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Hana Nasif informal settlement, Dar es Salaam
ASF-Int was founded as a result of an increased interest in social and environmental issues in relation to the built environment and dissatisfaction with ethical standards of mainstream architecture. Its member organisations and signatories of the Hasselt Charter are:

A&D ARCHITECTURE & DÉVELOPPEMENT FRANCE
ARC-PEACE INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTS DESIGNERS PLANNERS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
ASF-BELGIUM ARCHITECTEN ZONDER GRENZEN BELGIUM
ASF-DENMARK ARKITEKTER UDEN GRÆNSER DENMARK
ASF-ESPAÑA ARQUITECTOS SIN FRONTERAS SPAIN
ASF-FRANCE ARCHITECTES SANS FRONTIÈRES FRANCE
ASF-ITALIA ARCHITETTI SENZA FRONTIERE ITALY
ASF-ITALIAN NETWORK ARCHITETTURA SENZA FRONTERE ONLUS ITALY
ASF-PORTUGAL ARQUITECTOS SEM FRONTEIRAS PORTUGAL
ASF-RD CONGO ARCHITECTES SANS FRONTIÈRES RD CONGO
ASF-SUISSE ARCHITECTES SANS FRONTIÈRES SWITZERLAND
ASF-SWEDEN ARCHITECTURE SANS FRONTIÈRES SWEDEN
ASF-UK ARCHITECTURE SANS FRONTIÈRES UNITED KINGDOM
AÜG-GERMANY ARCHITEKTEN ÜBER GRENZEN GERMANY
AWF-AUSTRALIA ARCHITECTS WITHOUT FRONTIERS AUSTRALIA
EWB-NEPAL ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS NEPAL
HTG HABITAT TECHNOLOGY GROUP INDIA
ASF-COLOMBIA FUNDACION ARCHIVEROS SIN FRONTERAS COLOMBIA
AVRA ASSOCIATION POUR LES VICTIMES DE LA REPRESSION EN AFRIQUE
ASF-RD CONGO ARCHITECTES SANS FRONTIÈRES RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE DU CONGO
ASF-HELLAS ARCHITECTURE SANS FRONTIÈRES HELLAS
ASF-BÉNIN ARCHITECTURE SANS FRONTIÈRES BÉNIN
AOG-AUSTRIA ARCHITEKTUR OHNE GRENZEN AUSTRIA
BACKGROUND

- 1979: Founding of Architectes Sans Frontières by Pierre Allard, France
- 1992: Founding of Arquitectos Sin Fronteras Espana
- 1996: Creation of the Barcelona Charter
- 2003: Adoption a common Charter in Hasselt, Belgium
- 2005: Ratifying the Hasselt Charter in Rome
- 2006: Meeting in Bokrijk, Belgium, first draft of statutes
- 2007: Meeting in Hasselt, formal constitution of ASF-International
- 2008: Approval of proposed statutes at GA meeting in Barcelona
- 2009: Formal registration of statutes of according to French law
- 2012: Granting membership to its 30th member organisation
Architecture Sans Frontières International is devoid of any profit motive and its aim is to promote in an independent way, on an international level, equitable architecture, town planning and construction methods, which are socially responsible and respect and diverse human cultures while preserving historical heritage of people.
Members of Architecture Sans Frontières International pledge to work together at an international level in order to achieve a greater impact of their collective efforts to:

1. Fair and Sustainable Development
2. Social Responsibility
3. Ethical Trade
4. Social Equity and Inclusion
5. Appropriate Technologies, Materials and Labour
6. Social production of Habitat
7. Trans-national Dialogue
8. Community Building
9. Integration of Post Emergency Relief Interventions
10. Habitat as a ‘Fundamental Human Right’

http://www.asfint.org/-The-Charter-.html

Participatory design, Brazil - ASF-UK
- ASF-Int members run building and planning projects in many countries on all five continents together with local partners.

- ASF-Int maintains a website with information about member activities, project descriptions, publications, contact details et.

- ASF-Int builds an information bank about professional competences, interesting projects, reports and other publications, and NGOs with specific qualifications.

- ASF-Int has established on-line courses about Development Architecture.

- ASF-Int publishes a newsletter distributed four times a year to all interested persons free of charge.

- ASF-Int arranges meetings and seminars on pertinent issues related to design and planning of social habitat.

- ASF-Int assists in the formation of local ASF organisations.

- ASF-Int collaborates with many international and local partners working for sustainable development, participatory processes, slum improvement and social responsibility.
1. Rapid urbanization in low-income countries with limited resources for shelter and infrastructure provision

2. One billion inhabitants in slums expected to grow to two billion in 2030

3. Lack of clean water, sanitation, drainage, roads, secure tenure

4. Lack of affordable infrastructure solutions based on local conditions and community participation

5. Evictions without appropriate alternatives to slum dwellers

6. Difficulty to find tenure options that promote self-help and participation

7. Lack of understanding of existing spatial qualities in informal settlements

8. How to apply enabling strategies in practice

9. Increased vulnerability of people living in poor conditions to shocks and stresses

10. The annual number of natural disasters has more than doubled since 1980, affecting more than 250 million people each year.
MAIN OBSTACLES

1. Prejudice about slum dwellers;
2. Inappropriate legislation, institutional capacity and professional skills to address slum problems
3. Housing seen as a product-not a process
4. Resistance to legalization of informal settlements
5. Centralised planning procedures
6. Lack of understanding of home-based enterprise
7. Lack of understanding the importance of urban agriculture
8. Lack of models for incremental planning and adaptable house types
9. Lack of gender awareness in planning and design, little recognition of women as a force in upgrading
10. Local power structures with an interest in status quo
11. Architects and planners focus too much on the demands of the wealthy.
Why?

233 cities worldwide with one million or more people are significantly prone to natural disaster exposing 633 million people.

How?

The key is effective risk communication, an interactive process of exchange of information and opinion among individuals, groups & institutions - Bijay Misra

L’ Aquilla, Italy after the earthquake of April 2009
BECOMING A MEMBER

As a member you get access to a unique professional network, active in more than 30 countries. You receive regular information about interesting professional issues. You are invited to seminars, meetings, study tours and project collaboration ventures.

To apply for membership it is necessary to:

1. Ratify the Hasselt Charter
2. Be a registered organisation and send proof of registration
3. Send the statutes of your organisation
4. Send activity reports and other documents that show how you work

Applications for membership should be sent to the ASF Secretariat, asfint@asfint.org.
CONTACT US

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