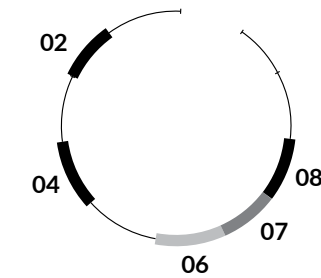




Figure 4.37 Urban void as a car parking lot, by Hammad



Figure 4.38 Urban void as a car parking lot



+ ●●

66 LARGE URBAN VOID AS A CAR PARKING LOT

[m]

land owners, parking lot owners, servicemen, vehicle owners

Urban voids are yesterday's agricultural land and tomorrow's buildings.

When disputes on land ownership and/or a shortage in resources delay construction, plot owners temporally transform their waiting vacant land into parking lots for cars, either self-managed or rented to others, to maximize their monthly profits. Perceiving their land as an investment for the future, other owners choose not to proceed with construction until the value of their land increases. Urban voids as a parking lot are usually equipped with repair and car wash services, and offer their parking services to car, truck, micro-bus and cab owners. Parking fees are EG£ 5/day and EG£150/month, excluding extra services. Servicemen live in small rooms located at the entrance of urban voids to protect the vehicles during the night and operate the facility during the day. Some unused areas of the urban voids still have spontaneous vegetation growth.

larger patterns

renting spaces for micro-economies, temporal use of vacant land

smaller patterns

car wash and services, micro-economies around the corner

FORCES

- 02 self-generated interventions
- 04 temporal activities
- 06 economic forces
- 07 response to immediate needs
- 08 value engineering

[m]
66
M F E P
A O G

POTENTIAL / PROBLEM

Urban voids contain few activities in extremely dense residential areas, which is not an efficient use of space. They have the potential to be used as a flexible plug-in system for the missing infrastructure in the community, creating a network of communal hubs and micro-economies, as well as maximizing landowners' monthly profits.

Therefore:

Learning from the example, located in the intersection of El Zomor Canal and Hossam El Din Serag Street, strive for a vertical distribution of economic, socio-cultural, urban farming and educational activities on top of existing program. Vertical distribution increases efficiency and profit, while maintaining open space.



Figure 4.39 Location of case study



Activities:	residential	parking lot + car services	street
Ownership:	privately owned / rented	privately owned / rented	community owned

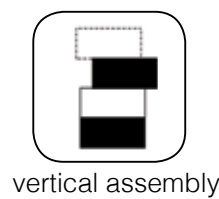
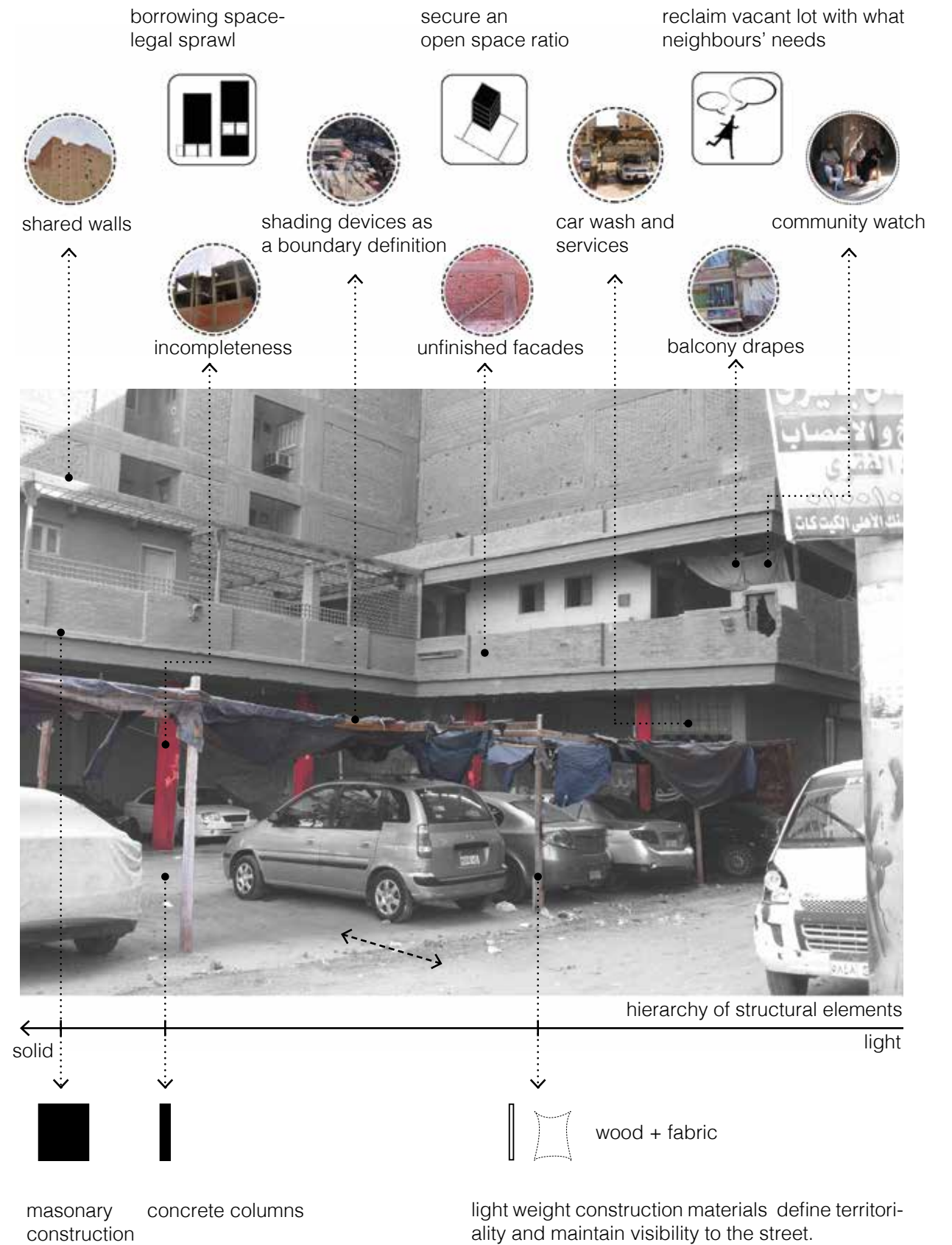


Figure 4.40 Case study of an urban void in Ard El Lewa
Figure 4.41 Extracting patterns and tools from the case study (right)



EXISTING DIAGRAM / MAP / LAYOUT

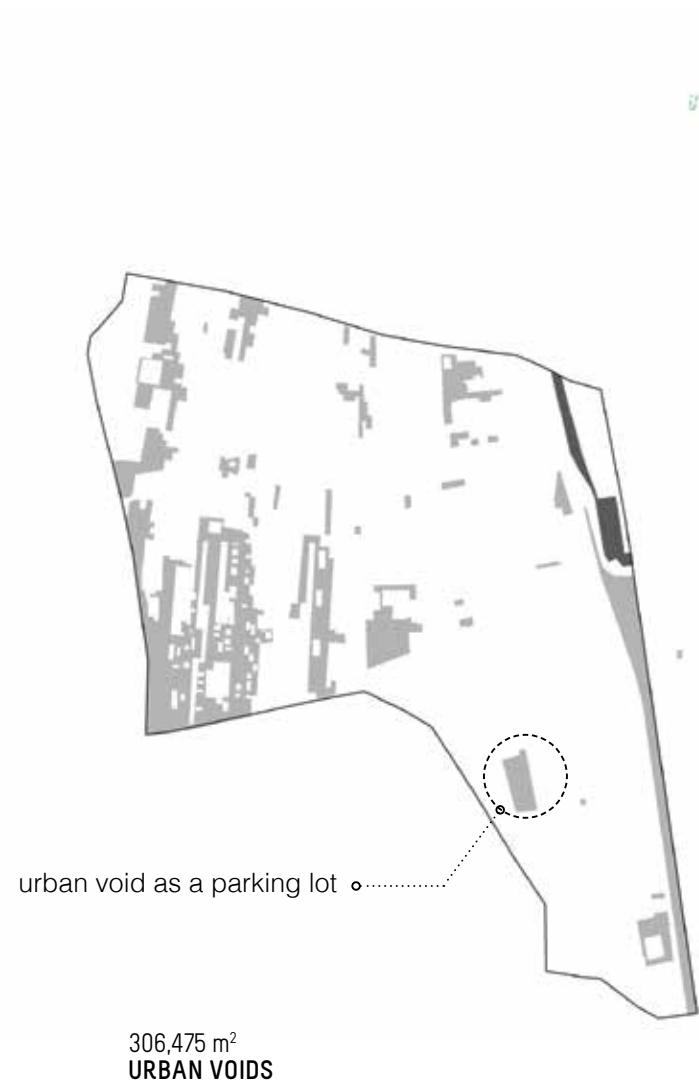


Figure 4.42 Occurrence of urban voids in Ard El Lewa

DESIGN OBJECTIVES + OPTIMIZATION LAYER

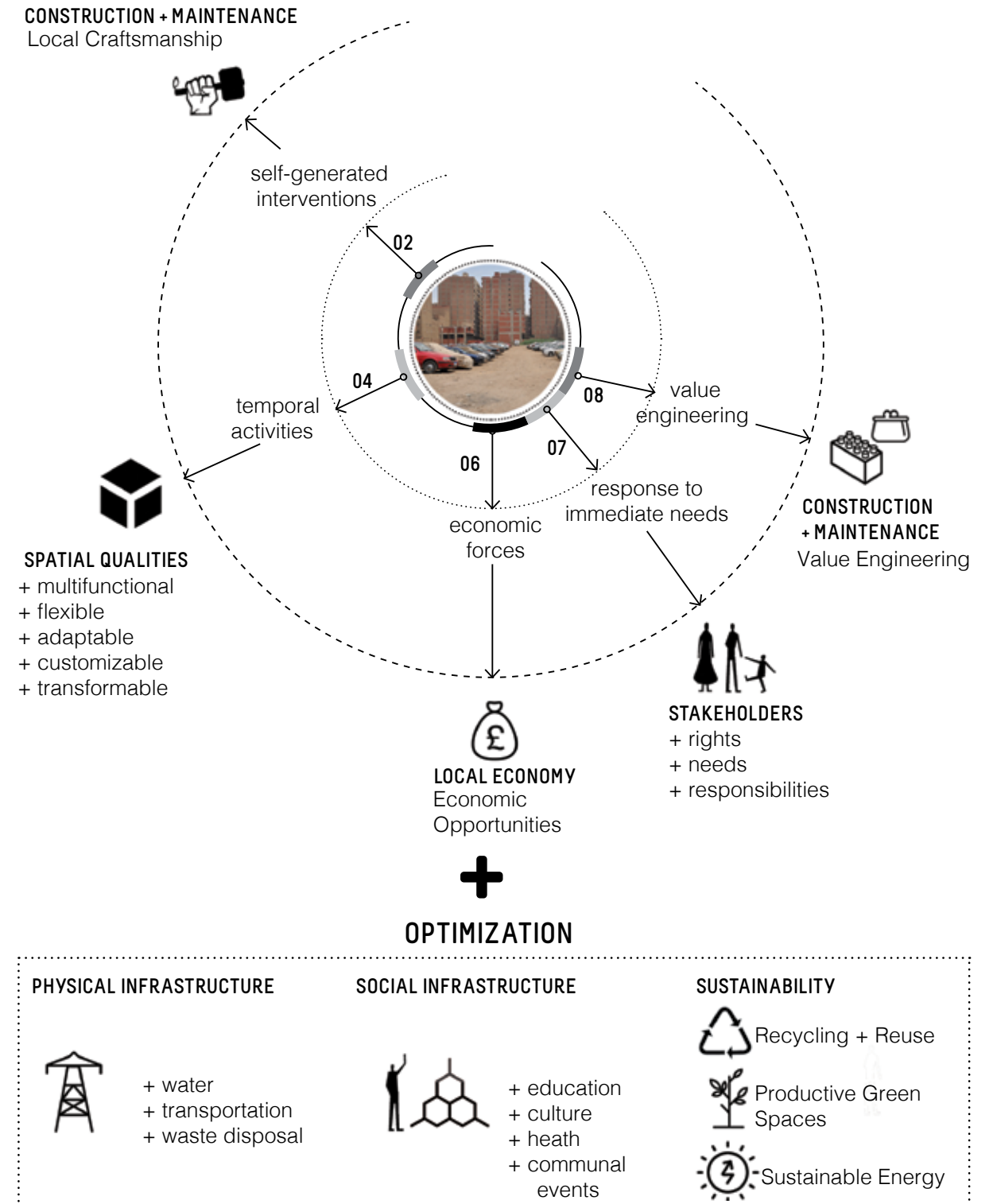


Figure 4.43 Pattern-Forces-Design Objectives Chart for urban void as a parking lot

EXISTING DIAGRAM / MAP / LAYOUT

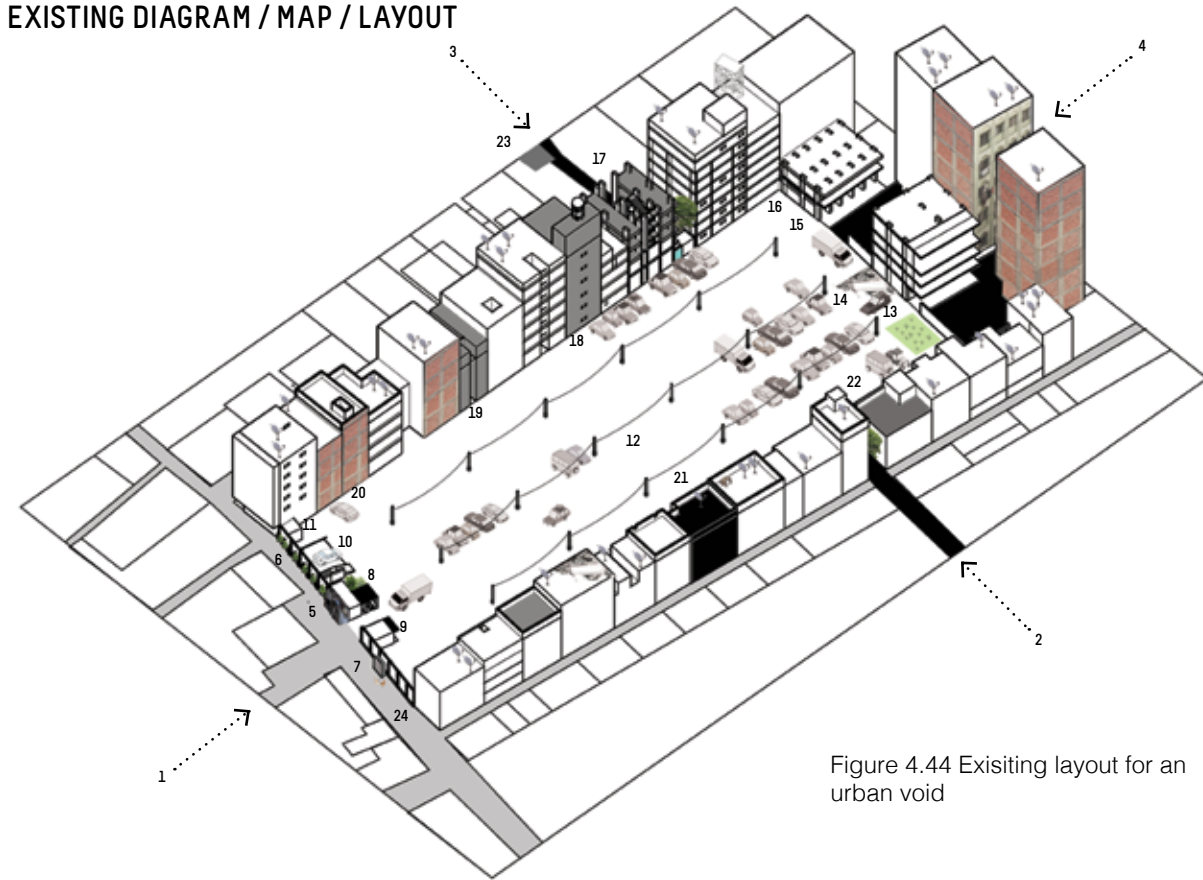


Figure 4.44 Existing layout for an urban void

- 01 Main entrance to parking lot
- 02 Dead-end + tree
- 03 Dead-end
- 04 Streets leading to the parking lot
- 05 Morning: Vegetable vendor [f] / Night: Watermelon vendor [m]
- 06 Plants protected by a steel mesh
- 07 Morning: Chicken vendor [f]
- 08 Guard room 1 + shaded sitting area
- 09 Guard room 2
- 10 Car wash + services
- 11 Washroom
- 12 Parking lot: cars + cabs + trucks + toktok
- 13 Wild plants
- 14 Dump of old carts + racing cars + wheels
- 15 Truck loading bricks for construction
- 16 Building under construction
- 17 Incomplete structure
- 18 Artellewa gallery + library + artists residence + studio
- 19 Save the Children Center + Artellewa workshop + gallery
- 20 Unfinished facades with no openings
- 21 Building in danger of falling
- 22 Rooftop of a low rise building
- 23 Artspace founded by Shadi El Noshokaty
- 24 Main Street: El Shoda Str.

- Figure 4.45 Main entrance to parking lot
- Figure 4.46 Dead end and community members
- Figure 4.47 Dead end
- Figure 4.48 Building under construction and street
- Figure 4.49 Vegetable vendor around the corner
- Figure 4.50 Guard's room and sitting area
- Figure 4.51 Car wash services
- Figure 4.52 Wild plants
- Figure 4.53 Dump of old carts
- Figure 4.54 Building under construction
- Figure 4.55 Incomplete structure
- Figure 4.56 Rooftop of a low rise building



01 + 08

Figure 4.45



02

Figure 4.46



03

Figure 4.47



04+16

Figure 4.48



05

Figure 4.49



09

Figure 4.50



10

Figure 4.51



13 + 14

Figure 4.52



14

Figure 4.53



15 + 16



17



22



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
12 solar panels - Eco farms

PHYSICAL + SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE (COMMUNITY WALL)



05 waste collection



structure 1: ground floor

- 01 micro-economies for existing + new keyplayers
- 02 communal kitchen
- 03 communal dining
- 04 washrooms
- 05 multipurpose hall for ceremonies + cultural events + movies
- 06 space for mobile vendors + urban farmers + future informality
- 07 communal stairs
- 08 guards rooms
- 09 performance space

structure 1: first floor

- 10 cultural cafe
- 11 performance space
- 12 exhibition space
- 13 space for mobile vendors + urban farmers + future informality
- 14 soccer field
- 01 micro-economies for existing + new key players

structure 2: first floor

- 12 exhibition space
- 15 classroom / studio
- 16 outdoor classrooms
- 17 kindergarten

incomplete structure

- 11 performance space
- 12 exhibition space
- 13 classroom / studio

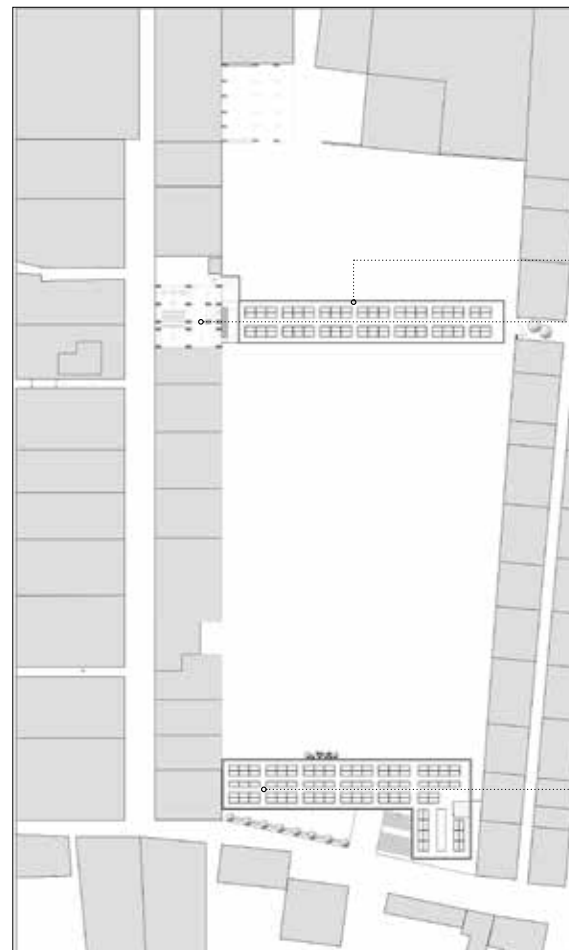


[+] GREEN SPACES
18 rooftop urban farms + hydroponic fences
19 green sitting areas



STRUCTURE

- 20 frame structure + operable partitions
- 21 open web steel joist
- 22 corrugated sheets
- 23 light-weight concrete slab + tensile shading



STRUCTURE 2

INCOMPLETE STRUCTURE

STRUCTURE 1

Figure 4.57 Proposed layout

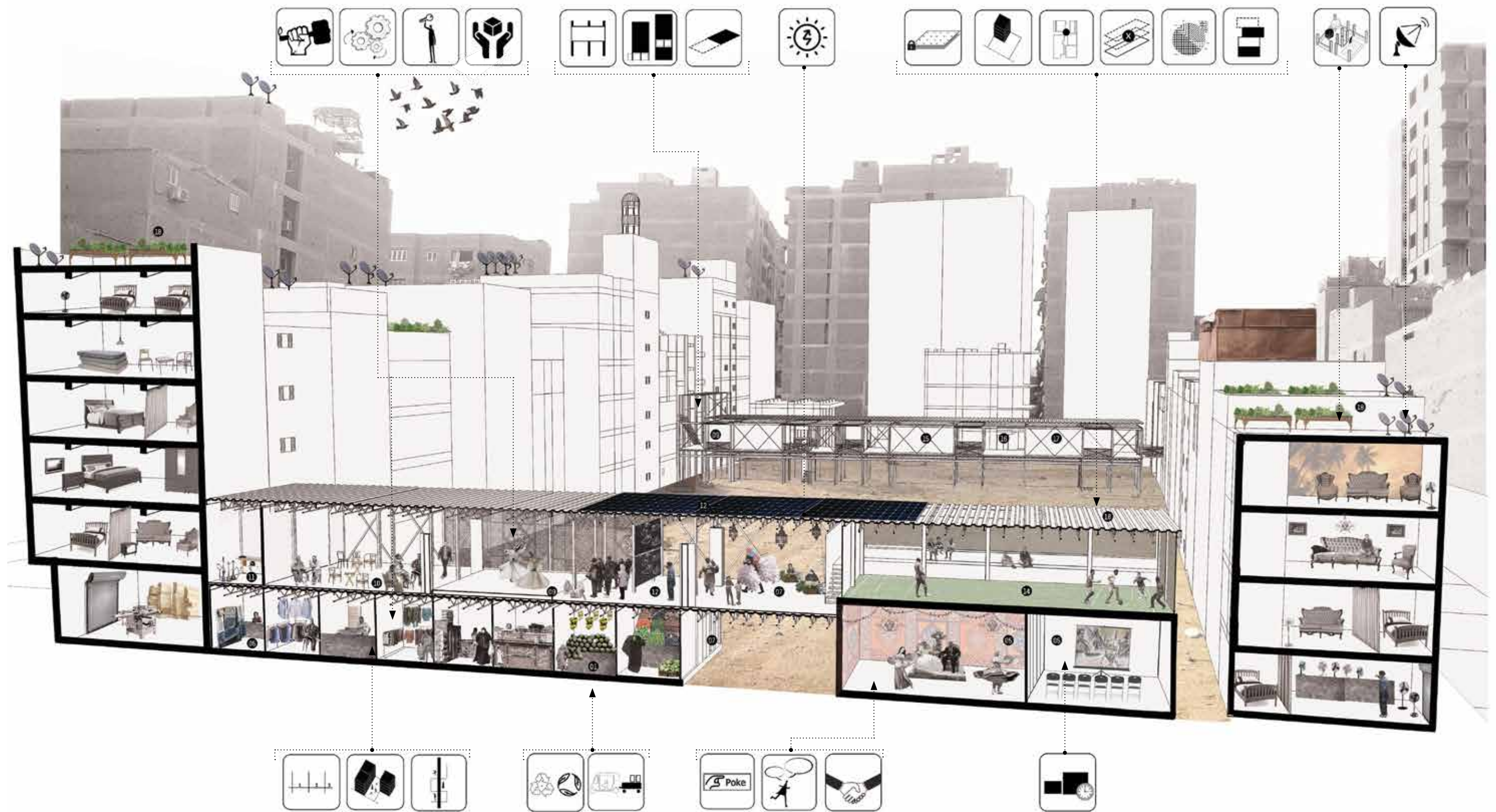


Figure 4.58 Improvitecture tools and optimization of urban void as a parking lot

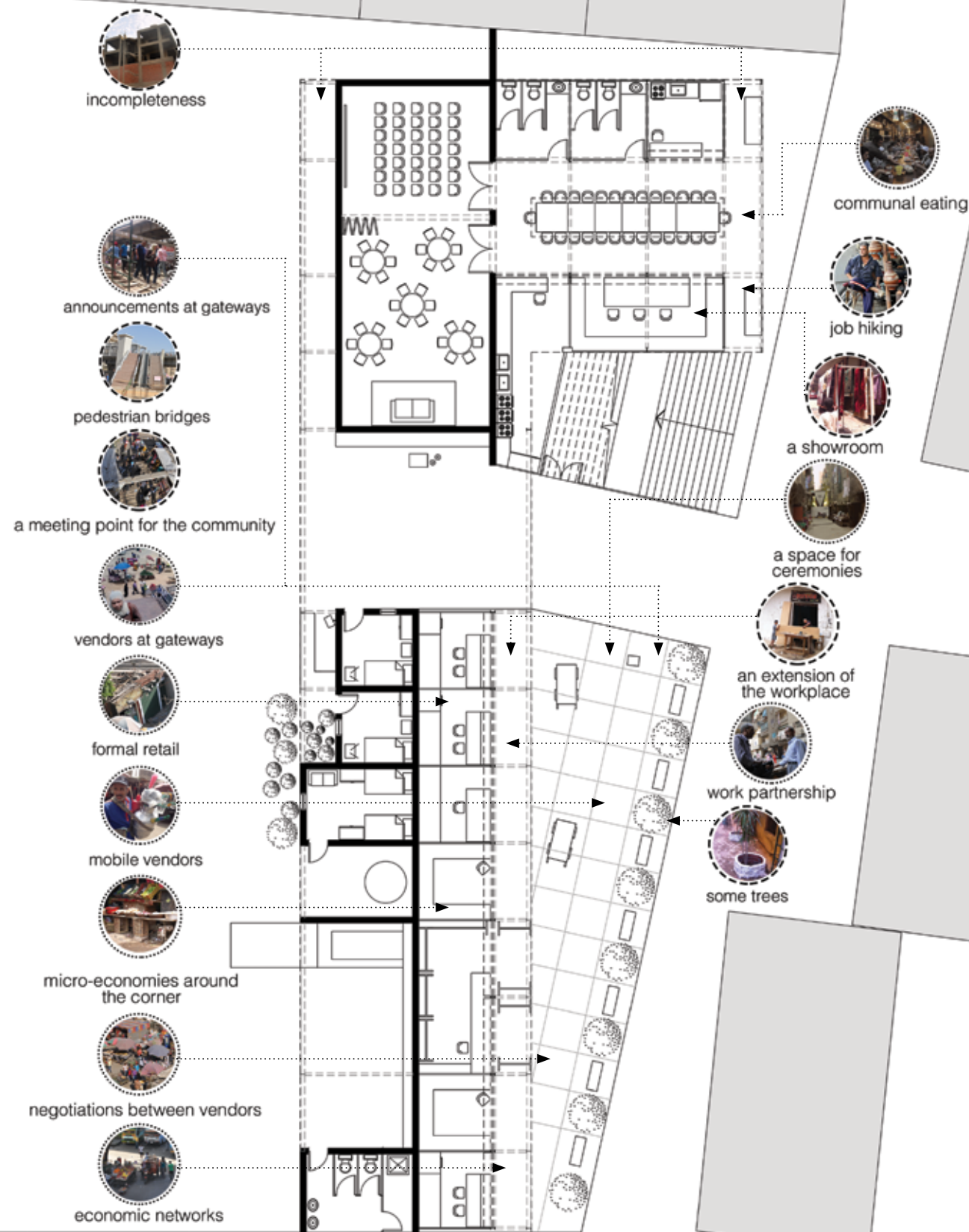


Figure 4.59 Optimized plan with new patterns:
Structure 1: Ground Floor

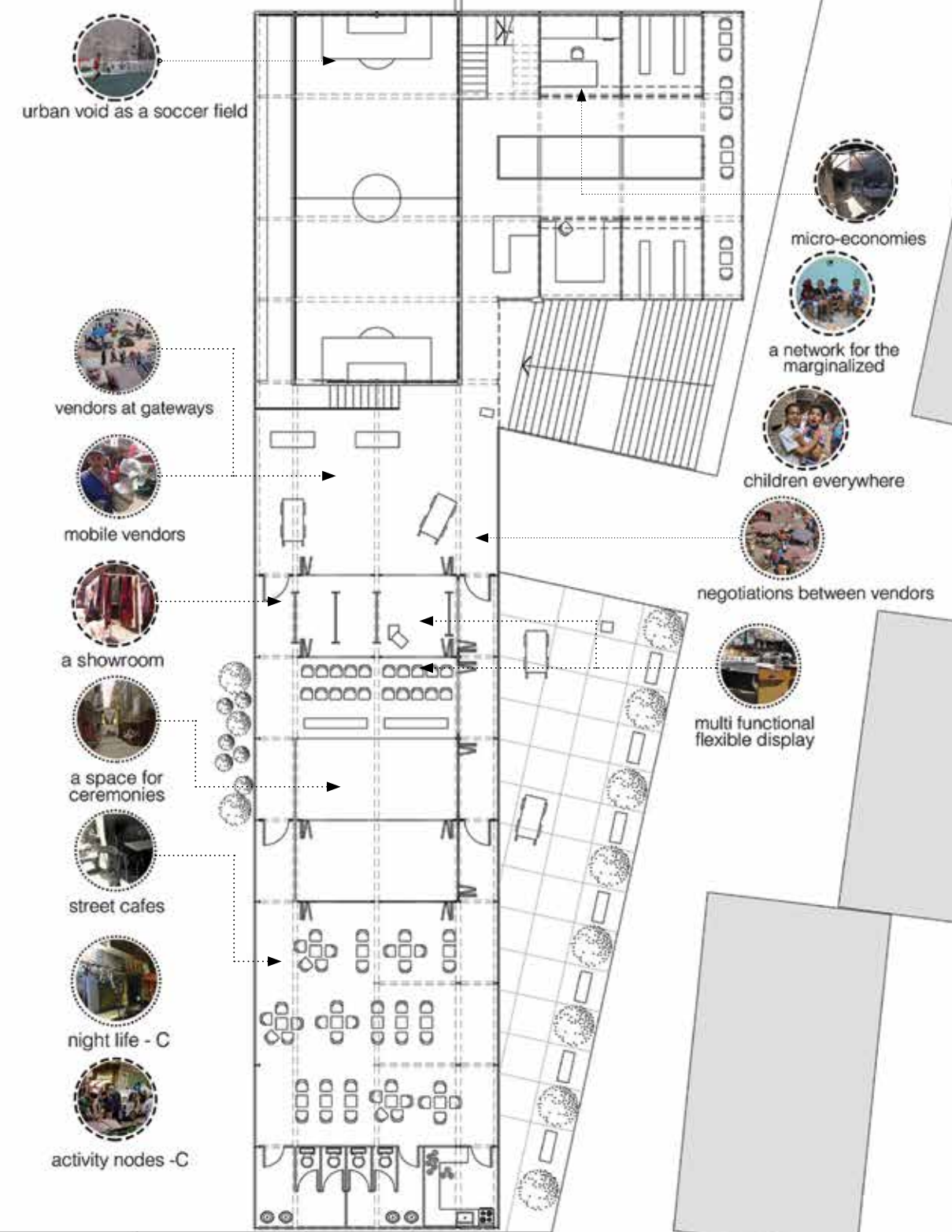


Figure 4.60 Optimized plan with new patterns:
Structure 1: First Floor

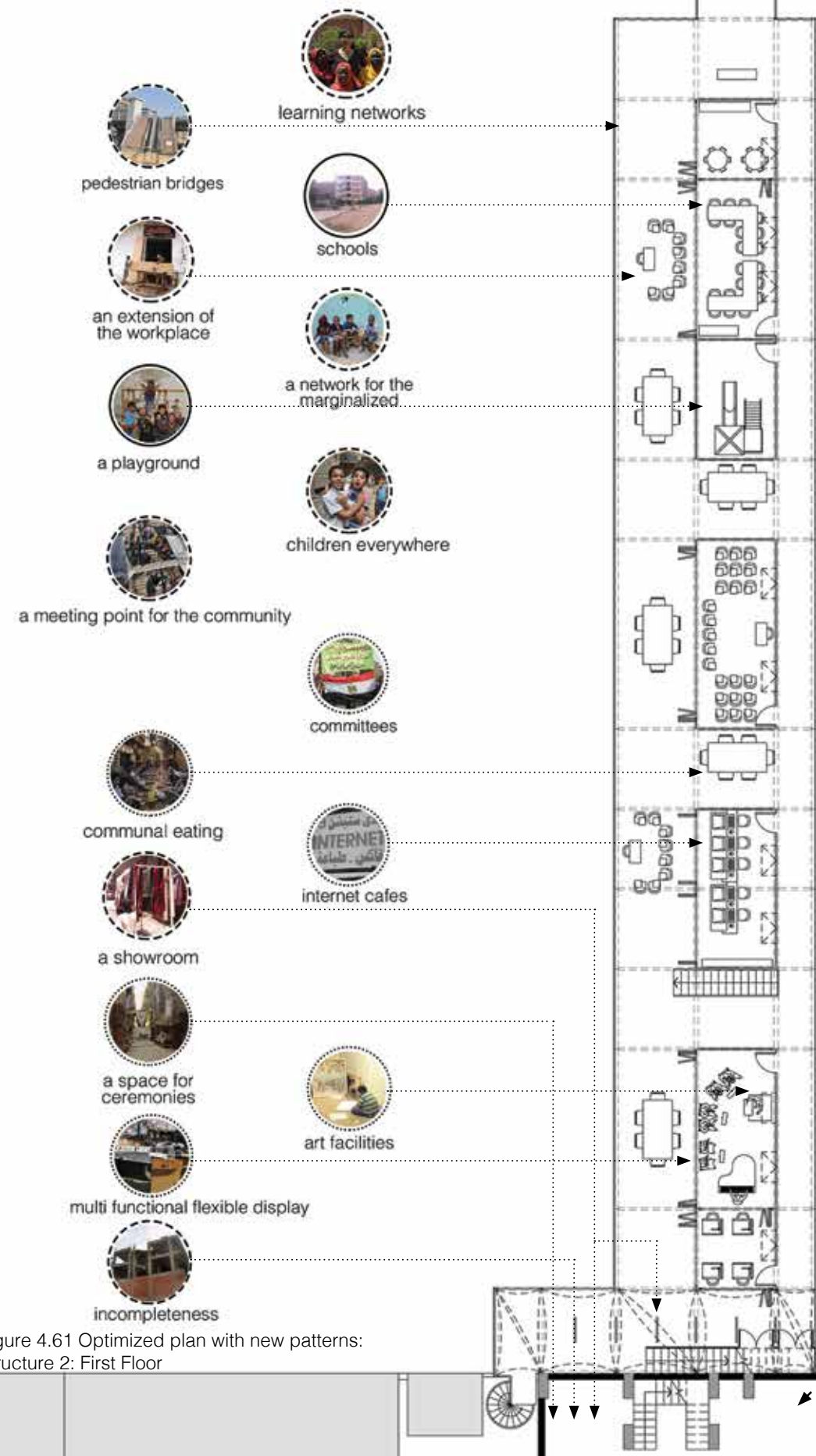
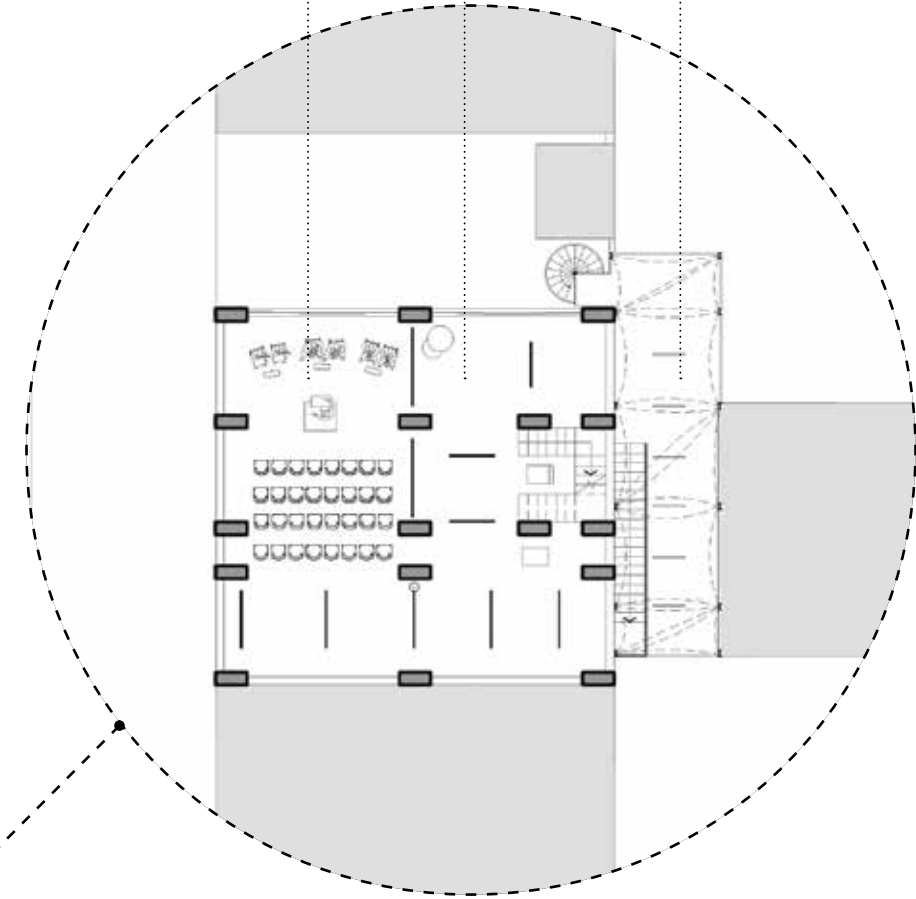


Figure 4.61 Optimized plan with new patterns:
Structure 2: First Floor

EXISTING PATTERN



Classroom / studio space Exhibition Space Added Platform



NEW PATTERN AFTER OPTIMIZATION



Figure 4.62 Optimized incomplete structure with patterns

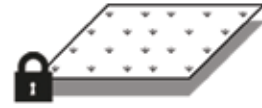
IMPROVITECTURE TOOLS

LEGALIZE + SECURE



1.2
negotiate ownership + tenure right

landowners
agents of change committee
government officials



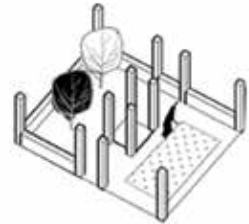
1.3
preserve existing vacant land

government officials
agents of change committee
landowners



1.4
secure an open space ratio

builders
landowners
agents of change committee



1.5
green roofs by law

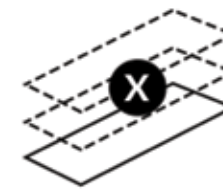
government officials
landowners
agents of change committee



1.7
shared but separate electric meter

government officials
landowners
agents of change committee
tenants: vendors, etc.

[RE]APPROPRIATE + [RE]USE



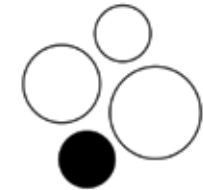
3.3
multiply land-use

landowners



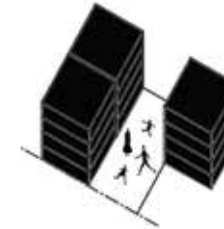
3.4
vertical distribution of activities

builders
landowners
designers



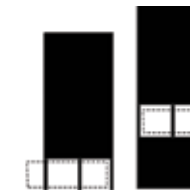
3.5
reshuffling program helps

landowners
designers
agents of change committee



3.7
transform urban voids into communal hubs

designers
landowners
agents of change committee



3.9
borrowing space - legal sprawl

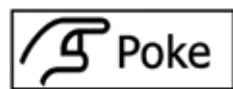
designers
agents of change committee
landowners
building owners
tenants: vendors, artists, teachers,



3.11
respect existing multi-functionality

designers
landowners
agents of change committee

CULTIVATE



2.1
cultivate curiosity in the young first

designers
agents of change committee
young adults + children



2.2
reclaim vacant spaces with neighbours' needs

designers
landowners
residents
tenants: vendors, etc.
agents of change committee



2.3
cultivate partnerships first

designers
landowners
agents of change committee
tenants: vendors, etc.



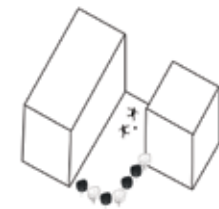
3.15
create [+] urban pockets

designers
landowners
agents of change committee



3.22
boundaries are community walls

designers
landowners
small business owners
vendors



3.23
green edible fences

designers
landowners
agents of change committee



3.24
add some paint

*designers
landowners
agents of change committee
children + youth*



3.25
equal distribution of nodes

*designers
agents of change committee*



3.27
[+] waiting areas

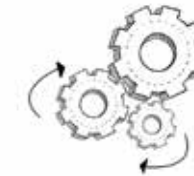
*landowners
designers
residents
agents of change committee*

CELEBRATE + MAINTAIN



4.1
handmade increases owner-ship + collaboration

*designers
agents of change committee
landowners
local craftsmen
tenants: vendors, etc.
residents*



4.2
building ceremony

*agents of change committee
designers
land owners
tenants: vendors, etc.
residents
artists
funding agencies*



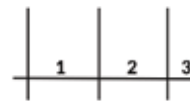
4.3
own to protect

*landowners
tenants: vendors, etc.*



3.28
reduce, reuse, recycle

*landowners
agents of change committee
waste management
residents
tenants
toktok drivers
designers*



3.30
reclaim your territory by numbers

*landowners
tenants: vendors etc.
mobile vendors
designers*



3.31
eco farms on rooftops

*landowners
agents of change committee
government officials
funding agencies
designers*



4.4
micro-economies as a tool for social responsibility

*landowners
agents of change committee
unemployed residents
toktok drivers*



3.32
toktok for waste collection

*landowners
tenants: vendors, etc.
agents of change committee
toktok drivers
waste management*

