

**Sports Architecture as a Catalyst for Social Revitalisation: Towards a Multipurpose  
Sports Facility for KwaDukuza.**

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Requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture to  
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## **DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that this dissertation is my own, unaided work and carried out exclusively by myself under the academic supervision of Mr Juan Solis-Arias for the partial fulfilment for the degree of Masters in Architecture (MArch) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, RSA. It has not been submitted for any other qualification or examination in any other educational institute whatsoever.



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1<sup>st</sup> November 2022

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Finally, to all those who have played an essential role in the compiling the investigative analysis of such research listed in this document.

## **DEDICATION**

To Mom, Dad and Neeraav

Thank you for your unconditional love and support through this eventful period in my life. It has been a stressful, exciting and challenging journey which has been made easier due to your continued faith in my abilities.

There are no words to express my gratitude to you.

I dedicate this dissertation to you.

## **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this dissertation is to determine the impact of lack of social revitalisation as a problem to the urban context. This dissertation will therefore investigate the significance of sport in society and the built form, and how it can affect the relationship between people and space by its overall social, economic, and architectural responses to the urban context.

The aim of this research topic is to understand how 'sports architecture can be a catalyst for Social Revitalisation in the urban context of KwaDukuza how to revitalise it via a catalytic tool of sport in the aid of an architectural response in the built form. The objectives of this research will suggest outcomes of how an architectural response such as a Multipurpose Sporting Facility will address issues centred on community of KwaDukuza to catalyse urban revitalisation.

These responses to the social, urban, and architectural aspects of social revitalization will be harnessed by a thorough investigative study of theories, concepts, literature, precedent studies and relevant fieldwork in the form of questionnaires and interviews that will enforce the ideal approach and design guidelines towards Multipurpose Sports Facility.

It was found that sport does have a positive role in Social Revitalisation. The research showed that not only does sport unite people and break down social barriers, but the built environment in which sport takes place can greatly affect how successful the integration is.

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## **1.0 VARIABLES**

### **1.0.1 Dependent**

Sports Architecture

### **1.0.2 Independent**

Social Revitalisation

## **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1.1 Background**

Sports and recreation contribute to important components of what we consider to be social integration, such as social networks, trust in people, acceptance of diversity, respect for one another, respect for social rules and community participation. According to Luschen (1990) Sports is a social behaviour containing social structures, and unique opportunities that is necessary to fully understand social life. Luschen (1990) also stated; Since sport is an activity that requires various involvement which is incomparable to other institutional backgrounds.

Sports contribute to the development of the mind, body, soul, health, career and hobbies Govinden (2018). According to Govinden (2018), these opportunities which are evident in our sports icons also utilized sports as an instrument for self-development and success also promoted inclusivity which makes the world a better place. On the same token, sports bring different groups of people together which creates a community of people with the same interest that would not typically co-exist Govinden (2018).

In architecture, social revitalisation means to give liveliness and culture to an area Vilensike (2014). Revitalisation consists of economic, social, cultural and physical dimensions whereby this concept is used to support contemporary development in municipal zones due to the preservation of the urban identity and culture Vilensike (2014).

To encourage the practice of social revitalisation, this research will investigate how sport is an appropriate instrument in encouraging activity while linking to the social, economic, cultural and architectural settings to create public social spaces through the application of architecture. Sport is a social experience that easily permits everyone to take part, Nicholson (2012).

Using social revitalisation as a catalyst to promote social links, social relations are created through various alliances of people across a range of age groups and backgrounds Govinden (2018). Through the analysis of the social relationships created by sport, existing economic and social barriers within KwaDukuza such as separated urban neighbourhoods, crime and inactivity among adolescence can be analysed.

### **1.1.2 Motivation/Justification of Study**

South Africa as a country has yet to reach complete integration of its people. The country is still dealing with just the physical idea of separation within the urban fabric but the emotional separation between its people as well. In this post-apartheid landscape, segregation and racial zoning had a major impact on the urban context. The apartheid law of the past imposed urban racial separation known as the “Group Areas Act” in the form of non-white residential areas, known as “township”, zones were situated on the outer edge of the city, which lacked social public spaces (Hart, 2002).

Nelson Mandela once said, *“Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than government in breaking down racial barriers.”* (Mandela, N, 1991) According to Govinden (2018), the sporting culture in South Africa is diverse and was one of the few social events that stimulated social integration among discriminated groups with not being racially exploited.

Some of the greatest economic and social issues in South African capital cities and suburbs are due to the inactivity of youth who represent more than two-thirds of the inhabitants, Govinden (2018). Govinden (2018) further elaborates that the youth in South Africa often face trials and tribulations of joblessness which leads to laziness, even in instances of being schooled at a university stage. The youth in South Africa are often ignored in development opportunities which makes it challenging to be involved as part of the urban community.

Sport is not only a physical activity but a space in which individuals work together on a social level. It creates opportunities, relationships, builds character and teaches teamwork. It also has the ability to impact the environment around everyone making the quality of living better.

Architectural typologies of large sporting facilities can produce valuable urban space change through the substantial decrease in decaying urban areas, Taraszkiewicz et al (2017). According to Taraszkiewicz et al (2017) Sports facilities proposed on urban brownfields can be regarded as one of the best-well-known large-size revitalisation processes. Based on this, large urban spaces encompassing sports facilities such as sports arenas and other stadiums can generate superb environments for creating supplementary social and recreational functions, such as green spaces in the urban context.

This dissertation will look at how social revitalisation will encourage interaction and specifically how a sporting facility will improve the quality of life and encourage interaction among the community and how it will influence the urban fabric and built form in KwaDukuza. By exploring the social impacts of sport in conjunction with the built environment, this research will show ways in which to uplift and revitalize the community positively and sustainably.

## **1.2 DEFINITION OF THE PROBLEM AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **1.2.1 Problem Statement**

The problem is rooted in the urban framework of KwaDukuza due to a lack of social revitalisation. The town is labelled as the “inner periphery” which lies on the outskirts of metropolitan Durban. According to Roberson (2012), KwaDukuza zoning is categorised by small business cores and slow-developing residential neighbourhoods. Roberson (2012) further iterates that spatial planning is a critical issue, which relates to how land is used and service delivery.

Currently, settlement around this town is effectively shaped by historical forms of racial zoning based on the fact that infrastructure and public services cannot be supplied on a cost-effective basis Roberson (2012). KwaDukuza had few dedicated sporting and recreational zones that played a vital part in community engagement until 2010. Due to Urban densification as well as poor urban planning, this community has lost sporting and recreational spaces and a lack of opportunities for cultural social, and urban interaction.



Figure 1: Kwa Dukuza recreation grounds 2010 (Google Earth, 2022)



Figure 2: Kwa Dukuza mall present (Google Earth, 2022)

As seen in figures 1 and 2 the establishment of a mall in 2018, proved to be essential to bolster the KwaDukuza economy, the new mall has taken up a key space that for many years held local sporting events, fairs and political debate. Figure 3 illustrates how there are few places in which these events can take place as it does not have the infrastructure and support needed for these to continue.

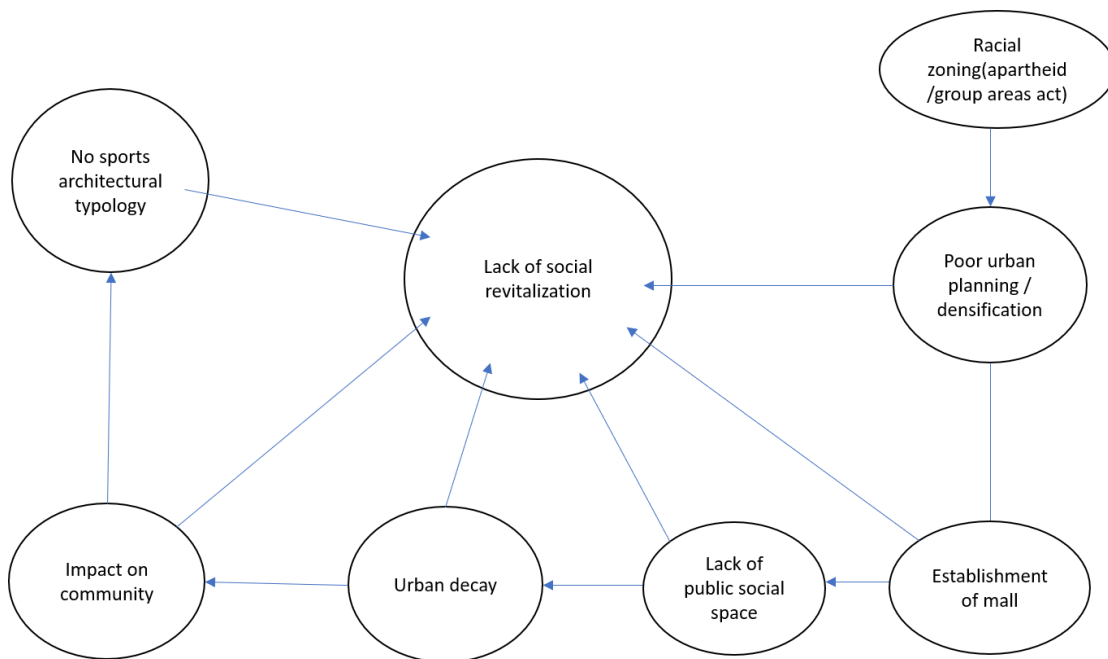


Figure 3: Problem statement summary (By Author, 2022)

### 1.2.2 Aim

The research explores how sports architecture can be a catalyst for social revitalisation in KwaDukuza.

### 1.2.3 Objectives

- Establish how social revitalisation can encourage integration in a historically depressed suburban area.
- Describe how social revitalisation impacts the urban densification of KwaDukuza.
- Explore how social revitalisation can improve social public space.
- Conceptualise Social revitalisation and how it impacts the social, urban, and architectural dimensions.
- Determine the influence of social revitalisation on the community.
- Demonstrate and explore how social revitalisation impacts architecture through the proposal of a multipurpose sports facility.

## 1.3 SETTING OUT THE SCOPE

### 1.3.1 Delimitation of Research Problem

This research primarily deals with the investigation of social revitalisation and sports, and its influence on architecture in KwaDukuza. There is an apparent need for a multipurpose sports facility in the area and it will focus on the urban framework of KwaDukuza and its community. The scope will include aspects of breaking down these apparent barriers of segregation due to racial zoning, empowerment of the community and social revitalisation of a historically depressed suburban area.

The usage of concepts and theories will be studied in order to understand the framework of social revitalisation and how it can be applied to develop sports through its social aspects and promote social revitalisation through the architectural form.

### 1.3.2 Definition of Terms

**Built Environment:** man-made physical features such as streets, squares, parks and buildings. It may relate to internal and external spaces.

**Community:** A cluster of individuals who make up a distinct place, environment and interest or goal in KwaDukuza specifically.

**Multipurpose Sports Facility:** Offers multiple sports, activities, and a variety of programming, from social to recreational which caters to a broad array of activities, while creating flexible and modular spaces.

**Public Space:** A social communal space like an urban plaza which is open and accessible to everyone. It is a place which attracts people and creates opportunities for interaction amongst people who would never usually meet.

**Social Revitalisation:** the development in which the urban context undertakes change through social perception, by means of enhancing or creating social activity through architectural design”

**Sport:** activity consisting of physical strength and ability whereby an individual or squad participants versus each other for enjoyment, fun and recreational purposes.

### 1.3.3 Stating the Assumptions

This research sets out to assume that social revitalisation through sports architecture has the ability to break down barriers created by the old apartheid law of the “Group Areas Act” and promote social integration among a segregated and multi-cultural community. It will assume that social revitalisation impacts urban densification as well as architectural public social space. Everyone can participate in sports. Sport is vital in living, it develops social well-being and health, creates opportunities, and builds one’s character.

The research also makes an assumption of an architectural intervention that will seek to create an all-inclusive environment (multipurpose sports facility) where people can enjoy sports and other recreational and social activities relevant to the urban context in which it will be situated.

### 1.3.4 Key Questions

**Primary question:** How can social revitalisation be used as a tool to catalyse sports architecture and urbanism in KwaDukuza?

Sub questions

1. What is social revitalisation?
2. Does social revitalisation improve social public space?
3. How can social revitalisation impact the community?
4. Which social, urban and architectural theories relate to social revitalisation?

5. What are the local representations of social revitalisation in and around the Durban metropolitan that influence the design of a multipurpose sports facility?

### **1.3.5 Hypothesis**

This research will prove that social revitalisation integrates the social and cultural aspects of the suburb through catalysing sport and the built form, there by facilitating the urban and architectural development of a multipurpose sports typology.

## **1.4 CONCEPTUAL AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

### **1.4.1 Introduction**

The theories and concepts that will be analysed, will give greater understanding and meaning to the idea of social revitalisation and a multipurpose sports facility, being used as a mechanism for empowerment. To verify the hypothesis and answer the primary question, the following concepts and theories were chosen to answer the sub-questions to rationally outline by what method social revitalisation can be a catalyst for the empowerment of a multipurpose sports facility in KwaDukuza and its impact on the community.

Social revitalisation will be the core concept in this research and will be used as a lens to analyse the accompanying theories such as Phenomenology, an approach by Norberg Schulz (1981) to architecture that strives to counter placelessness and improve quality of life through the application of genius loci (spirit of place). Placemaking will be analysed by Roger Trancik (1986), on how the local community's resources, insight, and prospective, with the purpose of designing communal areas, that stimulate community's happiness and health. The theory of urban catalyst will be analysed by Ernest Sternberg (2002) on how sports architecture can be “activity generators and anchors” and encourage redevelopment. The concepts of sports-led urban revitalisation and sports cities will be explored to further realise the influence social revitalisation and sport has on architecture. These concepts need to align with theories for this architectural intervention to come about.

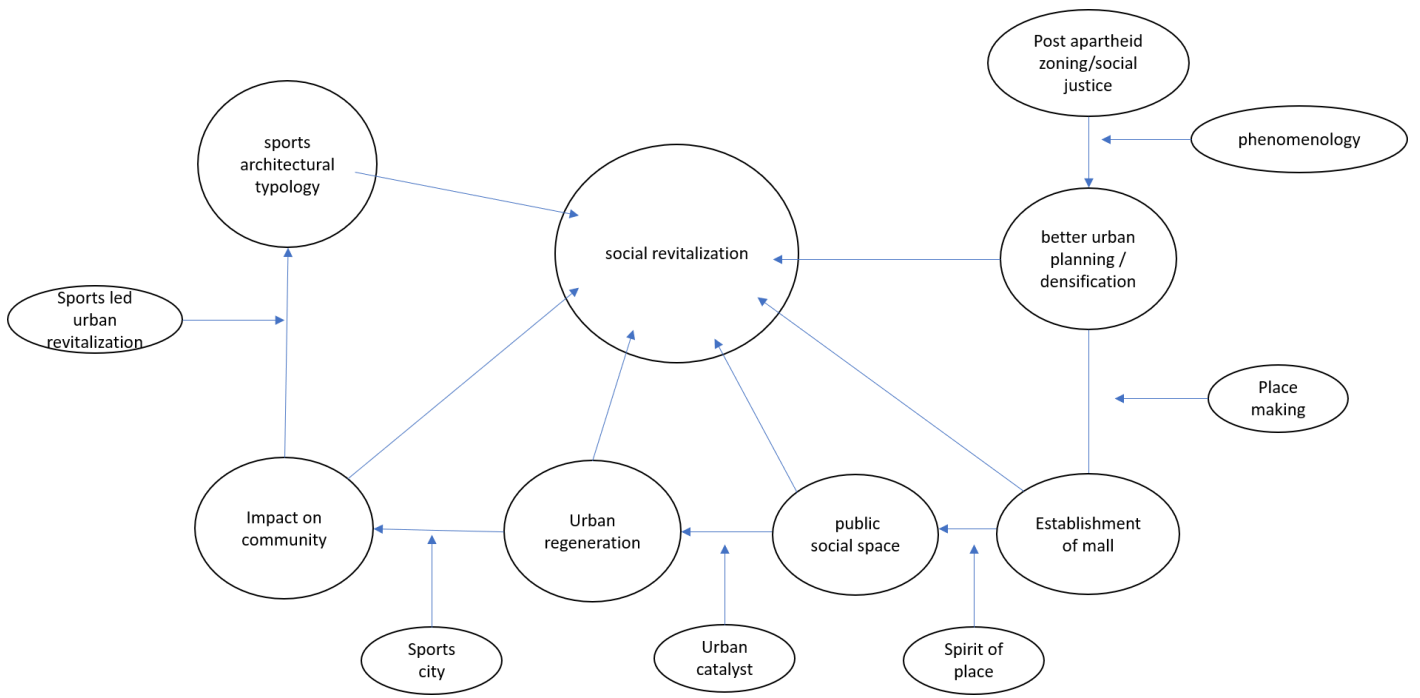


Figure 4: relationship between solutions and theories (By Author, 2022)

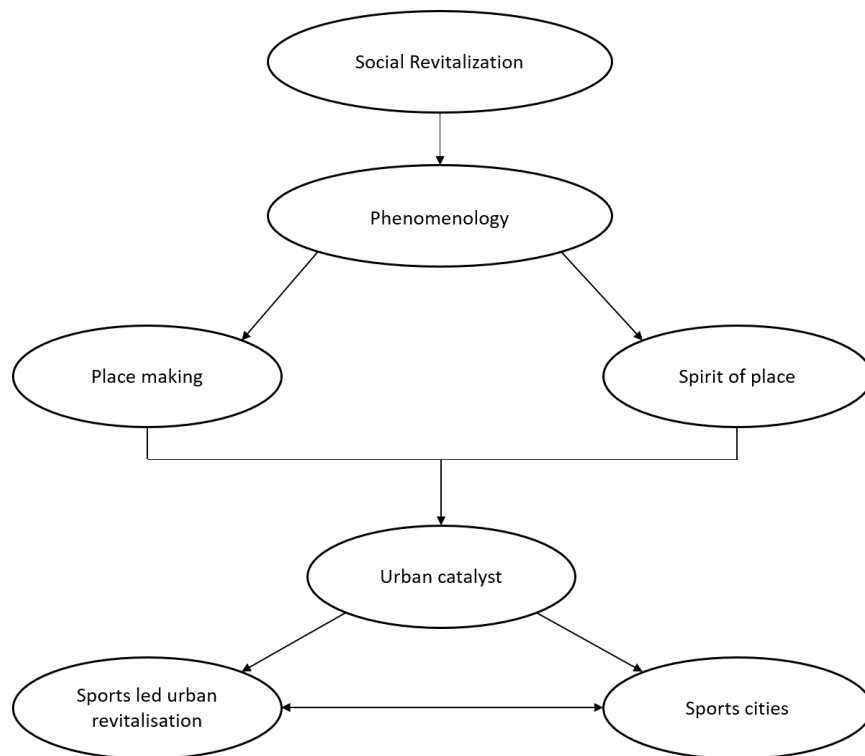


Figure 5: Relationship between Theories and Concepts (By Author, 2022)

### **1.4.2 Social Revitalisation**

In architecture, social revitalisation means to give liveliness and culture to an area Vilensike (2014). Revitalisation consists of economic, social, cultural and physical dimensions whereby this concept is used to support contemporary development in urban regions by means of the preservation of the urban identity and culture Vilensike (2014). Samadi et. al (2017) support this, as the development of revitalisation as it is a method that applies architectural and urban preservation, by recognising urban legacy, the issue of segregation and generalization. It also deals with the social environment, cultural, and historic development of challenging, underprivileged, and dilapidated municipal areas and the use of public space.

According to Govinden (2018), urban public space has to be ethical and collectively beneficial. Recreational public spaces offer prospects for physical activity, social interaction and a getaway from urban dwellings for individuals of different backgrounds (Bagwell, 2012). This is supported by Govinden (2018), which argues that social interaction usually happens in frequently utilised communal spaces, such as footpaths, commercial businesses, stores, coffee shops and bars. This creates areas that are vibrant and essential for offering constant networks for movement, nodes for integration, communication and shared place for leisure and play.

Social revitalisation in KwaDukuza will enhance urban public space and the urban environment through the design of a multipurpose sports facility. This ultimately drives the development of economic financing which is brought about by giving a good impression of place.

### **1.4.3 Phenomenology**

The theory of phenomenology recognises and implements sensory design to create architectural spaces that create experiences. Phenomenology exhibited in built form is the influence of light, shadow, space, and material to generate a remarkable encounter by means of an influence on the five senses (placemaking and spirit of place). The theory of phenomenology supports the combination of sensory experience as a function of architectural design. This theory is analysed by the protagonists such as Norburg Shulz (1996) and Rodger Trancik (1986) and will be applied to determine how social public space and a multipurpose sports facility will be a generator for social revitalisation in KwaDukuza.

### 1.4.3.1 Placemaking

Placemaking is known as a multi-faceted methodology of architecture and administration of public social spaces. According to Trancik (1986), Placemaking takes advantage of community resources, creativity, and skill, with the purpose of designing communal spaces that stimulate people's well-being, health, and happiness. It is known to be civil due to the natural surroundings the character of the place. The work is fixated on the value of dynamic neighbourhoods and welcoming public social spaces. Trancik (1986) supported citizen possession of roads by means of the renowned concept of "eyes on the street." This highlighted crucial components for developing social life in public space.



Figure 6: Placemaking in Context (By Author, 2022)

Figure 6 indicates that the theory of placemaking will be utilised to devise a key methodology in relation to creating people and space connections in KwaDukuza. It is a crucial element of social architectural training in which a place in an urban area reflects the social culture and identity.

### 1.4.3.2 Spirit of Place

According to Norberg Schulz (1981) spirit of place (genius loci) is the unique, characteristic, and precious qualities of a specific place. Its notion of spirit of place has resonated throughout the centuries. Schulz (1996) further argues that it originates from an ancient idea that fragments of the earth are inhabited by deities or spirits. This has been a crucial component of Roman religion.

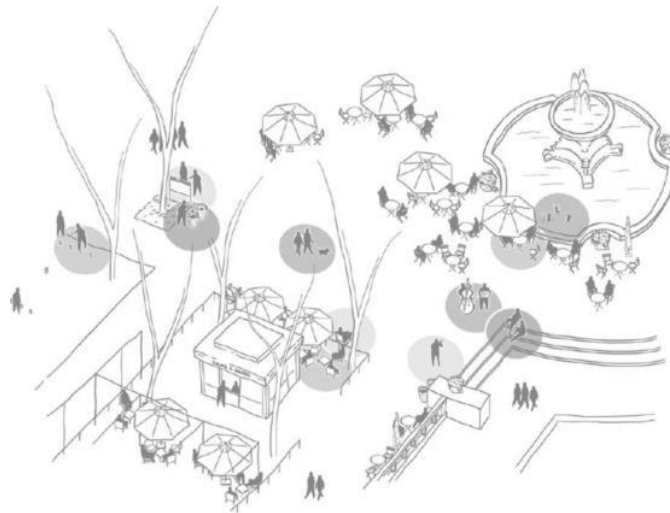


Figure 7: Spirit of Place (By Author, 2022)

Norberg-Schulz (1996) openly embraces a Heideggerian and phenomenological approach, proposing that space anywhere life transpires is known to be “place”. Figure 7 shows a space is a place which evokes a distinct atmosphere (character/ experience). “Architecture means to visualize the genius loci and the task of the architect is to create meaningful places, whereby he helps man to dwell” (Norberg Schulz, 1981). Schulz (1981) recognises that the composition of a place is not set in an everlasting state. Although it doesn't suggest that the spirit of place shifts or is abandoned since the character cannot be preserved. It remains a living experience through the way of the past. Social revitalisation through the lens of spirit of place will bring about the distinct character of KwaDukuza through the use of a sports architectural typology, reflecting the unique culture and identity.

#### 1.4.4 Urban Catalysts

According to Govinden (2018) the resolve of urban catalysts is to be the ongoing, uninterrupted revitalisation of the urban context. Govinden (2018) further elaborates that the purpose an urban catalyst is not just to be a singular product but a component that guides successive urban revitalisation. Urban catalysts are projects, landscapes or built form, which guide urban improvement and boost the amount of people in the given context. An urban catalyst must be created of a sequence of developments that revitalize the social urban context Sternberg (2002).

Sternberg (2002) unpacks urban catalysts into “activity generator” and “anchor”. A catalyst is basically an activity generator, yet not all activity generators behave as catalysts Sternberg (2002). For example, a Football stadium can be regarded as an “Activity Generator” and “Anchor” may produce a lot of activity without promoting adjacent development. Figure 8 indicates this.

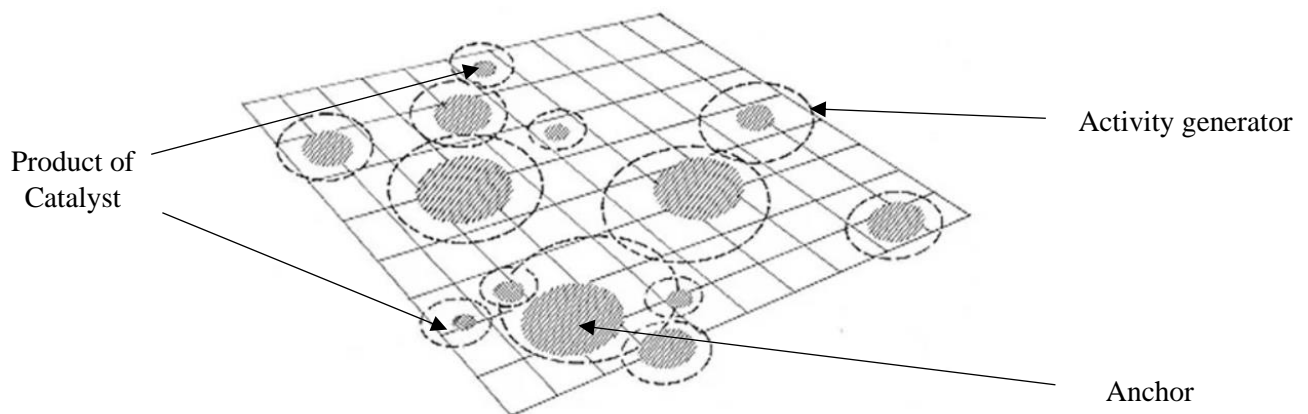


Figure 8: Representation of the Catalytic Process (By Author, 2022)

The most significant thing here is that an urban catalyst must have a larger objective than to resolve a practical issue. The urban context forms a catalyst, which is a key urban component that sooner or later influences its environment. Sternberg (2002) stipulates that the purpose of an urban catalyst is to offer stability in the revitalisation of the urban fabric within the CBD and it is known to be an influential component that does not act as a single or end product and ultimately forces the environmental aspects that speed up the successive development. Based on this, a catalyst is known to be a dynamic, physical model which requires a humanistic method to create its own guidelines about human activities, network of transportation, and infrastructure.



Figure 9: Olympic Park in London (architecture of the games.net, February, 2020)

Figure 9 identifies The London Olympic Park in Stratford, which is regarded as a respectable model of social revitalisation by sport using urban catalysts. The accomplishment of this scheme catalysed development of public transport; accommodation and the Olympic Village itself essentially became a node in the city (Nyka. L, 2017). The development of the Olympic Stadium catalysed the development of the park and other sports and recreational facilities, promoting an all-inclusive environment and improved quality of life. Respecting the differences in urban settings, this can be achieved in KwaDukuza through the lens of phenomenology, using a multipurpose sports facility, which will establish experiential space combined with urban catalysts to act as an anchor and generate activity.

### **1.4.5 Sports-Led Urban Revitalisation**

Holmes (2022) mentions that numerous capital cities have acknowledged that staging sporting events is capable of bringing in key advantages in terms of the type of event and related public service infrastructure working as a method for revitalisation. There are also supplementary benefits in local economic boost such as venture capital in the tourism sector, public facilities, housing and eco-friendly improvement. Holmes (2022) stipulates that mass media awareness either during or after an event typically plays a role as a type of advertising, which in turn may produce long-term by-products in terms of inner industries following the occasion. According to Holmes (2022), cities are currently considering the application of mega-sports events to reinforce their international reputation.

Holmes (2022) further argues that short-term sports events generate opportunities for employment throughout the building process, it can improve the quality of life in a region by increasing the commercial activity for the duration of and just after the sports event has taken place. Long-term applications are more meaningful in terms of social revitalisation. Sports events can draw additional outside investing and play a role as a catalyst for development. Financial revitalisation is typically accompanied by social revitalisation, according to Holmes (2022).

An example of this concept is the 'Nike Football Training Centre' located in Soweto; it was an upgrade to an existing football training ground. The facility is aimed at uplifting the youth of the community not only in sports but life skills as well. The project was funded by Nike Grassroots Projects, hence the name change to 'Nike Football Training Centre'.

Social revitalisation schemes will have a catalytic effect on the design of a multipurpose sports facility in KwaDukuza which will improve the urban environment around the area connecting it to different parts of the sub-urban area and increasing economic activity and social integration.

### 1.4.6 Concept of Sports City

The term ‘sports city’ has been used in three diverse ways: as an interim attraction, to define one section of a city as a sports hub or to label an entire city. According to Loftman and Spirou, (1996), it is discussed that sporting developments in cities are produced for the need to stimulate a new image for a city by means of community sporting facilities. This is supported by Grattam and Henry (2001), which argues that cities that use sport for its social and political advantages as well as to identify social activity, urges the development of public infrastructure while creating recreational green spaces and integration in the context. The concept of sport is applied to describe public social spaces by means of improving the impression of a place is not a contemporary trend.

Public sports buildings share comparable anchors to festivals and flea markets, bringing in frequent movement and encouraging revitalisation policies, Silk et al (2005). Public sports centres act as connections in the urban context and create walkable links between urban communities (Govinden, 2018). It also encourages relaxation and well-being by means of passive supervision.

Sports city research also notes a substantial increase in sports capitals in African countries, with many cities using sports to promote local land demand through public social infrastructure. The Moses Mabhida stadium located in Durban South Africa is an example of a city that is integrated with sports precincts and was coined as a sports city during the 2010 soccer world cup.



Figure 10: Durban Sports Precinct Master Plan (Google Earth, 2022)

As seen in Figure 10, it offers a mix of residential, trade, relaxation and recreational facilities. It is the nucleus of the sports precinct and features a number of sports grounds and stadiums, with a range of athletics. The concept of sports cities has the potential to promote social and recreational activity through the lens of urban catalyst which will use nodes and sport related anchors in the suburb of KwaDukuza to improve quality of life.

#### **1.4.7 Conclusion**

The theories and concepts mentioned above are going to be further studied in the literature review to develop an analysis of social revitalisation of public urban space and the impacts it has in the urban context. This will build up an understanding to guide the process of social revitalisation. The purpose of social revitalisation is to stabilise the rapid urban development in cities and suburbs by preserving traditions, culture and identity. Revitalisation acts as an urban catalyst for the urban environment. It supports suitable services, densification, and activity. Revitalisation of social public space is vital in creating a feeling of community, through the notion of inspiring local activities and experiences which require the local culture and improve the overall quality of life.

### **1.5 RESEARCH METHODS AND CASESTUDY**

#### **1.5.1 Introduction**

This section will cover primary and secondary data collection methods used to conduct the relevant study, regarding the scope, focussed on the topic of exploring social revitalisation as a catalyst for sports architecture. The research methodology will provide contextual and global awareness on the research topic. The research method chosen for this study is of a qualitative nature. The qualitative method will allow the study to examine factors affecting the exploration of sports architecture through the built form. The typology to be designed is of a multipurpose sports facility that will be based on drivers and principles that will reflect on the findings and conclusions of this research project.

#### **1.5.2 Research Philosophy and Strategy**

The research philosophy places emphasis on social revitalisation and the environments derived from it on the social, cultural and spatial issues in the given context and will be from first-hand knowledge of residents. The research will refer to the global and South African context, and specifically KwaZulu-Natal. The research will adopt a qualitative approach by using primary and secondary data to draw conclusions.

A gatekeeper's letter will be requested for primary data collection and each participant involved in study will receive an informed consent letter prior to interviews. All the data collected will be analysed and organised thematically in order for the findings to inform recommendations and approach to architectural design of a multipurpose sports facility.

### **1.5.3 Secondary Data Collection**

This includes data that has been found in published literature, articles and journals which is developed and looked at by specialists in the field, which relate to issues directed by the research topic as outlined above. The secondary data will include the following.

#### **Precedent Studies:**

The analysis of precedent studies of mega sporting events and community-based events in urban revitalisation designs conducted in urban backgrounds locally will be analysed to understand the practice of revitalisation and how this method can be used to revitalise public social space in the given urban environment.

The precedent studies that will be investigated:

2010 Moses Mabhida stadium Durban

Nike Football Training Centre in Soweto

#### **Literature Review:**

Literature from prominent authors involving the concepts and theories will be investigated to recognise how these theories can be interpreted into the architectural design. Supporting documents such as articles, journals regarding sports architecture and the practice of social revitalisation will be examined to develop a comprehensive analysis. With acknowledgement of contextual identity, social revitalisation, sport and architectural inclusion, the literature review will guide and inform how the direction of the study.

### **1.5.4 Primary Data Collection**

The primary data is produced and collected by the researcher. It will involve the case study analysis and one-on-one semi-structured interviews with key informants. This is information that is obtained through first-hand, immediate interaction with a local South African case study dealing with social revitalisation and sports architecture with informants that are impacted by the selected case study.

**Questionnaires:**

Questionnaires will be used to gain wide-ranging data centred on the questions involving the personal experiences of the participants within the given context of the study. The questions will involve social revitalisation and sports architectural issues to provide better awareness to what is understood by the topic and required by the inhabitants of KwaDukuza.

**Case study:**

The case study selected was Curries Fountain Sports Development Centre in Durban, which will be a key segment of the primary data collected and analysed in the study. The Case study will be performed through communication with important people and documented or drawn graphically to describe its fundamental nature in its context. The case study will link to the conceptual and theoretical framework as well as the topic variables.

**1.5.5 Research Materials**

The research materials are used to acquire information from sources which are related to the study. Secondary sources, such as published literature, documents, reports, newspaper articles, journals and theses will be used. Photographs, illustrations, sketches and field notes of the case study will be used to assemble information. Questionnaires will be used to obtain first-hand information from relevant participants and broader summarised information relating to social revitalisation and sports architecture contextually.

**1.5.6 Research Analysis**

The qualitative data analysis of the primary research will be contrasted against the secondary data to provide information of how social revitalisation is a form of cultural, social and economic empowerment and will include an architectural intervention of a multipurpose sports architectural typology, should be designed for KwaDukuza. The key questions will be explored in the literature review, precedents, case study and primary data collected. Thematic, discourse, textual and descriptive analysis will be used for the data gathering and assessment. Images, text/ narrative, tables and illustrations will be used to represent data, data analysis and concept.

### 1.5.7 Summary

#### Primary question: How can Social Revitalisation be used as a tool to Catalyse Sports Architecture and Urbanism in KwaDukuza

Objectives	Research questions	Data source and sample size	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods	Data presentations
Describe how social revitalization impacts urban densification of Kwa Dukuza	What is social revitalization?	Published literature, Journals, articles	Document/ data study from libraries and online resources	Thematic analysis Textual analysis	Themes Text/ narrative and illustrations/ images
Explore how social revitalization can improve social public space	Does social revitalization improve social public space?	Published literature Interviews with key informants	Interview key informants, collect secondary and primary data. Document/ data study from libraries and online resources	Thematic analysis, discourse analysis, observation of case study/ descriptive and discourse analysis	Themes, images, text/ narrative, illustrations
Conceptualise Social revitalisation and how it impacts the social, urban, and architectural dimensions	Which social, urban and architectural theories relate to social revitalization?	Published literature Journals Articles	Document/ data study from libraries and online resources	Thematic analysis Textual analysis, descriptive analysis	Images, text/ narrative, illustrations
Determine the influence of social revitalization on the community	How can social revitalization impact the community?	Case study, Interviews	Interviews, collection of data, precedent and case study investigations	Thematic analysis, discourse analysis, observation of case study/ descriptive	Text/narrative, images, drawings, illustrations, maps
Demonstrate and explore how social revitalization impacts architecture through the proposal of a multipurpose sports facility	What are the local representations of social revitalization in and around the Durban metropolitan that influence the design of a multipurpose sports facility?	Case study, Published lit Interviews	case study investigations Interviews, document data from libraries	Thematic analysis, discourse analysis, observation of case study/ descriptive	Text/narrative, images, drawings, illustrations, maps

## **1.6 Conclusion**

The result of the research will aid in the design of a multipurpose sports facility which will lead to social revitalisation as well as urban and architectural regeneration of a historically depressed suburban area which will improve the overall quality of life in KwaDukuza, which will be influenced by the research accumulated and analysed using the methodology and scope which is set out in chapter one. By means of the research background and methodology, research and design constraints for the dissertation, this chapter has established techniques used by the author to document the information collected and it has set out the conceptual and theoretical framework which will be referenced to throughout the dissertation.

## **CHAPTER 2: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

## 2.1 Introduction

This chapter will discuss and identify background information, looking at sports and social revitalisation through the lens of conceptual and theoretical framework. This literature review will offer a wide range of sourced data, relating to theoretical and built form that will cover architectural, economic, and social issues in the urban context. This will aid in defining key principles, that will help find appropriate precedent and case studies that will be relevant to the topic. These key principles will aid in developing and analysis and conclusion.

## 2.2 Social Revitalisation

According to Govinden (2018) in architecture, revitalisation means to give new life, strength, and liveliness to an urban context. Vilensike (2014:2) stated that revitalisation implies physical, social, cultural, and economic dimensions. Based on these two arguments it can be noted that the concept of social revitalisation is to balance rapid development in urban areas through preserving urban identity, culture, and traditions. Figure 11 indicates how sports architecture and community will encourage social revitalisation.



Figure 11: Social Revitalisation through Community Sport and Architecture (By Author, 2022)

The practice of social revitalisation is a method that practices urban preservation. Through recognising urban heritage and issues of generalization, globalisation is prevented. Revitalisation in the urban context is linked with the social public spaces in the city. According to Govindan (2018) social revitalisation deals with the social urban environments, which have rich cultural and historical backgrounds and looks at how to develop problematic, underprivileged, and dilapidated urban areas.

### **2.2.1 Social Revitalisation and Community**

The locality of public facilities and income streams, as well as sports facilities, form the core of infrastructure developments, this can be characterised as a community sports hub. The reason for the development of these sports' hub is for starting revitalisation of urban land and derelict areas. This applies to parks and open spaces. Social revitalisation of community sports hubs provides for partnerships to be created by local, regional and national organisations to raise funds for the development of sports infrastructure.

There is an increasing change from observing urban renewal in terms of financial and infrastructural improvement, now there is a larger importance on people and the evolution of a set of shared standards that permits people to work collectively to successfully accomplish a joint purpose which has resulted in a larger prominence on social processes and associations and the organisational capacities of communities. Forrest and Kearns (1999) suggest that the essence of the community requires it to be explored on four dimensions.

Attributes of community relationships include ideas of:

Shared sense of belonging or common purpose, social unity between groups and across generations, shared values and beliefs minimise conflict and allow for social cohesion, active, citizens and a close network of friends, family, and colleagues.

### **2.2.2 Social Revitalisation and Public Space**

Bassett (2013:3) defines urban public space as a space that needs to be ideological, socially productive. Bagwell et. Al (2012:25) on the other hand, defines it as a distinguished recreational public space which has spaces for physical activity, fraternisation, and the getaway from urban dwelling for everyone. This is supported by Greaves (2011:38) who advances the idea of social interaction usually occurring in frequently utilised public spaces, such as walkways commercial businesses, such as shops, hardware stores, coffee shops, and bars. Mehta (2007:2) also sees public space as essential social spaces in the city.

These zones are lively and are essential for offering harmonic channels for movement, nodes for communication and universal basis for relaxation and play. Recreational environments are open public spaces that most often enhance wellbeing, relaxation and pleasurable experiences according to Nasution et.al (2012:61).

Recreational public spaces have been created to bring communities all together. However according to, Okolo et.al, (2010:126) recreational public space must be the symbol of the modern-day city and the space where the catalytic process of revitalisation of cities arises, implementing the identity of place. Remezani et.al (2009:2) is also of the belief that public spaces are the social atmosphere of the city, and that recreational public space is the focal point in revitalisation of the city as these zones create an apparent sense of place and sense of community through stimulating activity and having events that include urban history.

### **2.2.2.1 Loss of Public Space**

Modernist town planning segregated people immensely. Jacobs (1961) argues that there is no interaction at a street level, people travel far by car to go to work and then travel home again. Jacobs (1961) transcribes that modernist urban design refuses the urban environment, because it rejects individuals living in a community. Modernist planners make use of logical analysis to find theories by which to plan cities, one policy was the separation of uses (commercial, residential, and industrial). She claims that these policies destroy communities and pioneering economies by creating inaccessible, urban spaces where no integration could take place.

Public space is an integral part of a functioning society, there is a need for recreational spaces where people can integrate and relax (Whyte, 1988). Humans are not machines much to the despair of the capitalist society. People function better if they have a balanced life and public space allows for this and is an integral part of the social need of the city.

### **2.2.2.2 Successful Public Space**

According to Whyte (1988), a good public space enriches the people's lives that interact with it. He says public spaces are places where people can integrate with one another; they are the stage for public lives.

A good public space will have many different functions, not only should it operate formally but should also promote social activities. Public spaces bring communities together and encourage social integration by forcing people to bump into one another (Gehl, 1987: 103).

**Plazas** add to the liveliness of the streets in the city itself and make formal open areas accessible for community purposes and commercial activity. In contemporary use, a plaza can be any meeting place on an avenue or linking buildings.

**Pocket Plazas** are small-sized open public spaces that act in a comparable approach to the larger plaza. These are smaller places for dining or seating and offer an area for neighbourhood and commercial activities to flow out.

**Urban Parks** provide essential open space within a city and are convenient for unstructured recreation and smaller structured recreation amenities. The blueprint, functioning and maintenance is typically done by government, normally on a municipal level, but can sometimes be contracted to a private business. They are defined by building facades or landscape, and usually include naturalistic and formal landscape, combing lawns, paths and trees.

**Neighbourhood Pocket Parks** are smaller open spaces in close proximity to neighbourhood areas. They allow for a wide range of recreational facilities and vary in relation to specific areas. These are traditional or relaxed dependant on the area with trees and shrubs, it also makes uses of the natural environment.

**Community Gardens** provide a collection of garden space in a public area that are accessible to local inhabitants for small scale agriculture.

**Playgrounds** are enclosed areas that are planned and equipped specifically for children's recreation. They are usually situated in residential areas and may be freestanding or located within larger parks.

### **2.3 Role of Sport Architecture on Social Revitalisation**

In the writing of Eichberg (2010), as seen in figure 12 sport can be combined into a tri-athletic system, which are types of competitive sport, for health, sports as a method of recreation and culture. The essentials principles of participating in sport are presented at a cultural level through social interaction. Health and exercise sport is aimed at emphasising discipline and fitness through interaction of playing sport to get in shape. The social reasoning behind competitive sport is the quantity of results, the desire to compare and compete. According to Eichberg (2010: 2) the feeling produced is an emotional sensation of winning or losing.



Figure 12: Sports Tri Athletic Model (Eichberg, 2010)

In the early post-modern era, there was a worldwide movement of sport facilities designed in crowded urban neighbourhoods, which required accessibility to a group of middle- and working-class citizens. John and Sheard (2007:12) states that this was short-lived, the decentralization of cities led to the decentralisation of public infrastructure, which suggested that sports facilities were constructed in smaller types within residential zones. Vickery (2007) substantiates that larger stadiums were being constructed outside the CBD, in the hope of creating fewer disruptions and inconvenience for those unable to participate in these events. This adjustment returned to the inner city and was initially observed in 1989 in Toronto, Canada. Toronto Skydome was constructed at the centre of the Central Business District. The construction of sports facilities in the centre of the CBD has a larger social influence on the city which leads to cataclysmic financial development. Sport architecture is constructed according to site are constructed to facilitate the growth of the core market that it is positioned in and the increasing significance of the public sector, Richards (2005).

Thornley (2002) believes that the development of sport facilities have to be socially linked to the local urban neighbourhood to decrease its isolation, this strengthens its position in the community. Sport facilities that are intended to be part of a greater developmental strategy can lead to social revitalisation.

Seeking and Natress (2005: 50) noted that Durban was originally a decentralized city but due to urban resettlement and development, this idea has now shifted. The development of sport the Moses Mabhida Stadium and the formation of new districts and zones in the city has led to the development of a formal integrated public social spaces.

The city of Durban has a vast urban sporting culture which is used as an instrument for social development, which reflects the notion that a sporting complex has the potential and capacity to encourage social revitalization with the CBD.

Sport has the power to control our perception of gender positions and socio-economic concerns, and helps outline a city, and develop its nationwide character. It recognises people's talent, and improves the barriers of race, language and differences in ethnic groups. It allows people to be identified for their true ability in spite of their colour, creed or social position. Sport furthers our insight on various social issues including equality, child development, health and fitness, human rights issues and allows for individual character building. Sport through its competitive nature aids in developing athletes and sports teams. This is done through physiological treatment as it helps to develop self-respect and the skill to stand out irrespective of the conditions.

The redevelopment of KwaDukuza grounds into a sports facility is viable as it connects into its current urban framework that has a history of sporting culture. It is already integrated in the urban context and thus it sits in close proximity to current mixed-use zones. The site will establish a level of connectivity between the site and the KwaDukuza CBD.

### **2.3.1 Impact of Sport on Society**

Sport has always had a significant authority in society which dates as far back as 2700 years ago to the first documented Olympic Games (Govinden, 2018). It is centred on the methods of discipline, order and competition with the need to win (Govinden, 2018). Today sport is a huge social, cultural, and economic phenomenon that impacts various areas of social life. It impacts countries, industry, social significance, style, social ethical beliefs, and it defines people's lifestyles. Politicians often use sport to unify the community with a united idea. According to Kreft (2012: 8) the International Olympic Committee has 68 global sport federations and 204 National Olympic Committees. FIFA has 209 National Football Associations. Sport has one of the biggest presences in the global community and is a symbol of unified global social culture (Kreft 2012: 8).

Sport provides both an educational and entertainment element. It is part of human and social development; it can contribute to social solidity, tolerance, integration, and is an effective network for physical and socio-economic change. Sport is used to link cultural gaps, settle differences, and inform people in ways that very few activities can (Houlihan, 2008).

The Roman Coliseum sets the example for traditional sports stadium in the present day. Sport and sport architecture have developed into a way of life on its own. Sport stadiums have become the worlds most visited according to Kreft (2012:7). According to Coubertin's idea Kreft (2012:8), he regards sports facilities as sports cathedrals. Sports Cathedrals have been earmarked as places of mass pilgrimage as they represent a place of hope. Kreft (2012) further elaborates that, Coubertin's proposal of sport is converted into a visual outcome, good-looking effectiveness, where design is ergonomically, relative within its environment at the same time as being economically sustainable. This is what is expected to be achieved through sport and modern-day architecture.

According to Sheard (2001) sport facilities need to be part of city urban design in order to achieve a sense of social belonging of being related as urban pivots, it must have pedestrian and a variety of transport and visual links to the present network links which join the city. Sport facilities form a crucial part of cities and towns as they are the foundation of modern urban society which creates a connection to education, religious centres, business, politics and industry. He goes on to state that buildings are generators of urban activity and are just as important as city centres (2001:1).

### **2.3.2 Sports in South Africa**

#### **2.3.2.1 Past**

According to Nauright (1997) it was the British settlers who brought sporting culture to South Africa. Although sport was practised mainly by the whites at first, the black population did engage with the concept rather quickly. By the turn of the twentieth century black soccer, rugby, and cricket teams already existed. Sport was still at this time rather segregated and only after the 1950s and 1960s when most nations abandoned race polices, did the world start to view sport as a social unifier that transcend race and politics. South Africa on the other hand seemed to go against the grain at an alarming pace, racial segregation was applied to sport in South Africa by means of legislation in 1948 (Keim, 2003: 27).

Booth (1998) mentions how sport development was made extremely hard for non-white communities as national policies denied them access to the best sporting facilities. It was also impossible to identify a national South African team because the greater population of the country were not allowed to be selected. The non-white community found it hard to support a 'South African' team which had no representation from their racial group (Nauright, 1997).

South Africa was also not allowed to compete against foreign countries because of Apartheid policies. The country was banned from the 1964 Olympic Games and this ban officially lasted until 1992 (Keim, 2003). Nauright (1997) states that due to non-whites not being allowed to be chosen for the 'South African' team, and South Africa as a nation not competing on any international stage it was very difficult for the country to have its own identity.

Nauright (1997) writes that President Nelson Mandela used sport as a tool for promoting reconciliation and racial integration. The government assumed that sport was the best cultural activity through which to foster socio-political support, breaking down barriers, creating a new national identity in which all South Africans were drawn together (Booth, 1998). President Nelson Mandela used the 1995 Rugby World Cup as the first step on a grand scale to unite the nation. He stated that *"the Springboks are our boys. I ask every one of you to stand behind them because they are our pride, they are my pride, they are your pride"*.

### **2.3.2.2 Post-Apartheid**

South Africa became a democratic society in 1994. The laws and policies of apartheid were eradicated but the country still needed to rebuild, grow and develop a sense of social attachment. Sport was used by President Nelson Mandela to transform the country through equality and social participation thus promoting revitalisation and enhancing the lives of South Africans.

The Rugby World Cup which was held in South Africa in 1995 was a nation building process and provided the motivation and reassurance needed to promote the country and bring about change to delicate constitutional order, Van der Merwe (2006:5). This set the benchmark for holding of major sporting events in South Africa. These events have similar significance and also offer numerous opportunities.

Sepp Blatter rated the 2010 World Cup, which was held in South Africa, as a nine out of ten and was considered as one of the most effective World Cups, Cooper (2010:1). The country was revitalised in many ways. The development of the Gautrain had the most of most significant effect on public transport and the revamping of existing transport facilities. The world cup was a period of one month, but the large-size social upliftment and gains of the sporting event still continue in the country.

The three major sporting types in South Africa are Soccer, Rugby and Cricket due to the established success story of our national teams in international and local sport. All three events often have World Cups, which at some points have been held in South Africa. These events include the 1995 Rugby World Cup and the ICC Cricket World Cup. In 2010 FIFA World Cup allowed South Africa to reinvent the country by revitalising it. All the host cities, had to experience rapid urban revitalisation in the form of stadiums and supporting transport being built from scratch or being upgraded to handle the influx of people. South Africa had experienced, social national development in a way in which the country has never seen before. Host cities were prominent in enhancing the economy and its social position in the international market and were regarded as urban generators promoting new social development in sport. According to Alegi (2008:399) if the host cities were successful in hosting the event, then country would be renowned as a modern, world class, democratic state and would become sport destination cities. Sport has the power to make remarkable changes and impact in a city.

## **2.4 Segregation in South Africa**

Racial segregation in South Africa began in colonial periods when parts of the country were under Dutch and British rule. Witz (2003) writes that the term 'Apartheid' which in English translation is 'apartness' referred to a legislation which was introduced by the national ruling party which was in office from 1948 to 1994. This legislation took away the rights of the black majority population and white supremacy and Afrikaner minority rule was obtained (Witz, 2003).

The effects of Apartheid left a scar on South African society which is currently in a process of social, spatial and economic reconstruction. Under the apartheid regime people of colour were seen as an inferior part of society. This resulted in the segregation of people, cultures and societies of not just black and white people but Indian and coloureds too. Non-whites were forced to live on the outskirts of cities under unsuitable conditions (Haymes, 1995). This caused a unique development of communities across South Africa.

### **2.4.1 Sport Facilities as Social places in the Segregated City**

Sport played a critical position as a lively part of civil society in South Africa, even with the backdrop of apartheid, Keim (2003:11).

Allison states that, “*few countries with sport institutions in civil society could outflank and manipulate what appeared to be a powerful state in this manner; in no other country, perhaps, could sporting institutions have played so large a part in forming the direction that the state would take*” Allison (2000:69).

Sporting facilities play a key role in offering social public place for people of colour who could peacefully interact, seek recreational freedom and assemble for political agenda under the pretext of sport, especially in Durban. These Sporting arenas offered social relief to its immediate vicinity, but it appeared as a popular network in the greater area of Durban.

Curries Fountain Sports Stadium is situated in the Warwick area, of the city was a popular centre for non-white South Africans. Since its establishment, Currie’s Fountain was defined as one of the highly active sports stadiums in South Africa and the centre for sporting events that invited people from all areas of Durban and as well as other provinces in the country, Alegi (2003:19). Since it was the only non-white recreational facility for adjacent educational institutions in the Warwick precinct, it was highly popular. The everyday movement of people into the Durban CBD led to a massive fascination with sport particularly football.

According to Alegi (2003) it was part of the everyday urban debate, being discussed in busses, pavements and during the wait for transport. This supported by Doyle (2004:30) as he argues that sports was a key social connection for marginalised groups in Durban during apartheid. Alegi (2003:17) iterates that politics and sport grew in reputation as it produced shared awareness between marginalised groups, which in turn aided to form alliances that transgressed from racial, multi-racial to completely non-racial organisations which formed a collective political program that cultivated over time. Durban became the focal point for key political change which inspired South African political activities through the means of sport.

## **2.5 Conclusion**

Through the exploration of conceptual framework as part of a review of literature, it can be determined that people are highly complex social beings. It can be concluded that a united society will benefit all (Haymes, 1995). In a world that is made up of an array of different people there will always be elements that do not promote social integration but instead segregation.

Sport is a perfect opportunity which needs to be taken advantage of as former president Nelson Mandela did in 1995 (Nauright, 1997). A successful city promotes integration between its people yet in South Africa this is not always the case due to the group areas act of the past. Socializing with others is an extremely important part of a functioning society and there needs to be opportunities for such things to happen.

Govinden (2018) stipulates that social revitalisation is vital as cities will forever be the hub for development. Govinden (2018) further argues that social revitalisation deals with the balance of development in the urban context through the preservation of identity, culture and traditions. By the study of literature, it is apparent that sport is a powerful tool in promoting social revitalisation by rectifying social problems locally and globally. The analysis of the social qualities of sport, social revitalisation can be encouraged. In KwaDukuza sport has been a persistent social connection in the urban context of the community. It has to be applied on a micro scale from a bottom-up perspective of development but is still to be solved contextually on a macro scale that encourages social activity within the city.

Sport is not only a physical activity but an area where people intermingle socially. Sport and entertainment activities form an essential part of social life in all communities and are intricately connected to society and politics. Sport is a very big part of people's lives globally; by using sport one can reach and have a positive impact on the majority of the world's population. It can be concluded that sport plays a positive role in society, and it can be used as a tool for integration (Keim, 2003).

To maintain social significance in urban communities a multipurpose sports facility, needs to have relevance to its context on a macro and micro scale. At a micro level, for sports architecture to bring about social revitalisation, they must accommodate many social functions which consist of a mixture of trade, recreational, health and educational amenities that will draw the community in through the urban context. Sports facilities that have social significance in the urban environment are active nodes. Due to the social aspects of sports, which cause social interactions to occur through the urban fabric and multifunctional design.

## **CHAPTER 3: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

### 3.1 Introduction

This chapter will look at the analysis of theories mentioned in chapter 1. The theoretical framework will develop the practice of social revitalisation as a result of research from philosophers who relate their discourse to comparable social and architectural issues being investigated. These theories will formulate design principles to develop a social response through built form.

### 3.2 Phenomenology (Meaningful Spaces)

The theory of phenomenology recognises and implements sensory design to create architectural spaces that create experiences. Phenomenology exhibited in built form is the influence of light, shadow, space, and material to generate a remarkable encounter by means of an influence on the five senses (place making and spirit of place). The theory of phenomenology supports the combination of sensory experience as a function of architectural design. This theory is analysed by the protagonists such as Norburg Shulz (1996) and Rodger Trancik (1986) and will be applied to determine how social public space and a multipurpose sports facility will be a generator for social revitalisation in KwaDukuza.

#### 3.2.1 Placemaking

Placemaking is known as a multi-faceted methodology architecture and administration of public social spaces. According to Trancik (1986) Placemaking takes advantage of community resources, creativity, and skill, with the purpose of designing communal spaces that stimulate people's wellbeing, health, and happiness. It is known to be civil due to the natural surroundings the places character. The work is fixated on the value of dynamic neighbourhoods and welcoming public social spaces. Trancik (1986) supported citizen possession of roads by means of the renowned concept "eyes on the street." This highlighted crucial components for developing social life in public space.



Figure 13 Placemaking in Context (By Author, 2022)

According to Erin Toolis (2017:186) states that the framework of placemaking, which can be applied into three key segments; the first being the association amongst person and place, which makes reference to Bakker's Theory of behaviour situations that a person associates themselves to place. E.g., an individual, who goes to the market, plans to make purchase.

The Second is the idea of placemaking which is recognising the urban context, public place respects urban social activity, which develop into a platform for public dialogue, containing and developing detailed community stories. To support this idea, Erin Toolis refers to Hammock and Cohler's Theory of Master Narrative Engagement (2009) which references the social and political nature of place. Through reflection on the past, present and future social conditions, the theory of place achieves a firm social hold in the urban context (Toolis, 2017:186).

The third segment of defining placemaking is facilitating place to produce social understanding and inspiration in the community. Erin Toolis (2017) makes references to Friere (2005) and Rapoport (1995) which argues that public place contains a lively transformative connection among individuals, provided that a place of integration within the urban context, which they occupy.

### **3.2.2 Spirit of Place**

According to Norberg Schulz (1981) spirit of place (*genius loci*) is the unique, characteristic, and precious qualities of a specific place. Its notion of spirit of place has resonated throughout the centuries. Schulz (1996) further argues that it originates from an ancient idea that fragments of the earth are inhabited by deities or spirits. This has been a crucial component of Roman religion.

Norberg-Schulz (1996) openly embraces a Heideggerian and phenomenological approach, proposing that space anywhere life transpires is known to be "place". A space is a place which evokes a distinct atmosphere (character/ experience). "Architecture means to visualize the *genius loci* and the task of the architect is to create meaningful places, whereby he helps man to dwell" (Norberg Schulz, 1981). Schulz (1981) recognises that the composition of a place is not set in an everlasting state. Although it doesn't suggest that the spirit of place shifts or is abandoned since character cannot be preserved as indicated in figure 14. It remains a living experience through the way of the past.

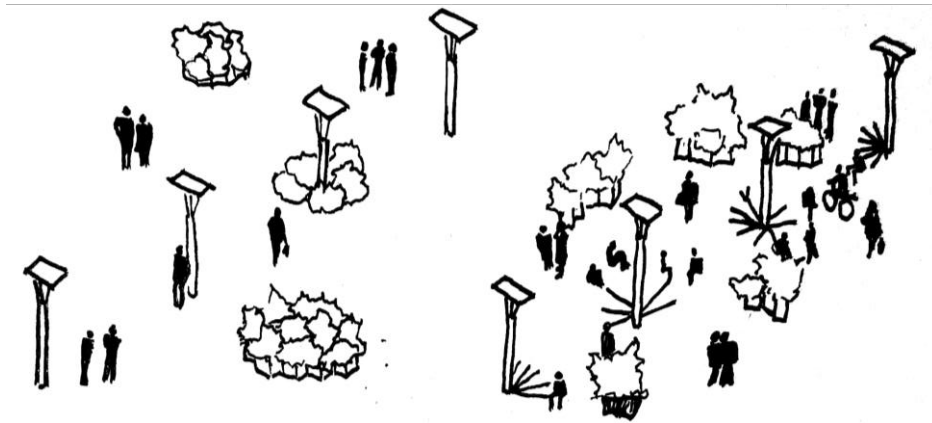


Figure 14: Defining Character of Space based on Environmental Function (By Author, 2022)

According to Een Ots et,al (2011) this theory is typically useful to a natural, well-preserved place, its unique meaning is fixed in a Roman tradition: that is, “the concept of every human being having two guardian spirits in the form of fallen angels (genii) that give life or spirit to people or places”. The contemporary world has discarded these philosophies and rather than a “guardian spirit”, the expression now make reference to the unique feeling of a particular place, Een Ots et al (2011). The development towards conveying a contemporary idea of the surprising capability to a place is multifaceted and intangibly tangled in a cultural weave of folk law, belief systems and memories, yet it seems to have linked to the inspiration of “spirit” through a idea of “inspiration.” Another phrase for spirit of place, is, *genius loci*.

Based on Alexander Pope’s (1688–1744) poetic resolution in respect of the spirit of, natural sites, mainly landscape design, *genius loci* is now established as representing “spirit or essence of place.” Christian Norberg- Schultz (1980) stipulates that the example for this change, starting with quantitative and ending with qualitative in architectural theory dialogue. Undeniably, green designers now observe that the critical task of architectural design is that of creation of place in a divine sense opposed to that of exclusively developing a aesthetic space. According to Een Ots et al (2011) because of the revival of awareness in phenomenology throughout the decades, spirit of place (*genius loci*) has grown to be a admired and to some extent out of date term in architectural discourse. Spirit of place now makes reference to any feature that define the character and experience of place.

Norberg-Schulz (1980) writes that although the physical is important the emotional attachment to the space is just as important. By connecting to a space on an emotional level the space forms a 'spirit' or an 'atmosphere'.

Architects, and all those associated with the built environment, must concern themselves with active steps in combating the effects of placeness by taking a phenomenological stance towards design. According to Norberg-Schulz (1980) phenomenology is essentially a 'return to things' which people must first consider and understand the environment before acting upon it. Fleming (2007) agrees through his understanding, that appreciation of defining characteristics of place, makes way for the concept of Spirit of place (Genius Loci).

### **3.3 Urban Catalyst (How Sports Architecture can be used as Urban Catalyst)**

According to Govinden (2018) the resolve of urban catalysts is to be the ongoing, uninterrupted revitalisation of the urban context. Govinden (2018) further elaborates that the purpose an urban catalyst is not just to be a singular product but a component that guides successive urban revitalisation. Urban catalysts are projects, landscapes or built form, which guide urban improvement and boost the amount of people in the given context. An urban catalyst must be created of a sequence of developments that revitalize the social urban context Sternberg (2002). Sternberg (2002) unpacks urban catalysts into “activity generator” and “anchor”. A catalyst is basically an activity generator, yet not all activity generators behave as catalysts Sternberg (2002). For example, a Football stadium can be regarded as an “Activity Generator” and “Anchor” may produce a lot of activity without promoting adjacent development.

Aldo Rossi (1982) describes catalysts, as the primary elements of a city. Rossi (1982:88) believes that primary elements are broad range of activities associated with the basic characteristics that make up a city namely monuments, commercial buildings, schools, hospitals, parks and recreational space. Catalytic growth is promoted by these primary elements, and they are the actual factor that lures people to the urban environment that in turn initiates urban development. The long-term value of Primary Elements is evident in terms of improving their purposes and actively contributing and controlling the change of the surrounding context.

Lynch (1972) argues that in order for catalysts to succeed, they need to be an essential part of daily life in the urban environment which concurs with Jacobs' (1962:89) claim, that catalysts promote activity of everyday processes. Urban catalysts are required to have a progressive state, in other words, they need to be flexible to correspond and grow at the same pace as urban development (Lynch. 1972:95).

Sennett (2006) shares the same sentiment affirming that growth and change are promoted by urban catalysts. Sennett (2006: 200) goes on to state that urban catalysts need to be active in initiating the process of development and change and be well established in what is currently active, living environments. Rossi (1982: 67) implies, urban catalysts are dependent on transformation as the diverse contexts they impact (Davies, 2009: 6).

Figure 15 shows The Olympic Park in Stratford, London is a great model of social revitalisation through sport using urban catalysts. The realisation of the park influenced a large variety of factors in the city namely of public transport; housing and the park itself became a node within the London (Nyka, 2017). The development of the Olympic stadium catalysed development of the park and other sport and recreational facilities, promoting an all-inclusive environment and improved quality of life.



Figure 15: London Olympic Stadium Olympic Park in London (architectureofthegames.net, February, 2020)

The main objective of an urban catalyst is to aid in the stability of development of the framework in the city. It forces the surrounding habitat to escalate development and is recognised as a strong component in merely not behaving as a single result.

Urban catalyst theory is linked to revitalisation. The result of revitalisation is to make sure that what is of considerable purpose and meaning be protected in the method of revitalisation. The primary objective of the theory is to encourage active elements which suggest the genius loci

of place (Norberg-Schulz). Urban catalysts promote socio economic revitalisation in urban areas but also not only encourage physical revitalisation. Rapid development in urban areas is balanced through conserving the urban identity, culture and traditions which is the main focus of revitalisation, Vilenske, (2014:5). It acts as a catalyst for the urban environment by encouraging suitable amenities, densification and activity. Remazani et al, (2009:2) states that it is important to develop a sense of community by that revitalising public spaces, this encourages local activities and events which implement the idea of urban heritage.

### 3.4 Sports Led Urban Revitalisation

Holmes (2022) mentions that numerous capital cities have acknowledged that staging sporting events is capable of bringing in key advantages in terms of the type of event and related public service infrastructure working as a method for revitalisation. There are also supplementary benefits in local economic boost such as venture capital in tourism sector, public facilities, housing and eco-friendly improvement. Holmes (2022) stipulates that mass media awareness either during or after an event typically play a role as a type of advertising, which in turn may produce long-term by products in terms of inner industries following the occasion. According to Holmes (2022) cities are currently considering the application of mega-sports events to reinforce their international reputation.

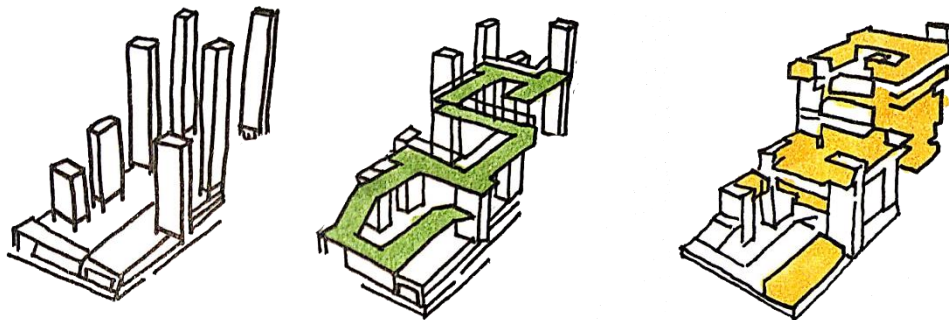


Figure 16: Forms of Sports Led Urban Revitalisation (By Author, 2022)

Holmes (2022) further argues that short-term sports events generate opportunities for employment throughout the building process, it can improve quality of life in a region by increasing the commercial activity for the duration of and just after the sports event has taken place. Long term applications are more meaningful in terms of social revitalisation. Sports events can draw additional outside investing and play a role as a catalyst for development. Financial revitalisation is typically accompanied by social revitalisation, according to Holmes (2022).

Type of event	Example of Event	Target attendance/ market	Type of media interest
Mega-Event	Expos Olympics World Cup	Global	Global TV
Special Event	Grand Prix (F1) World Regional sport, e.g. Tour de France	World Regional/ National	International/ National TV
Hallmark Event	National sport event, e.g. Wimbledon Big city sport/ festivals	National	National TV
		Regional	Local TV
Community Event	Rural town event Local community event	Regional/Local Local	Local TV/Press Local Press

Figure 17: Types of Sporting Events (By Author, 2021)

According to Holmes (2022) The 1992 Barcelona Games is considered as one of the extremely popular Olympics yet. The alterations made in the city for the Olympics have become established as a standard for more cities wanting to introduce large-size revitalisation schemes (Holmes, 2022).



Figure 18: Urban Revitalisation of Barcelona Olympic Games (Busquets, 2005)

According to figure 18, the establishment of the Games approved a complete transformation of scale of urban revitalisation in Barcelona. Prior to the Tournament, planners had been preaching about new streets and gardens, but after the Olympic appointment they were able to speak of new ring roads, seaports, and Olympic Villages (Nyka, 2017). The games development launched at the coast to the extension of the city and began to alter the size and shape of the urban framework (Taraszkiwicz, 2017).

### 3.5 Sports Cities

The term ‘sport city’ has been used in three diverse ways: as a interim attraction, to define one section of a city as a sports zone or hub or to label an entire city. According to Loftman and Spirou, (1996) it is discussed that sporting developments in cities are produced for the need to promote a new image for a city through public sporting facilities. This is supported by Grattam and Henry (2001), which argues that cities that use sport for its socio-political benefits as well as to define social activity, this urges development of public infrastructure while creating recreational green spaces and integration in the context. The concept of sport is applied to describe public social spaces by means for improving the impression of a place is not a contemporary trend.

Public sports buildings share comparable anchors to festivals and flea markets, bringing in frequent movement and encouraging revitalisation policies, Silk et al (2005). Public sport centres act as connections in the urban context and create walkable links between urban communities (Govinden, 2018). It also encourages relaxation and wellbeing by means of passive supervision.

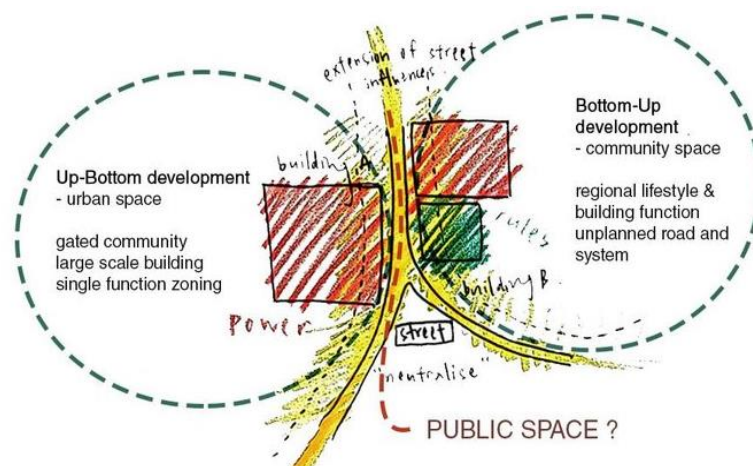


Figure 19: Bottom Up Vs. Top-Down Development (By Author, 2022)

Weiner (2000:461) advances the theory that sports-city developments have drawn more attention on sporting amateur’s residents and visitors rather than locations that only house professionals. According to figure 19 Public Urban sports venues should be community driven and should be deemed as local establishments targeted at facilitating sport development in the community.

Silk and Amis (2005: 355) believe that sporting venues that share comparable anchors such as festivals marketplaces draw continuous activity and promote revitalisation projects. A large focus of Urban sport is based on local participation and amateur leagues. Italy in 1990 was chosen to host the Soccer World Cup. Renzo Piano, an Italian architect, played a pivotal role in two of the ten stadiums that were commissioned. His concept for the soccer stadium and San Nicola region centred around the notion of a sports city. The stadium is to be spaced out of a large park in West Bari. Even though the urban proposal for the city was drawn up by Ludovico Quaroni in the early 1970's, the location was selected to fit into the plan. The project was aimed at developing a green area and formalise it as a park. Leisure and non-competitive sports facilities were incorporated into the design to certify constant activity in the park.

Taking the aforementioned examples into account it is necessary that sports design should include urban schemes that acknowledges the surrounding context and landscape. The site should be situated within the urban infrastructure and should be a link city node as a cohesive model. The facility should incorporate gardens, sports, commercial and cultural facilities that becomes the go to social space in the city. Parks must provide a landscape buffer between the built-up areas of the city by providing green space.

### **Negative impacts of mega sporting events**

There has been a lot of negative press reports in the media about running costs and upkeep, but it has become an icon of the city. It is a great public facility used on a regular basis by a large amount of people, its developments such as these which provide spaces which can encourage integration.

It is a significant gamble to use mega sporting events to act as a catalyst for urban and social renewal. Some cities and regions have been more successful than others in using the initial public investment to encourage wider development within the urban framework.

Additional concerns in relation to the hosting of Mega Sporting events:

It is often found that local government divert investment from social services and education to finance these events.

Sport development can lead to disruption and disturbance of existing communities which is a significant problem. Inner city renewal is often categorised by evictions and shift of current working-class people or industrial utilities and their replacement through urban renewal by middle class residents and customers.

The Environmental impact is also a huge factor in development of sports cities and size of the ‘eco-footprint’ they create.

Equity issues are also another major concern when utilising mega sporting events as a catalyst for urban revitalisation, the consistency of event distribution (smallest developed vs. most developed) is a major point of contention.

<b>Impact area</b>	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Negative</b>
<b>Economic, Tourism, Commercial</b>	Increased expenditure	Price inflation
	Economic benefits in form of tax revenues	Increase in local tax (to construct facilities needed for the event)
	Employment opportunities	Mismanagement of public funds
	Education and training	Real estate speculation
	Marketing of the host region as a tourism destination	Short-term contract work
	New opportunities for potential investors	
<b>Infrastructure &amp; Physical resources</b>	New and improved infrastructure and local facilities	Infrastructural congestion
	Rejuvenation of urban areas	White elephants - Underused sports and associated facilities after the event
	Increased security	Limited access and redistribution of resources
<b>Political</b>	Propagation of political values and ideology	Suppression of human rights
<b>Sport &amp; Recreation</b>	Introduction of programmes, services and facilities (e.g. "Football for Hope" in Kayelitsha)	Lack of sustainability of these programmes and services after the event
	Education and training	Access to needs-based accredited training to enhance employability
<b>Environmental</b>	Participation opportunities	Bias towards elite performance
	Attention to the natural environment	Loss of control over local environment
	Preservation of elements of physical landscape and local heritage	Pollution of nature in and around host region

#### Positives vs Negatives

### **3.6 Conclusion**

The exploration of the theory of phenomenology (placemaking and spirit of place) provides the understanding that social space in the urban context is needed to influence people's behaviour, relationships and health. For space to be expressive it requires to be identified via activity that identifies the character of space. The theory of phenomenology encourages urban development, social relationships and urban public identity.

By exploring the theory of urban catalysts, the concepts of sports city and sports led urban revitalisation, it has found that community space preserves its relevance by encouraging sport through architectural development, that helps the urban environment by making it all-encompassing. It is found that public urban space is simply effective if it is an expansion of the present socially active community.

The theories analysed, determine that a multipurpose sports facility can be effective if there are links that support existing public urban nodes such as educational institutions, transport networks, healthcare and commercial. The proposal for a multipurpose sports facility in KwaDukuza should promote community engagement, and movement while including defined spaces for community interaction in KwaDukuza. The analysis of precedents and case studies in built form, which will provide a better insight of how the explored theories have been stated can developed further.

## **CHAPTER 4: PRECEDENT STUDIES**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

To understand the relationship of social revitalisation and sports architecture, secondary data in the form of precedent studies will provide essential understanding of what has been done before to implement design conclusions moving forward. Hence, to reflect on the findings in the literature review and theoretical framework, the conclusions focused itself on finding precedent studies that have meaning to the topic of sports architecture and social revitalisation. The precedent studies will be investigated according to the following criteria: Social revitalization, public space, and an architectural and urban analysis through the lens of the theoretical framework.

#### **4.2 Moses Mabhida Stadium**

**Architect:** Theunissen Jankowitz, Ambro-Afrique Consultants, Osmond Lange Architects And Planners, NSM Designs, and Mthulisi Msimang.

**Location:** Durban, South Africa.



Figure 20: Aerial view of Moses Mabhida Stadium (Google Earth, 2022)

### 4.1.1 Background

The 2010 FIFA World Cup was awarded to the host country in May 2004. Durban was a host city, with both the existing soccer and rugby stadiums not being considered a viable option, the decision was made to demolish the soccer stadium, recycle the fabric and build a new stadium (Peters, 2010). It sits adjacent to the Kings Park Rugby Stadium. The 'Moses Mabhida Stadium' is located on the corner of Masabalala Yengwa Avenue and Stamford Hill, Durban, South Africa. The Moses Mabhida Stadium is named after Moses Mabhida, a former General Secretary of the South African Communist Party. It is a multipurpose stadium which became a venue for numerous events, like soccer, cricket, concerts, golf practice, bungee jumping, and motor sports.

### 4.1.2 Use of Social Revitalisation

This mixed-use facility has so much to offer the public. There is an element for everyone. It is this diversity which makes this building a great integrator of people and a node in the city.

It was known that people of all race and cultural background visit the facility for various reasons, whether it be for a stadium tour, a meal, a cycle, a run, to bring the children to play or even just to be in the presence of other people. Gehl (1987) writes: integration will not occur unless people are forced to 'bump' into one another. 'Moses Mabhida Stadium' attracts people from all walks of life and by putting them together in the same vicinity as each other, opportunities for interaction arise.

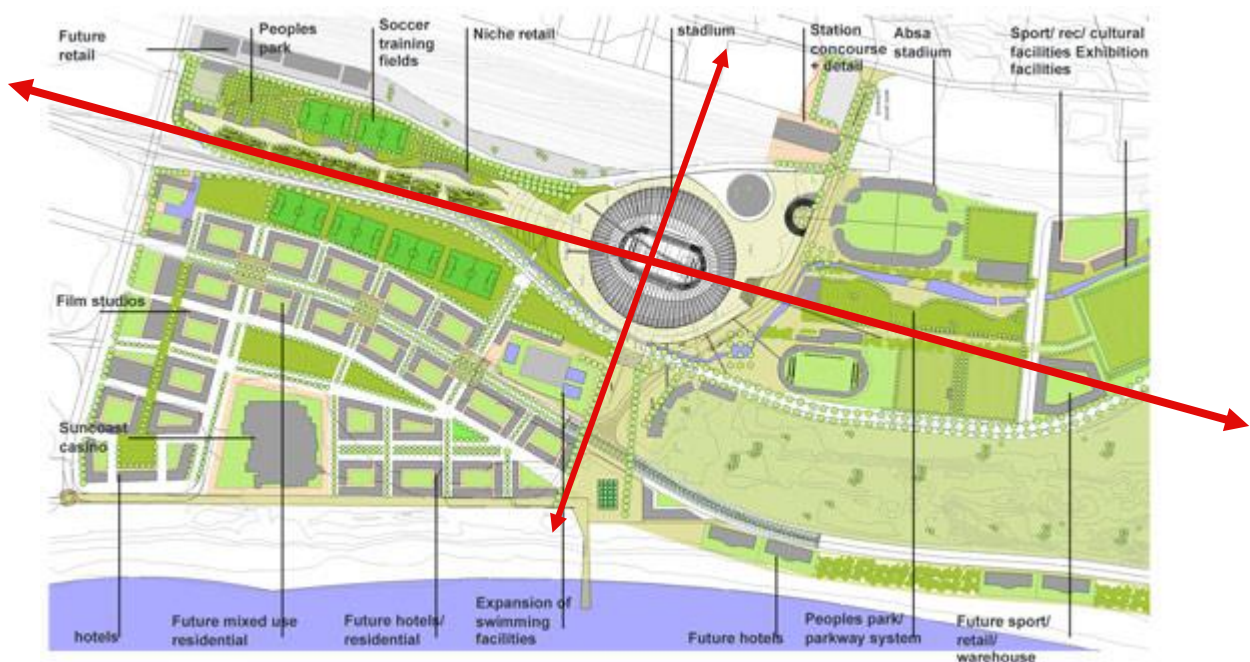


Figure 21: Analysis of Stadium in Context of Durban (Digest, 2010)

The main stadium is used for large sporting events, this becomes an opportunity for spectators to support, interact and discuss the game. However, on the outer fields a more social approach is taken. The People's Park is often used for league sports, there are weekly soccer and touch rugby leagues. There are also often small tournaments held on the fields, and it is in these social sporting events where the ordinary man can play, and integration is achieved through sport

#### 4.1.3 Public Space

There are many social facilities attached to the stadium, such as restaurants and bars which people can linger at after games, although this building is most successful at its ability to attract people to the space even when there is no games on due to it being part of the urban fabric. Jan Gehl (1987) speaks about people attracting other people. 'Moses Mabhida Stadium' is lively, it sparks interest in others and attracts more people. Since the brief for the project focused on making the development sustainable, a lot of effort has gone into designing spaces around the building that can be used on a day-to-day basis. All the key elements such as trees, seating, food, water features and so on are evident (Whyte, 1988). Figure 21 and 22 indicates that spaces are designed for all ages, so it is family orientated. Children were meeting new friends on the jungle gym while their parents chatted away over a cup of coffee nearby. The development has become a success not only as a sporting facility, but as a successful public space for the city.



Figure 22: Cycling and Running Track (Kirkpatrick C, 2013)



Figure 23: Restaurants, Public Space and Kid Play Areas in People's Park (Kirkpatrick C, 2013)

The facility has well designed public spaces surrounding the facility attracting people on game days and non-game days and provides the perfect space to break down social barriers and encourage integration. There is also a great atmosphere around the building and this positive energy attracts people to the space. However, the actual stadium does fall short in terms of its response to its surroundings.

This is due to the nature of such a large facility which has to focus its attention on the sporting field. However, the surrounding facilities around the stadium do appear to respect the local context. The 'Moses Mabhida Stadium' is a positive feature to the city of Durban. It is a world class sporting facility which the community is proud of. There has been a lot of negative press in the media about its running costs and up keep, but it has become an icon of the city. It is a great public facility used on a regular basis by a large amount of people.

#### **4.1.4 Architectural and Urban Analysis**

The design team had a number of goals to meet. The design brief set up the development of a stadium that would be an icon for the City of Durban (Digest, 2010). According to Peters (2010) they had to create a stadium that would form a meaningful part of the city's urban fabric. It needed to be a mixed-use facility in order to ensure sustainability even after the World cup so it can stay forever. Its human scale needed to be pleasant to the users of the building and it needed to be a place that encourages a vibrant public system to thrive.

The inspiration for the design of the facility was taken from the South African flag. A 104-meter-high arch at its apex bends across the field and over the stadium which represents a nation unified by sport. The 'Y' formation of the arch which is observable from the sky, has the two legs on the South elevation of the stadium, which come together to create a single foothold on the North elevation, signifying the unity of a once separated country, Beckett (2002). The main entrance which is situated on the Southern side overlaps with the open side of the arch; this is a doorway to the city. The secondary entrance on the Northern side feeds off the newly built train station and faces the Kings Park Rugby Stadium connecting other sporting facilities around it.



Figure 24: North View of Stadium from the Peoples Park Promenade (Kirkpatrick C, 2013)

The facility is made up of a world class stadium, parks and public squares, restaurants, a children's playground, a gymnasium, external fields and a running track. It also uses attractions such as the 'sky car' which is a specially designed 'car' which takes people up the arch to a viewing platform and the 'big swing' (bungee swing). These attractions not only generate an income but draw people to the precinct. The stadium is the centrepiece of the large, integrated development which weaves itself tightly into the landscape of the city. Bounded by Imbizo Place, the People's Park on the South, the new train station on the North and the connection to the beach, the precinct anchors itself into the city's fabric.

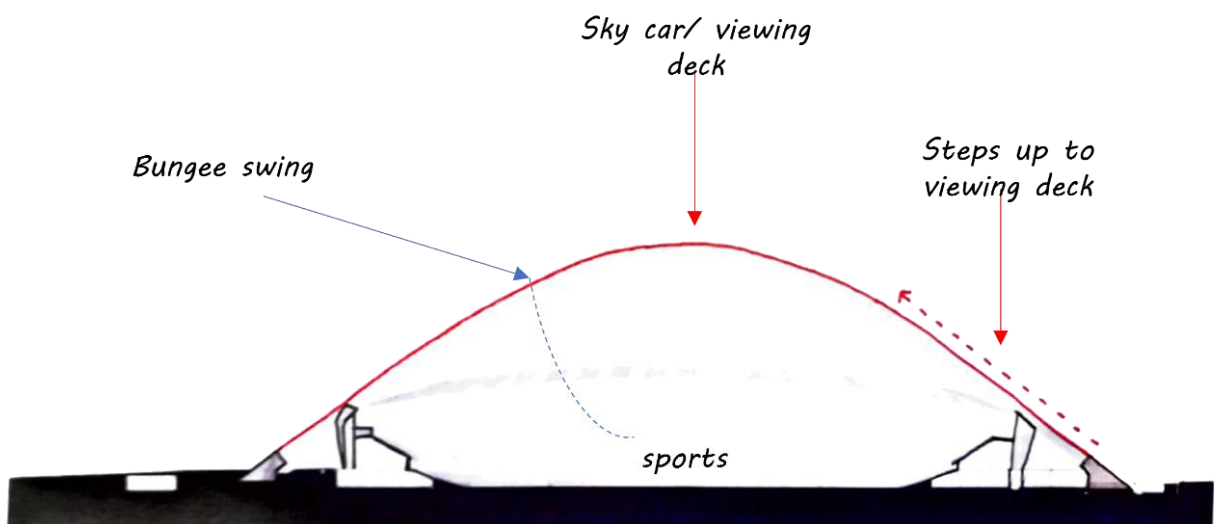


Figure 25: section across stadium (by Author, 2022)

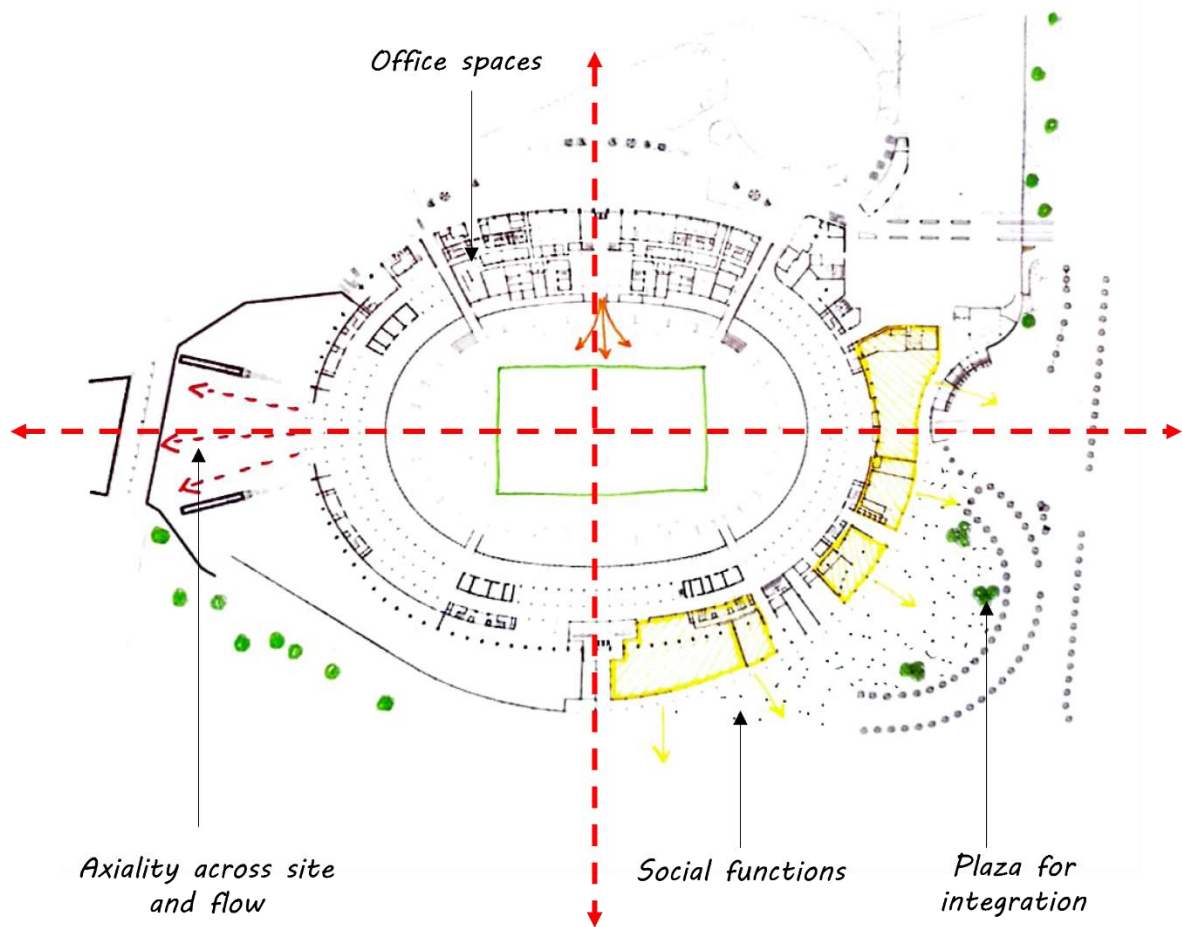


Figure 26: Analysis of Floor Plan- Moses Mabhida (By Author, 2022)

As seen in figure 23 the stadiums' main purpose was to be a catalyst for development in and around the city of Durban, dealing with aspects of urban decay and revitalise, create social spaces and places that celebrate the character of Durban. The stadium has something for everyone even if you are not interested in sport. It evokes a feeling of solidarity through the mix of different functions having activity occur at different points in and around the stadium.

However, the actual stadium does fall short in terms of its response to its surroundings. This is due to the nature of such a large facility which has to focus its attention on the sporting field, yet the surrounding facilities around the stadium do appear to respect the local context. Although the stadium was at its peak use during the world cup. Since then, its attendance has gradually decreased due to the fact that not many big games are held in Durban. It is used mainly as a tourist destination and for its social spaces.

Regarding the role of sports on Social Revitalisation, in the efforts to create a catalyst that spurs on development through the rest of the context, it has done well to place emphasis on the need for a sports precinct in Durban and sports facilities that help at grassroots level developing talent to national level. To reduce isolation, the stadium development had to be socially linked to the city.

In terms of its Impact on sport in South Africa, the 2010 world cup brought attention to the country. Seeking and Natress (2005: 50) stipulates that, Durban was known officially as a decentralized city and has undergone major development and urban resettlement that has altered this view. The development of Moses Mabhida stadium had created formalized new districts and zones in the city centre which encouraged social revitalisation and sports through the development of a formal integrated social public spaces. The soccer world cup was conducted over a period of one month. It had a major impact in the social upliftment and profits of the sporting events that remain in the country.

Through the exploration of theory of phenomenology, the Moses Mabhida stadium expresses placemaking through being a node in the city which people can associate place with and a place that creates different types of experiences through its mixed-use nature. According to Toolis (2017:186) by reflecting on the past, acknowledging the present conditions and at the same time considering the social conditions of the future, a sense of place is created, forming a strong social link to the urban context.

Its spirit of place is centred around sport and integration. The stadium acted as an urban catalyst during the world cup which spurred development for the city. It acted as an anchor and created activity generators around it which draw people in through the urban environment.

Through the investigation of sports city and sports led urban revitalisation, it can be said that the soccer world cup promoted a new image for the city through the development of Moses Mabhida stadium as a catalyst for revitalisation, but from a top-down development scheme and is regarded as a mega sporting event which has a global audience, which focuses more on single function zoning, large scale building and upmarket urban development, which rarely involves the community.

## 4.2 NIKE Football Training Centre, Soweto

Architects: Sean Pearson of RUF Project, City: Johannesburg, Country: South Africa.

**Location:** corner of Chris Hani and Mokoena Street, Soweto, Johannesburg, South Africa

### 4.2.1 Background

The Training Centre was an upgrade to an existing football training ground which is now home to over a thousand youth clubs. The design objective was to restore the training centre and renovate it into a state-of-the-art facility, intended to be a performance centre for the development of soccer in Soweto (Digest, 2010). The project was funded by Nike Grassroots Projects, and so the name changed to 'Nike Football Training Centre'. It was officially opened the day before the 2010 FIFA World Cup began in South Africa. Soweto being the inspiration that it is of South African soccer has a large amount of youth hoping to play professional soccer one day.



Figure 27: Nike Football Training Centre (Google, 2018)

This precedent study was chosen because not only does it fit into the theoretical framework of this study, but it is known to be successful in using sport to revitalise a community and encourage interaction in a historically depressed area.

#### 4.2.2 Use of Social Revitalisation

The facility is aimed at up lifting the youth of the community not only in sport but life skills as well. Although sport mainly attracts the youth to the centre, there are also life skills training workshops, and computer facilities with internet access, which are available for the public to use. The architecture has been designed with the player in mind, supporting them through parts of their day. Everything has been considered to make the facility flow and remain open while managing to create a safe place to play football.

Although there are computers, a gym, and so on, sport is the real integrator at this facility. Grounds are used after school and on weekend's local youth teams play in competitions. Hundreds of kids play against each other and interact throughout the day. Adults and children who are not playing also flood the facility as they enjoy watching the games being played and soaking up the atmosphere. There are stands which surround the fields, which become social spaces.

#### 4.2.3 Public Space

If there is one area this facility is lacking, it is in the public spaces surrounding the building. There are a lot of stands surrounding the fields, but none are shaded and in a hot climate like Johannesburg, this is a necessity (Digest, 2010). As teams wait to play, they huddle together under the overhang of the main building, however as it is not designed for this there is not enough space or any available seating.



Figure 28: Not enough Designed Public spaces (Google, 2018)

There is also no available kiosk or food outlet. As Whyte (1988) mentions, food is a very important part of a public space. The spectators will stay at the facility longer and interact with others more if food is available.

#### 4.2.4 Architectural/ Urban Analysis

The facility is made up of two full sized synthetic fields, two youth, natural grass fields, field lights, a clubhouse, player lounge, an education facility with computers. The facility is aimed at Grass Roots Soccer and Life Skills programs, a training gym, first aid facility, catering facilities, administrative offices, viewing deck as well as new change rooms (Digest, 2010)

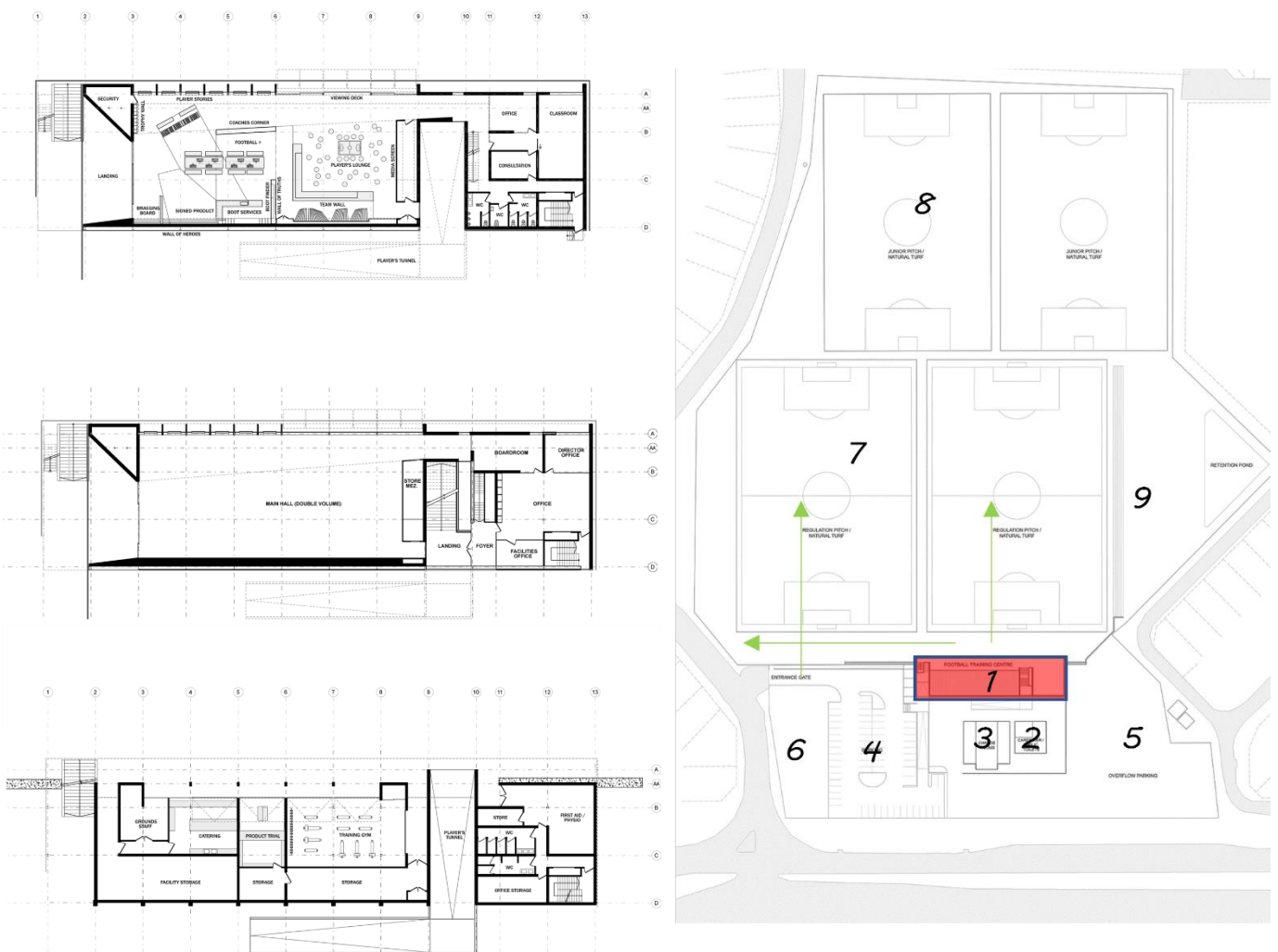


Figure 29: Site Plans and Building Plans (Digest, 2010)

Figure 29 shows the player's lounge and clubhouse which is overseen regularly and run by Nike coaches and athletes. This area is based on the coaches and players to focus on the strategic and tactical qualities of the sport.

The idea for the building is that it should be an exclusive, high-end design, but suitable and perfectly incorporated into the environmental context of Soweto (Digest, 2010). The new building has a clubhouse character to it as it overlooks all of the playing fields. According to Digest (2010), it was designed to create a flexible space for football events, community gatherings, and a place where the youth of the area could come together and use their free time constructively by using the internet facilities, to learning about soccer both on and off the field. Athletes can also engage in physical conditioning in the gym facilities. Everything is focused on the fields, as though that is the final goal.

Regarding the role of sports on social revitalisation, the purpose of the sports facility was to revitalise the existing centre and transform it into a high-performance Grassroots focused life skills and training facility for the advancement of football, specifically aimed at the youth in Soweto.

Its impact on the community of Soweto and the greater context of South Africa is that the facility is known as the most successful and used venue for International Youth soccer tournaments in South Africa. The purpose of the scheme was to give a long-term home that would continue past the world cup for soccer in the vibrant community of Soweto.

Through the lens of phenomenology, a large factor of Soweto is its creative aspect, the training centre provides a perfect opportunity to create places for local artists and performers to showcase their work, centred around the spectacle of sport, which also celebrates the spirit and character of Soweto given its rich history. The facility boasts remarkable workshops that promote Soweto's creative community. The workshops are run by various creative and sports personalities. As an urban catalyst in context, it provides a node that attracts youth and gives them opportunities to progress through sport. In this case it's a catalyst that is an anchor and activity generator.

The training centre is a form of Sport led urban revitalisation, it can be classified as a community sporting event, which draws its attention from the local community. It acts as a node within the

urban context and creates walkable linkages and draws people in through the context. Although this project was private, it was still considered a bottom-up development, given the inclusion of the community, through locally sourced materials, local work force, giving opportunities back to the people, combining regional lifestyle in building function.

### **4.3 Conclusion**

The 'Moses Mabhida Stadium' has become a major public precinct of Durban. Not only is the Stadium seen as a symbol of Durban but as a vibrant facility people want to visit. There is so much going on at the stadium that the atmosphere is vibrant and enticing. The successfully designed public spaces become platforms for integration to occur (Gehl, 1987). The facility also harnesses the social aspect of sport not just on a professional level but on a social level as well. The outer fields are constantly in use by the public for league matches, social tournaments and a space for families to play. It is at these multipurpose sporting fixtures and public spaces where people have opportunities to meet others.

The 'Nike Football Training Centre' is a very successful facility in terms of using sport to uplift the community and create an opportunity for social interaction to occur. The building also relates very well to its context, through its materials and response to the climate. The public can relate to the building as it represents them and their community. Although the facility is aimed at the youth it attracts the elder members of society as well. They too like to watch the games on display creating an interaction between the older and younger members of the community allowing the older generation to pass down their knowledge. The facility does not however address the need for public space. If there were shaded areas, better seating in strategic spots and food available the facility would attract a much broader crowd. The users of the facility would also linger in the space for longer, meaning there would be more opportunities for interaction (Gehl, 1987).

The design precedents selected have aided the interpretation of how people identify with places and spaces created. This provides greater insight and relation to the theory of Phenomenology and Placemaking where the Moses Mabhida Stadium was executed as an urban revitalisation scheme to construct healthier social public spaces using sports architecture and social revitalisation leftover in the urban framework. The Nike Training Centre in Soweto gives the insight of how place is defined in urban environments using sport as a shared method, which plays a part in the social revitalisation of a community.

## **CHAPTER 5: CASE STUDY**

## 5.1 Introduction

By means of semi structured interviews and analysis of data stated in the research methods segment of chapter 1, the analysis in the form of a Case Study will be identified in the built form. This will assist in the study to determine how social revitalisation will catalyse sports architecture in KwaDukuza. The case study will assist in understanding social connections created across design outcomes that make use of sports architecture to assist these architectural and urban relationships.

## 5.2 Curries Fountain Sports Development Centre

**Architect:** Designed by the City Architects of Durban

**Location:** Durban KwaZulu Natal South Africa



Figure 30: Curries Fountain Sports Development Centre (By Author, 2022)

### 5.2.1 Background

According to (Curriesfountain.co.za, 2022) “Curries” is a term linked to the lively sports ground in the days of segregation, mainly in the 1960’s and 1970’s. This motivated the integration of Black citizens in a social, political, and cultural context of Durban. (Curriesfountain.co.za, 2022) further elaborates those historic and cultural encounters the people that made use of Curries Fountain, established multi culturalism that demands to be protected in the framework of change in South Africa. The location was prevalent with social and civil activists, gang leaders, sports personalities, cultural militants, including those that symbolized apartheid forces (Curriesfountain.co.za, 2022).

The sports development centre housed both amateur and professional football. Athletics and cricket were likewise common sports played on the fields. The boxing organisations often used the facility for matches, various social events were conducted in the 1970's which included multi-racial music festivals and concerts.

Curries Fountain sports development centre stayed undeniably the focal point of public activity, which gave way to freedom fighters that dealt with political affairs, education culture and sports. This heritage still goes on.

The Curries Fountain board members, consider the sports development centre as an important part of the history of Durban. They believe that the sports centre should be considered a tourist node, historic landmark, heritage site or proclaim the site as a Monument and Human Resource Development Centre.

### **5.2.2 Use of Social Revitalisation**

In its present day, Curries Fountain is a sporting development centre that is used for many sports categories. Yet, from its establishment it has only hosted sports, namely football with many group sports. The case study was selected to be part of the analysis process, to determine in what manner sport plays a role, as part of the urban context of Durban and how it is used as a means to stimulate social revitalisation around its present environment.

### **5.2.3 Sense of Place**

The spaces surrounding and within the development is indeed public, inspired with civic functions that promotes meeting and walking, also more organized social events such as marketplaces. According to (choromanski.com, 2022) the attraction to public space will be the through the public plaza of Winterton Walk and the link to the bridge covering it. (choromanski.com, 2022) further iterates that the multi-levelled components will provide for numerous purposes containing performances and events, eating, drinking and shopping in addition to informal gathering.

The design of the facility relates to the drama of the competition. Sports grounds are intended to rein in the energy of the spectators, to enhance the drama of the sporting events being played. Line of sight in the design is brilliant, as its juxtaposition in the middle of the mass seating and the game. Excellent quality public services, accommodations and features are in nearby vicinity to all sitting.

## 5.2.4 Architectural and Urban analysis



Figure 31: Site Location in Context (Google Earth, 2022)

Curries Fountain sits within, the Precinct of Warwick in Durban which is bordered by the Greyville Racecourse and the Botanic Gardens. The site contains multiple connections to existing educational nodes such as the DUT and associated primary, secondary, and tertiary, institutional facilities and public transport nodes.



Figure 32: Administration Office (By Author, 2022)

Based on the historical influence of Durban, the development of the urban context centred itself on the Curries Fountain sports ground. The influence of the urban and architectural environment granted key impact on neighbouring districts with regards to the types of facilities and services that established over many years relative to the objective of the sports

development centre. These are namely, residential, health and educational improvement that encouraged the influence of the sports development centre as an urban catalyst. This facility progressively expanded using the sports ground as a point of reference for neighbouring communities from their locations. Hence the sports development centre, remains as a perfect model of how sporting events and facilities influence the urban and architectural structure of city developments.

### Architectural

The development of the form is governed by key factors:

The ideal environment for spectators to watch sports is the North South orientation that the grounds provide.

The relationship of the 2 formerly separated campuses. And secondary and primary intuitions

The protected nature of the site, limiting the architectural footprint, by this means causing in a higher density development.

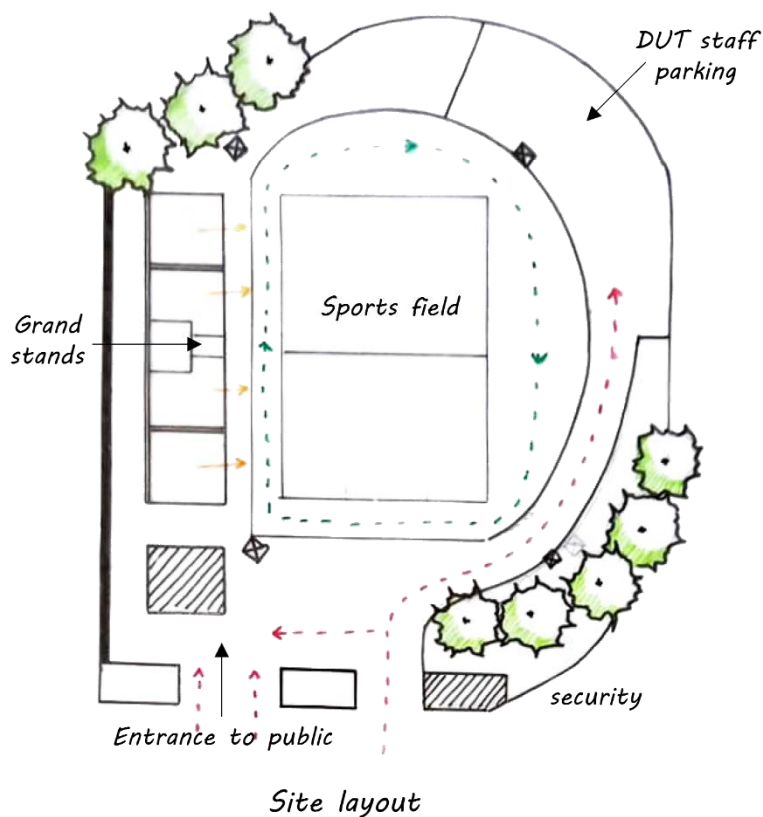


Figure 33: Curries Fountain Layout (By Author, 2022)

Its role of sport on social revitalisation after its founding Currie's Fountain sports development centre was defined as one of the utmost lively sporting facilities in Durban and lured people to travel from the North and South of Durban and from other provinces in South Africa. In the current day, the facility is not used as much due to other higher end sporting facilities in and around the CBD. Lack of funding from local municipality is also an issue as the centre is in a state of decay. The only upkeep and funding being done, is by the members of the bored.

The influence of sport on South Africa and on its community is based on the reputation which came from the reality that it was the only multi-cultural recreation and sporting facility that encompassed educational associations in the precinct of Warwick. The day-to-day movement of people into the urban context, guided people through an irresistible curiosity and this developed the interest of people participating in sport, particularly football.

The theory of phenomenology (placemaking and spirit of place) was strongly felt during the apartheid era, this centre was regarded as a social hub for all races due to it being a place in which sports provided a level playing field for everyone to compete, socialise, interact, and have a relationship with based on sport. This also gave way to the notion that other events beside sports could take place based on the multicultural nature of the users and their specific needs.

In terms urban catalysts and how Curries Fountain Sports Development Centre catalysed sports architecture, it can be said that this centre acted as a social catalyst and was an anchor and activity generator for that community to co-exist in a time where multiculturalism was restricted and defined. Based on figure 31 it can be noted that based on its location context it bears great links to places like DUT, Greyville Race Course, Warwick and transports nodes, which draw people in through the urban environment.

From a sports city and sport led urban revitalisation point of view, it can be noted that the sports development centre is a community-based event using a bottom-up development strategy, as well as its relevance in the history of Sport in South Africa.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

The Case Study has given the interpretation of how the sports development progressed over the years and in what way a specified place can evoke characteristics of agelessness and easy adaptability to many individuals that walked in and out of this place at a time when sport played a crucial part as an activity generator within the segregated times. Through this data study, the

analysis of pedestrian movement around the site and families in buildings that encompass the Curries Fountain sports development centre help clarify how the design principle of visibility at different points aid and stimulate good quality communally unified spaces in Durban. Visibility supports the method of taking many inhabitants of neighbouring buildings as well as people moving passed as key onlookers to create dynamic and resolute spaces.

Using precedent and a case study as part of research methods to understand the connection of space and people, the understanding of how these spaces is utilised and recognised by the investigator by means of the expectations of an effective urban public space that encourages community to develop. This study has granted the researcher the prospect to engage with this space from the point of view of a local, which informs the analysis of what the result from an architectural standpoint could be developed via a scheme in built form.

These findings have, directed itself to the application of design principles that will furthermore be investigated and applied in the design segment of the research in the method of an architectural response for sports architecture to catalyse social revitalisation in KwaDukuza. These design principles that is: **Accessibility, Visibility, Levels of Intimacy and Social and Cultural Anchors** will be investigated in the Analysis and Discussion Chapter of the dissertation to understand possible methods of executing a sports architecture response in the built environment.

## **CHAPTER 6: ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION**

## **6.1 Introduction**

From the results in the literature review, theoretical framework, precedent studies and case study which included questionnaires and an informal interview with the facilitator at Curries Fountain who is the facility co-ordinator and head of sport development in the Curries Fountain Sports Development Centre, as well as interviews with community members from KwaDukuza, this chapter analyses all of the content in the research.

## **6.2 Breakdown of interviews**

The interviews were broken up into 3 themes namely social revitalisation community, and architecture.

### **Interview 1: Board Member of Curries Fountain Sports Facility**

The non-existence of movement from public urban space has an apparent connection with the absence of interaction and activity in the urban neighbourhood. Due to lack of interaction and movement, the environment of space shifts. This influences people that live with the urban context. Curries Fountain Sports Facility promoted the overall nature of place in the precinct of Warwick. This area remained well-known for its day-to-day sport activities and community games. It is a public urban place for the urban context of Durban, not only the neighbourhood. The sports development centre has not been capable to enable constant community activity within its current structure.

“As far as Curries Fountain is concerned is that if its available it’s easily accessible. Everyone is allowed to come and use the facility if it’s available. In most cases there is no tariff, depending on the nature of the activity. Of course, if it’s a tournament that is raising funds, you make a contribution to cover the costs of Curries Fountain. The facilities are also used for political debates and rallies”.

The sports development centre has not been able to make provisions for the public as it requires interior room for communal events that consist of sizeable clusters of people. For the sports development centre to have significance it requires distinct spaces related to staff, sports, accompanying functions and sports/ training equipment that invite the overall community to the sports centre. The public density in the urban context is moved on by methods which the current sports development centre can have social significance.

## **Interview 2: Soccer Coach**

A soccer coach of Young Dribblers FC noted that the Group Areas Act “was bad, it took some time for us to come together with each other, even playing, Indians and white people. You had to play only where you’re circled, and you can’t go to other places. Still today some places you can’t go and play because the sports are for a certain group of people (private associations) you see, for example, soccer is more of a black sport, Indians are more on the cricket, you see, it’s still segregated. I hope one day it will come right”.

His idea of social revitalisation is that’s it could be very successful if implemented well.

“I’m a soccer person, we lost a ground because of that mall, I think it wasn’t good for sports people, made for people it was good. In winter we used to, gatherings, there was a golf course that side, all those are gone, the pool, everything is gone now, and you won’t find it anywhere, and after they took the ground nothing else was built to replace what was taken from the people. You go to Ballito, at least in Mandeni there is, but why should we go Mandeni when we got our own place.”

His idea of a multipurpose sports facility means that everybody will have a place; everyone will stay together because people will come together, start to understand each other because people will come and play their sport, and I think it will be very good for KwaDukuza.

## **Interview 3: Dance Fitness Instructor**

A local instructor from KwaDukuza uses the site in question to conduct her activities as the environment stimulates health and wellbeing through social interaction and sport.

She states, that due to the erection of the mall it has taken away these sporting facilities for public use and due to this there are “not many” facilities available and the state of them are “poor”. The social conditions in KwaDukuza do not encourage engagement in these activities due to homelessness, substance abuse and urban decay.

“The group areas act assigned racial groups to different residential and business sections. Due to this people of colour were excluded from living in developed areas”.

Her aspirations on a multipurpose sport facility in KwaDukuza is that it will bring “more exposure for the community, youth would be encouraged to stay active, create job opportunities for locals”.

#### **Interview 4: Volleyball Player**

For a volleyball player from H20VC Club the idea of social revitalisation as a tool to resolve urban decay, could lead to new infrastructure to allow for employment, use of unused public space, reduce threats in community and bring people from outside of KwaDukuza.

Due to urban decay and lack of revitalisation there is “no social hub for the community and there are little to no parks for recreational use” in terms of the current state of sports and accessibility in KwaDukuza. “There isn’t a variety of sports available at school level, many time athletes from KwaDukuza would have to travel to use facilities outside of KwaDukuza”.

Sports can create opportunities for employment from building and maintain facilities, to coaching and admin as well as making scholarships and bursaries through sport. She states, “sports promote discipline, integrity, social communication skills, leadership, health and helps with building relationships and social anxiety”.

In terms of an architectural response to the site in question. The community of KwaDukuza would attract outsiders to use this facility, promote tourism and influence other areas to consider a facility and grow social and recreational activities within those communities.

#### **Interview 5: Cricket Player**

A local cricket player, part of the Warriors’ Cricket club reminisced on the time before the mall took over the Stanger Recreation Grounds. “The venue was known for friends’ family, coming together to exercise, watch matches, and made them utilise the space longer”. “The Mall is a poor form of social revitalisation because people only go to the mall to shop and leave thereafter with minimum interaction”.

Social spaces in KwaDukuza are very little due to “every space being split up, so there is no main hub.” Sports facilities in KwaDukuza are inaccessible due to unmaintained public realm making it unsafe and an eyesore as well as there not being enough sports facilities. Due to lack of funding of sports infrastructure in KwaDukuza there are no sports being played at a competitive level.

He states that sports in this community “creates an escape from school and work life and improves the way we cope with stress” if a new multipurpose sports facility would be built it would break down cultural barriers, greater bonding experiences for residents and increase

team spirit through social inclusion. Due to sports being a big part of South African history as stated in the literature review it will bring the community together in general.

### **Interview 6: Sports Science Instructor from Durban**

According to the instructor, “Within KZN, our most prevalent sporting codes would be soccer, cricket in all communities at varying levels of competition. Rugby, hockey, netball, tennis, and swimming are still mostly seen in ex- model C schools and private schools and sporting communities.”

“Sport culture” is moulded by communities. We are unconsciously pushed into avenues of sport that our communities have convinced us we can do well in. There is no genetic predisposition that says that the African community will be better suited to play soccer or that the Indian community will be better at cricket, or white community to be better at rugby however it is uncommon to find a rugby field in an area like Phoenix or Olympic-sized pool in an African community. Integration is only experienced at school level.

“Sport was a big part of my upbringing. I witnessed the power it had to bring people together even with a spectator culture and create a new sense of communities. It was a tool used to keep kids off the streets and teach morals and values that they may not have otherwise learnt in broken homes. Sport creates a neutral ground for different communities to come together and have something to relate on.”

Public space, be it a playground, park or even a gym that brings numerous community activities and neighbourhood groups together to offer a variety of activities, programs and services. Safety is an issue in these public recreational settings that remains an issue and needs that to be addressed in KwaDukuza.

### **Focus Group from the Community of KwaDukuza**

This discussion gives an overall view of community perception of the topic at hand.

Social revitalization is Improving/Utilizing social public space with an end goal of improving physical, social, cultural and economic dimensions. The negative effects off segregation are still prevalent in SA today (e.g., crime and delinquency, poor housing etc.) The Group Areas Act led to the development of urban/modern spaces in certain parts of South Africa (previously classified as 'white areas'). The other areas today are still underdeveloped, so the Group Areas Act played a part in the gap between urban and rural living (and development).

The idea of a multipurpose sports facility is a potential, yet unlikely solution given the socio-economic challenges and high levels of corruption in municipalities and government.

Sport has the potential to integrate communities together and to improve societal relations. Sport is vital. It can prevent negative influences on the youth like drugs and alcohol usage/abuse. It can enable discipline and healthy living. It will improve societal relations and make the communities more active and engaged. It can further urbanise the area and invite more projects/developments.

Most people like leaving their home and partaking in hobbies and integrating/socializing with their community members. These facilities enable this. Actively engaging communities, good ongoing maintenance, and management of the building/structure, support/backing from municipalities/government.

### **6.3 Summary**

By means of questioning various groups of people through semi structured interviews, which include people related to KwaDukuza and Curries Fountain, a comprehensive analysis of the urban context is recognised. Based on the early interviews concerning Social Revitalisation and Architectural design it is evident that architecture must inspire a personal relationship for the users in the urban context of KwaDukuza. For this to occur, a multipurpose sports facility requires that it should be open and accessible to the community in every way possible. The design of the facility must distinguish its authority in the urban framework by way means of accessibility, visibility, levels of intimacy and social and cultural anchors.

### **6.4 Analysis and Discussion of Conceptual and Theoretical Framework**

The research done in chapter 2 of the literature review has established that the community attributes of sport make it a desirable leisure activity in KwaDukuza. As an activity it promotes the comfort of healthiness while enabling the advancement of coping techniques, education and social skills that permit individual and national growth that go further than the sports facility utilised in the urban context.

The review of literature recommends that sport has the qualities to discourse the collective desires of the community while also delivering catalytic development in the urban environment.

The inclusion of sport in national development is acknowledged by the existing democratic society. Its significance is applied in worldwide sporting events to demonstrate that South Africa has developed into an all-inclusive state. This indicates that sport has endless importance in the culture of South Africa on an international and local scale. This gives the possibility for sports architecture to carry out an effective authority in the current context of urban communities. The study of Curries Fountain Sports Development Centre has emphasised this achievement, which indicates that there is a critical requirement for sport to stimulate social revitalisation in the urban context of KwaDukuza.

This recommends that sport can create place, through the activity that triggers individuals to instinctively move about according to the sport. This activity endorses the need for allocated recreational space in the urban context for sport to stimulate social revitalisation in the public urban context of KwaDukuza.

The theory of Phenomenology, broken down into placemaking and spirit of place give way to the idea of the scheme, that to identify space based on real space of value; it requires to have an activity that signifies the sense of place. A Place that has value can evoke character of place which has impact on the user and the context. Placemaking through the expression of the past, present, and adapting to the future specify the theoretical agenda of phenomenology.

The theory of Urban Catalysts strengthens the theory of placemaking in that the proposition of place improves and encourages urban development. This idea is described by reinforcing and integrating the short-term purposes of community activity into distinct architectural form through the use of anchors and activity generators.

The concepts of a Sports Led Urban Revitalisation and Sport City recommend that sport architecture represents vital links as places for recreational support and fostering relationships and links within the urban environment of KwaDukuza.

By investigating architectural models of sport design, it can be noted that the public attributes of sport can be utilised to a diverse range of unique public buildings to stimulate expansion through social revitalisation. In the urban context there is an increasing appeal among social public structures to include sport architecture that produces daily social involvement which fosters public movement within the urban context of KwaDukuza.

As an alternative for urban parks presenting themselves simply as a green space, the presence of sport assisted by secondary roles aid in identifying an all-inclusive urban ecosystem that facilitate public urban development. For sports architecture to support the concept of an urban public park, the suggested Multipurpose sports facility must be an expansion of the urban fabric drawing in people through the, emphasizing nature as an alternative to built form. The locality of the facility will assist in identifying and creating urban public services in generating walkable, passively secure, and lively environments for social development of the entire community.

### **6.5 Conclusion**

The Conclusion will analyse and resolve the problems of the study defined in the first section of the dissertation. This assessment will consider the interpretation of the aim, hypothesis in relation to theoretical framework and key questions.

### **Understanding the Aim**

The aim has given insight through primary and secondary data sources. Through the study of secondary data, having established that identifying public interaction in public social space is important to encourage social revitalisation. By the study of literature and analysed architectural developments the perception of social revitalisation across the collective advantages of sports and architecture is achieved. The primary data collection strengthens the importance of the secondary data collection.

### **Theoretical Framework in response to the Hypothesis**

By looking at theoretical and conceptual framework which inform the method of promoting social revitalisation, a comprehensive methodology can be devised that benefits in the design of the suggested multipurpose sports facility via a theoretical and conceptual method. The theoretical framework is a crucial to the groundwork in reaching a socially inclusive architectural reaction to the built form.

The theories, precedents and the case study offer an appropriate assessment of architectural responses. The architectural response must be relatively centred on context to effectively react to the public conditions of KwaDukuza.

## **Key Questions Answered**

The key question and the sub questions were designed to create insight as to how the social advantages of sport can be utilised to numerous situations in built form to promote social revitalisation in community urban context.

The Main question is:

*How can social revitalisation be used as a tool to catalyse sports architecture and urbanism in KwaDukuza?*

The research done within this dissertation investigates how sports architecture is able to promote social revitalisation in the municipal context and support the urban development of public social space to deal with the social problems within the community of KwaDukuza

The precedent studies and the case study investigate appropriate architectural responses. Design must focus on the urban environment in which it is located to react to community issues.

## **CHAPTER 7: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

## **7.1 Introduction**

This study investigates how sports architecture can stimulate social revitalisation in the urban context by means of and architectural design. This chapter analyses the notion that the social advantages of sport can be utilised to revitalise urban social space. Therefore, the conclusions and recommendations are articulated in the direction of a scheme of a multipurpose sports facility.

## **7.2 Criteria for Architectural Response to Built Form**

The research analysed in the literature review is recognised that there is a solid historic existence of social issues and segregation in KwaDukuza.

A proposed architectural typology of a multipurpose sports facility has to contain a variety of functions which provide sporting and social functions, to direct the issues of apartheid and the communal issues that exists in the urban context of KwaDukuza.

The multipurpose sports facility must consent for communal interaction to happen naturally in the same way as an urban public park while enabling specified activities. The facility has to be well integrated into the current social and cultural activity generators and anchors by the integration of urban public functions, based on the presence of current sport, retail, educational and trade, activities held in KwaDukuza.

Through conducting studies by the use of primary and secondary collection techniques it is noted that sports architecture encourages the practice of social revitalisation.

The interpretation of the theoretical framework and the review of literature, it has been observed that using sports architecture as an instrument to socially revitalise the community, the perception of public structures is crucial. This is the summary and study of social relationships in neighbourhoods that perform a fundamental part in combating problems concerning potential communal events.

Social revitalisation as the leading concept for the research will be looked at and broken down to facilitate community of KwaDukuza and the needs, they require to improve quality of life. It will also look at how the community appropriates current public spaces for their specific needs.

In order to remedy this consideration of public infrastructure such as current existing buildings, recreational spaces and social spaces. The identity of these spaces need to be preserved in order for the design of a multipurpose sports facility to enhance them and become part of a much bigger scheme.

The theory of Phenomenology which is broken down into placemaking and spirit of place in conjunction with urban catalysts will look at how the context of KwaDukuza will play a role in defining the limitations based on community perception and experience of the place. This will provide a study of pedestrian and vehicular circulation, response to topography of KwaDukuza and how the site will link to the micro communities based on the location.

The theory of sports city will look at how these public decaying spaces can be revitalised through medium of sport. This will be in the form of socio-economic development based on sport and sports infrastructure made for public use in these lost spaces.

Sports led urban revitalisation will look at how sports achieve social inclusivity in the urban context and how it will funnel people through the urban environment to the site. This can be done by creating a walkable city spanning the urban context in which socially connected spaces allow the user to have a visual and physical experience to the site.

To revitalize through sports means that current sporting activities in KwaDukuza needs to be recognised to deal with negative problems of repetitiveness and constraints in the sporting area. This is where present communities' requirements are relevant as it is essential to creating a multipurpose sports facility involving team sports such as cricket, volleyball and soccer as an idyllic social interaction in KwaDukuza, as well as promoting various other sports to create a diverse nature in built form.

Hence, the purpose of the multipurpose sports facility will be a direct and catalytic development of sports architecture using social revitalisation around KwaDukuza to combat the presence of urban decay through the social relationships that will be connected across all levels in this facilities list of accommodation, which is pertinent to the needs of community in relation to the urban environment of KwaDukuza.

### **7.3 Recommendations**

According to research studied in the text, it is vital to identify the social impact that a proposed multipurpose sports facility will have in the urban social environment of KwaDukuza when planning an architectural response in built form. Thus, the project of a multipurpose sports facility needs to utilise this methodology with regard to finding ideal social connections that support the community and space relationships.

The facility needs to be self-sustainable over time due to its underpinning being sports architecture as a vital role to attaining social connections in the space. This approach is used in terms of social, urban and architectural response. The tangible design will finally, develop its architectural answer to the way space is created and how individuals encounter spaces both as viewers and participants to the proposed facility in the urban context of KwaDukuza.

Sport is a key social activity which will cause social curiosity within KwaDukuza, but it has to also be supported by secondary and tertiary services that produce a link of communal activities and spatial connections that correspond with one another. The result of this is to stimulate constant activity while promoting movement of people into the district.

### **7.4 Criteria for Schedule of Accommodation**

#### **7.4.1 Social**

Community integrated spaces that enhance general public activity of the neighbouring urban environment such as additional sporting facilities and events focused on community needs. Learning facilities that complement the evolving environment needed to encourage good quality development approaches, which includes spaces that promote relationships among participants and spectators.

#### **7.4.2 Urban**

Formal and informal business elements that permit differing salary categories to influence the operating method of the facility. Informed links to all means of transport from public to private, which will allow the sports centre to have individual spaces that assist numerous events at the same time. This will give a selection of spaces that will be hired away for business conferences, exhibitions and community events that go further than the purposes of sports associated activities. Rentable sports courts and associated amenities which improve the economic solidity of the multipurpose sports facility and provide additional publicity to nearby communities. Educational component managed by School Governing Bodies in KwaDukuza where Sports and Education can be used as a stage for skills training for adolescence.

### **7.4.3 Architectural**

#### **Accessibility**

Through analysis of the Moses Mabhida stadium as an urban scheme focused on a sports precinct and mixed-use facility. The design principle of accessibility will be applied in forming effective social public places across the multipurpose sports facility, which will encourage easy movement paths into, and around the building on a twenty-four-hour basis approved by applicable access control to whoever needs to use the facility. This will place emphasis on social, urban and economic development. Public character of the sports architectural typology must consist of universal access together with the movement of pedestrians. By identifying entrance points, a feeling of place is encouraged as people need to be able to relate themselves within the space and move about with no restrictions.

#### **Visibility (Views and Vistas)**

The study of the Moses Mabhida stadium has permitted an interpretation to create all spaces focused on the multipurpose sports court of the development, which will additionally improve public encounters involving the intent of the multipurpose sports facility which should constantly have a visual connection and physical connection to main sports court. This is done in order to enhance the spectator-participator connection. Visible within the urban environment, visibly demonstrating the element of hierarchy showing it's a public service development. Access points and entrances are meant to be seen at road level to show movement across the facility.

#### **Levels of Intimacy**

Through understanding the comparative needs of the public as social relationships in the direction of community solidity. The study of Nike training centre in Soweto has improved the architectural concept of how such areas may be zoned using existing site gradients, both in plans and sections to prosper on experiences in areas which can connect the spirit of sport on all levels and all vantage points. This is where, educational, trade and social facilities can be zoned to form the general design answer in the form of architecture, while encouraging improved movement amongst spaces to certify improved practice of spaces across various change in levels, which give further access control and endorse improved zoning of spaces. Provide for diverse vantage points from various level changes to encourage improved collaborative areas over various levels.

## **Social and Cultural Anchors and Activity Generators**

These are elements that draw people into the urban context and brings about urban advancement. The case study of the Curries Fountain Sports Development Centre is well-known for its influence on the social urban environment. The development was improved radially by the primary presence of the centre that was used as the focal point of urban design that urged development all around it over the years. The design principle of anchors and activity generators will be executed as an architectural response to improve the participator and viewer connection from many vantage points in the confines of the building as well as from the street boundary into the design. This is going to communicate the general intent of the design which will physiologically draw people into the facility from nearby areas using active walkable paths with anchors and activity generators, while encouraging good quality urban spaces moving towards the multipurpose sports facility.

The purpose of the architectural design principles is to connect the purpose of the research towards a multipurpose sports facility that influences the architectural, urban and social response in KwaDukuza, while aiming to be a sustainable answer in the form of architecture by means of the general essence of a social revitalisation where these principals will play a dynamic role in producing improved Architectural responses to eradicate the reality of 'urban decay' in KwaDukuza.

## **8. LIST OF FIGURES**

**Figure 1** KwaDukuza Recreation grounds 2010 (Google Earth, 2022)

**Figure 2** KwaDukuza Mall Present (Google Earth, 2022)

**Figure 3** Problem Statement Summary (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 4** Relationship between Solutions and Theories (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 5** Relationship between Theories and Concepts (By author, 2022)

**Figure 6** Placemaking in Context (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 7** Spirit of Place (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 8** Representation of the Catalytic Process (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 9** Olympic Park in London (architectureofthegames.net, February 2020)

**Figure 10** Durban Sports Precinct Master Plan (Google Earth, 2022)

**Figure 11** Social Revitalisation Through Community Sport and Architecture (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 12** Sports Tri Athletic Model (Eichberg, 2010)

**Figure 13** Placemaking in Context (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 14** Defining Character of Space based on Environmental Function (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 15** London Olympic Stadium (architectureofthegames.net, February 2020)

**Figure 16** Forms of Sports Led Urban Revitalisation (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 17** Types of Sporting Events (By Author, 2021)

**Figure 18** Urban Revitalisation of Barcelona Olympic Games (Busquets, 2005)

**Figure 19** Bottom Up Vs. Top-Down Development (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 20** Aerial view of Moses Mabhida Stadium (Google Earth, 2022)

**Figure 21** Analysis of Stadium in Context of Durban (Digest, 2010)

**Figure 22** Cycling and Running Track (Kirkpatrick C, 2013)

**Figure 23** Restaurants, Public Space and Kid Play Areas in People's Park (Kirkpatrick C, 2013)

**Figure 24** North View of Stadium from the People's Park Promenade (Kirkpatrick C, 2013)

**Figure 25** Section across stadium (by Author, 2022)

**Figure 26** Analysis of Floor Plan- Moses Mabhida (Digest, 2010)

**Figure 27** Nike Football Training Centre (Google, 2018)

**Figure 28** Not enough Designed Public spaces for Relaxing (Google, 2018)

**Figure 29** Site Plans and Building Plans (Digest, 2010)

**Figure 30** Curries Fountain Sports Development Centre (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 31** Site Location in Context (Google Earth, 2022)

**Figure 32** Administration Office (By Author, 2022)

**Figure 33** Curries Fountain Layout (By Author, 2022)

## 9. APPENDICES

### Sample Questionnaires/Interview Schedule

The following is a sample of the Questions that will be conducted with the participants. These Interview questions are open-ended to allow the participant flexibility in response.

Interview carried out and compiled by Tashiel Dawlall Ranjit, Master of Architecture Student at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal  
Student Number – 214 504 575

Date and time of questionnaires will be conducted at the participant's convenience. Interviews will be conducted remotely via video call as **no face to face/ physical contact-based research is to be conducted due to COVID-19 regulations.**

Name:.....

Age:.....

Date:.....

### **Topic: Social Revitalization as a Catalyst for Sports Architecture: Towards a Multipurpose Sports Facility for Kwa Dukuza**

#### **SOCIAL REVITALIZATION**

1. What is your understanding of Social Revitalization?

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2. Do you think post-apartheid segregation is still evident in South Africa today?  
YES/NO explain if necessary.

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3. How did the Group Areas act impact the urban form of cities and suburbs in South Africa?

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4. Do you think that Social Revitalization is a solution to urban decay currently being experienced in Kwa Dukuza? YES/NO explain if necessary.

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5. What is your impression of Kwa Dukuza Mall as a form of Social Revitalisation?

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6. Do you think there is an adequate amount of Social/Recreational public space in Kwa Dukuza? YES/NO explain if necessary.

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**COMMUNITY**

7. What Sports are played within the community of Kwa Dukuza/Curries Fountain?

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8. How accessible are Sports Facilities in Kwa Dukuza/ Curries Fountain?

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9. What is the current state of Sport in Kwa Dukuza/ Curries Fountain?

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10. Can you explain how the social conditions in Kwa Dukuza/Durban encourage engagement in sport?

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11. How do you see Sport in your community? Do you think Sport brings people together?

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12. Can Sport create opportunities for employment? YES/NO explain if necessary.

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13. Do you think Sport is vital in the development of the youth? YES/NO explain if necessary.

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**ARCHITECTURAL/URBANISM**

14. Will better urban planning and densification of Kwa Dukuza influence Social Revitalization? YES/NO explain if necessary.

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15. How will a Multipurpose Sports Facility benefit the urban context and community?

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16. Which location in Kwa Dukuza do you think would be best suited for a Multipurpose Sports Facility?

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17. Besides sporting functions, what other Social and Recreational functions do you think would be required in a Multipurpose Sports Facility?

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18. Will a Sports Architectural typology form a Social Hub in Kwa Dukuza?

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19. What do you think makes a successful Social and Recreational Hub?

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Thank you for participating!

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