

Reflection

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Research Approach

From even before the beginning of the thesis there was an acknowledgement of a lack of data for this context. A purpose of this thesis was to learn how to work with slim data, as oftentimes during personal experience it was found that there are basic assumptions given in professional settings in the Netherlands that simply cannot be made in Kuwait. The framework of aggregation was an approach that was assumed to need to be taken before, and thankfully the framework provided by Jaffar et al (2014) proved instrumental to both execution and legitimization of the research.

A key limitation is the inability to gain on site access to the buildings in question, and make a more fully realized survey of these buildings in a given context. Ideally, the research would have been done on a specific block with a more specific renovation on multiple buildings. This would have been the ideal method of approaching given a lack of data.

A good resource for single housing typologies the report “Spaces of Living: Urban reflections of Kuwaiti society (Al-Shalfan, 2013) which reflects housing typologies and the method in which they are lived in. Such a resource would have been invaluable for this research, and there needs to be a more in depth look available to housing typologies which are not deemed as attractive.

Broader Context and Scientific Value

The research hopes to provide bridges of knowledge between east and west, with a clear application that in some cases these models were actually more feasible for the given context. The quantitative section emphasizes on this, whereas the qualitative section broadens the barriers to what looks like a feasible solutions.

In terms of looking at it through the lens of Management and the Built Environment at the TU Delft, this research aimed to touch upon subjects not often discussed in the field. Especially considering TU Delft prides itself on its international facing position, in the broader sense of the word during my personal education the concept of how to look and apply the knowledge outside of the Netherlands was barely touched upon. This research aims to look at how assumptions we have and privileges we are granted since we are studying and living in a first world country cannot be assumed when working abroad. This hopefully aims to make me a more flexible, more agile and international asset, and with the hope that this research can carry on doing the same for others, and moving the Education at the MBE department more valuable for international students and Dutch students who will be working on international projects.