

Low Carbon Urban Living – Opportunities and Principles

Ashok Lall

GRIHA CONFERENCE, Bangalore 3rd Feb 2015

- 
- An aerial photograph of a city. The foreground is dominated by a vast, dense informal settlement (favela) with numerous small, closely packed buildings. A narrow, light-colored path or road runs vertically through the center of this settlement. In the background, a modern city skyline is visible, featuring several tall, multi-story buildings and skyscrapers. The sky is hazy, and the overall scene illustrates the contrast between informal urban development and formal city infrastructure.
- **CONTEXT**
 - **OPPURTUNITIES**
 - **PRINCIPLES**
 - **METRICS**
 - **CASE STUDY**

Urban Context

Wealthy
'Global'
5%

Upwardly
mobile middle
40%

Struggling Bottom
55%

**SPATIAL ACCESS,
ENVIRONMENTAL
SECURITY,
DEVELOPMENT
ADVANTAGE**

**SPATIAL INCLUSION,
ENVIRONMENTAL
STRESS,
DEVELOPMENT
OPPORTUNITY**

**SPATIAL EXCLUSION,
ENVIRONMENTAL
DISTRESS,
DEVELOPMENT
DISADVANTAGE**



Sustainable Lifestyles

Global City
Wealthy
5%

Middle Class City
Upwardly mobile
40%

Marginalised City
Struggling Bottom
55%

Reduce consumption
and carbon footprint

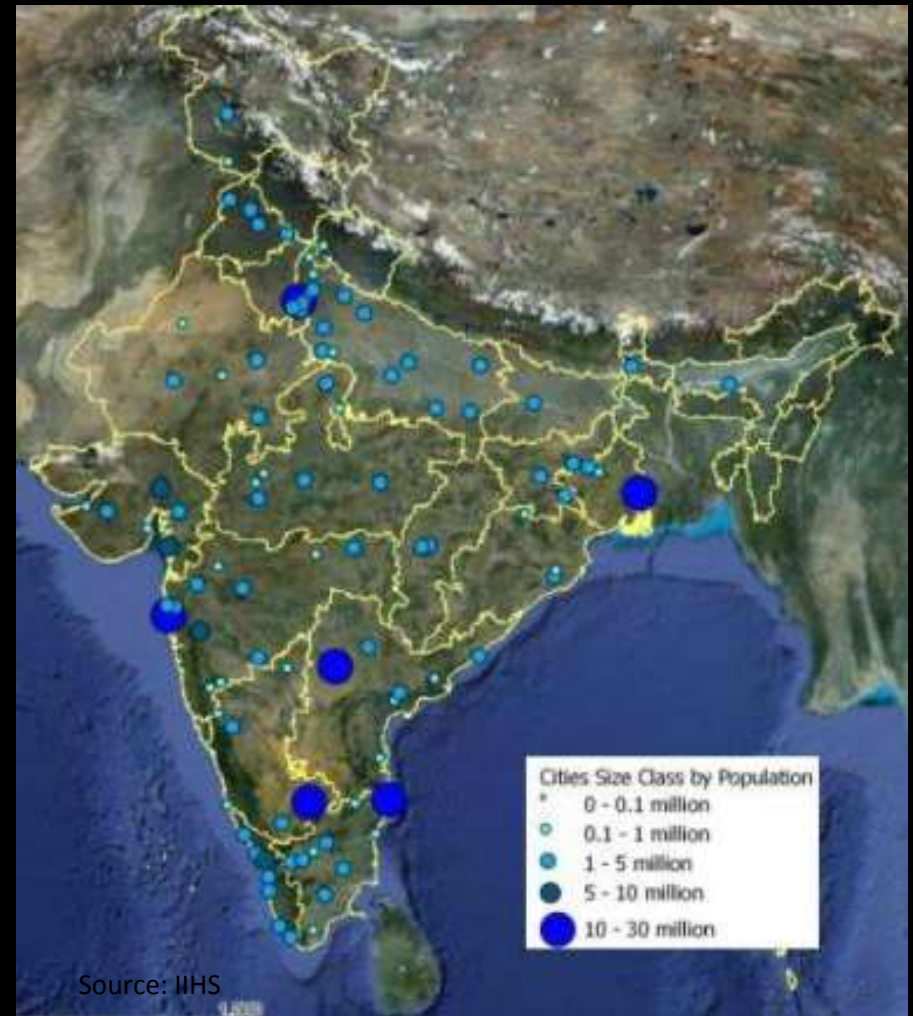
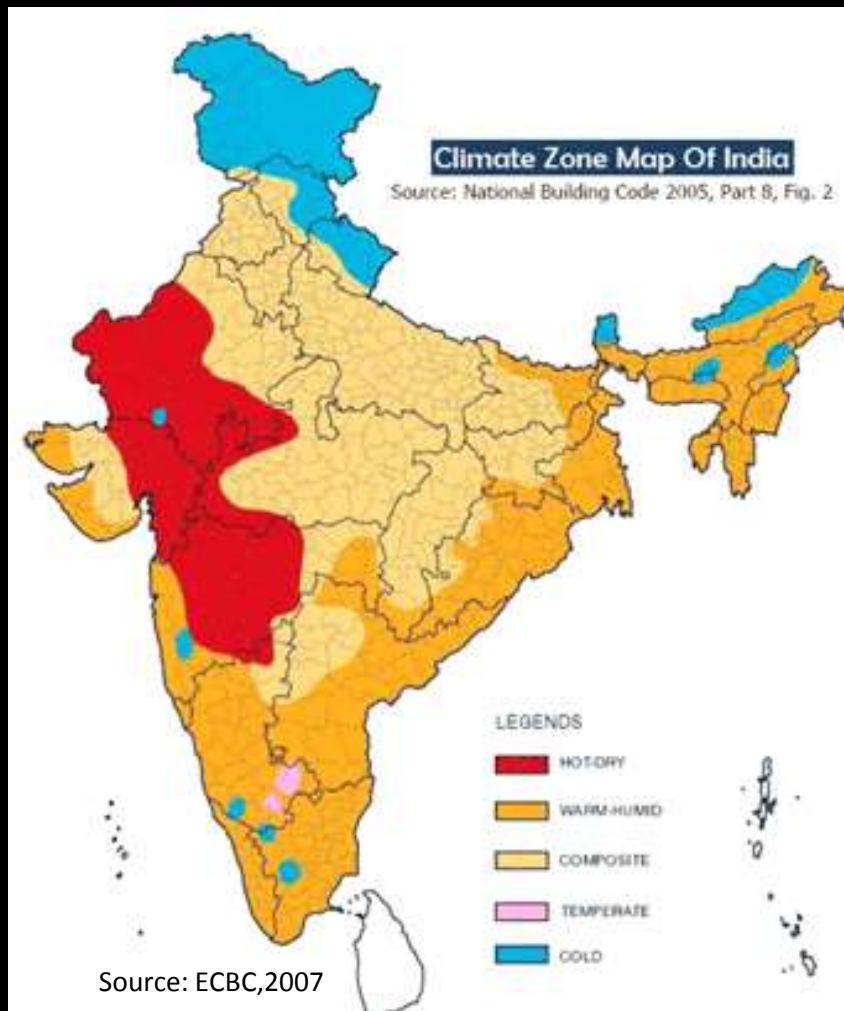
Sustainable lifestyle
and urban systems

Raise living standards with
moderation in
consumption

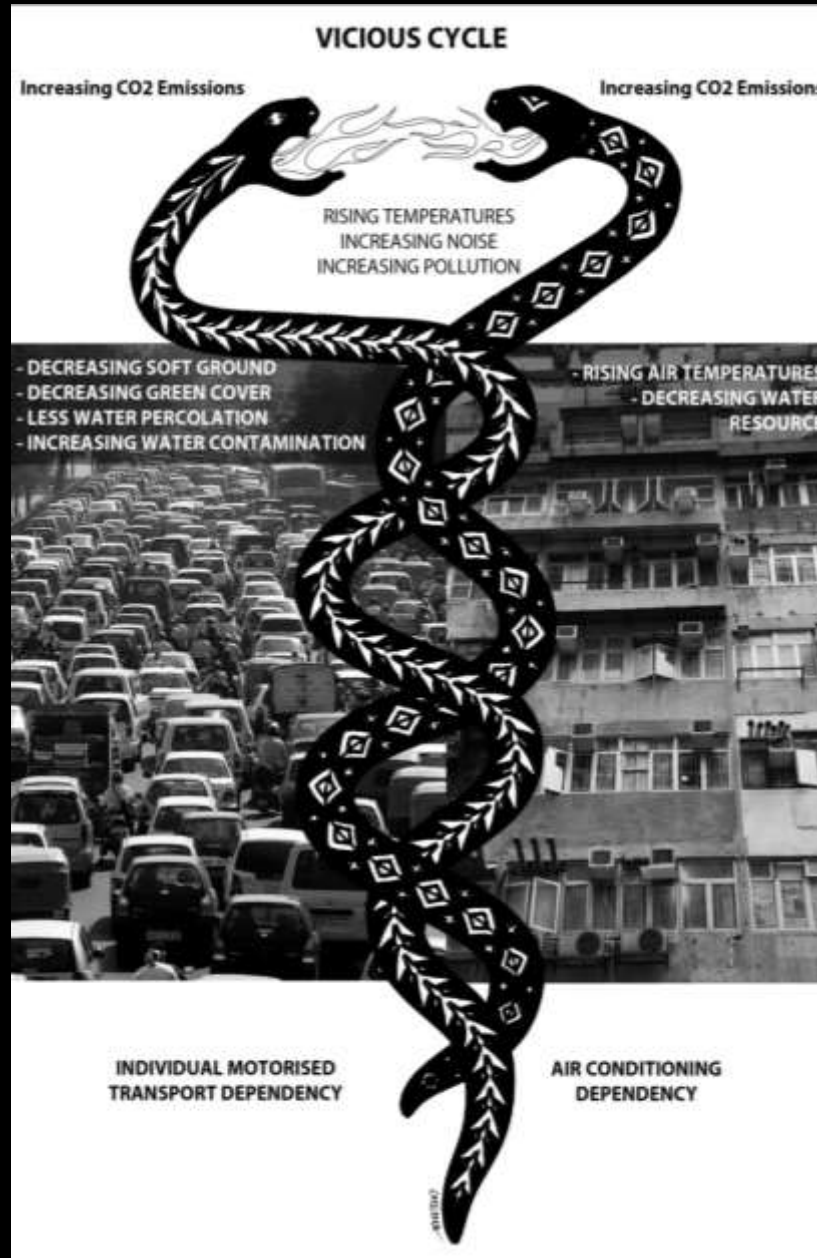
Constraining Measures

Enabling Measures

- The urbanization trend in India is showing city expansion with most expansion occurring in the warm and hot climatic belt.



THREE SINS OF THE UNWISE CITIZEN



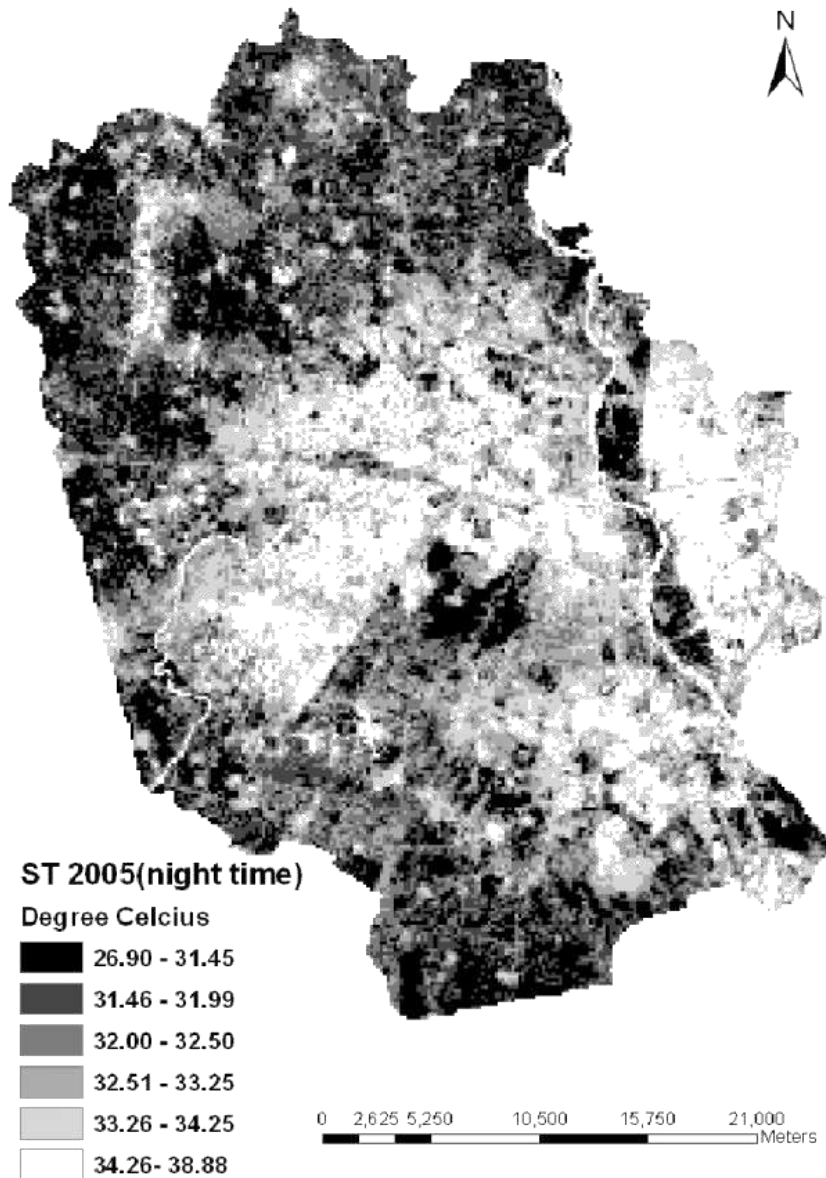
**Scoping Study for Policy Initiatives
to minimize
Urban Heat Island Effect
for
Low Carbon Urban Growth**

Ashok B. Lall Architects

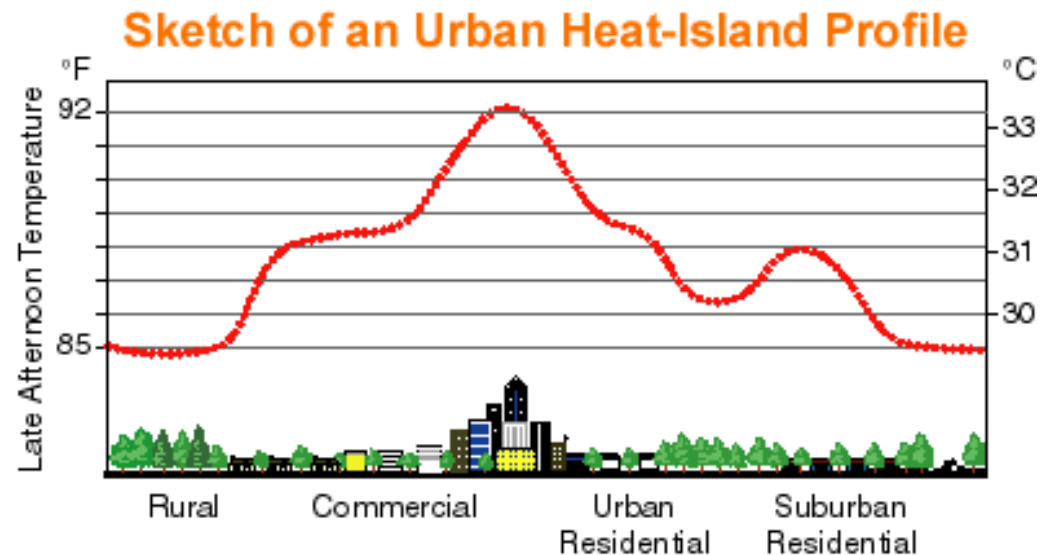
**supported by
Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation**



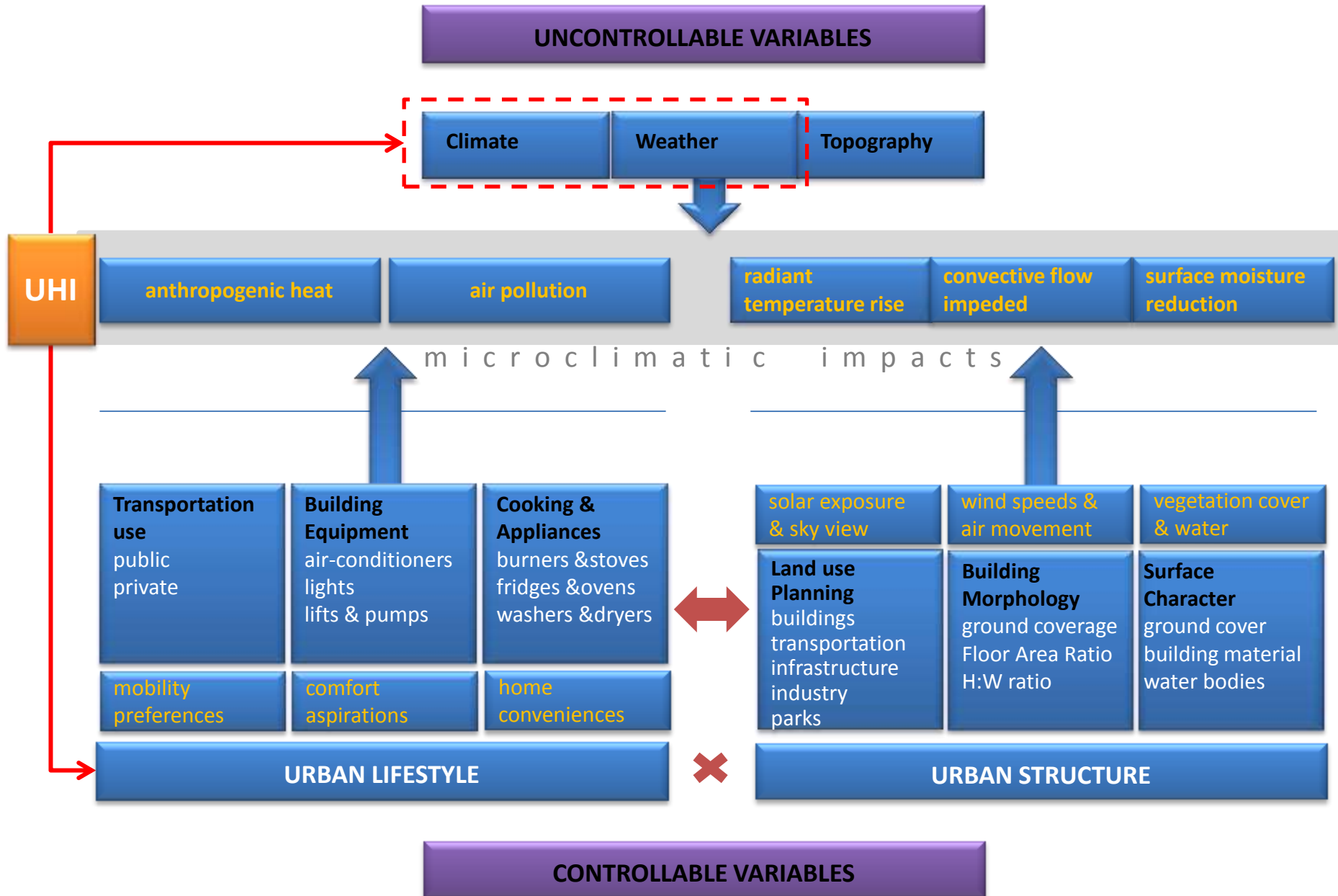
URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECT : FUNCTION OF URBAN DENSITY



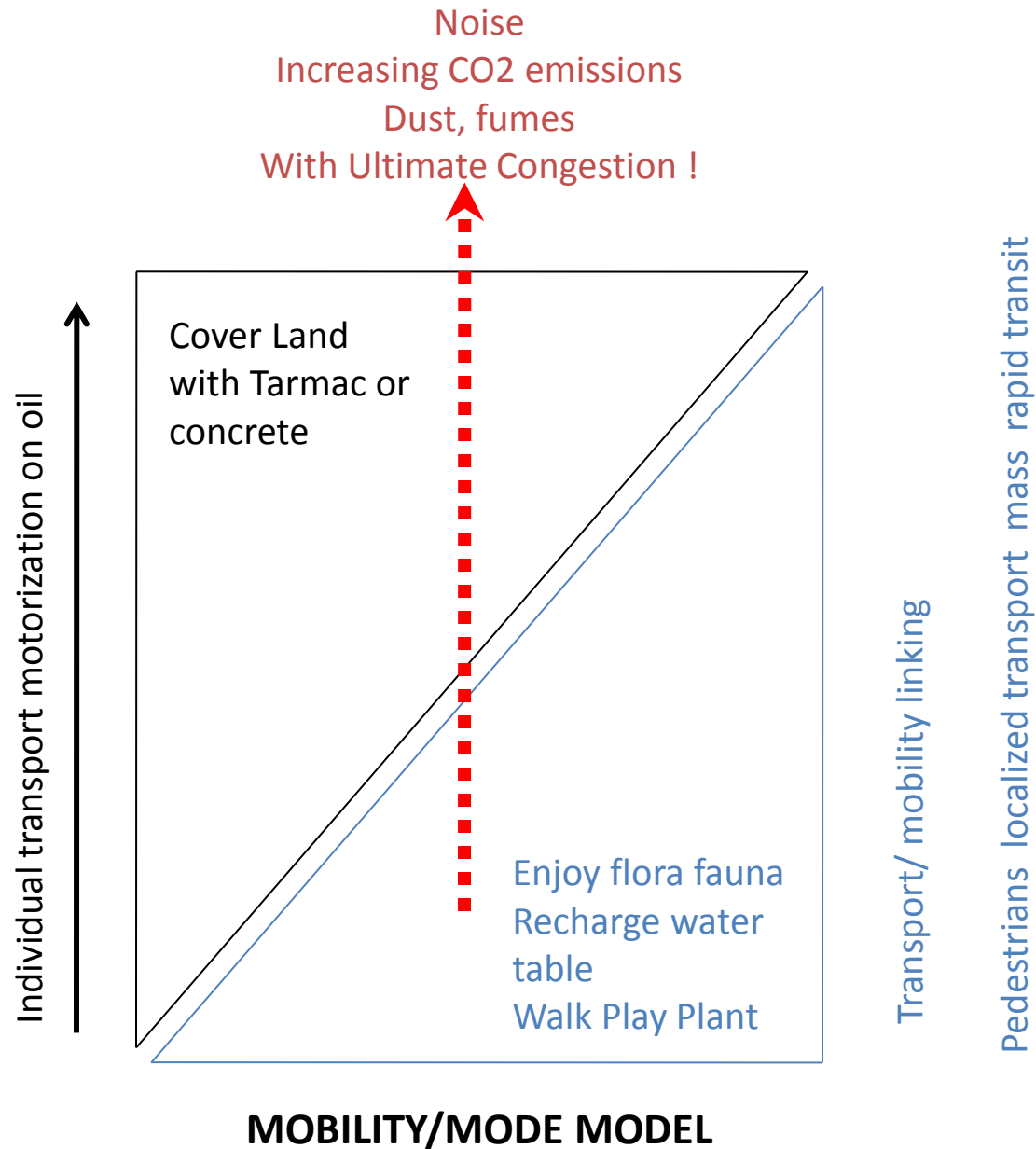
Night time land surface temperatures for Delhi, compiled from ASTER data for 2 October 2005 at 10:35pm, local time.



URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECT : ANATOMY



PRINCIPLE : LOW CARBON MOBILITY MODEL

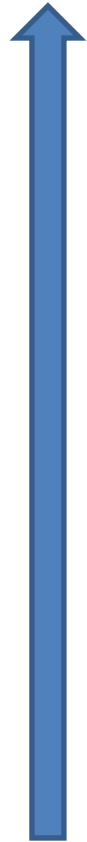


PRINCIPLE : LOW ENERGY INTENSITY URBAN FABRIC

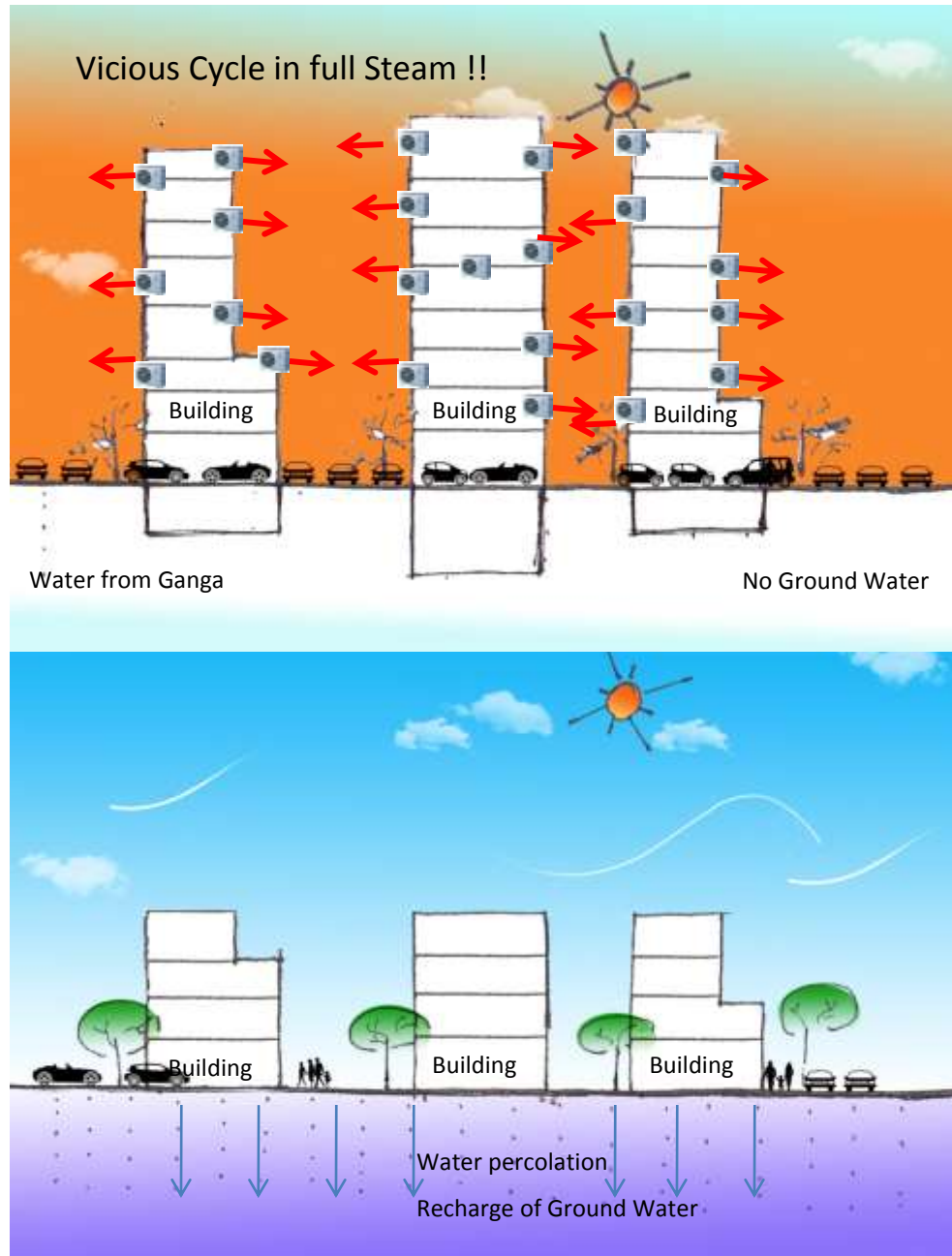
TREND

Increasing Energy Intensity and UHI

Dense



Compact



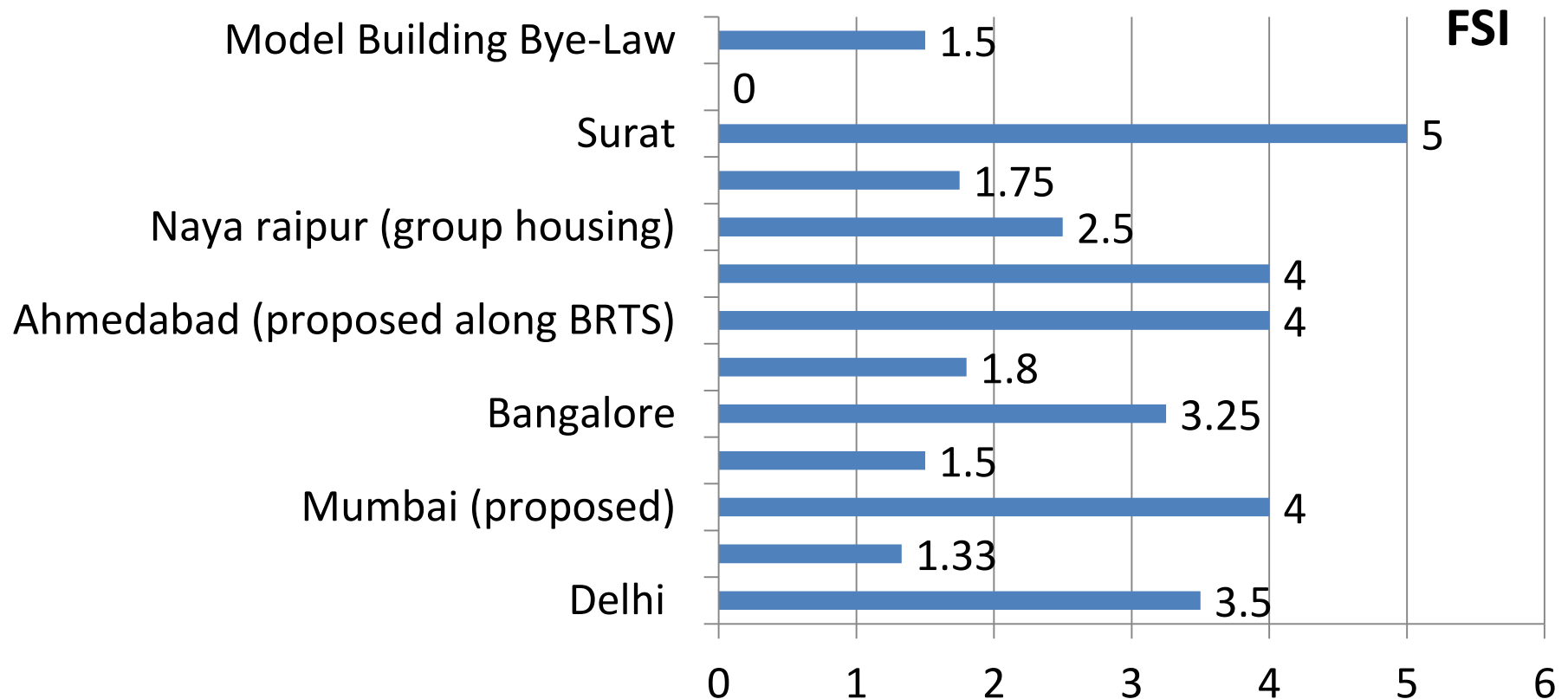
Fully Air
Conditioned!

High Density

Two Cars per
Household

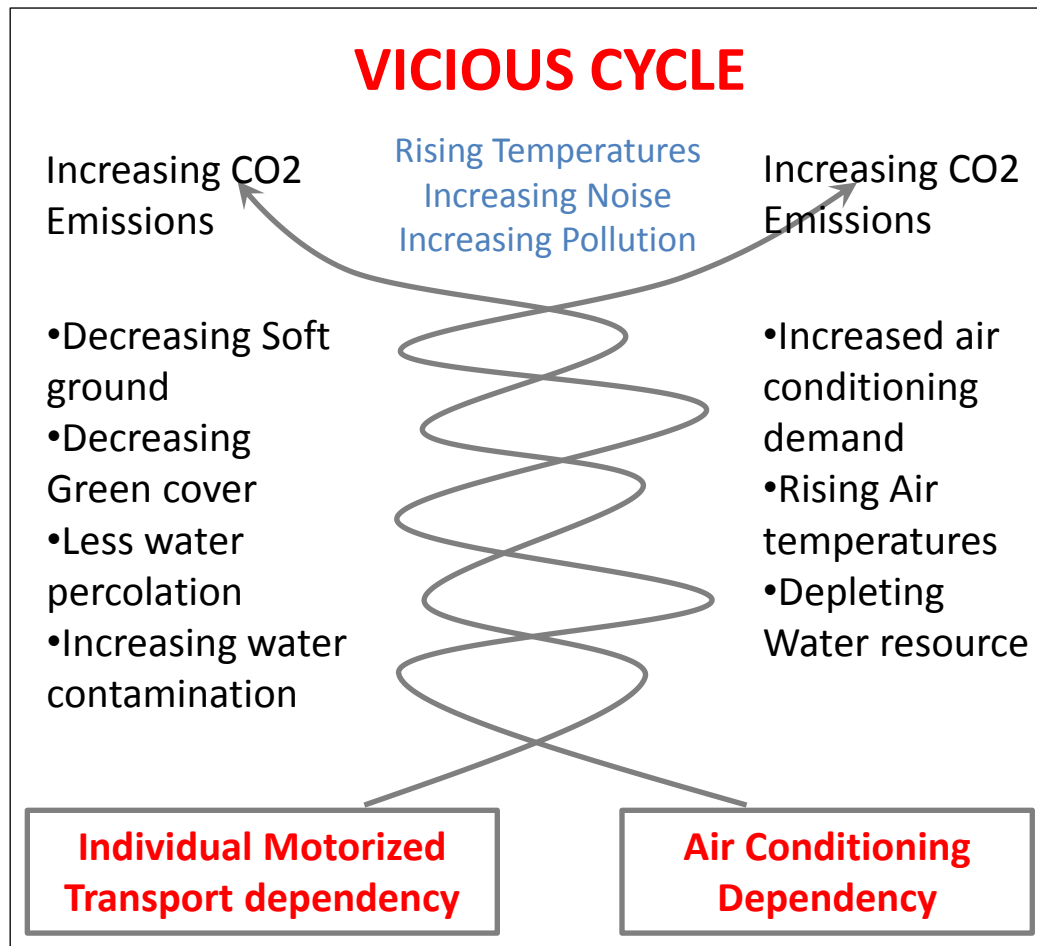
PRINCIPLE : LOW ENERGY INTENSITY URBAN FABRIC

- The urbanization trend in India is showing an expansion in the geographic area of cities as well as a progressive densification of the existing city areas.
- This is accompanied by a progressive increase in prescription of vehicular parking and road surfaces



PRINCIPLE : LOW ENERGY INTENSITY URBAN FABRIC

- Development controls and transportation policy needs to limit the energy intensity of urban fabrics and avoid a vicious cycle leading to 15% increase in energy consumption in buildings.



Development controls and planning regulations today promote the vicious cycle

**High density high rise development +
Private motor transport +
Air conditioning**

=

Vicious cycle ! Of urban temperature rise and energy consumption

PRINCIPLE : LOW EMBODIED ENERGY BUILDING SYSTEMS

The Multiplier Effect of Embodied Energy in Construction Materials and Methods

50% addition of built-space to existing stock

X

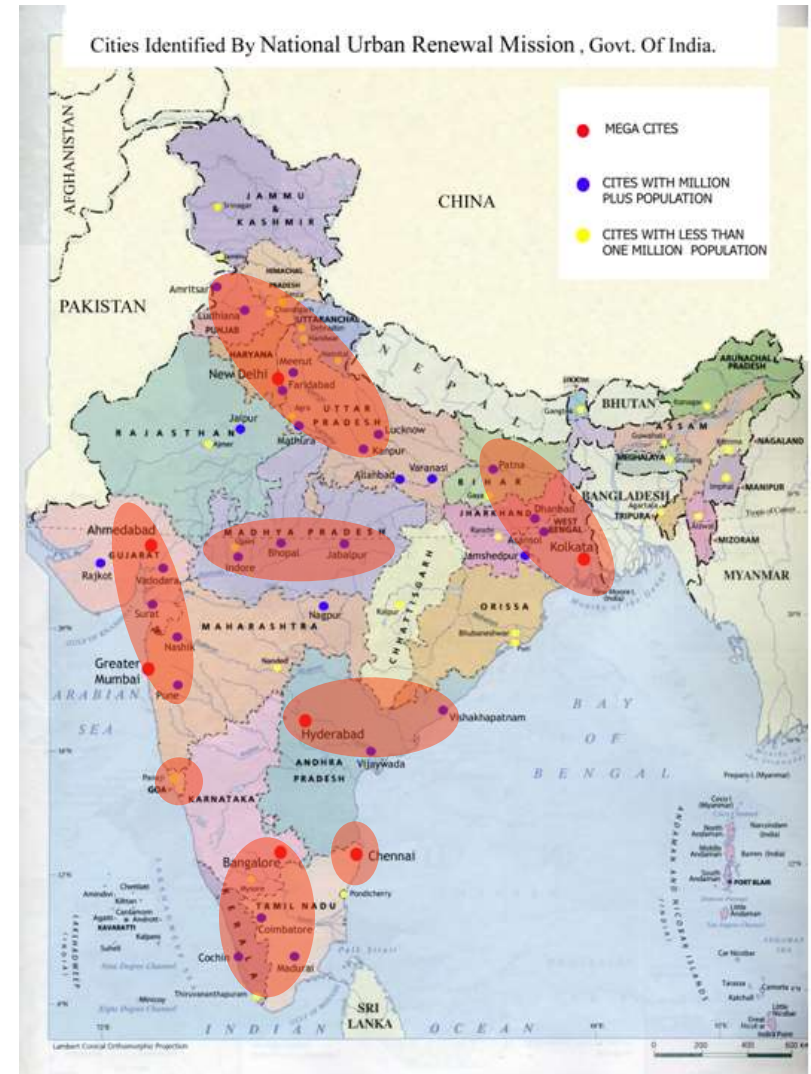
30% increase in embodied energy per unit area

X

over 63 cities of 1 million plus population today

COMPRESSED INTO ONE DECADE!

We can surmise that we have an explosion of CO₂ emission on our hands on account of high embodied energy methods of construction



PRINCIPLE : LOW EMBODIED ENERGY BUILDING SYSTEMS

Embodied Energy: Building Structure & Finishes

	Embodied Energy		Carbon emissions	
	MJ/sqm	GJ/sqm	KgCO ₂ /sm	tCO ₂ /sqm
Low rise				
DDA (typical)	2028.91	2.03	229.43	0.23
IIPH	1374.43	1.37	177.43	0.18
High rise				
HEWO (typical)	2367.40	2.37	260.03	0.26
IIIT-D	2,615.4	2.6	290.6	0.29

- **For low rise buildings**, considerable reduction in embodied energy might be possible by careful designing and using materials with low embodied energy. The embodied energy of IIPH is 30% lower than that of DDA. The material for wall construction has a major impact on the total EE in load bearing construction.
- **In high rise buildings**, there an indication that EE/sq.m increases with height of building . This may suggest greater efforts required for steel efficient structural design .
- **The range of CO2 emissions** shows that in a well designed low rise building emissions are **30-40% less** than an average high rise building incorporating a RCC frame structure.

Giving preference to low rise buildings (G+4) in residential development and using low embodied energy materials for external walling offers 20 -40 % reduction in EE/Sq. M. of residential space compared to BAU .

PRINCIPLE : SOLAR ACCESS FOR SOLAR CITIES

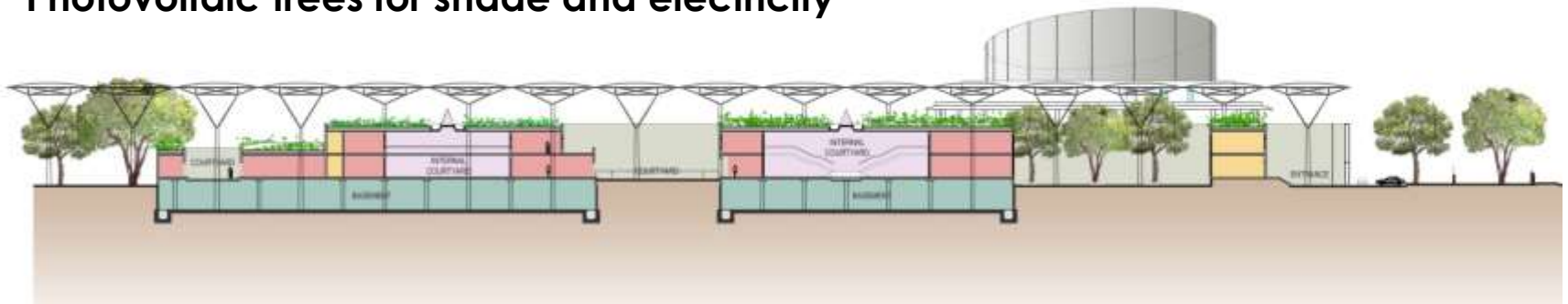


INSTITUTE FOR RURAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, GURGAON

PRINCIPLE : SOLAR ACCESS FOR SOLAR CITIES



Photovoltaic trees for shade and electricity



PRINCIPLE : SOLAR ACCESS FOR SOLAR CITIES

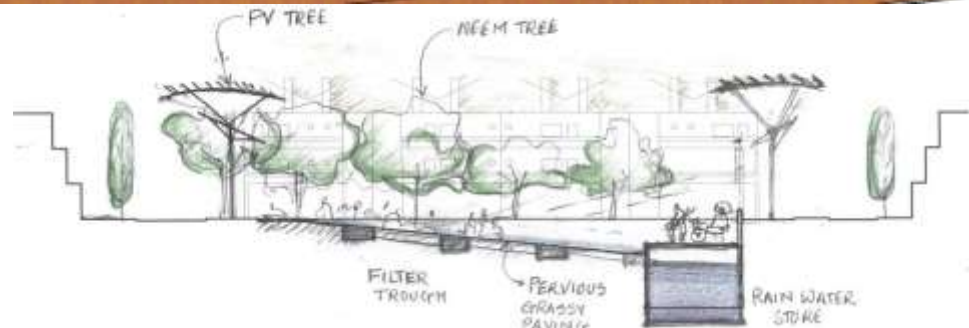


Presidential Estate – 5 MW S P P P The Energy And Resources Institute  Ashok B Lall Architects

PRINCIPLE : SOLAR ACCESS FOR SOLAR CITIES



Open space design combining solar PV and water harvesting.



PRINCIPLE : SOLAR ACCESS FOR SOLAR CITIES

Sunday Market



Open space design combining
solar PV and water harvesting.

Night show

PRINCIPLE : SEARCH FOR LOW CARBON URBAN FABRIC

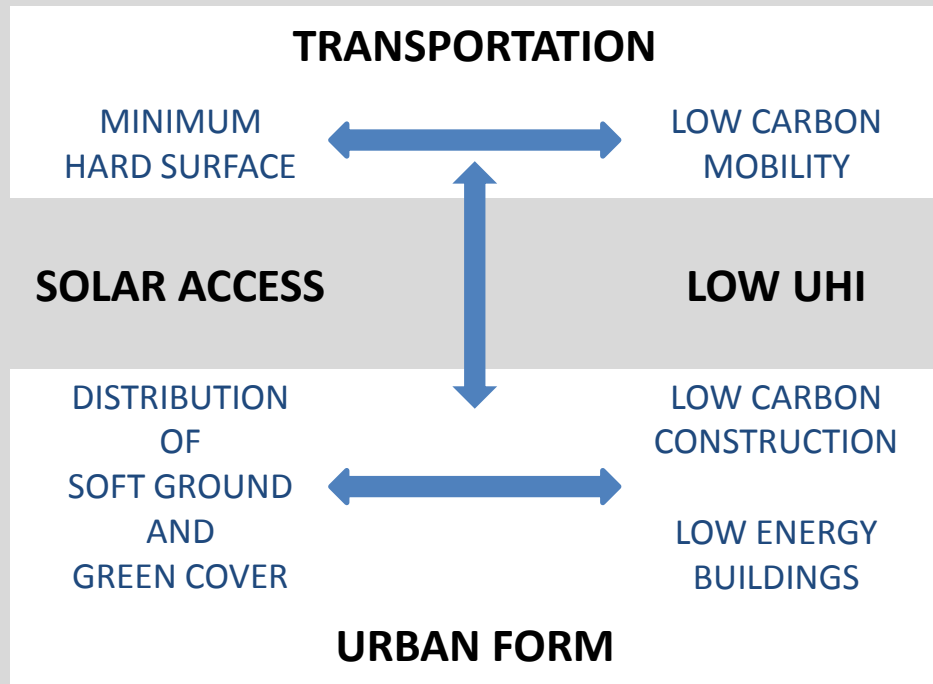


Green Park, New Delhi



Alaknanda , New Delhi

OPTIMAL COMPACT URBAN STRUCTURE



MULTI STOREY MUMBAI



THE HIGH-RISE HIGH-DENSITY CITY WILL BE UNSUSTAINABLE; HEAT ISLAND EFFECT WILL RAISE TEMPERATURES; POLLUTION WILL RISE; GREENERY WILL REDUCE; STREETS WILL BE CONGESTED; IT WILL BE AN ANTI-SOCIAL CITY.



THERE ARE TIME TESTED MODELS OF COMPACT, DENSE CITY FORMS. THEY ARE SOCIAL CITIES, AFFORDABLE FOR ALL, ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE...



AMSTERDAM



PARIS



BARCELONA

A. OPTIMISING COMPACTNESS

- **Land Consumption: Land area / Capita**
- **Building Consumption: Built Area/ Capita (resident)
Built area / Capita (direct employee)**

B. ROBUSTNESS

- **Energy resource dependency: Backup generation capacity/Capita**
- **Solar access potential : Solar access roof /per unit floor area**
- **External water resource dependency: Water demand as a factor of natural precipitation**
- **Energy intensity : Anthropogenic heat dissipated (transport and buildings) peak summertime/ unit area of developed land**

- **CO2 Emissions / capita (gross)**
- **CO2 Emissions for city infrastructure/ capita**
- **CO2 Emissions in local city level mobility and transportation/ capita**
- **CO2 Emissions from embodied energy in buildings/ capita (gross)**
- **CO2 Emissions from operational energy in buildings/ capita (gross)**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLECTIVE LIVING



WE CAN !
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR COLLECTIVE
LIVING



AFFORDABLE HOUSING

AFFORDABILITY THRESHOLD >> ASPIRATIONAL RANGE

DURABILITY

FUNCTIONALITY

SIZE

ROOM
LAYOUT

FINISHES

COMPONENTS

EDUCATION

HEALTH

LEISURE

COMMERCE



PERFORMANCE



ROBUSTNESS/
ADAPTABILITY



ROBUSTNESS/
ADAPTABILITY



PRODUCT
SUSTAINABILITY

TIME

COST

CLIMATE
RESPONSE

SITE
RESPONSE

MOBILITY

WATER

ELECTRICITY

WASTE



H O M E

NEIGHBOURHOOD

PRODUCT SUSTAINABILITY

- **The standardized product of house types will need to be robust.**
- **It must anticipate the lifestyle change as buyers become middle class and form a community.**
- **It must be adaptable to respond to different climatic locations.**

AFFORDABLE HOUSING



OPTIMAL COMPACTNESS : HIGH DENSITY, LOW RISE



G.C. ACHIEVED = 17985 SQM
(33.6%)

FSI = 1.35

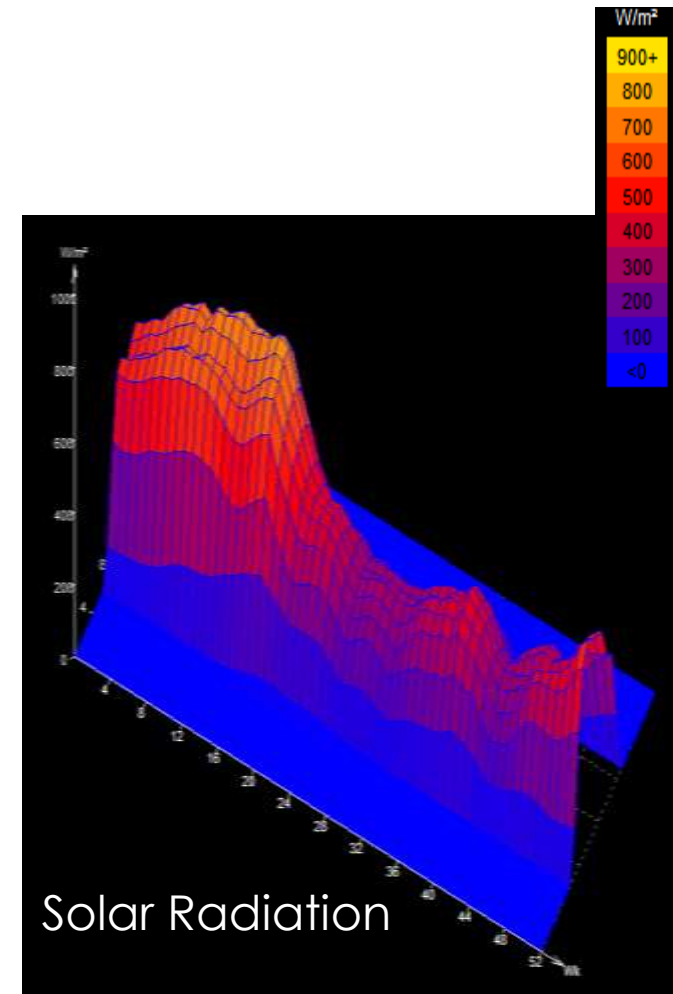
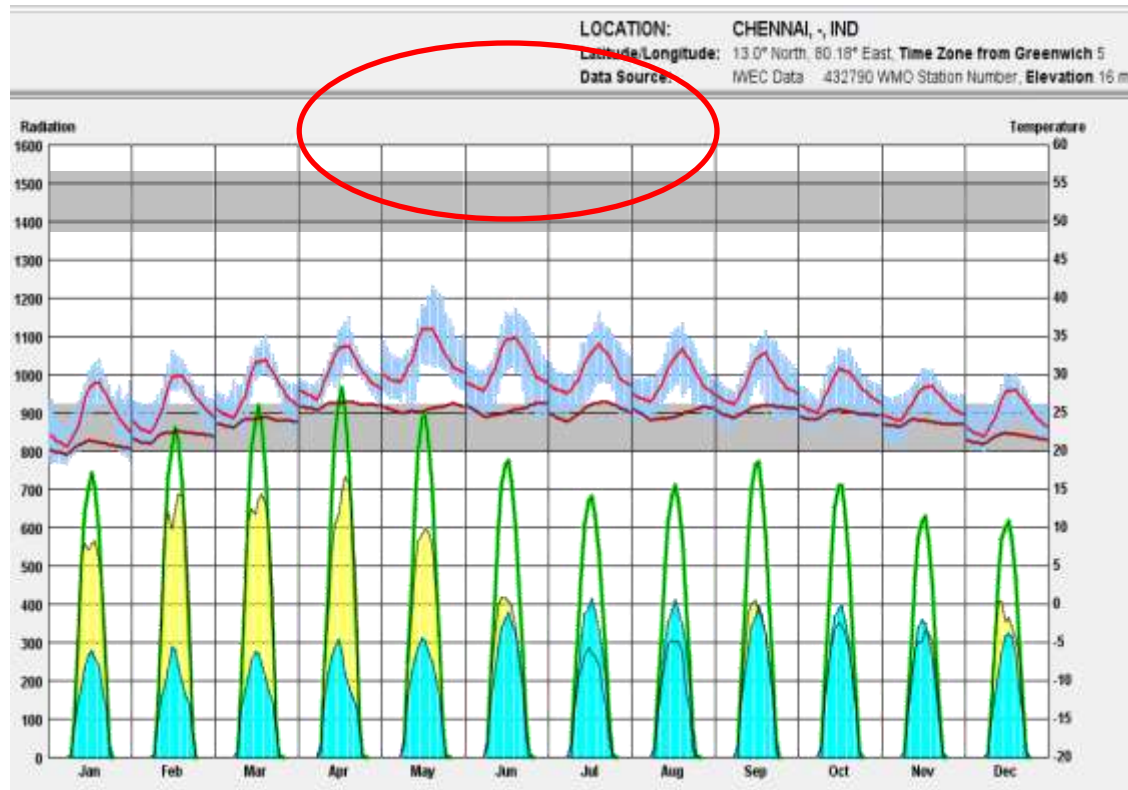
LAND UTILIZATION SATURATED

Dwelling Unit Configuration

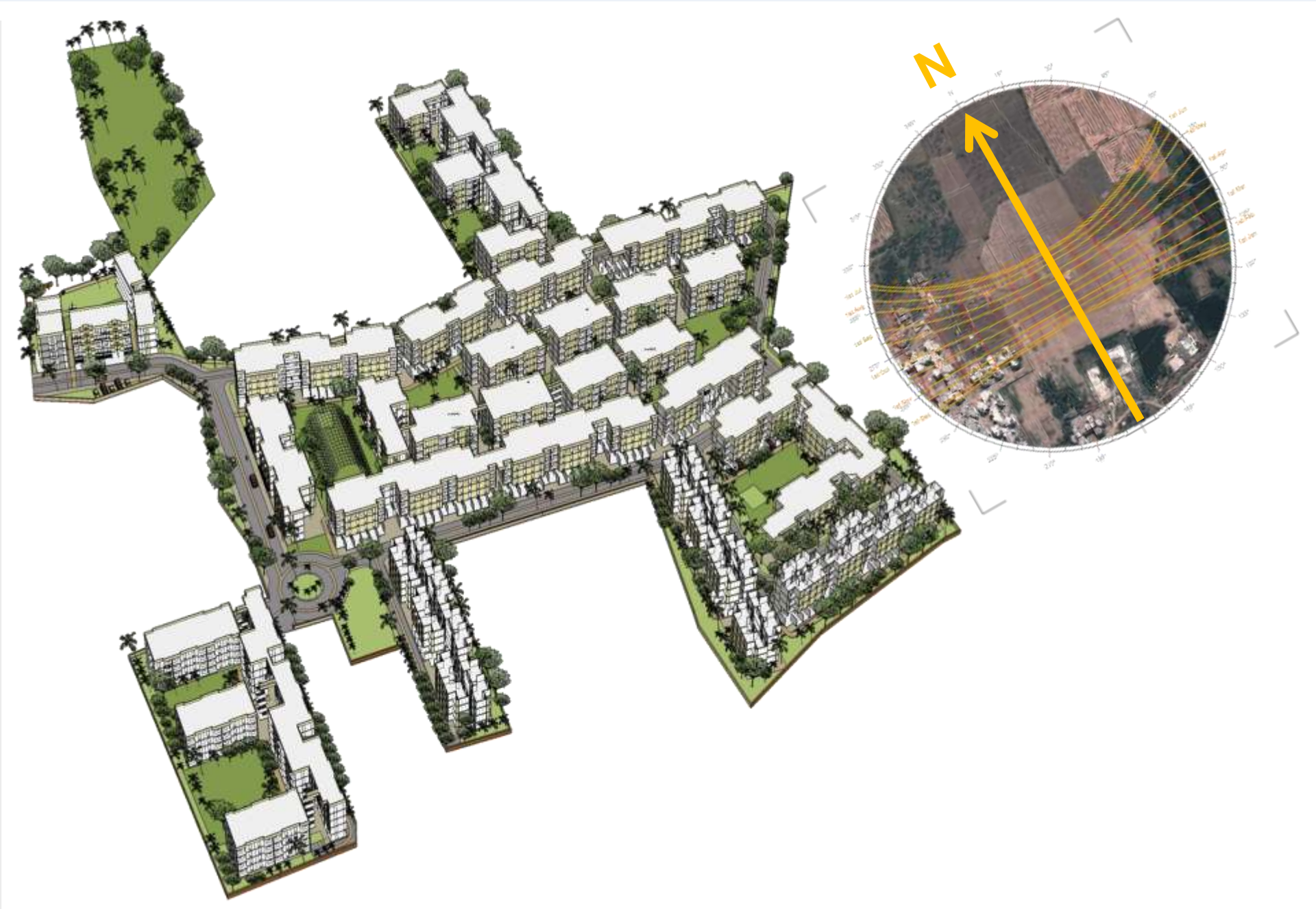
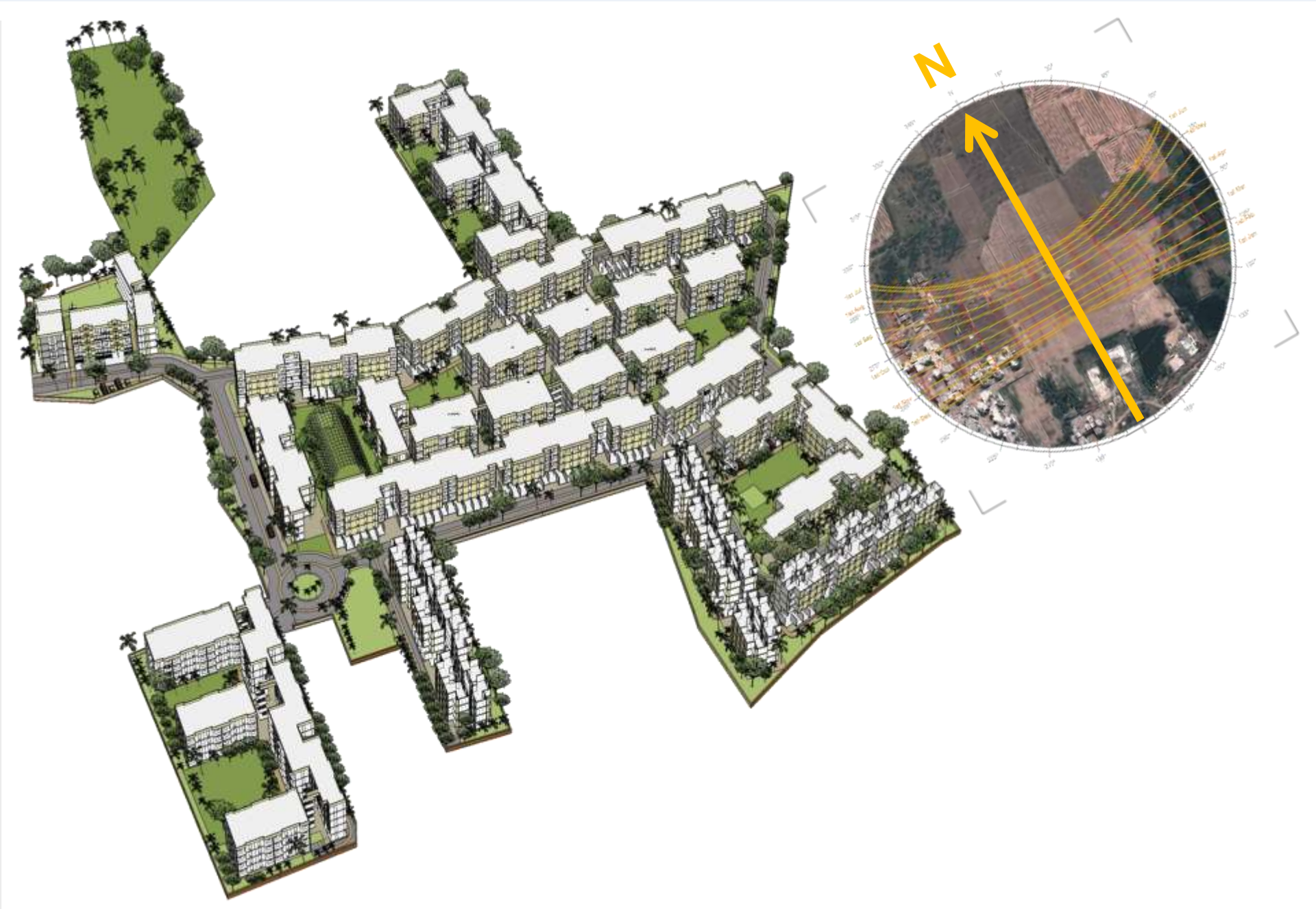
1BHK – 29 sqm	= 176
1BHK – 34 sqm	= 460
1BHK – 41 sqm	= 32
2BHK – 46 sqm	= 612
Total Units	= 1280

- 32 Local Shops
- 126 nos cars and 1280 two wheelers
- Bus Stop / taxi stand

CLIMATIC CONTEXT: HOT AND HUMID



SITE LEVEL STRATEGY : ORIENTATION



SITE LEVEL STRATEGY : MICRO CLIMATE

- Vehicular movement (hard paved) restricted to periphery
- Soft ground with shady trees interspersed – shaded outdoors.
- Breaks for breeze.



SITE LEVEL STRATEGY : OPERARIONAL ENERGY



- Four storey height – minimum dependence on lifts.

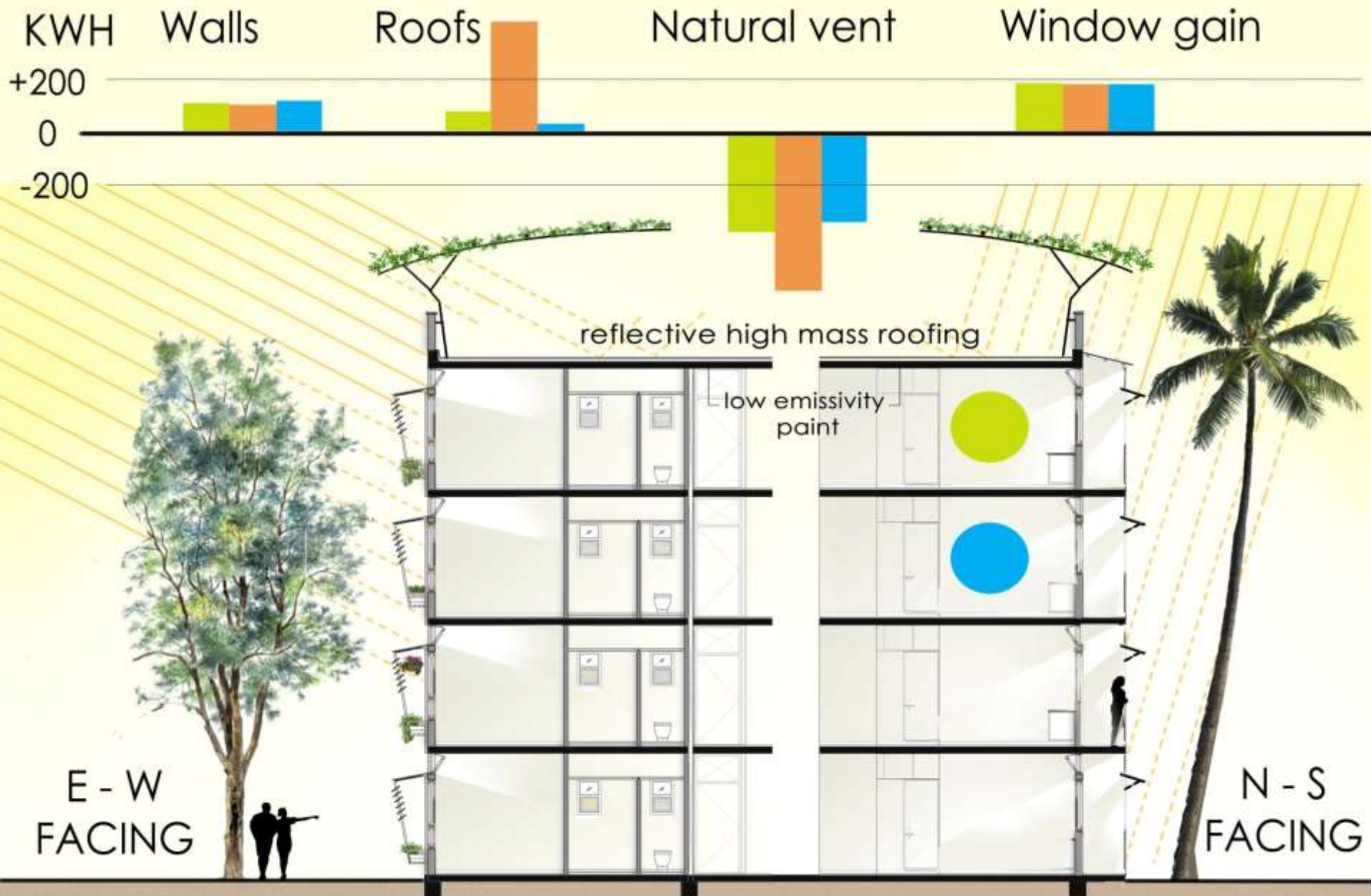
- Minimum pumping energy for conveying water.

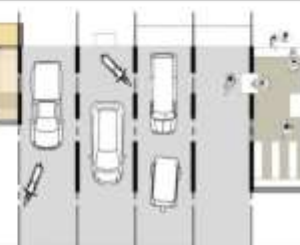
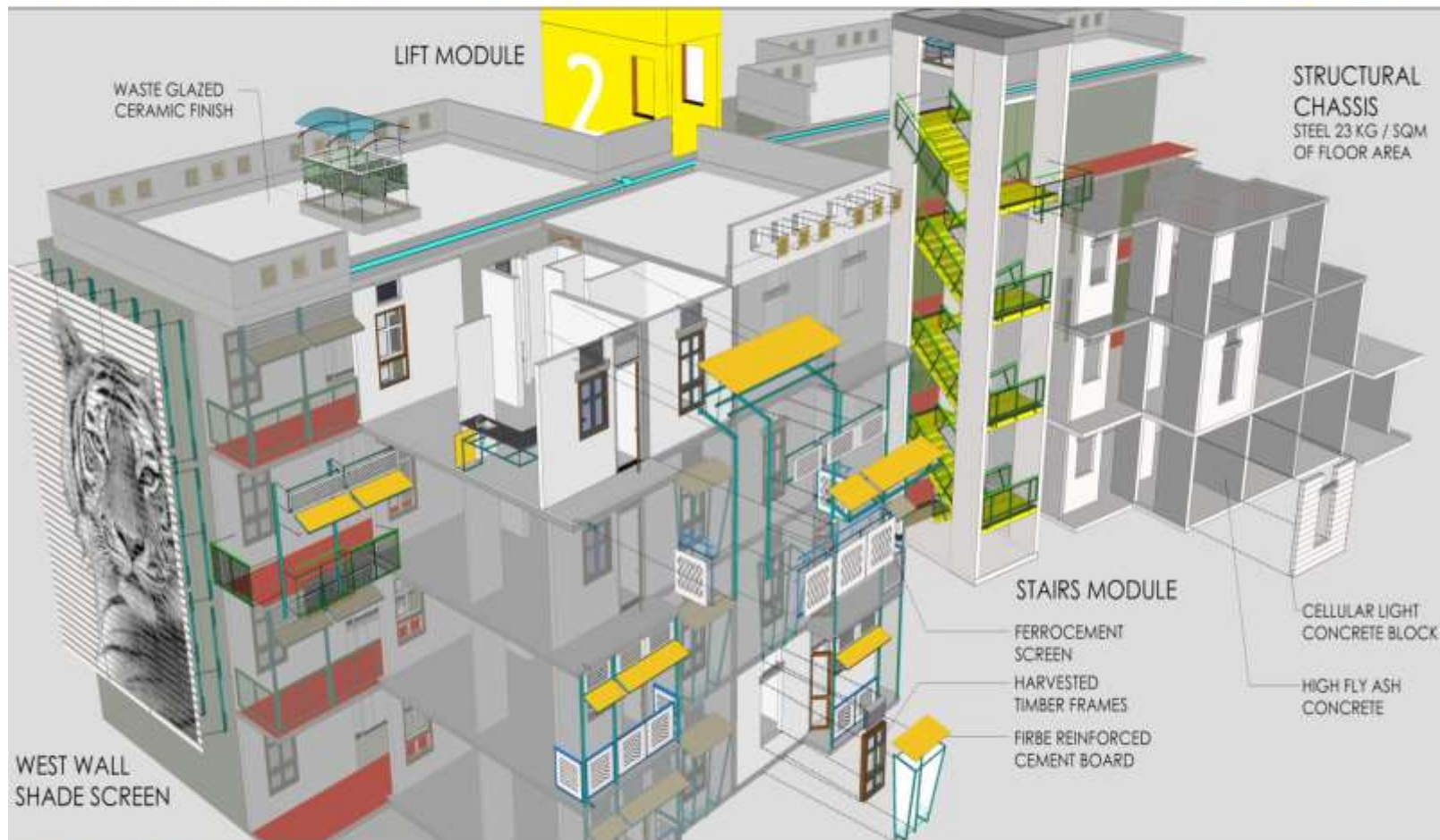
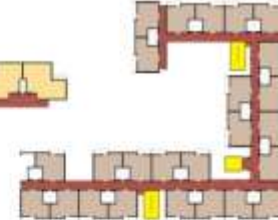
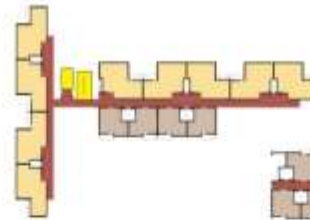
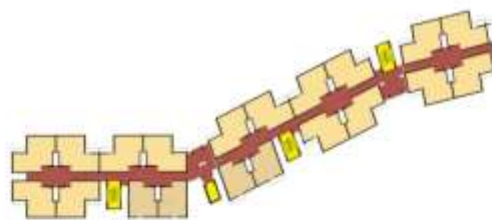
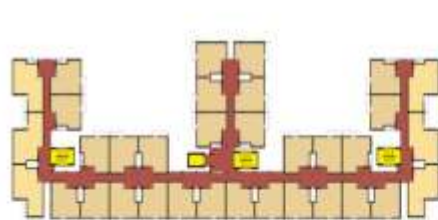
- Encouraging pedestrianization and public transport use

- Recycling of treated waste water to reduce ground water pumping.

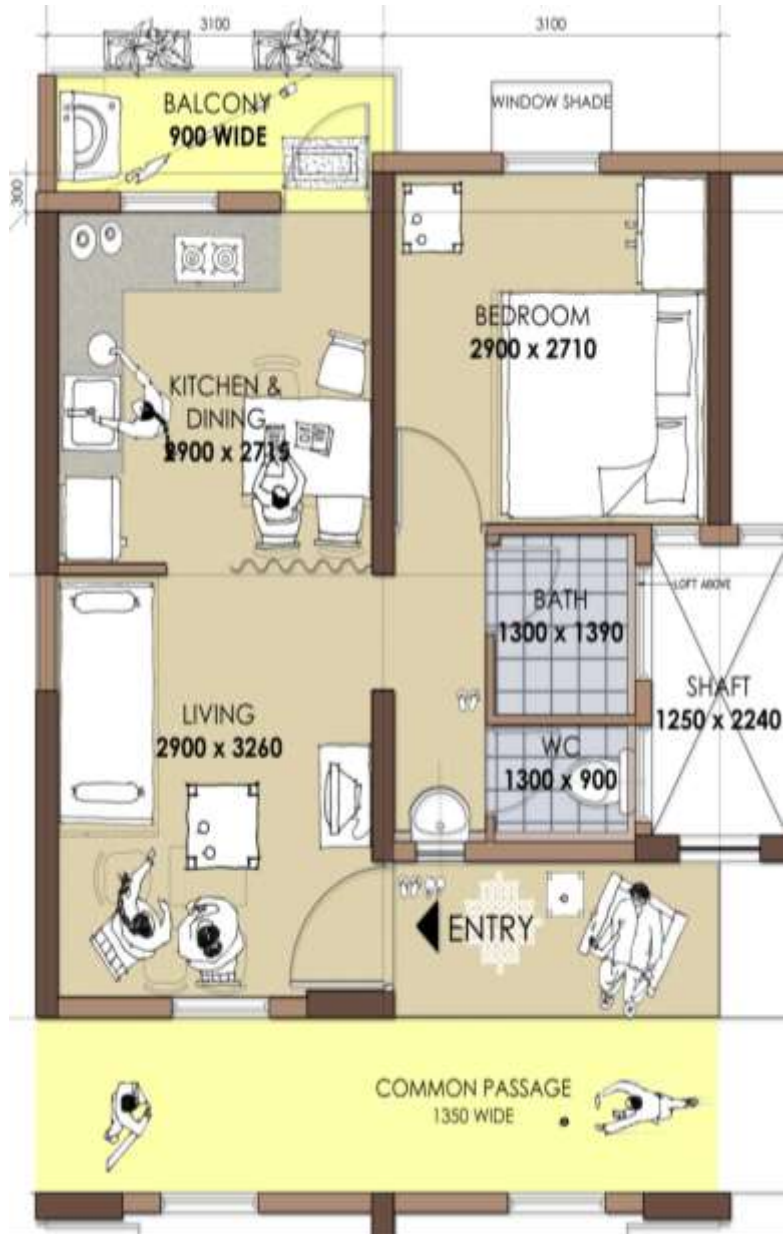


BUILDING LEVEL STRATEGY : SOLAR PROTECTION AND THERMAL INSULATION





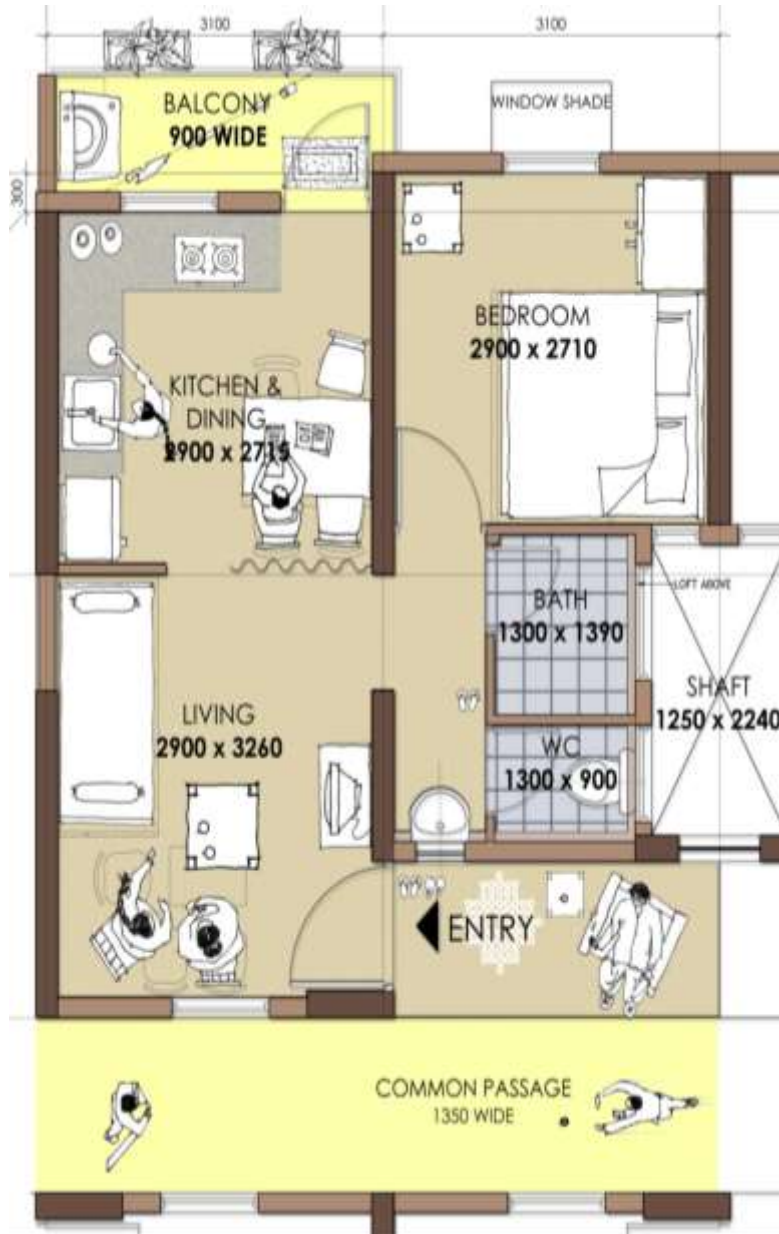
BUILDING LEVEL STRATEGY : PASSIVE DESIGN



- Heavy thermal mass shielded from external temperatures
- Autoclaved Aerated Concrete blocks as an insulating envelope
- End concrete walls shaded by external louvers



BUILDING LEVEL STRATEGY : PROSPECTIVE DESIGN



- For homes to be affordable minimum essential provisions are provided.

- Improvements and additions to these provisions are to be anticipated as income and aspirations rise.

- Consumption is to be disciplined!

- Electric connection limited to 5 kW supply per home.

- Water supply is metered.



Kitchen

Mechanical exhaust may be added.

BUILDING LEVEL STRATEGY : WINDOWS AND BALCONIES



Window shade and frame prompts growing home plants and installing external vertical shade screens

An air conditioner or ventilation fan can be added in the ventilator above the window.

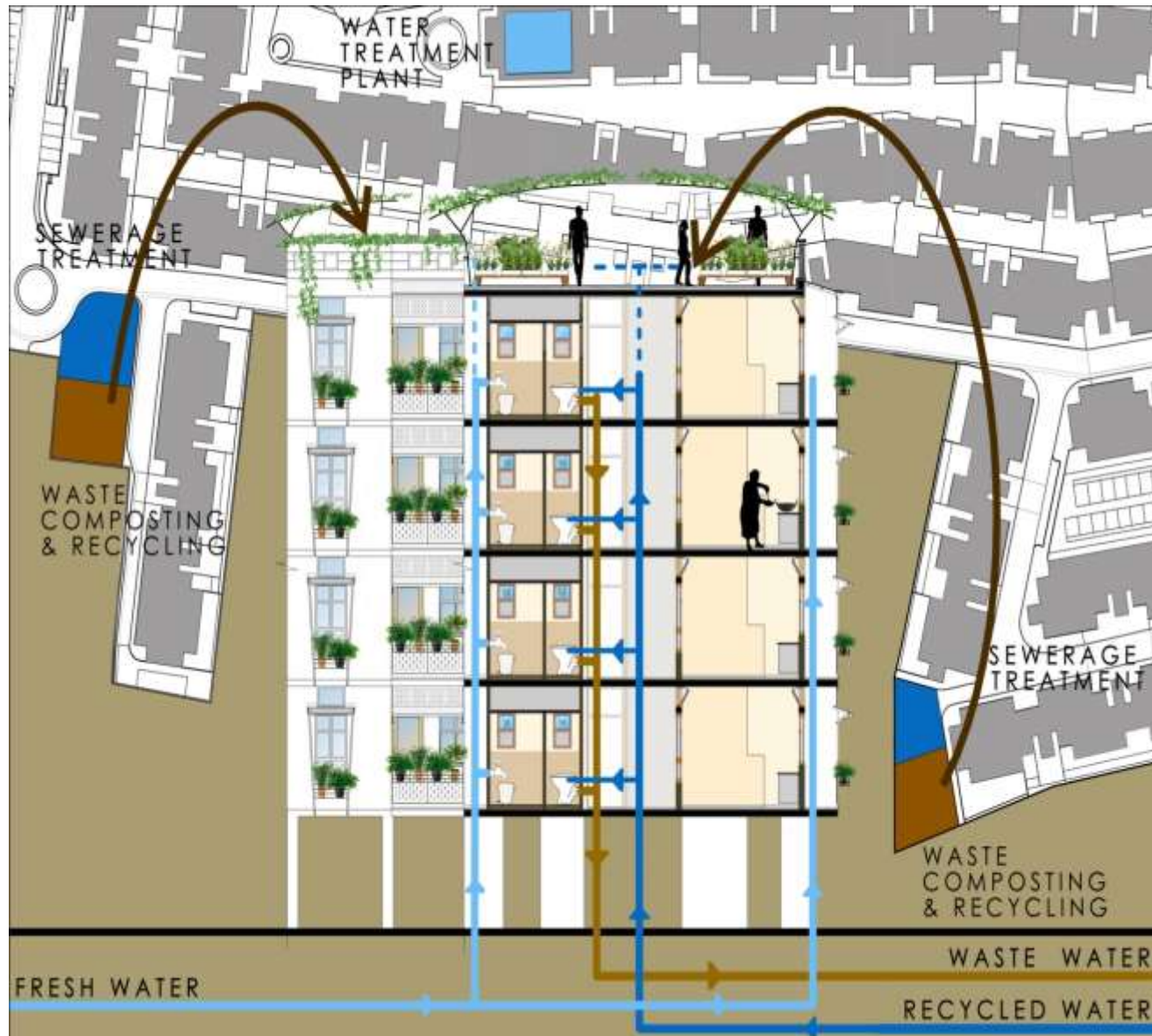


BUILDING LEVEL STRATEGY : COMFORT ASPIRATIONS!



Two years later – mechanical ventilation / air conditioning (April to August – part time)

WATER AND WASTE MANAGEMENT



OPPORTUNITIES OF COLLECTIVE LIVING : COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

•RECEPTION

Resident Welcome
Orientation
Property Exchange
Bills

•HOME SUPPORT

Solar Kitchen
Laundry
Organic Food Services

•INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

VIRTUAL NOTICE BOARD

- I. Community TV
- II. Telephony
- III. Internet

•TRANSPORT CONNECTIVITY

Bus Stop
Rickshaws/Taxi Bay
Rentable Bikes
Parking facility for personal vehicles

•TRADE AND EXCHANGE

Home Improvement
Services
Second Hand Home
Appliances
Furniture
Repairs
Grocery
Beautician
Hairdresser Etc.



OPPORTUNITIES OF COLLECTIVE LIVING : COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

•EDUCATION AND TRAINING

VERANDAH

Yoga
Martial Arts
Dance

VIHARA

Tuition
Craft
Music
Theatre

•RECREATION AND CELEBRATION

Large Open Pandal for
Celebration
Catering Corner
Smaller sheltered spaces for
recreation



ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS : DEVELOPER'S RESPONSIBILITY

WATER EFFICIENCY

- During Construction
Minimizing water for curing
- Post Construction
- Rain Water Harvesting
Ground water recharge
- Water Recycling
For flushing and irrigation
- Low Flow Fixtures
- Metered fresh water supply
Individual home meters

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- Day lighting
All rooms and passages day lit
- Reducing cooling load
Natural ventilation, shading,
kitchen exhaust
- Efficient Light Fixtures
- Minimum building height
Reducing dependence on lifts, reducing pumping energy
- Low embodied energy structural system

MAINTENANCE AND REGULATION OF SERVICE INFRASTRUCTURE

- Water
Centralized pumping, storage and treatment
- Sewage Treatment – decentralized
Basic level treatment by 'natural' system, Treatment for recycling by low energy system
- Waste Disposal
Sorting at home, composting, recycling
- Shared Spaces
Low maintenance landscape
- Electricity
Minimum diesel gen back-up

ROOF AS COMMUNITY ASSET



LEISURE AND BIO-MASS



COMMUNITY LIVING : HABITABLE OUTDOORS



COMMUNITY LIVING : IDENTITY AND EXPRESSION



Research & Development Project - A special collaborative unit to be set up between:

- **Developer**
- **Bureau of Energy Efficiency, India**
- **Research Consultants, and**
- **Residents Association**

TRACKING PROGRESS

- Obtain electricity expenditure history of prospective buyers in their present accommodations.
- Obtain information on electricity consumption according to use – lighting, electrical gadgets, appliances etc.
- Map electrical consumption individually and collectively in new occupied homes.
- Develop community level exchange of information on household wise electricity consumption – creating awareness and setting bench marks for efficient use of electricity.
- Share data on electricity consumption for support infrastructure – lifts, external lighting, sewerage treatment and pumps.
- Encourage escalating tariff structure for water consumption.
- Celebrate exemplary achievements

**PROPOSE ENERGY EFFICIENCY
BENCHMARKS, GOALS AND
MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESPONSIBILITY**