

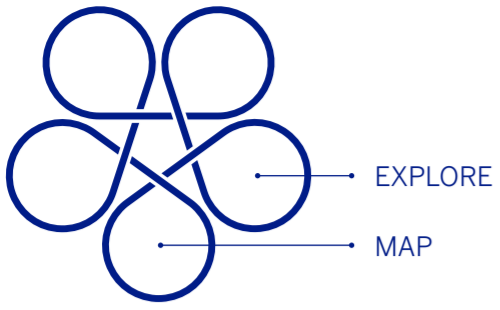
Agbogbloshie

Infiltrating the Korle Lagoon in central Accra, Ghana, the Agbogbloshie scrapyard is a contested territory located not in Agbogbloshie — an area named for the god that lives in the Odaw River — but in Old Fadama, a slum community occupying reclaimed land.

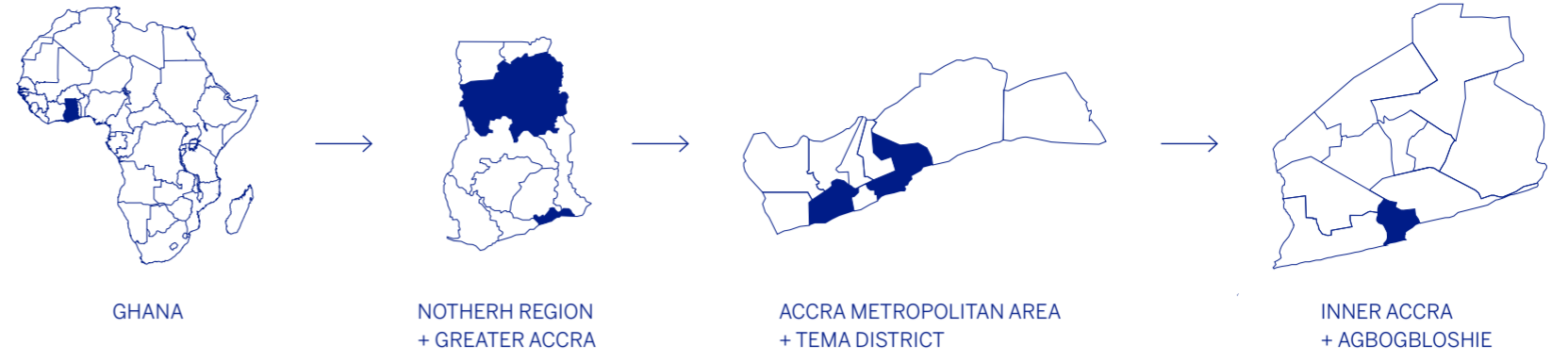
Rendered a blank and undefined zone on maps of the city, potential prime real estate but prone to flooding, planned as Accra's central park but instead infamous for informal e-waste recycling that threatens environment and human health, the site is a vibrant shifting landscape of scrap processing and micro-manufacturing.



Help grassroots makers make more and better, together!



Localisation



Open Air Manufactory

1 → Cable burners recovering scrap metal

2 ↓ Burning cables along Odaw River, Old Fadama sium in background

3 ↓ Goats foraging for food

4 ↑ CRT monitor shells used as stools in farms by the scrapyard

5 ← Cart pushers roam the city, mining for urban scrap

6 ↓ Urban policy undervalues the service cart pushers render

7 → Children playing in construction rubble

8 ↓ Stockpiles of recyclable materials form a shifting landscape

9 → Women washing and sorting plastics

10 ↓ Scrap dealers working together to disassemble electrical plugs...

11 ↓ Every piece of metal has a value

12 ↓ Using a chisel to disassemble a washing machine

13 ↓ Separating copper and aluminum from a fridge radiator

14 ↓ Recovered copper

15 ↓ Computer repair shop

16 → Fitting a replacement saw handle

17 ↑ Scales are ubiquitous items all throughout the site — weighing materials to sell

18 → Toolmaker making chisels out of cart part and using a hand-cranked blower

19 ↑ Welder fabricating dumbbells out of car parts

20 ↓ Locally-produced welding machine partly made out of scrap metal

21 → Sand casting pots out of aluminum scrap

22 ↓ Cooking stoves made in Agbogboshie out of sheet metal scrap

Stakeholder diagram

— Sell items/scrap to...

- - - Pay for service

..... Lend money to...

- · - · - Repay with items/scrap to sell

DEALERS/IMPORTERS

CITIZEN

AGBOGBLOSHIE SCRAPYARD

REPAIRERS

- Repair and refurbish items
- Sell refurbished items

COLLECTORS/CART PUSHERS

- Buy scrap city- and country-wide
- Sell to scrap dealers

CABLE BURNERS

- Burn wires/cables to recover metal scrap

SCRAP DEALERS

- Masters + Apprentices
- Buy and sell scrap
- Dismantle and disassemble
- Supply used parts

SCRAP DEALERS ASSOCIATION

- Represents scrap industry
- Facilitates partnerships
- Resolves conflicts

MIDDLE MEN

- Link buyers and sellers
- Lend money to buy items/scrap

(GRASSROOTS) MAKERS

- Recycle select scrap materials
- Upcycle scrap into new products

GHANA INDUSTRIES