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# Digital-Cultural Ecology and the Medium-Sized City

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## Abstract Submission Form

- 1. Paper / Proposal Title:** Towards ecological design methods: mapping situated ecology of waste practices in riverbank neighbourhood
- 2. Format:** written paper
- 3. Author(s) Name:** Kristanti Dewi Paramita and Dr. Tatjana Schneider
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- 5. University or Company Affiliation:** University of Sheffield

### 6. Abstract (300 words):

There is currently a growing literature annotating infrastructure as a dynamic socio-technical process, carried by the community in context. Such references changes how infrastructure can be perceived, not as a straightforward thing but as accumulation of actor configuration, tools and their everyday practices. Although the social contestation of limited infrastructure has been widely discussed, there is a limited knowledge how such phenomenon changes how spaces in the city are experienced, and equally important, how it can be intervened through architectural design actions.

This article explores visual media—using particularly films and drawings—to map and understand these changes. In addition, it explores how visual media become an instrumental tool of potential design actions. This study draws from exploration of waste disposal practices in an informal neighbourhood (kampung) along the Ciliwung river in Jakarta, Indonesia. It utilizes videos and drawings to expose hidden network of actors and their spatial practices on situating and displacing their waste disposal in between agencies and the river. These representations of deeper urban context projects how waste process in such neighbourhood is dynamically related with the river bed and its

embankment. Although located in a densely populated neighbourhood in a large city, such reading provides knowledge on connection between city networks and its natural environment that has been largely overlooked elsewhere.

The use of such media allow the river to be seen as a continuous site that is actually gradually integrated with the city instead of bordered, with its potentials and limitation that creates complexity for the city's environment. It reveals elements of platforms needed to connect and/or disconnect the ecological network of people, space, objects, and natural resources. Potentials design scenarios towards waste process emerge from rerouting these elements to reduce contamination, promote diversity and thus connect micro and macro practices in the city.

## **7. Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

KRISTANTI DEWI PARAMITA

Kristanti Dewi Paramita is currently a PhD by student at the School of Architecture in University of Sheffield with Dr. Tatjana Schneider as her supervisor. Prior to enrollment in this program she is a lecturer at the University of Indonesia, where she has participated in multiple researches on informal practices. Her researches include action research approach that engages with local kampung citizen to develop their knowledge on healthier living to improve their environment condition together in a sustainable manner. Additionally, she also has an interest in educational environment design. She has been involved in the development and application of a sustainable design model of library in elementary school and therapeutic sensory integration learning for autistic children in Indonesia through research grants in University of Indonesia. Her current research practice aims to expand current discourse on architectural design methods that are based on situated knowledge of the everyday life.

DR. TATJANA SCHNEIDER

Having studied architecture in Germany and Scotland, Dr. Tatjana Schneider joined the School of Architecture in Sheffield in 2004. She has worked in architectural practice in Germany, was a founder member of the workers cooperative Glasgow Letters on Architecture and Space (G.L.A.S.) and the Sheffield-based research centre AGENCY. She is currently also hold the post of Professor for History and Theory of the City at Hafencity University, Hamburg.

Her work is concerned with the social and economic mechanisms of the production of the space. She understands architecture as a collaborative, empowering and essentially political discipline. This focus takes various expressions: sometimes, it is formulated visually or in written form as critique against normative intellectual and

pedagogical tendencies; in other instances, it is expressed through direct spatial interventions; and, occasionally, it takes activist dimensions. The main funded research projects she has been working on over the past years include 'm-NAP' (with M Edwards), 'Flexible Housing' (with J Till), 'Spatial Agency' (with J Till) and 'Right to Build' (with A Parvin, D Saxby of 00:/ architecture and C Cerulli).

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