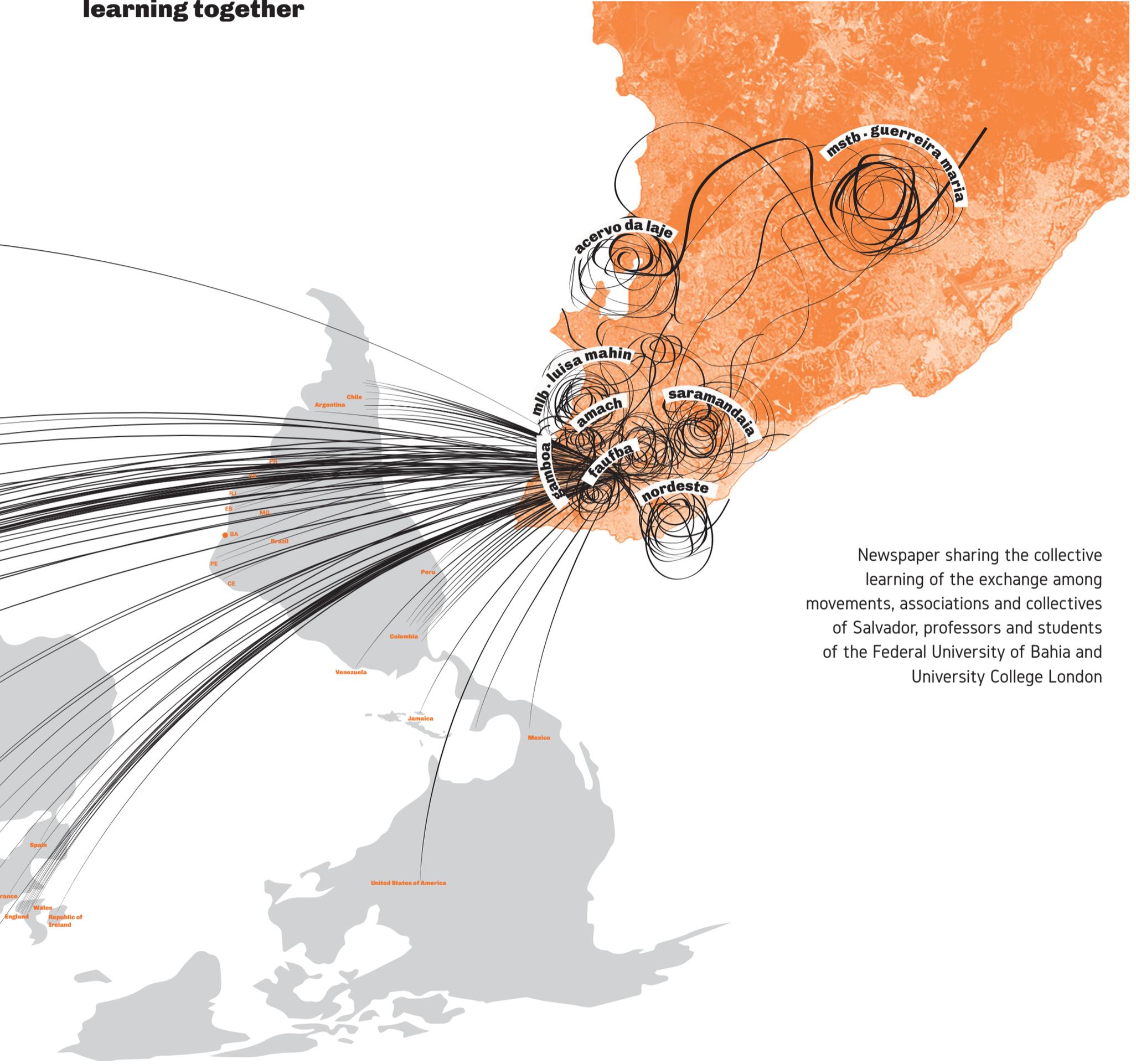


# COMMON CITY

learning together



Newspaper sharing the collective learning of the exchange among movements, associations and collectives of Salvador, professors and students of the Federal University of Bahia and University College London

- OREIA DO SUL 1
- MALDIVIA 1
- MALASIA 1
- HONGKONG 150+
- BRASIL 27
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# Building a plural and democratic city

Since the 1960s, discussions about the city have gained prominence. The city is an unequal space, economic and urban interests often overlap with the demands and needs of the majority of its inhabitants. A claim for various rights, superimposed and overlapping, erupts and persists: decent and well-located housing, access to services and mobility systems, freedom of imagination, creation and appropriation, and full participation in decision-making processes.

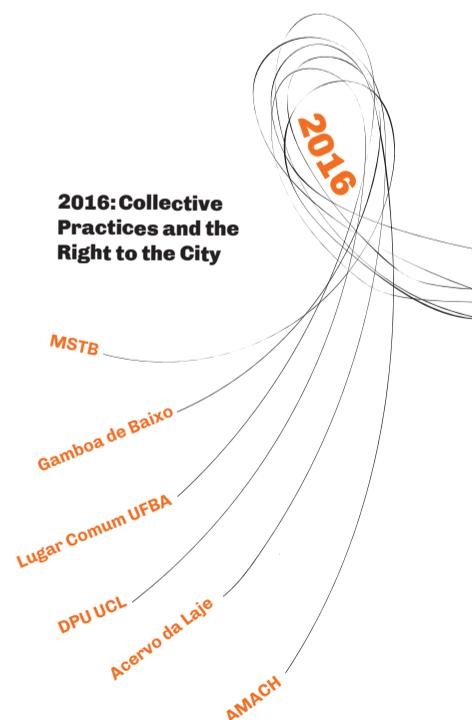
This is the theme that brings together the Research Group Lugar Comum of the Postgraduate Program of the Faculty of Architecture of the Universidade Federal de Bahia (FAUFBA), the team of The Bartlett Development Planning Unit, University College London, and members of social collectives, associations and movements of Salvador from 28th April until 10th May 2019. This the fourth edition of the exchange, which began in 2016, and has already mobilised more than 200 students and 20 teachers, Brazilian and foreign, as well as leaders and residents of seven communities and neighbourhoods of Salvador: Centro Histórico/AMACH, Plataforma/Acervo da Laje, Gamboa/Associação de Moradores, Ocupação Guerreira Maria Felipa/MSTB, Saramandaia/Arte Consciente, Nordeste de Amaralina/Associação de Moradores, Ocupação Luisa Mahin/MLB. In London, residents of Elephant and Castle, King's Cross, Stratford, Deptford, as well as networks such as Just Space, CitizensUK and social activists were involved.

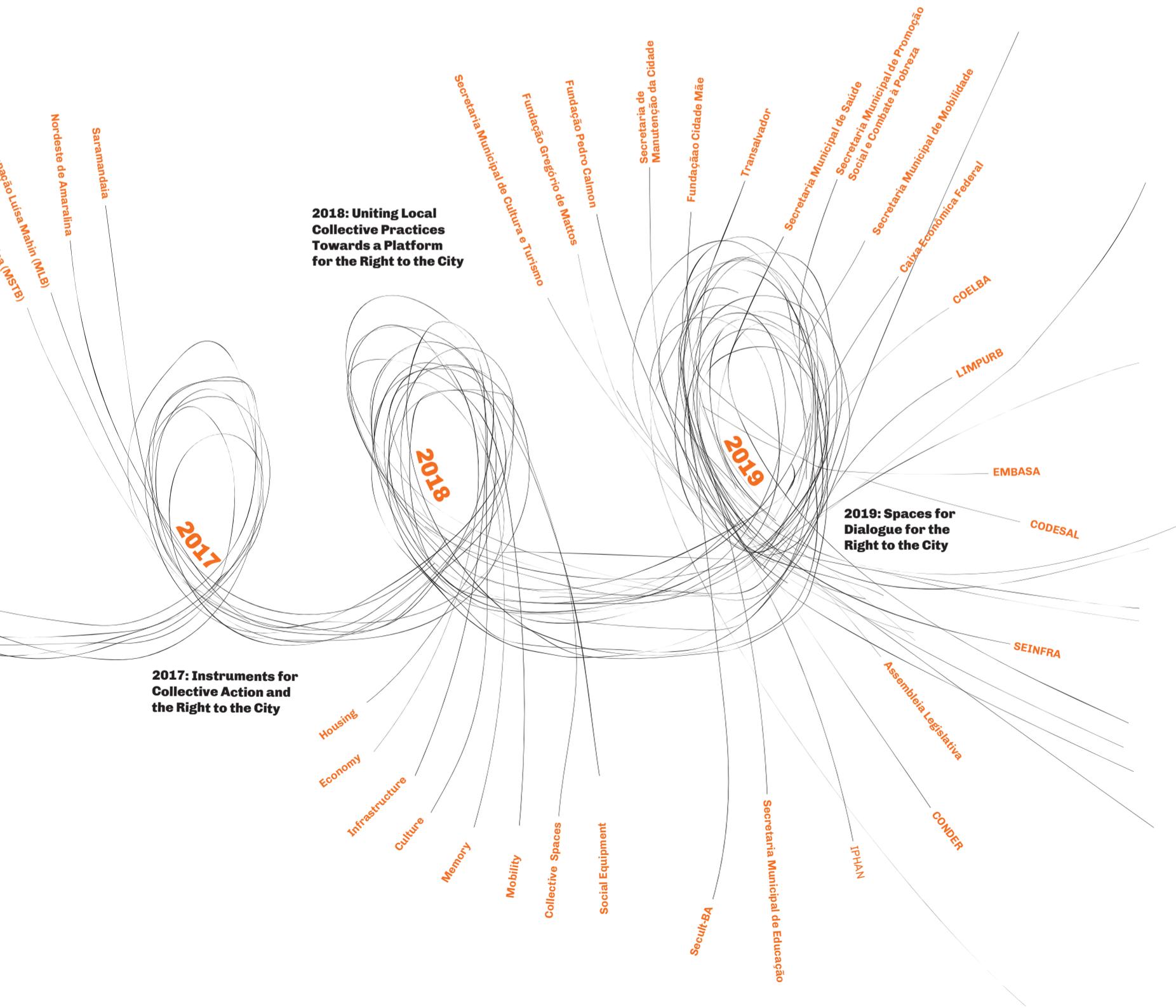
Activities and reflections of each experience are recorded annually in a bilingual publication. In 2019, the program included Spaces of Dialogues with public and social agents in the participating communities to discuss four themes listed as priorities: housing and popular economy; dignified residence; democratic management of

social facilities and collective spaces; access to quality infrastructure; inclusive urban mobility; and recognition of cultural practices. This newspaper systematises and shares the main issues addressed during the field visits and the spaces of dialogue.

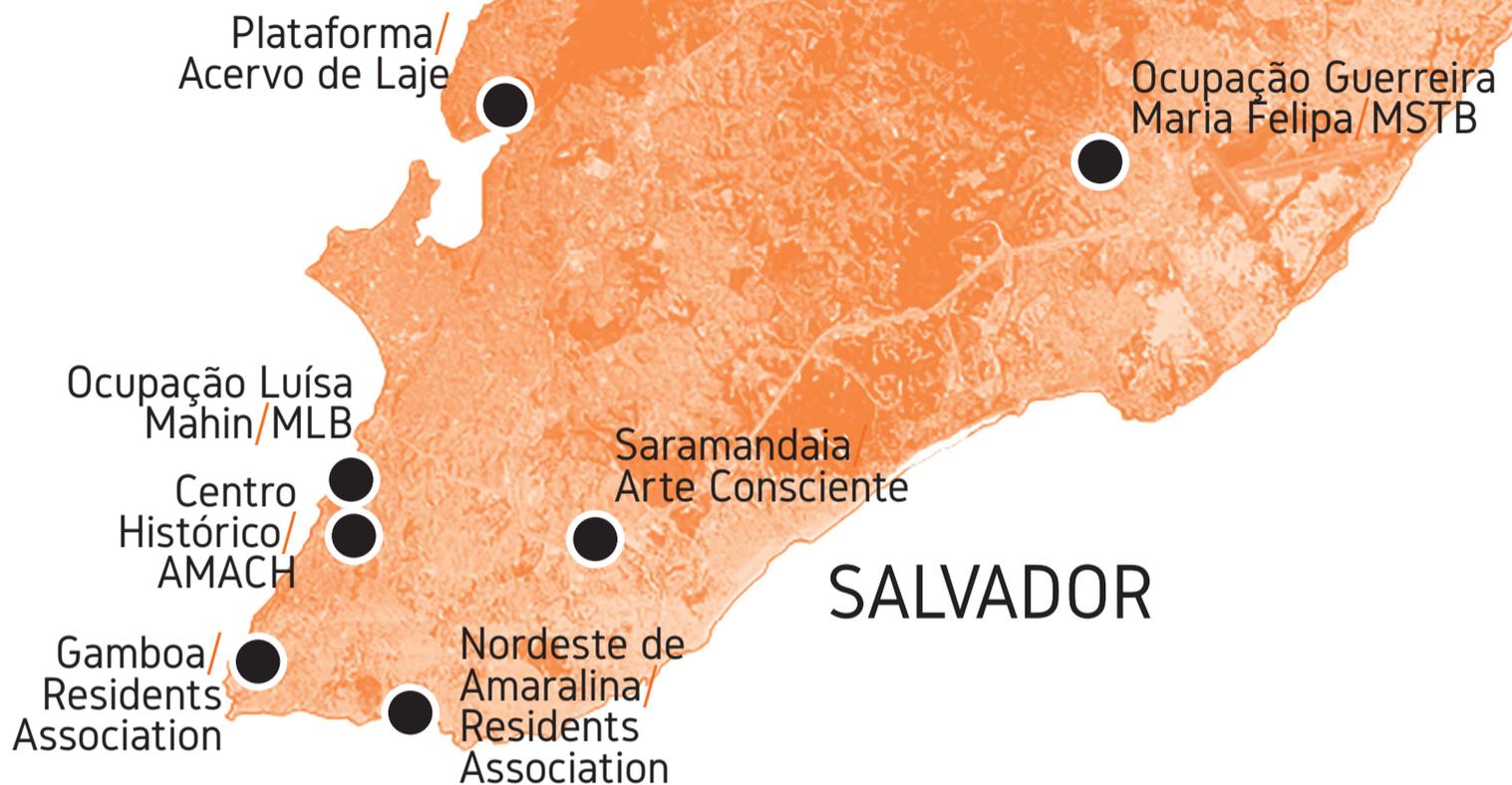
In addition to the production of knowledge, there is a rich interaction of civil society experiences mobilised in both London and Salvador with their powers, demands and localised knowledge. Academic institutions are confronted with understanding and absorbing the perspective of city production from the communities and their everyday logics and tactics. The multidirectional approach to the problem challenges the logic of positivist technical knowledge as one that would be the only one capable of meeting the social demands of urban contemporaneity. The city is a complex constitution, of diverse interests, understandings, assemblages and rights, defying who pretends to act in its production.

This is a real, critical and hopeful possibility of articulations and actions in the search for the Right to the City, in Brazil and in the world. That new exchanges and exchanges of knowledge come so that the permanent production of the city, which affects us daily, can open itself to its intrinsic character: plural and democratic.





# Collective Practices



## Centro Histórico/ AMACH

Associação de Moradores e Amigos do Centro Histórico (AMACH) which translates as the Residents Association and Friends of the Historic Centre was created in the early 2000s, in the struggle to guarantee the right to the city to the residents of Pelourinho and focused,

above all, on access to decent housing. The state sponsored recovery program for the historic city centre, started in 1991, divided the area into seven parts. It is in the area associated to the seventh stage of that program, where AMACH was founded and continues to operate. Faced with the impact on the quality of life and living conditions promoted by this program and other actions, these residents continue to struggle, facing questions about land use and

public spaces, lack of agency in the political decisions that generate impact in the lives of all, in addition to the constant threat of withdrawal of the right to housing by urban, tourist and commercial projects that aim to favour higher income classes. In 2005, the Public Prosecution Office determined the fulfilment of the residents' demands, according to basic needs in a Terms of Conduct Adjustment (TAC), but this remains partially addressed.



### Street Vendors

AMACH supports the street vendors of the Historical Centre, as an Association that seeks to ensure their stay in the region. In addition to having negotiated permanent stalls, AMACH continues to fight for sellers to resume their activities in the main tourist squares in Salvador.



### Housing

In the context of the state-sponsored Recovery Program, AMACH focuses on fighting for the right to housing in the Historic Centre of Salvador and recognising housing as related to income generation. Their struggles point to the lack of quality housing, space for commercial activities and accountability of the State.



### Community Kitchen

Since 2012, the AMACH Community Kitchen has served not only as an income generator for the Association, but also as a community centre that mobilises people in their struggle for housing. In addition to food production and marketing, it is a place where residents learn to manage a commercial kitchen. More funding and state support are needed.

# Plataforma/ Acervo de Laje

Founded in 2011 by Vilma Santos and José Eduardo Santos, Acervo da Laje – meaning the rooftop collection – is a museum and meeting place for students and artists. Located in two houses in the suburb of Plataforma, Subúrbio Ferroviário, the collection seeks to preserve and create the memory produced in the daily life of the suburban area by bringing together artefacts and works of art collected locally.

José Eduardo describes the collection as a dynamic space to take care of the memory produced from daily practice and comments that when visitors circulate between the two houses, “they can experience the community not as tourists on a safari, but rather from a humanised perspective.” Acervo da Laje defies the dichotomy between centre and periphery, proposing “an aesthetic shift within the city” that promotes the visibility of the production of local artists and the opportunity for young people to access the art and the memory produced both inside and outside the Suburbs.

Acervo da Laje promotes workshops held by local artists for the youth of the

neighbourhood and its surroundings. These workshops are both an employment opportunity for artists, some linked to the university, who are recognised and valued as teachers, as well as being a chance for young people to get involved with local cultural and artistic production without leaving the neighbourhood. Vilma is responsible for regular school reinforcement activities for the children and young people.

**Saying “I’m going to the city” means that people living on the periphery do not feel that they belong to the city**

– José Eduardo Santos (Acervo de Laje)



Fonte: Acervo de Laje

## Ocupa Lajes (Occupy the Rooftops)

Ocupa Lajes is a project that promotes a series of exhibitions, workshops and activities on the rooftops of houses in the community of Plataforma and in other neighbourhoods of Salvador. Ocupa Lajes was held for the first time in 2016 and provided an opportunity to exchange ideas and artistic practices between communities and neighbourhoods in Subúrbio Ferroviário. The programme of the Ocupa Lajes gained strength in its second edition in 2018, when the project and idea spread to other rooftops and other districts of Salvador.

# Gamboa/ Associação de Moradores

Gamboa de Baixo is a neighbourhood located on the edge of the Bay of All Saints, near the Old Centre and next to the neighbourhood 2 de Julho, commercial area of the centre. The community

of Gamboa is made up of approximately 360 families with a strong history of social mobilisation. In close relation to its territory by the sea, the main economic activity of the community is the traditional fishing. However, most people receive a relatively low income from the activity. From an interview conducted in 2017 with 208 community residents, half had

lived in Gamboa since birth, while the others had settled in the neighbourhood more than ten years ago. Gamboa is in an increasingly vulnerable position in terms of urban development programs, occupying a coastal strip now lined with private piers and high-rise buildings. Given the privileged location of the area, the threat of displacement is constant.



## Bar da Mônica

A place of leisure and contemplation that caters to the internal public of Gamboa, but also to an external public, such as the other residents of Salvador and foreign tourists. The bar is a space where Gamboa’s fishing community sell their seafood and fish. It is a space of income generation for families and serves as a space for community activities.



## Boat Repair

In Gamboa, some residents continue to work in a popular dockyard. Workers repair boats on a platform that used to be a play space and playground for children. This is important because it contributes to the recognition of traditional fishing activity in the community.



## Fishing and Diving

Fishing is the main economic activity of the community. It is based on knowledge that has been transmitted across generations. Each fisherman sells his own catch individually, but the Association of Gamboa has a boat and fishing equipment for use. Women are responsible for cleaning the fish after men arrive with their catch of the day. The practice of diving has recently been introduced to meet the demand for fish.

## Ocupação Guerreira Maria Felipa/MSTB

Movimento Sem Teto de Bahia (MSTB) which translates as The Homeless Movement of Bahia was born in 2003 from the need for people to organise to obtain housing and other social rights necessary for a dignified life. It was founded to strategically occupy land and empty buildings in the city of Salvador, creating occupations and drawing attention to the need for a more equitable urban development.

In recent years, MSTB has undergone a process of redefining its mobilisation strategies and has focused on creating an organised community through self-management, rather than continuing to carry out occupations in order to pressure the public power for housing units.

**We do not adopt an occupation strategy just because we believe in autonomy, but as a response to the impacts caused by Minha Casa Minha Vida**

– Wagner Campos (MSTB)



**Ocupação Guerreira Maria Felipa**

The Ocupação Guerreira Maria Felipa is located to the north of Salvador, on the border with the municipality of Lauro de Freitas. The first occupants came from neighbouring areas such as Bosque das Bromélias, where they lived as tenants in the social housing complex. They lived in precarious conditions because the apartments could not be rented and the residents were not allowed to open small businesses despite the remote location. In response, a group of tenants decided to occupy a neighbouring piece of land. Unlike previous occupations of MSTB, this was planned not only for the organisation of families, but also

for the division of land into equal lots suitable for future land regularisation. Learning from past experiences, the movement emphasised the formation of the community and established in a Casarão – a pre-existing property on the occupied ground – a “Territorial Reference Space” that serves as a space for activities and meetings. The collective operation and planning contributed to the permanence of the families, resisting the initial threats of the police. Over time, residents have developed a collective kitchen as part of the meeting space, where they sell food, for example, to employees of the VEGA urban cleaning company. Consolidating the occupation, they have built their own houses, established access to basic services, set up a community garden, and paved access to common areas and some of the houses. A representative of MSTB pointed out that the autonomous practices of the occupation are a response to the State’s lack of action. In addition to budget constraints, members of the movement recognise that existing housing developments are unable to meet people’s needs, which is why they have created their own strategy.

## Saramandaia/ Arte Consciente

The neighbourhood of Saramandaia emerged in the early 1970s. The area where it is located was valued for its proximity to places with services and public transportation. Saramandaia is



**Construction of the new public square**

Saramandaia is a high-density neighbourhood with few open spaces. The community is engaged in a new open space. It works were delayed for some time but recently resumed. The opening of the square will be an opportunity for the community to reenergise the cultural centre with more collective activities to help build and maintain relationships in the community.

considered by the Master Plan as a Special Zone of Social Interest (ZEIS), an instrument that aims to contribute to the urbanisation of the territory and regulates the actions of real estate capital. The neighbourhood faces many social, economic and environmental challenges that affect the daily lives of the community. Among them are the precarious infrastructure

and the poor quality of the access stairs to the neighbourhood. There is a demand for training courses for young people focusing on the generation of work and income. In addition, Saramandaia faces problems with rubbish due to the lack of bins in the narrow streets of the community and the lack of waste collection and management.



**Graffiti**

Graffiti is an artistic practice performed by residents of the community of Saramandaia. Thito Lama, an artist who organises graffiti workshops in the neighbourhood, believes that the streets are his gallery and seeks to bring messages of peace and resistance, through his art.



**Arte Consciente (Conscious Art)**

Arte Consciente is an important space of social support for children and young people through activities such as boxing, capoeira, percussion and circus skills. Cultural practices are used as a motivational element to increase school attendance and offer better opportunities. The activities serve to recognise Saramandaia as a cultural district, beyond the stigma of being a ‘needy’ community.

# Nordeste de Amaralina / Associação de Moradores

Nordeste de Amaralina is a vibrant and well-located neighbourhood, where a first version of the instrument known as ZEIS (Special Zones of Social Interest) was formulated. It is located in the southern part of Salvador, between the Orla Atlântica and Parque da Cidade, surrounded by high-income neighbourhoods. The neighbourhood is composed of four communities - Chapada, Nordeste, Santa Cruz and Vale das Pedrinhas - totalling 78,128 people (IBGE, 2010). It has a young population, with 38.4% of inhabitants under 24 years old.

**And if the government did its part, the community would not need partnerships.**

– Dona Helena Ramos (Nordeste)

Although stigmas persist around violence in the Nordeste, the community has created or participated in the collective maintenance of social spaces such as the community library and the Santo André Municipal School. These actions contribute to the professional qualification and the accomplishment of cultural practices like ballet and capoeira. Nordeste also has other cultural and sports projects and community radio stations that disseminate news and community events and act as a space for dialogue.



**Associação de Moradores da Nova República** (New Republic Neighbourhood Association)

The Associação de Moradores da Nova República is a neighbourhood association and collective space that holds workshops on skill and capacity building. They also have a public library that offers a safe learning space.



**Cooperativa de Reciclagem** (Recycling Cooperative)

Formed by former rubbish collectors in 2006, the Cooperativa de Reciclagem collects most types of materials except glass. In partnership with Petrobras, the cooperative also collects used oils to transform into biodiesel.



**O projeto Mané Cidadão** (The Mané Citizen Project)

This project was conceived by Mané, a local businessman who owns a butchers. Moved by the community situation, he set up a football project that assists young people's sports, responsibility and commitment practices. The project currently serves 140 young people.



**Minha Mãe não dorme enquanto eu não chegar** (My mother does not sleep until I arrive)

The Social Project "Minha Mãe não dorme enquanto eu não chegar", developed by the Odara Institute in partnership with Associação de Moradores da Nova República, develops the psychosocial care of women victims of State violence and drug trafficking.



**Vale das Pedrinhas Health Centre & Santo André School**

Both facilities have a high reputation in Nordeste de Amaralina, offering free public health and education services to the people in the neighbourhood and surrounding area. The health centre serves 500 patients a day with various medical needs. The municipal school is also used to support other activities in the community.



**Local Entrepreneurs**

Local businesses have emerged in recent years in Nordeste, including landscaping companies and supermarkets. Existing partnerships have brought workshops to the community, but not long-term involvement. However, they have the potential to include more people in the labour market and remove the stigma of violence.

# Ocupação Luísa Mahin / MLB

Movimento de Luta nos Bairros (MLB) which translates to the Movement for Struggle in Villages, Neighborhoods and Slums was created in 1999 to mobilize the working class to build a different society, inspired by principles of equality, dignity and rights for all. On September 22, 2016, approximately 27 families organised around the MLB to occupy an empty property that had been abandoned for years by the Government of the State of Bahia. The building, located on Rua Conde D'eu in the Commercial district, was transformed into the Ocupação Luísa Mahin and served not only as housing but also as a space of resistance, building bonds of trust, companionship and care among the residents. On September 22, 2018, after long negotiations, the families of the Ocupação Luísa Mahin left the building peacefully under the promise that in early 2019 they would have access to decent housing through the Minha Casa Minha Vida program. While this did not occur, families did receive some financial support for social housing. However, at the



time of this publication, the families who lived in Ocupação Luísa Mahin had no confirmation of when their homes would be ready. In addition, the financial support they received has not been sufficient to provide adequate housing, nor for the maintenance of basic services necessary to find a place to live.

**Carlos Marighella Popular School**

Having access to a common place, in an autonomous way, the residents of the Ocupação Luísa Mahin provided services to meet their needs, giving a social function to the space. An example of such practices was the Carlos Marighella Popular School, located on the first

floor of the building. The school contributed to meeting some of the educational and cultural needs of the community at no cost to the residents. This was only possible thanks to the efforts of the many volunteer teachers and monitors. Some of the activities carried out at the school include pre-university preparatory courses, adult literacy, children's capoeira, a popular study group on the right to the city, cinema club, reading and debate club, seminars on the Brazilian reality, photography workshops and guitar and dance classes.

# Spaces of Dialogue

## HOUSING AND POPULAR ECONOMY

The first Space of Dialogue, with the theme “Housing and Popular Economy”, was held at the Culture Centre of Salvador City Hall on May 6, 2019. The event was coordinated by leaders and representatives of the territories of AMACH, MSTB, Nordeste and Saramandaia with institutional guests from the Brazilian bank Caixa Econômica Federal and from the Municipal Department for Social Development and Poverty Alleviation.

The leaders presented their claims and reports of experiences seeking to build integrated policies of housing and income and employment generation and income with the public authorities. They discussed how to implement the allocation of commercial hubs and services in Social Interest Housing programs, giving evidence of non-compliance with public agreements, as well as lack of government support and transparency. Housing programs were criticised for not including income-generating activities (either at home or in collective spaces), the “dormitory

neighbourhood” model and the lack of capacity-building actions that support livelihood activities. In both central and peripheral areas of the city, the creation of more employment opportunities was valued as important, as was valuing the existing practices and the organisational capacity of the communities. Finally, aimed at recognising and supporting the experiences that are developed by the communities, the leaders demanded an incentive for professional training, and emphasised the need to give attention and more opportunities to the young population.

At the end of the meeting, the participants agreed to continue the dialogue to promote professional training and improve the physical and spatial conditions of existing autonomous economic activities, such as the sale of fish in Gamboa de Baixo, the food market in Nordeste de Amaralina, the street vendors of the Old Centre and the commercial activities of the Bromeliads. Among the next steps highlighted were the search for the guarantee of mixed use (associating residence to trade and services in housing

programs), qualification and training of local labour for civil construction, as well as the restructuring of existing social facilities in the territories.

**Living is very good, but having your income is important [...] We also want to guarantee the dignity of exercising an activity, a profession - the right to live within the Historic Centre.**

**– Jecilda Mello (AMACH)**



## THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN A DIGNIFIED WAY

The Space of Dialogue 2: “The right to remain in a dignified way” happened on May 6, 2019 in Gamboa de Baixo, Salvador. The main focus was to guarantee of the right to permanent and dignified housing, which links to the co-creation of participatory processes in public decision-making.

In the presence of government authorities from the Urban Development Company (CONDER), Department of Infrastructure (SEINFRA) and the Legislative Assembly (ALBA) from the State of Bahia, community leaders from Gamboa de Baixo, AMACH, Nordeste de Amaralina, MLB

and MSTB presented their claims in three areas related to land and urban regularisation processes. First, it was demanded the necessity of the State to provide security of permanence of the inhabitants in the popular territories, based on land and urban regularisation and according to the reality of each locality and social movement. The second claim was aimed at guaranteeing the dignity of residents in urban regularisation processes, recognising different cultural practices and urban parameters. Finally, greater participation and transparency in the processes of urban regulation were demanded.

In order to promote intersectoriality and participation, SEINFRA and CONDER agreed to create a Forum, involving the residents, the Mario Leal Ferreira Foundation and the National Department of Heritage (SPU) to

**Why can't we live in the Historical Center of Salvador? Because of the economic value of the square meter of land!**

**– Marcos Antônio Ribeiro (MLB)**

advance strategies for regularisation of the five territories involved, with emphasis on the regulation of ZEIS-5 of Gamboa and land regularisation in favour of the residents of the 7th Stage of the Historical Centre. SEINFRA reported on expanding the scope of the Housing Improvement program called Morar Melhor for the second half of 2019, pledging to verify the possibility of resuming the activities of the programme in Nordeste de Amaralina. The ALBA representative agreed to contribute to resuming the dialogue on the TAC signed between AMACH and CONDER. Finally, in view of the demand for housing provision, especially those highlighted by the MLB, due to the eviction of the occupation of Luísa Mahin and the insecurity of tenure in the Ocupação Guerreira Maria Felipa, the representatives of ALBA and CONDER committed to resume and expand the discussion on the rehabilitation of vacant public properties in the city centre of Salvador as ‘Housing with a Social Function’ and the security of tenure in the MSTB Occupation.



# CULTURE AND MEMORY

The Space of Dialogue on Culture and Memory took place on May 7, 2019, at Acervo de Laje, with the participation of representatives of the collective Associação Amigos de Gegê dos Moradores da Gamboa de Baixo, Ana Cristina da Silva Caminha, Associação Nova República (Nordeste de Amaralina), Roque José dos Santos Oliveira, Acervo da Laje (Plataforma), José Eduardo Ferreira Santos, and Arte Consciente (Saramandaia), Alex Sandro (Leco). Among representatives of cultural institutions, Edwin Silva das Neves, manager of Cultural Heritage of the Gregorio de Mattos Foundation, Salvador City Hall, and Zulu Araújo, director of the Pedro Calmon Foundation, Bahia State Government.

The Space of Dialogue was a forum for collectives to present to the public bodies four claims related to the theme of culture, identified as common to all urban movements and occupations. Although the demands are similar, they are experienced differently by the communities.

Ana Caminha opened the event welcoming the opportunity to meet with representatives of

cultural institutions. She mentioned that “this is an important time to create a dialogue so that our demands can be heard.” She pointed out that the fishing culture in Gamboa, as well as other activities undertaken by the collectives, have tourism potential. José Eduardo was the second to express himself, emphasising the need to “shift” the culture from the “centre” to the periphery, emphasising the importance of decentralising access to funds and resources. Leco shared his difficulties in submitting projects for public funding, highlighting the bureaucracy of the required documentation, the fees charged for issuing documents and the absence of an internal work team. Municipal

and state representatives reported on their difficulties and the challenges they faced due to budget constraints and lack of internal coordination among government actors.

The Space of Dialogue closed with participants signing a Commitment Letter, where they committed to work together on the four main themes proposed: inclusion of the main cultural events of urban movements and occupations in the city’s official cultural program, support for autonomous tourism activities managed by the collectives, prioritisation of peripheral cultural projects and technical assistance for submitting projects to public calls.



## ARTICULATION FOR DEMOCRATIC MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL EQUIPMENTS AND COLLECTIVE SPACES

The roundtable was proposed with the intention of building a dialogue between communities and public bodies, in order to discuss pathways for the democratic management of social facilities and collective spaces. Building on provocations about the need for transparency and popular participation in defining urban planning policies and budgets, community leaders set out their specific demands. Representatives from different government authorities responded drawing on the function and role of public agencies.

**Health:** The management of public health services was discussed in response to the need for quality public health facilities in the neighbourhoods and participation in decision-making processes. The argument that “violence [is] present in Nordeste de Amaralina” appeared to be used as a justification by the public authorities to not meet some of these demands. However, the situation with the Multicentre of Santa Cruz was clarified and the reallocation of the Centre for Social Assistance (CRAS – Nordeste) to a new building was assured. The

replacement of employees at the Health Centre (UBS) of Santa Cruz remained unanswered.

**Education:** AMACH recalled that social equipment was not provided for in the development of the Project’s 7th stage. The authoritarian policy of that time was countered by the signing of a Terms of Conduct Adjustment (TAC), which after 20 years has not yet been fulfilled. According to the community leaders, the problem is linked to disinterest and the unlocking of resources. The Urban Development Company of the State Government of Bahia (CONDER), the body responsible for the project reported on the current changes in their institutional structure, which is hampering the agency’s actions.

When mentioning the closing of an important training centre in the neighbourhood of Saramandaia, it was emphasised that alternative activities for extracurricular education had been created for children and young people from popular neighbourhoods. The successful experience of projects of the Cidade Mãe Foundation was also highlighted, although the institution faces several difficulties.

**Autonomous practices:** Reflecting on the importance of social facilities for a decent life, the MLB problematised the number of vacant properties in the centre of Salvador, without any social purpose. At the same time, it was affirmed that there is the capacity for autonomous management of social equipment, provided that there is support from public bodies.

**Heritage:** The lack of dialogue with the population directly affected by the proposed project for

the Fort of Gamboa led to the mobilisation of the residents. The National Heritage Institute (IPHAN) reported the difficulty of establishing practical dialogue within the institution, due to the change in the site’s designation from Historical Heritage to Cultural Heritage, which guided the agency’s policies. The IPHAN representative acknowledged the inadequacy of the previous project and stated that another project was being developed by a FAUFBA student in dialogue with the community. However, he pointed out the current lack of resources for this.

From the discussion, the important role of technicians and the need for more permeability between state governance structures and social movements were reinforced. All the participants were unanimous in agreeing on the need for this dialogue to continue.

**We’re tired of talking, we need our demands to be taken seriously.**

**- Ana Caminha (Gamboa)**



## DEMOCRATIC MOBILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

**The train is like a memory, a story! They took the market, the factory and now the train ...**

**– Vilma Santos (Acervo da Laje)**

The above quote was from Vilma Santos, a resident of the Plataforma neighbourhood, in Subúrbio Ferroviário, Salvador, but it could also be Damasceno, Pró Cida, Josevaldo, Luciene and so many representatives from other neighbourhoods who are affected by the way public authorities act on the issue of accessibility in the city. This was one of the preoccupations guiding the conversation that happened on the morning of May 8, in the locality of Santa Cruz, to discuss demands and actions regarding mobility and urban accessibility. The meeting brought together community representatives from Acervo da Laje (Plataforma / Subúrbio Ferroviário), Santa Cruz / Nordeste de Amaralina, Gamboa de Baixo, Saramandaia, Centro Histórico de



Salvador, institutions responsible for planning and implementing services and infrastructure related to mobility and accessibility (TRANSALVADOR, SEMAN, SEDUR-BA, SEMOB and CONDER), as well as professors and university students (UFBA, UEFS and UCL).

The dialogue raised issues related to four previously constructed claims with communities, which highlight barriers to the right to come and go, such as the costs and quality of municipal public transport, maintenance and security, accessibility and negative impacts of large enterprises implemented or under discussion: underground, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and Light Rail Vehicle (LRV). The space also sought to bring to the public power a number of problems affecting the population

on a daily basis, such as the lack of lighting and road signs, the poor state of conservation of roads, sidewalks and stairways, a significant reduction in the number of buses in circulation in the neighbourhoods and the lack of safety in public transport.

After listening and dialogue, some guidelines were reached, among which was the need to bring communities and public authorities closer together to solve the problems highlighted. Finally, the space showed that issues of mobility and accessibility cover most of the population of Salvador and reaffirmed the urgent need to participate in the formulation of public policies and projects on the subject, so that we can democratise the right to come and go in this Salvador.

## INFRASTRUCTURE: INTEGRATION AND PROMOTION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

**We are in the centre, but the community does not have access to basic services to have a normal life.**

**– Ana Caminha (Gamboa)**

The above statement by Ana Caminha, from the community of Gamboa de Baixo, explores issues brought together on the afternoon of May 8, in the town of Saramandaia, regarding infrastructure problems that encompass these neighbourhoods as well as the Centro Histórico de Salvador, Nordeste de Amaralina and Bosque das Bromélias. Institutional representatives, different service delivery organisations (CODESAL, COELBA, EMBASA and LIMPURB), professors and university students (UFBA / UEFS / UCL) also participated in the dialogue.

The discussion was based on the claims presented by the communities, which can be grouped into four main areas: a) inadequate network, b) irregular service delivery, c) lack



of participation in the construction of public policies, and d) lack of preventive work.

The numerous claims have shown that many of the problems presented affect several areas of Salvador, which demonstrates the need for more systemic actions by public authorities and public service companies. Although each community has its own specificities, it was noticed that some issues permeate all territories, such as fundamental rights related to basic sanitation.

It is necessary to emphasise that the objectives of this space of dialogue was to open up dialogue with the public authorities, as well as to develop practical pathways, among which include the realisation of the right to access

water in Rua da Resistencia, Gamboa; COELBA's commitment to adequate electricity supply in Saramandaia; the urgency, through CODESAL, to eliminate the risk of landslides, especially in Santa Cruz / Nordeste de Amaralina; and the implementation or improvement of a solid waste collection service by LIMPURB, which pervades all communities.

The session ended by emphasising that this was a space for dialogue and calling institutions to listen to communities, after all, it is they who know their realities better and can indicate ways to overcome historical challenges. Perhaps this way we can all have a "quality life", understanding that access to basic infrastructure is a premise for a decent life.

# Participants 2019

Graduate Program in Architecture and Urbanism from Federal University of Bahia (Salvador, Brazil), together with the MSc Social Development Practice of The Bartlett Development Planning Unit, University College London (London, UK), and members of movements, associations and collectives from Salvador.

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## Representatives of social movements, associations and collectives

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 Luciene Rosa dos Santos (Gamboa)  
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 Marcos Antônio Ribeiro (Coordenador do MLB)  
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Mel Travassos (Lugar Comum - FAUFBA)

# Tributes

We would like to honour people dear and important to the memory of the city of Salvador and who have left us recently:

## Dona Aloina Alves Bahia

who participated in the project Embroidering Dreams in the Laje Collection;

## José Silva dos Santos

known as a community leader and father of José Eduardo, one of the founders of the Laje Collection;

## Dona Rosa

a resident of the São Paulo Fortress of Gamboa.



**Dona Rosa**  
08/09/1914 – 21/04/2019

“ They say the speech convinces, but the example drags! ”  
 – Marcos Antônio Ribeiro (MLB)



Scan to view and download publications documenting previous years of the project



# Future Perspectives

Public authorities have to realise this - that the movements are articulated with the university and that universities are able to give this legal advice, guidance and training. So public authorities will pay more attention when we ask for a dialogue.

- MLB

Who loves what one does, gives the heart without fear of suffering. We have to be hand-in-hand, to create cells so that we can act in a coherent way and with more and more strength.

- Saramandaia

At the moment I do not feel commitment from the representatives of the government. It will be up to us - the community, to push them and not let things cool until the issues are settled. The communities have to stay integrated so that we can solve the problems that exist in each community, all united with one goal alone!

- AMACH

We are not going to stop here, beyond this moment we have to move in other ways, to develop many more actions in the communities we live.

- Nordeste de Amaralina

I think we should have more collaboration with the university, because these meetings are very important for us to talk and see both the positives and negatives. We gain experience and learn from the information that the university generates.

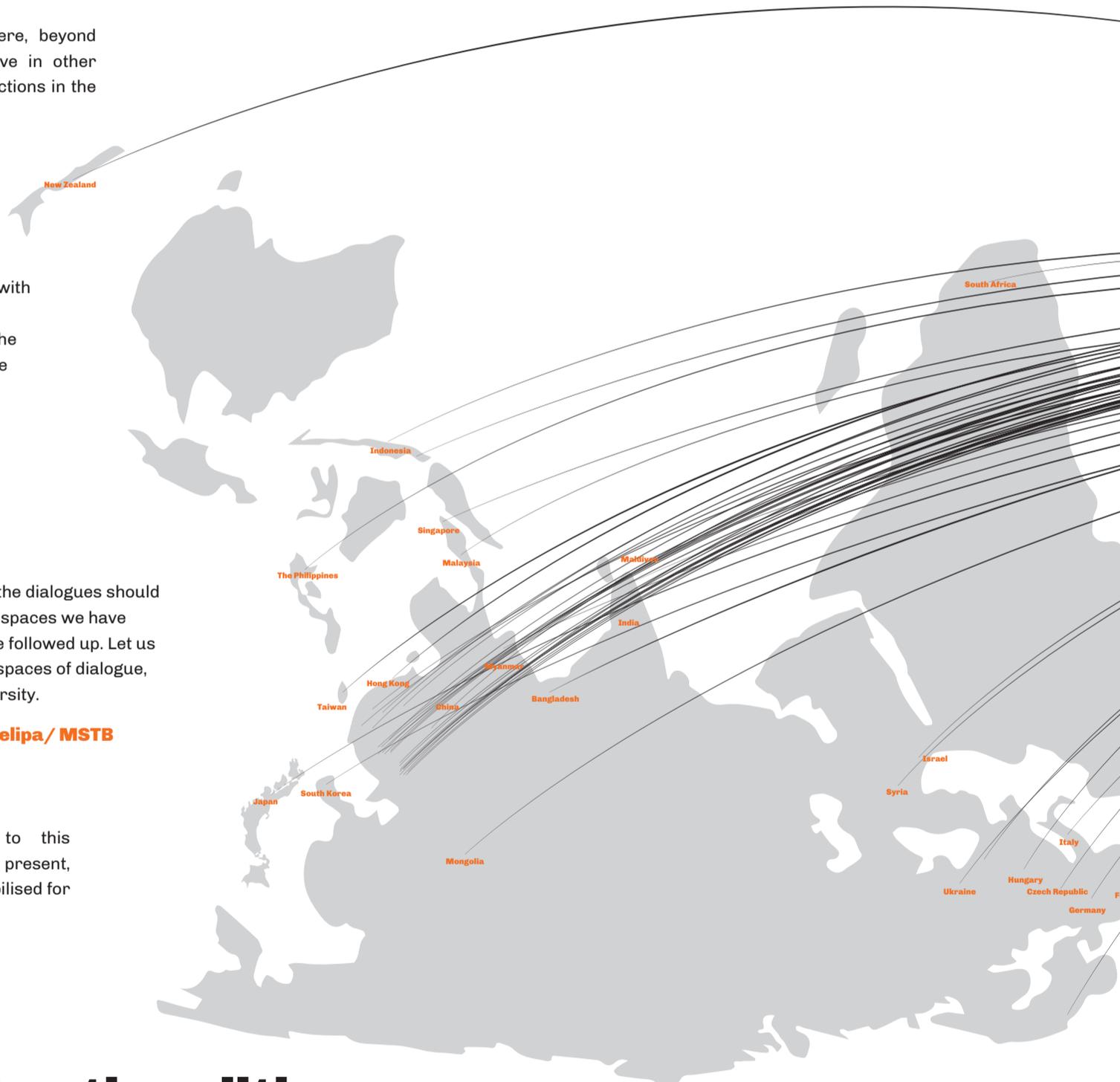
- Acervo da Laje

My perspective is that the dialogues should remain - in the various spaces we have suggested actions to be followed up. Let us continue to hold these spaces of dialogue, together with the university.

- Guerreira Maria Felipa/ MSTB

With the university turning to this mobilisation process, being more present, we can keep our communities mobilised for any moment, for any problem.

- Gamboa



**35 nationalities  
over 200 students**

**7 collectives, associations  
and social movements**

- RASIL < 150
- HINA 27
- INO UNIDO 11
- HILE 9
- LOMBIA 7
- NDONESIA 5
- MEXICO 4
- LEMANHA 3
- NDIA 3
- TALIA 3
- AMAICA 2
- SPANHA 2
- IRIA 2
- AIWAN 2
- ERU 2
- ENEZUELA 2
- RGENTINA 1
- ANGLADESH 1
- EPUBLICA TCHECA 1
- RANÇA 1
- ONG KONG 1
- UNGRIA 1
- RLANDA 1
- ISRAEL 1