

# rise



**design and build training program  
Lesotho 2019**



# OVERVIEW

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**rise - Relationships Inspiring Social Enterprise** is a US registered 501(c)(3) non-profit social enterprise. After 7 years of working in Southern & Eastern Africa, having experienced how under resourced local entrepreneurs are in rural and semi-rural environments, Daniela Gusman teamed up with Oliver Needs, BOND Events' President, to found **rise**.

Formed in 2016, **rise** is working for a world where sustainable social businesses, created by local entrepreneurs is the norm, by providing them with resources, knowledge and the professional networks needed to be successful and transformational in their communities.

Through our professional network in the design and architecture industry, **rise** links aspiring entrepreneurs in vulnerable communities in low-income sub-Saharan African countries

to essential resources they don't otherwise have access to. Resources provided include business skills, industry experts, mentorship and access to markets. By working directly with individuals and their communities in a holistic manner, we aim to develop training and solutions that can address local needs and contribute to economic development.

Additionally, **rise** seeks to solve the poor quality and lack of infrastructure outside of most African capital cities by bringing local skilled labour to work on architecture projects in rural areas thus improving the construction know-how within local communities. We aim to bridge the disconnect between trades people and professionals, bringing them together through a program called **in loco** that uses locally sourced talent and materials, striving to create an entrepreneurial mindset.



Maseru - capital city Lesotho

# OUR IMPACT

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Our first project linked an orphanage in Lesotho, God's Love Centre (GLC) with social enterprise and architecture experts. Together we developed a social entrepreneurship program which will transform the orphanage from being 100% reliant on donations to raising some of its own revenue and creating jobs for the young adults at the orphanage. We achieved this in partnership with an architectural design and build training program called "**in loco**".

**in loco** has an innovative and unique approach to the Design and Build overseas workshop. Created to have a real impact in the lives of all participants our approach builds on the Live Projects teaching model and learning from life, skills sharing and capacity building. **in loco** engages with local communities, local NGOs, students and young graduates from local architecture and construction courses, as well as international participants with an interest in architecture, development, sustainability and the built environment.

Last year's inaugural project took us to Maseru the capital of Lesotho, a country land locked inside of South Africa. Here, together with students from technical colleges and institutions plus facilitators from local NGOs, much needed construction was carried out to improve the quality of life for orphans who at the time lived in cramped conditions at GLC.

Following a "hands-on, bottom-up" approach, we worked in close collaboration with members of the local community on the completion of this building and simultaneously started the design and construction of new dormitories, facilities and external play areas. At the same time, a social entrepreneurship and mentorship training program ran for 21 youths aged between 16 and 20 and also for the existing GLC team. This program focused on skills needed to initiate social ventures.



**in loco** 2018 - God's Love Center new orphanage



# WHAT

**in loco** aims to complement a student's existing learning, and is run in English. It focuses on developing students' knowledge of buildings and helping them work with local communities and experts to help change the cities and rural villages of tomorrow.

With a cohort of 10 to 20 recently graduated Basotho students from local Architecture and Construction Schools, as well as promoting peer-to-peer knowledge exchange with contingents of 5 to 10 international students joining at specific times during the

construction for two-week workshops.

**in loco** aims to create a life-changing experience for all involved.

It is a "learning-by-doing" experience in which all participants are involved in the planning, design and building, through a participatory process engaging international cohorts of students and the local community. **in loco** offers a real knowledge exchange experience for all involved.



First cohort of **in loco** fellows



Participatory design workshop



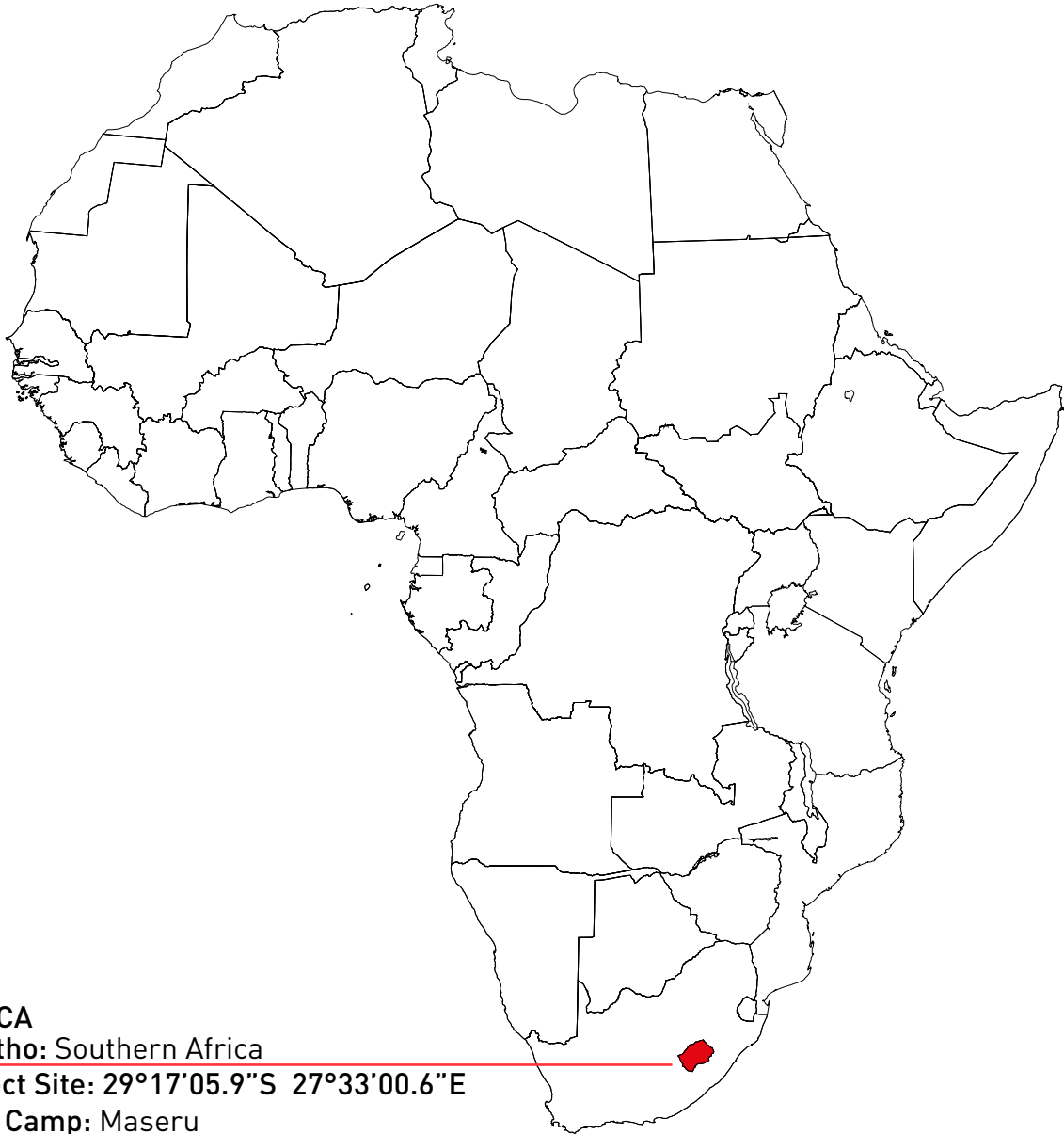
Tour visit with International students



International students and fellows on site

# WHERE

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## AFRICA

**Lesotho:** Southern Africa

**Project Site:** 29°17'05.9"S 27°33'00.6"E

**Base Camp:** Maseru

Lesotho, also known as the "Mountain Kingdom" or the "Switzerland of Africa", with its lowest altitude sitting at 1400m and over 80% of its land above 1800m, is the country with the highest lowest point in the world, that's a whole 400m above its closest competitor, and it is the only state to be completely above 1000m.

Another unique feature of this country is that it's the only fully autonomous country to be completely surrounded by another. This landlocked status and a weak economic

situation have made Lesotho incredibly dependent on its neighbour South Africa. Water is Lesotho's main export, in a country with an economy crippled by over 45% unemployment.

Beautiful landscapes, rural villages and a strong cultural heritage should be the reasons why most people know this country, yet instead it is generally best known for having the world's second highest HIV/Aids prevalence rate.

# WHERE

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## this year's project

For 2019, the **in loco** project will be the Design & Construction of a Youth Entrepreneurship Resource Hub which will be located just outside of Maseru.

The Youth Entrepreneurship Resource Hub will aim to fill the gap that currently exists in Lesotho by providing a physical space where young unemployed youth aged between 18 to 35 with an entrepreneurial spirit for the creative, design & built sectors can work, produce, collaborate, ideate, continue their professional development and build business relationships.

The hub will also be a center that will promote innovative thinking and stimulate creativity and design, provide a referral system

matching customers with entrepreneurial service providers, as well as promote ethical business practices where consumers are guaranteed good, reliable, professional and fairly priced services.

The concept of the hub was conceived as a result of over 20 years of cumulative work with the youth in Lesotho combined with several conversations, research and round table discussions with key stakeholders in particular with young unemployed aspiring entrepreneurs who constantly face the problem of lack of access to essential resources they need in order to launch their ideas and small businesses.



Container Conversion at GLC, **in loco** 2018

# WHY GET INVOLVED

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## 1

Up to 20 international construction, engineering and architecture students from USA, Europe and Asia will participate in the **in loco** program and benefit from an international design and build experience, allowing you to develop design skills suitable for working in challenging environments, and conditions of scarcity of resources.

## 2

Work alongside a team of 10 to 20 young local construction, engineering and architecture graduates from Lesotho, who will be taking part in this exciting internship program, gaining valuable skills to improve their chances of employment and empowering them to start their own projects.

## 3

Be part of a cohort of like-minded international construction, engineering and architecture students who will participate in the **in loco** program and benefit from an international design and build experience, allowing you to develop design skills suitable for working in challenging environments, and conditions of scarcity of resources.

## 4

Be part of a scalable solution to help put an end to some of the root causes of poverty in Africa which is the lack of job opportunities.

## 5

Help us develop learnings from this pilot project, and create a network of knowledge and people, so that this methodology can be replicated in Lesotho and other countries.

# WHO WE ARE

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## **rise | relationships inspiring social enterprise**

**rise** is working towards a world where sustainable social enterprises, created by local entrepreneurs from low income countries, are the norm. Through our professional network, **rise** links aspiring social entrepreneurs to fundamental resources (funding & skills) they would otherwise not have access to, in order to fulfil their potential.



### **Daniela Gusman | Co-founder and Executive Director of rise**

is a seasoned executive with over 20 years of professional experience in the private sector as well as the international development sector, with extensive work throughout Europe, Australia, Africa and the USA in International Sales & Marketing, PR, Business Development and Social Entrepreneurship. She has successfully grown companies to new levels of success, designed and launched social enterprises and led diverse teams in various competitive sectors from educational services, manufacturing to corporate B2B events.

## **in loco**

has been set up by Pedro Clarke, from A+Architecture, and Luca Astorri from AOUMM, both architects with a passion for development. They met in Lisbon working together for Live Design and Build workshops for European students, and have decided to expand on this know-how and set up '**in loco**' as a unique experience for participants from both the Global North and South. Together they combine over 20 years of experience in informal and emerging contexts working on development projects in several countries such as Uganda, Kenya, Lesotho, Egypt and Brazil.



### **Luca Astorri**

graduated in architecture from Politecnico di Milano in 2007, where he has been an assistant professor since 2009. After working with OMA / Rem Koolhaas from 2006-2008, he co-founded AOUMM - Argot ou la Maison Mobile, an architectural firm based in Milan, focused on architecture and urban projects. He was invited at XIV International Architecture Exhibition, the Venice Biennale, with "Zingonia, mon amour" a research project for the official section Monditalia. Since 2010 he has collaborated with several NGOs for architecture and research projects focusing on informal settlements in Cairo, Nairobi and San Paolo. Has lectured in Europe, and South America. He has been invited as Tutor to several international workshops in Macao, Lisbon, Cairo, Zagreb, Wroclaw, Cochabamba.



### **Pedro Clarke**

graduated in architecture from FAUP, Portugal in 2007, following a year long experience building a safehouse for a local NGO in Lesotho, and has recently completed an MA degree in Development and Emergency Practice at CENDEP/Oxford Brookes University. In 2014 he formally set up A+Architecture, a not-for-profit architectural and development practice, which believes that Architecture has the power to change people's lives and should be accessible to all, in that same year Pedro was selected to be part of the Official Portuguese Participation at XIV International Architecture Exhibition, the Venice Biennale, "Homeland: News from Portugal".



# PARTNERS

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## Bond Events

<http://www.bondevents.com>

BOND Events Ltd is a UK registered company and BOND Events Corporation is a USA (Florida) registered Corporation.

BOND's mission is to create effective one to one meetings forums which educate, stimulate and assist Principal Architects & Interior Designers from the largest firms to better serve their clients. To facilitate high-level product discussions with senior delegates from manufacturing and solution provider companies. **rise** is the social responsibility for Bond Events who are one of the main sponsors for this project.

## Kick 4 Life

<http://www.kick4life.org>

As a charity and a social enterprise, their mission is to change the lives and long-term prospects of vulnerable young people in Lesotho, through a wide range of social development activities focused on health, education and support towards sustainable livelihoods.

K4L will provide accommodation and meals for the international guests attending the workshops at the **K4L Hotel & Conference Centre**.

## Local and International Construction Experts

To promote sustainability of the project, and an on-going positive relationship between international experts and the local construction industry, we also partner with established local Architects, Engineers and Builders who provide further mentoring to the cohort and invaluable local insight.



No 7 - K4L Restaurant



K4L Hotel & Conference Centre

# KEY INFO - INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS

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**There are 2 international workshops planned for in loco 2019. The cost to take part in one of these workshops is \$1895 per person, which includes a contribution towards the project as well as accommodation, all meals and ground transportation.**

## **Application Deadline**

Please apply to take part at least 2 months in advance of the start of the workshop.

## **International Workshop Dates and Application Deadlines.**

The 2 workshops will take place on the following dates:

Workshop 1: July 28 to August 11, 2019

Workshop 2: August 11 to 25, 2019

## **Flights**

In order to allow you flexibility to plan your participation in the workshop and possible travel in or around Lesotho, flights are not included in the workshop package, and participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements to ensure that they are in Maseru for the start of the workshop.

If you would like assistance with booking your flights this can be arranged through our travel agency. Flights to Johannesburg are cheaper than to Maseru. **rise** can organise a car to pick you up from Johannesburg airport (at additional cost).

## **Accommodation**

Tutors will be hosted at the K4L Hotel & Conference Centre.

<http://kick4life.org/k4l-centre/hotel-conference-centre/>

## **Food & Drink**

Breakfast & dinner will be provided at K4L No. 7 restaurant. Lunches will be prepared by GLC staff and eaten on site.

<https://www.kick4life.org/k4l-centre/no7/>

## **Insurance**

In accepting to take part in the workshop all participants will be responsible for their own wellbeing and safety on site and during your participation in the workshop. As such

we strongly recommend that you take out individual travel/accident insurance which specifically allows for volunteering and construction work, and is valid for the location and duration of your stay. If you have any questions on this and/or would like assistance please get in contact.

## **Visa**

Most people will require a visa for entry to Lesotho, however for most nationalities these can be obtained at an entry port to the country. Nevertheless please seek the relevant advice and information for your nationality from your nearest Embassy.

## **Safety**

We have a strong relationship with the local community where the project will be based. The area and local people are very welcoming and hospitable, and we will take every reasonable measure to ensure your safety at all times. Please check with your local Health offices which vaccine you should take, and make sure all your immunisations are completed with sufficient time prior to departure.

## **Provisional itinerary for International Workshop**

Provisional itinerary International Workshop

- Day 01: Arrive in Maseru, Lesotho. Settle in at K4L Hotel.
- Day 02: Walk around Maseru to become familiar with the city Welcome Meeting w/ **in loco** Staff some of the local hardware & raw material manufacturing sites to become familiar with locally available materials.
- Days 03-13: Hands-on Design and Build Experience
- Weekend: Optional Excursions into the Lesotho Mountains (Semonkong or Malealea)
- Day 14: Check out of K4L Hotel Departure from Maseru, Lesotho

## CONTACTS

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**co-founder and Executive Director of rise**

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[www.a-architecture.org](http://www.a-architecture.org)

# THANKS

**in loco**

# APPLY

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In order to apply for a place for one of the workshops please complete and sign the following form and send it to us, together with a motivation letter explaining why you'd like to take part in this project, your CV, samples of your work and/or portfolio to [info@riseint.org](mailto:info@riseint.org)

**Applications must be received at least 2 months in advance of the workshop you are applying to attend.**

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please give details of any qualifications or degrees you have been awarded or are currently working towards:**

Course Title \_\_\_\_\_

University/ School \_\_\_\_\_

Dates \_\_\_\_\_

**Please select which workshop you are interested in attending:**

☐ Workshop 01 - July 30 to August 12, 2019

☐ Workshop 02 - August 13 to 26, 2019



# APPLY

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**Applications must be received at least 2 months in advance of the workshop you are applying to attend.**

Please give details of any other academic or work experience that may be relevant to your application:

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Please tell us what are your objectives and motivations for taking part in this workshop:

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**Disclaimer:**

By signing the application form below, I accept to take part in the **in loco** workshop as a volunteer/participant, if a place is offered to me. In accepting this place, I agree to pay all amounts due for my participation in the workshop, and acknowledge that I shall be solely responsible for my own travel and insurance arrangements, health and wellbeing for the duration of the workshop.

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_