

# CALL FOR APPLICATION

## SUMMER SCHOOL

### *Learn-Move-Play-Ground*

#### *Improving courtyards of public primary schools in Cairo*

organised by the Architecture and Urban Design Program of the German University Cairo GUC and the Faculty of Architecture of the Technical University Berlin TUB and fully financed by the German Academic Exchange Program DAAD

CAIRO - Egypt  
22 SEPTEMBER - 3 OCTOBER 2012

**WHO CAN APPLY:** The summer school is open for 10 German and 25 Egyptian students, who already completed the fourth semester of Architecture, Urban Planning or Landscape Architecture studies.

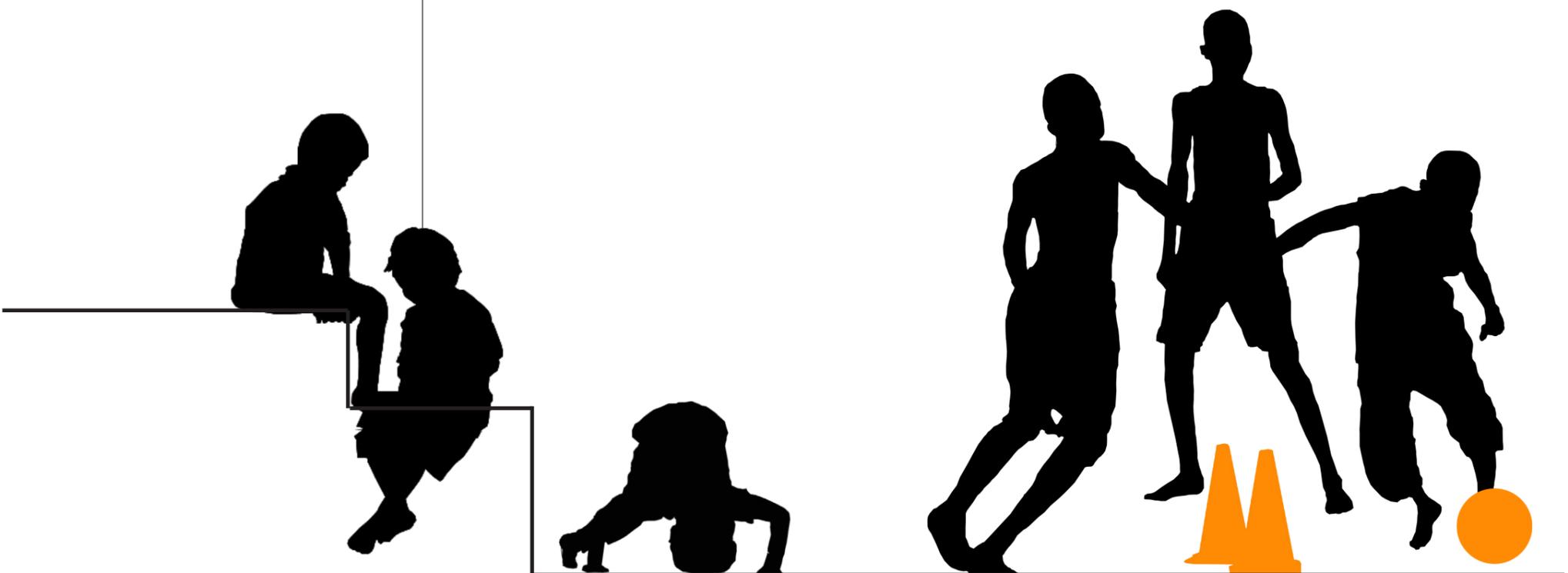
**HOW TO APPLY:** With a short cv, a letter of motivation and a selection of three previous projects (pdf in A4). It is not mandatory that the projects are related to architecture. Language of the application is English.

Please send your application via email to: [architecture@guc.edu.eg](mailto:architecture@guc.edu.eg). Deadline is the 25th of June 2012.

The selected participants will be informed by the end of June. Join the facebook group: [summer school\\_LEARN-MOVE-PLAY-GROUND](#).

**GRANTS:** The grants will cover flight costs and accommodation for the 10 students coming from Germany. Transportation for all students will be assured by busses. All students will work at the GUC Campus, using the facilities there, and on field in the schools.

**CONCEPT & ORGANISATION:** Prof. Barbara Pampe, Prof. Vittoria Capresi (GUC); Prof. Susanne Hofmann (TUB)



## AIMS and CONTENT

The summer school proposed by the Architecture and Urban Design Program of the GUC and the Faculty of Architecture of the Technical University Berlin aims at creating motivating and inspiring playgrounds in Cairo's public primary schoolyards. The main targets are to involve children, teachers and parents in the creative process improving consequently the quality of the schools' outdoor spaces, developing the responsibility of the children towards their environment and motivating them, teachers and parents to initialise further similar activities.

The summer school will show on one side that there is a big potential in involving children in the process of creating their own environment. On the other side it will give architecture students the possibility to develop their soft skills working in a cross-cultural group, to experience participatory planning processes and to implement their own designs.

## WORKING TOGETHER TO FIND OUT HIDDEN POTENTIALS

In mixed groups, Egyptian and German students, coached by the project team, will work together with the children and teachers, to find out their wishes, ideas and moreover helping them in understanding the hidden potentials of their schoolyards. The students will learn to transfer the ideas of the client - children and teachers - to a specific design concept involving the client continuously in the process and so learning how to implement projects through participatory procedures.

Working together with students from different cultural backgrounds and ages will qualify the students as team players in international planning processes.

## LOW-COST, DURABLE and INSPIRING FURNITURE

The summer school aims at developing prototypes for playing, sitting and shadowing furniture, out of local materials, which can be adjusted to the individual situation of each school.

Due to the small scale of the design projects, they will be directly designed and implemented during the summer school, supervised and coached by the project team. The students will firstly develop an idea for a prototype and then build the piece of furniture on site. Children, teachers and parents will be involved in this last implementation phase. Being involved in the realisation process will create a strong identification between the children and the results, producing responsibility for the maintenance of the furniture.

## RAISING AWARENESS OF SUSTAINABLE SURROUNDINGS

The furniture will be designed to be completely sustainable: by using local and recycled materials (such as palm leaves, palm wood, glass and pottery) and established handcrafts. This fact will facilitate the process of realisation, and on the other side, will give students the chance to get in contact with local materials. In the same way the children will find out about the characteristics of the materials, their origin, their manufacturing and the way how they can be recycled.

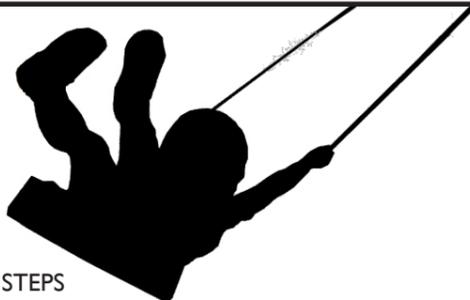
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## WORKING STEPS

DAY 1: Kick off meeting with the students and the team (aims, partners, detailed time line and deadlines, skills requested by each step); GUC campus.

DAY 2 + 3: Workshops with two public primary schools in different urban areas in Cairo.

Afterwards working in groups at the GUC campus: the ideas and preliminary concepts will be worked out to design proposal for the furniture elements.

DAY 4 + 5: Working in groups on the design proposals; GUC campus.

DAY 6: Presentation of the ideas and design concepts on field with children and teachers. The students and team will explain the first ideas, to evaluate together the results and discuss further improvements.

DAY 7 + 8: Students will finalise the design project, organise and prepare the material for the implementation. Different materials will be provided; GUC campus.

DAY 9 + 10: Realisation of the playing elements with children and teachers in the schoolyards. The children will be directly involved in the implementation of the furniture.

DAY 11: "Breakfast and Inauguration" in school 1: Inauguration in the first school with all participants, teachers, parents and local authorities.

DAY 12: "Breakfast and Inauguration" in school 2. Afterwards "Public Presentation to the Authorities" at the DAAD or Goethe Institute. The Ministry of Education, directors of further schools and general public will be invited to participate to the presentation of the results of the summer school. The presentation will focus not only on the practical results, but also on the achievements reached in terms of soft skills by the children and teacher involved.

## PROJECT TEAM

TU Berlin: Baupiloten

◀ Susanne Hofmann, architect and Professor of Architectural Design at the TU Berlin; founded Baupiloten in 2003.

◀ Nils Ruf, architect.

◀ Urs Walter, architect.

GUC: Architecture and Urban Design Program

◀ Barbara Pampe, architect and Associate Professor of Architectural Design.

◀ Vittoria Capresi, architect and Associate Professor of History of Architecture.

Barbara Pampe and Vittoria Capresi founded baladilab in 2011.

University of Stuttgart: Institut für Landschaftsplanung und Ökologie

◀ Moritz Bellers, landscape architect.

Montag Foundation: "Jugend und Gesellschaft", Bonn

◀ Karl-Heinz Imhäuser, pedagogue and director.

◀ Brigitta Frölich, pedagogue.

Studio Matthias Görlich Design, Research & Development:

◀ Matthias Görlich, Graphic and communication designer, teacher and researcher, Darmstadt.

## LOCAL EXPERTISE

◀ Omar Nagati, architect/urban planner and lecturer, Modern Sciences and Arts University, Cairo.

◀ Shaimaa Ashour, architect and photographer, Cairo.

◀ Reda Ahmed, engineer and advisor of GAEB General Authority of Educational Buildings, Cairo.

## RESULTS AND FUTURE SCENARIOS: PROTOTYPE

The main target is to integrate children, teachers and parents in a creative process and to motivate them to shape their own environment. Likewise the result of the summer school will be prototypes for multifunctional interventions in schoolyards (furniture, shading elements, playing objects, plants etc.). As the prototypes are not standardised elements, but changeable and adaptable at the situation, they can be additionally developed in line with the needs of further schools.

## PUBLICATION

After the summer school, a monograph of the experience in form of a booklet will be finalised, which will contain pictures and graphics, as well as short explanatory texts in both English and Arabic.

Additionally, posters for each school will be designed: they will contain pictures and sketching narrating the whole experience (English/Arabic).

Both the booklet and the posters will be donated to the schools, in form of a small event. During this event, it will be possible to check the built furniture again, pointing out the degree of interaction children had with the new courtyard elements.

The booklet and posters will offer guidelines and design advices for potential next activities with institutions such as the Ministry of Education, the General Authority for Educational Buildings, further interested schools and other organisations working with children and schools.



DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst  
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