

The role of food and agriculture
in the design and planning of buildings and cities

Participatory design of productive public
spaces for urban agriculture: The
experience of Rosario, Argentina

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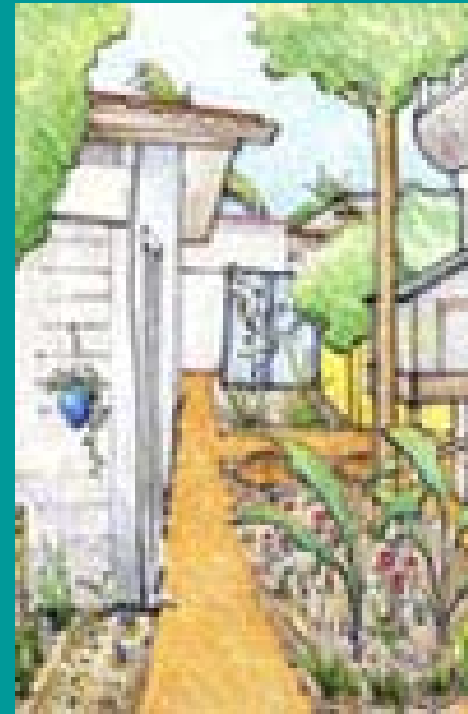
SUMMARY

I. BACKGROUND

II. PROCESS OF PARTICIPATORY DESIGN

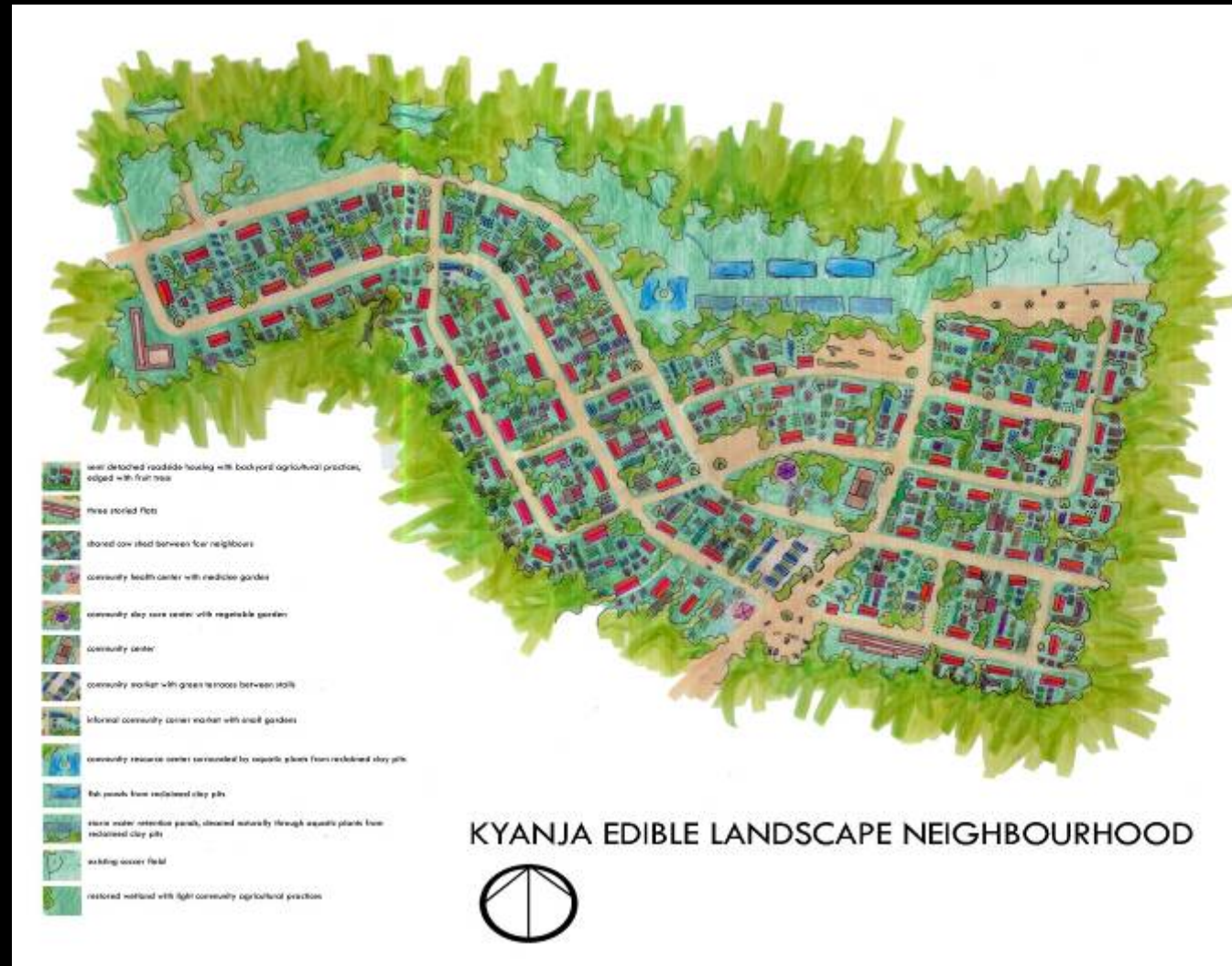
III. SOME CONCLUSIONS

Background: edible landscapes?



Making the Edible Landscape: Rosario, Kampala, Colombo (McGill, IDRC and ETC)

- > integrating UA in planning & design
- > new housing settlements
- > slum upgrading
- > design of multi-functional open spaces



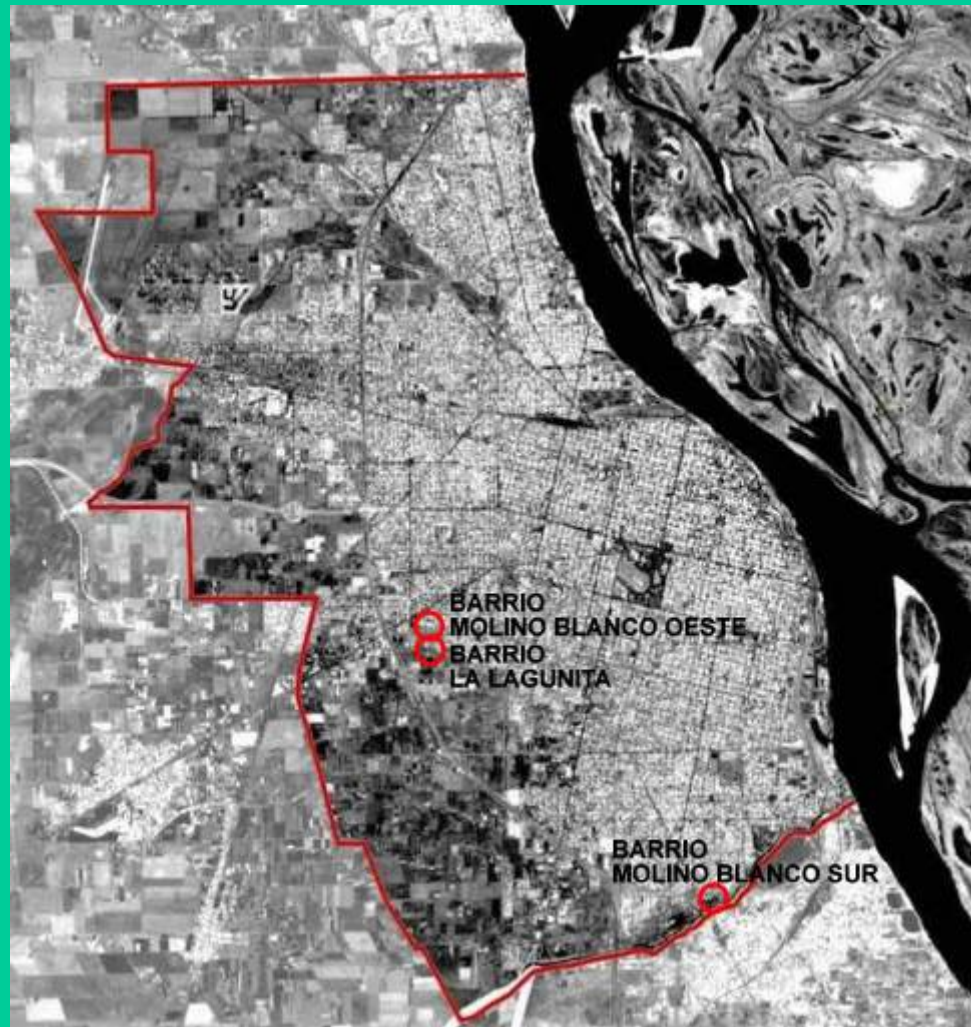
Promoting multi-functional land-use



- > growing
- > marketing
- > education
- > recreation



The experience of Rosario, Argentina



1. Context

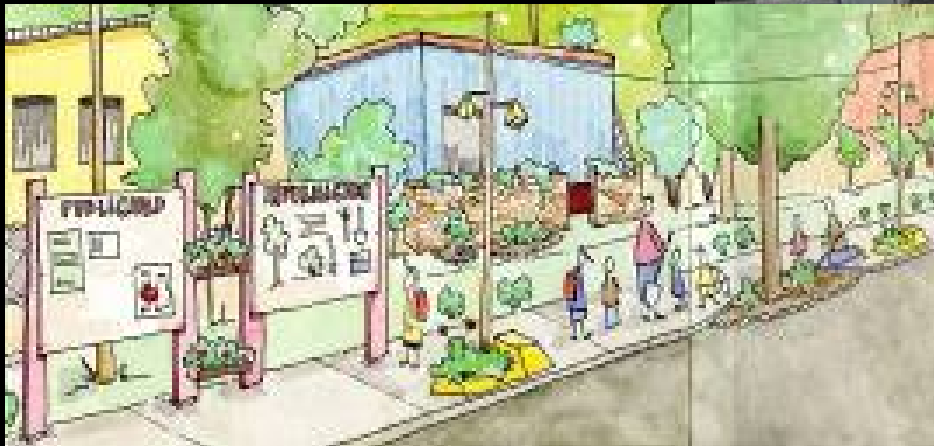
- 1 million inhabitants
- 60% poverty, 22 % extreme poverty
- End of 2000: economic crisis -> municipal and social interest in UPA
- How to optimize use of public open space for UA?
- How to include UA in processes of neighborhood upgrading and construction new housing settlements?



2. Identification of public open spaces

Typology:

- > garden parks
- > multifunctional public squares
- > productive roadsides



3. Planning for «aesthetic» and productive use



4. Participatory design: training, collecting base-line data, informing the community

Participants:

- > low-income communities
- > University- School of Architecture
- > Municipality: cadastre, land use planning, parks and gardens
- > NGO working in UA
- > International organizations and students



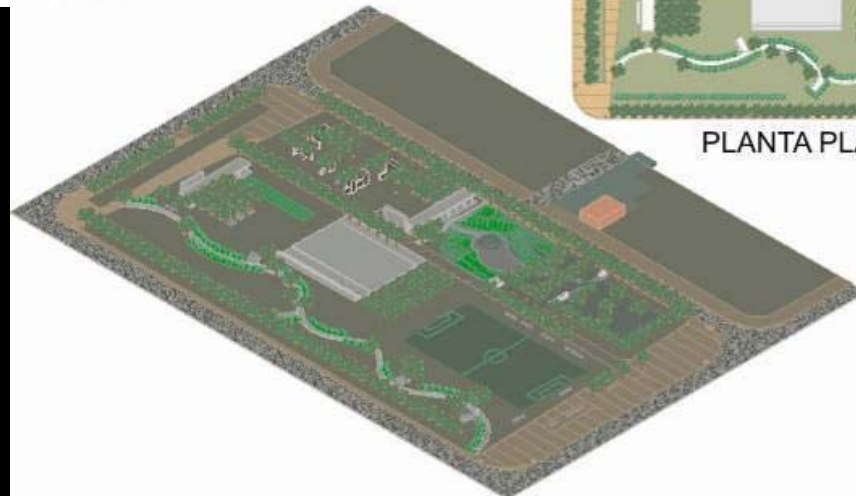
5. Participatory design: visioning, presentations and field visits



6. Participatory design: defining type, size and location of the various components



7. Participatory design: site-plans



8. Participatory design: implementation



9. Before and after



Conclusions



1. Landscape architects and designers have to learn to trust and work with the community
2. Need for community organization and conflict resolution
3. Need to come to early and clear agreements on financing, implementation and management
4. Participatory design increases social acceptance, responsibility, relation of community with their surroundings and "feeling proud" of your neighborhood



5. Former "wastelands" are transformed into aesthetically pleasing landscapes
6. Existing processes of neighborhood upgrading and new housing settlements do offer opportunities for integrating UA
7. New visions for open space management should consider multifunctional agricultural use
8. Planning and design should put the community at the centre of design activities



Thank you
And have a good urban harvest !

