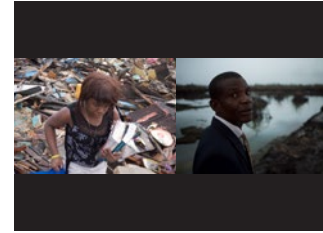
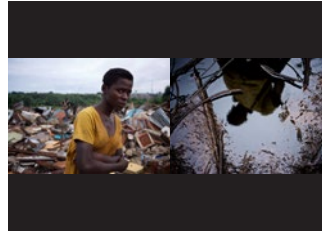
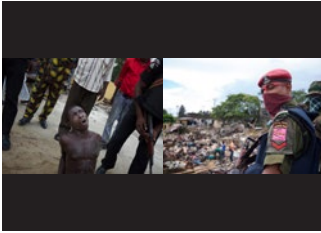


A group of diverse people, including men and women of various ages, are gathered in an urban setting. In the background, there are simple, multi-story buildings and a body of water. A large, semi-transparent pink circle is overlaid on the image, partially covering the people and the background. The text "HUMAN CITY PROJECT" is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the pink circle.

# HUMAN CITY PROJECT

# HUMAN CITY PROJECT

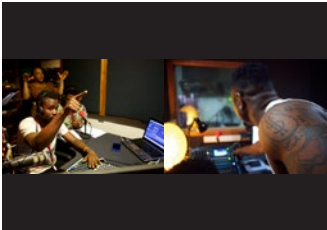
WHY WE WORK  
WHERE WE WORK



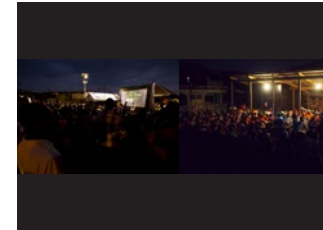
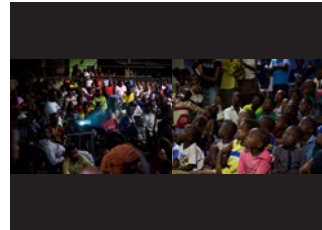
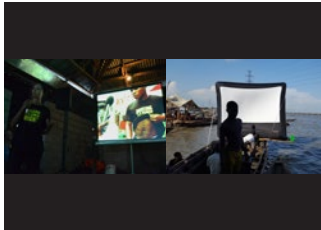
CHICOCO SPACE  
OUR PLACE



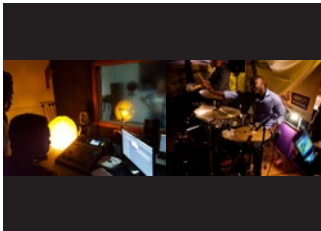
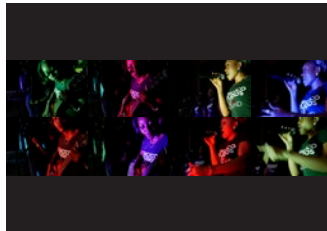
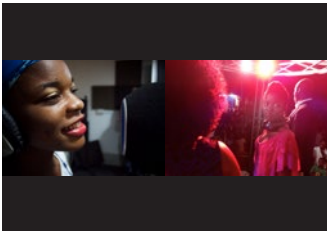
CHICOCO RADIO  
OUR VOICE



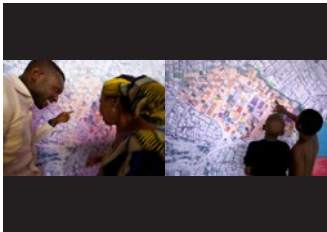
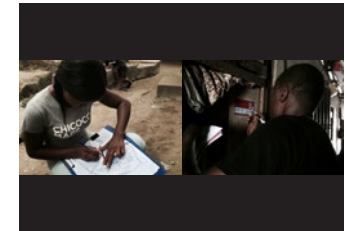
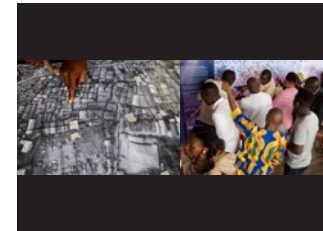
CHICOCO CINEMA  
OUR CINEMA



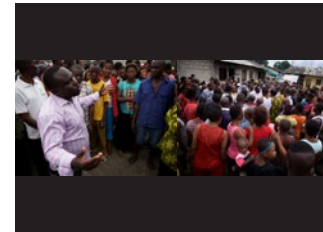
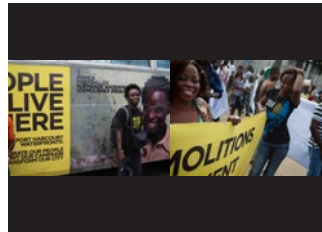
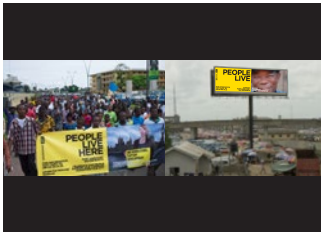
CHICOCO STUDIOS  
OUR SOUND




CHICOCO MAPS  
OUR CITY



CHICOCO COLLECTIVE  
OUR PEOPLE



To learn more about our work, visit: [www.cmapping.net](http://www.cmapping.net)  
Please get in touch: [info@cmapping.net](mailto:info@cmapping.net)



**'MANY VOICES MAKE A CITY.  
SOME PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO TEAR  
THE CITY DOWN. BUT WE ARE CITY  
BUILDERS AND THIS IS OUR RHYTHM,  
OUR RIGHT, OUR VOICE.'**

**FAVOUR  
OKRIKA WATERFRONT**

**Urban context: extreme precarity, mass displacement and the Human City Project**

CMAF's Human City Project has established itself in extremely challenging conditions, opening a creative space in which young people from overlooked communities can make themselves seen and heard.

The Human City Project is a community-led media, music, architecture, urban design and human rights initiative that sets out to transform the city.

Chicoco Collective, a programme of creative social enterprises, is at the heart of our project.

Partners and supporters have included: Amnesty International; Arts Council England; Cities Alliance; Comic Relief; Commonwealth Foundation; International Institute for Environment and Development; King's College London; UN-Habitat; and United States Institute for Peace.

**OUR CITY: WHY WE WORK WHERE WE WORK**

'Chicoco' means mud, the black, fibrous mud that people living in Port Harcourt's waterfront communities cut from the mangroves and throw down on the river's edge to reclaim land from the creeks. They build their homes on this mud.

Okrika waterfront is one of over forty informal settlements that fringe the city. These settlements are home to over 480,000 people. They lack any municipal services. Residents are vulnerable to security force and gang violence. In 2009, all waterfront communities were declared for demolition. Tens of thousands lost their homes.

Based in Okrika waterfront, Chicoco Collective shares with young people from across Nigeria's oil capital the skills and tools to tell their stories on film, on air and in court, charting their reality on maps and describing their visions in urban action plans.



**A City in the Creeks**

Looking out from Chicoco Media Shed into Okrika bay. All the houses are built on mud and all their waste flows directly into the water.

**Chicoco Radio** is a youth-led community radio station that will reach 1.5 million people. **Chicoco Studios** will make the city's marginalised waterfront communities a centre of musical creativity and free expression. **Chicoco Cinema** will put culturally excluded groups in the picture and **Chicoco Maps** will allow people to put themselves quite literally on the map.

These programmes were built as a response to the lack of voice felt by the city's waterfront communities. They are part of the Human City Project, a community-led media, music, architecture, urban design and human rights initiative in Port Harcourt, Nigeria's oil capital. Human City Project is coordinated by CMAP.

The studios and radio station will be housed in an architecturally ambitious amphibious building on the water's edge: **Chicoco Space**. This will be the first building with long-standing legal tenure in any of the city's waterfronts.



**Media Shed: Aight at Night**

The Shed is a music-making and community-gathering space built by young residents of the city's waterfront slums. It is fully solar powered.

The design has won international awards. It will give local communities access to a radio station, recording studio, a media production suite, film library and cinema. Chicoco Space will be launched in two years.

For now the studios live in the Media Shed. The Shed is a music-making and community gathering-space built by young residents in Okrika waterfront. This is one of the project's training hubs. Chicoco is actively involved in training local residents in all skills needed to run the planned multimedia hub, whose benefits include: opportunities to develop skills in media production; a platform for community voice; a stable structure which will solidify the legal rights of the wider area, in the long term helping to transform an informal settlement into a community with security of tenure and basic infrastructure; the means to broadcast to the city and reach audiences across the world; collaborations with other organisations and gainful employment in a community-owned social enterprise.





**From Render to Reality**

A 3D render of the Chicoco Space community media centre. Our design has already won the international Holcim Award for Sustainable Construction - the leading award of its kind in the world.



Local residents are also involved in our participatory mapping and planing programme. Hundreds of community members are involved in these community-building exercises, working to secure rights, permanence and voice for an area that currently have none of these things.

Music and movies have always been important to the project: Sessions in the Shed brings artists from around the world to share skills and inspire project members; Chicoco Cinema is a mobile inflatable cinema and thousands of people from across the city enjoyed stories and engaged in debate at our screenings.

We shall go on to develop renewable energy, sanitation, access to justice and green, safe public space programmes.

The Human City Project is about more than designing a building. It is about building a movement that empowers citizens to transform the city.

**WHY WE  
WORK**  
WHERE WE  
WORK



### **Routine Violation of Fundamental Rights**

Left: Beaten and unlawfully arrested, a young man in Port Harcourt;  
Right: Anti-Terror Squad agent at a forced eviction in Port Harcourt.  
Rights violations are routine in the Niger delta. People in informal settlements are particularly vulnerable.



### **Urban Crisis and Environmental Despoliation**

Left: A young woman in the rubble of her demolished home in Port Harcourt;

Right: Reflection in an oil spill in Ogoniland.

Chicoco Cinema documents environmental rights violations in the Niger Delta and has the most extensive audiovisual archive of forced evictions in Nigeria.



### **Working with Vulnerable Groups to Build Resilience**

Left: Emeka, a student from Port Harcourt, returns from lectures to find her home demolished;

Right: Pastor Christian stands in front of his oil-spoiled fish farm in Ogoniland. Chicoco Space is being built with and for people like Emeka and Christian: not victims, but advocates.

**CHICOCO**  
**SPACE**  
OUR  
PLACE



### **Designing Together and Building Together**

Left: Chicoco Media Shed was designed and built in collaboration with the community. Participation was open.

Right: Young women in particular enjoyed exploring roles not often afforded them in community projects. Our community-led media-space is a launch pad for Chicoco Space.





### **Sustainable Design and Participatory Practice**

Left: installing panels; Right: alight at night.

Our Media Shed is home to our training studio, exhibition and community-gathering space. It was designed and built with local volunteers. The Media Shed is entirely powered by the sun. Chicoco Space will be run by renewables and support a local mini-grid.



### **Creating Inclusive Public Space and Public Debate**

Left and Right: Chicoco Space will float in water and in air. An award-winning design, the studios are suspended above a community garden, creating open public space. A platform for community voice, participatory development and education: built, owned and operated by young slum residents with local and international civil society.

**CHICOCO**  
**RADIO**  
OUR  
VOICE



**Gathering Community Sounds and Voices**

Left: Murphy, Tammy and her son out taking wild sound in their community. All Chicoco Radio volunteers, they are building the station's sound library; Right: Wizzy, Sira and Precious recording jingles in the Media Shed for Chicoco Radio: they built it and now sing in it.



### **Sharing Skills and Producing Programmes**

Left and Right: Chicoco Radio's new broadcast studios: the best designed radio studios in the city. Chicoco Radio is developing a mobile-first 'visual radio' approach to programming.



### **Reaching the City with Unheard Voices**

Left: One of the volunteer production teams recording a live discussion programme with invited guests on violence against women in local communities; Right: IB producing jingles in our new music studio.

**CHICOCO**  
**CINEMA**  
OUR  
CINEMA



### Keeping Communities in the Picture

Left: Lucy Freeman, then Amnesty International's Nigeria campaigner, at Chicoco Cinema during our People Live Here campaign;  
Right: our blow-up screen has brought rights-based film programmes to audiences across Nigeria.





### **Gathering and Focusing**

Left and Right: a Chicoco Cinema screening in Bundu. Thousands of people across Port Harcourt, Lagos and Abuja have taken part in our screenings and debates. Community cinema is a wonderful way of gathering, informing and animating residents.



### **Telling Stories and Creating Debate**

Left: a screening in Port Harcourt - we show films made in and by local communities and news that doesn't get shown on TV. This was an exchange screening of *Dear Mandela* with our South African partners; Right: Salil Shetty and Eduard Nazarski visit the Media Shed during a High Level Mission to Nigeria, hosted and facilitated by CMAP.

**CHICOCO**  
**STUDIOS**  
OUR  
SOUND



**Making Music That Matters**

Left: Hope in the studio; Right: Favour on a street-stage.

Chicoco Radio and Chicoco Studios work with many young musicians from the city's informal settlements. We stage street shows, concerts and studio sessions. Singing truth to power, we make music that matters.



### **Women's Voices and Feminist Funk**

Left: excellence on guitar; Right: Sira singing.

An evening of human-rights highlife music and feminist Fela Kuti at the Chicoco Music Shed. The first performance in our Sessions in the Shed programme, bringing together international artists and local musicians.



### **Studio Production and Live Performance**

Left: in the studio things get hot and steamy;

Right: CMAP and Amnesty International stage events marking the shooting of protestors at Bundu. In 2014, after securing compensation for survivors, there really was something to sing about.

**CHICOCO**  
**MAPS**  
OUR  
CITY



### Putting Ourselves On The Map

Left: our base map; Right: townhall presentation of our community maps. Waterfront communities are left out of the city's development plans. Politically and socially marginalised, hundreds of thousands live under the threat of forced evictions. Chicoco Maps is sharing the skills and strategies that allow people to literally put themselves on the map.





### **Information Is Power**

Left and Right: Chicoco mappers index coding every single unit. Led by young residents, Chicoco Maps brings people together to gather data and create plans that will transform their neighbourhoods. Participatory mapping is an effective way to mobilise communities and increase their security of tenure.



### Charting The Way Forward

Left and Right: our mapping programme brings generations together in a hands-on way, to chart a path to realising their economic, social and cultural rights. Everyone gets involved.

**CHICOCO**  
**COLLECTIVE**  
OUR  
PEOPLE



### Citywide Campaigns

Left: out on the streets; Right: up above the streets. Chicoco Collective's People Live Here campaign was tremendously successful, boosted the capacity of communities to mobilise around their rights and contributed to a significant long term drop in forced evictions across the city.



### Out Onto The Streets

Left: Prince Peter was featured in Chicoco Cinema's first ever advocacy production - he reported as his home was being demolished. He also featured in the People Live Here campaign and is now the Community Media Officer for CMAP; Right: reclaiming the streets.



**Bringing Communities Together**

Left and Right: Chicoco Collective's community engagement manager gather's residents in one of the city's waterfront slums. The collective is a platform for residents, local civil society and international partners.



**THANK YOU**

Please drop us a line:  
[INFO@CMAPPING.NET](mailto:INFO@CMAPPING.NET)