



DESIGN AND BUILD WORKSHOP LESOTHO 2024



OVERVIEW

rise - Relationships Inspiring Social Enterprise. We are working towards a world where sustainable social businesses, created by local entrepreneurs, are provided with resources, knowledge, and the professional community needed to be successful and transformational in their communities.

rise seeks to solve the poor quality and lack of infrastructure outside of most African capital cities by bringing local skilled labor to work on architecture projects in peri-urban and rural areas thus improving the construction know-how within local communities.

We aim to bridge the disconnect between tradespeople and professionals, bringing them together through a program called **in loco**; a **“learning by doing”** fellowship programme in Lesotho that uses locally sourced talent and materials, striving to create an entrepreneurial mindset.



LNFOD Headquarters - **in loco** project 2020

WHAT

in loco international workshop is a residential program, which 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 the future. With a cohort of about 15 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 2-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. Through this program, we essentially collaborate with local vulnerable communities to build desperately needed infrastructure utilizing local graduates from the fields of Design, Architecture, and the Built Environment. This way there are 3 outcomes: the graduates learn vital entrepreneurship skills while gaining practical work experience; vulnerable communities are provided with the infrastructure they need; and there is a reduction in the unemployment rate in Lesotho as on average 1 fellow creates employment for 5 other people within 3 months of completing the fellowship.



Second cohort of **in loco** fellows-2019



Participatory design workshop

THE IMPACT OF IN LOCO

Our first project was in 2018 where we built a new residential and entrepreneurship center in Maseru, Lesotho, Southern Africa to improve the quality of life for orphans who lived in cramped conditions in the God's Love Centre (GLC). 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.

Following the same program, we then designed and built the very first educational and sensory center for youth with intellectual disabilities for a parent-led non profit organization called Intellectual Disability & Autism Lesotho in Maseru in 2019. Followed by the design and construction of a unique inclusive building for the Lesotho National Federation of Organizations for the disabled (LNFOD) in 2020, aiming at eradicating barriers that create separation between people living with disability and those who are not. This non-profit organization can now employ people who use wheelchairs thanks to **in loco**.



God's Love Centre (GLC) - 2018



Intellectual Disability & Autism Lesotho (IDAL) Centre - 2019



Lesotho National Federation of Organizations for the disabled (LNFOD) - 2020



2020 **in loco** Cohort

THE PROJECT

In 2022, our focus was on Seboka Primary School, utilizing sandbag technology. We constructed new school kitchens, food gardens, toilets, and rainwater harvesting systems for five schools in Lithabaneng village, a 30-minute drive from Maseru. This initiative formed part of our 5 Hub Schools project, carried out in collaboration with Action Ireland Trust and the Ministry of Education and Training of Lesotho. The project aimed to enhance food security, health, and sanitation across four primary and one secondary school. To date, we have successfully completed the construction of two kitchens, one set of toilets, a food garden, and a rainwater harvesting system, marking a significant accomplishment in our endeavors.

This year, we're constructing a kitchen at Makoanyane Primary School, employing the Compressed Earth Blocks method. Your assistance will support our project enhancing food security, health, and sanitation across five schools under the 5 Hub Schools Initiative.



Sandbag technology used on Seboka Kitchen 2022

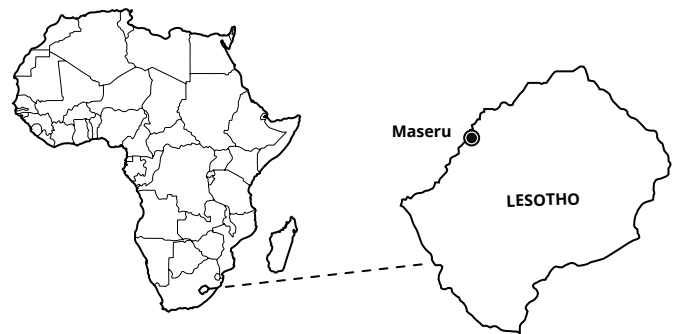
WHERE

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 Lesotho is that it is 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 neighbor 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.



Semonkong, Maseru District

WHY GET INVOLVED

1

Up to 10 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 about 15 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.

APPLICATION DETAILS

This year's workshop will take place from 22nd July to 2nd August 2024.

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. **rise** can organize a car to pick you up from Johannesburg airport (at an additional cost) or you can book a flight from Johannesburg to Maseru [here](#)

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 with us.

Visa

Most people will require a visa for entry to Lesotho, however for most nationalities these can



International Students with Fellows on site, 2023

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. A Covid-19 vaccination certificate with a QR code is required to enter Lesotho.

Accommodation

At Kick4Life Hotel Hokahanya Inn & Conference Center

Food & Drinks

3 meals for day will be provided and are included in the fees.

Fees

2 weeks workshop will cost \$1,902 for the accommodation

Provisional itinerary for International Workshop

- Day 01: Arrive in Maseru, Lesotho. Settle in at choose the accommodation
- Day 02: Walk around Maseru to become familiar with the city. Welcome meeting with **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, departure from Maseru, Lesotho

APPLY HERE



DANIELA GUSMAN

Founder & Executive Director

Daniela is a seasoned executive with over 20 years of professional experience in the private sector as well as the international development sector. She has worked extensively throughout Europe, Australia, Africa and the USA in International Sales & Marketing, PR, Business Development and Social Entrepreneurship. She has provided strategic growth planning for companies, designed and launched social enterprises and led diverse teams in various sectors from educational services, manufacturing to corporate B2B events.



REITUMETSE NTHAKO

Country Director

Rei graduated with an MBA in Marketing & Operations from Mahatma Gandhi University, India. She is an innovative, goal oriented management specialist, with a demonstrated history of working in the Non Profit Industry. Rei is passionate about youth development and sustainability, she hopes to see a world where social entrepreneurs are a norm in Lesotho. Her BA in Urban Planning is a great foundation for working in the built environment, challenging the status quo, in a predominantly male dominated sector.



LUCA ASTORRI

in loco Program Director & Lead Architect

Luca 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 focusing on architecture and urban projects. Since 2010, Luca has collaborated with several NGOs on architecture and research projects focusing on informal settlements in Cairo, Nairobi and San Paolo. He has lectured in Europe, and South America and has been invited to several international workshops in Macao, Lisbon, Cairo, Zagreb, Wroclaw, and Cochabamba.



PEDRO CLARKE

in loco Program Director & Lead Architect

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



MAMONAHENG RALIILE

Finance & Admin Manager

Mamo is the glue that holds us together, ensuring smooth operations as the Admin and Finance officer. Her patience and positive attitude keep our records up to date and our reports delivered on time. This secret adventure enthusiast enjoys challenging herself and when chilling out loves nothing more than listening to good music or watching soccer on TV.

TIISETSO MOROKE

Projects Coordinator

Tiisetso is an experienced digital Marketing Specialist with a demonstrated history of working in the education management industry, legal industry and health industry. Skilled in communication sales promotion, leadership, email marketing, analytics, social media marketing and most importantly in project management. Strong marketing professional with a BA (Hons) philosophy, BA Humanities focused in BA French and Philosophy from National University of Lesotho.



MOPELI CHRIS THEKO

Communications and Development Coordinator

Chris Theko is a professional Communications practitioner with a wealth of expertise in Marketing, public relations, Communications and Media at large from being a radio host and a journalist. He believes in learning everyday and improving one's personal and professional capabilities. Chris Theko is passionate about the media and its impact on the economy and improving lives through dispensation of information.



MINAH LEKAU

M&E Coordinator

Minah is our Research Lead consultant on the focus of research and promotion of indigenous and locally sourced materials to promote and expand on sustainable building materials. She is passionate about working towards creating a sustainable future by incorporating new ideologies with the old cultural norms using new and improved technology. Minah has the skill set in Monitoring and Evaluation, data analysis and collection, and desk research. Minah is empathic, honest and a lover of reading books.



REITUMETSE RAPHANYANE

Administration & Finance Assistant

Reitumetse is a graduate in Tourism Management. She is a Professional soccer player who was awarded Best in Sports by Limkokwing University. She is a Young African Leaders Initiative alumni, with a passion for entrepreneurship. Her finance and administrative skills, and drive for change oils the machine that the **rise** team is.



THATO NKIKANA

Construction & Design Coordinator

Thato is a Pioneer graduate from our 2020 **in loco** cohort. She is charismatic with a great passion for architecture and construction. Thato aims to breakdown doors to bring about change and empower women in the built environment industry. She is a great a supporter of well-being and employability for women in this sector and believes that entrepreneurship is the right path to progression.





VALENTINA RIVERSO

Architectural Assistant

Vale studied Architecture in Milan and Lisbon, and recently graduated in International Cooperation and Sustainable Emergency Architecture at the Universitat Internacional de Catalunya in Barcelona. Valentina strongly believes in the potential that architecture has to change people’s lives, and that architects can really make a difference in a world of increasing urbanisation and serious challenges like climate change. She was born in Italy, but she considers herself a citizen of the world, as she believes that people come before nationalities and cultures before borders. She is currently an Ambassador of the Global Challenge by Architecture in Development.



RAMAROU TSOHO

Construction Supervisor

Ramarou holds a Diploma in civil engineering from the Lerotholi polytechnic. He loves and enjoys farming. A pioneer from our 2020 **in loco** cohort; he has experience in quality control managing, social media and site managing. He is currently the site manager in the construction of our 5 Hub schools project.



TUMELO SETHUNSA

Construction Coordinator

Stume is a very hard worker who sees that everything goes according to plan on site. He loves his work as it gives him the opportunity to learn by doing, giving him the chance to acquire a vast array of skills. Outside of work, Stume likes keeping to a strict, healthy diet and playing soccer as this gives him the platform to be a role model to children living on the streets.



MANEO SEEKANE

Business Trainer

Maneo is the Business Coach and Entrepreneurship Trainer for the **in loco** fellows. She’s the chief coffee drinker and the woman on the ground, running coaching sessions or networking to bring in expertise and support the fellows so they can achieve their business goals even after the fellowship ends. It is a passion for their success that gets her out of bed in the morning, and a love of nature and yoga that keeps her zen throughout the day.



QUINN LEBOHANG MOHLOKAQALA

Consultant Project Manager

Quinn is a highly motivated student of Life and Architectural Technologist. He graduated as one of the top students at the University of Limpopo and won a presidential award for excellence. He then went on to study at the University of Johannesburg. He also holds a certificate in Civil Engineering from Motheo FET college. Quinn has over 7 years experience in the built environment and has a vast interest in the design and art world with self taught skills in graphic design and apparel design, “Art at HeART”.



KEKETSO SULA

Site Manager

Keketso Sula is a Construction management graduate from LP and also attempted water and environmental engineering... He also has skills in Plumbing, Bricklaying and plastering including Electrical installation. He has worked as a quantity surveyor, Quality management, Site manager in Roadworks and buildings and maintenance manager also in demolition works. He is passionate in innovative building and making the clients dream a reality. He is a time bound team player and quality assurance is one of his areas of expertise. He is also a level 2 Sport Administrator and level 1 coach in volleyball.



CHOKOTSI MOKOMA

Site Supervisor

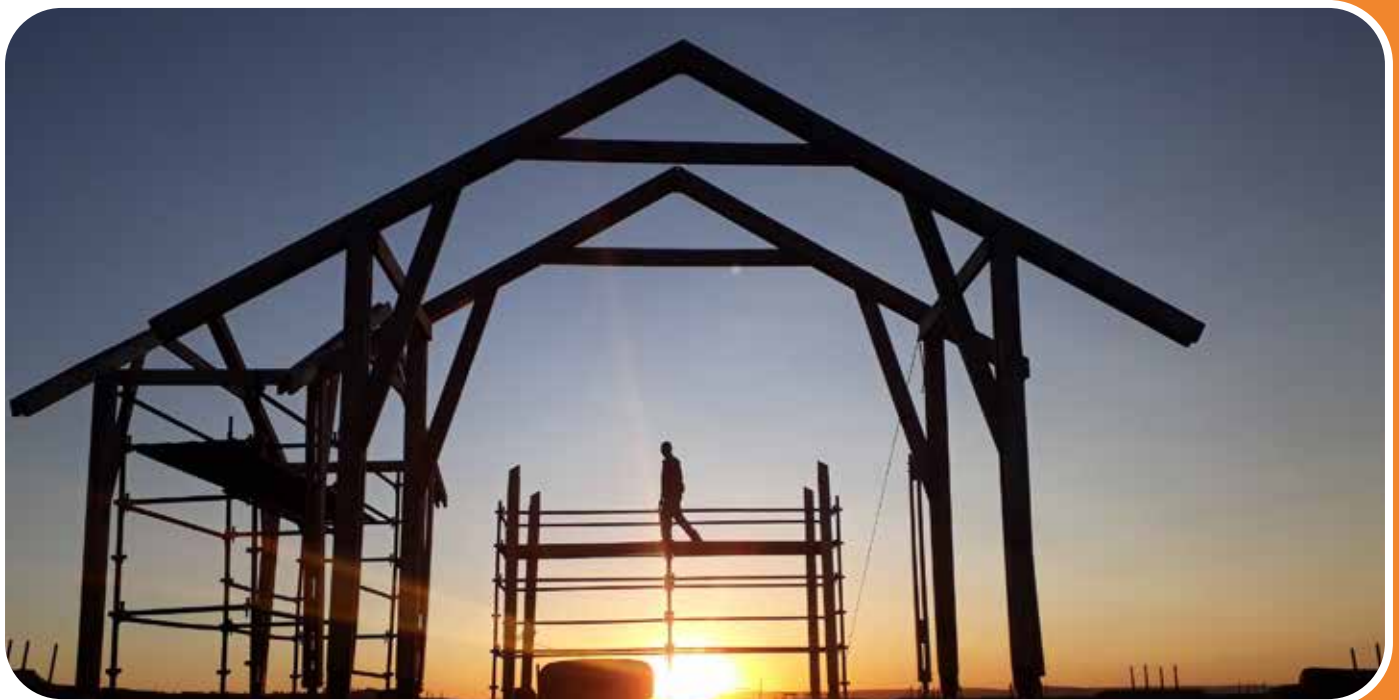
Chokotsi studied Electrical Engineering and Metallurgical Engineering. He studied this combination of engineering due to his love and interest in automation of process plants. He initially came to **rise** through the ministry of finance program to enhance youth with practical experience. However, he gained a lot of experience while he was a fellow working on the construction of the Seboka kitchen in 2022. He is passionate about being a businessman with grocery stores and crop farming.



RETSEPILE RAMMOKO

Architectural Designer

Rets'epile is a University of Pretoria graduate who holds both a Bsc Architecture Degree and Hons in Architecture. Prior to his studies he job shadowed at K.T.M Architects and received a basic background of Architecture as a career. He is also an **in loco** 2019 alumni and a freelance digital media content creator. This multidisciplinary creative hopes to open a creatively diverse architectural studio. Amongst his interests is skating and rugby.



CONTACTS

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THANK YOU

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