The influence of collective culture on co-design practice in Indonesian cities: case studies from Jakarta, Solo, and Malang

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Background

• What
  Application of co-design outside the Western culture context, especially in the Eastern culture context

• Why
  The flourish of democracy after long experience under authoritarian regime

• How
  Comparison the practice of co design between Indonesia and the UK context
Co-design

• Emphasizes openness, in the sense that the process must be able to accommodate the various types of participants, not just by visual methods, but all forms of media. It will provide a flexibility in generating the final design solution.

Outside Western

• have to negotiate and adapt to the local settings and knowledge
Research Question

How is and **should** co-design be applied in the different context of cultures, between the West and East

- What kind of specific culture that affects the practice of co-design?
- What are the influences of the culture to the practice of co-design?
- What are the challenges facing designers in enabling co-design?
- What should feature adjustment be developed to build a methodological framework for the implementation of co-design in the Eastern cultural context?
Method

• Multiple Case studies
• Indonesia : 3 cases
• The UK : 3 Cases
Context: Indonesia

Map showing locations in Indonesia:
- Jakarta
- Solo
- Malang
Jakarta

• Where : Ciliwung River bank
• What : A communal housing project
• Who : ASF Jakarta, Kampung Tongkol resident
• Why : Self-arrangement to resist eviction
As built plan

Credit pic: ASF-ID
The Prototype House
Malang

• Where : sub-urban, Dampit district
• What : A village church building project
• Who : ASF Malang, Kampung Jengger resident, parishioner
• Why : Create landmark building for the society
Workshop bamboo structure

Credit pic: ASF-ID
The Old Church
Solo

• Where: several urban public projects
• What: Public toilets, Child friendly neighborhood
• Who: UNS Solo, local community and society
• Why: introduction of participatory approach in urban development
Poster for public toilet
Workshop with the children
Finding

Relationship building phase

• The reluctance of citizens: the lack of socializing time, internal conflict, to the problem of cultural barriers
• gain trust
• the design team does not come as a helper, but partner
• an equal relationship between the people and designers
Visiting the resident
Informal gathering with the community
Understanding local culture

• The Collective Culture
  - Positive role: *guyup* (familiarity), *gotong royong* (mutual assistance), *sayang* and *sambatan* (collective action).
  - Negative role: *mbendhol mburi*

• These cultures still survive because of the role of kampung institutions

• Not only define kampung as a territory entity, but it has a further meaning as a cultural entity
“Sambatan”
culture
action

Credit pic: ASF-ID
“Guyup” culture
Real time co-design

• The distinction between design time and use time is blurred
• In the practice, the design process, the build process, testing the product, and even the evaluation, is carried out simultaneously at the same time
• Such a condition turns out to be a long-standing phenomenon and has become a habit of building public facilities in the kampung
Discussion in progress

Credit pic: ASF-ID
Politic interest

- The findings of the three cases, especially in Jakarta, show that the political interests of the rulers, strongly influence the urban development policy.

- The decision is more determined by the city government, tailored to their political interests.
Discussion

Collective culture
exist because of the role of kampung as a cultural entity

Real time co-design
This model has its roots in the culture that grow in an urban kampung

Relationship building phase
to revive/maintain the community's memory of their collectivist values

Politic interest
co-design would be an appropriate approach to face political interest which tends to determine the development agendas
Conclusions

To the Indonesian context:

• The most powerful cultural influences are the collective value of the urban kampung.

• Kampung as cultural entities should be traced back to revive the collectivist spirit of the community.

• The co-design approach based on the collectivity value of kampung can be used as a foundation for the development of a co-design method in Indonesian context.
Thank you