to the general going, possessing the potential to shape the future developments.

One important source of energy consumption is definitely the built environment, and architecture is one of the most questioned disciplines that might provide a vast contribution to this struggle of the world. ‘Sustainability’ as a well known concept is yet an undeniable component of any built environment. In order to achieve sustainable architecture, cultural and ecological contexts should be considered in a complementary relationship. Cultural context, implies a sound respect to the traditional knowledge of place, technology and local materials. Ecological context implies the recycling of energy either by the use of passive energy or renewable energy. It also requires harmony with local economies and data supporting biological diversity (Çalgüner, 2003).

In his article titled ‘Ecological Design: A New Critique’ Madge (1997) mentions the ideological divisions going back to the historical roots of the environmental movement in the late 60’s and early 70’s. Basically, whether called “shallow” versus “deep” in 1970’s and 1980’s, or “light green” versus “dark green” in the mid-to-late 1980’s the main difference between them was that, the former preferred modifying existing institutions and practices whilst, the latter advocated *a radical rejection of the status quo, a critique of paradigm of modern industrial society*. According to Madge (1997), today one very influential way of designating these different strands is Timothy O’Riordan’s classification of “technocentric” and “ecocentric”. Technocentric mode depends on the belief in science and high technology expected to manage the environment for the benefit of present and future generations. It is also based on the ideology of progress, efficiency, rationality and control. On the other hand, ecocentric mode is based on bioethics and a deep respect for nature that is in favor of low-impact technology and concerned with the environmental impact of large scale industrial development and rampant economic growth. It emphasizes morally and ecologically sound alternatives.

We believe that, 21st century is not the age of dealing with dualities in order to understand or explain the world. Moreover, ecocentric attitude and its bounded values might also be supported with science and technology. Although the concept of sustainability has recently come to the fore again, apparently it is not new as a world view. According to Oktay (2002), the examples of vernacular architecture developed in different regions of the world addressing the practical needs and originating from the topographic and climatic conditions shall be considered as the genesis of environmental sensitivity.

Response to Climatic Conditions / Recycling Energy

According to Sayigh and Marafia (1998) “*the strength of vernacular architecture is that it blends buildings into various settings so that there is a natural harmony between climate, architecture and people*” (Sayigh and Marafia, 1998:25). One important feature of vernacular architecture is its continuity. This feature helps to cope with changes through changing or in other words adaptation. In fact, vernacular buildings make use of the internal dynamics of cycling and therefore continuous heat changes of the days and nights or winters and summers cycle accordingly. For instance, in the micro-climate of Mardin region, with hot and dry summers and big temperature changes between day and night, thick walls act as a heat reservoir in addition to their insulating capacities. During the hot day, the heat flow from the exterior due to the solar radiation to the inside is retarded and stored part of the heat is released during the cooler hours especially at night. Consequently temperature change inside the building is minimized. On the other hand, the heating requirements are reduced in winter time, because the heat stored in the walls is radiated during the night (Sayigh and Marafia, 1998).

Solar radiation control and ventilation are two important aspects that vernacular house form takes into account. Mardin town layout provides a sort of thermal comfort since the streets are very narrow and the ascending walls of houses on both sides create shady spaces against sun. Meanwhile those walls also provide partial shadows for the courtyards and terraces. In urban scale ‘*abbaras*’ which means covered streets provide extra cooling and protection from the sun during the day time which can also be seen in the house scale as well (See Fig 11). Mungan house contains long, dark and cool corridors as a passage way from the entrance door to the terrace evoking the impression of covered streets, abbaras. One of them takes you from the entrance II (E II) to the terrace (T I) and entrance IV (E IV) directly opens to an abbara like corridor and ends with the terrace (T2) at the same level. (fig.10c, 10d).

Limestone (Kalker Stone), the main construction material of vernacular Mardin Houses as well as Mungan House has a yellowish light colour that reflects the radiation. The exterior openings are mostly facing south where it is easier to control the undesired summer sun and let the desired winter sun in. They are few and small in size, the small openings located at the top of larger windows of Mungan House act as natural ventilators helping the atmosphere retain its coolness (Balamir & Uraz 2004).

Although the climate is not the only determinant of the house form, the density of courtyard houses in hot climates shows the effective role of the climate regarding the formation of this house typology. According to Sayigh and Marafia (1998), courtyards moderate the climatic extremes in many ways.

- The cool air of the summer night is kept undisturbed for many hours
- The rooms draw daylight and cool air from the courtyard
- It enhances ventilation and filter dust.
- It provides a comfortable outdoor space to enjoy with its gentle microclimate.

The functioning of the introverted courtyard might be investigated in three phases by Sayigh and Marafia (1998). In the first phase, cool air descends into the courtyard and into surrounding rooms during the night. The structure even the furniture are cooled and remain so until late afternoon. During the second phase, at midday, the sun strokes the courtyard floor directly. Some of the cool air begins to rise and also leaks out of the surrounding rooms providing extra comfort in terms of convective currents. During the last phrase, by late afternoon, the courtyard floor and interior rooms become warmer. Most of the trapped cool air spills out by sunset. However after sunset the air temperature falls rapidly and cool air begins to descend into the courtyard completing the cycle. In Mardin case however, terraces as well help to moderate the climatic extremes. Although they receive solar radiation throughout the day, since they are open to the evening breeze coming from Mesopotamia, they provide the maximum comfort after hot summer sunsets. (See Fig. 12) In the evenings, the custom of watering the terrace floor also helps to facilitate heat loss from the terrace floor by evaporation, and increases the relative humidity for a short time. Therefore wooden platforms called ‘thrones’ placed on terraces have been the most appreciated sleeping spot (Uraz, 2005).



Fig.12. Terrace 2 (T2) and terrace 3 (T3) of Mungan House
Mardin City Guide: p. 45, published by Mardin Culture,
Tourism and Advertising Committee financed by EU.

Coch (1998) uses the word “*intermediate spaces*” to mean those areas which do not strictly belong to the interior or the exterior of the building. (Coch,1998:73). Courtyards, porticos, balconies, terraces, galleries, vestibules or porches are examples of this type of space. All these spaces fulfill important climatic functions, moreover they have a flexible and utilitarian aspect which makes them multi-purpose areas for any activity that does not have its particular space within the building. It is already underlined above, that Uraz (2005) pointed out a basically similar spatial concept, with the existence of the ‘intermediary spaces’ domestic space order gains a sound socio-cultural meaning and more ‘territorial’ significance throughout.

As mentioned before Mardin Houses have both courtyards on the ground floor and terraces on the upper floors; Mungan House as well has three courtyards and four terraces. (See Fig. 10). Courtyards are surrounded by rooms, arcades, aiwans and high walls. Arcades and aiwans mediate between inside and outside. Especially aiwans act as open rooms providing cool environments during hot summers. When the mansion was entirely occupied by the extended –Mungan- family- those courtyards probably were used rotationally considering seasons and hours of the day by different members of the family for different purposes (See Fig. 13).

Conclusion

Filippi (2005) discusses some possible strategies that could contribute in enhancing a widely accessible and long-range preservation and valorization process of cultural heritage, and in promoting sustainable urban development. He examines three strategies: learning from tradition, describing to preserve and dealing with living heritage. As a way of learning from tradition, Filippi (2005) suggests that, even though local materials,- the essence of vernacular built heritage- once used might not be so cheap or efficient today, it is necessary to enquire on their present use, compatibility with the requirements of modern living and to enhance them. The second strategy –describing to preserve-, implies to understand how a vernacular building is constructed, how it works so that the inhabitants and decision-makers appreciate its inherent qualities and take benefit from its environmental and economic values. Lastly, participatory methods especially addressing local communities and awareness-raising methods should be developed in terms of dealing with living heritage.

Similarly, Vellinga (2005) accentuates that, critically examining the possibilities of implementing local vernacular can be useful for future. Cross-cultural and interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration might give way to action-oriented movements calling for modern vernacular that searches for a balance between vernacular methods & resources and modern, sometimes innovative technologies (Vellinga, 2005:4). There are also efforts in Turkey that aim to ease the production of local materials by making use of technology hence uniting the positive effect of tradition on health and availability, with the ease of application (Ayaz, 2002). But unfortunately, they are limited within the academic field and could not yet find the opportunity of application on vernacular sites including Mardin. On the other hand, by the help of Non Governmental Organizations the local awareness appreciating the values of the old fabric is gradually developing. More and more families who previously migrated from the city want to be back or at least to reestablish their ties with their home town. Restoration of the old houses which have been left behind become the first step for the ‘going back home’ project.

plan order and more open upper level ones. Mungan House is an appropriate example of such typology with its gradual construction process serving to the changing and increasing needs of its inhabitants and with its spatial flexibility adapting new lifestyles which display a transition from extended families to nuclear ones. The size of each living unit that a family accommodates varies, moreover each unit has an access to a semi-open space that helps to keep the relationship between common spaces either by visual communication or common use. Definitely, Mungan House has a vast potential of giving certain clues -in terms of natural and cultural sustainability as an example of a multi-storey living pattern -for apartment blocks augmenting day by day just next to the old city.

Especially concerning the transition zone between the old and the new city which still has the potential of making use of the slope, at least the lessons taken from the plan typology and spatial organization of vernacular Mardin houses might be taken into consideration. A courtyard house, could either be a small shelter for the poor in dense settlements without functional differentiation among spaces or could be turned out to a huge noble mansion full of details with strong spatial thresholds, serving to comparably clear functional specifications that implies a kind of territorial depth which helps inhabitants to adjust their levels of privacy better whenever it is needed.