

## ARC•PEACE Sudan: Climate design and competence with social responsibility

The presentation by ARC•PEACE Sudan in Stockholm meeting was a combination of varied material, a report on organizational aspects, a review of projects planned and implemented and the visit of Dick Vestbro and Ahmed Al Jowder to Sudan in October 2009 and associated professional training and social programmes.

Membership of ARC•PEACE Sudan had reached 28, just short of the number required to officially register. However that did not prevent the conduct of projects under the umbrella of the Sudanese Institute of Architects (SIA) or the Sudanese Environmental Conservation Society (SECS). A building for SECS itself - The Environmental Information Centre - was an outcome of this collaboration. This has now started functioning and is intended to also serve as an exhibition of eco-solutions. Another project with SECS was the sand water cooler, building on the international award winning design by the head of the industrial design section, Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts. A water pipe spirals through chopped bricks and sand entrapped between two hollow brick walls. Surplus water wets this core and taps terminating the pipe provide clean cool drinking water. This invention replaces the widely and publicly used *zeer house* (water pots) which is a likely source of contamination. Some design adjustments were effected, construction improved, labours trained and a manual was produced with a list of materials and cost estimates. Tens of units have since been implemented in schools, market places, mosques and health centres.



*Sand water cooler. Note old type of water pots in the background.*

In October 2009 Dick Vestbro from Sweden and Ahmed Al-Jowder from Bahraein visited Sudan at the invitation of ARC•PEACE Sudan. The visit was a good opportunity to introduce ARC•PEACE Sudan to a wider public. Dick gave a lecture on vernacular architecture attended by nearly 80 people mostly architects. He also participated in a presentation for members of ARC•PEACE

Sudan. A social programme was also organized comprising a Nile cruise, and visits to museums, the dervish dance, and to the pyramids some 300 kilometres north of the capital.

### *Dick Vestbro speaking at the Sudanese Institute of Architects*

A two days training programme was furthermore organized for young public sector professionals by the Sudanese Centre for Engineering and Environmental Studies in collaboration with ARC•PEACE Sudan. At this workshop Dick Vestbro gave four lectures while Ahmad Al-Jowder, Mewahib Magoub and Osman El Kheir contributed with one lecture each. The main themes were sustainable urban development and enabling strategies in planning and housing in low-income countries. The success of the event raised hopes that it can be repeated on a yearly basis. It has also been suggested that other ARC•PEACE organization arrange similar programmes, something that helps sharing experiences and strengthening professional relations.





*Participants in the workshop on enabling strategies for young Sudanese professionals in October 2009.*

Osman El Kheir