



Climate Responsive Building Guidelines

for Addis Ababa's development
corridor

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Tobias Fiedler

September 2014

Gaps are observed between the **actual climatic and environmental context** of the city and **current codes and regulations**.

The goal of this study is to **come up with recommendations** to improve existing regulations as well as present **general building guidelines** in two major scales:

Gaps are observed between the **actual climatic and environmental context of the city** and **current codes and regulations**.

This study identifies and analyzes these gaps to **come up with recommendations** to improve existing regulations as well as present **general building guidelines** in two major scales:

OUTDOOR SPACES

- 01**
Climatic Context
- 02**
Building Massing

INDOOR SPACES

- 03**
Natural Daylighting
- 04**
Natural Ventilation
- 05**
Thermal Comfort



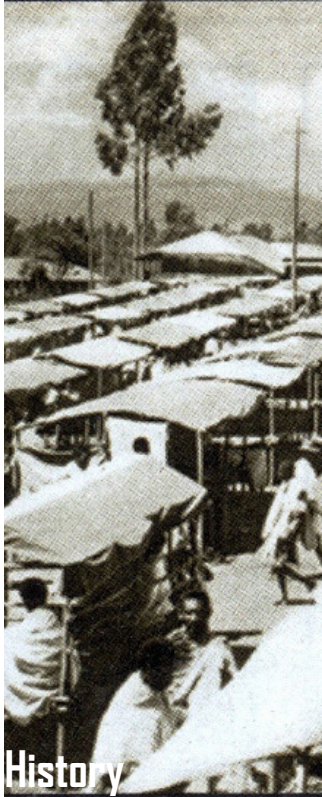
Area 357,021 square kilometres
Population 80.3 million,
Density: 225 inhabitants/km²



Area 1,100,000 square kilometres
Population 91 million
Density: 83 inhabitants/ km²

**CAPITAL CITY OF
ETHIOPIA
ADDIS ABABA**

**2400m above sea level
Latitude of 9.1°N
Longitude of 38.44°E.**



History



Urban Fabric



'Non Formal'



Tradition



Culture

01

Climatic Context

02

Building Massing

03

Natural Daylighting

04

Natural Ventilation

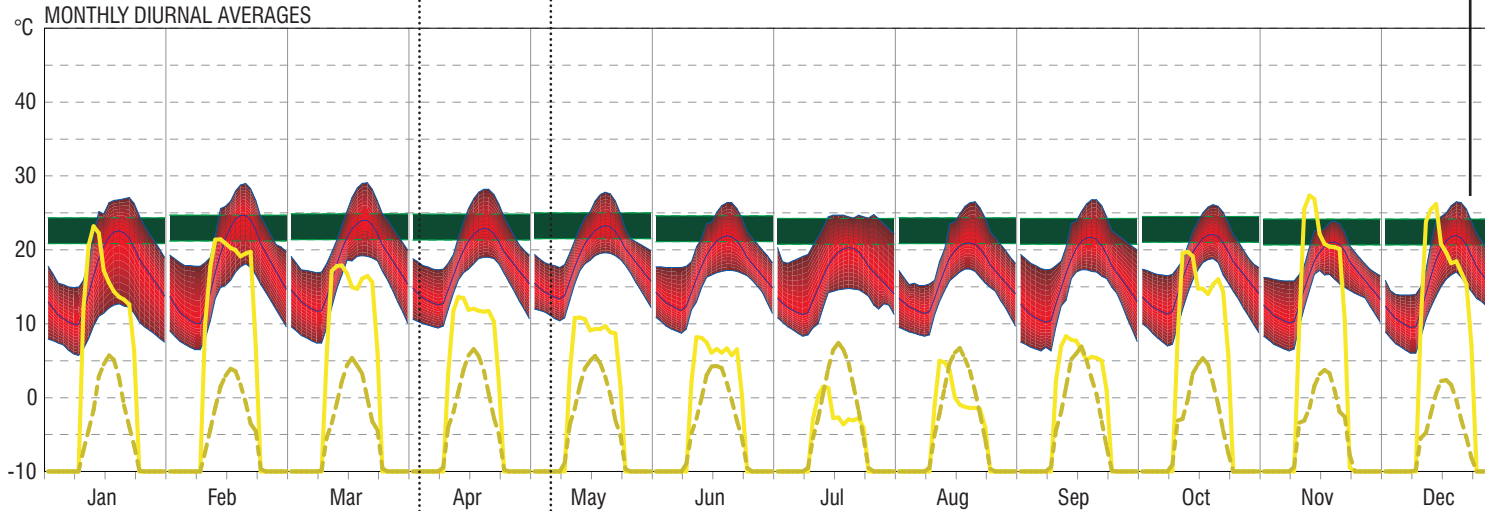
05

Thermal Comfort

01 CLIMATIC CONTEXT

Direct Radiation:
Relatively low in wet season

Outside Temperature
Low diurnal fluctuation during wet season



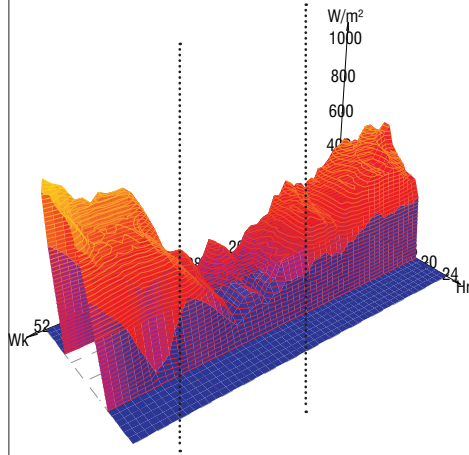
Direct Solar Radiation ———
Diffuse Solar Radiation - - - - -
Monthly Diurnal Averages ———

Horizontal Radiation:
2034 kWh/m²/a

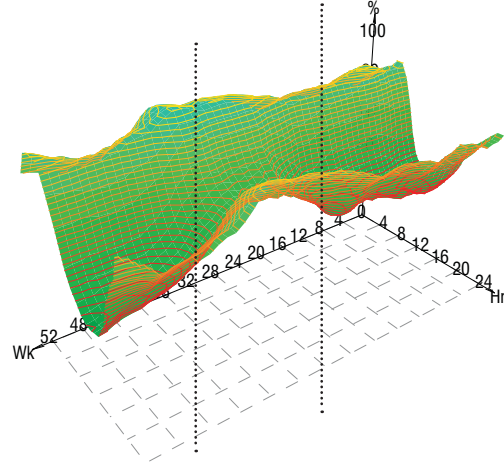
Outside Temperature
Maximum: 27.5 °C
Average Minimum: 5 °C
Yearly Mean: 16.2 °C

01 CLIMATIC CONTEXT

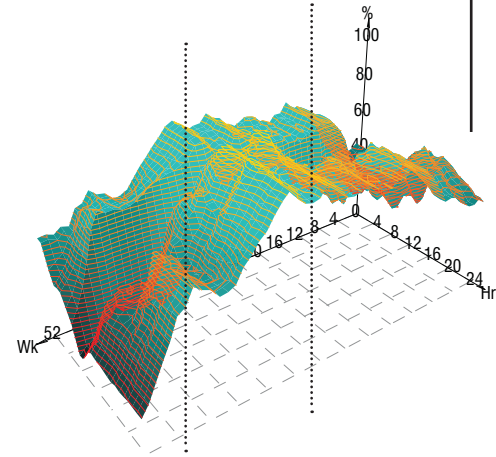
**Wet Season - June,
July, August**
Relatively high air
humidity
High cloud cover



Direct Solar Radiation



Relative Humidity



Average Cloud Cover

01 CLIMATIC CONTEXT

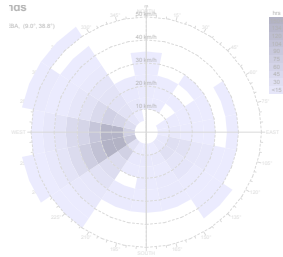
Outdoor Comfort

Average wind speed 3.9 m/s.

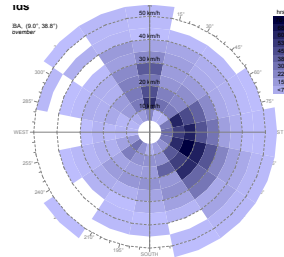
Most windy days are in October.

Least windy days are in January.

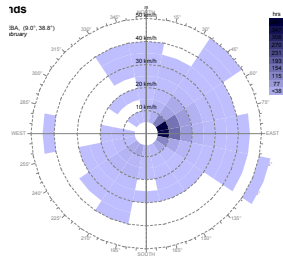
June, July, Aug



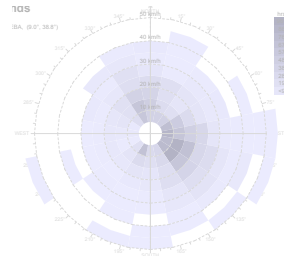
Sept, Oct, Nov



Dec, Jan, Feb



March, April, May

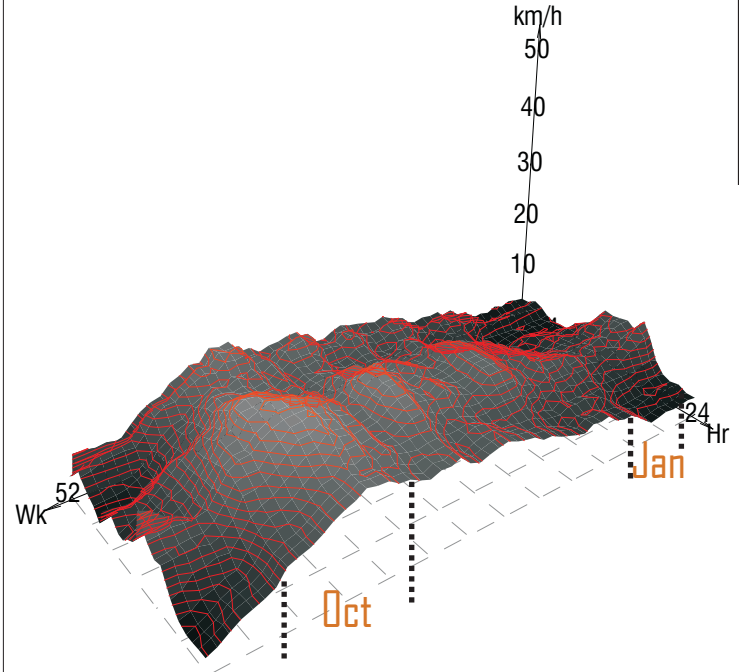


Wind Frequency

>9 hrs

<100 hrs

Annual Average Wind Speed



01 CLIMATIC CONTEXT

Outdoor Comfort

Average wind speed 3.9 m/s.

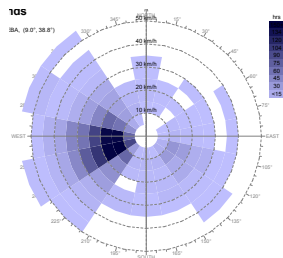
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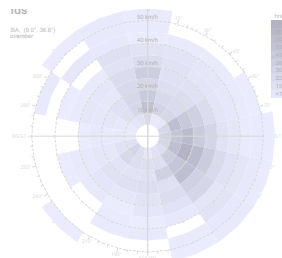
Most prevailing wind direction is from East to West.

Wet Season: wind direction is from West to East.

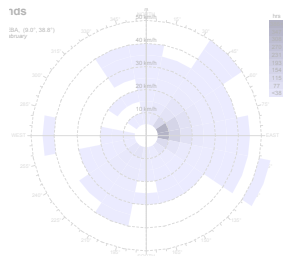
June, July, Aug



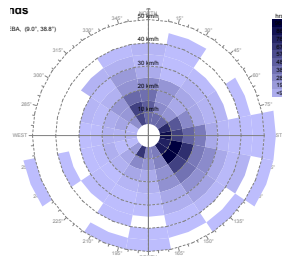
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March, April, May

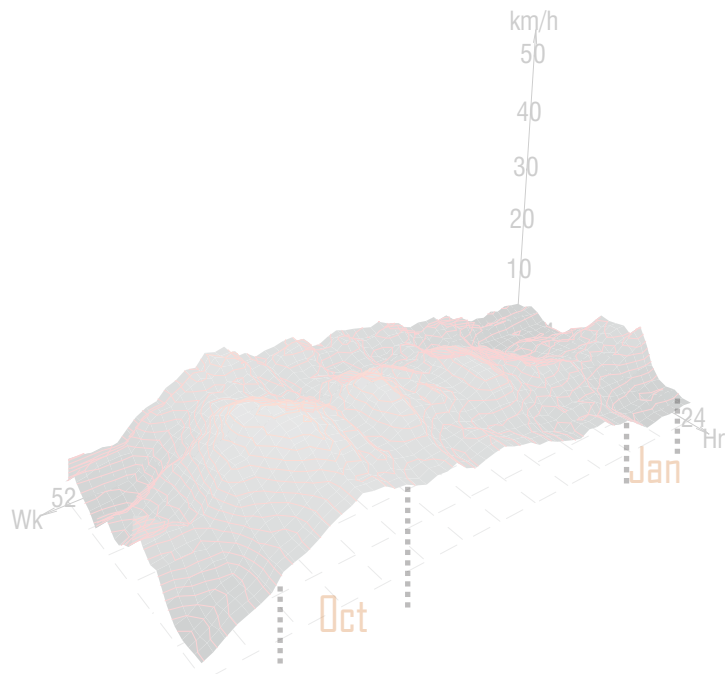


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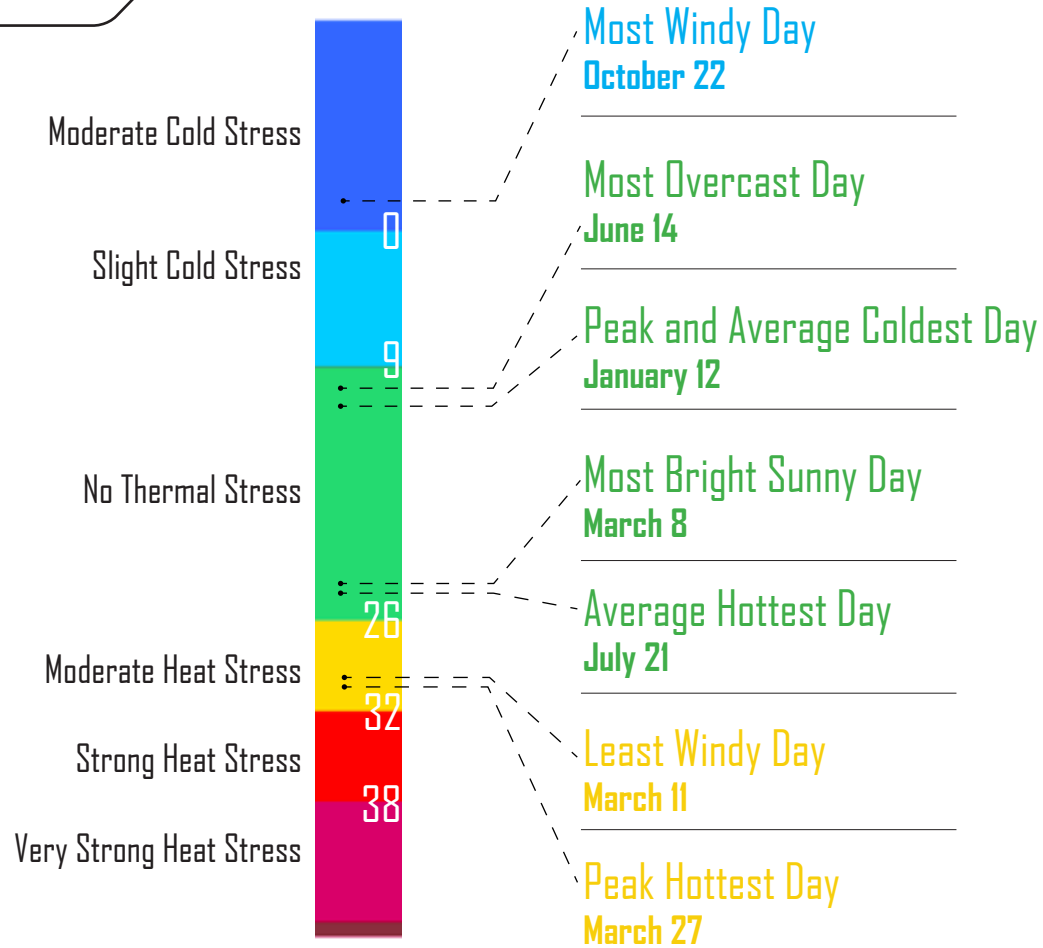


01 CLIMATIC CONTEXT

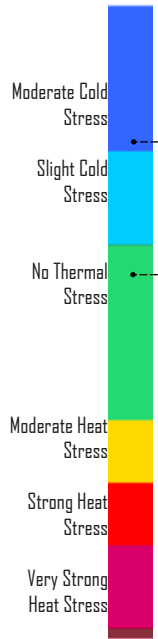
Outdoor Comfort Critical Days

Main challenge of outdoor comfort is direct solar radiation.

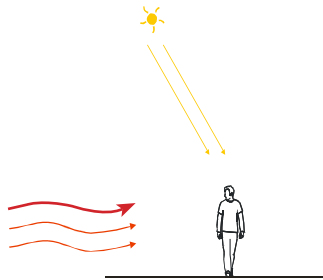
With simple strategies of shading good comfort can be achieved.



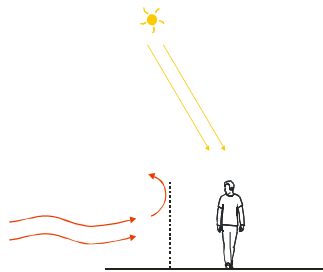
01 CLIMATIC CONTEXT



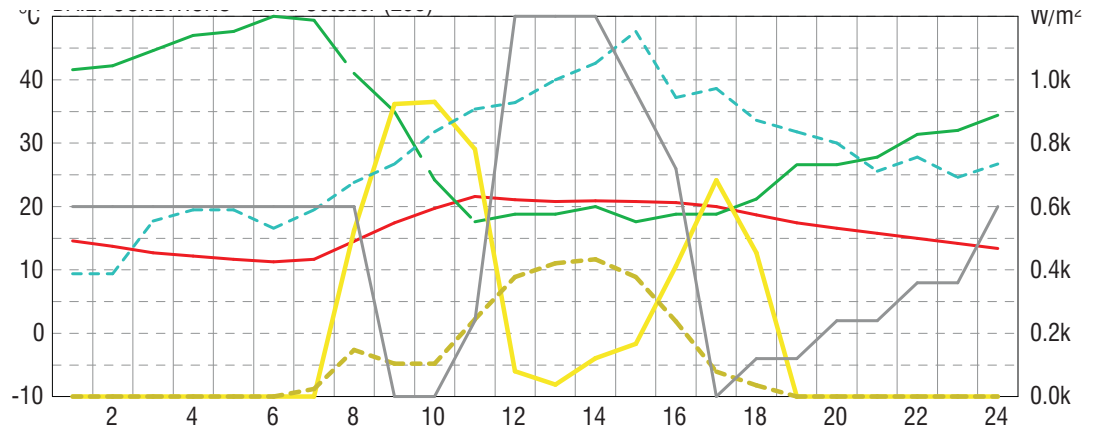
Base Case

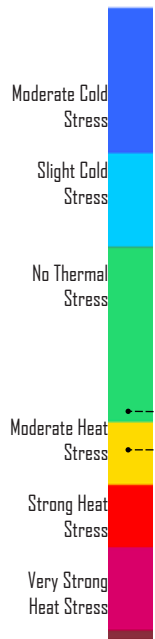


Improved Case Strategy: Wind Protection

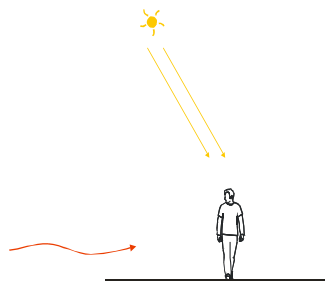


Most Windy Day October 22

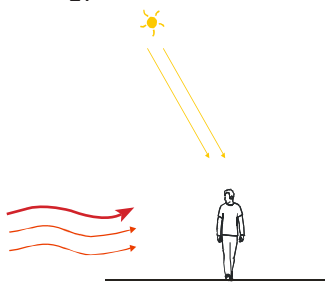




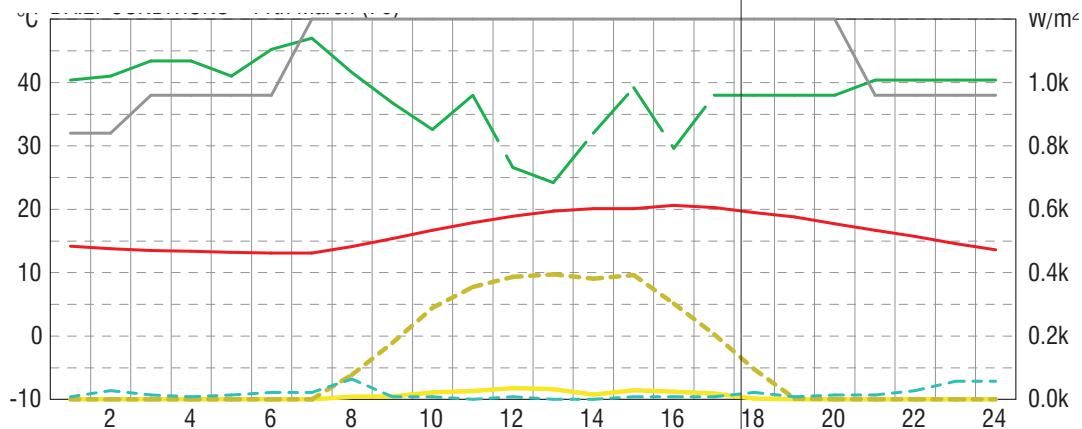
Base Case



Improved Case Strategy: Enhance Wind

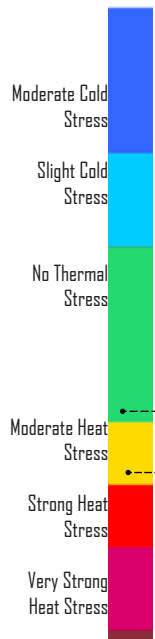


Least Windy Day March 11

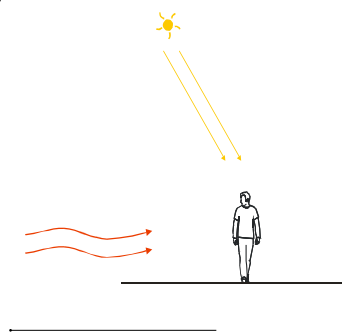


Direct Solar Radiation ———
 Diffuse Solar Radiation ·····
 Temperature Monthly Diurnal Averages ———

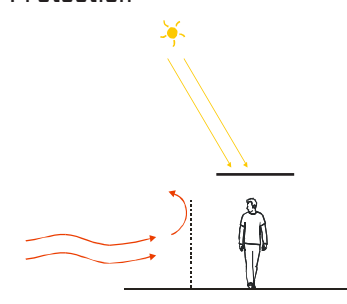
Humidity ———
 Wind Speed ·····
 Cloud Cover ———



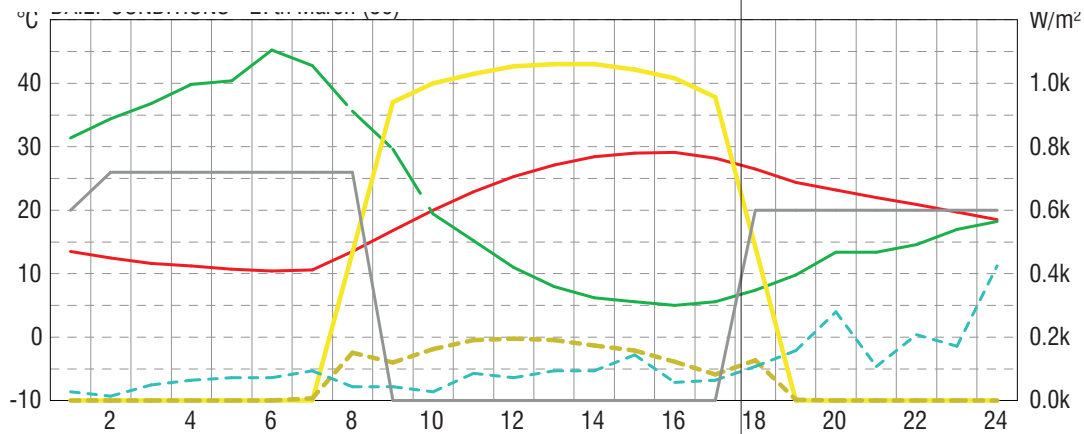
Base Case



Improved Case Strategy: Shading and Wind Protection



Peak Hottest Day March 27



01 CLIMATIC CONTEXT

Outdoor Comfort

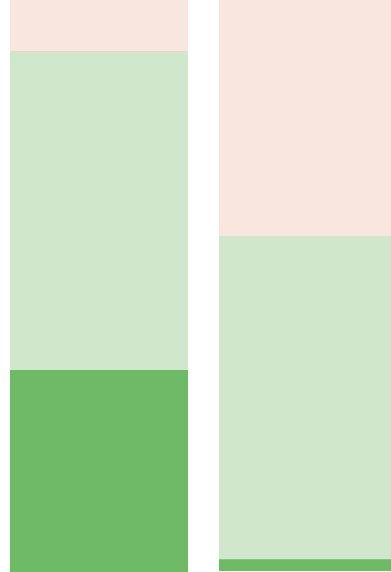
Morning hours have UTCI less than 20 for approximately 90% of the time.

March, April and May 80% afternoon hours have UTCI more than 20.

June, July, August

Morning

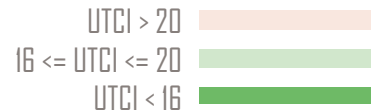
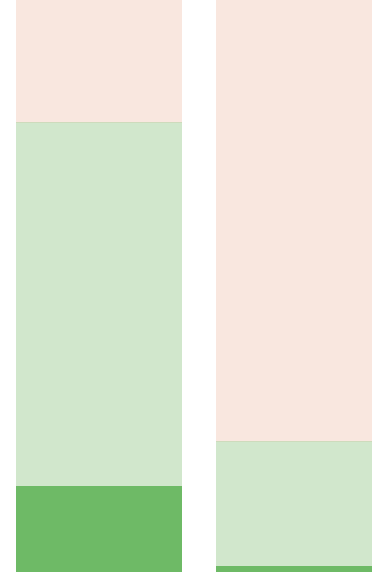
Afternoon



March, April, May

Morning

Afternoon



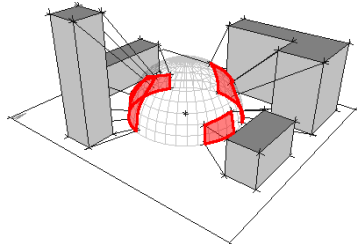
Using UTCI model, two major comfort ranges are identified during morning and afternoon hours.

Outdoor Comfort

Main challenge of outdoor comfort is **direct solar radiation**.

Shading is key strategy for good comfort.

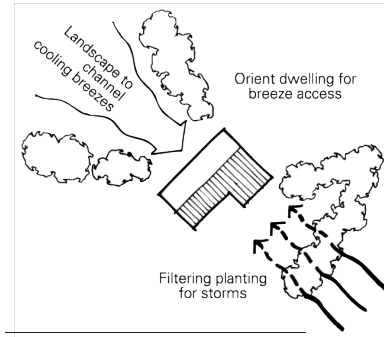
Solar Radiation



Shading afternoon hours in March, April, May.

Maximize **solar exposure** during morning hours in June, July, August.

Wind Movement

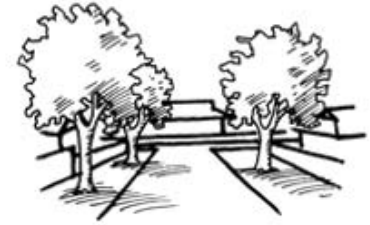


Depending on proposed functions:

March: improving wind movement.

Oct and Nov: wind protection strategies

Micro Climates with Additional Site Features



Water bodies and fountains
Trees
Landscaping elements

02

Building Massing

01

Climatic Context

03

Natural Daylighting

04

Natural Ventilation

05

Thermal Comfort

Overview on Building Regulations

1 **EBCS-** Ethiopian Building Code Standards

2 Ethiopian Building **Proclamation**

3 Ethiopian Building **Directives**

4 Council of Ministers **Building Regulation**

5 Building **Height** Regulation

Overview on Building Regulations

1 **EBCS-** Ethiopian Building Code Standards

2 Ethiopian Building Proclamation

3 Ethiopian Building Directives

4 Council of Ministers Building Regulation

5 Building Height Regulation

Drawbacks of Current Regulations

References Used date back to 1980's.

Regualtions from hot climates are used as references.

Climatic conditions of the city are not sufficiently considered.

No provisions for thermal comfort, water utilization and energy consumption of buildings.

02 BUILDING MASSING

Building Height Regulation

Minimum Economic Height

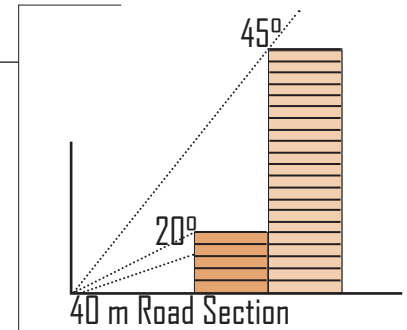
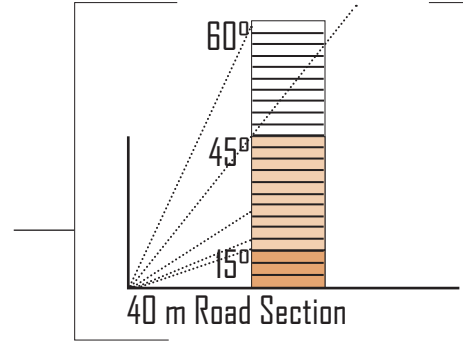
Maximum Infrastructure Height

Aesthetic Height

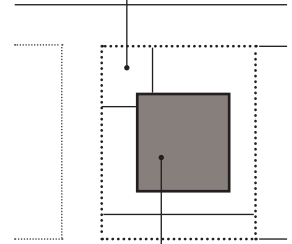
Building Enclosure

Building Scale:

Intimate Scale
Podium Tower
Combination



Building Setback



Building Footprint

02 BUILDING MASSING

Building Height Regulation

Drawbacks

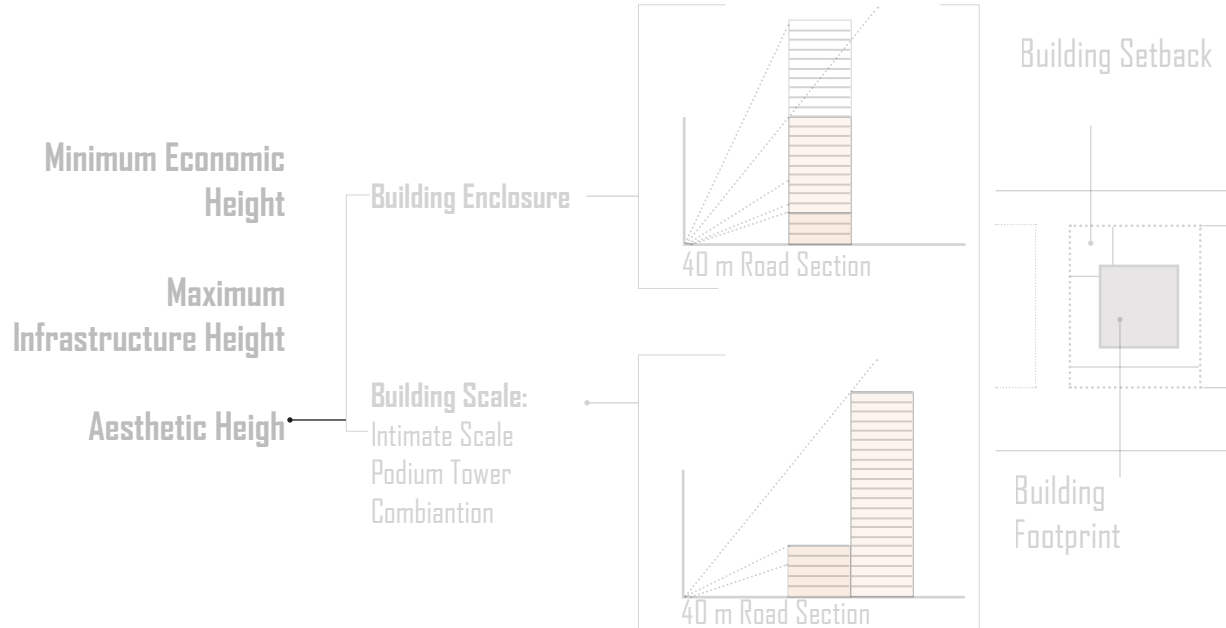
Climatic Context is not incorporated

The date considered is not critical day!

The study is not exhaustive and detailed to come up with conclusions!

Climatic Height?

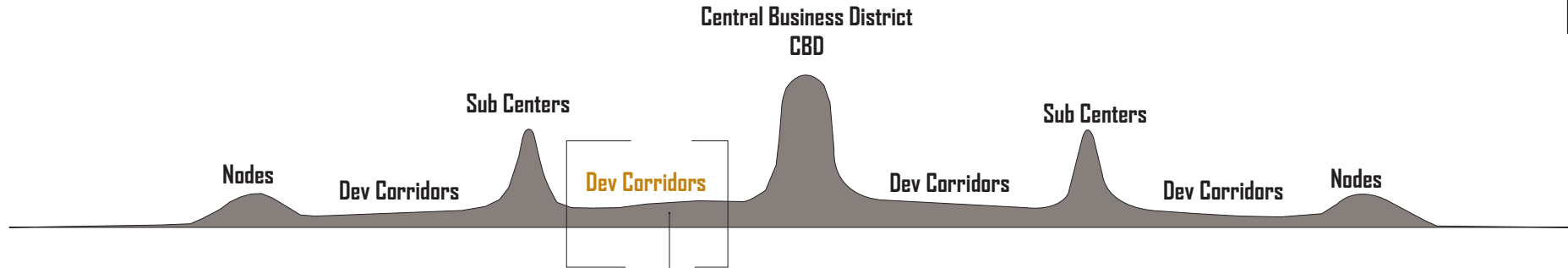
„... A simple calculation made on the basis of having **two hours shade (11 am-1pm) for the month of June** (which is the most critical) on both sides of the East West axis. Result was not economically and esthetically feasible. ...“



02 BUILDING MASSING

Resultant Structure as per Current Regulation

The poly-centric or multi-nucleated city structure



CASE PROJECT LOCATION

How does this city structure respond to context?

02 BUILDING MASSING



National Stadium

Meskel Square

Case Project

BAR (Built up Area Ratio)
Relation between the area occupied by the building and the total plot.

FAR (Floor Area Ratio)
Relation between the total floor area and the total plot area.

Peacock Park

Development Corridor Section 2

Building Height: 8-13 Stories
Maximum BAR: 80%
Maximum FAR: 1:4

Development Corridor Section 1

Building Height: 13-21 Stories
Maximum BAR: 80%
Maximum FAR: 1:5 - 1:7

Development Corridor Section 3

Building Height: 5-10 Stories
Maximum BAR: 80%
Maximum FAR: 1:4

Mellenium Hall

Addis Ababa Airport

02 BUILDING MASSING

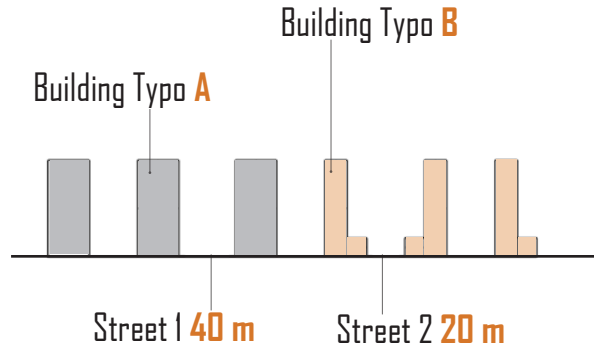
Four Building Typologies

Factors considered for developing typologies

Provisions of Regulation

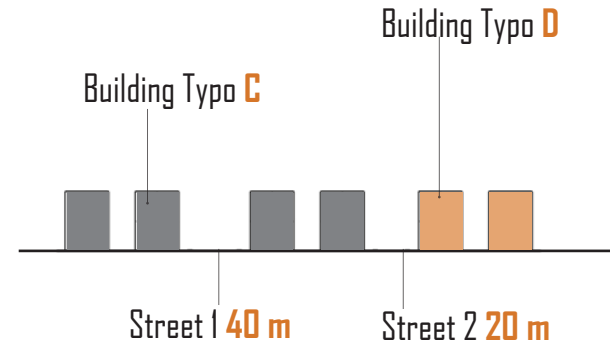
Huge Spatial and Investment Demand

21 Story Building



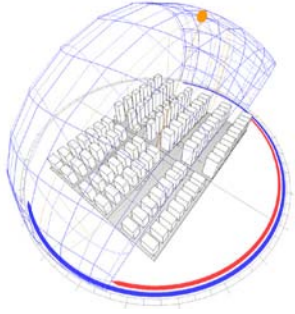
Plot: 37.5 m by 48 m
Block base area 600 m²
Block Size: 20 m * 30 m
Total Area: 12,600 m²
Enclosure- 1:1.73

13 Story Building

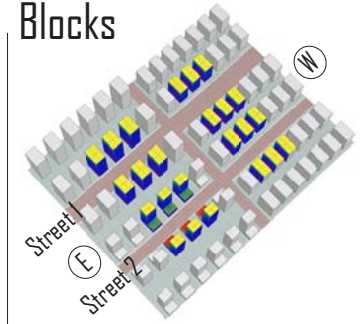
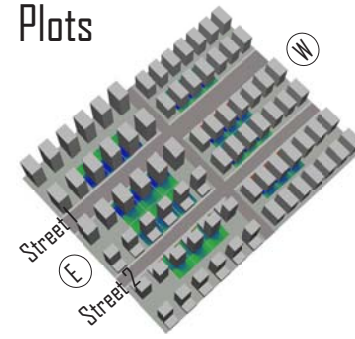
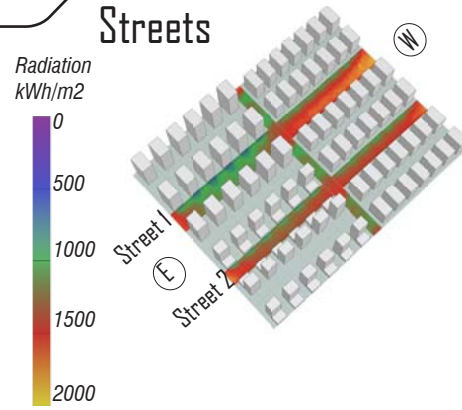


Plot: 30 m by 48 m
Block base area 576 m²
Block dimension 18 m * 32 m
Total Area: 7,488 m²
Enclosure- 1:1

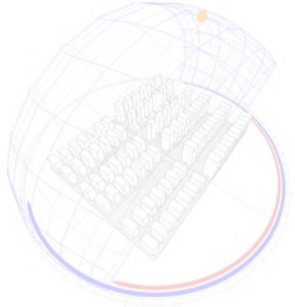
02 BUILDING MASSING



E-W Main Streets

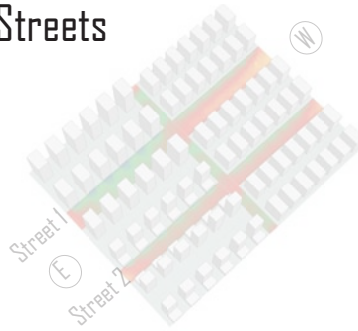


02 BUILDING MASSING

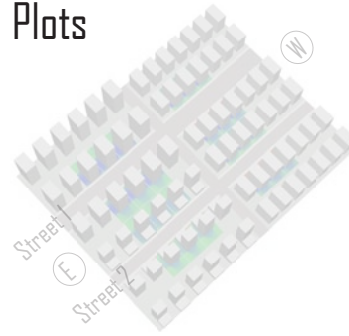


E-W
Main Streets

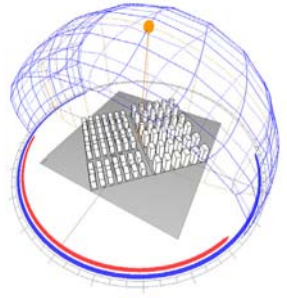
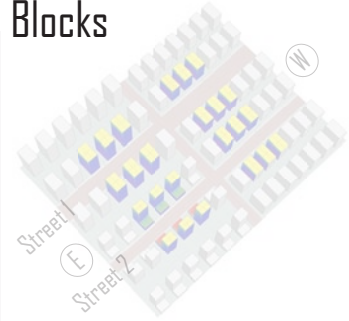
Streets



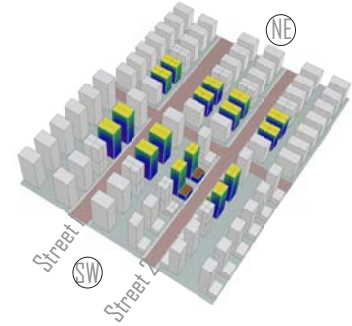
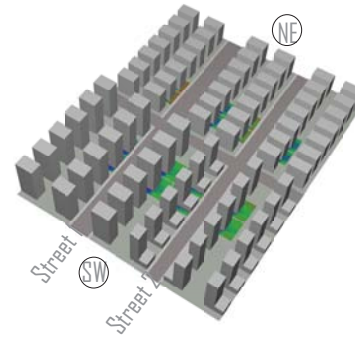
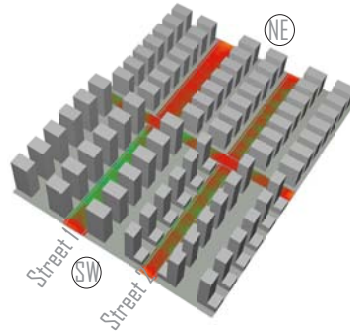
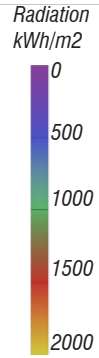
Plots



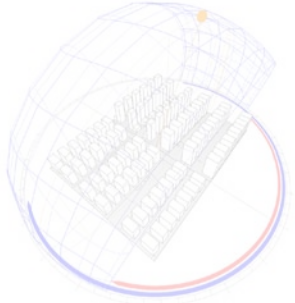
Blocks



NE to SW
Main Streets

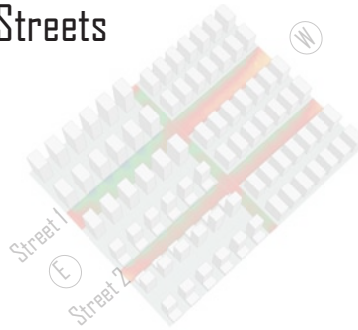


02 BUILDING MASSING

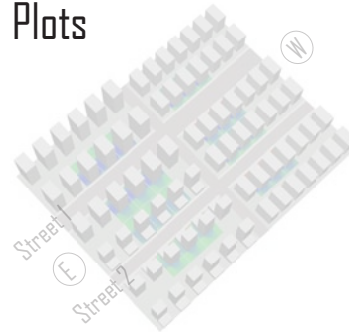


E-W
Main Streets

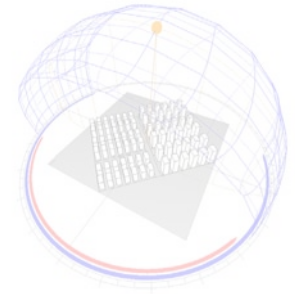
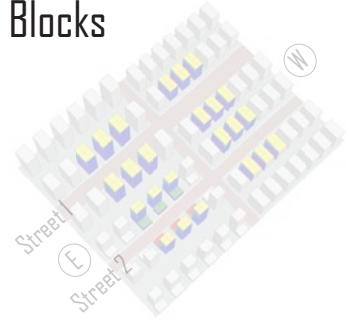
Streets



Plots

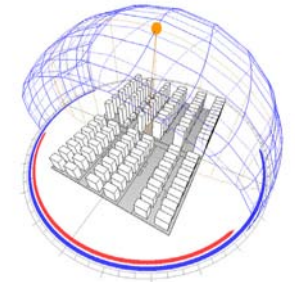
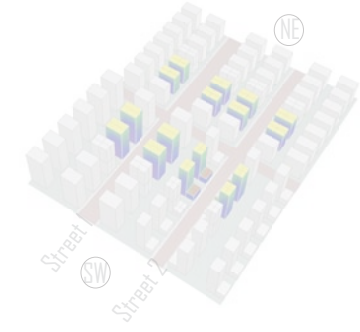
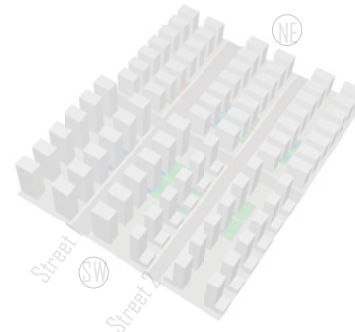
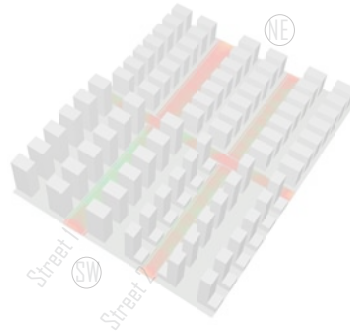
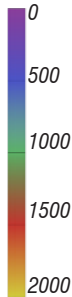


Blocks

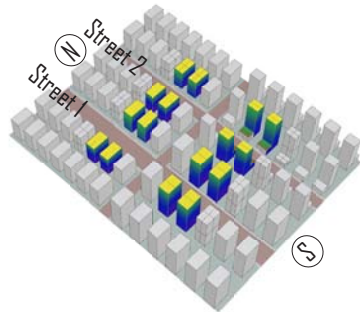
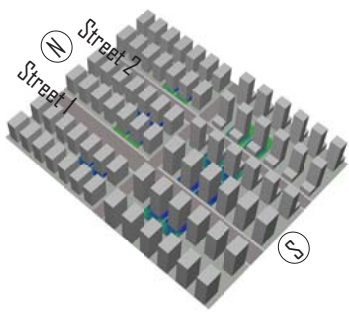
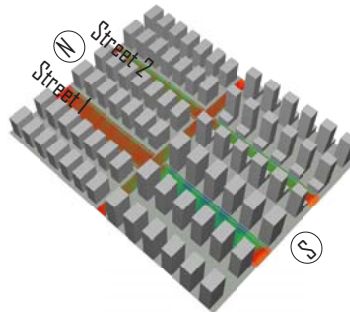


NE to SW
Main Streets

Radiation
kWh/m²



N-S
Main Streets

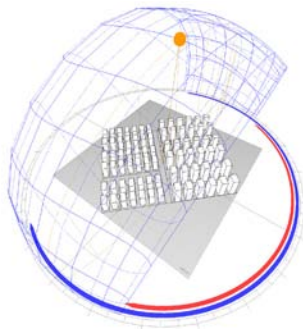


02 BUILDING MASSING

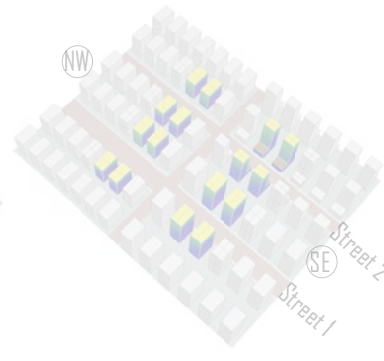
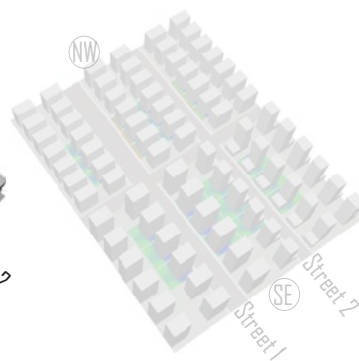
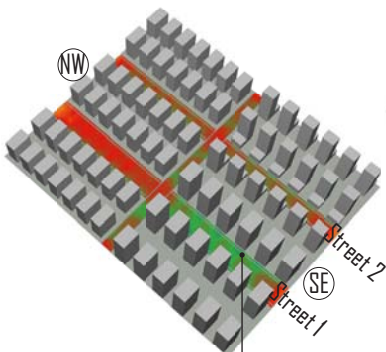
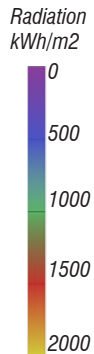
Streets

Plots

Blocks



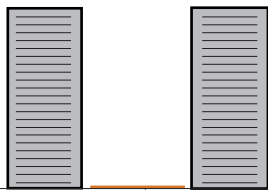
NW to SE
Main Streets



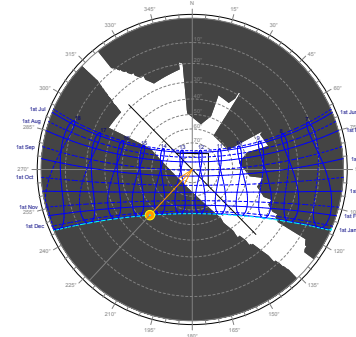
Most Shaded Street

- Exposed to solar radiation during hottest day.
- Needs additional shading strategies.

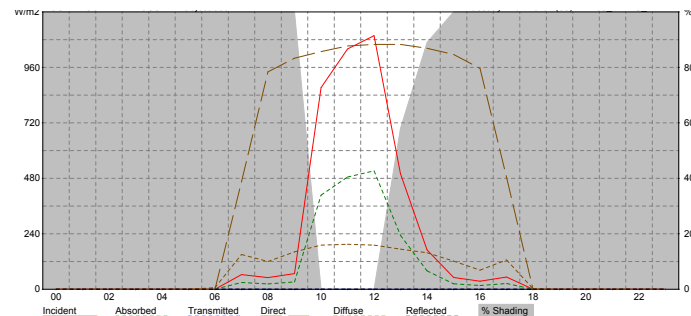
21 Story Building



40 m Street



Annual Shading



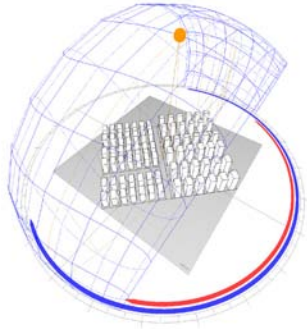
March 27, Hottest day Hourly Solar Exposure

02 BUILDING MASSING

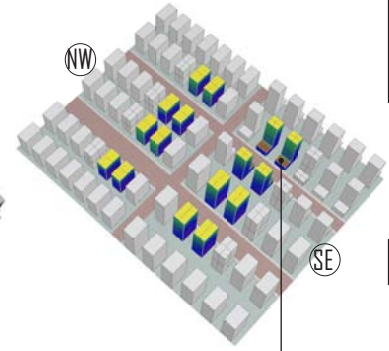
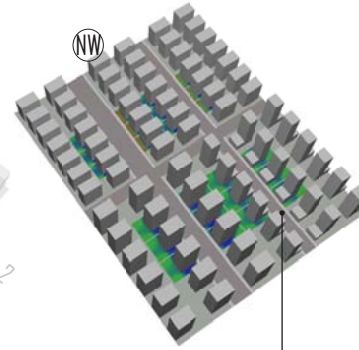
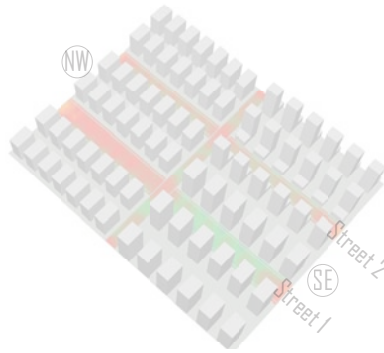
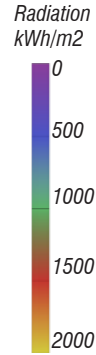
Streets

Plots

Blocks



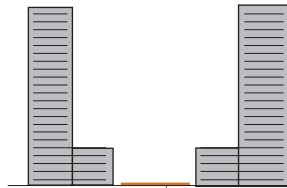
NW to SE
Main Streets



Most Radiation on Plot and Building

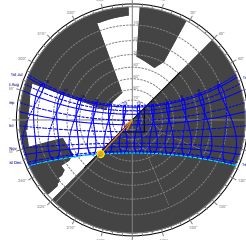
- S and W: exposed to direct radiation during afternoon
- N and E: shaded from direct radiation during afternoon

21 Story Building

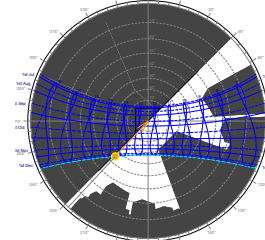


20 m Street

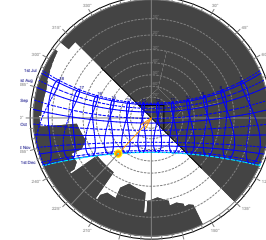
NW Facade



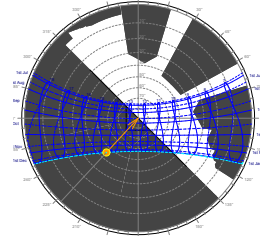
SE Facade



SW Facade



NE Facade



Annual Shading

Massing Strategies

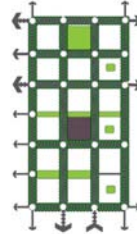
Defining:
Orientation
Size of Streets
Building Height
Block Size
Building Setbacks

Streets' Orientation



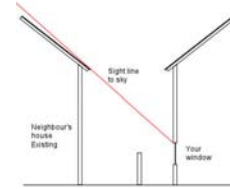
NS streets can be well shaded.
EW streets are most exposed.

Blocks' Orientation



N Facades receive least annual radiation.
E and W Facades receive most annual radiation.

Right-to-Light



Keeping **sight line** to sky shall be studied based on position of the sun (altitude and azimuth).

Indoor Space Illumination

Sufficient daylighting during **overcast days (Wet Season)** shall be studied.

03

Natural Daylight

01

Climatic Context

02

Building Massing

04

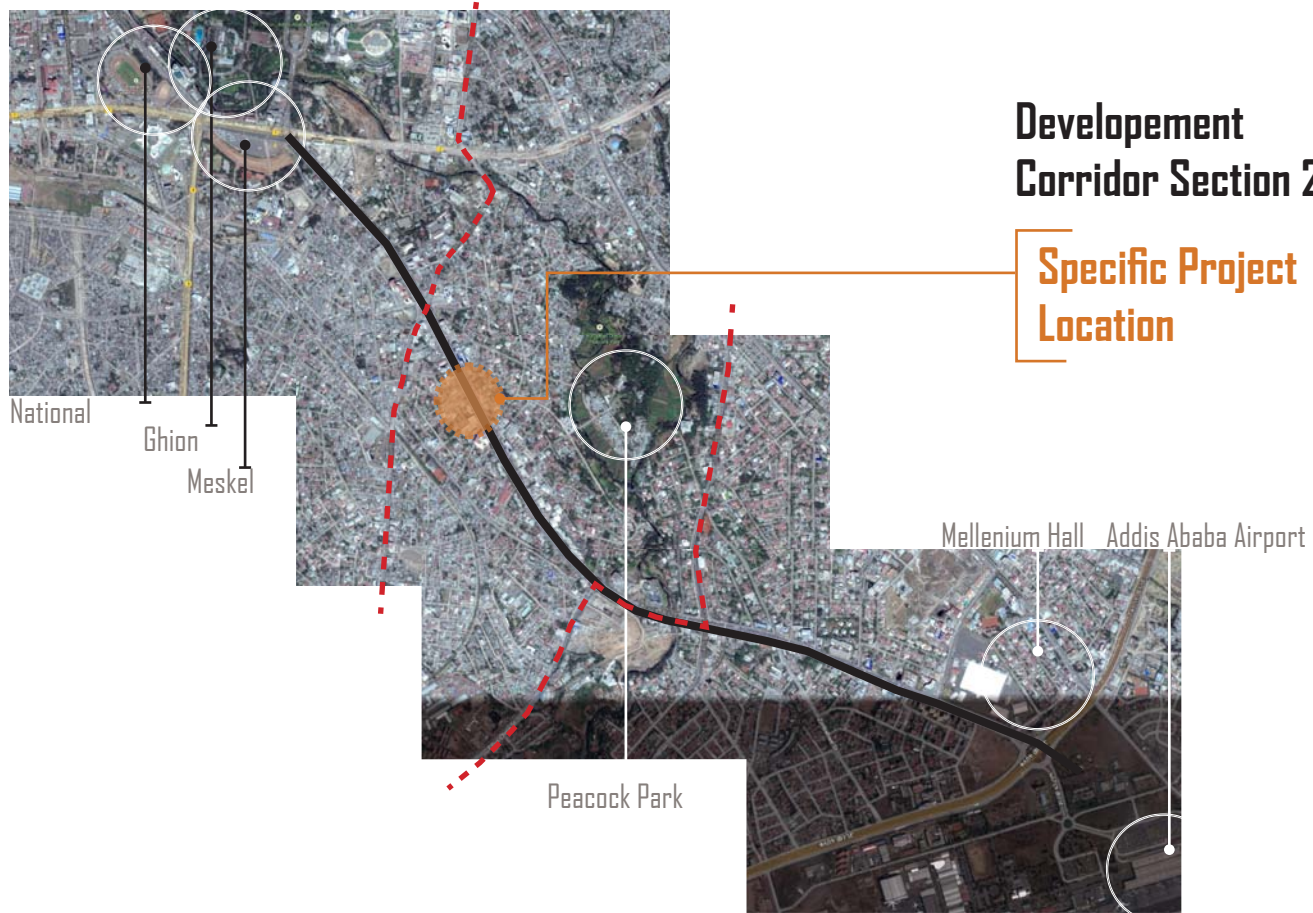
Natural Ventilation

05

Thermal Comfort

03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Case Project Description

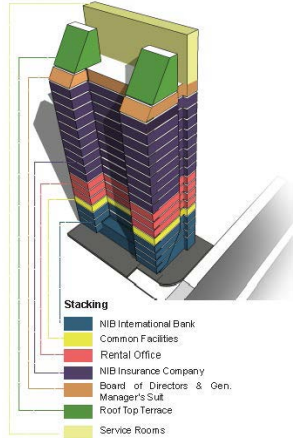


03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Case Project Description



BAR (Built up Area Ratio):
78% of the plot is built up.



Major Function:
Office

Size of the site/plot: 1436 m²
Gross Floor Area: **17,946 m²**

In total for the **17 floors**,
1020 people can be
accommodated.

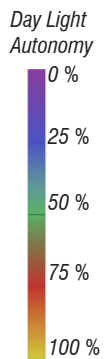
Area per person (working
area + circulation space) is
13m².



03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Day Light Study of Different Levels

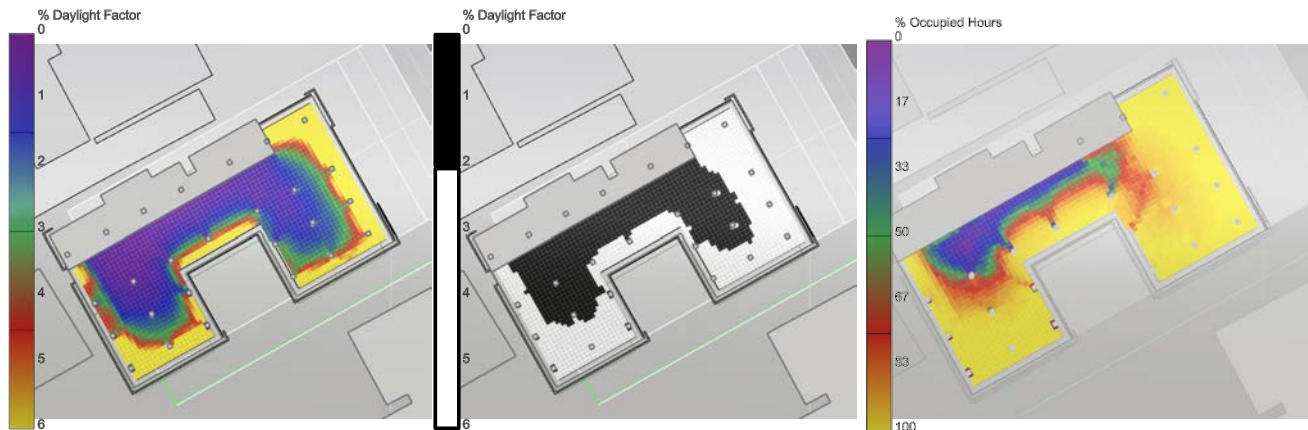
Providing good daylighting in all areas of the floor is challenging.



16th Floor



1st Floor



03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Day Light Study of Typical Level

Two extrem cases are present:

Under illumination

Over illumination

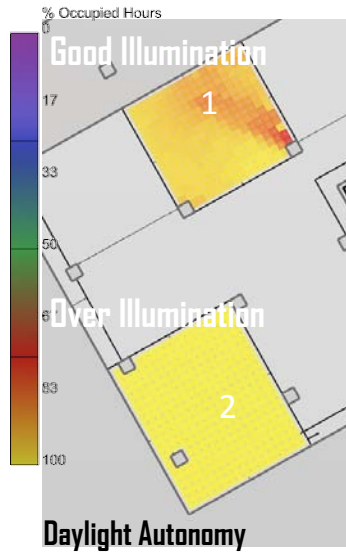


03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

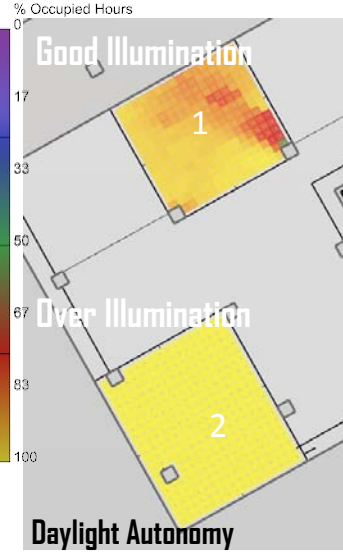
Day Light Study of Typical Level

Investigating the two extreme cases with various glazing proportions showed the position of the core should be adjusted.

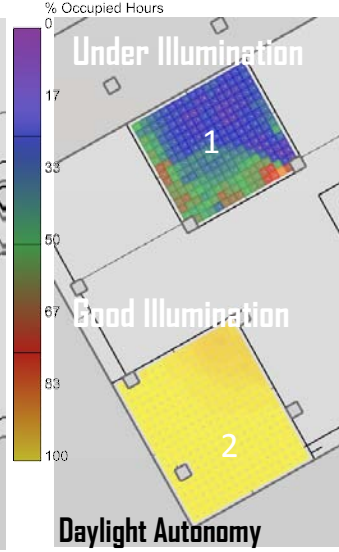
WWR
80% Glazing, 20%SolidWall



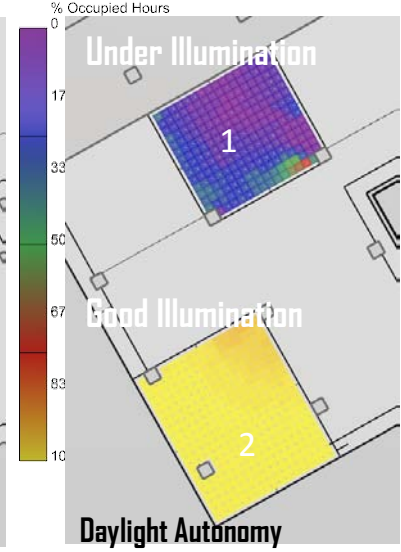
WWR
60% Glazing, 40%SolidWall



WWR
40% Glazing, 60%SolidWall



WWR
20% Glazing, 80%SolidWall



03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Day Light Study of Typical Level

Two extrem cases are present:

Under illumination

Over illumination



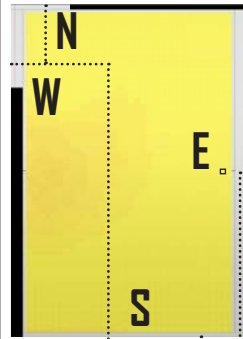
03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Day Light Study of Typical Level

Recommendation

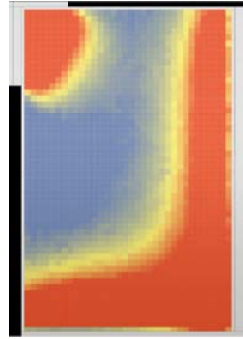
For large spaces, providing openings in different orientations improves illumination.

Daylight Autonomy

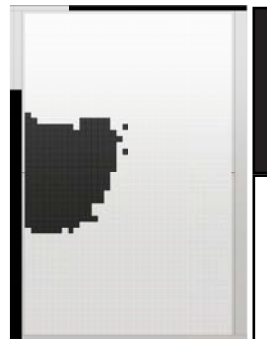


DA 100%

Daylight Factor

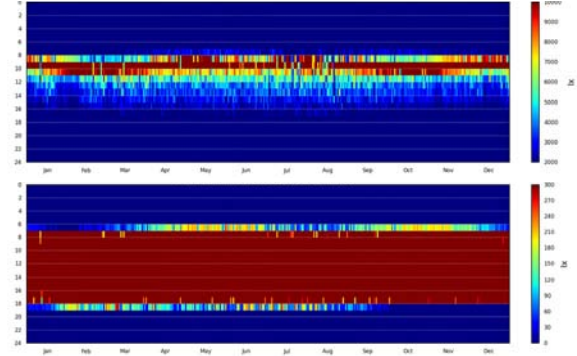


2<DF<6 52%



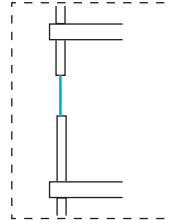
DF<2 13%

Annala Illumination

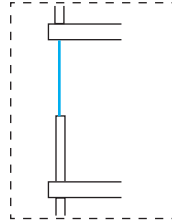


Good illumination

50% Glazing



50% Glazing

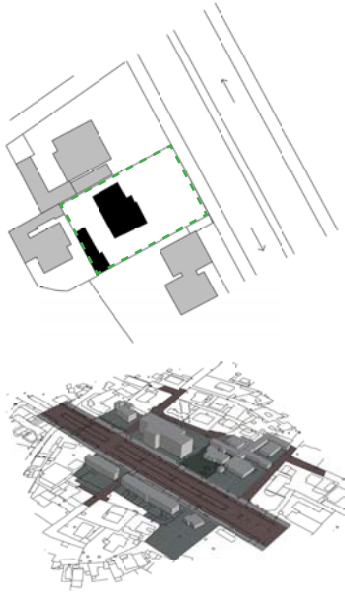


BACK TO BUILDING MASS STUDY

WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVE BUILDING LAYOUTS?

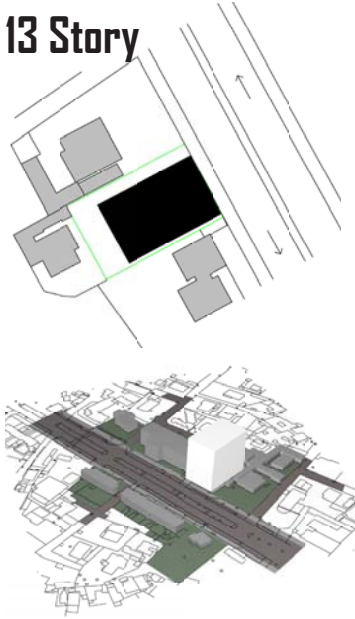
03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Base Case:
Original Plot

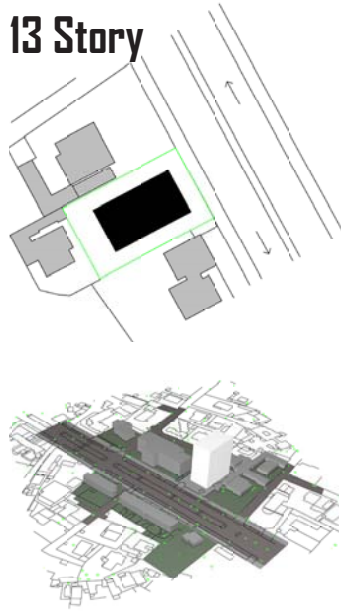


Possible Building Volumes as per the Regulation

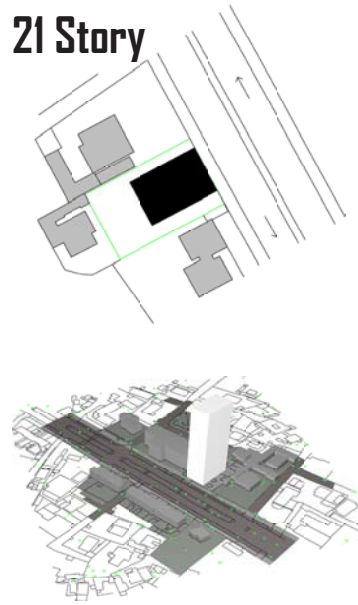
Case 1
13 Story



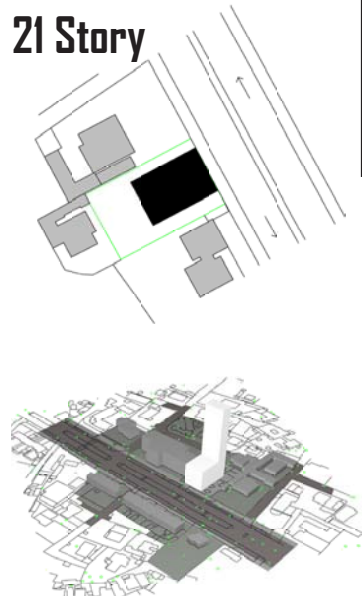
Case 2
13 Story



Case 3
21 Story

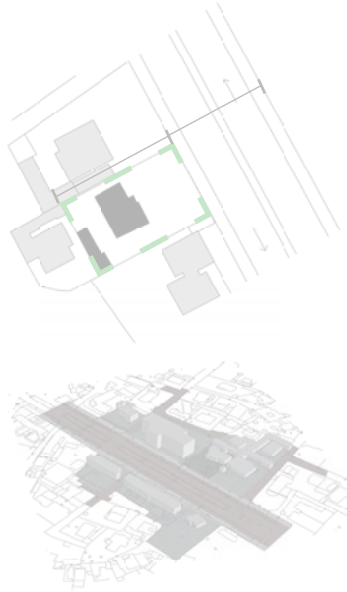


Case 4
21 Story



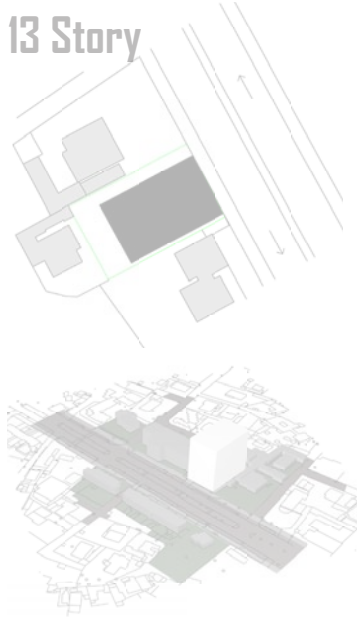
03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Base Case:
Original Plot

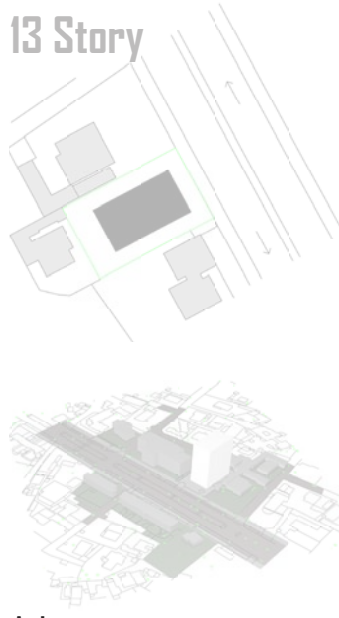


Possible Building Volumes as per the Regulation

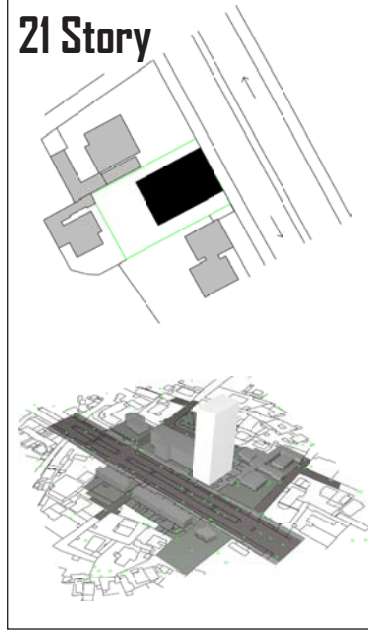
Case 1
13 Story



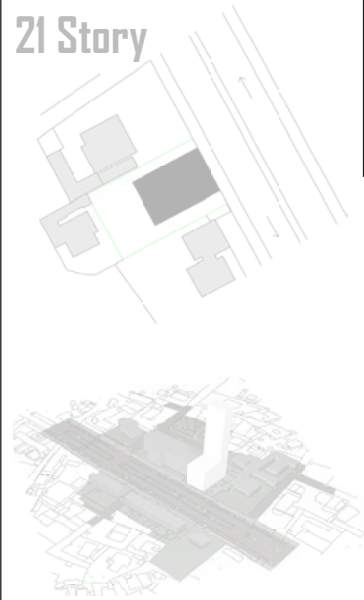
Case 2
13 Story



Case 3
21 Story



Case 4
21 Story



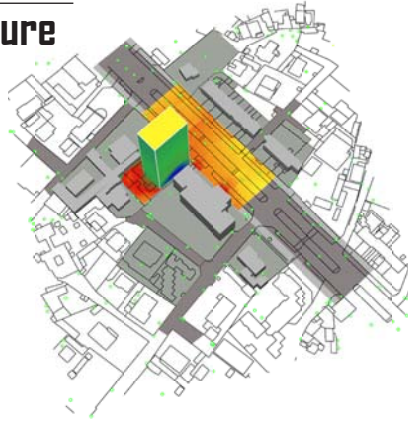
Advantages:

- Provides the possibility to balance street shading and ideal solar exposure of building facade and plot.
- Increased floor area

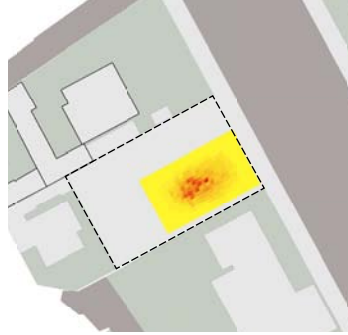
03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Building Impact Current and Future Development

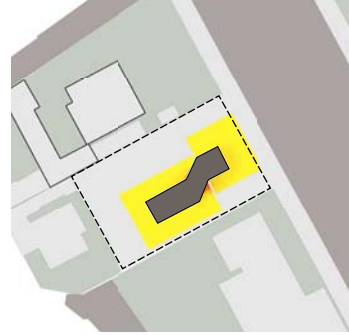
Current
Development



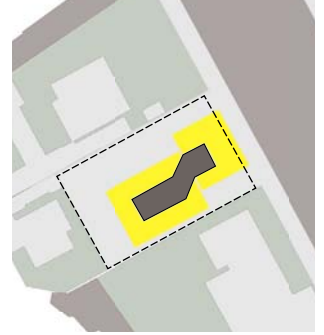
Ground Level



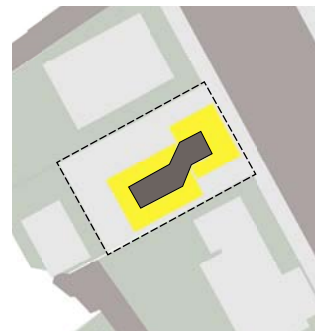
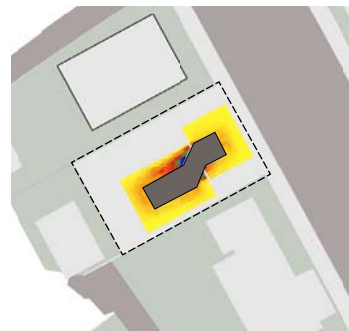
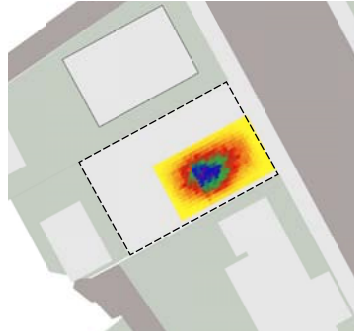
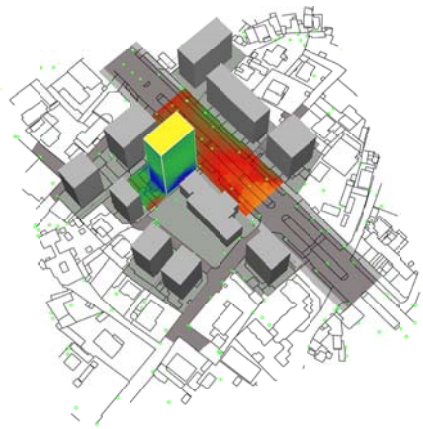
Ground Level



16th Level



Future
Development



FINDINGS OF NATURAL DAYLIGHTING STUDY

WHAT IS MISSING IN THE ETHIOPIAN BUILDING REGULATION?

WHAT IS MISSING IN DESIGN RULES OF THUMB?

03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Regulation on Natural Daylighting

„... For general offices illuminance of 500.0 lx and for drawing offices illuminance of 750.0 lx shall be provided.“

„... Where local lighting is used, the ratio of illuminance between task area and the surrounding area shall not exceed 3: 1.“

„... Demand for office: 50 W/m² ...“

Recommendations

Detailed stipulations for Natural DayLighting shall be provided.

Illuminance

As per DIN 5034, natural lighting illuminance requirement dictates that 60% of artificial light lux requirements shall be met.

Glare

Shall be separately stated for natural lighting and spaces close to windows. As per DIN 5034 ratio as high as 1:10 is evaluated. Glare studies shall incorporate size of light source.

Demand

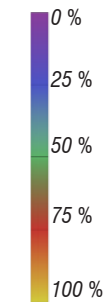
As per Faustformel Gebäudetechnik für Architekten Power demand for lighting is 10-15 W/m².

03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

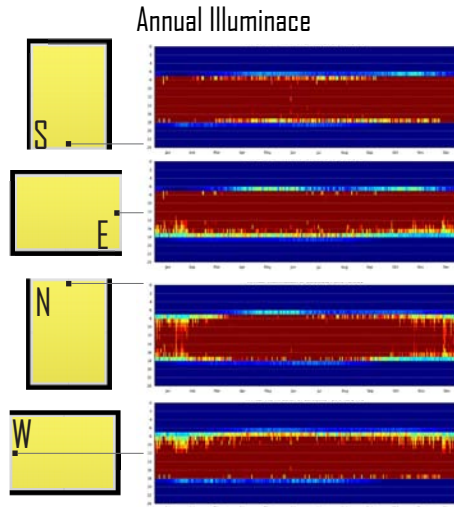
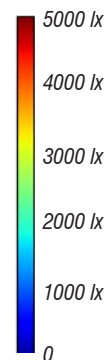
Rule of Thumb on Natural Daylighting

„Window to Floor Area Ratio of 40% for good lighting“

Day Light Autonomy



Annual Illuminance



Window to Floor Area Ratio: **43%**

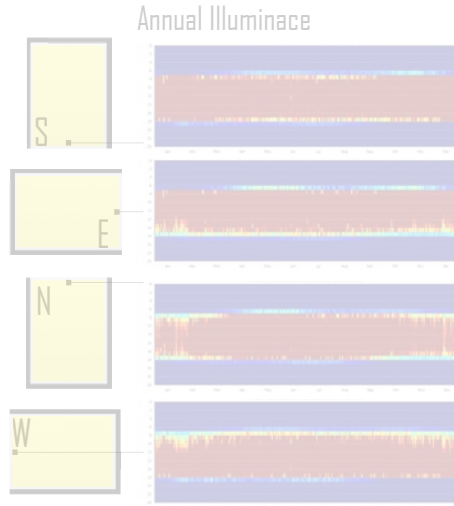
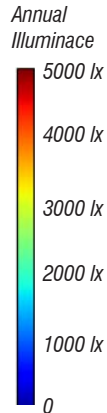
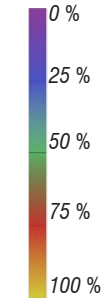
Window to Wall Ratio: **100%**

03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

Rule of Thumb on Natural Daylighting

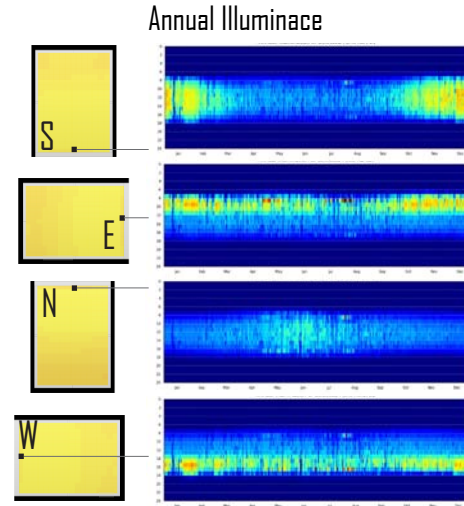
Using 40% of Floor Area to desing glazing size is limiting and less accurate.

Day Light Autonomy



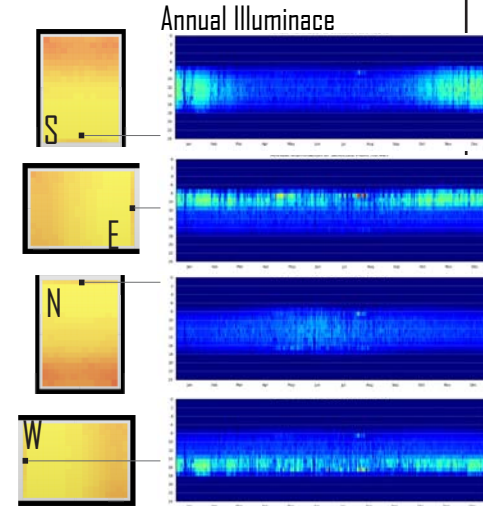
Window to Floor Area Ratio: **43%**

Window to Wall Ratio: **100%**



Window to Floor Area Ratio: **25%**

Window to Wall Ratio: **60%**



Window to Floor Area Ratio: **17%**

Window to Wall Ratio: **40%**

04

Natural Ventilation

01

Climatic Context

02

Building Massing

03

Natural Daylight

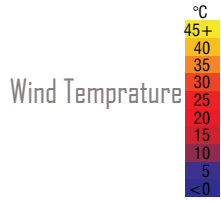
05

Thermal Comfort

04 NATURAL VENTILATION

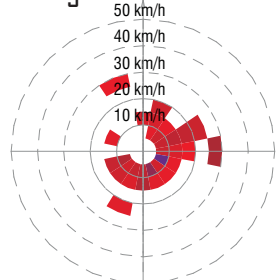
Potential for Natural Ventiation

Good Potential for night flushing during hot times of the year.



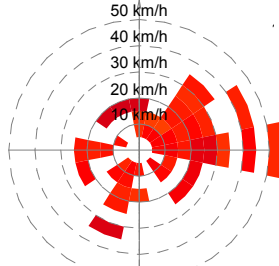
March

Morning



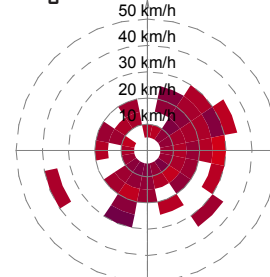
March

Afternoon

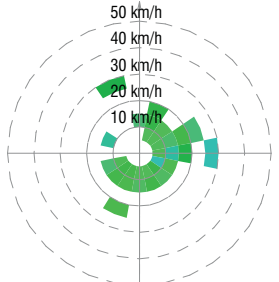


March

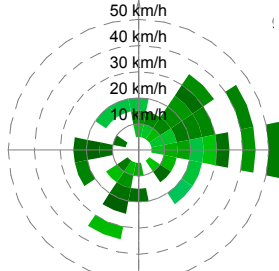
Night



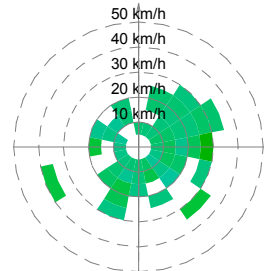
March



March



March



March

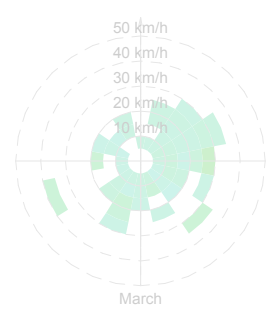
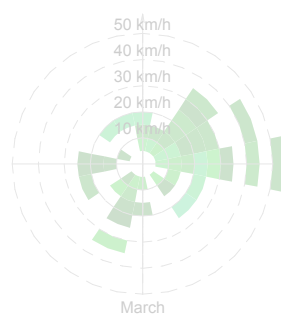
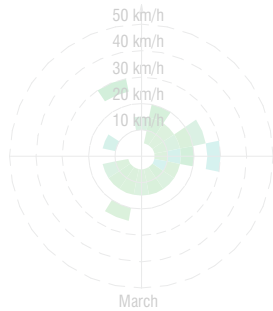
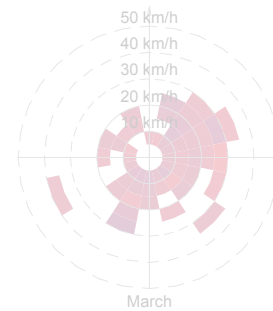
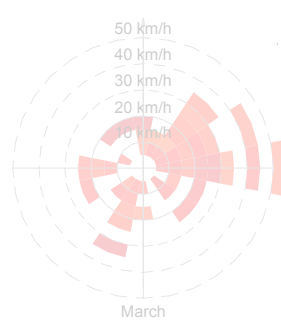
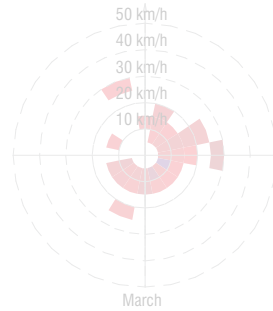
04 NATURAL VENTILATION

Potential for Natural Ventiation

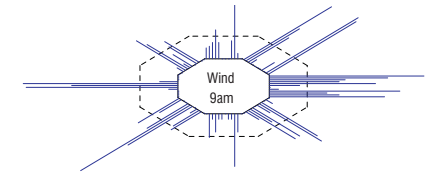
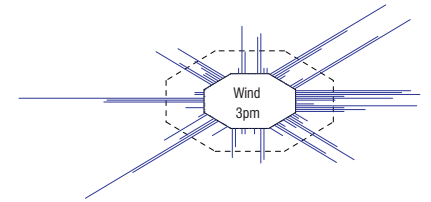
Good Potential for night flushing during hot times of the year.

- **E Facade:** good natural ventilation potential
- **N and S Facade:** least natural ventilation potential for majority of the year.
- **W Facade:** good natural ventilation potential during wet season.

March



Annual Wind Different Facade Orientations



DESPITE HUGE POTENTIAL FOR NATURAL VENTILATION

WHAT IS MISSING IN THE ETHIOPIAN BUILDING REGULATION?

DESPITE HUGE POTENTIAL FOR NATURAL VENTILATION

WHAT IS MISSING IN THE ETHIOPIAN BUILDING REGULATION?

Ethiopian Building Code of Standards

- Detailed guidelines for **natural ventilation** are missing.
- Numbers provided present ambiguity
 - ◇ Opening part of window is specified not to be less than **1/12th of floor area** regardless of orientation and context.
 - ◇ Requested minimum ventilation is **7ACH (to be achieved with a combination of natural and mechanical)**

05

Thermal Comfort

01

Climatic Context

02

Building Massing

03

Natural Daylight

04

Natural Ventilation

Ethiopian Code of Standards

States requirement when air-conditioning system is used:

Operative temperature between 23 °C and 25 °C.

THERMAL COMFORT IS NOT DISCUSSED FOR NATURALLY VENTILATED SPACES.

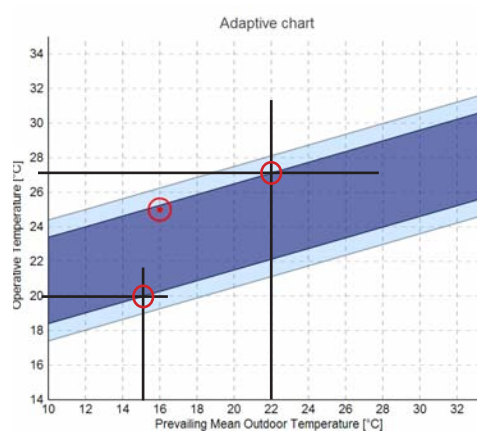
05 THERMAL COMFORT

Ethiopian Code of Standards

States requirement when air-conditioning system is used:

Operative temperature between 23 °C and 25 °C.

THERMAL COMFORT IS NOT DISCUSSED FOR NATURALLY VENTILATED SPACES.



ASHREA 55: Adaptive Chart

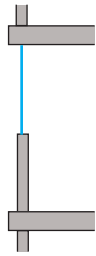
Operative Temperature
90% Acceptability Range
Between 20 °C and 27 °C

05 THERMAL COMFORT

Window to Wall Ratio

Full Glazing

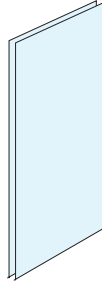
50% Glazing



Glazing

Single

Double

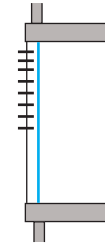
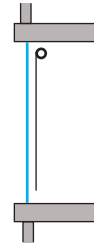


Shading

No

Internal

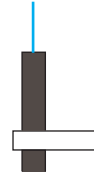
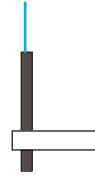
External



Thermal

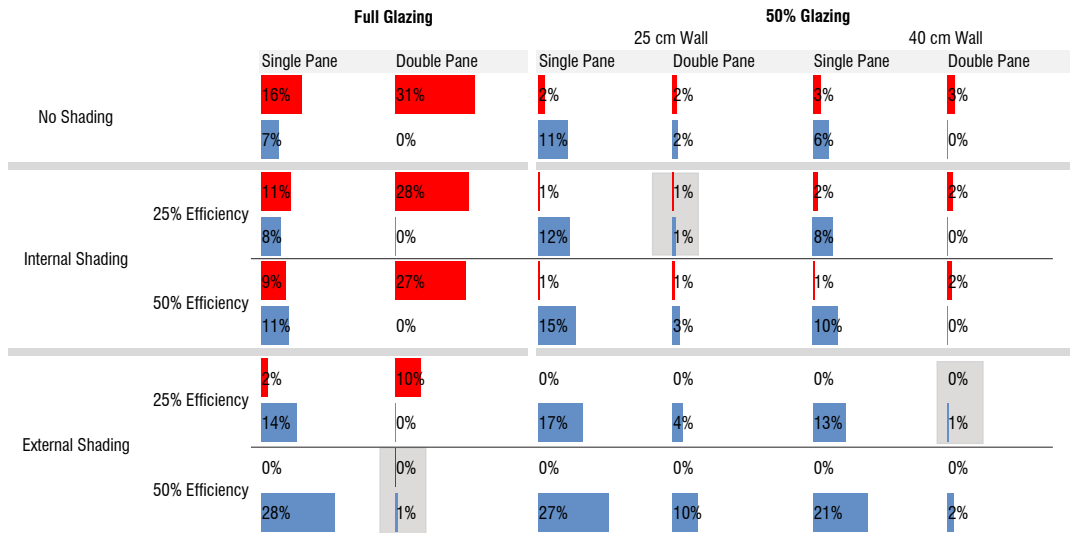
20 cm Wall

40 cm Wall

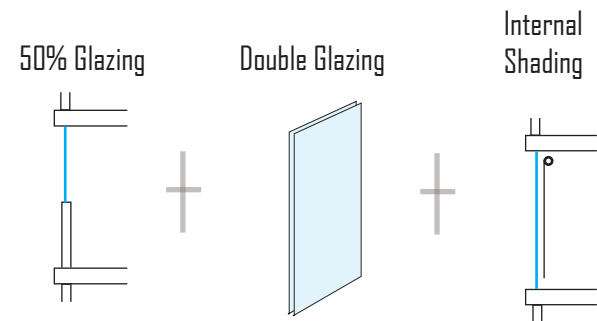
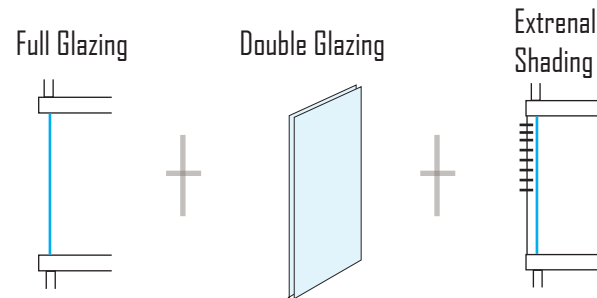


05 THERMAL COMFORT

South

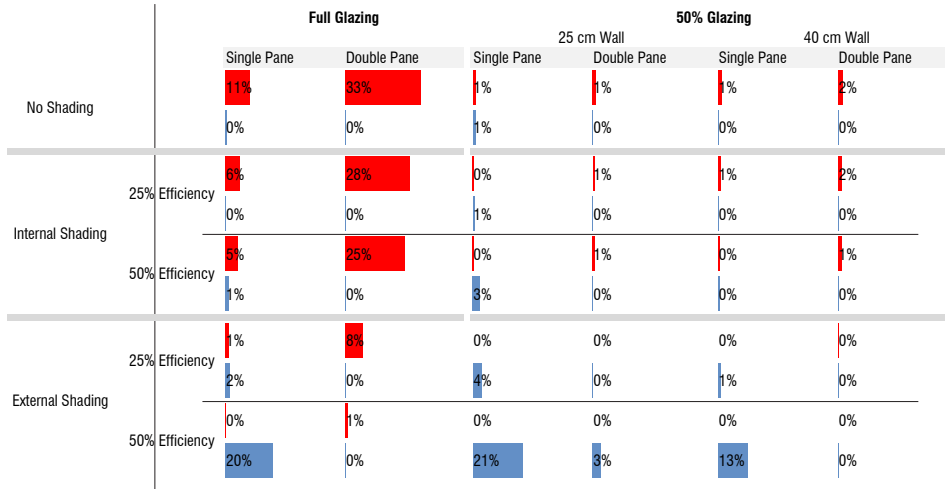


Good Comfort

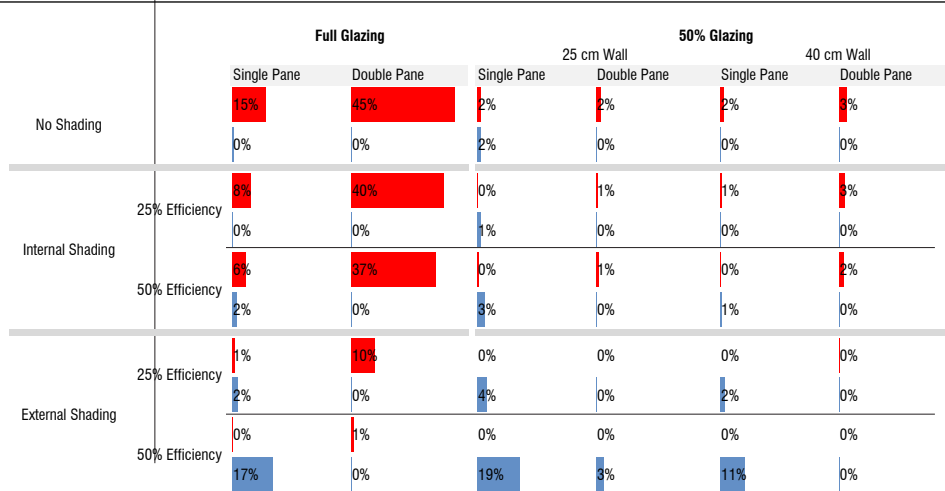


05 THERMAL COMFORT

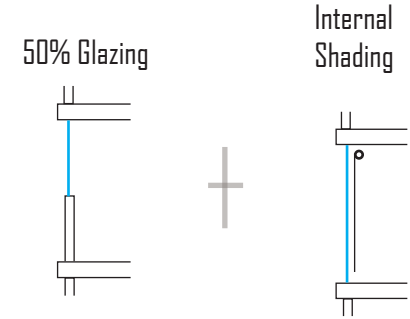
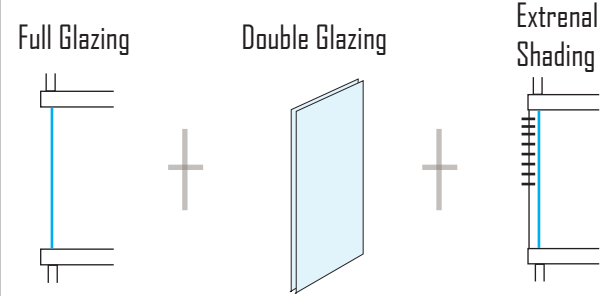
West



East



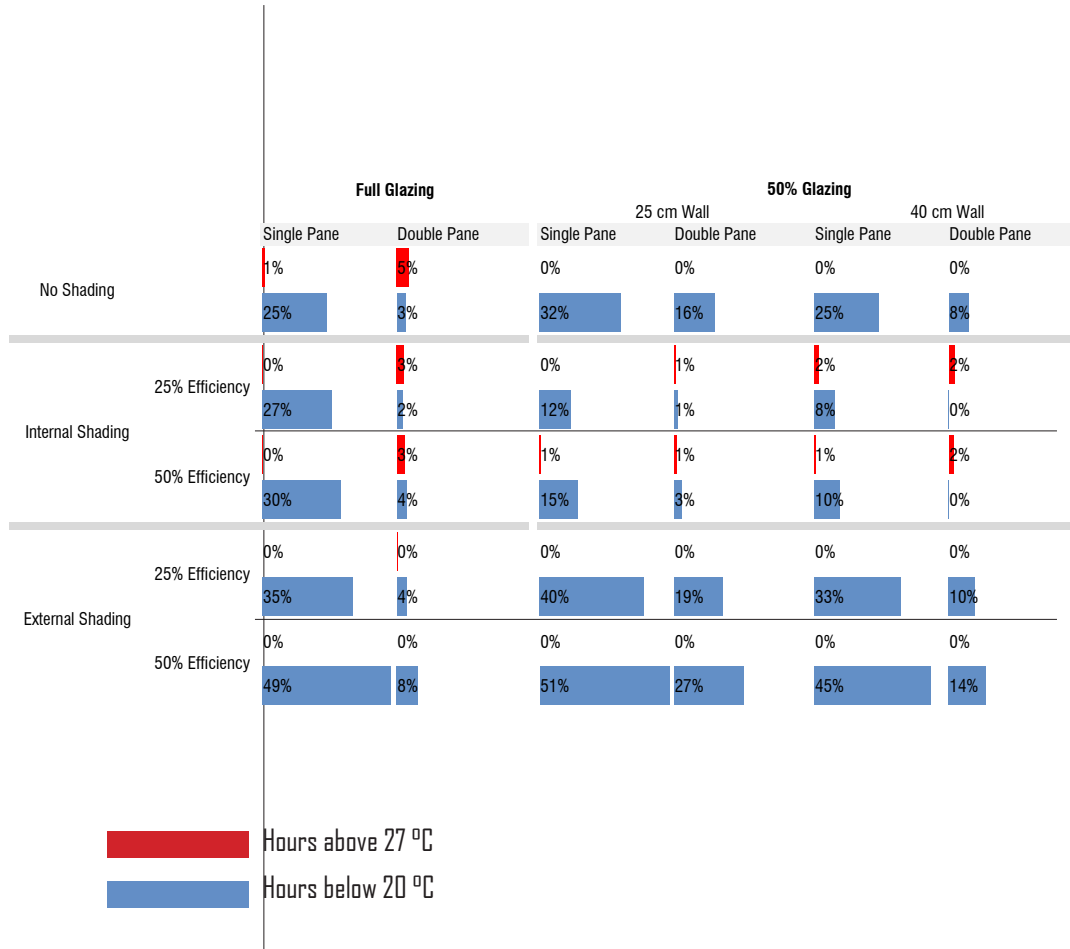
Good Comfort



Important note: Double pane should not be used for full glazed windows without external shading.

05 THERMAL COMFORT

North



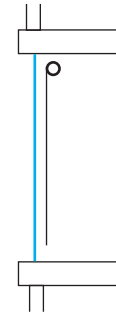
█ Hours above 27 °C
█ Hours below 20 °C

Good Comfort

Double Glazing



Internal Shading

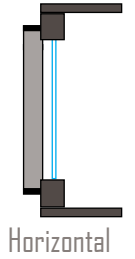
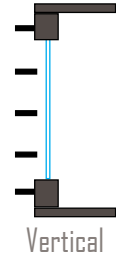
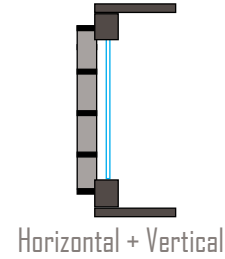
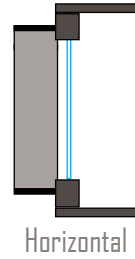
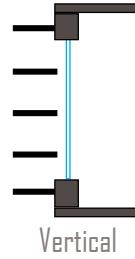
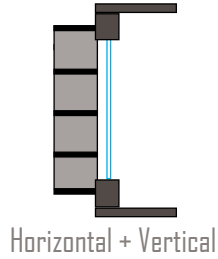


Important note: **External Shading shall be reduced as much as possible.**

04 NATURAL VENTILATION

Facade Shading Study

Horizontal Sections of Glazed Surface



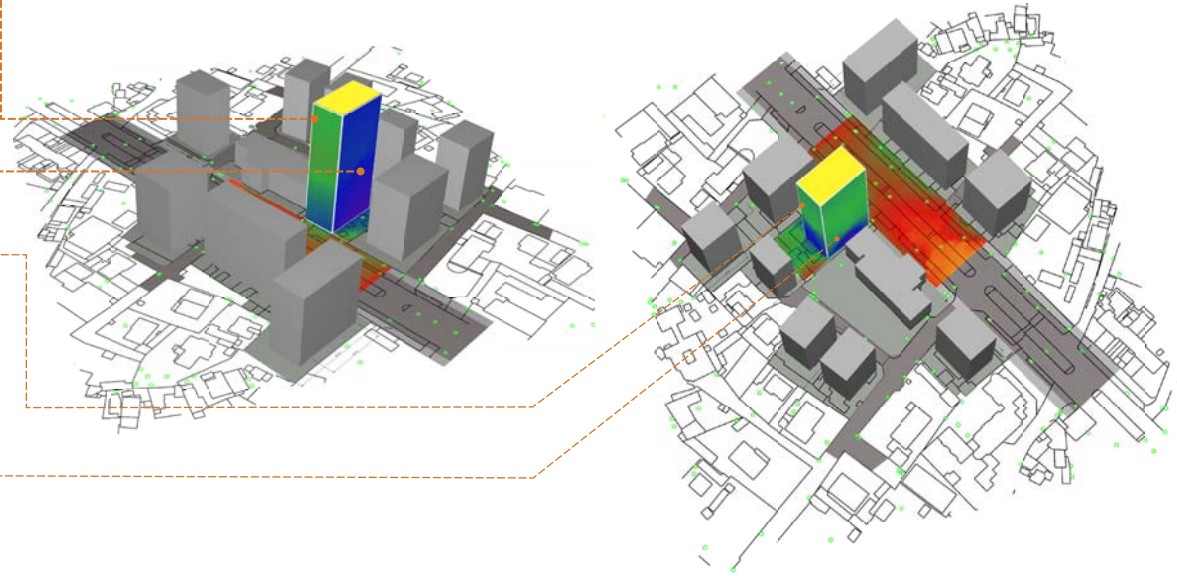
Consideration for future development.

NE Facade

SE Facade

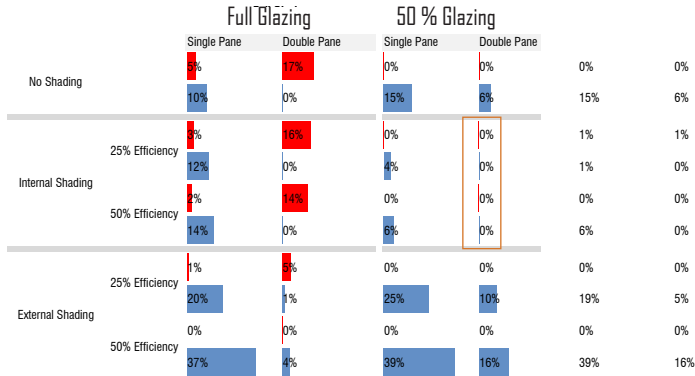
SW Facade

NW Facade

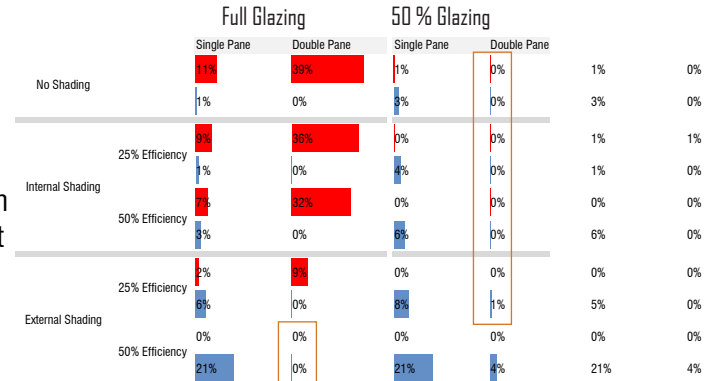


05 THERMAL COMFORT

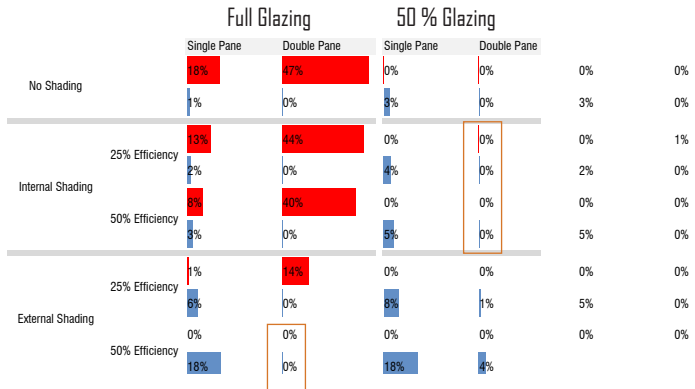
North
East



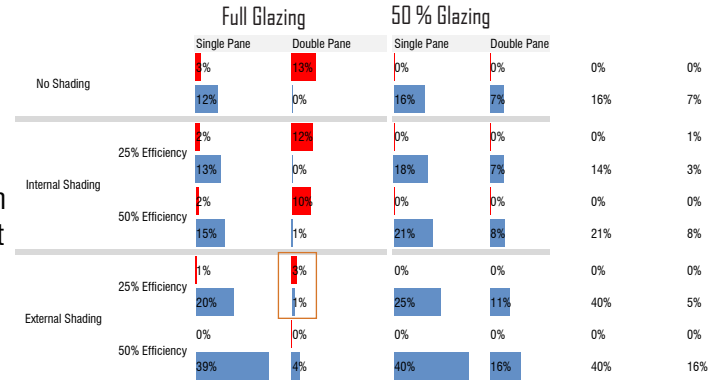
South
West



South
East



North
West

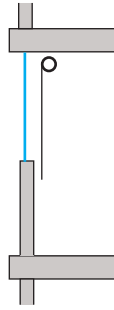


Hours above 27 °C

Hours below 20 °C

05 THERMAL COMFORT

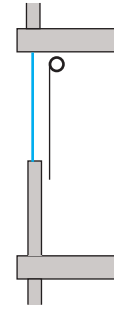
NORTH EAST



50% Glazing

Internal Shading

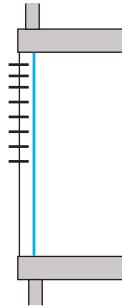
NORTH WEST



50% Glazing

Internal Shading

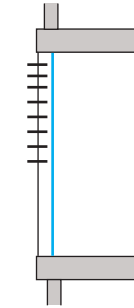
SOUTH EAST



Full Glazing

Extrenal Shading
50 % Efficient

SOUTH WEST



Full Glazing

Extrenal Shading
25 % Efficient

03 NATURAL DAYLIGHTING

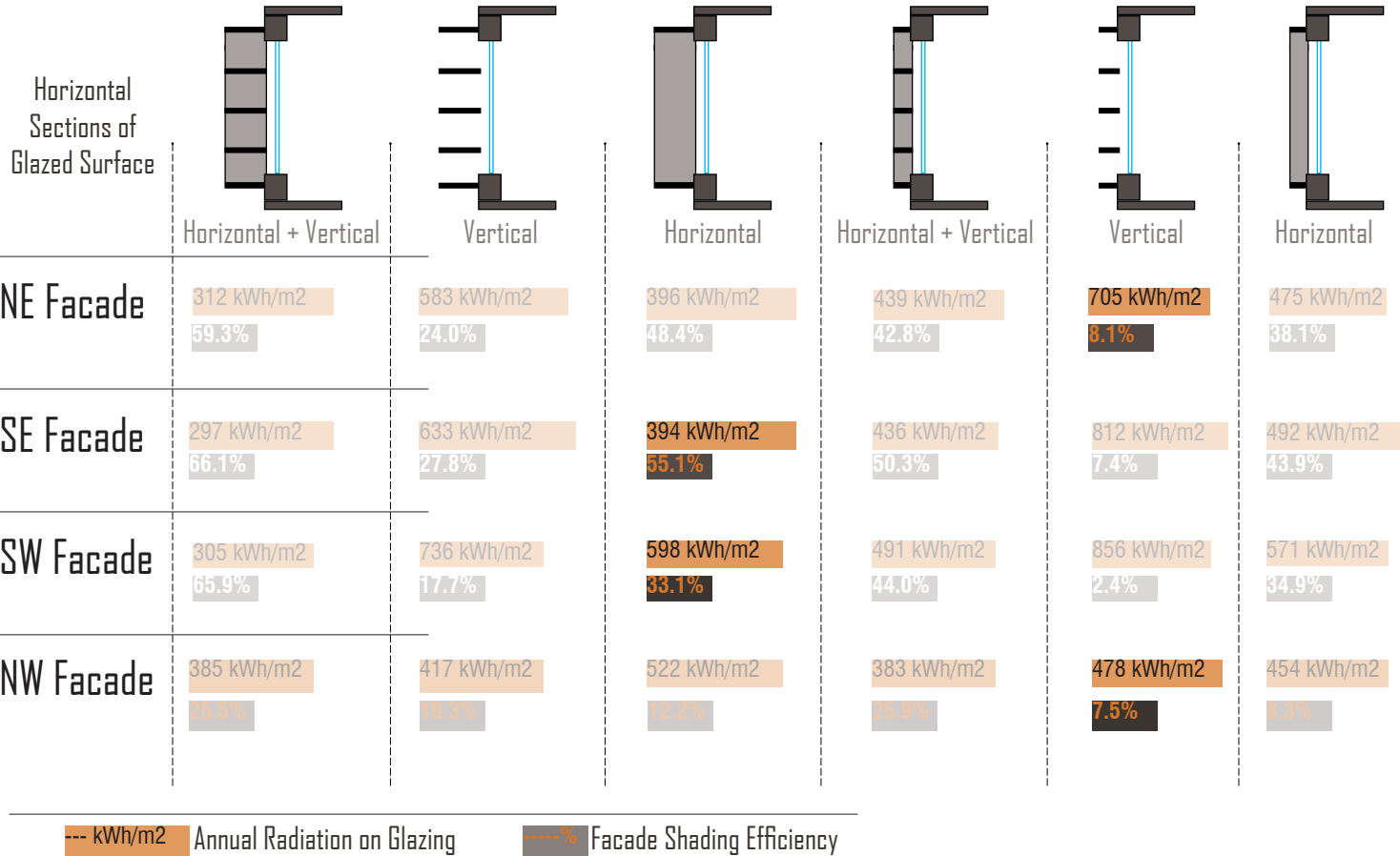
Facade Shading Study

Shading:

Visual Comfort

- Good illumination
- Glare protection

Thermal Comfort



Gaps are observed between the **actual climatic and environmental context** of the Addis Ababa and **current building codes and regulations** in both urban and building scale.

Improvements shall be considered by exhaustively investigating:

Climatic Context

Outdoor Comfort

Natural Daylighting

Natural Ventilation

Thermal Comfort

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"Ameseginalahu"