



UCL

MSc Building and Urban Design
in Development
Student Report

TRANSFORMATION IN A TIME OF TRANSFORMATION:

Understanding the City
through Livelihoods
and Gender Sensitive
Research

In partnership with WFW, ACHR, CAN,
YTU and AMA



dpu
Development
Planning Unit

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This report was produced as part of the Building and Urban Design Practice module of the MSc Building and Urban Design in Development at the Bartlett Development Planning unit, University College London.

It is the culmination of a year-long design studio and created as part of the BUDD Field Trip 2017 to Yangon, Myanmar, and submitted on the 31st of May 2017.

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P R E F A C E

This report is the culmination of a three part Field Trip Project exercise in the building and urban design studio. The report was compiled by 6 BUDD students: Anna Livia Cullinan, Houda Fansa, Vitoria Faoro, Luciana Gallardo Jara, Jingran Sheng and Kshitija Venkatesh.

The DPU focuses on the importance of sustainable and socially just planning and policy in development, particularly in the global south. The Field Trips form an important part of the DPU's teaching pedagogy in bridging the gap between theory and practice. The work generated over the repeated visits to each country were shared with the partners and then collated into a publication. This is the first of a longer term engagement that the BUDD program will visit Yangon, Myanmar.

"The aim of the 2017 Field Trip Project in Yangon is to research collaborative people-centered partnerships for slum upgrading in Myanmar. The BUDD Field Trip, an embodied experience for knowledge co-production, where BUDD students will be also working with Yangon Technological University (YTU), the Association of Myanmar Architects (AMA), and the Yangon Heritage Trust (YHT), grasping the complexities and contradictions of urban development of poor settlements and to enable a critical reflection on the agency of design and space, while questioning the role of the practitioner in the whole process" (Bartlett, 2017).

A central component of this exercise was a two week workshop hosted in Yangon.

"The workshop took place between 2nd May and 12th May in Yangon. The Objectives of the workshop were: First, to offer students an opportunity to learn by doing, together with community, architects and urban stakeholders. Second, to build a collaboration between universities of different countries, sharing experiences and practices. Third, to strengthen local Alliances between organizations, universities and the municipality who are all committed to the sustainable development of the city and people wellbeing. The workshop is an opportunity to create a momentum and increase visibility around specific urban challenges, with a particular focus on communities currently living in informal settlements. Students will produce together a wealth of knowledge that aims to be beneficial in the short and long term to those communities" (AMA, 2017).

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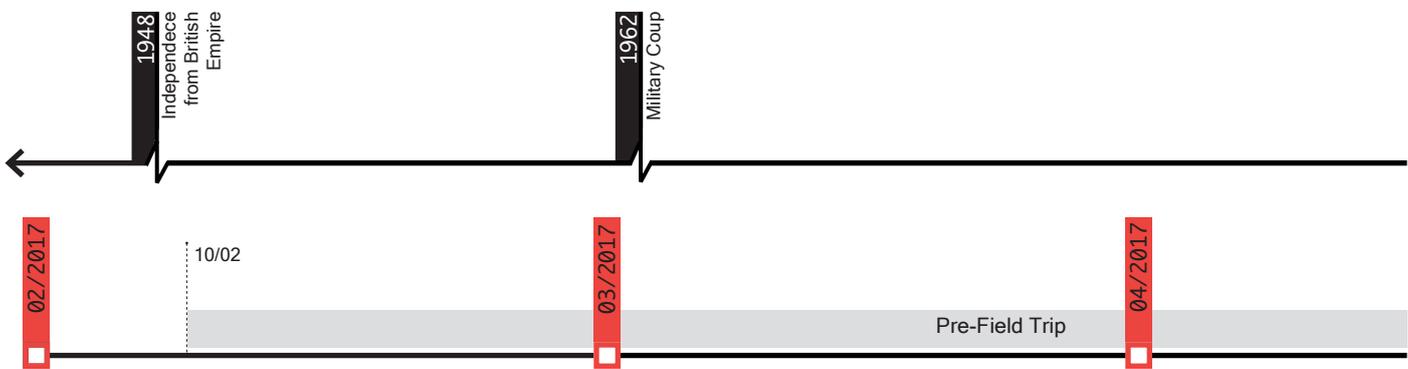
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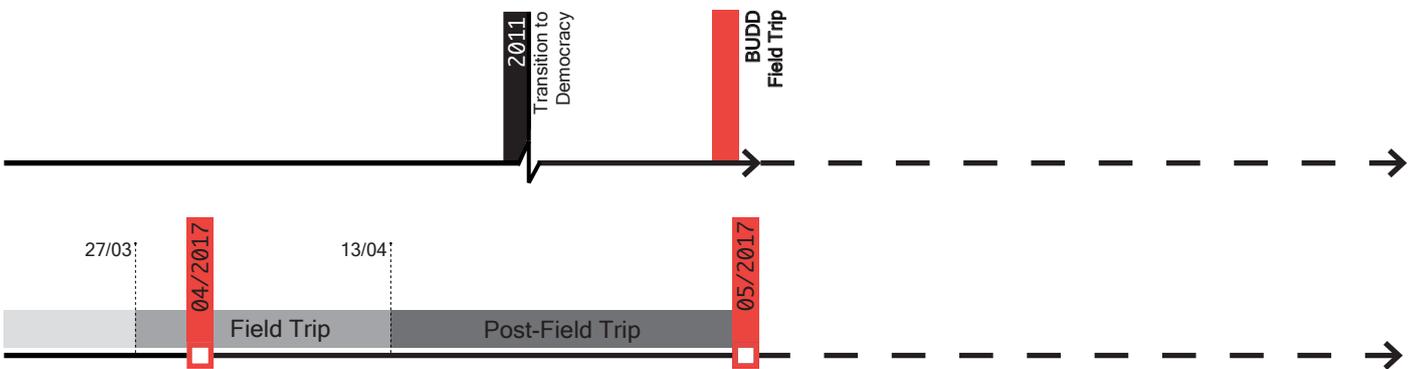
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ACRONYMS

Asian Coalition for Community Action	ACCA
Asian Coalition for Housing Rights	ACHR
Association of Myanmar Architects	AMA
Association of Southeast Asian Nations	ASEAN
Building & Urban Design in Development	BUDD
Community Architects Network	CAN
Community Based Organisation	CBO
Community Development Fund	CDF
Construction and Housing Development Bank	CHDB
Department for International Development	DFID
Development Planning Unit at UCL	DPU
Department of Urban and Housing Development	DUHD
Human Settlements and Housing Development	HSHD
Japan International Cooperation Agency	JICA
Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association	MCEA
Non Governmental Organisation	NGO
National League of Democracy	NLD
Saving Women and Development Network	SWDN
University College London	UCL
United Nations Human Settlements Programme	UN-Habitat
Urban Poor Coalition Asia	UPCA
Women for the World	WFW
Yangon City Development Committee	YCDC
Yangon Heritage Trust	YHT
Yangon Regional Transport Authority	YRTA
Yangon Technological University	YTU
Village Development Committee	VDC



1 INTRODUCTION

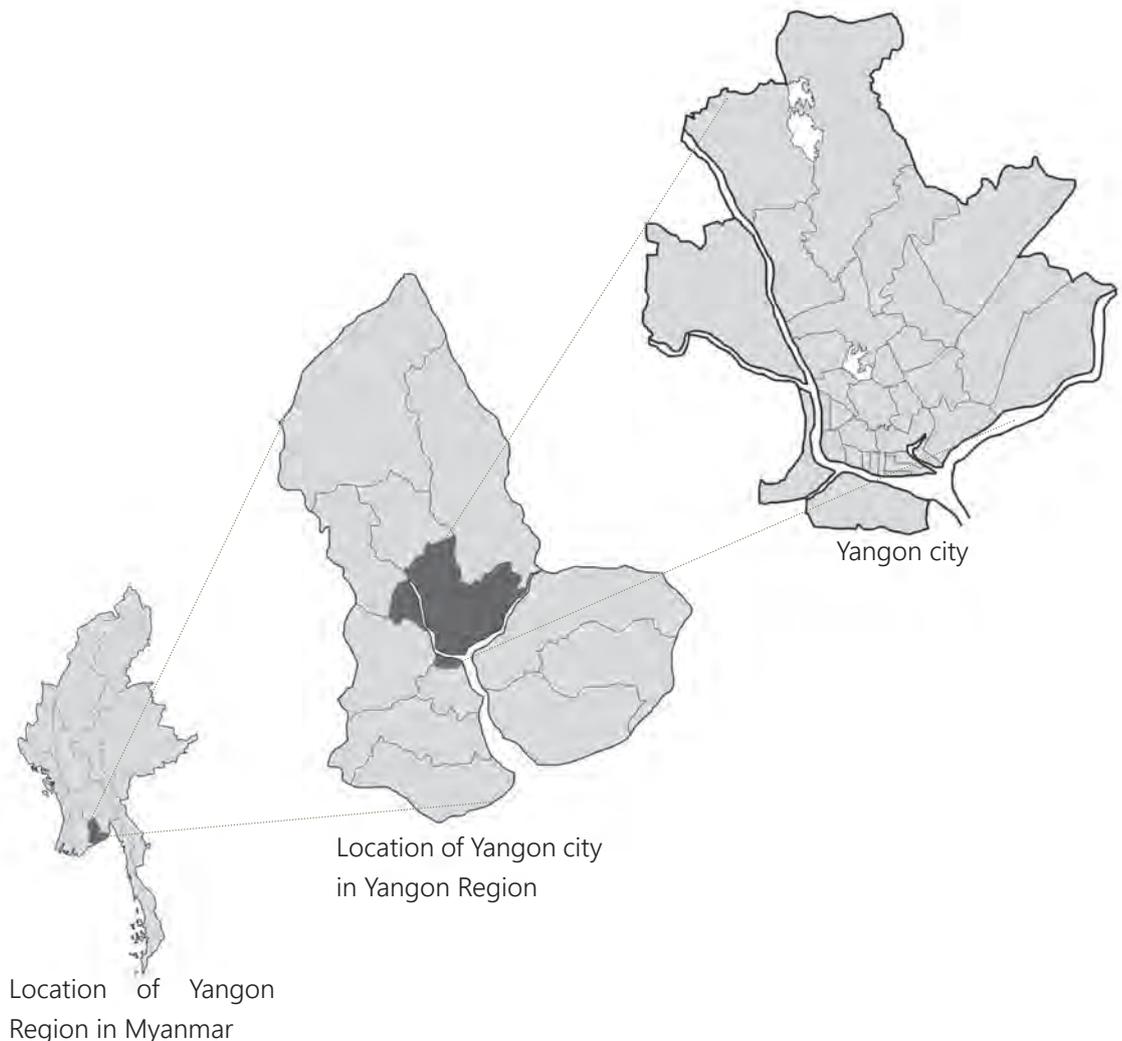


1.1. CONTEXT: MYANMAR AND YANGON

Myanmar has an estimated population of 54.836 millions in 2017, with 4.802 millions of that population living in Yangon i.e. 8.76%. The country is situated in Southeast Asia and is bordered on the north and north-east by China, on the east and south-east by Laos and Thailand, on the south by the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal and on the west by Bangladesh and India.

Yangon (also known previously as Rangoon) is the former capital and the largest city of Myanmar (also known previously as Burma), it sits at the confluence of the Bago and Yangon river and is believed to have been founded as Dagon in the early 11th century. Yangon can refer to either the Yangon Region (formerly Yangon/Rangoon Division) which is an administrative region of Myanmar, or the city of Yangon, as a smaller area within the region that is illustrated in the key map. In this report, when the term Yangon is used, it applies to the latter definition, unless specified.

Fig. 1.1. Location of Yangon Region in the country, and Yangon city in the region.
Source: by authors, 2017



1.2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This period in Myanmar's history is regularly referred to as a time of transition.

The report unpacks this idea in both a theoretical and contextual manner and identifies points of opportunity for positive transformations to facilitate citywide upgrading. Using the analytical framework and information gathered during the fieldtrip the following design strategies are recommended for citywide upgrading:

- Research-led urban design
- City governance structures that support diversity
- Multiple processes of city building - Urban design projects that support livelihoods.

Rather than providing site-specific design for different scales these three strategies focus on the connections between city scales acknowledging that no section of the city exists in isolation. In addition, the report seeks to not only describe research-led urban design, but to demonstrate it. What is proposed in the first strategy was applied and developed during the course of this project and in the production of the report.

The report outlines the development and use of the analytical framework through layering five theoretical lenses; transformation and transition, slum upgrading, gender, equity and equality and livelihoods. These lenses are then used to develop a methodology and methods. Both of these seek to reflect the socio-spatial nature of the urban design field by combining social research and spatial analysis techniques and incorporating gender sensitive research methods.

Findings from this research process illustrate the complex reality of Yangon, in comparison to common assumptions and normative beliefs and demonstrate the role of research in uncovering them. And whilst the research and description emphasize the human energy of the city it is important to note the large income gaps and the limited access and control over resources that many experience. The research also reinforced the theory that connections and information are needed to create positive transformation. These conclusions are the basis for the design strategies presented.

This report seeks to provide a basis from which the following BUDD classes can build on and to support the work of Women for the World and other actors interested in supporting an equitable and energetic Yangon through urban design.

1.3. REPORT STRUCTURE

The following report is divided across 4 sections; analytical framework, methodology and methods, findings and analysis, and strategies

Fig. 1.2. Dwellers of Ward 67 making toys to sell.
Source: by authors, 2017



Analytical Framework explains the theory and concepts used to frame the understanding of the context and purpose of the report.

Fig. 1.3. 24-hour exercise sheet filled by workshop participants.
Source: by authors, 2017



Methodology and methods explains the rationale and type of methods used to gather data and co-produce knowledge.

1.4. GUIDING CONCEPTS

Throughout the field trip process, the following concepts were developed and used to guide the research and production of this report;

City

Cities are nodes in large global networks, constantly evolving and adapting. Urban environments are produced by human activity, thus are constantly being developed and reformed by those living there. Diversity inherently exists in cities and it is of immense value. Equally, the pursuit of equity among the diversity of people is a crucial part of a functioning society. Contestation is also an inevitable part of a diverse environment and part of the process through which the city evolves, and new ideas and forms emerge (Amin, 2002)

Urban Design

Urban Design is a socio-spatial practice (Lefebvre, 1991); thus, social justice should be inherent in Urban Design. As such, its processes should recognize the issue of control and agency among individuals and the collective. While there are people who shape the city as part of their professions, such as urban designers, architects, or planners etc., it is important to understand and recognize that all people are impacting and designing the city to varying extents (Childs, 2010, Cuthbert, 2011).

Roles of the Practitioner

The multiplicity of actors involved in the production of the urban space highlights that the role of the urban design practitioner should be one of facilitator and mediator between many actors, spaces and processes shaping the city. Their task is to identify and make visible the people and activities, in order to understand the needs, see potentials and support connections. The practitioner is never a single agent, but always part of a series of connections and should respect these relationships and limitations whilst remaining critical but also compassionate (Forester, 2006)



Fig. 1.6. Ward 67 residents preparing construction material for their own house. Source: by authors, 2017

Ethical Research

Central to the role of practitioner are the tools used in the practice, of which ethical research is vital.

Ethical research is a process that seeks to build knowledge openly and without causing harm, in a non-extractive manner. Ignorance is an asset for an urban designer, as through the recognition of their ignorance, new partnerships can be formed and new knowledge co-created. And finally in the process of conducting research and disseminating the resulting information, the researchers must recognize and take account of their own position, as well as that of their research participants, and include this into their research practice (McDowell, 1992)

Gender Sensitive Research

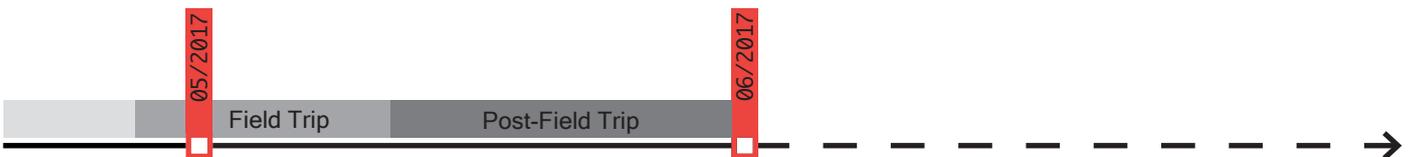
Gender sensitive research pays attention to the similarities and the differences between men and women or people of different identities' in urban design and to take experiences and viewpoints and gives equal value to each. Overlooking women's or a certain section of society's experiences and perspectives leads to an incomplete picture of the problem. A gender sensitive research methodology is usually more participatory and can contribute greatly to empowering people, notably women (Leduc, 2009)

Language

Language shapes knowledge and knowledge shapes cities, therefore, it is important to recognize its power in the development and use of words, especially in reducing important concepts and ideas into buzzwords. Language is not the same as communication, and translation is a component of all communications even within the same language (McFarlane, 2006)

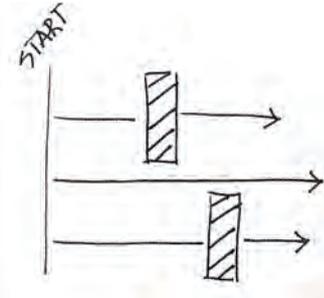


2 ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK



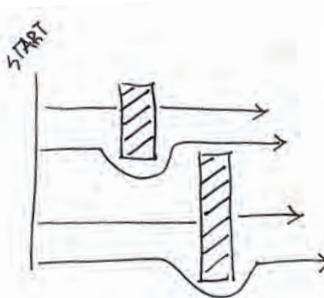
2.1. CATEGORIES OF ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

Fig. 2.1. Diagram for fixed analytical framework.
Source: by authors, 2017



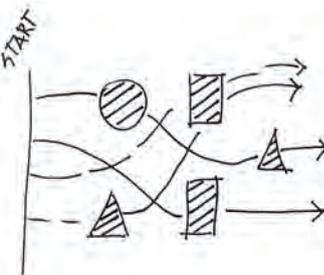
"A fixed analytical framework may be elaborated at the outset of a research project and remain more or less the same throughout the study [...] Fixed frames are common in research that seeks to make predictions based on current trends and in studies that seek to document broad patterns" (Ragin, 1994).

Fig. 2.2. Diagram for flexible analytical framework.
Source: by authors, 2017



"A flexible analytical framework is elaborated as a guide for research, showing which kinds of factors might be relevant in which contexts. A flexible frame is useful in studies that seek to explore diversity or advance theory. A flexible frame shows the researcher where to look and what kind of factors to look for without making specific hypotheses about relationships among factors." (Ragin, 1994).

Fig. 2.3. Diagram for fluid analytical framework.
Source: by authors, 2017



"A fluid analytical framework is used when the research or researcher seeks to give 'voice' and may want to limit the influence of pre-existing ideas [...] The researcher might start with several frames, and move fluidly among them depending on the nature of the evidence as it accumulates. The use of multiple fluid framings is especially appropriate when researchers seek to give voice because a fixed analytic frame might prevent researchers from hearing the voices of the people they study" (Ragin, 1994).

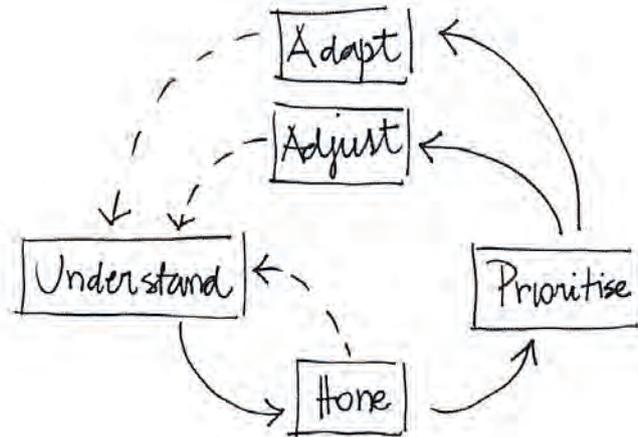
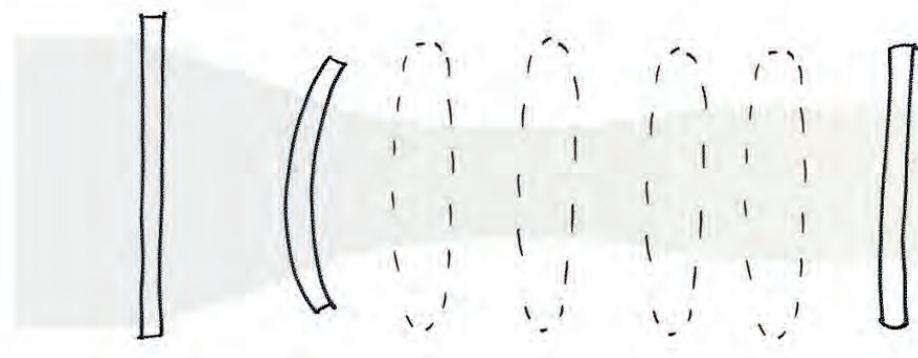
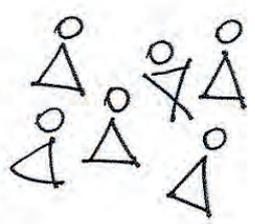


Fig. 2.4. The process of flexible and fluid frameworks diagram. Source: by authors, 2017

Recognizing that this was the first of a longer engagement in an environment where the information available is sporadic, and that we would be working with people typically under-represented in the formal planning process; we wanted an approach that allows us to adjust and adapt easily giving their voice as much space as possible. The following pages take each layer of the analytical framework and outline the theory we prioritized through this process, and how it framed our understanding of the context and our purpose.



2.2. UNPACKING THE ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

In developing the analytical framework for this report, it was a priority to unpack the terms that would frame the research in its full complexity. This allowed for an understanding of how different audiences interpret these terms, and to incorporate important ideas and concepts related to them into the research.

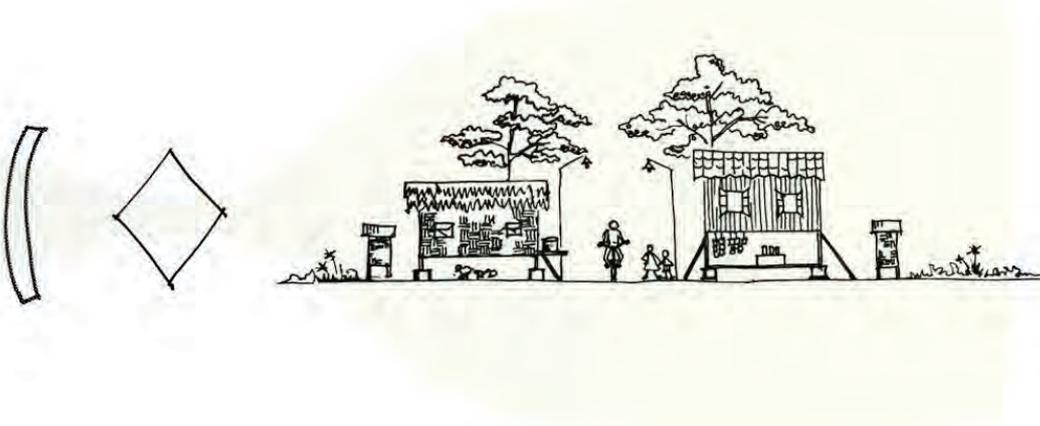
The development of the analytical framework was non-linear. Over the process it was honed through adding layers, rather than refining through omission and definition. The theory that was uncovered was used to guide the research which led to important aspects of the field context, in turn; this informed the components of the prioritized theory.

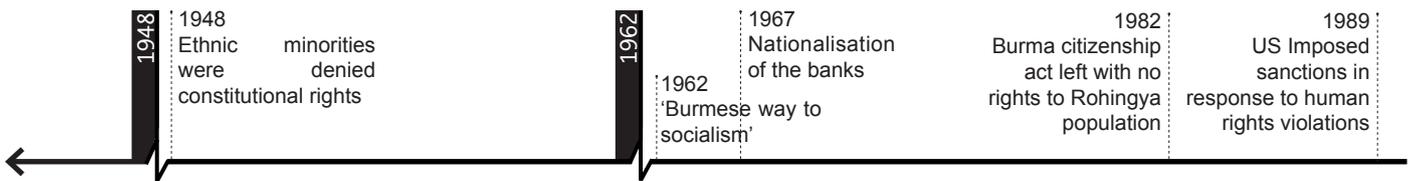
The starting point for developing the analytical framework was the given title from the Terms of Reference of 'Transformation in a time of Transition'. Subsequently, the subtitle of 'Slum-Upgrading' was addressed. The given lenses of Land and Citizenship, Scales, Finance as Mobilization and Urban Heritage were explored, at which point the group decided to add a Gender layer and unpack it more extensively.

Therefore, it was decided to prioritize the issues of equity and equality that arise from the gender perspective. Finally, the group identified livelihoods as the research entry point, that during the workshop could connect the layers of the analytical framework.

This used approach throughout the process of layering lenses creates a flexible and fluid analytical framework.

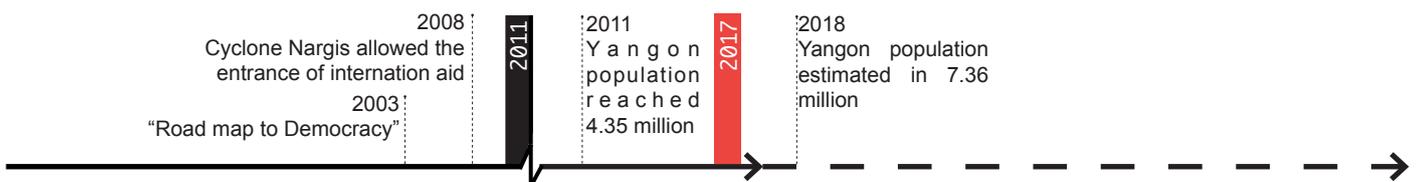
Fig. 2.5. Lenses of analytical framework.
Source: by authors, 2017





2.3. TRANSFORMATION AND TRANSITION

- Framing the context -





Transition is defined as a passing or passage from one condition, action or (rarely) place, to another (Oxford English Dictionary), whereas transformation is defined as the action of changing in form, shape, or appearance (Oxford English Dictionary). The use and meaning of these terms varies with nuance across professional and academic fields as well as daily use. However, there is, generally, a pattern of distinction between the two being that transition is a process of change and transformation is a moment of change.

To strengthen the understanding of both concepts, the description of George Land's structure of change in natural systems was considered (Land, 1973). This theory illustrates change as a series of interlocking S-curves, each interspersed with two breakpoints. Breakpoints are the moments in time when the rules of survival change; therefore, it is when transformation is likely and possible.

These narratives are experienced differently in different contexts and this context add and complexify the narratives. It is essential, then, when thinking about urban transformations, to be attentive to the importance of the country's history and its development (Thorns, 2002) in the light of the global currents. And to understand that these breaking points open a space for positive or negative changes to emerge, a system can either successfully find or fail to find a connection and innovate through the assimilation of new resources and information.

In framing Myanmar context under this theory, three breaking points were defined in the country's history that inaugurated periods of transition and opened a space for several transformations, both good and bad. These points were the independence from the British Empire in 1948; the military coup and the establishment of a military dictatorship, in 1962; and the shift to a democratic government in 2011.

The framing of the present period in Myanmar's history as one of transition and transformations, is not considering that the country was stagnant or untouched before (See Yangon timeline in the next page), it is regarding that accelerated changes now have been happening simultaneously in the finance and governance sectors, as well as the larger global trends, with large impacts on the urban social and cultural environment.

In the same way, Yangon has gone through breakpoints, alongside the national transition. These points would be the transition from a colonial port city to a capital of a federal ethnic country, then to a military governed city where the capital moved to Nay Phi Daw. As a response to the current moment of the country, the city is experiencing a rapid growth and transformation, which is seen in the new planning and development of industrial zones as well as the rise in housing prices.

Transition, thus, gives opportunities for positive change, but also for manipulation. In the case of Myanmar and Yangon, the possibilities are now freer, in contrast to the previous period. There is, now, room to manoeuvre and impact transformation. The challenge is to channel the energy of change in a way that the process of transition creates positive transformations that influence the city dwellers in a comprehensive manner, without losing the local qualities and specificities of people and the built environment. To do that, it is important to always keep in mind who are the actors participating in the process; what is their agenda, who is going to be the beneficiaries of the changes and who will be impacted by them. Transformation is not an isolated occurrence nor does it flow directly from transition, they are both happening simultaneously around different issues in different ways.

GOVERNANCE



1948
Independence

1962
Military Coup

2011
Democratic process

1947
Panglong Agreement -
founded the
Union of Burma

1962
"Burmese Way to Socialism"
promoting self-sufficiency and
nationalising the economy.

1967
Nationalisation of banks
announced.

1971
The army suppressed all parties
and civil society organizations
forming a single-party state.

1989
State declares martial law.
NLD leader Aung San Suu Kyi is
put under house arrest.

2003
Roadmap to democracy
aims to create a new
constitution and future
democratic elections.

1967
Nationalisation of banks
announced.

1987
Currency devaluation
affected people's
savings.

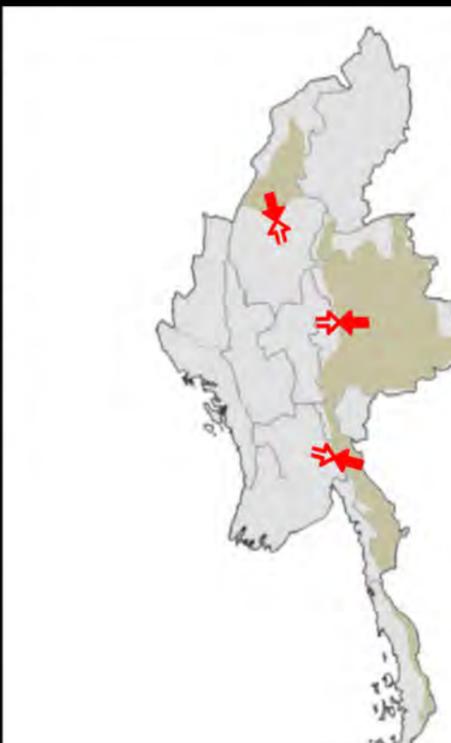
2003
National financial crisis.
The kyat gained strength
in black market exchange

2014
Foreign banks
re-entered in
the country
after 47years.

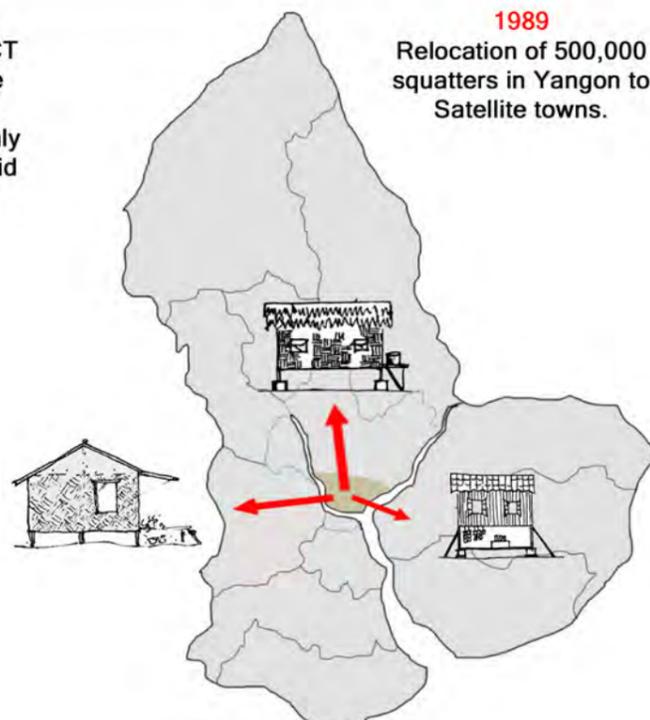
2016
Foreign Direct Investment
grew 7 times from 2013

2016
Foreign Direct Investment
grew 7 times from 2013

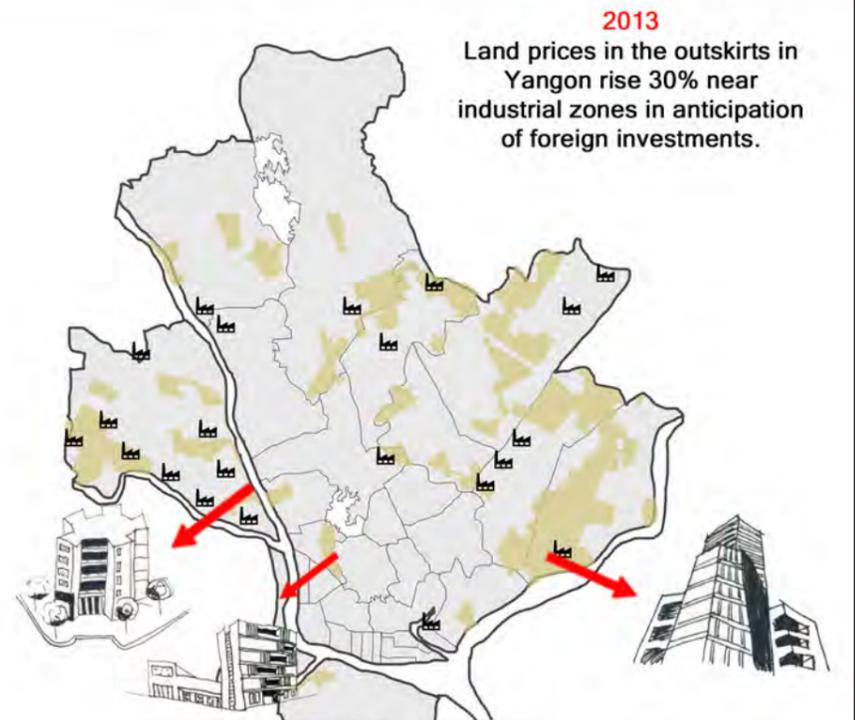
FINANCE



1953
LAND NATIONALISATION ACT
The state as the owner of the
land of the country.
The agricultural land could only
be lease and be utilized as said
by the state.

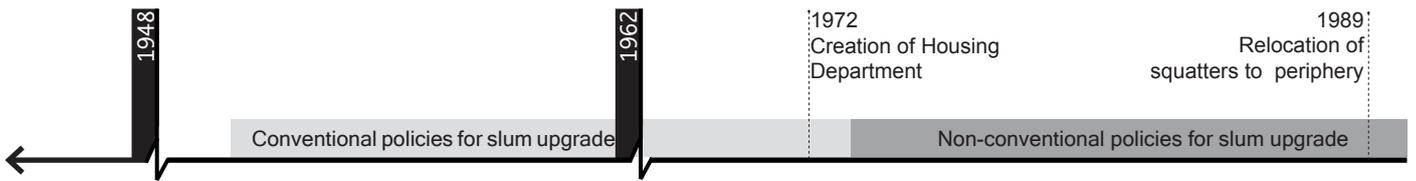


1989
Relocation of 500,000
squatters in Yangon to
Satellite towns.



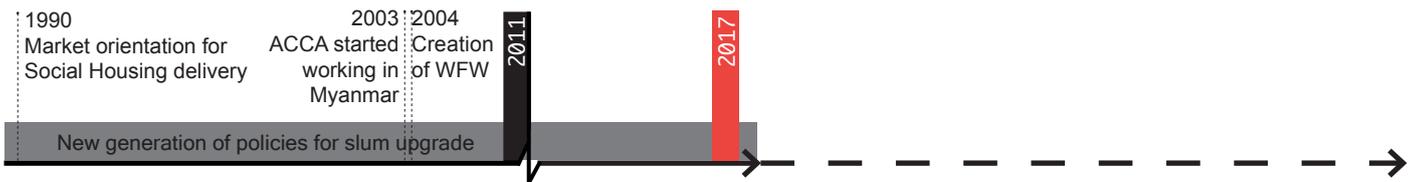
2013
Land prices in the outskirts in
Yangon rise 30% near
industrial zones in anticipation
of foreign investments.

SOCIO-POLITIC



2.4. SLUM UPGRADING

- Framing our purpose -





There are roughly three ways to understand how 'slums' are conceived: The first is in relation to resources, where the area has the least amount of resources in a city compared to those who have the most. Here resources mean political agency, material wealth and financial wealth.

The second is in relation to the legal framework- that is the right to be on the land and to produce shelter that is not recognized or supported in the legal framework nor governing structures.

The third is in relation to aesthetic or cultural practice- where the way of living and the appearance of that lifestyle and materials used in the production of the housing are considered outside the way of living and appearance where the dominant groups in relation to political power and money operate. Often all three components operate to varying degrees in each location.

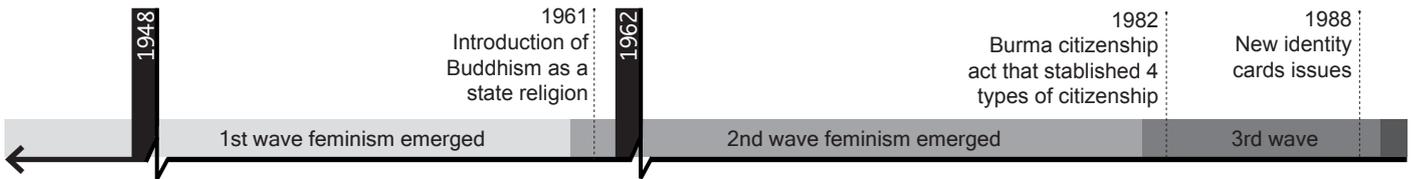
This phenomenon is created by different structural and social systems and is not restricted to the global south, it is present all over the world with each culture having its own term for these types of settlements.

**“The slum is not something in the people, it is in the system.
You make people the slum.”**
--- Somsook Bonyabantha, 2017

Slum upgrading is a term that starts emerging in the 20th century. This idea developed in response to the presence of settlements in urban centres, the presence and growth of the aid and development industry and in reaction to the previous treatment of these settlements, that was usually about clearance and relocation (Massey, 2017).

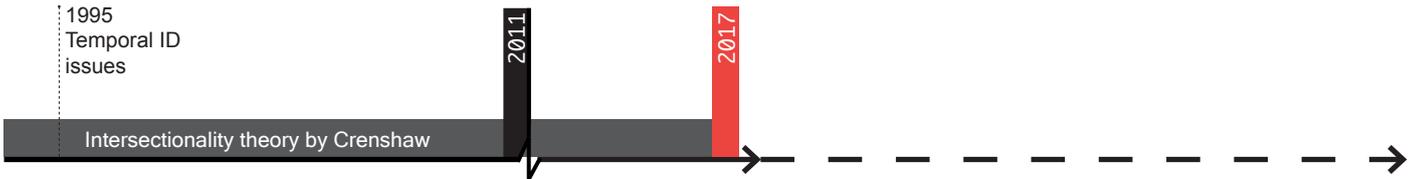
Considering the three types of 'slums' mentioned previously, slum upgrading cannot be only about improving housing construction, but also encompass ownership and access to resources. For upgrading settlements, it is crucial to recognise the potentialities and opportunities, not only of space, but especially from the people who live there.

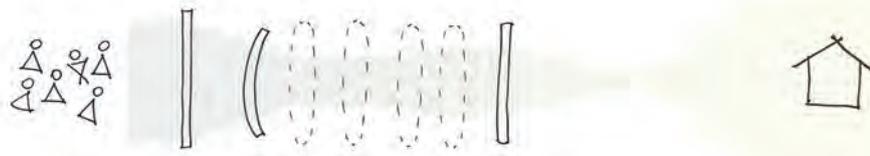
**“ The limitations of urban upgrading are the limitations of
the ideology of space. In such policy approaches, what
is redeveloped is space, the built environment and physical
amenities rather than people's capacities or livelihoods.”**
--- Ananya Roy, 2005



2.5. GENDER THEORY

- Adding our lens -



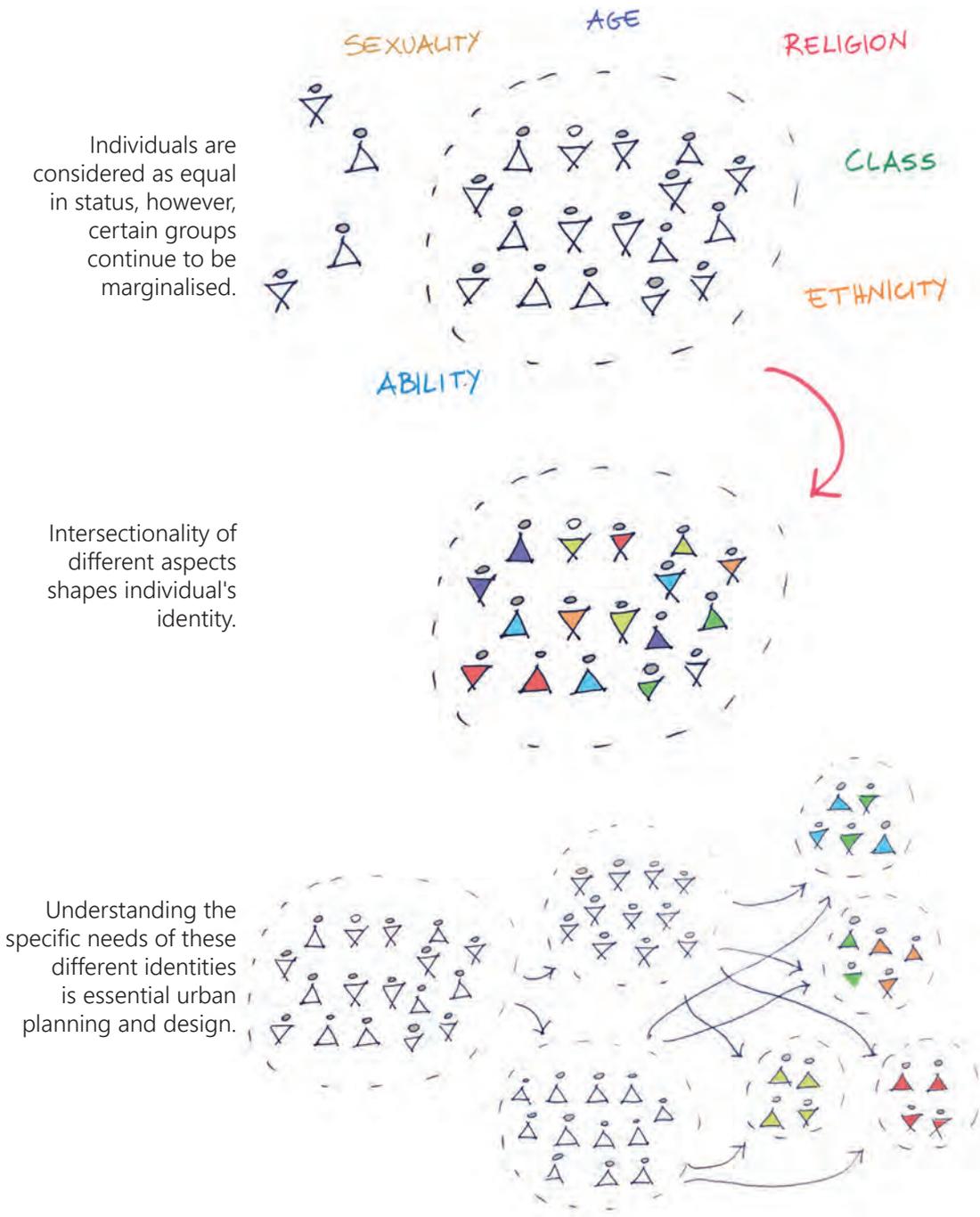


Gender theory is not about women. Gender is one of the aspects that constitutes a person's identity, together with many other aspects, like ethnicity, class, religion, age, and so on. Understanding identity is important because it affects the capacity of individuals and collectives to exercise their rights.

The idea of liberal citizenship is built on notions of individual universal rights that the state gives its citizens, thereby regarding them all as equal in status (Roy,2005). However, despite the apparently neutral citizenship, certain groups have continued to be marginalised and disadvantaged. And it is precisely this intersection of social divisions that impacts people's citizenship status and the potential to realise it (Chari,2009)

As such, gender is explored not as an issue of men and women but rather as how identity operates within a given environment, in this case a specific geographical location and how identity influence access and control over resources. In order to explore that, it is important to unpack these individuals' identities and challenge assumptions about their needs.

It is particularly important to clarify which aspects constitute key values or crucial resources for each population group or groups. Ultimately, the success of planning and designing measures can be gathered from their practical and everyday utility value. This calls for a high degree of sensitivity to capture the different needs of users. It is a central concern of gender mainstreaming to identify and obtain a systematic understanding of these needs and take equal account of them. Gender mainstreaming improves the "precise fit" of planning products and services and hence contributes essentially to ensuring quality in planning (Damyranovic, 2013:11).

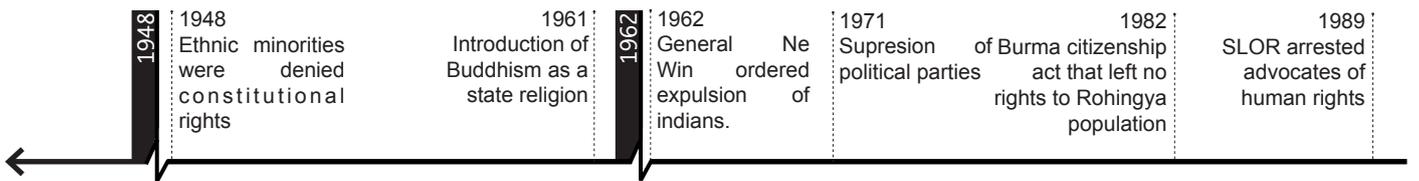


Individuals are considered as equal in status, however, certain groups continue to be marginalised.

Intersectionality of different aspects shapes individual's identity.

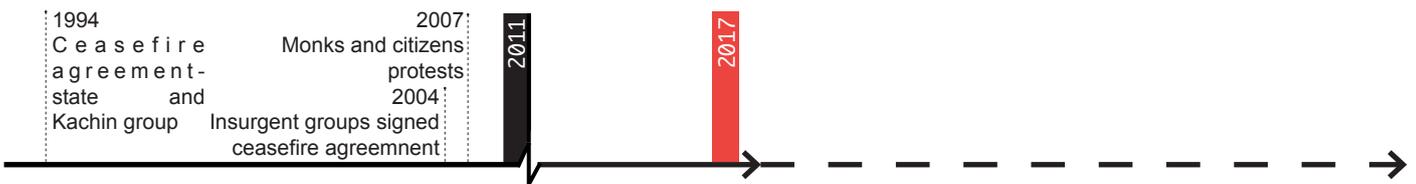
Understanding the specific needs of these different identities is essential urban planning and design.

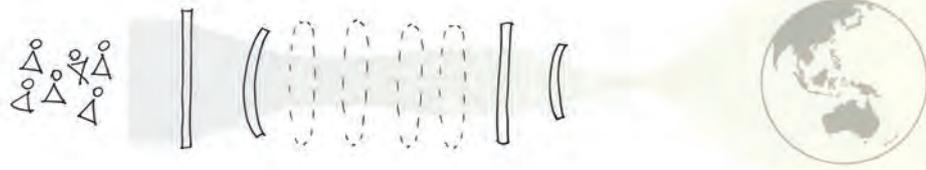
Fig. 2.6. Schematic diagram of theory mainstreaming. Source: by authors, 2017



2.6. EQUITY AND EQUALITY

- Prioritizing a key issue -





An important concept has emerged out of feminist and gender theory in the 20th century, which is the difference between equity and equality. Alexander Berkman suggests that equality does not mean an equal amount but equal opportunity for people. However, egalitarianism fails to take into account natural and social differences between people and its idealized authoritarian imposing of “equality” on unequal people. Equity is about being fair, just and impartial in giving everyone what they need, to be where they want to be, thus empowering them (Berkman,2003).

The distinction is important because equality gets people, as Angela Davis says, to consider as universal, the standards of those people who are at the centre of the exact structures that need to be reorganized (usually white males), leading society to discrimination and racism. While the idea of equity is the opposite, it is to recognize and respect the differences between individuals and groups of individuals, creating possibilities and opportunities for all range of individuals (Davis, 2013). Equity then is to address the capacity of people and communities in order to make claims on resources (material and symbolic) to meet these rights and needs.

“ Rights and needs are differentially distributed between different sorts of persons, and the ability to define a social identity is the ability to assign appropriate rights and needs.”
--- Moore, 1994

In the case of Myanmar, the representation of the majority, that is the Buddhist Burmese, caused historical conflicts between ethnic groups that have been marginalised and had their rights limited due to their ethnicity (Walton, 2013).

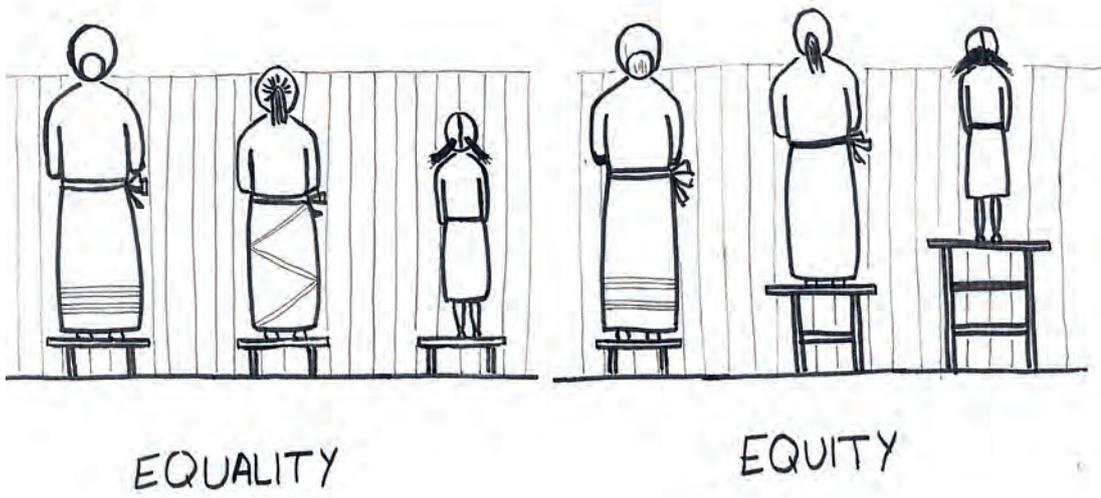
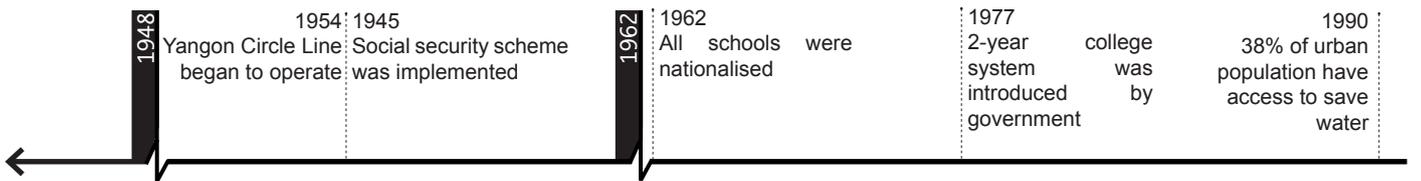
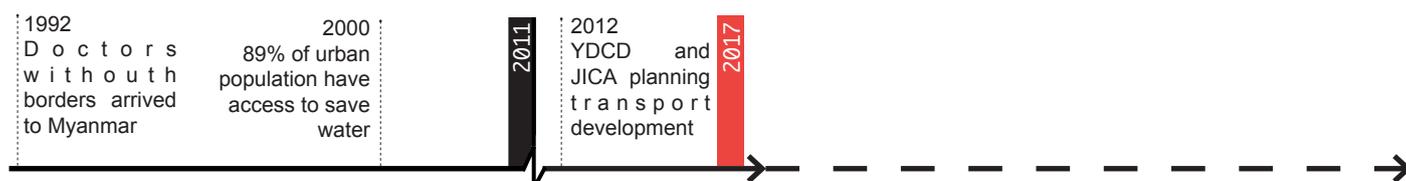


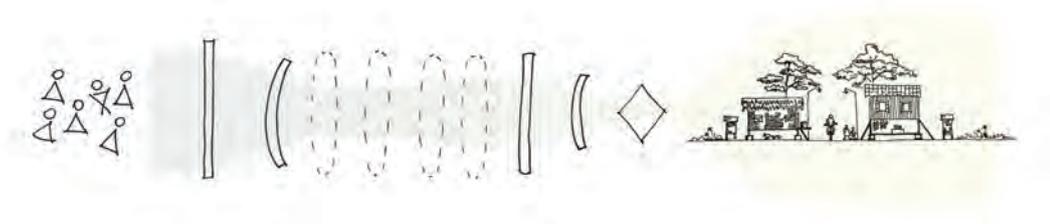
Fig. 2.7. Drawing representing the difference between equality and equity. Source: by authors, 2017 (adapted from Cultural Organising website)



2.7. LIVELIHOOD

- Identifying a research entry point -





Drawing on the previous lenses in the analytical framework, and looking to understand the different needs of individuals, both in the urban sphere and inside the household, we turn to the study of livelihoods.

Livelihoods are a means of securing the necessities of life. In economic terms, they are understood as access and use of finances. In the urban environment, livelihood is not limited to finances, but is about access and control over all resources. In that sense, the term encompasses natural, economic, social and political resources that are essential in the urban environment. It is also about the connections and networks within society and the systems that support the access to these resources and people's needs.

The analysis of livelihoods will follow the 'Sustainable Livelihoods' approach (DFID, cited in Rakodi and Lloyd-Jones, 2002), which "centres on ways of understanding the practical realities and priorities of poor men and women – what they actually do to make a living, the assets that they are able to draw on and the problems that they face in doing this" (Farrington, Ramasut and Walker, 2002:1). Doing that, we aim to understand people's needs, while focusing "on the assets that poor men and women use and the strategies that they employ to make a living – rather than focusing on their needs" (ibid:2).

While the SL approach focuses on assets, we intend to extrapolate that method, and try to understand the connections, networks and relationships between individuals, groups of individuals and the urban environment (house, public spaces, neighbourhood and wider city). We believe that this approach encompasses the previous mentioned lenses of gender, equity and equality, and will produce a comprehensive research result.

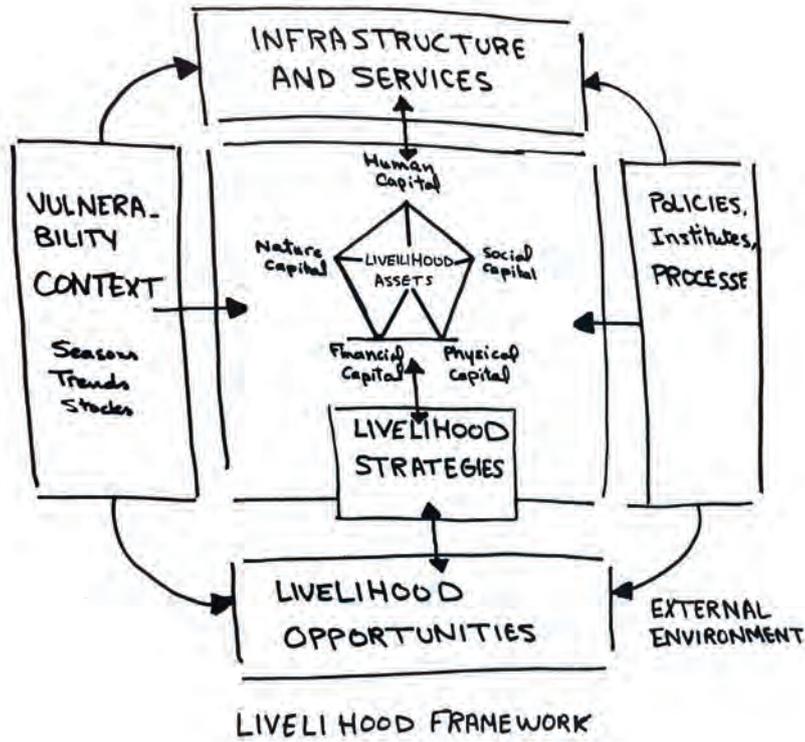


Fig. 2.9. Sustainable livelihood framework
Source: adapted from DFID cited by Rakodi (2002)

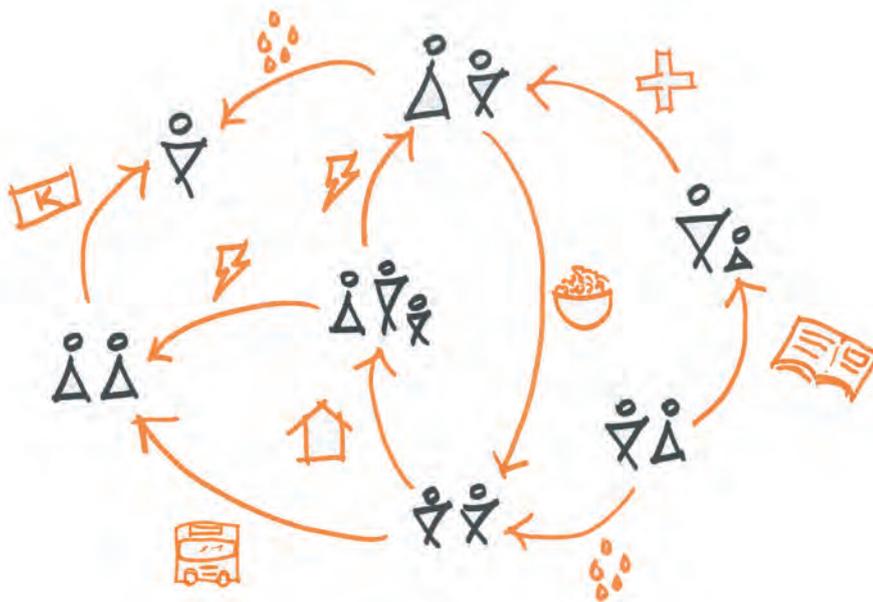


Fig. 2.8. Livelihood Diagram, representing assets and networks between people.
Source: by authors, 2017.



3 RESEARCH

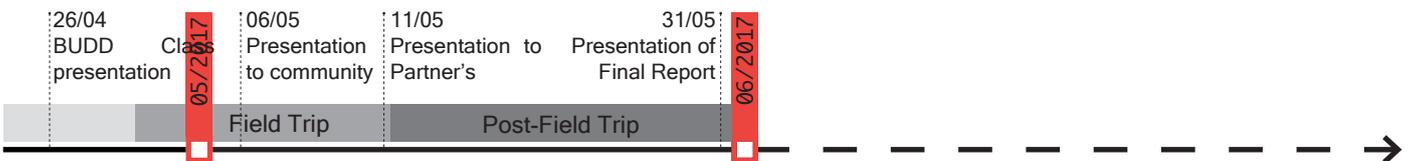


Fig. 3.1. Diagram representing structured methodology. Source: by authors, 2017

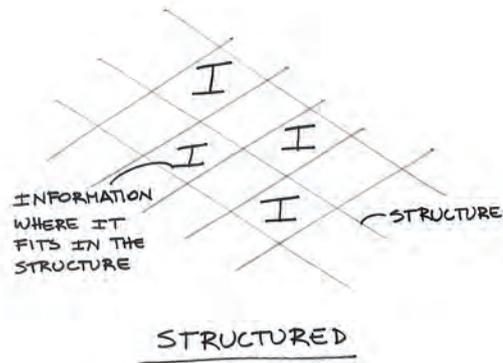


Fig. 3.2. Diagram representing semi-structured methodology. Source: by authors, 2017

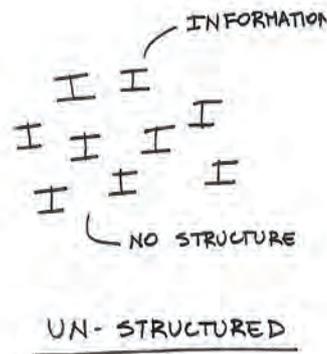
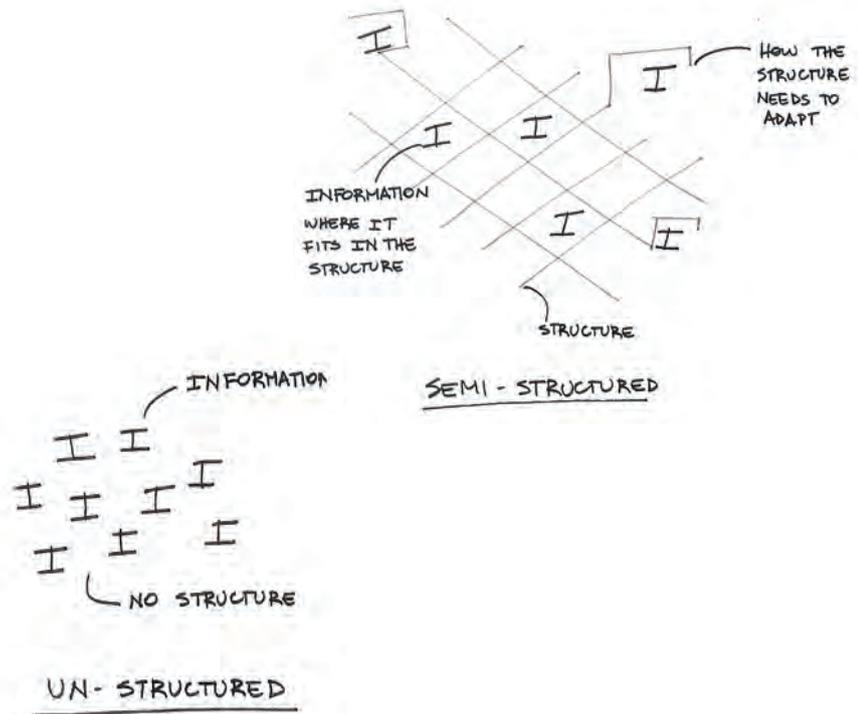
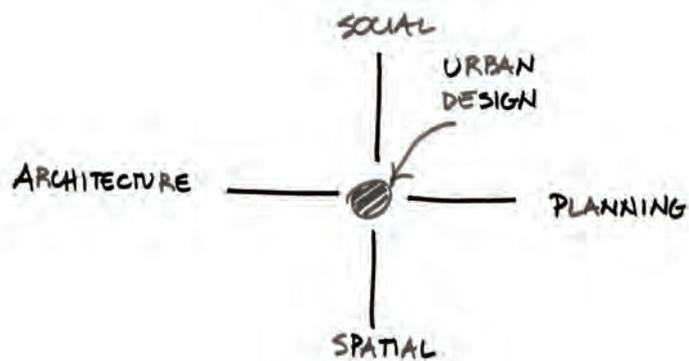


Fig. 3.3. Diagram representing the position of urban design practice. Source: by authors, 2017



3.1. INTRODUCTION TO METHODOLOGY

The methodology focusses on livelihoods as a way to re-conceptualize the city as a series of connections and processes that support people's needs and harnesses their energies and efforts.

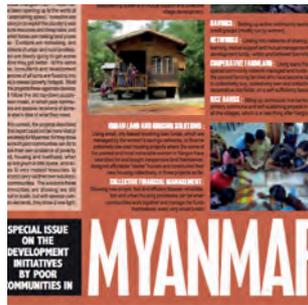
The research was conducted over a four-month period including a two-week field trip in Yangon. The methods used over the course of the project can be roughly divided into two categories, those methods that were part of the course module and those developed to further the research through primary study.

The field trip involved two and half days of primary data collection in Ward 67 in Dagon Seikkan Township, a site chosen and assigned to the group by the local partner WFW. A previous workshop had taken place in this Ward in November 2016 and its outcomes were presented, to be built on. The first day involved a group discussion led by Van Lisa, director of WFW, followed by a brief walk through the Ward and a visit to a DHUD new social housing project nearby. The next two days were devoted to primary information gathering, for which six research methods were developed by the research team. The participants in the research were primarily those in the WFW's savings group but also included people identified by the research team during the observation walks.

The six methods used during this data collection phase were a mix of structured, semi structured and unstructured data collection methods to ensure a variety of information, optimize the ability to receive information and mitigate the risk of omitting important information. The methods were created by combining social research techniques and spatial analysis techniques to reflect the socio-spatial nature of urban design. Finally, gender sensitive methodology was incorporated to disaggregate the research and gain a better idea of reality, and to respect the construction of the individual within the collective. Together, the methods aimed to gather as much detailed, yet diversified information within the limited period of research.

In acknowledging that research is central to urban design practice, we have taken the time here to fully explain the process and rationale of our research. A further description of each method is found in the following pages.

Fig. 3.4. Image representing online research.
Source: ACHR website, 2017



Online and academic research

Fig. 3.5. Lecture session by Women for the World representative and women from savings groups, as part of the workshop in Yangon.
Source: by authors, 2017



Brief detailed by Women for the World

Fig. 3.6. Lecture session held at YTU, as part of the workshop in Yangon.
Source: by authors, 2017



Lectures, remote and in situ

Fig. 3.7. Informal conversation with Ward 67 residents.
Source: by authors, 2017



Informal Interviews and Feedback Loops

3.2. METHODS OVERVIEW



Direct Observation and Transect Walks



Semi Structured interviews



Livelihood Mapping

Fig. 3.8. Walk in Ward 67. Source: ACHR website, 2017

Fig. 3.9. Interview held during walk in Ward 67. Source: by authors, 2017

Fig. 3.10. Interaction with children during walk in Ward 67. Source: by authors, 2017



24-hour spatial exercise



Drawing activity



Object Mapping

Fig. 3.11. Activities being held at the monastery in Ward 67. Source: by authors, 2017

Fig. 3.12. Activities being held at the monastery in Ward 67. Source: by authors, 2017

Fig. 3.13. Activities being held at a resident house in Ward 67. Source: by authors, 2017



3.2.1. Online Academic Research

All research and literature reading done before and during the field trip, including audio-visual material such as interviews, documentaries and films. Much of this material was provided as part of the module and then supplemented with our own material in relation to our fields of interest.

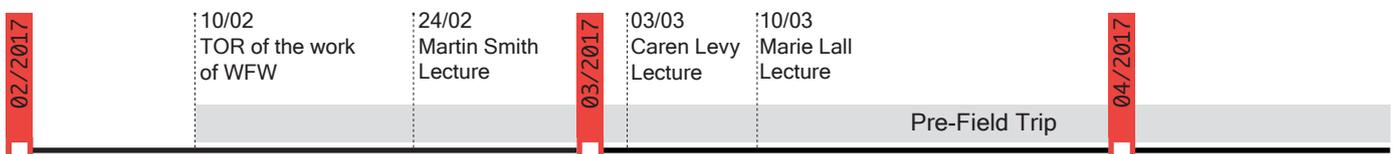
3.2.2. Lectures, and Presentations

In the three stages of the Field trip (Pre-Field, Field and Post-Field), several lectures were organised in London and Yangon. They were presented by both academics and practitioners from different areas, in order to expand our understanding of the context. It also includes all presentations by fellow students as part of the module.

3.2.3. WFW Brief and Informal Interviews and Feedback Loops

On arriving in Yangon, a brief from WFW was received. This provided specific information about the studied sites and detailed the work of WFW in the context. The brief aimed to inform about WFW's work in Myanmar in mobilising communities around savings groups and their impact through specific case studies. The document included maps, data and organisation of the different settlements in Yangon.

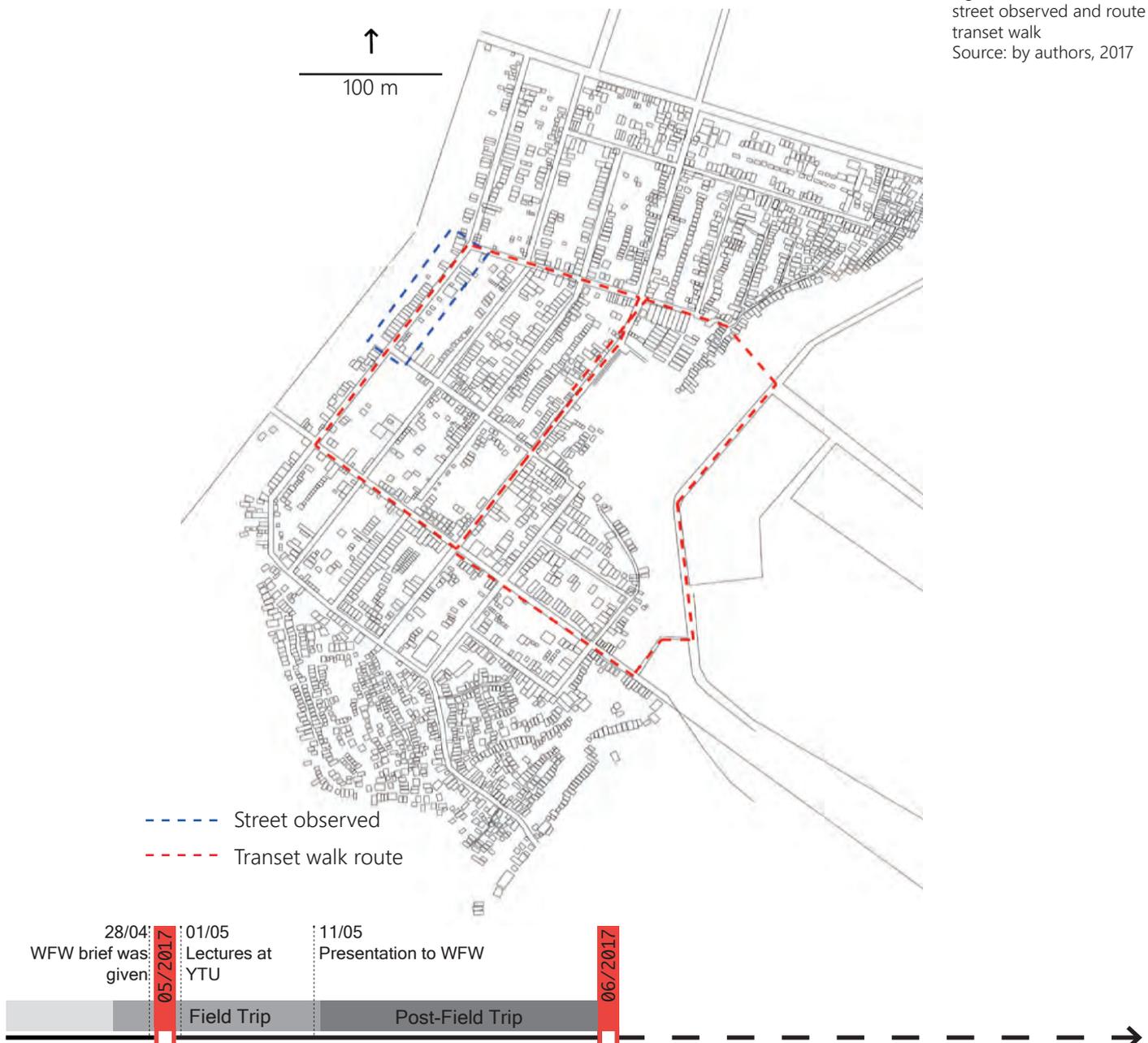
This section encompasses all informal discussion that were an essential part of developing our understanding of the context and were further used in this report. It also includes interviews with locals both in London and in Yangon. The feedbacks received were part of presentation sessions and other discussions, that were given from the tutors or partners in the field trip.



3.2.4. Direct Observation and Transect Walks (Transect and Street)

Walks were conducted on site, on the three days of field research: 3rd, 4th and 5th of May 2017. The first day allowed the group to familiarise ourselves with Ward 67. On the second day, the group was divided in two, and both performed transect walks to document and understand the neighbourhood. During that time, spaces of economic activity and spaces of gathering were documented. On the third day, a more comprehensive study of the houses was carried out on one specific street. This street was chosen due to the high number of dwellers participating in the workshop, that was discovered in a co-produce map done one day before. The street walk was executed by two members of the group (Vitoria and Jingran), without any members of the community or YTU students accompanying. They both walked separately on different sides of the street, observing the houses externally and making notes of the materials used, typologies and economic activities. The findings of the walks were gathered into two maps and diagrams made by Vitoria.

Fig. 3.14. Location of the street observed and route of transect walk
Source: by authors, 2017



MAP OF 24-HOUR EXERCISE



↑
100 m

- Women's houses
- Men's houses
- Market
- School
- Livelihoods
- Research route

3.2.5. 24-Hour Spatial Exercise

This method was used to understand how people spend their time, where they spend it and to understand how people's different routines overlap, connect and support each other. It is a social studies research tool used in gender sensitive research to identify the various daily tasks of women and men and how they affect their participation in livelihood activities. We added the element of mapping these tasks during the time span of a week to gather more varied information. We developed this technique further in relation to the need for socio-spatial research by also spatializing the use of time and asking participant to map their movements in the 24 hour period.

This activity was carried out on the 4th and 5th of May at the site. Those present on both days of interaction were a group that represented the community living in Ward 67 and all women were active members of a Savings Group. Each interviewee was given a form to fill out and instructions were given collectively on how to fill them out. Those that didn't/couldn't write had a friend/student fill out the form for them. Some participants took the work sheets home to complete on the first day and brought it back on the next. The information about each interviewee is inconsistent as we had not standardised the data we wanted to collect about them as individuals.

The activity was facilitated by all group members, with the role of translation being taken on by Khun Zeyar, Aung and Naing. The findings were then collated and summarised by Aung and Kshitija, and finally diagrammed by Kshitija.

3.2.6. Semi Structured Interviews

The Semi Structured interviews were conducted on the 3rd and 4th of May 2017. The questions were developed according to the analytical framework and research entry point of livelihoods. There was one printed interview form per interview undertaken. The interviews took place outside of in the interviewees homes and while there was usually one person primarily answering, there were always more than one present who also contributed.

On May 3rd the people interviewed were chosen at random, based on the researcher's presence during an observation walk. On May 4th the people interviewed were chosen by one of the savings group members, after the purpose of the interview was explained. One was a member of the savings group while the other was not.

The interview was not practiced before being used in the field, so the order of the questions were not honed and at times the interviewer reordered or omitted questions that were not suitable or supported the natural flow. Equally, when additional questions were needed these were added at the end of the page. The translation was conducted by Khun Zeyar. No audio recordings were made.

3.2.7. Drawing activity

Built on the concept of Cognitive and Social Mapping, a drawing activity was designed to record people's perceptions of public space, with the intention of unpacking and understanding their priorities and suggestions.

On May 4th, cards were distributed to the participants and it was explained that they should draw how they imagined their dream/ideal public space to be.

The term 'public space' doesn't have an equivalent translation in the Myanmar language, as it was explained by Khun Zeyar, and so the concept was translated by him to encompass the notion of gathering or community spaces.

On the following day, the participants returned to the meeting with their drawings, that were glued together to create the Cognitive Map.

3.2.8. Livelihood Mapping

At the two households where, on May 4th, the semi structured interviews took place, livelihood mapping was also conducted, in order to understand people's livelihood patterns and how the economies may be connected to Yangon at a greater scale. Once again, this method attempted to overlap social and spatial mapping techniques.

In the first house the interviewer noticed one of the household members sewing. In the second house the interviewer noticed one of the household members making chicken skewers. After identifying an item to map, the interviewer asked a series of questions to understand fully the process of production, as where the process takes place and who is involved in it.

The translation was conducted by Khun Zeyar. The original maps were hand sketched while the participants observed and confirmed, and transformed into a digital representation for this report.



Fig. 3.15. Sample photographs of livelihood activities in the first household
Source: by authors, 2017



Fig. 3.16. Sample photographs of livelihood activities in the second household
Source: by authors, 2017

3.2.9. Object Mapping

The socio-spatial household mapping was taken a step further to understand what items people value in their homes and why, as well as demonstrate how they are connected to other people's livelihoods.

Members of the households were asked to take the instant camera and photograph the 3 most important items in their house. Then taking the photos the participants were asked to explain; why they chose the items, where and when the items were purchased. This was noted collectively on a printed map.

In the first house how the task was communicated and then translated, was interpreted by the participants in a way that they initially answered not objects but people or qualities.

Initially the participants were meant to select and photograph the items while they were alone in the house, however the interviewer decided, at the time, that this would be inappropriate to ask. As such, it is important to note that in the first house the women chose collectively, while in the second house the participants chose separately.

The translation was conducted by Khun Zeyar. The original maps were hand sketched and transformed into a digital representation for this report. The information was synthesised and diagrammed.

3.2.10. Methods Conclusion

Collectively, the process allowed us to test our initial assumptions about the city that had been formed in the initial and remote reading of the context and city. In the way that they were designed, the methods were able to gather information that challenged normative beliefs and disaggregated the notion of community as a homogenous entity. This recognition of differences and of the individual within the collective can be honed further when supported by the theory introduced in the analytical framework, and will be developed as such in the following section of the report.



4 FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

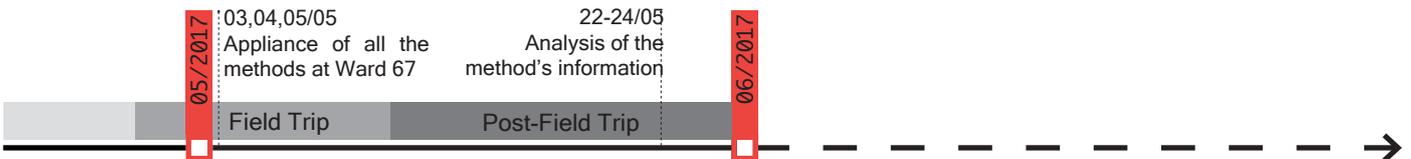


Fig. 4.1. Summary of findings from WFW brief and informal interviews and feedback loop
Source: by authors, 2017

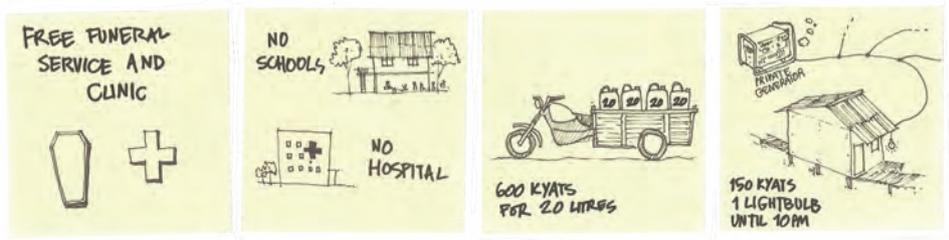


Governance structures under ward

Employment within the ward typically involves daily wage construction and taxi driving

Seasonal farmers rent homes here during the non-agricultural season

Brokers within the ward control rent and vacant land

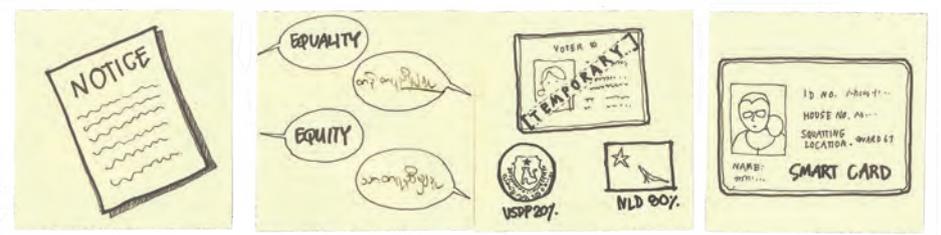


Community groups run free services in the Ward

No school or hospital in the ward

Water is not suitable for drinking so they buy from suppliers

No electricity in the Ward. Individuals sell electricity from privately owned generators



Eviction process is unclear

The words equity and equality can be translated into Burmese

Temporary voters card issued to residents and strong party affiliations within the Ward

Smart cards issued to some households by the government. The household definition is nuclear.



Savings are used for health, education, rent and small businesses

Everybody is a leader in the savings group and responsibilities keep rotating

There are four women's savings groups in the ward

Main concern is land tenure

4.1. FINDINGS FROM GROUP INTERVIEW WITH WARD RESIDENTS AND WFW

The group interviews with the residents of Ward 67, who were also active members of savings groups, revealed more complex and disaggregated information than that which had been detailed in the brief provided by WFW. Some of the key findings have been illustrated and presented on the facing page.

Regarding the organisation of the settlement itself, we found that contrary to our notions, the ward had internal administration systems that were recognised by the municipality, with ward governors being assigned to every 100 houses. Similarly, internal organisation systems involved brokers that controlled the leasing of vacant land houses owned by landlords. This was connected in particular with the seasonal renters that arrived during the non-agricultural season in search of employment in the city. With respect to infrastructure, collective distribution systems had been set up for the provision of both water and electricity. Additionally, individuals and groups of people had set up free healthcare and funeral services within the Ward. There were four women's savings groups in the Ward, which in addition to supporting women's household expenses, encouraged them to set up small businesses to supplement the household income. The women felt that the savings had empowered them and given them a sense of security, which they lacked in terms of housing tenure.

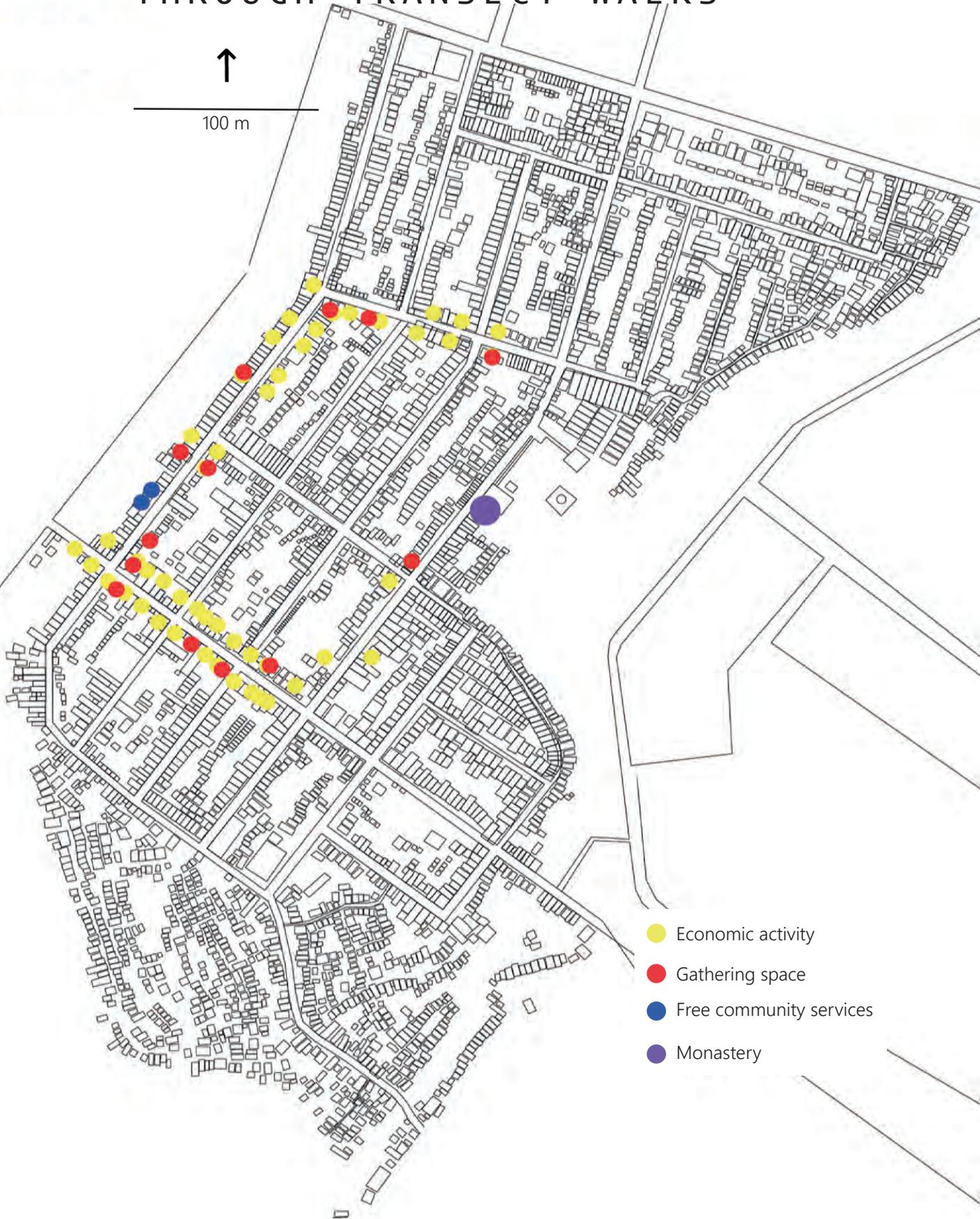
The biggest concern voiced was in relation to the eviction notices received by the residents. In the absence of formal recognition, the government had issued Smart Cards to some households, but not all. The Cards didn't differentiate between people that were renting and those that owned the house. In addition, the presence of vote bank politics and the failure to fulfill promises added further complications to the situation. On a more positive note, the eviction notice had resulted in actions of solidarity within the settlement, resulting in the residents documenting and mapping themselves, and presenting the documentation to the authorities along with an appeal.

The resulting findings here suggest a rather complex and well established structure of governance within the Ward, tied into the wider political and economic forces of Yangon. That the settlement consists of homeowners, renters, seasonal renters, brokers and ward leaders, is an indication of a much richer social structure than what may be expected on the surface. The presence of savings groups and other community organisations reveals the social networks of support and security that add to the Ward's societal texture. Further, the self-built homes, infrastructure solutions, and the encounters with the authorities show how more powerful forces of the State are resisted, appropriated and negotiated by the urban poor at the local level.

MAP OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN WARD 67 THROUGH TRANSECT WALKS



100 m





(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Fig. 4.2. Image of economic activities from transect walk
Source: by authors, 2017
(a) DVD renting shop
(b) Restaurant
(c) Food shop
(d) Building materials shop

Fig. 4.3. Summary of findings
 Source: by authors, 2017
 (a) of housing typology
 (b) of types of businesses

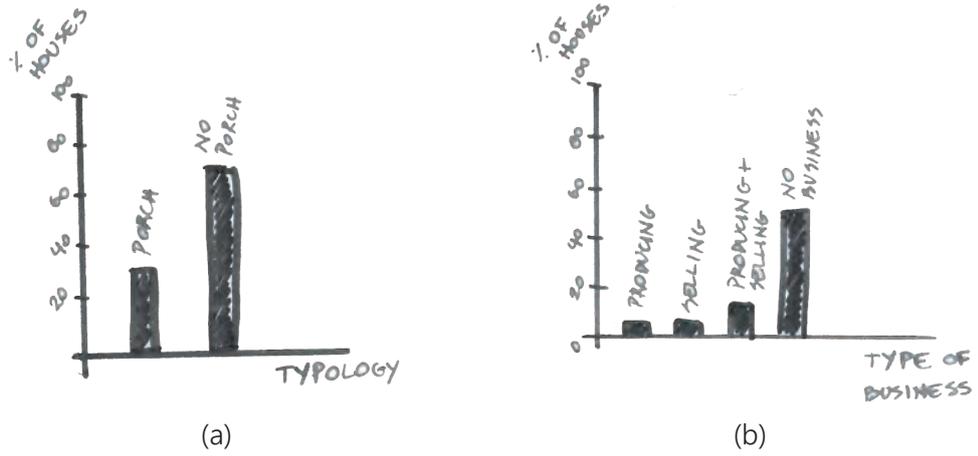


Fig. 4.4. Summary of findings of housing materials
 Source: by authors, 2017

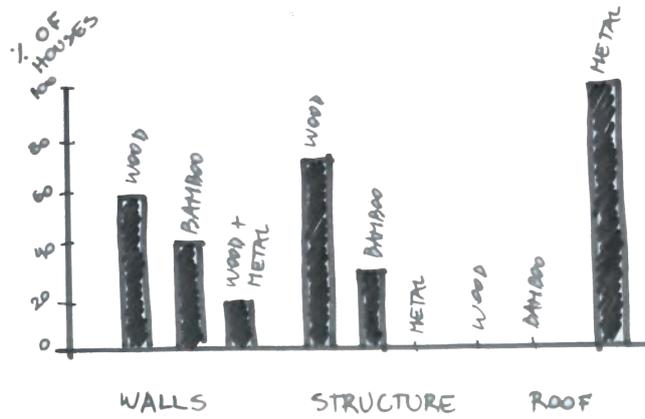
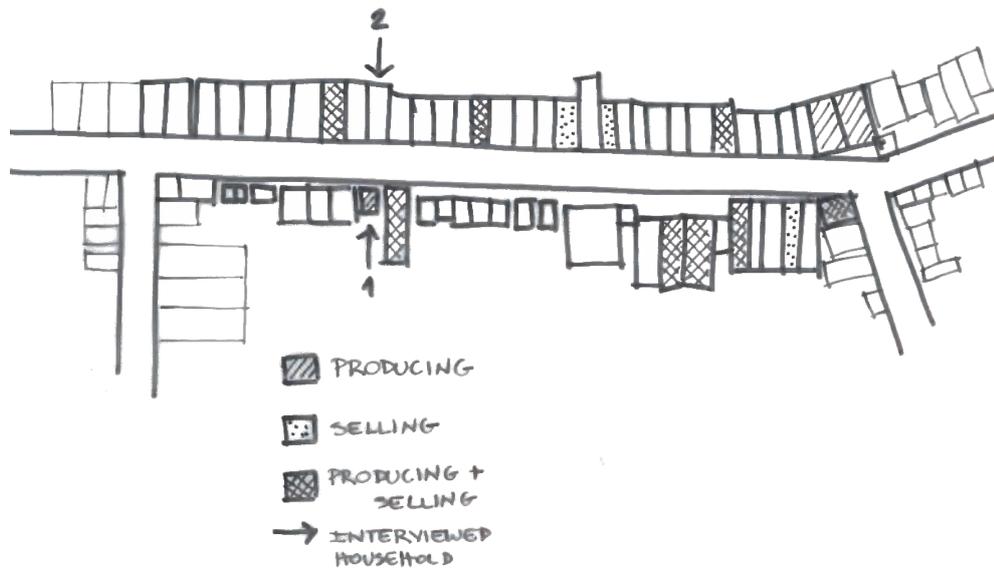


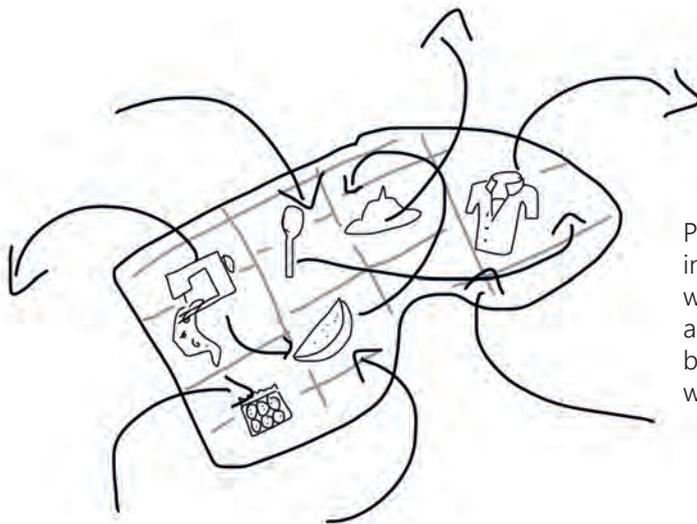
Fig. 4.5. Map of the street observed with type of businesses marked
 Source: by authors, 2017



4.2. FINDINGS FROM TRANSECT WALK AND STREET STUDY

The transect walk and the study of a single street undertaken revealed two key findings. The first related to the typology of the houses and materials used. The most common typology observed had a timber structure, plywood panels for walls and a metal roof. There were businesses that sold these materials within the Ward, and on being asked, it was revealed that homeowners felt it unjustified to invest any more in the construction of the houses due to the looming threat of eviction. The second important finding related to the significant number of home-based economic activity. The map of the transect walk indicates presence of businesses in yellow dots, revealing some patterns but a rather distributed incidence of economic activity across the length of the route. The data presented in the facing page shows that nearly half the houses along the studied street had some kind of income generating activity being carried out within.

The result of these findings is two-fold. One, that the organic upgrading of the settlement is unlikely to occur in the absence of land tenure. Two, that the 'house' here is often more than just a place to sleep as in many cases, the space seemed to double as space for livelihood related activity. This point is key, as it reveals something of the flexibility of usage of space that often fails to get translated into the design of housing in resettlement projects.



Products are sold inside and outside the ward; Some products are bought outside to be resold within the ward.

Fig. 4.6. Diagram representing dynamic economic exchange in Ward 67

Source: by authors, 2017

The materiality of houses is related not only to economic resources, but with the risk of eviction.



Fig. 4.7. Diagram representing that materiality of the houses

Source: by authors, 2017

Fig. 4.8. Summary of findings from 24-hours exercise Source: by authors, 2017

DATE: 4th + 5th May 2017

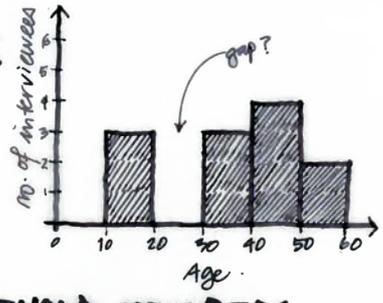
24 HOUR EXERCISE.

in WARD 67.

17 INTERVIEWS.

 13 WOMEN 1 MEN 

1. AGE GROUPS



2. NO. OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

MOST FREQUENT - 4 MEMBERS 
 AVERAGE - 4.2

7 interviews.
 3 x 1 no.
 4 x 5 no.
 7 x 1 no.

3. NO. OF YEARS IN WARD

MOST FREQUENT - 5 YEARS
 AVERAGE - 4.5 YEARS

11 interviews.
 3 x 3 families 5 x 4 families
 4 x 2 families 6 x 2 families

4. INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITY.

OF 17 INTERVIEWS, 11 INVOLVED IN INCOME GENERATION
 OF 11 INVOLVED, 7 WOMEN.
 4 MEN.

AND, OF 11 INTERVIEWED, 2 EMPLOYED OUTSIDE WARD 67
 7 WORK INSIDE, AND
 2 UNCLEAR INFORMATION.

5. INVOLVEMENT IN SAVINGS GROUP

OF 17 INTERVIEWS, 8 INVOLVED. ALL WOMEN.

6. TIME SPENT AT HOME

MOST FREQUENT - 19 HOURS
 AVERAGE - 18.35

4.3. FINDINGS FROM 24 HOUR EXERCISE

The facing page details the findings from the data gathered using the 24-hour exercise. The individual information seems both varied, yet homogenous. Because we were assigned a focus group to interact with, most of whom were women involved in savings groups, much of the information pertained to that very demographic. As such, we were unable to gather data from any women that were not involved in the activity, or those that might have been absent as a result of being employed elsewhere. Accordingly, the data presents an absence of people between the ages 20 to 30, suggesting that this is a likely age group that is actively employed outside of the ward.

There were three other important findings that surfaced with this method. First, that there was a higher occurrence of households with 4 or more members. This can be contrasted with the basic data provided in the WFW brief, where the average number of members per household is calculated to be approximately 2.8. What this might suggest is the prevalence of single-occupancy homes, or vacant houses in the Ward, that skews the mean value from rightly indicating the average as closer to 4 members per house.

Second, while it is commonly assumed that squatter settlements around Yangon are a result of post-Nargis migration, many conversations during this exercise revealed that residents had moved to the Ward owing to the unaffordable rent costs in other parts of the city. Many of the interviewees had lived in Yangon all their lives. Third, and quite surprisingly, the data showed that of all 17 interviewees, the average time spent at home was over 18 hours a day. This is of course a likely result of having interviewed largely women who are involved in childcare and domestic activities, requiring them to stay in the house. However, this could also be connected to the data found in the previous section suggesting that the home-based economic activities might be contributing to the time spent at home.

The result of these findings provides a fairly well articulated idea of the diversity in men and women's lived experiences in the Ward. It tends to challenge assumptions regarding the nature of the settlement and its residents. The high number of people involved in income generation, their reasons for having moved to the ward, the variation in household composition, their networks and their patterns of movement, all point to a complexity that does not seem apparent at the surface. Indeed, such variation is hardly ever taken into account in resettlement schemes which propose one-size-fits-all solutions.

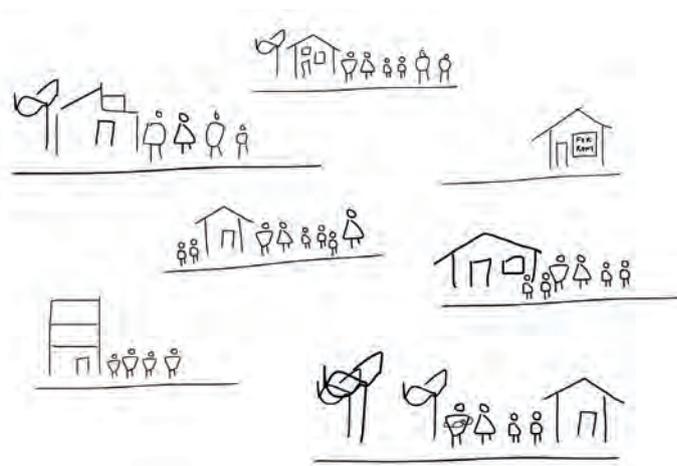
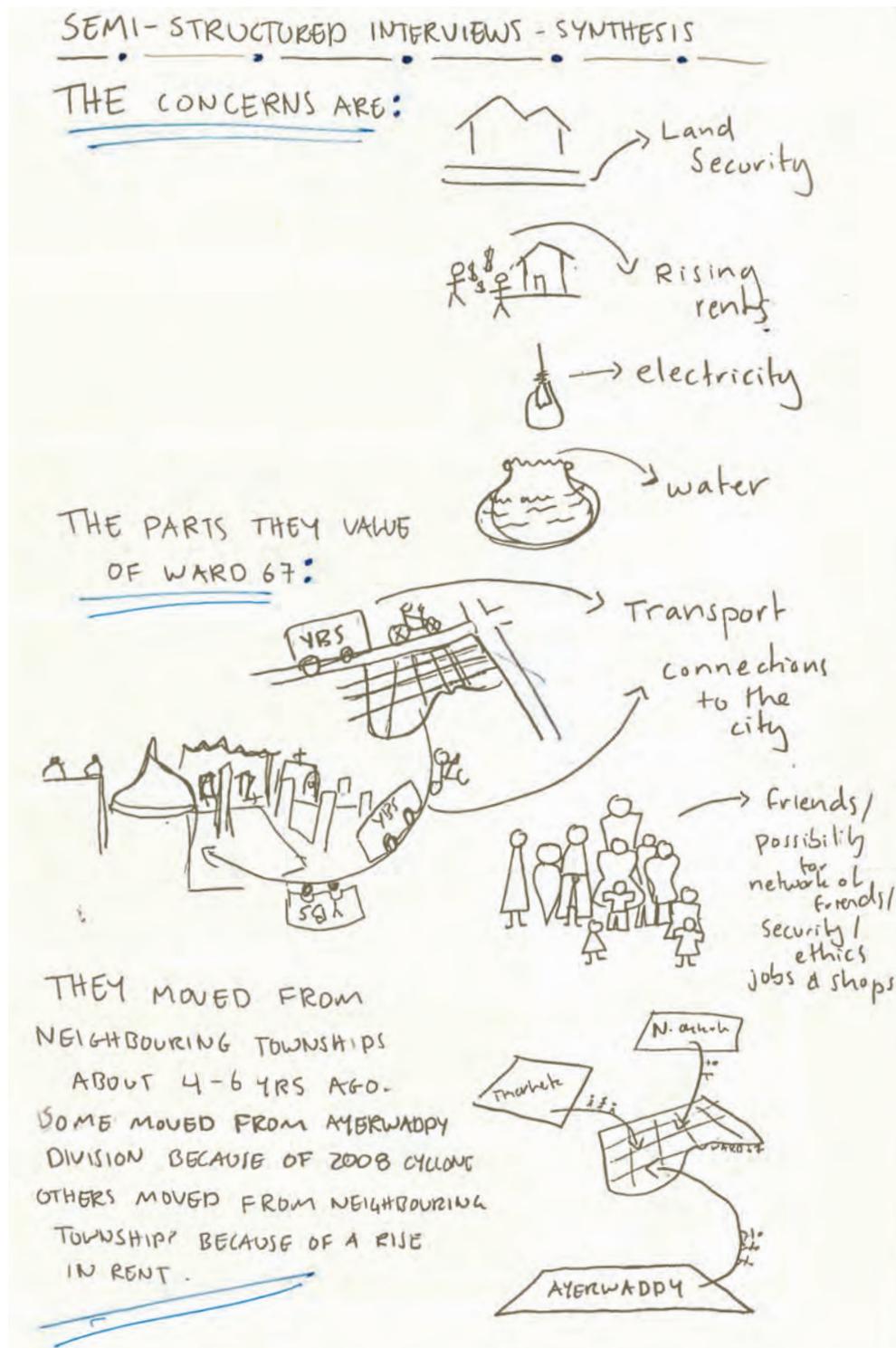


Fig. 4.9. Varying constitution of households
Source: by authors, 2017

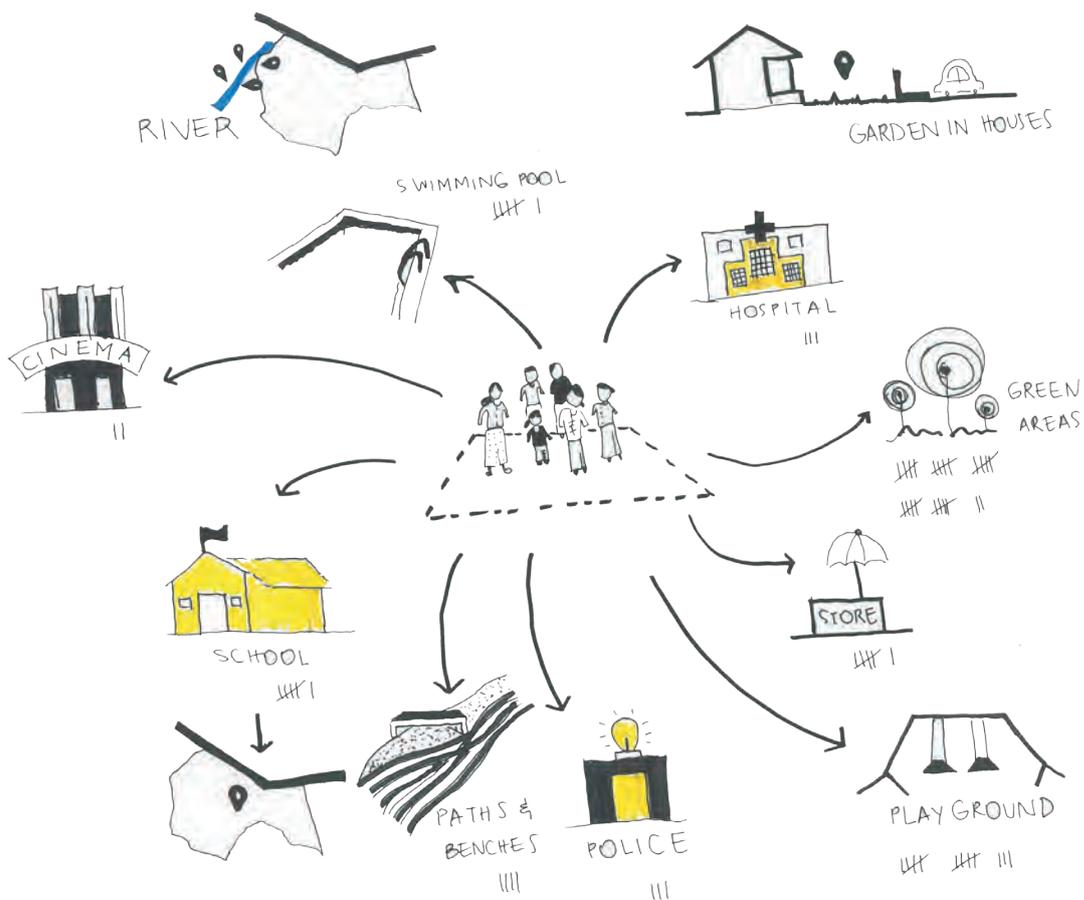
Fig. 4.10. Summary of findings from semi structured interviews
Source: by authors, 2017



4.4. FINDINGS FROM SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS AND DRAWING ACTIVITY

The findings from the interviews and the drawing activity allowed insights into the priorities and needs of the residents at Ward 67. The interviews highlight the residents' concerns for basic provisions of land tenure, access to drinking water and electricity - amenities that are provided to most other residents of the city. Despite the lack of these basic services, the families that live in the settlement choose to do so because of Yangon's rising rent and unaffordability and the security of family and other community networks that have been developed in the years that they have lived in the Ward. In addition, Ward 67 is located close to transport facilities that connect to the downtown area, and the industries and construction in the immediate vicinity provide suitable employment opportunity to the residents. The drawing activity produced a cognitive map of sorts, of the aspirations of the community. The sketch below shows the priorities as envisioned by the residents, of having education and health facilities nearby, of creating public and gathering space near trees and the river, and of even a police station within the Ward.

Fig. 4.11. Summary of findings from drawing activity
Source: by authors, 2017



4.5. FINDINGS FROM COMBINED METHODS

The observation walks, informal interviews and lectures provided information about the housing production processes occurring in Yangon as whole and in Ward 67, more specifically.

In Ward 67, as in other wards studied by the other BUDD groups, residents are building their own houses. The process usually follows the steps of finding empty land, building houses with their own workforce, or using personal networks. In the most successful or older settlements, residents build some infrastructure collectively to provide services within the ward.

The government process takes another route, first legal land is provided, infrastructure is built and finally the buildings are constructed, with partnerships with the private sector. The last step is to sell the houses. This housing, even being considered social, is not financially accessible to the poorest population.

WFW is promoting a third scenario, in which poor people participate collectively with workforce and money, while receiving loans from private banks. The government in this case, is responsible for facilitating land acquisition and collective ownership.

Fig. 4.12. Government-led process of housing production
Source: by authors, 2017

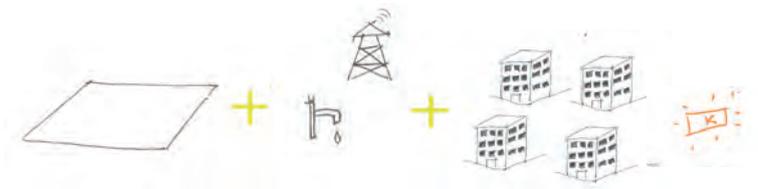


Fig. 4.14. Ward residents-led process of housing production
Source: BUDD Group 2, 2017

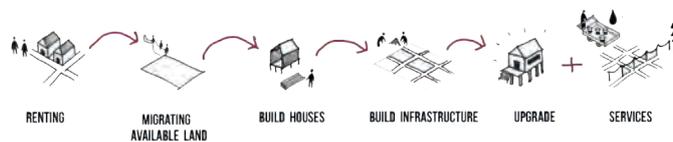
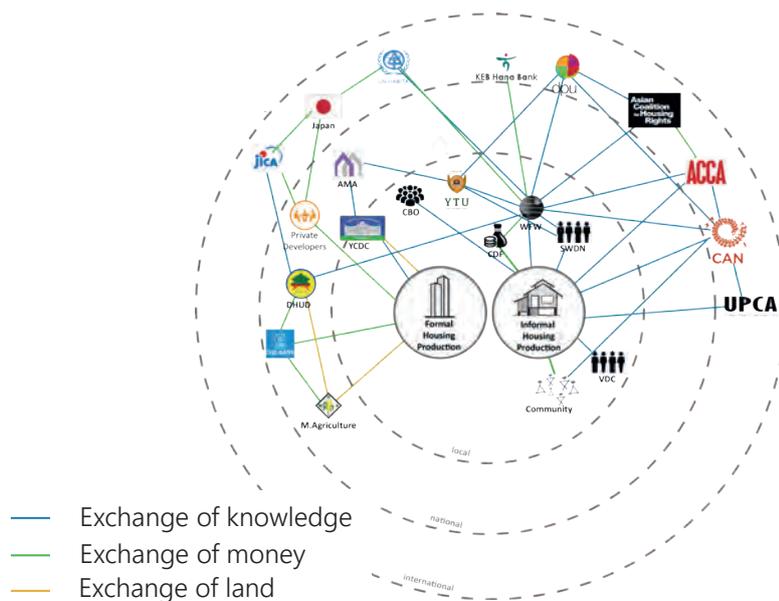


Fig. 4.13. Actors involved in the government-led and ward residents-led housing production processes
Source: by authors, 2017



4.6. FINDINGS FROM LIVELIHOOD AND OBJECT MAPPING

The last two exercises were designed specifically to spatially map movement, production economies and livelihood networks within Ward 67 and its connection to Yangon. As seen in the diagram of the livelihood mapping, the first family moved to the Ward only in 2017, having first migrated to Thingangyun following the cyclone in 2008. Their livelihood relies on the hawking of chicken skewers at the Tharketa market. The spatial mapping of their daily trajectories shows connections to the informal economies in two nearby townships, namely Tamwe and Tharketa. In addition, while the public realm activities are carried out by the only adult male in the house, the preparation of the chicken takes place at home, and involves other members of the family.

The second family reveals a rather different trajectory, having moved to Ward 67 from North Dagon, with mostly adults and a seeming female head of the household. Their livelihood relies on the local garment industries in North Dagon, to source the basic material and then sell the finished product in the Theingyi market in downtown Yangon. Multiple family members are involved in this production and once again, the mapping reveals unexpected local economic networks around the settlement. The object mapping, in addition reveals interesting information regarding the perceived items of value in each household, and their source.

As such, the results confirm the assumption that the individual lived experiences of men and women in the Ward are certainly part of wider social and economic patterns and forces that prevail in the city. A key observation is that between the two households surveyed, one produced to sell nearby and the other to sell downtown. Both reveal the undeniable presence of informal economies that feed into the city, but challenge the notion that such sectors remain independent from formal economies.

Fig. 4.15. Family composition and their housing trajectories of interviewed
Source: by authors, 2017
(a) family 1
(b) family 2

- * Ko Myo Thint (M/33)
- * Ma Cho Mar (F/38)
- * Ma Sein Myint (F/40)
- * Maw Maw (F/6)

- Daw Cho Cho Nwe (F/47)
- Daw Htway Nyunt (F/83)
- Daw Son Son Nwe (F/37)
- Mg Nay Lin Myo (M/27)
- Mg Nay Lin Phyo (M/20)

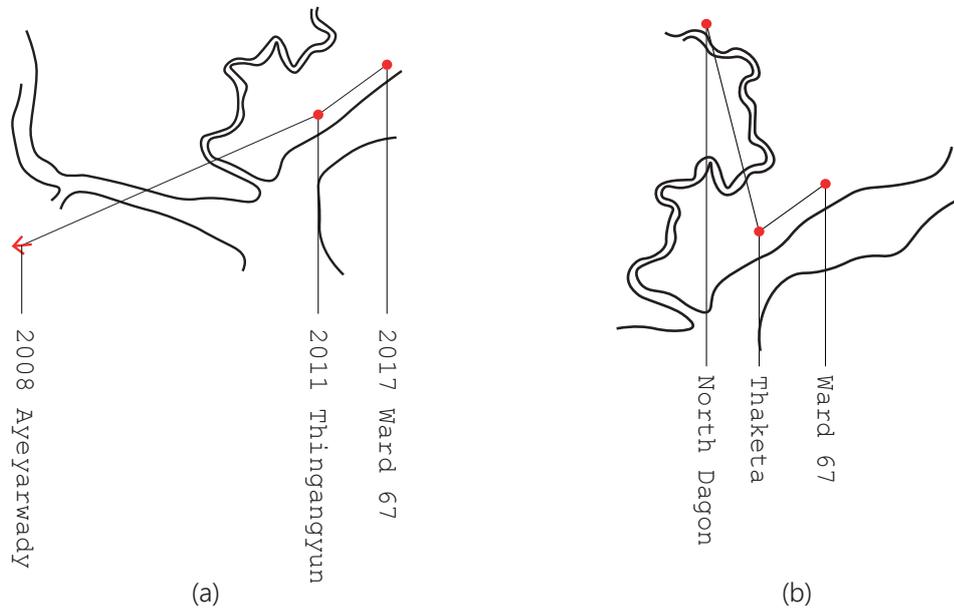


Fig. 4.16. Livelihood mapping for family 1
Source: by authors, 2017

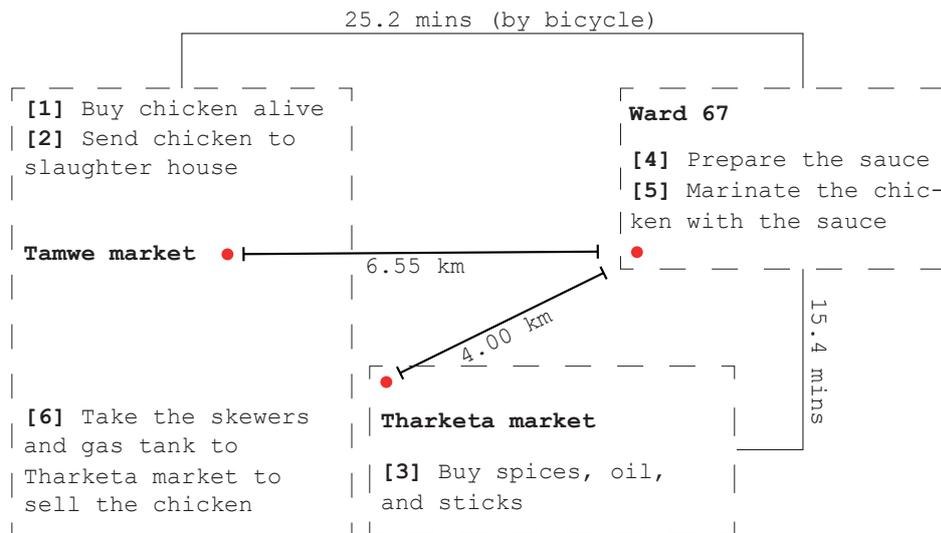


Fig. 4.17. Livelihood mapping for family 2
Source: by authors, 2017

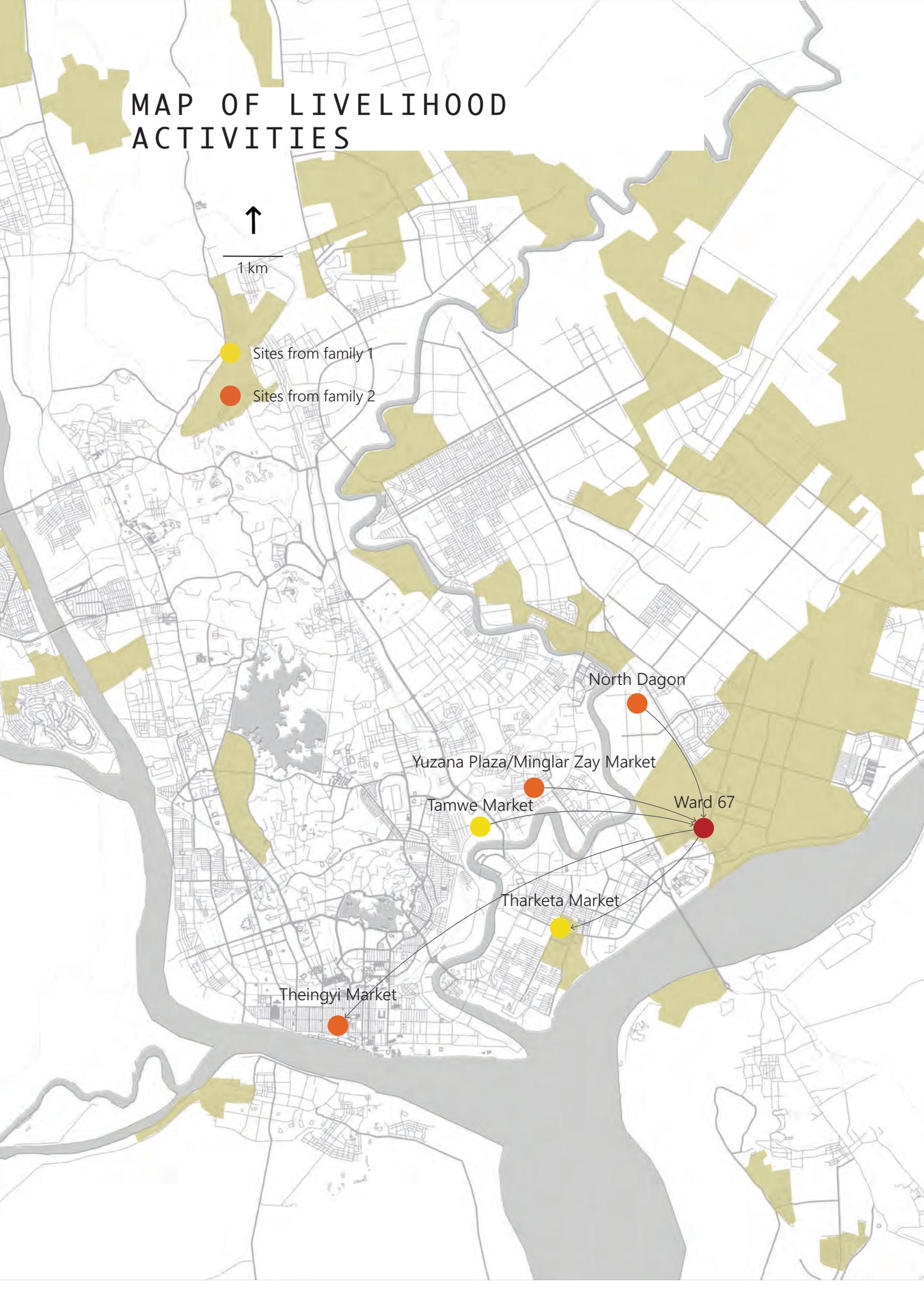


MAP OF LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES



1 km

- Sites from family 1
- Sites from family 2



North Dagon

Yuzana Plaza/Minglar Zay Market

Tamwe Market

Tharketa Market

Theingyi Market

Ward 67

Fig. 4.18. Object mapping for family 1
Source: by authors, 2017

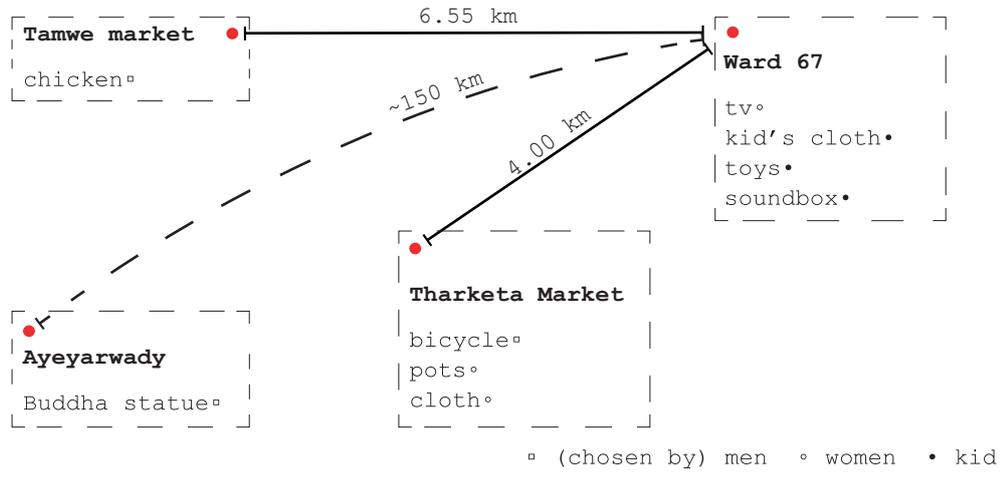
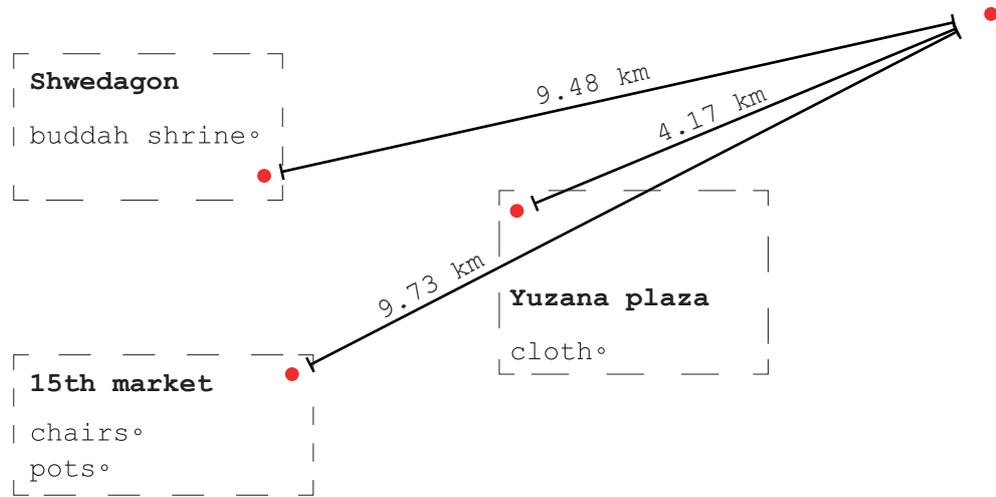


Fig. 4.19. Object mapping for family 2
Source: by authors, 2017



MAP OF ORIGINS OF OBJECTS



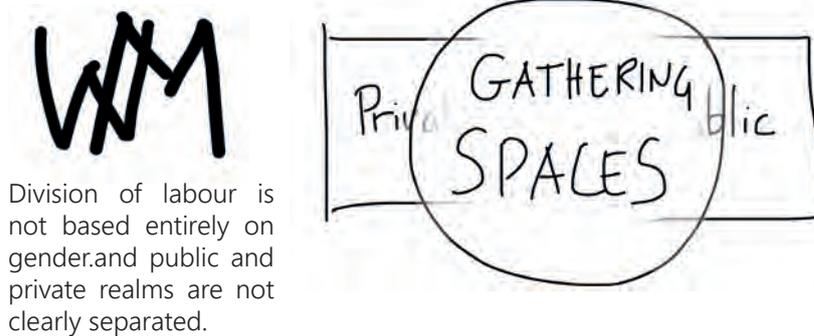
4.7. ANALYSIS

The methods used and the findings presented attempt to unpack the city, through an understanding of Ward 67, by focussing on the concept of livelihoods. This approach, combined with gender sensitive methodology, aims to provide a richer understanding of the processes and connections in the city, that could form the basis for more informed design solutions. In addition, the process also acknowledges the subjectivity and "situatedness" of the findings, the likely multiplicity of knowledge produced, and thereby rejects the possibility of "absolute truths" (Datta, 2003).

As detailed in the preceding section, by examining the lived experiences of men and women, the findings revealed a settlement with a rich social structure and well established internal systems of organisation and governance. Additionally, the flexible usage of space implied a rather blurred division between private and public, both at the household and neighbourhood scale. This challenges the separate 'spheres' of gender and space usage that many urban study theories seem to prescribe to (Rendell, 2000).

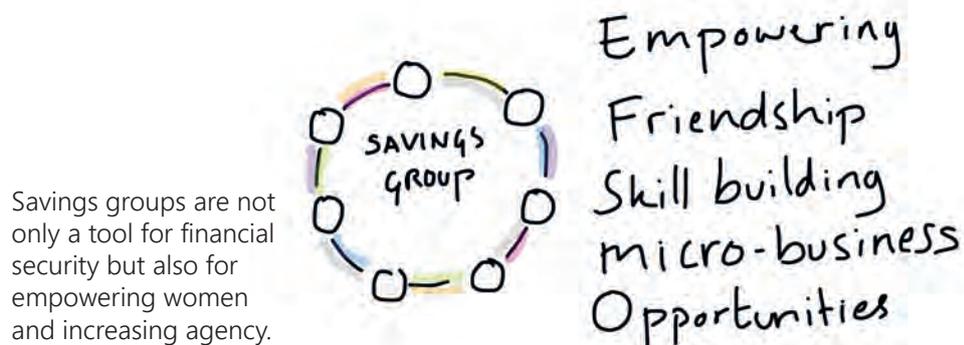
Second, the findings in Ward 67 also pointed to the informal networks and support systems that the residents had developed in the absence of support from the government towards providing them with secure futures. In particular, the involvement of Women for the World and the establishing of multiple savings groups and their successes is evidence of an entire alternate mode of urbanism being driven by civil society and the women in the community. The findings demonstrate how these systems are not removed from the functioning of the state at all, and are perhaps a result of the state's failure to recognise alternate ways of planning (Roy, 2005).

Fig. 4.20. Findings that challenge gender norms
Source: by authors, 2017



Division of labour is not based entirely on gender and public and private realms are not clearly separated.

Fig. 4.21. Roles of savings groups
Source: by authors, 2017



Savings groups are not only a tool for financial security but also for empowering women and increasing agency.

Thirdly, the informal economies and channels of operation suggest that the binaries of formal and informal sectors are rather unclear, and that this mode of informality needs greater understanding in order to be addressed. In the absence of clear legislation and fractured processes of governance, much of the organisation within the ward, and the city, rely on informal systems of "nalehmu", or 'understanding'.

And finally, a combination of the threat of eviction, the support systems offered by the savings groups, and a lack of trust in the formal banking system, seem to have given rise to catalytic action within the settlement. The formal links made with WFW, YCDC and the YTU have called attention to the issues of the right to land and have become the starting point for negotiations. As such, these findings can be seen as a way to understand how wider social, political and economic forces are being resisted and negotiated by the urban poor in Yangon.

Yet, it is premature to claim that the findings present a reality that represents all sections of the urban poor in the city. What it does, is to reveal that there is greater complexity to the prevalent informality and suggests the need to go beyond terms such as 'slums' or 'squatter settlements', which tend to homogenise such spaces as merely illegal and poor (Roy, 2005). Undoubtedly, the achievements of the savings groups, the empowerment of women, the self-mapping, the formal networks established with civil society organisations, all establish a very different reality present in Ward 67. The analysis presented here, thus, seeks to disaggregate the reality and demonstrate its heterogeneity, that might therefore require different ways of seeing and addressing Yangon's urbanism.



Fig. 4.22. Batch work legal system regarding land ownership
Source: by authors, 2017

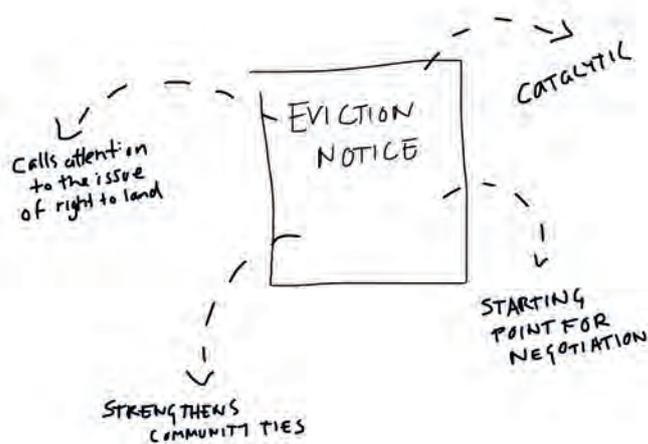
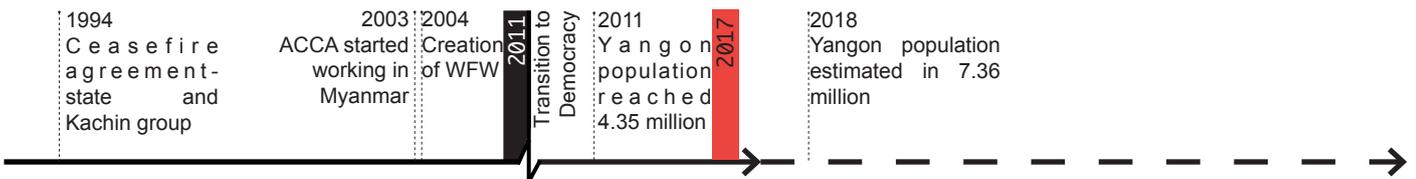
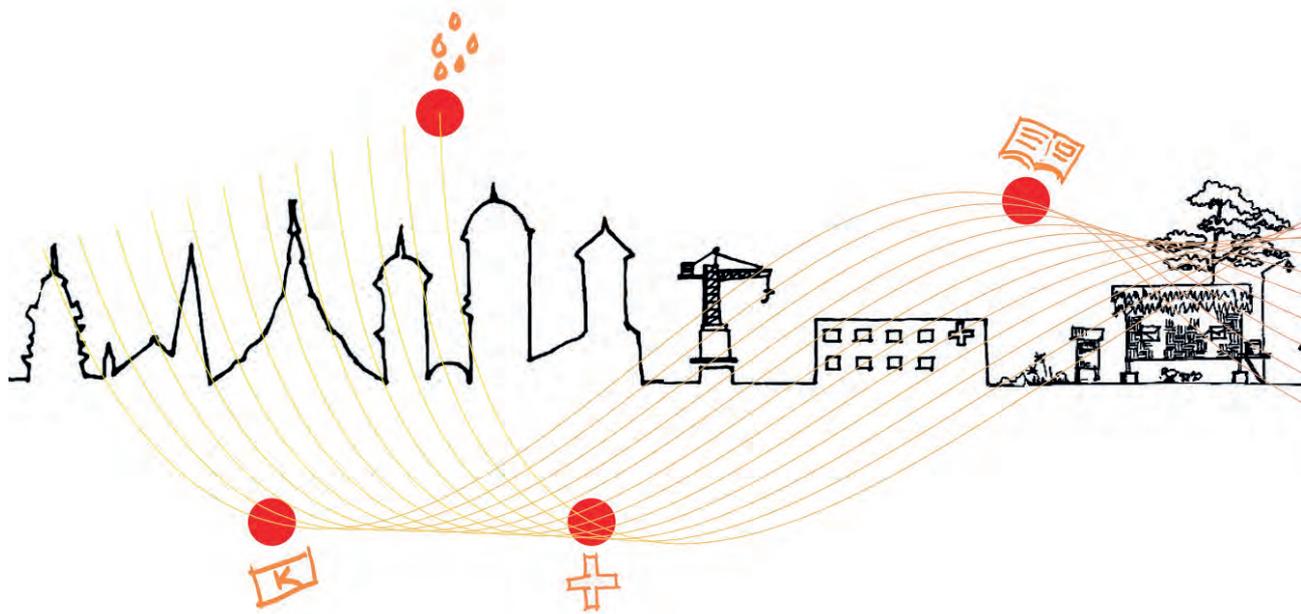


Fig. 4.23. Eviction as a catalytic force
Source: by authors, 2017



5 STRATEGIES





5.1. VISION

Yangon as a city built on the richness of its existing networks, recognising the differences within it and designed to harness on the potential of its diversity.

The vision is supported by four principles. Recognition of the diversity within Myanmar that is presented in two scales: inside the settlements and in the city. It is fundamental to identify the different assets and opportunities presented to leverage them. Build partnerships according the efforts made by different actors. This aims to build trust, foster cooperation and exchange resources through the sharing of knowledge. Redistribution of agency that recognize the different efforts or trajectories of communities, ngos, state or private sector. The agency for certain purposes can be redistributed to foster multiple participation for common goals. All this ideas aims to preserve local identity and culture.

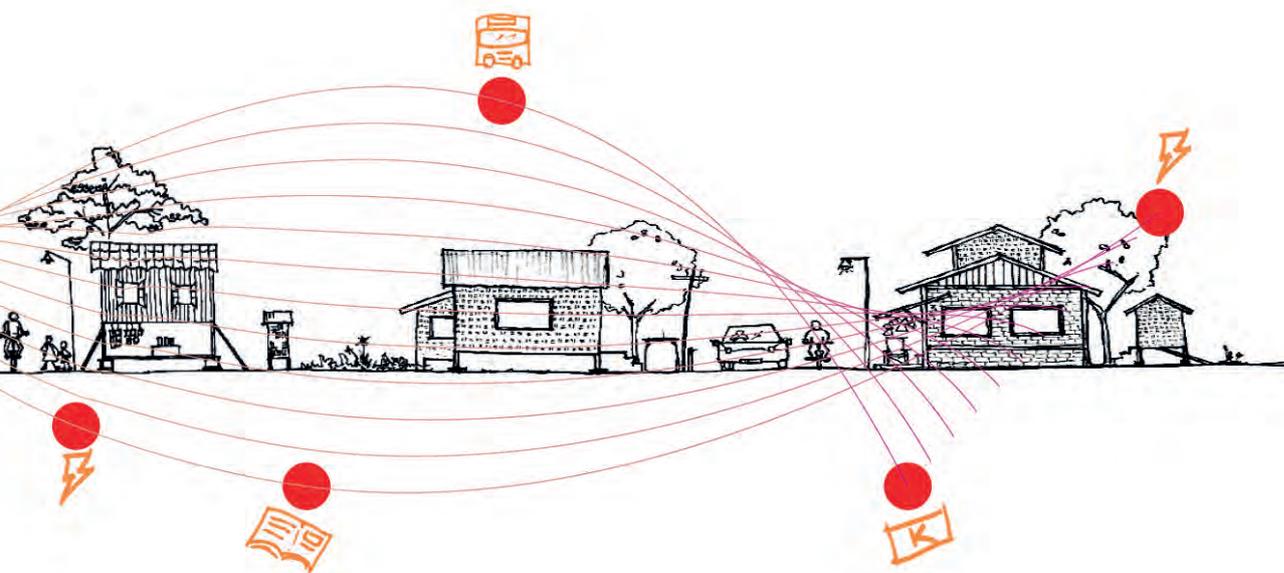


Fig. 5.1. Ward scale SWOT analysis.
Source: by authors, 2017



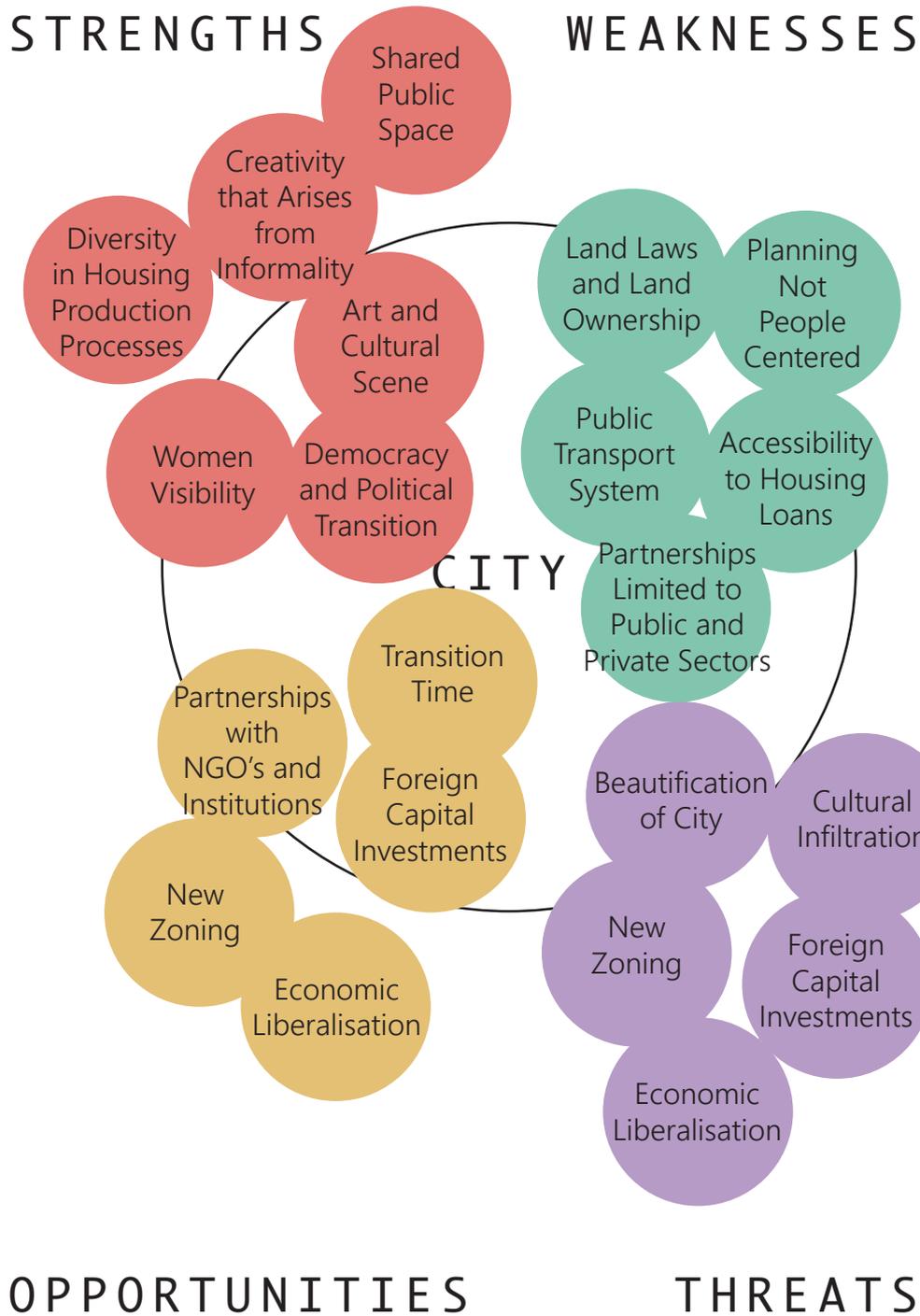
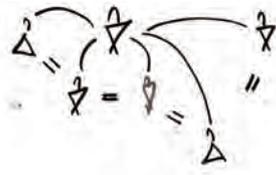


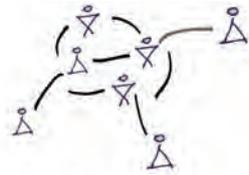
Fig. 5.2. City-wide scale SWOT analysis. Source: by authors, 2017

5.2. PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES

PRINCIPLES



Redistribution of Agency



Build Partnerships and Trust



Preserve Local Identity and Culture

GUIDELINES

Foster local research and expand knowledge-base with partnerships

Build platforms and partnerships to promote livelihood opportunities

Fulfillment of collective needs through collective actions

Support micro business inside the community

Negotiation of stakeholder's agency by the redistribution of strengths at different scales

02/2017

10/02

TOR was given

27/02

First Presentation of Framework

03/2017

Pre-Field Trip

04/2017

5.3. INTRODUCTION TO STRATEGIES

Using the analytical framework and information gathered during the fieldtrip the following design strategies are recommended for citywide upgrading:

Research-led urban design outlines the importance of research in the urban design process and the type of research needed to support good urban design interventions.

City governance structures that support diversity and multiple processes of city building outlines the importance of a governing system that supports diversity to maintain the unique and important qualities of Yangon identity.

Urban design projects that support livelihoods argues the value of using the concept of livelihoods to understand the city and guide urban design interventions, offering several examples.

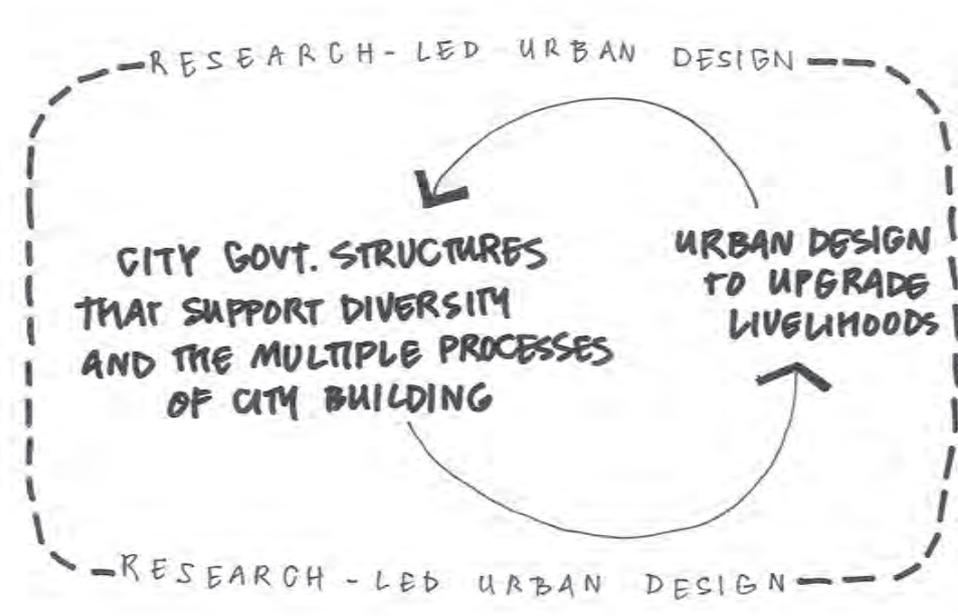


Fig. 5.3. Strategy diagram

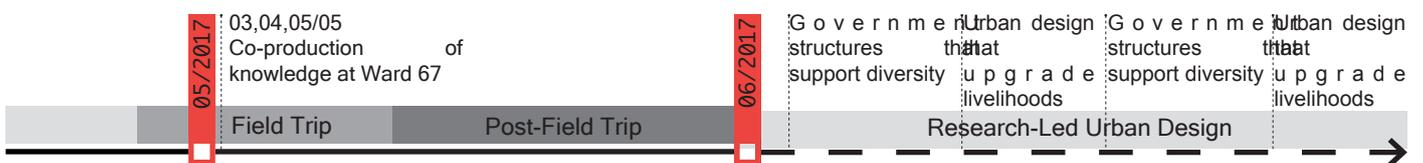
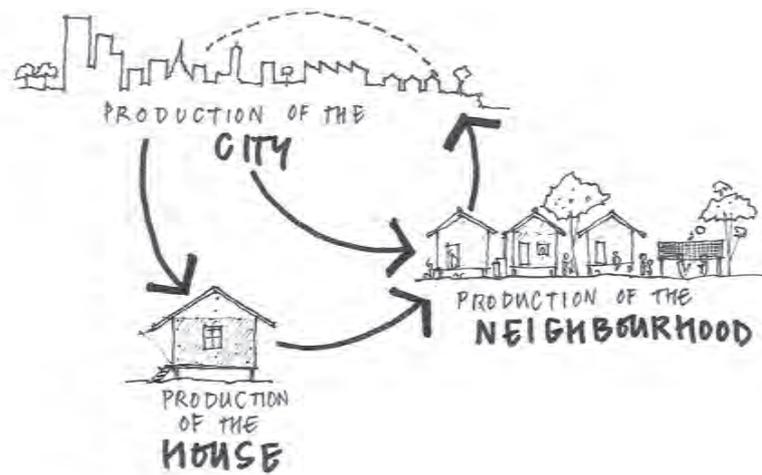


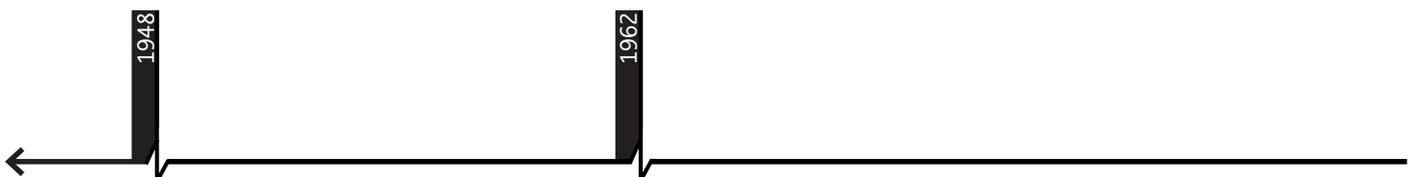
Fig. 5.4. Production of the urban environment
Source: by authors, 2017



Rather than providing site-specific design for different scales these three strategies focus on the connections between city scales acknowledging that no section of the city exists in isolation.

Currently Yangon is a city of diversity with immense amount of human energy. For this diversity and uniqueness to be maintained, the city to continue to benefit from that energy, and support the needs of its citizens, it is required that the city governance structures let multiple processes of city building occur.

While there are many actions needed to make this happen, the following recommendations are based on the research conducted over the course of this project, in particular the Field Trip, and on what was identified as a city building process that is currently supporting many people. The threat is that these processes become restricted in this period of transition because of a lack of connections and resources, and as a result the potential for transformation is not realized.



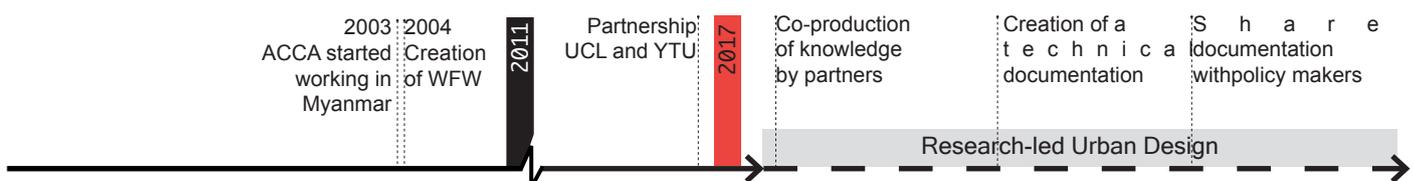
5.4. RESEARCH-LED URBAN DESIGN

How to incorporate research as an integral part of the city development process?

Most urban design theories stress the importance for the theory of urban design to be developed further: that better theory is needed to inform better action and better theory is based on research. Moving beyond the axiomatic, the strategy for Research-led Urban Design suggests that research that generates information and creates knowledge is a central part of the urban design process. Such research should then reflect the ethics and purpose of urban design, creating knowledge that is simultaneously social, spatial and political. In addition, the knowledge needs to be easily communicated, contextualised and reviewed, in order to realise its full potential.

We have tried to demonstrate the possibilities and quality of information that this approach offers throughout this project. In keeping with our understanding that the report is in itself a part of the urban design process, we developed an analytical framework, methodologies and methods that would reveal variegated knowledge, which would inform our recommendations.

This strategy builds on our partners' commitment to participatory practices towards research that is both relevant and socially inclusive. As this report demonstrates, grounded and diversified research can challenge and demystify normative assumptions. This knowledge, then, needs to reach multiple sites of power and translate into policy, so that we do not continue to design for dominant groups. Since those who are an integral part of the system will find it easier to intervene in structural systems than those who are external to it, institutions like the DPU, ACHR and CAN, need to support the capacity of YTU and WFW to initiate change. This can be done by assisting in the theory building process, using a transdisciplinary approach and the education of the next generation of students and researchers.



5.4.1. Recommendations for Research Processes

Socio-spatial Research	The reason the work related to urban design is both social and spatial is because of the understanding of the term urban. All cities are designed by human action, and the urban exists where there are multiple built forms built by multiple people and there is a conicity between them. Thus, the urban cannot be simply understood as physical and so, design within the urban environment must consider the spatial and social elements of a city not as two parts of a city but rather indistinguishable as 'socio-spatial'. Such research therefore can be understood as social, but identified or located in space, which makes visible the networks and connections that make up the social and economic fabric of the city.
Gender Sensitive Research	Gendered research methods take into account gender as a significant variable in development, paying attention to who is doing what and the link with the topic of research. Thus, <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acknowledges power relations between women and men, in the household, community, society, and so on• Acknowledges the division of labour, roles and responsibilities between women and men• Acknowledges differences and multiple identities• Acknowledges our own bias as researchers• Uses and produces disaggregated data• Anticipates impacts of new policies or practices on men and women• Uses gender sensitive language
Co-produced knowledge	As researchers, it is important to be aware and respectful of the processes of data collection and documentation. The subjectivity of the process is undeniable, yet, such biases can be addressed or regulated if the knowledge is produced collectively, where the responsibility for the information is shared equally between its creators. The inclusion of transdisciplinary techniques and participatory methodology can add to the richness of the content produced and ensure the mutual validation of the knowledge.

In order for the knowledge to be disseminated to a wider audience, the information needs to be easily accessible, easily read and easy to reproduce. The following are recommendations to support the audiencing of research and documentation:

- Open source
- Legible
- Visualize information when appropriate
- Translated where required
- Referenced/Sources acknowledged/Verified?
- Meets an appropriate diagram standard/guidelines, i.e., Title, legend, scale, direction, etc.

**Communicable
knowledge**

Since any knowledge produced is done so within a defined context with certain variables and factors, it is important that this is acknowledged the resulting data acknowledges this. In addition, it should acknowledge the positionality of researcher, as a way to remain true to the intent of the data. The information can also be contextualised by comparing it with other data, by referencing it to other sources, and by acknowledging the time and place it is produced marking it with a date to contextualise it in time.

**Context-
ualised
knowledge**

Borrowing an architectural concept of Post Occupancy Reviews, this final recommendation is to document observations, both social and spatial, and compare 'outcomes' with processes of delivery, and find ways to use them to support and improve the process. Such a systematic view, taking into account the entire process of the creation or recreation of space helps establish urban interventions as long-term, ongoing processes that are intertwined with social and political mechanisms.

**Longitudinal
study**

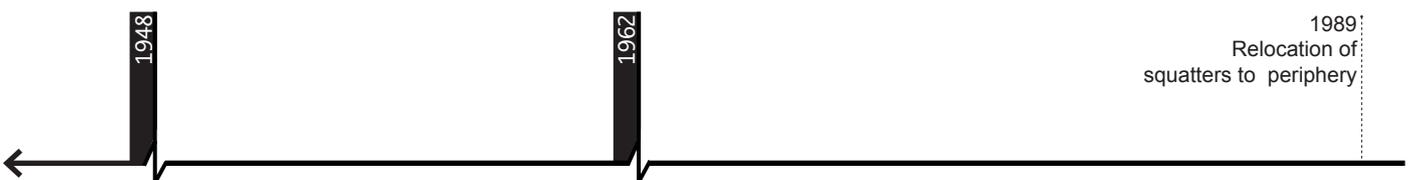
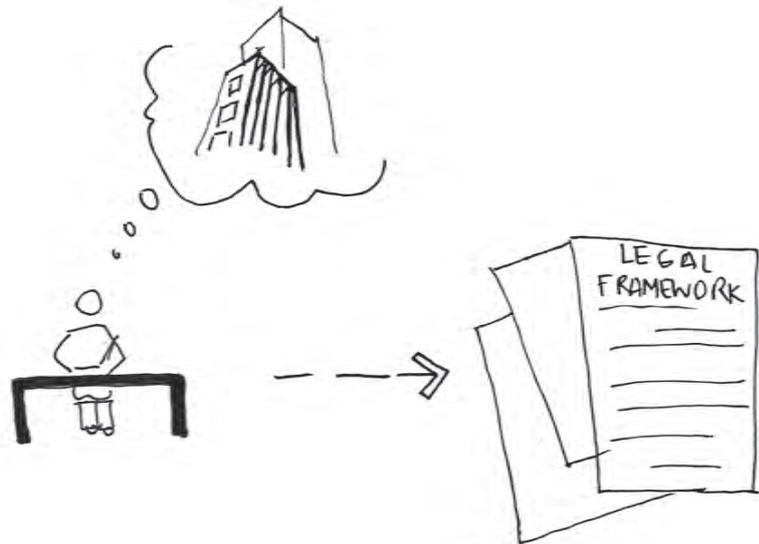
5.5. CITY GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES THAT SUPPORT MULTIPLE PROCESSES OF CITY BUILDING

How to make WFW construction model adopted and/ or supported by the government?

Currently the governance structures rely on a patch-worked legal system as a result of the transition from military rule to a democratic model. These legal systems are under review and new policy and laws being produced, which is an opportunity for positive transformation. However there is a threat that these policies and laws will favor one type of city building that accidentally omits the needs of a large part of the population of Yangon.

However the information needed to mitigate this threat already exists in the communities. As noted in the findings there are people who have navigated the current shortcomings of the legal framework, and despite having the least resources in the city, successfully produced housing. These self-build projects are generating neighborhoods that are vibrant and community-led in a way that addresses the needs of those with the least access to resources. These collectiveness could support a large part of the population, but the legal and financial systems are at the moment the biggest obstacle.

Fig. 5.5. Policy making process
Source: by authors, 2017



As such we recommend that this information and knowledge inform the new policy and laws, by supporting the connection between these communities and the people developing the new legal framework.

If the information and knowledge of these communities are included in the process of transforming the legal framework it will support a vital city building process that can benefit from and support the diversity and human energy of the city. and most importantly offer the means of securing the necessities of life for many people who experience the difficulties of poverty, promoting equitable city upgrading and positive transformation in this time of transition.

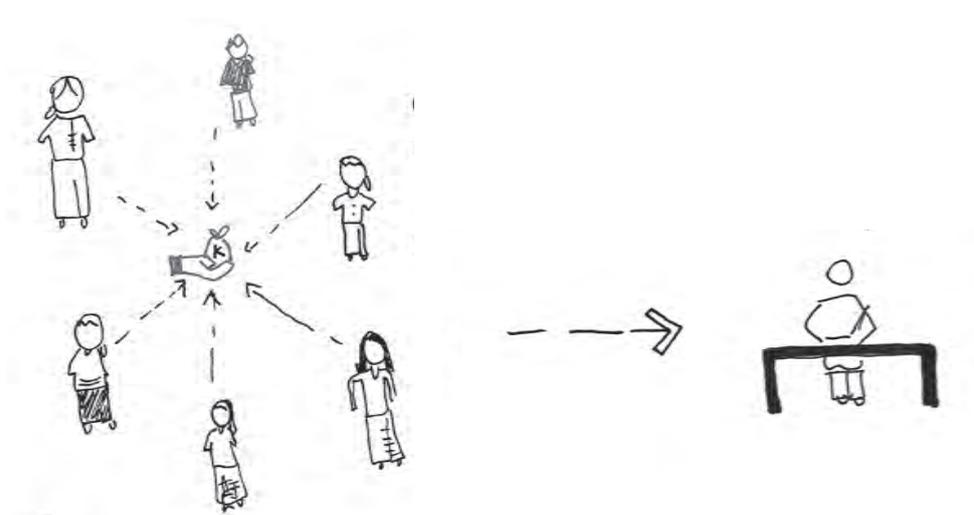
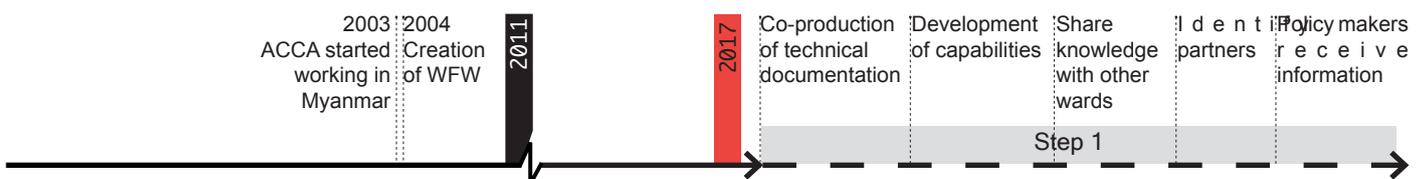


Fig. 5.6. Alternative policy making process
Source: by authors, 2017



5.5.1. STEP 1

Now, several savings group meet to share experiences or support newer groups. We recommend that these meetings have the purpose of preparing to communicate their knowledge to policy makers. Typically, for this information to make it to policy makers, it goes through several people with the risks to dilute its effectiveness. We recommend that the savings groups, through WFW, connect directly to consultants that have a nexus with policy makers or agency in policy design.

Time consideration: This can be achieved quite soon. The women from the savings groups already have the information, and this simply needs to be refocused towards informing policy and law reform.



BUILD A BODY
OF DOCUMENTATION
TO SUPPORT ARGUMENTS



BUILD THE
CAPACITY TO COMMUNICATE
THE REALITY



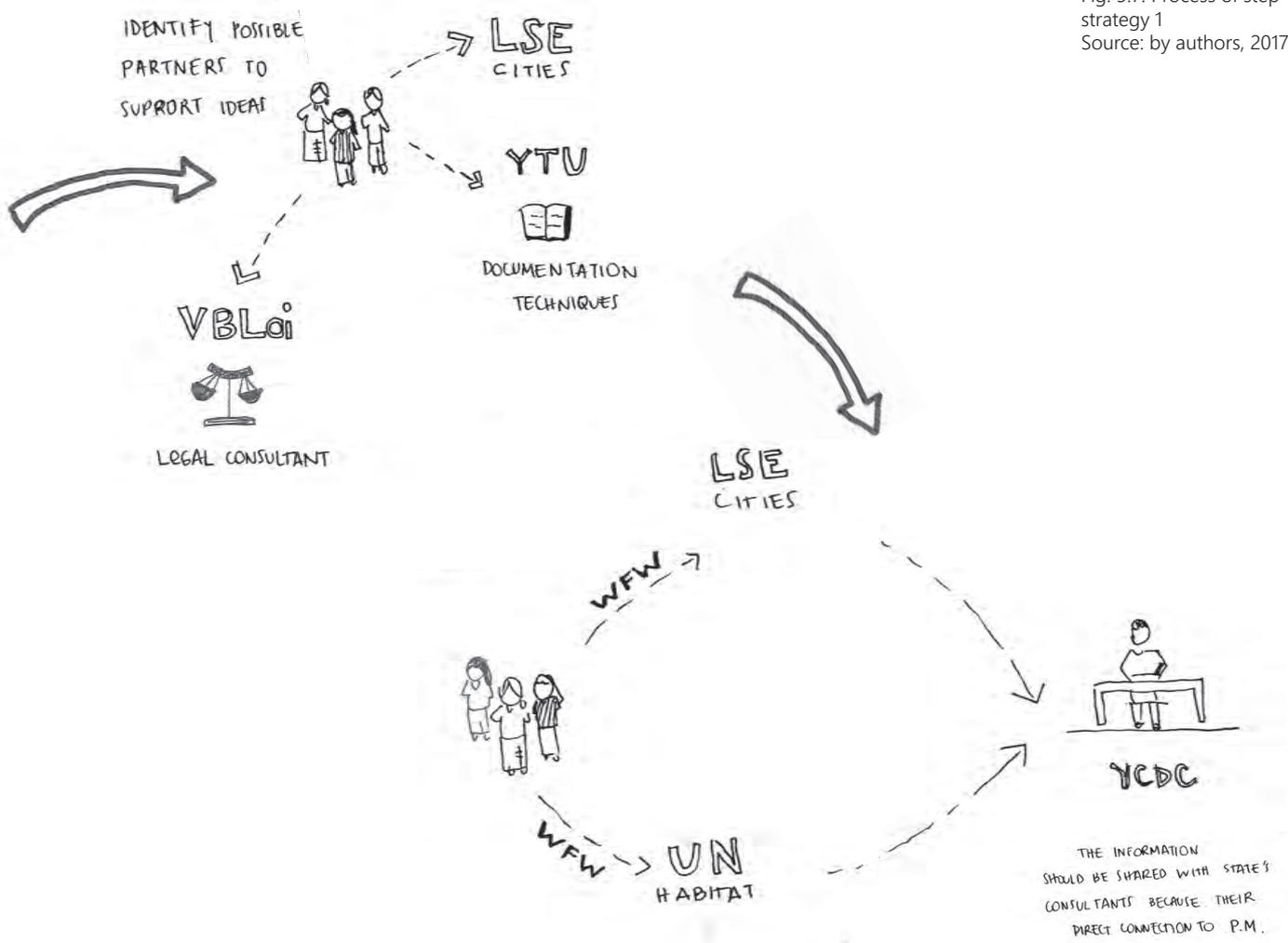
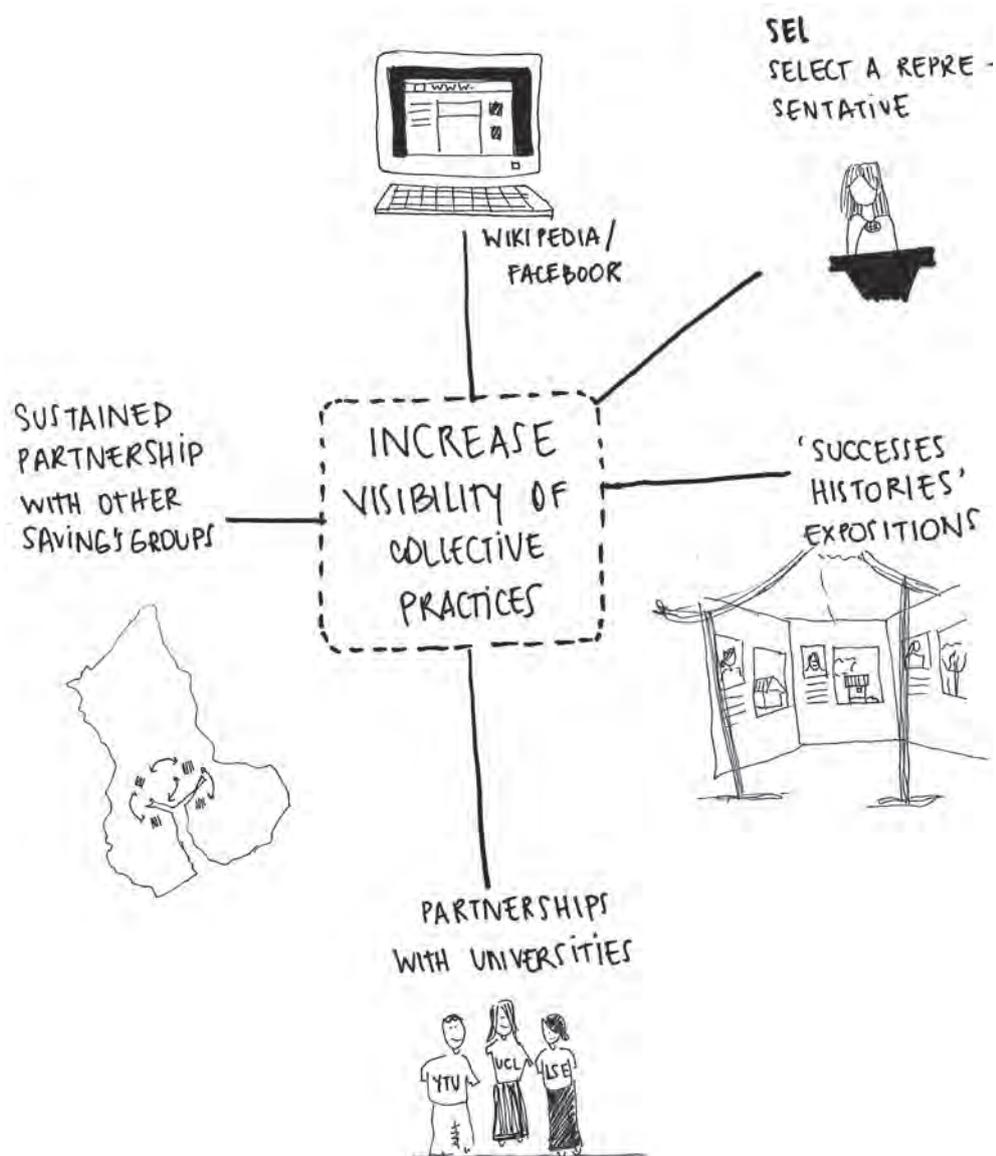


Fig. 5.7. Process of step 1 of strategy 1
Source: by authors, 2017

We also suggest that this process support and inform the democratic channels and that the information reaches the regional and national level. As such the information should go through the political representative system where these communities communicate directly with YCDC, and then YCDC, with the support of YHT advocating on behalf of these needs at a national level or if possible again supporting that direct communication between the women from the savings group and the people developing the policy and law.

Time consideration: The implementation of the second stage will rely on the speed that the new policies and laws are being produced at.

Fig. 5.8. Alternative to increase the feasibility
Source: by authors, 2017



5.6. URBAN DESIGN PROJECTS THAT SUPPORT LIVELIHOODS

Currently, planning systems in Yangon deal with social and spatial components of the city separately. The diversity of the population, their complex relations, networks and routines are either misrepresented or absent, creating an imbalance in the development of the city. For this reason, acknowledging people and their circuits of daily lives in planning systems is important for a more equitable transformation, where both spaces and lives are improved.

Using the findings detailed in the previous section of the report, this strategy focuses on urban design initiatives that support the production of the built environment as well as economies that dovetail with the diversity of processes that coexist in Yangon. The strategy is based on the concept of a 'sustainable livelihood' which "is a means of living which is resilient to shocks and stresses, and which does not adversely affect the environment" (Meikle, Ramasut & Walker, 2001). It uses the Sustainable Livelihoods framework, developed by DFID, which is dynamic and adaptable, as it depends on promoting and enhancing livelihoods relating to both men and women's own priorities, capabilities, assets and activities addressing equity without endangering natural resources.

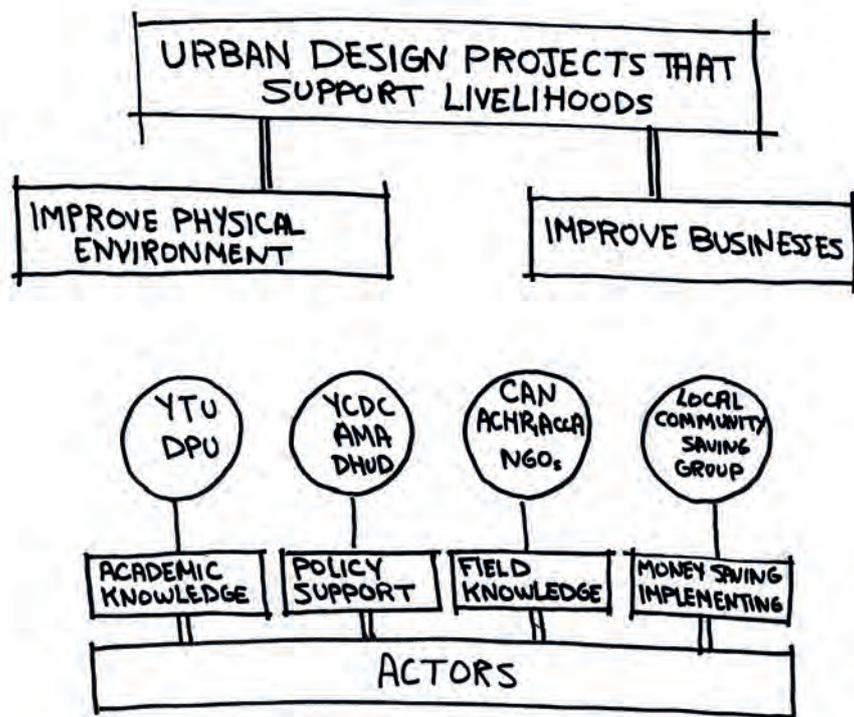


Fig. 5.9. Flowchart for strategy implementation
Source: by authors, 2017

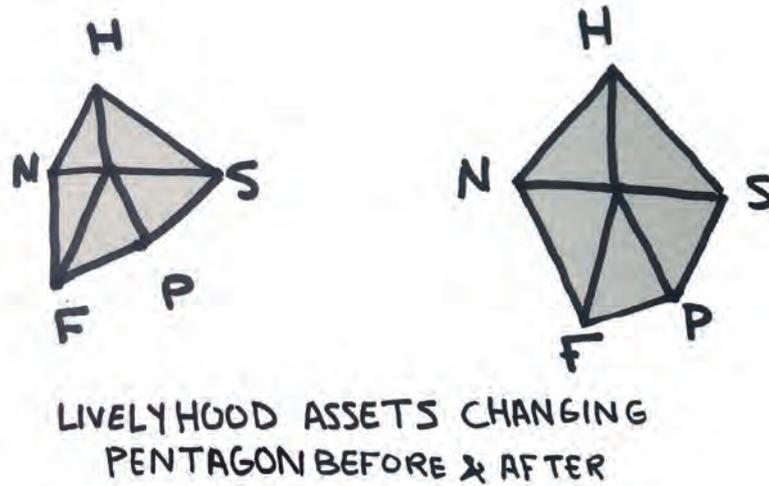
Fig. 5.10. Strategy to improve physical environment
Source: by authors, 2017





Fig. 5.11. Strategy to improve business
Source: by authors, 2017

Fig. 5.12. Asset evaluation
Source: adapted from DFID
cited by Rakodi (2002)

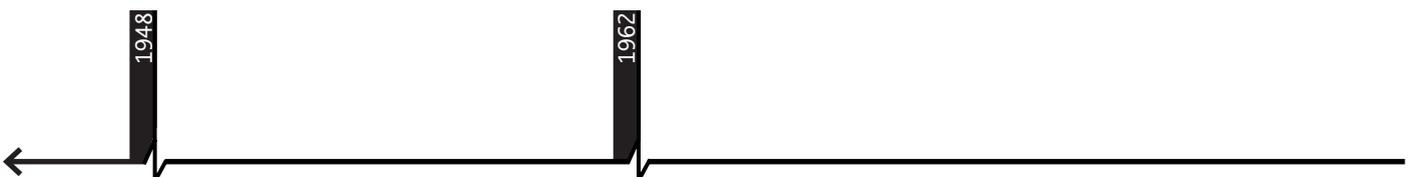


Evaluation of the strategy through the Pentagon:

Livelihoods assets is a pentagon that can change in size in relation to the accessibility to the 5 kinds:

- Human Capital (Labour-Health- Education & other skills)
- Social Capital (Social support mechanism & information)
- Physical Capital (Housing-livestock- economic and social infrastructure- production equipment)
- Natural Capital (Land, water &...)
- Financial Capital (Savings & Access to Credits)

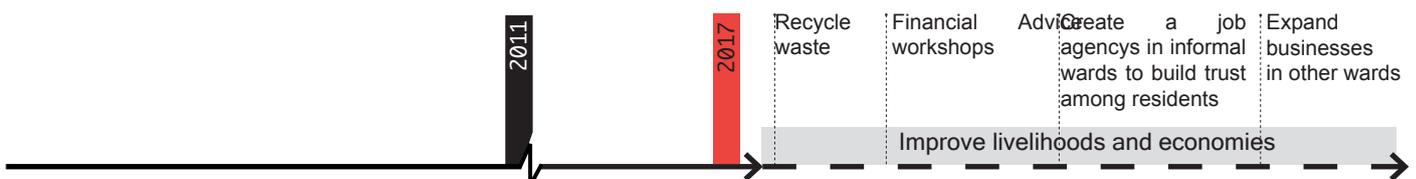
The figure shows that after applying any part of the strategy the accessibility of for natural and physical is improved.



5.6.1. Strategy 3 Conclusion

The sustainable livelihoods based strategy enhances a detailed social analysis of the community where it highlights the actual diversity of households and their economic activities.

It also recognises the importance of infrastructure and service in increasing households security by supporting livelihoods and building assets.



6 FINAL REFLECTION

6.1. CONCLUSION

In the current period of Myanmar's political and economic transition, Yangon is experiencing rapid growth and transformation. In trying to understand the complex processes shaping the city, we began our research using a flexible framework of analysis with a focus on livelihoods. We used a combination of social, spatial and gender sensitive methods that acknowledged the diversity of the settlement we worked in.. Collectively, the process allowed us to gather information that challenged normative beliefs, and the focus on livelihoods enabled us to reconceptualise the city as a series of processes and connections that support people's needs.

The current planning systems in Yangon deal with social and spatial components of the city separately. However, we believe that acknowledging people in planning systems is important for a more equitable transformation, and that the current moment of transition provides opportunities for change, and room to maneuver to impact transformation in a positive way. We saw Yangon as a multifaceted city with multiple and diverse networks, and numerous possibilities for positive change. In particular, our experience in Yangon revealed a wealth of potential in the form of women's savings groups that were supported by our partners Women for the World. In their work, we observed the capacity of women and men to collectively transform their lives and empower themselves.

As such, we developed strategies to support and build on the inspiring work of WFW in three ways. First, by encouraging in-depth research for the recognition of diversity to better the processes of design. Second, to promote partnerships that build trust, foster cooperation and increase the visibility of their work. Finally, to build partnerships that support the concept of self-sufficiency and redistribute agency. The strategies are designed to complement each other and to become a part of a long-term process intertwined with social and political mechanisms that shape the city.

6.2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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More than the analytical framework, all of these people framed our learning process and for that we are incredibly grateful.

Credits:

Daw Myint Myint Onn, Daw May Thingyan Tun, Daw Myint Myint Maw, Daw Ny O Htwe, Daw Soe Soe Khanng, Daw Zar Zar Htwe, Daw Than Than Oo, Daw Tin Tin Htwe, Ma Nang Yin Yin Maw, Ma Thin Zar Hnin, Ma Yoon Let Watee, Shune Let Ya Min, U Mawng Zaw, U Tin Shwe, U Zay Yar Tun, Aung Zaw Moe, Ei Kyi Phyu Thant, Jue Thet Chel Tun, Kaung Thant Sin, Khin San Myint, Naing Lin Oo, Khun Zeyar Oo , Anna Livia Cullinan, Houda Fansa, Jingran Sheng, Luciana Gallardo, Kshitija Venkatesh, Vitoria Faoro, Eaint May Me Ohn, Lei Wah Phw, Van Lisa Aung, WFW Interns, Hmu Khant, Hsu Lae Yee, Juu Thet Chel Tun, Naing Lin Oo, Camila Cocina , Camillo Boano, Catalina Ortiz, Gorgio Talocci, Giovanna Astolfo, Ricardo Marten

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APPENDIXES

A PARTNERS PROFILES

Women for the World (WFW) Address: No 1241 (B2) U Phoe Tun Street, Taung Thu Gone Ward, Insein Township Yangon, Myanmar.
Phone: +95 9-421117876
Facebook: not available
Website: not available
Co-Founder and Director: Daw Van Liza
Founded: 2004
Donors: unknown

A Yangon based NGO that facilitates 'community housing led by the people' through the creation of savings groups.

Yangon Heritage Trust (YHT) Address: 22/24, 1st floor, Pansodan Road (lower block) 11182 Yangon
Phone: +95 1 240 544
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/theyangonheritagetrust/>
Website: <http://www.yangonheritagetrust.org/home>
Founder and Chairman: Dr. Thant Myint-U
Established: 2012
Director and Vice Chairman: Daw Moe Moe Lwin
Donors: full list available on their website

"YHT is a non-profit organization that aims to protect and promote Yangon's urban heritage through the development of a cohesive urban plan for the city."

Yangon Technological University (YTU) Address: Insein Road, Yangon, Myanmar. At the intersection of Insein road and Say War Factory road.
Phone: +95 9 42027 5470
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Yangon-Technological-University/104045856297425>
Website: www.ytu.edu.mm
Rector: Dr. Myint Thein
Established: 1924
Donors: unknown

Association of Myanmar Architects (AMA) Address: Bogoke Aung San Road between Bo Aung Kyaw Road and Thein Phyu Road, 11201 Yangon, Myanmar
Phone: +95 9 731 54460
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Association-of-Myanmar-ArchitectsAMA-200954373272349/>
Website: "under construction"
President: U Sun Oo
Established: 2001
Donors: unknown

"The architect community in Myanmar first founded and officially registered the Institute of Burmese Architects (IBA) in 1961-62. But when the then Government banned the establishment of parties and organizations in 1963, the IBA was abolished. However,

from 1964 through 1988 students and faculty from the Department of Architecture formed the Society of Student Architects (SSA) that assumed a some professional and social roles capacity for students of architecture. In the early 1990s, the leading architects initiated the foundations for the current association by organizing social and professional activities. The Association of Myanmar Architects was formally established under the Associations Act on 6 June 2001, and recognized as a professional organization. It has, as of 2008, over 400 members, who constitute about 50% of total graduates."

Asia Coalition for
Housing Rights (ACHR)

Address: 73 Soi Sonthiwattana 4, Ladprao 110, Ladprao Rd, Bangkok 10310, THAILAND
Phone: 662 538 0919
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ACHR-Home-229255877130863/>
Website: <http://www.achr.net/index.php>
Secretary General: somsook boonyabancha
Established: 1989
Donors: unknown

"ACHR, now 24 years old, is a coalition of Asian professionals, NGOs and community organizations committed to finding ways to make change in the countries where their work is rooted - change that goes along with the particular realities of their own cultures, politics and ways of doing things. The collective experience of all these groups represents a huge quantum of understanding and possibilities - Asia's own home-grown development wisdom. After linking together as a coalition first in 1989, we began exploring ways of joining forces and supporting each other through a growing number of joint initiatives: housing rights campaigns, fact-finding missions, training and advisory programs, exchange visits, workshops and study tours, projects to promote community savings and community funds and citywide slum upgrading."

"Asian Coalition for Housing Rights is a network of community organisations in Asia working on issues related to urban poverty, slums and slum upgrading. It supports local organisations through professional exchanges and grants/loans through the ACCA programme."

Community Architects
Network (CAN)

Address: unsure
Phone: unavailable
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CommunityArchitectsNetwork/>
Website: <http://communityarchitectsnetwork.info/>
Co Ordinator: Mr. Chawanad Luansang and Mr. Supawut Boonmahathanakorn
Established:
Donors: unknown

"Community Architects Network is a regional network of community architects and planners, engineers, young professionals, lecturers and academic institutes in Asian countries. Established in 2010, the network has been supporting community- driven projects under the Asian Coalition for Community Action programme (ACCA) regarding people's housing, citywide upgrading, and recovery from disasters."

B CODE OF ETHICS AND PRELIMINARY PLAN OF ACTION

Presenting The person presenting or presenters must have different priorities to the rest of the group- to practice presenting, make sure they are rested and well dressed. Those not presenting are responsible for making sure the presenter has all visual material needed to present.

Facilitation That we use our individual forms of facilitating to support each other. That we try to pay attention to what our other group members might need.

Types of Facilitation identified:

- 'hosting' making sure everyone knows what is going on/ makes calls.
- having clear goals and being responsible for moving from one to the next in a non-rushed way.. Knowing when it's time to switch or cut something.
- Helping develop ideas on the spot
- Moving through an agenda
- Co-hosting supporting the process of making sure everyone knows what is going on.
- Archiving and organizing, managing the materials and the retrieval of material so things aren't left behind

Really important is that for 'data collection facilitation' not just 'teaching facilitating' you need people who are engaging so combination of degrees of co-hosting and archiving.

Activities That we do the activities as well and that ALL people in a space are invited to do the work from professors to students.

That we design our activities and adjust them as we get information and in relation to attention spans. Not more than 5 people presenting ever... more constant little presentations than one long summary one.

Not all things need to be shared but all things need to be discussed

Analysis of the activities is a shared experience, using Villa Ramachandran's approach
Material produced is always collected and put in our working binder BUT participants are always suggested to take photos or copies of the work (if appropriate) shared in the Facebook group.

that we start neutral then evolve to agenda.

Have activities prepared ahead of time incase schedule changes

Bundle activities to progress in difficulty

Do not assume to know the level of skills in the group

Facebook group To be translated with the help of the YTU Students.

Is our archive, method and way of making visible the knowledge co production

To support a process of transparency.

A group not a page because this isn't a marketing tool.

Potentially smart phones and internet are too expensive for regular use. Consider other cheaper ways of engaging.

Group work We should divide at times but no one should ever be left alone.

If the proportion of people from our group is greater than the group we are meeting.. people switch roles to more of a participant than a facilitator or take a break/ research another aspect of the site.

<p>Not everyone can attend always but if someone misses a meeting a short recap 15 min plus the opportunity for the missing person to contribute is arranged. We don't waste time talking to each other in the field unless it is to break off to support the transition to the next. 2 rounds of debriefing, one with our Myanmar counterparts one with just us. Maybe a pre shower and post shower system! First debrief is just a sharing of our observations from that day, not a lot of discussion. Someone takes detailed notes. Second debriefing, after a rest for time to reflect and synthesize then time for discussion... also time for those who need longer before expressing ideas... so contribution everyone's is more equal.</p>	Debriefing sessions
Culturally sensitive symbols, colours and styles .	Graphics
<p>That we view it as an asset not a hindrance. Enjoy the language. Track words that are difficult to translate either English to Myanmar or Myanmar to English.</p>	Translation
<p>That the data produced is done with a clear methodology so that the information can be used by other people and therefore respectful to the efforts of the local partners and savings group members.</p>	Material production
<p>We all download recording app. Our phone is always charged and with space. If we have power packs that they are always full at start of day. That our active binder is always with Vitoria and all hard copy originals go to her for archival We all have some of the business cards with us. A small emergency kit with sunscreen, water, snacks, etc is carried by one group member each day.. but small very small. A small stationary kit is carried by someone each day, it should include, Every night we check we have everything for the next day.</p>	Tools/ material for the field
<p>We all contribute a certain amount of money at the beginning, which is then signed out by Vitoria, a record of money spent must be returned to Vitoria at the end of the field trip. Decide carefully how much money we want to 'bring' to the area. (Washington school issue from the previous year)</p>	Money
<p>Sunday the 7th is a day of rest. NO work at all. We make sure we all look after our health.</p>	Rest
Always ask for permission first	Photographing and recording Names
<p>We write down key names and titles or find some system to remember them. Culturally sensitive with the use of names.</p>	Names
<p>Google drive. If we put something in there we must give a 'tour' of our additions Vitoria to make sure we are always aware of what is in the active binder. Maybe a photo in whatsapp system like the schedule?</p>	Archiving
<p>Make sure our questions are culturally sensitive Be areful our questions aren't leading or force a particular understanding (see presentation) Make sure our questions are actually good. E.g. What do you eat for breakfast versus</p>	Questions

Audiencing + Adjusting	<p>What did you eat for breakfast today. Be conscious and considerate of who we are asking and what we are asking them always</p> <p>Always consider the specific audience for a presentation or piece of material and why we are presenting it</p>
Skills transfers	We leave the skills we gained during / brought to the field trip
Listening	<p>when we are engaging that no more than half ever not listening paying attention to the people body language always conscious of what are bodies are communicating body language- always someone reading body language and context/ balance of focus</p>
Being part of BUDD	<p>finding the balance between what all groups are delivering, no need to be the best or repeat what others have said.. trust our class to do what each group is good at and see what is missing/ how our group can contribute to the collective</p>
Basic Workflow	<p>typing notes nightly that material uploaded is easily edited and shared that in the evening we refine what we've gathered that items are saved that we also keep a usb</p>
Meeting and Greeting	<p>Basic order to avoid awkwardness Hi we are... and you? what have you been told about us? have you done something like this before? what did you think if it's okay we would like to...</p>
Report production	<p>Photos of people not used to represent geographic areas Raw material where possible treatment of material made obvious through design Gillian Rose, "to inscribe into our research practices some absences and fallibilities while recognizing that the significance of this does not rest entirely in our own hands." Professional Breathing space Clear and concise</p>

C DETAILED PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE FIELD

PRE ARRIVAL	<p>Design card (Sheng) - emailing Sending card to Eva to print (Anna) Bring printed map printed (Anna) Write letter of presentation (Houda) Make a facebook group (Luciana) Collate our work on this act of design (Anna) Fix google drive (K) Make sure the active binder, and archive binder are ready (V) Prepare photos of your family, country. (ALL) Check and download the recorder app (ALL) Think and gather stationary (ALL) Make sure we are all familiar with what is in the google drive. Where things are and where they should go. (ALL) Read township info (ALL) Everyone download map my walk apps. (anna sorts out android option) Livelihood research (ALL) Activities for eliciting about lifestyle (ALL) Develop central questions/ focus (ALL in particular V&L) Clear phone for space (ALL)</p>
29/APRIL: FREE DAY	<p>Change money Buy sim cards Print business cards</p>
30/APRIL: HERITAGE TOUR	<p>Walking in the city - Locate: laundry, buses, wifi, work spaces. - Places to meet: tropical food, lake, student area, downtown, national sport. Buy myanmar architect style book,</p>
01/MAY: LEARNING FROM COMMUNITIES	<p>Bring photos in your cellphone Turn on our apps so we know where we've been. As questions doesn't matter what just as many people as many things as possible to start getting use to talking with myanmar people of varying english levels and learn about the project. Pay attention to the aesthetics used, agendas and language, get contacts if appropriate, so we can potentially visit at a later point.</p>
02/MAY: PARTNER'S INTRODUCTION	<p>Goal: listen for agendas, language certain partners like, notice the aesthetics used Group meeting (1 hour w/o beer)</p>

Explain the students of YTU the exercises and the concepts of house/home.

Get use to accents.

Meeting the YTU students:

'Hi I am.. , I am..' meet first as individuals

'And you?' meet them as individuals

'What have you been told about us?' 'and what we're doing? Understanding expectations

'Have you done something like this before?' assess experience/familiarity

'What did you think?' elicit opinion, learn from them

'Great/ so interesting/ follow up questions/ anything you want to know about us?'

'If you don't mind we would like to...' - transition from introduction to productive work

'Was there anything else we were meant to be doing right now, do you know?' - because often in Myanmar if you request something they won't tell you what to do.

9:30-10:00 Ice breakers

Tell us about Yangon, we're new here. What's your favourite food? What is your favourite place?

how do you get there? to start familiarizing them with method we use and assess drawing skills.

'Scenario game' to start assessing english and familiarize with warmers we'll use in the field.

Translation words to get them to start speaking.

10:00- 10:30

survey/ the BU2 tree thing, what do they think the role of an architect is?

What do they know about us?

have they heard of CAN? Have they worked on something similar before?

What do they know about the sites we will be visiting?

If they have been there, what else can they tell us?

10:30- 11:00

introduce our code of ethics, business cards, facebook group

11:00- 11:30

give them presentation on what we're interested in discovering

11:30- 11:45

do a sample exercise with them 24 hr

11:45 - 12:00

recap what we've covered to make sure it was clear, mention that after lunch we would like to sit together on the bus, and make clear the ways we would appreciate their help in the field.

12:00 - 13:00

lunch

13:00 - 14:00

bus journey. More time to show things we're interested in and get their opinions, slide shows on our phone.

14:00 - 16:00

just be passive and get familiar

16:00 - 17:00

bus debrief on the bus with YTU students, make sure they join the facebook group and we have a sub chat, ask where they live, do they have a plan for tomorrow or will they be joining us. If they live close etc ask if they would be able to meet us earlier in case we decide this is a good idea.

Activity: building a bridge with boxes, chairs, scissors, tape.

Try to make short visit only to observe the place.

Group meeting:

Check all the material needed for the next two days (maps of the site, surveys, templates)

Assign the task for each one

04-05/MAY: SITE VISIT

Do the Brescia time lapse video again?

How they build structures, how their houses connect to the city, where are spaces of joy, what is their vision of the future of their area and yangon?

Day one start the day as a group but split in the afternoon into three

Day two split into as many myanmar people as we have with us and see how many people we can get in the community to help us.

Gather as much materials as possible made in the area.. Get clothes made?

For the presentation.. See if there are artist in the community who could help us draw

Bring examples of other cities see if

Documenting the site visits

Materials: big paper with a three that has 'what they've been told'

Facebook photos

Prepare a draft of wikipedia page

24-hour conductive exercise: 5 people to present

Materials: papers and pens

Escenario: bringing the water to community, after cyclone

Observe: the female/male role, authorities/community.

Go to buy the ingredients and cook with them

Map the process spatially

Observe the people that are helping and identify power structures.

Survey (ruth questions)

Transect walk:

Identify spaces for community, vulnerable spaces, informal economies, children play, smoke spaces, where do their relatives live.

Randomly techniques or we can ask to show us some places

Materials: maps and pen

Plan an event: present a dance, play an instrument, play a movie

Observe the room of manoeuvre of the community, how they solve problems.

Make them draw 'what is home' (is it is physical or social connotation), 'how to construct a house' (the fabric and their resources), 'how is your house'

Mind meld: vacations, women, home, stress

Materials: paper and pen

Objective: get information without questions, understand priorities, identify words that they use

Draw your relation with the city (Brescia exercise) in the daily life

Materials: paper and pen

Photos: which house you like, what is your favorite/non-favorite site

Materials: polaroid camera

Building a bridge

Materials: boxes, chairs, scissors, tape.

Categorize post-its: infrastructure, community

Objective: define the categories of certain 'issues' looking for 'solutions.

Mapping according categories: places to eat, to drink and choose the best in quality.

Then, walk to the area, collect info and think together in ways to show the info.

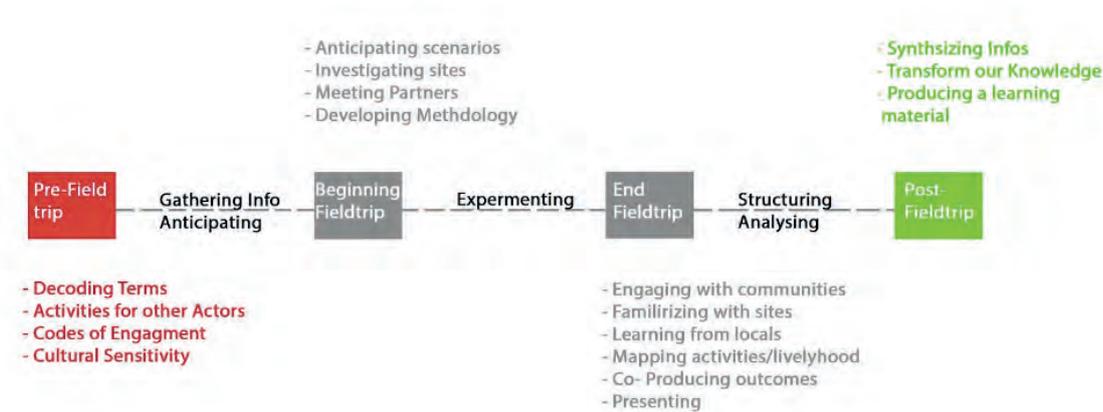
Objective: do not patronize ideas and ways to show.

06/MAY: GROUP WORK AT AMA

Escenario: bringing the water to community, after cyclone

Observe: the female/male role, authorities/community

Fig. C.1. Plan of Action



D GROUP FIVE SCHEDULE

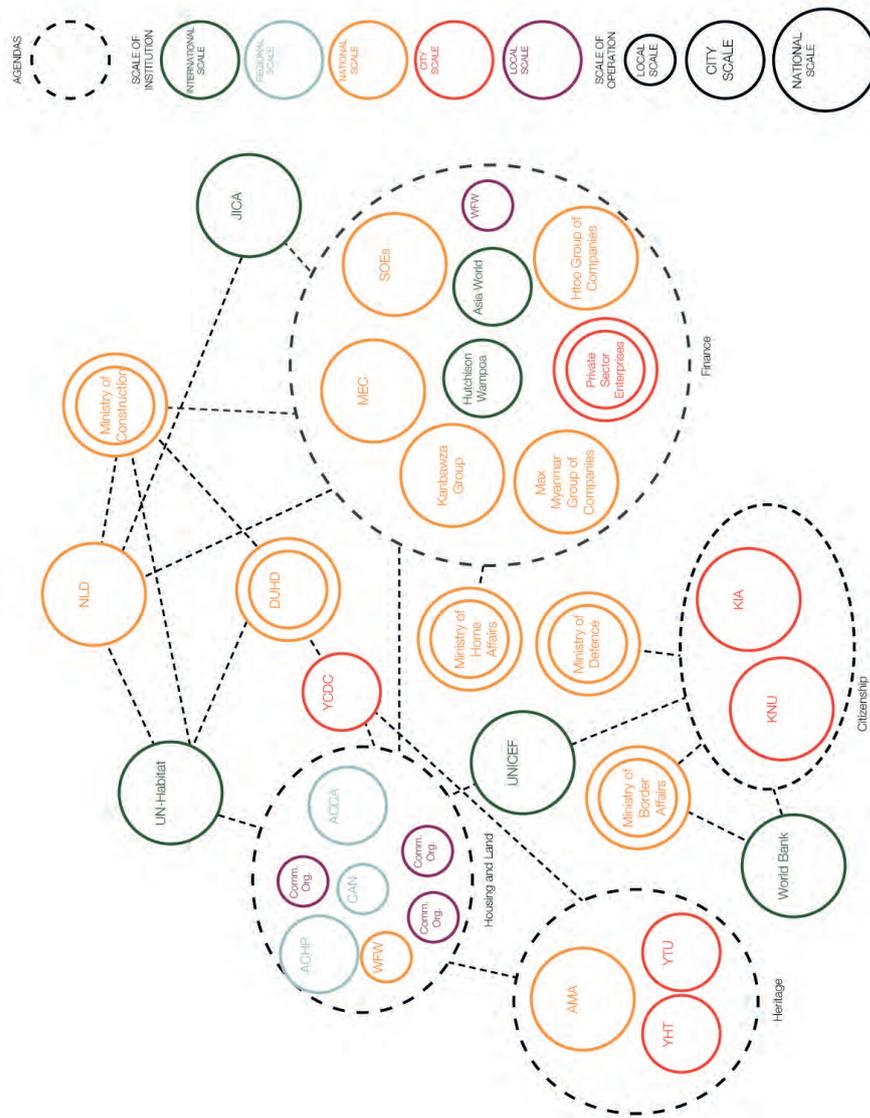
Schedule during Field
Trip

Yangon, Transformation in A Form of Transition: City Wide Strategies for Upgrading Workshop, Myanmar 30 April – 11 May, 2017	
29/04/2017	Arrival Participants
30/04/2017	Heritage Walking Tour
1/05/2017	Communities visiting <i>All participants visit to saving and housing project in Yangon. Participants will have exposure to activities as well as interactive sharing between Myanmar. The projects are located in Yakine Yolay village, Htan Tabin Township. There are two housing projects named Pyit Tine Htaung housing and See Sein Shin. It is close to each other. See Sein Shin housing is just finished, there will be opening ceremony.</i> 0730 - 0900 - Depart from Hotel 0900 - 1000 - Opening Ceremony of See Sein Shin Housing project 1000 - 1200 - Experience Sharing and interactive between students and communities 1200 - 1300 - Lunch at community 1300 - 1700 - Visiting to Pyit Tine Htaung communities Housing project
2/05/2017	Opening Workshop at Yangon Technological University
03/05/2017	Field Work (Hlaing Thar Yar Township and Dagon Seikan Township) <i>Field wok will be done in Two Townships (Hlaing Tar Yar and Dagon Seikan Township) at four squatters communities. Participants will be divided in 8 groups. Participants will be divided as per follow. (Note: this grouping is plan A, if there is any problems, plan B will be one township and two communities only.)</i> 1. Hlaing Tar Yar Township (4 groups) - Nyaung Village (3 groups) - Yoelay Village (1 group) 2. Dagon Seikan Township (4 groups) - 67 Ward (2 groups) - 93 Ward (2 groups) 0830 - 0930 - Briefing the information Projects site and Communities by Volunteers Students at AMA 0930 - 1030 - Group Work 1030 - 1045 - Tea break 1045 - 1200 - Group work

- 1200 - 1300 - Lunch
- 1300 - 1600 - Field visiting at communities
- 04-05/05/2017 Field Work**
- 0800 - 0930 - Depart from Hotel
- 0930 - 1200 - Field Study
- 1200 - 1300 - Lunch
- 1300 - 1600 - Field Study
- 06/05/2017 0830 - 1700 - Group Work at AMA**
- 08/05/2017 Interim presentation to Local communities**
- 0900 - 1200 - Group Work and preparation at AMA
- 1200 - 1300 - Lunch
- 1300 - 1700 - Presentation at Pan Tazin Community Housing in North Ukalapa Township.
- 09/05/2017 0830 - 1700 -Group Work (AMA)**
- 10/05/2017 0830 - 1700 -Group Work (AMA)**
- 11/05/2017 Panel discussion and workshop closing at Summit Park View Hotel**
- 0900 - 1000 - Preparation for final presentation and Feedback (AMA)
- 1000 - 1100 - Lunch
- 1200 - 1300 - Registration
- 1300 - 1315 - Welcome Dance by community
- 1315 - 1330 - Inauguration
- 1330 - 1430 - Film presentation
- Presentation from DPU Students
- 1430 - 1500 - Tea Break
- 1500 - 1630 - Panel Discussion on Making the way forward in Myanmar
- 1630 - 1700 - Closing Remark by representative from DPU, AMA, Women for the world (WFW), ACHR, YTU, CAN
- 1800 - Dinner at Padonmar Restaurant

E INFORMATION PRODUCED BY GROUP FIVE

Fig. E.1. Actors Map representing connections between different actors in Myanmar. Produced in March 2017



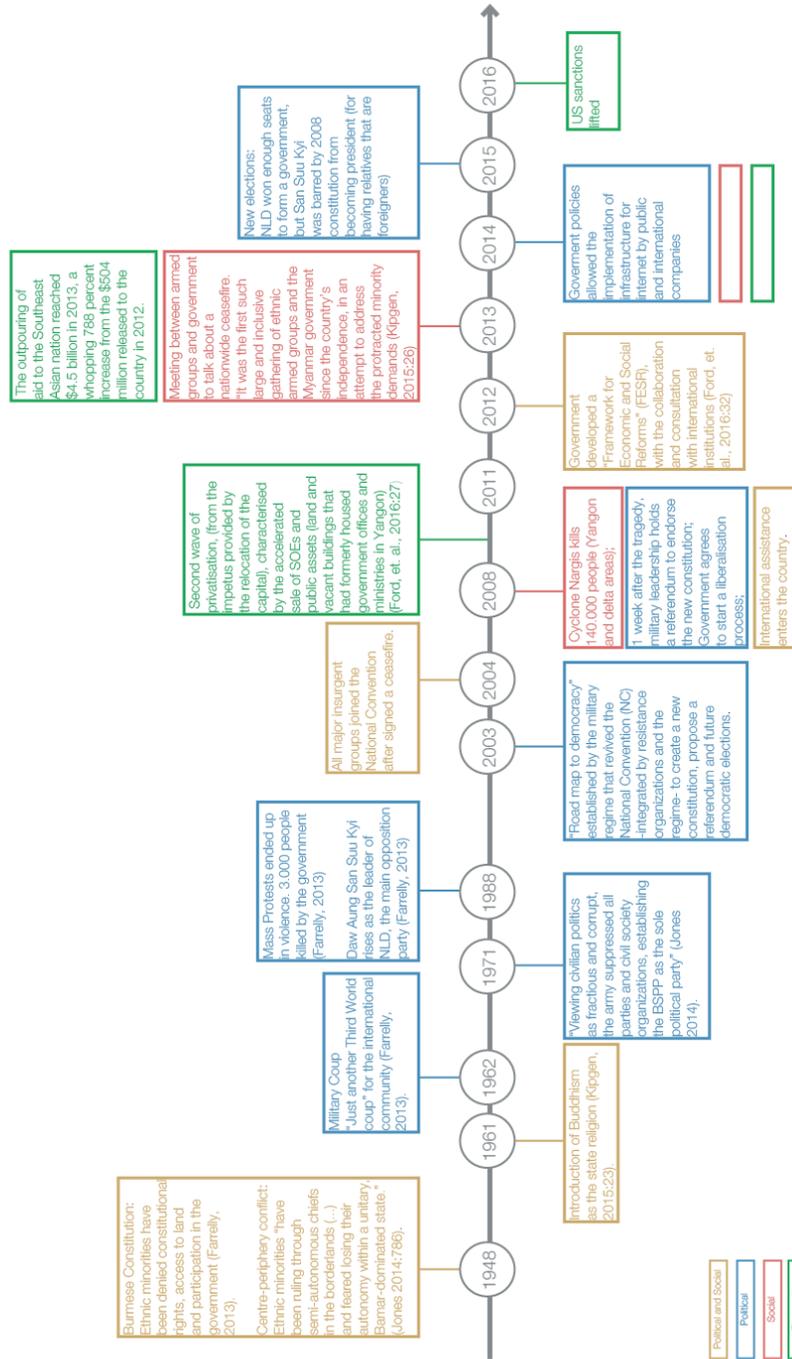


Fig. E.2. Timeline presenting the major events in Myanmar from 1948 (Produced March 2017)

Fig. E.3. Diagram representing actors involved in Yangon's transformation processes (Produced March 2017)

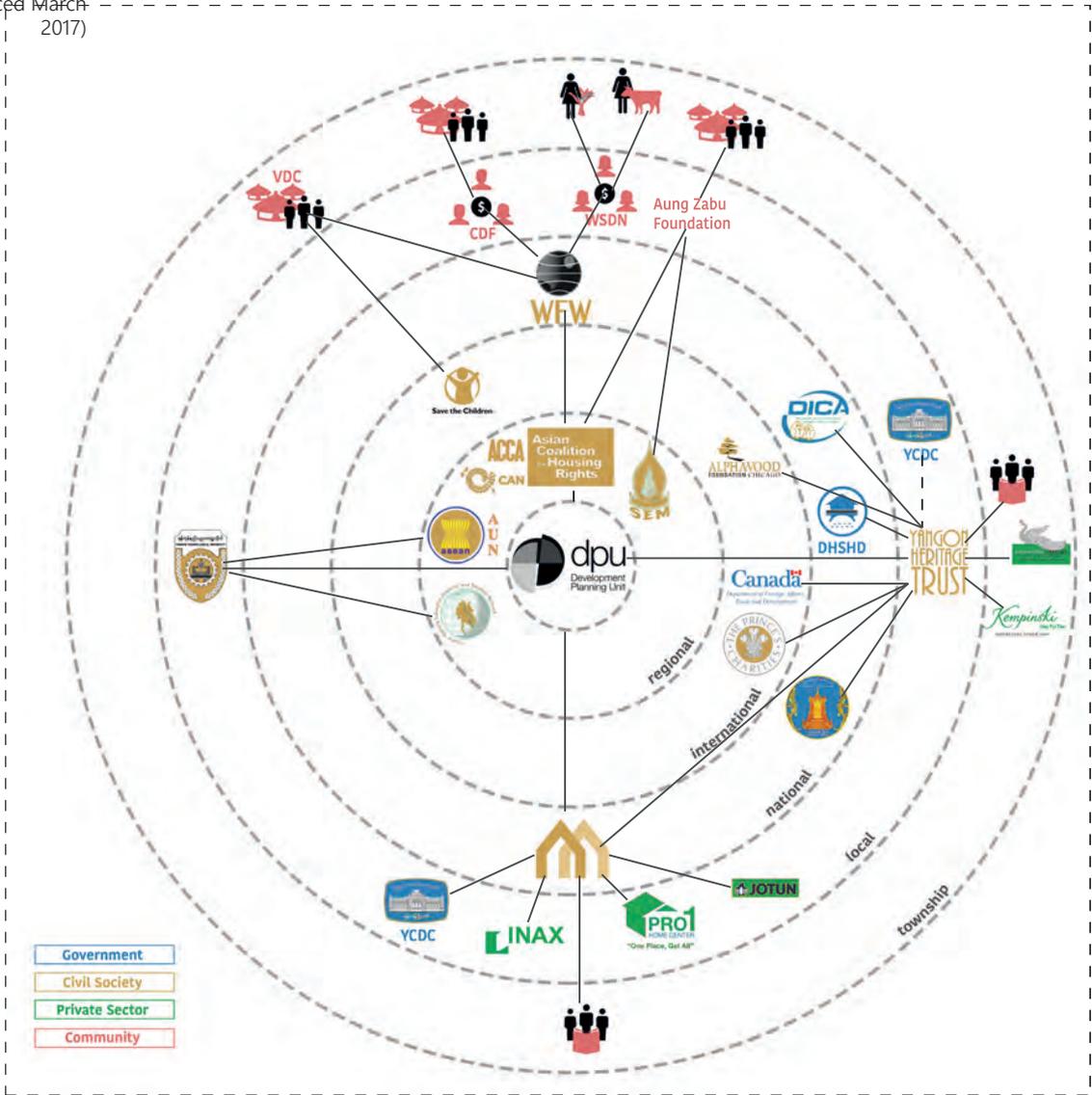


Fig. E.4. Map representing industrial zones in Yangon. (Produced March 2017)





Fig. E.5. Map Transport Systems Yangon (Produced March 2017)

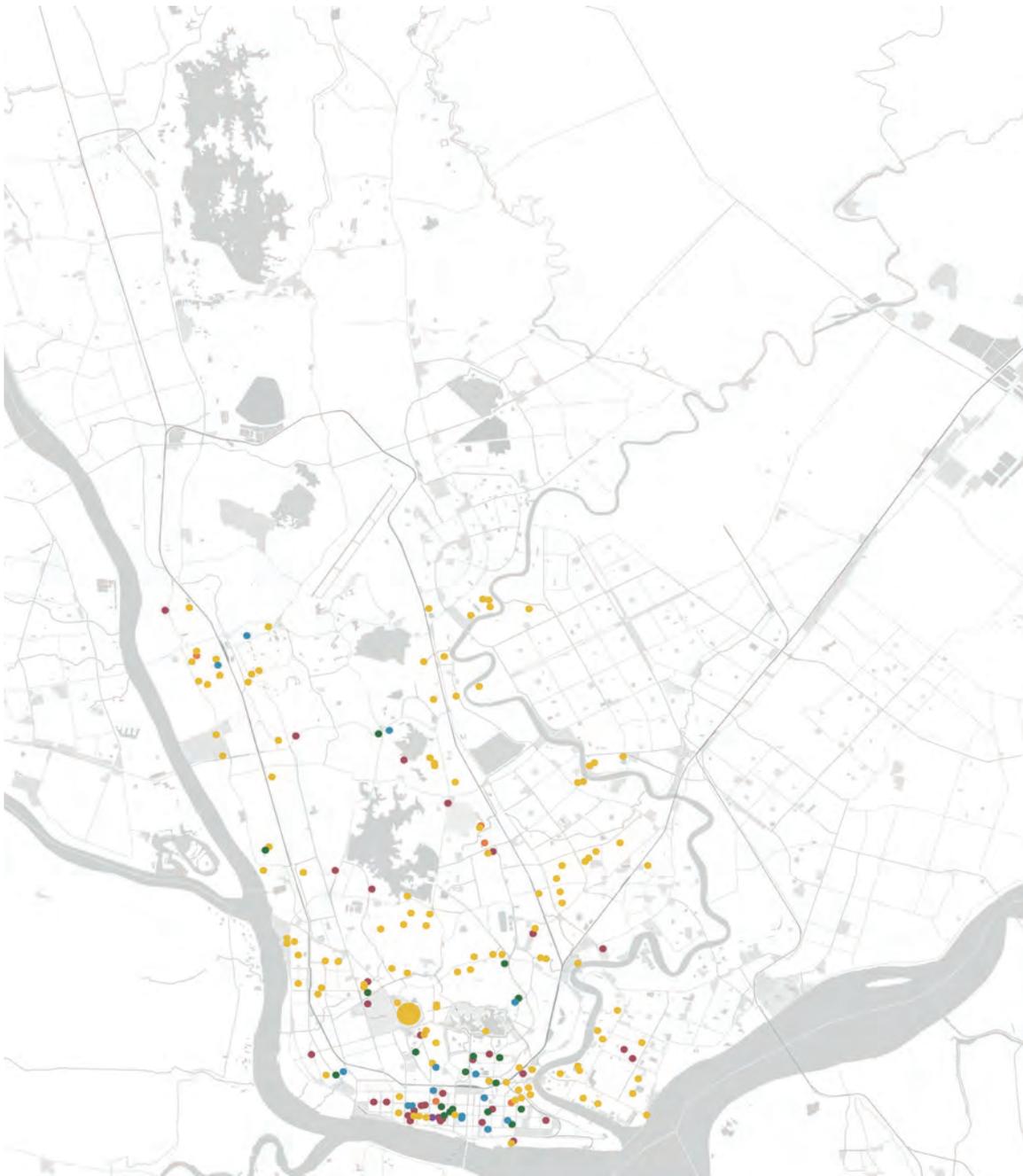
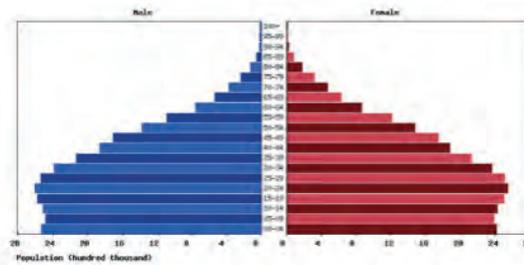


Fig. E.6. Map Religious Sites Yangon (Produced March 2017)

Fig. E.7. Critically assessing census data



WIDOWED FEMALE: 6,240/63,649



WIDOWED FEMALE: 6,240/63,649

By critically assessing the census data through comparison we identified that potentially the census data categorizations did not mean what we assumed them to mean.

For example there are more widows than the population demographic as a whole would potentially allow. Potentially this had to do with stigmas around divorce and how people chose to respond to the census.

This was an important basis for doing our own research to clarify.

Fig. E.8. Analysis of non-drinking water sources from Yangon census data, produced at March 2017

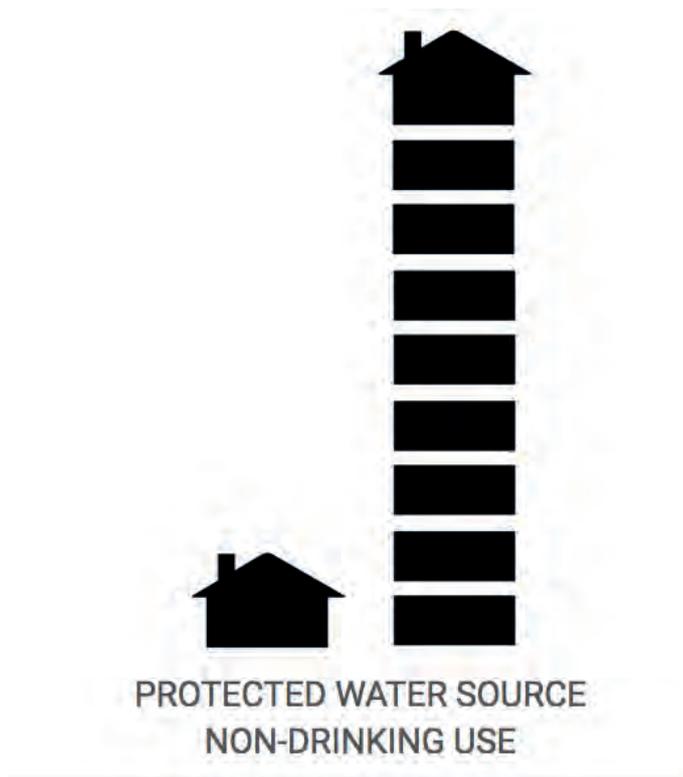
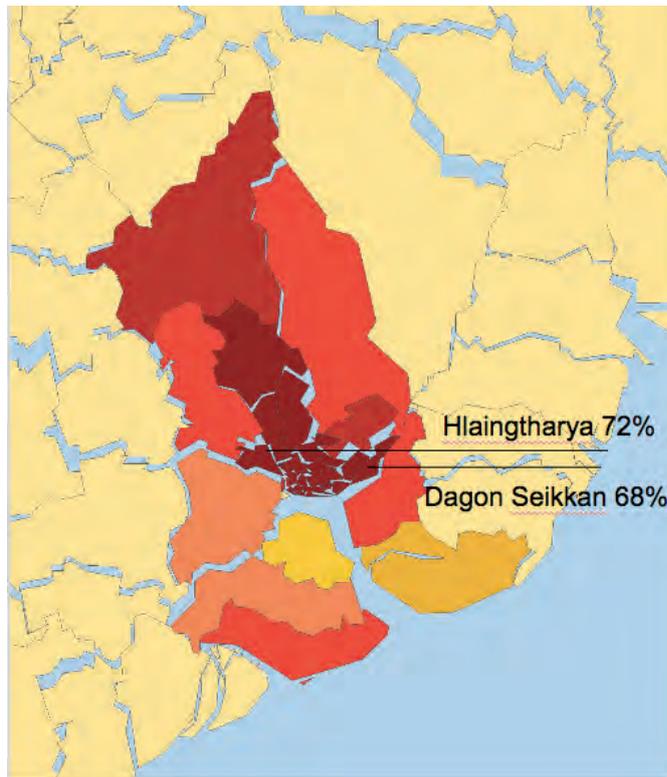


Fig. E.9. Analysis of housing materials from Yangon census data, produced at March 2017

