Building sustainable and inclusive urban futures
Towards a successful research proposal on incremental housing and city-making flows in the Global South

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Project description
Incremental housing is a key driver of urbanisation worldwide, but there is a pressing need for new innovative perspectives on incremental housing and city-making practices. With a consortium of academic partners, private companies, and NGOs from the Netherlands and the Global South, the supervisors mentioned above are developing a project proposal, “HOUSEFLOW”, to explore incremental building practices as a key vantage point to understand socially-relevant, just, inclusive and realistic solutions for persistent housing shortages, particularly in the Global South. In order to submit the proposal to NWO for the NWA-ORC call 2020/2021 and to submit it to other funding agencies such as in the EU and Germany, we are consolidating the academic and empirical knowledge that form the background of the proposal. Therefore, we are looking for a motivated student to assist us in:

- **Research**: Conducting exploratory, desk research on the state of the art of incremental housing practices in the three cities under study (Mombasa in Kenya, Guadalajara in Mexico and Bhopal in India). The research by the student will involve an academic literature review and skype interviews with key stakeholders and project partners, to develop an empirically informed case study selection strategy for the proposal, and to draft a comparative academic paper on incremental housing practices in the three cities under study.

- **Organization**: Supporting the team of supervisors in the practical organization of an expert meeting with key incremental housing scholars and practitioners.

- **Communication**: Participating in the consortium and partner meetings to the further development of the proposal.

Given the restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the research activities will be conducted online, from home. Every two weeks, the BMA student will have a meeting in Microsoft Teams with the three supervisors to discuss progress, to inform each other about research advancements and challenges, to give feedback on the work conducted, and to further develop the work plan. In addition, the BMA student will be in virtual contact with the consortium partners in the Global South for concrete follow-up of the work “on the ground”.
Job requirements

We encourage you to apply if you:

- have a keen interest in the global housing challenge,
- enjoy doing research and writing about your findings,
- have excellent English writing and communication skills,
- are organized and structured,
- have a pro-active and hands-on mentality, and
- preferably have a background in international (sustainable) development, spatial planning or urban geography with an international orientation.