Since 2009 ASF-UK has explored participatory design and planning in the global south as a central theme in its international workshops titled: Change by Design, so far delivered in Brazil (2009 & 2010), Kenya (2011) and Ecuador (2013). Change by Design aims to advance participatory design as a way to strengthen marginalized communities and engage citizens in a process of deepening democracy. Unlike conventional participatory methods, it frames participation as a means to challenge the structural conditions that perpetuate urban poverty and exclusion from urban planning, design and governance. The Networking Event will combine a variety of speakers to discuss the opportunities and limitations of participatory design & planning with the aim to facilitate exchange between different stakeholders. The event will be structured into three parallel debates, organized around questions of Scale, Time, and Process in participation. Here, speakers will present and discuss their own work and experience from Africa, Asia, Europe and South America. A closing plenary session will link the debates and examine ways forward.

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