

Lofoten Studio 2019 - Kerstin Höger, Dag Kittang

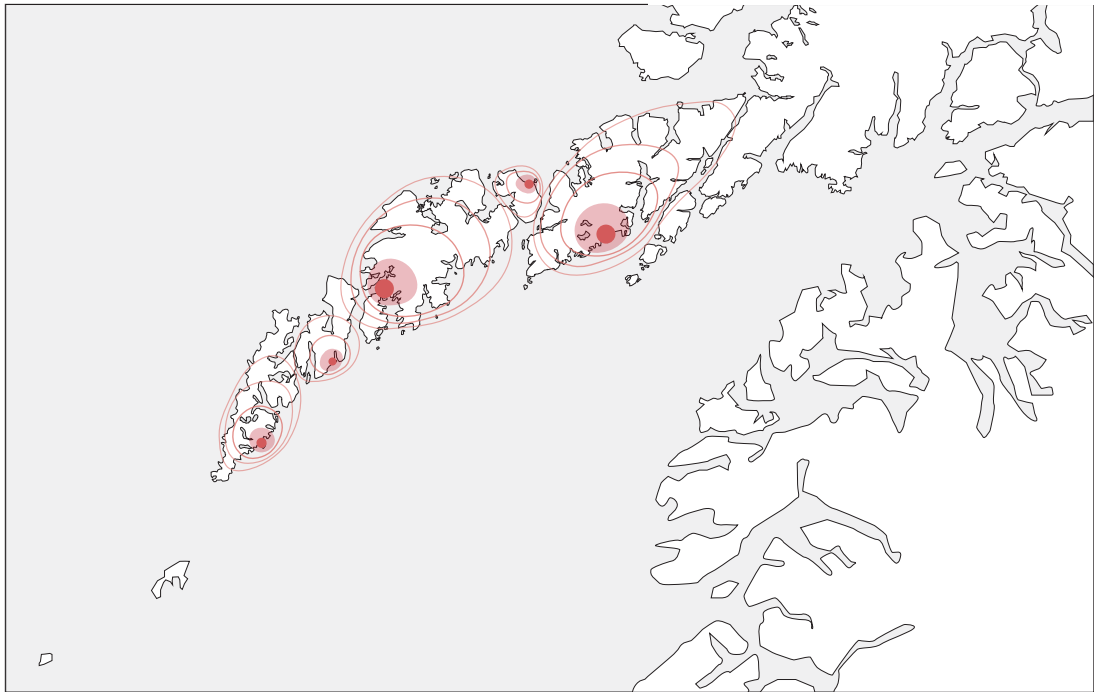


the social cycle of Kabelvåg

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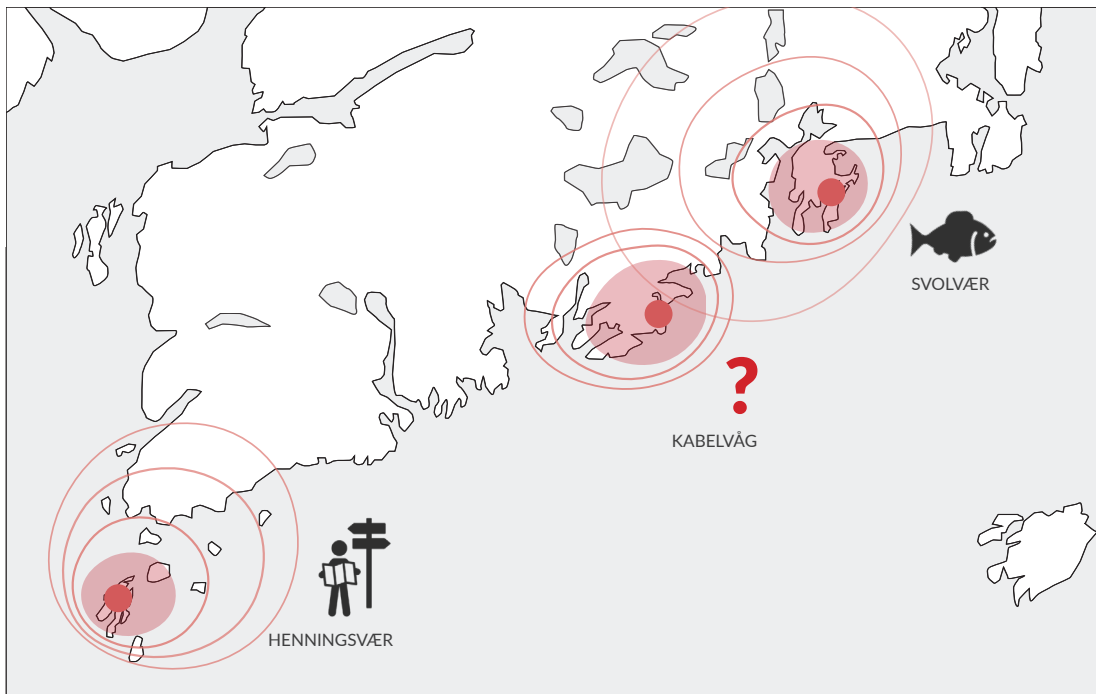


Lofoten

Lofoten is an archipelago of seven islands in northern Norway. Over time, geological events shaped them to give the spectacular view of giant mountains dancing with the sea that we have today. Despite the rough living conditions, people settled there a long time ago because of its abundant fish resource. This economic purpose made the Lofoten one of the most important places in Norway during the medieval time. But that changed as a result of industrialisation and worldwide economic shift and the northern islands lost their significance. Today fish industry along with tourism are the main focus for the urban and rural development of the Lofoten.

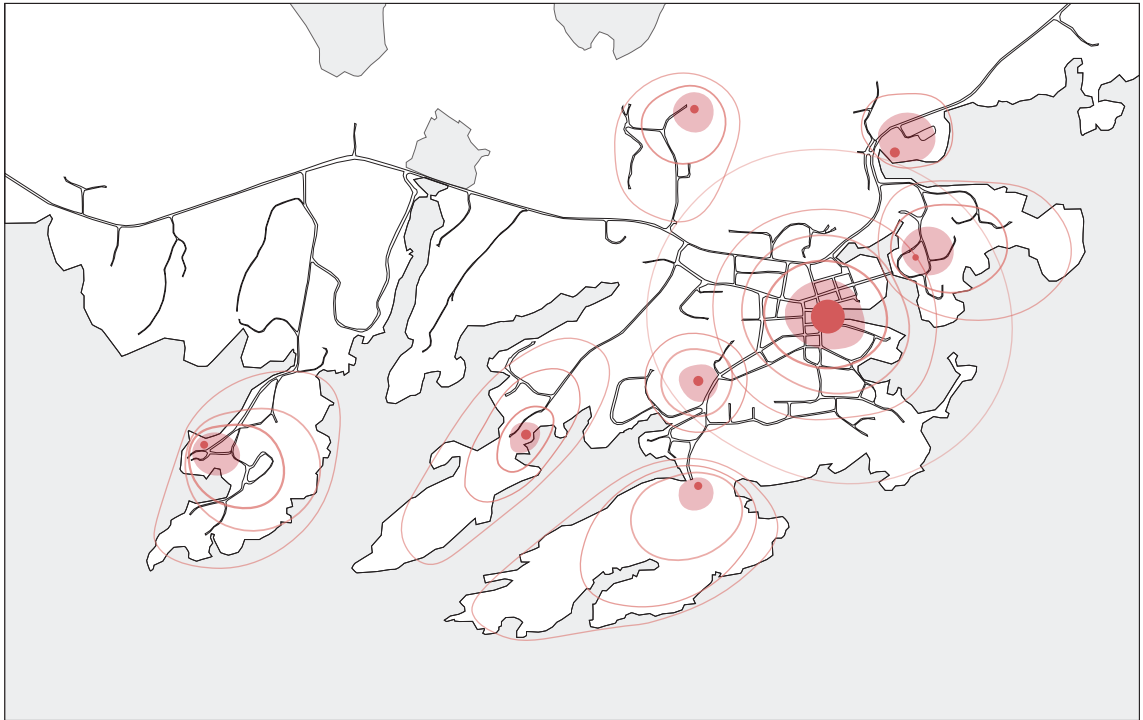






Austvågøya

While Svolvær has expanded its fishing industry infrastructures around the harbour, Henningsvær works with the upcoming and steadily rising number of tourists. Only Kabelvåg has no driving program, mainly housing, which could offer a long term vision. Although Kabelvåg used to be an important place for the fish trade, it has lost its activity due to the transformation of the fishing techniques. The town has also a few touristic attractions but not enough for it to develop its own identity from that. We see its independence from its original roots as an opportunity and the choice to move forward to investigate other benefits that Lofoten can offer without missing social enhanced living structure. Kabelvåg can be seen as a starting point for the social future of other small place in the Lofoten.



Kabelvåg

The interesting topography of Lofoten's archipelago leads on one hand to exciting scenarios but on the other hand challenges the way of connecting space in between. This applies to Kabelvåg as well. The town has several very interesting spots which are hardly connected to each other. The spreading town of Kabelvåg is also the resultant of the individual will for a private house. This loose social structure led to a lack of identity for Kabelvåg. Our aim is to fill those spaces in between and to connect those points to an extended transportation system (bus and ferry).



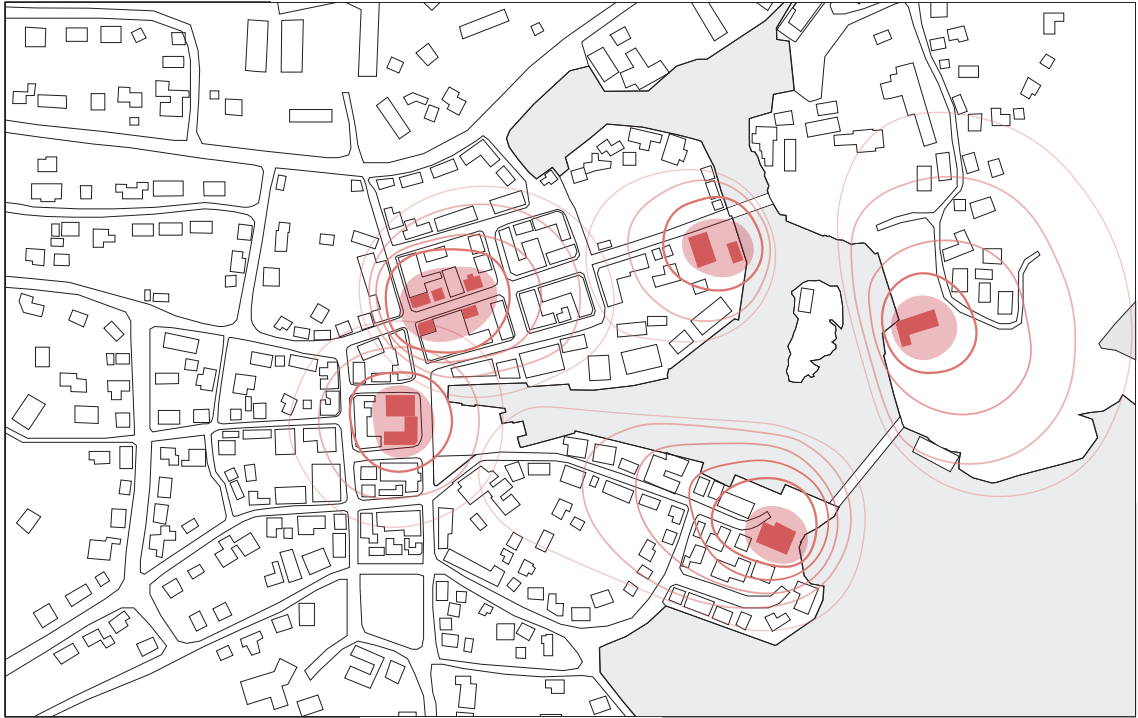




A fragmented urban structure



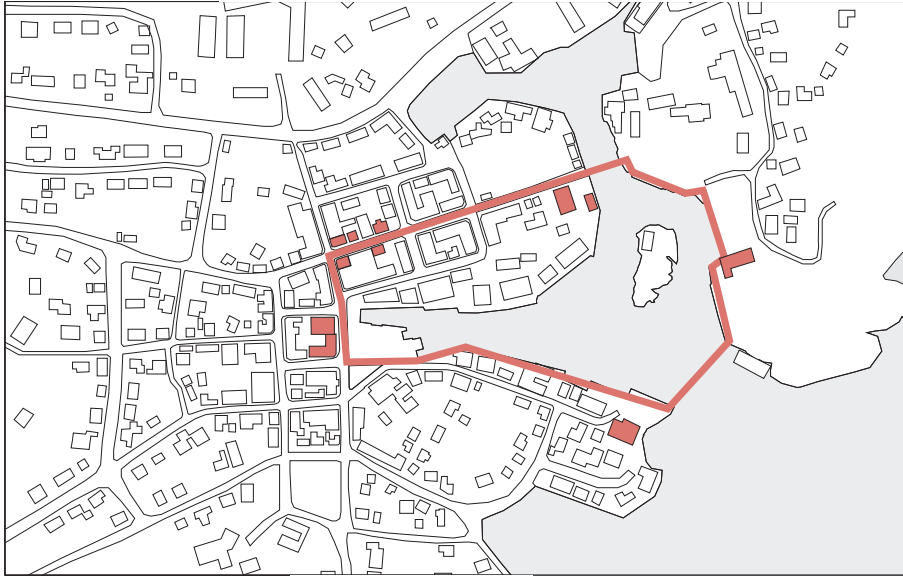
A new public transportation system



City centre

We decided to focus on the reactivation of the heart of the city: the centre. For that, a social pedestrian ring is created to connect and therefore strengthen the different parts of the city centre. Around this public space a few catalytic points give an impulse for the development and reactivation of the area around. To do so, the current structure of the town is reinforced by adding new buildings in the vacant spaces, generating diversity of functions and bringing nature awareness into the town.

Phases



Phase 1



Phase 2

Building rules



Prioritize soft and social mobilities



Create a pedestrian net connected to the infrastructures and environment



Encourage the use of public space with open spaces in relation to the nature



Underline the atmosphere of the place by its ground texture



Preserve the existing structure of the blocks, built on their periphery and free on their centre



Densify towards the city centre



Divide the facades in small units to avoid long and monotonous facades



Ensure the human scale of the city by the alignment of the buildings to the road



Activate the first floors for a better interaction with the public space



Combine public buildings with private ones



Diversify sizes, shapes and functions of the buildings



Diversify typologies, colours and materials of the buildings



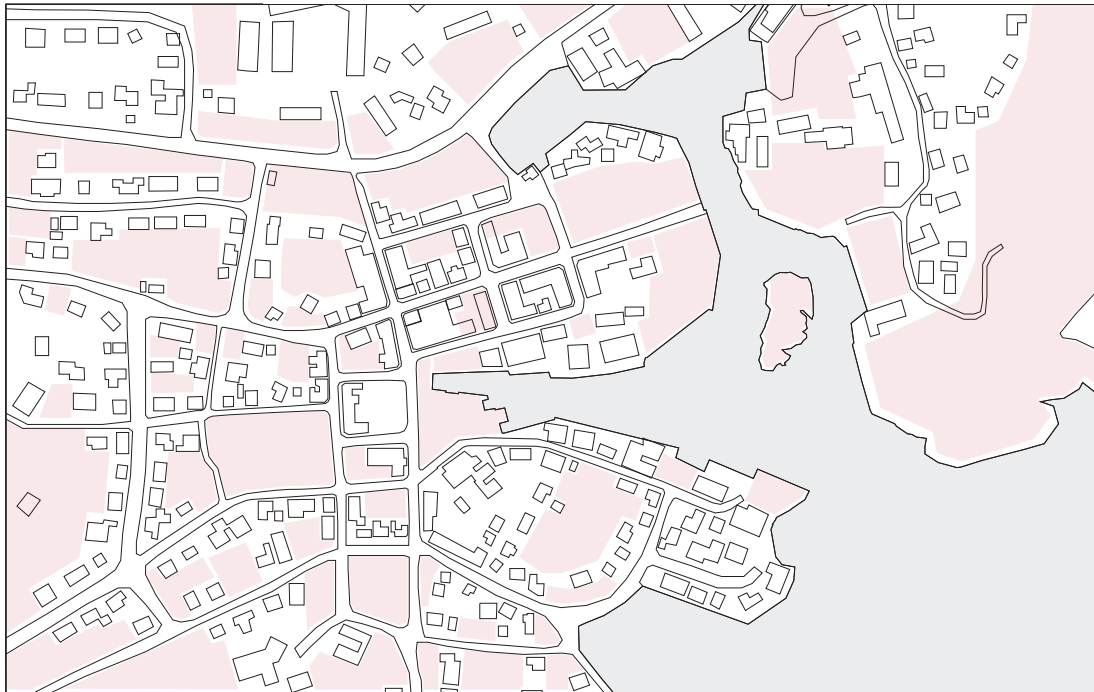
Diversify uses and functions within the same building



Create landmarks and orientation points in the cityscape



Ensure a visual permeability and accessibility between the buildings



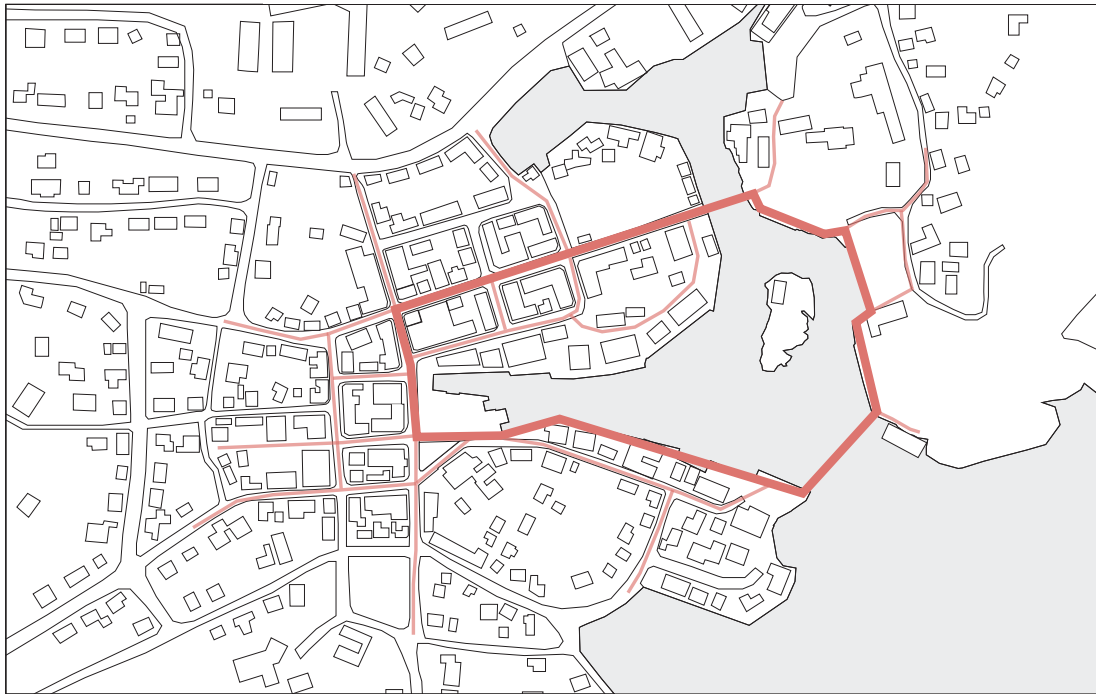
Vacant spaces



Densification by filling the gaps



Rehabilitation of natural awareness



Pedestrian network



Diversification of forms and functions





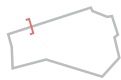
Moments along the path

The social connector is punctuated by public attractions, creating different atmospheres along the pedestrian path. The variation of physical and visible qualities of the different places creates a sensitive and inspiring promenade.

The historical main street, is open for public uses and more interaction between the buildings and the public space. Just go on walking and experience an innovational field of work based on basic knowledge like the cultivation and use of land, water and light. Feel the water, feel the nature and let you soak in a place full of culture and life. Take the ferry or cross the bridge, and have a walk on the wooden docks. On one side you will experience the openness of the sea and on the other side the urban life. Take a break on the animated main square and enjoy the local food at the covered market.

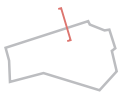


An active historical street





An innovational working place along with social gardening

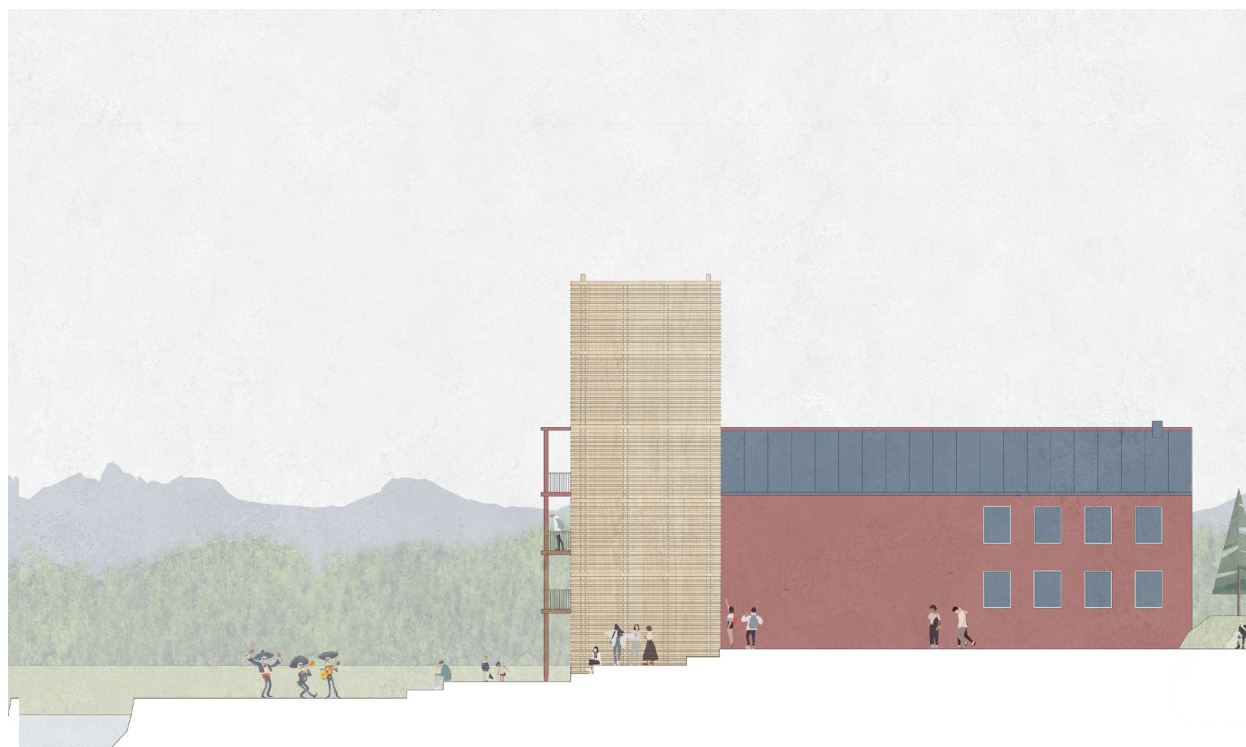






A place for culture, nature and temporary events

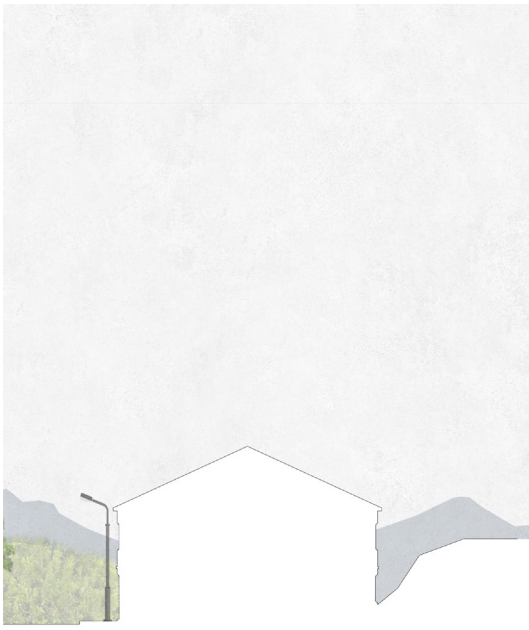






An accessible and permeable waterfront



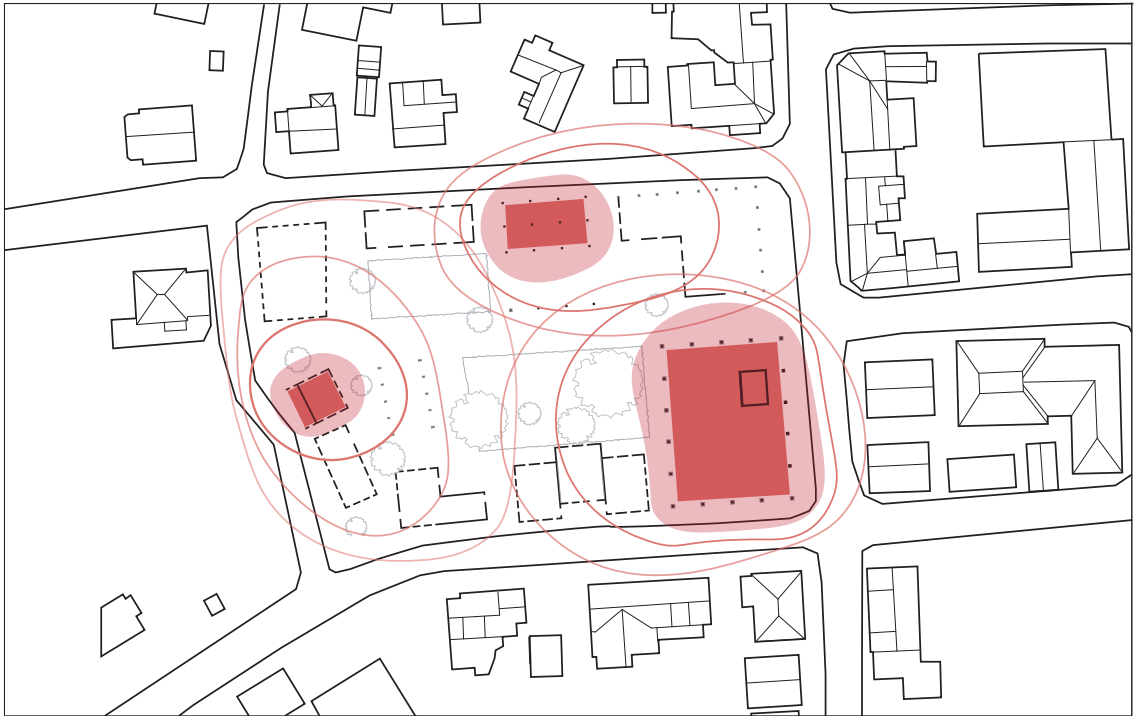




Public buildings like a covered market generating activity on the public square







Communal Habitat

Possible example for a future scenario of a new upcoming building plot. The place shows a densified public and private mix of people, activities and typologies. It accomodates a diverse demographical network of young people who combine their studies with a natural near life, ederly people that are still an active part of the society, visitors like tourists relatives or tourists and families who wold like to move into their own private home without missing the social benefits. All those have access to shared places for working, cooking, gardening, learning and relaxing.

