

EDEN SUMMER SCHOOL 2005

PROBLEM ADDRESSED

It is estimated that one-sixth of the world's population live in informal settlements. Architects rarely, if ever, engage in the issues that these people have to face on a daily basis. Questions about the role of the architect and how the built environment might become sustainable were key to the programme. The theme of post disaster shelter and resettlement engaged the participants' creative skills and informed their ideas and embraced key global issues including: the environment, poverty and human rights.



GOAL ACHIEVED

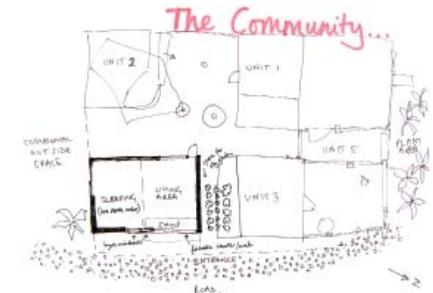
A fairly relaxed learning programme in the classroom was followed by an incredibly intensive build programme which resulted in five homes being constructed on a very small site within the the Eden Project grounds. Twenty six participants were involved, mostly UK residents, with eleven ASF–Cambridge and ASF–UK (London) assistants. All participants were profoundly moved and incredibly motivated by this fantastic first workshop held in the UK by ASF.



Date: September 2005
 Location: The Eden Project, Cornwall, UK
 ASF Team: S. Parker, N. Hamdi, T. Creber & the ASF Cambridge committee
 Partners: The Eden Project
 Donors: Course fees & time donated by the ASF team
 Project type: UK workshop

METHODOLOGY OF WORK

The programme included lectures and workshops in the classroom, followed by on site construction of five homes for five families. Participants explored participatory practice and dialogue with vulnerable people in order to sustain livelihoods, resources, cultures and communities.



Plans made in the classroom were superseded by the need for immediate innovation, as students set about building shelters in a day to sleep in, with materials sourced from the Eden Project's waste management team. The process gave the group an insight into how people innovate within extreme limitations on time, space and resources to fulfil the basic needs of shelter.



FUTURE PERSPECTIVE



This was the first summer school run by ASF-Cambridge at the Eden Project and was the first workshop of a series in partnership between ASF-UK and CASE Thailand.



eden project