

Grantee information

Name of Grantee: Mr. Kenta Kishi (API Fellow batch 10)

Born in 1969 in Tokyo, Japan, Kishi obtained his BA in Architecture from the Tokyo University of the Arts and his Masters in Architecture from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan, USA. After graduating from Cranbrook, he put up established several experimental design studios in art schools in Singapore. In 1998, he started his professional career in Japan, with works focusing on finding the latent tasks of architecture in contemporary cities. This is reflected in his projects that cross diverse fields such as art, architecture, design, and education. In 2003, through the LWL – Lab for the WonderLandscape, he set up a studio for the practice and experiment of architecture. His recent works are in the fields of architecture and contemporary art, both of which deal with the contemporary city through investigations of the future of suburbia and urban re-development. Besides his practice, he is also teaching design studio courses at Tokyo Zokei University.

Since 2007, he has been directing an international and a crossdisciplinary urban research project, conducted through CDN - Crisis Design Network. This project funded by Toyota Foundation and other international grants is being undertaken together with architects, artists, art directors, and other professionals from the US and several Asian countries.

In 2010-2011, he conducted an experimental urban study project in Surabaya, Indonesia, as an API (Asian Public Intellectuals) Fellow of The Nippon Foundation.

Collaborators:

Mohammad Cahyo Novianto (Architect / Surabaya)

>>Principal of noMADen (architecture office)

Moch. Ichsan Harja Nugraha (Architect and Artist / Bandung / 10th API Fellow)

>>Chairman of Yayasan Cat Air Indonesia (Indonesian Watercolor Foundation)

Bintang Putra (Industrial Designer and Artist / Surabaya)

>>Director of Orange House Studio (Urban Study Studio)

Junko Sato (Scholar / Tokyo / 5th API Fellow)

>>Ph.D Candidate, Doctoral Candidate, Dept. of Cultural Anthropology,
Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies, University of Tokyo

Daiki Nakagawa (Architect / Tokyo)

>>Ph.D Candidate, Dept. of Engineering (Major: City Planning), Tokyo Institute
of Technology

Project title:

Impact of Urban Migration for Major Cities in Indonesia: Studies and Creative Practices for Massive Influx of Workers in City and Its Implications for Existing Urban Community

Abstract:

The primary aims of this project are to study the condition of urban migration and its impact, and to develop a possible methodology to connect two different kinds of people (urban immigrants and the local community) in an urban settlement (*Kampung*) in Surabaya. Meaningful and valuable suggestions for the re-formation of the present condition of the community will be developed through cooperative works with collaborators and local residents from different backgrounds. These will then be

widely proposed in public toward the establishment of better living conditions in an Asian city. Additionally, not only for the sake of the urban study and the development of a proposal, but also for documentation and publication purposes, we will apply creative techniques in order to inform the public of our activities and yield results for diverse stakeholders of the cities internationally.

Deliverables:

1. A book on project process and findings.
2. A documentary movie on project process and findings.

Outputs:

This project will be operated as a platform for diverse discussions of urban problems. In all cities, both common and diverse, unique and specific problems can be found. This complex fact is asking us what would be a critical point for the discussion of the urban issue. The project suggests the urban issue to be a “relationship of community and individual”, since we, who exist, expect to live in the city with other people, to reproduce and sustain the living environment. Our researched data and proposed ideas will draw one possible vision of the Asian city in a positive direction, while, at the same time, limitations in our knowledge and efforts for the city will unfold. A most important point of this project is to disseminate these positive and negative facts of the Asian city for the wider public, as issues common among residents (communities and individuals) of any city, in order to promote the advantages of linking/networking with the global urban society in thinking of and solving local problems.