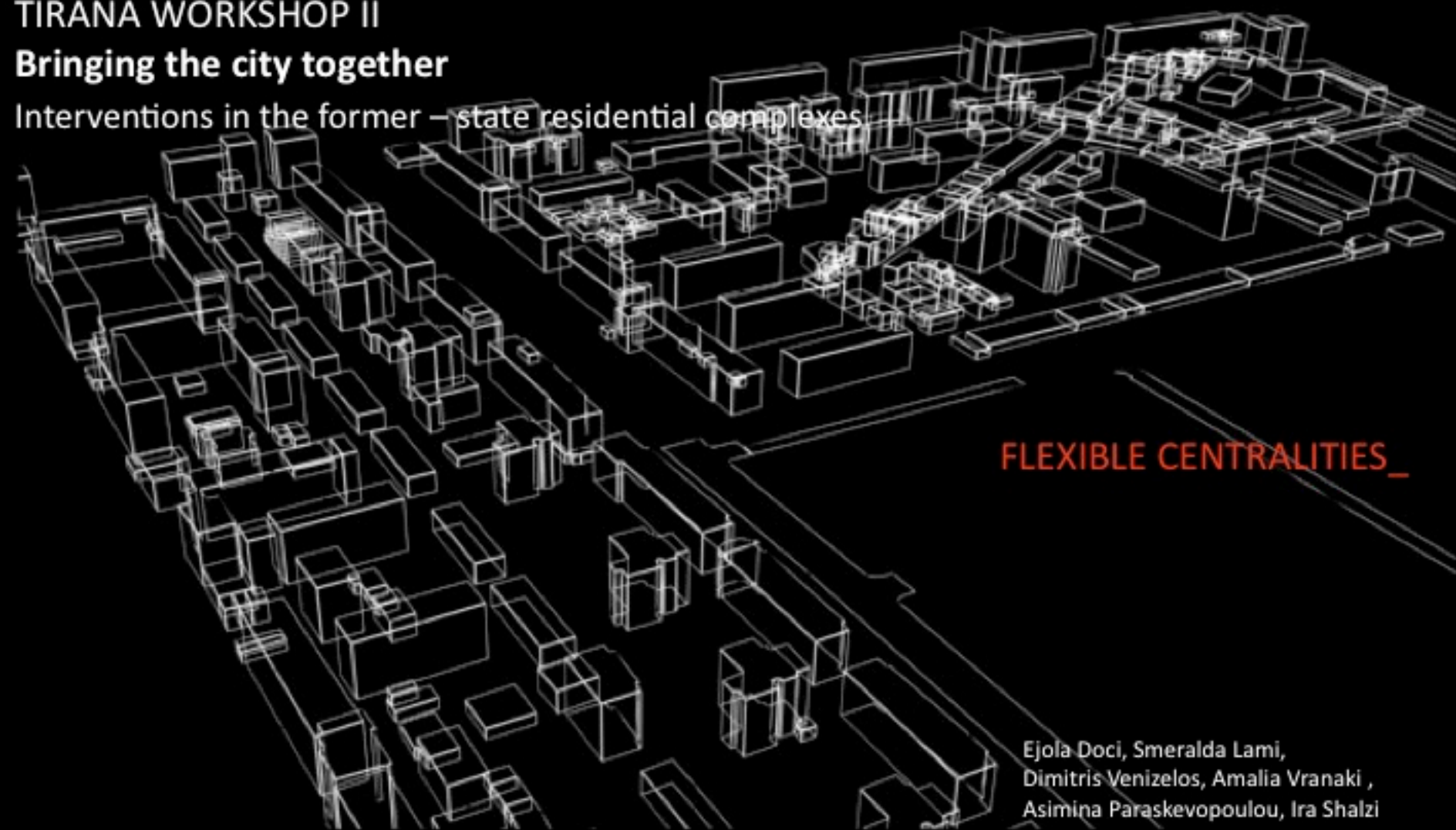


## TIRANA WORKSHOP II

### Bringing the city together

Interventions in the former – state residential complexes



**FLEXIBLE CENTRALITIES\_**

Ejola Doci, Smeralda Lami,  
Dimitris Venizelos, Amalia Vranaki ,  
Asimina Paraskevopoulou, Ira Shalzi

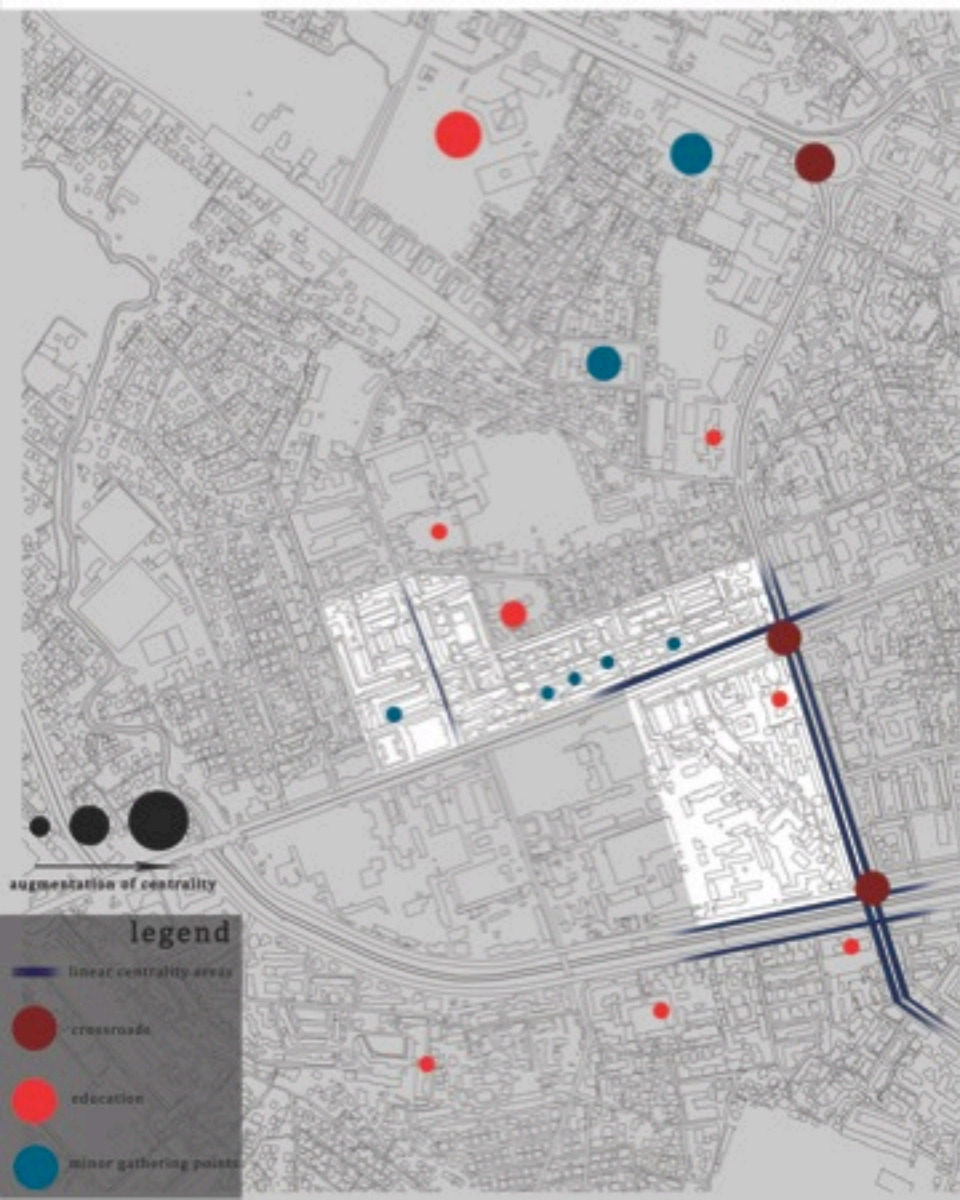
centralities are in a **dynamic** relation with the future  
development of the surroundings

**Centrality** is defined as a sense of a public gathering in a public free  
space, without a necessary relation to a private interest.

## CENTRALITIES IN THE WIDER AREA OF TIRANA\_







EXISTING CENTRALITIES IN THE WIDER  
STUDY AREA\_

PRIVATE

SEMI-  
PRIVATE

SEMI-  
PUBLIC

PUBLIC



PRIVATE

SEMI-  
PRIVATE

SEMI-  
PUBLIC

PUBLIC



PRIVATE

SEMI-  
PRIVATE

SEMI-  
PUBLIC

PUBLIC



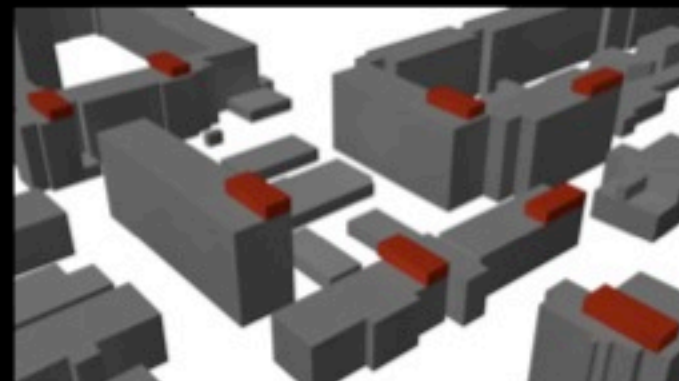
Development of centralities\_





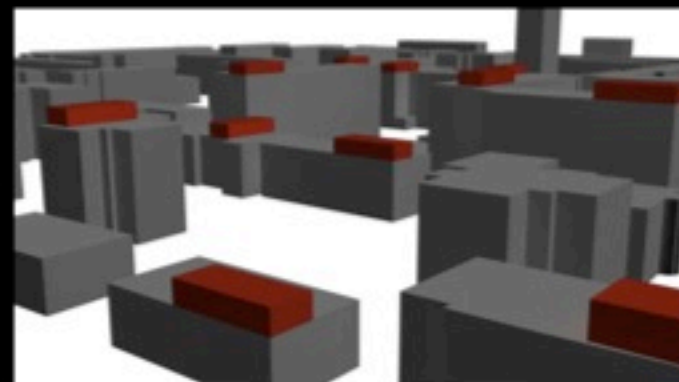
*Map of demolitions*

minimum possible interventions



**Step 1:** Restoration of the original housing blocks of the area  
respect the original design

**Step 2 :** creation of open public space that will facilitate centrality and public life  
Demolitions of informal houses when needed  
Participatory design for new dwellings



*Proposal for new additional dwellings*



## THE INTERVENTION





In a city of **constant evolution** and change  
urban design could not be **deterministic** but  
**flexible** to any possible variations of the parameters of the environment.

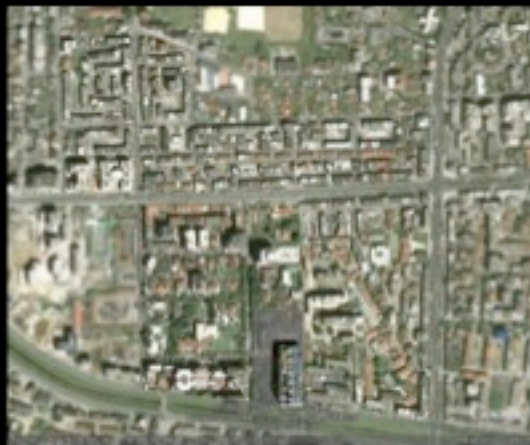
**Assumptions:** In order to visualize the flexibility of our proposal we analyze 3 case-scenarios that represent 3 distinctive situations on the edges and in the middle of the range of possible outcomes.

**Experiment :** For each situation we  
examine the impact of our urban intervention concerning the issue of centrality

Scenario a



Scenario b



Scenario c







# SCENARIO A



## POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF THE EXTERNAL AREA

- An area of a **public character**.
- Cultural Park – a complex of public buildings with a lot of organized open spaces.
- Contains a park, theater, cinema and the infrastructure to sustain cultural and social activities.

( social gathering points such as restaurants , coffee shops, planted open spaces with a full range of urban furniture)

## RESPONSE OF THE STUDY AREA – CHARACTER OF THE CENTRALITY CREATED

- **The area's centrality will be displaced outside of it.**
- In the area's most public space, there will only be public uses of a low density:
  - Coffee shops*
  - Small shops*
  - Bakery*
  - Grocery shops*
  - Etc....*
- The less public spaces such as the yards of L – or U– shaped blocks will obtain a more private character: e.g. gardens for houses formed in a spontaneous way.
- Allow the residents to **intervene into the common space** of the yard and use it in a more private way as far as it doesn't involve big extensions that will destroy the spatial quality.



POSSIBLE FORMATIONS INSIDE THE BLOCKS OF L , U SHAPE AND CENTRAL AREA



## SCENARIO B



POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF THE EXTERNAL AREA	RESPONSE OF THE STUDY AREA – CHARACTER OF THE CENTRALITY CREATED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential area with some open public spaces that are able to facilitate a certain public use.</li> <li>• There is a shopping mall that refers to the wider area</li> <li>• Commercial uses</li> <li>• Restaurants</li> <li>• Coffee shops</li> <li>• Bars</li> <li>• Shops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The area's centrality is of some intensity</li> <li>• In the area's most public space, there will only be public uses of a low density:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Coffee shops</i></li> <li><i>Small shops</i></li> <li><i>Grocery shops</i></li> <li><i>Etc....</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• The less public spaces such as the yards of L – or U – shaped blocks will facilitate small playing grounds , small coffee shops , bakeries etc.</li> </ul>

## SCENARIO B

### POSSIBLE FORMATIONS INSIDE THE BLOCKS OF L , U SHAPE AND CENTRAL AREA





## SCENARIO C



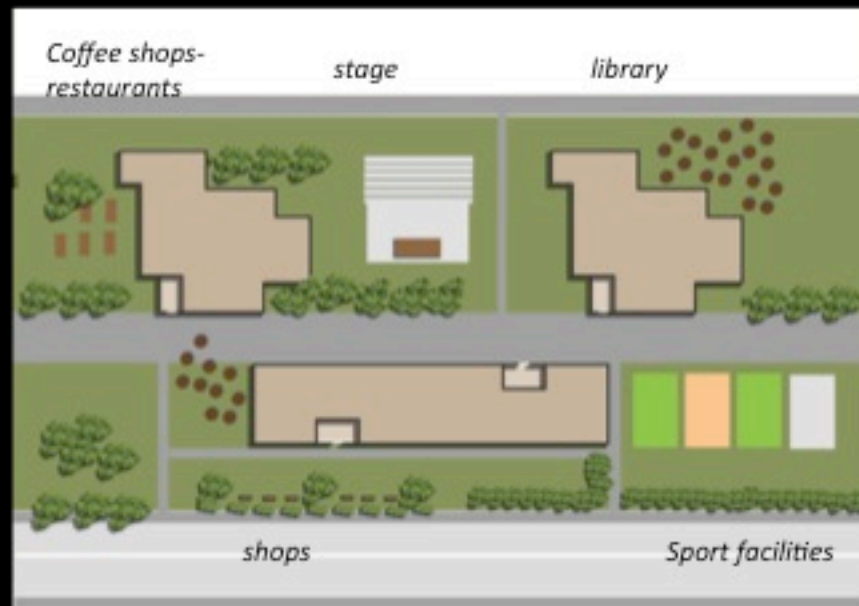
### POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF THE EXTERNAL AREA

- **Residential area of high rise buildings with no or very little open space**
- No urban furnishing and no infrastructure promoting public activities.
- High density and intense car circulation
- No infrastructure for bike or pedestrians
- Industrial storage facilities
- Fragmented urban fabric.

### RESPONSE OF THE STUDY AREA – CHARACTER OF THE CENTRALITY CREATED

- **Extensive need for centrality** and high density of public uses inside the study area, since the environment provides no potential for public activity.
- The proposal for the study area must sustain centrality on its own
- In the area's most public space, there will be public uses of a high density:
  - Coffee shops
  - Restaurants
  - Open spaces – squares
  - Cinema
  - Library
  - Planted area
- The less public spaces such as the yards of L – or U – shaped blocks will obtain a more collective character: playgrounds, small open spaces with urban furniture etc. Some of the ground floors will sustain mild uses such as small coffee shops, grocery shops etc.

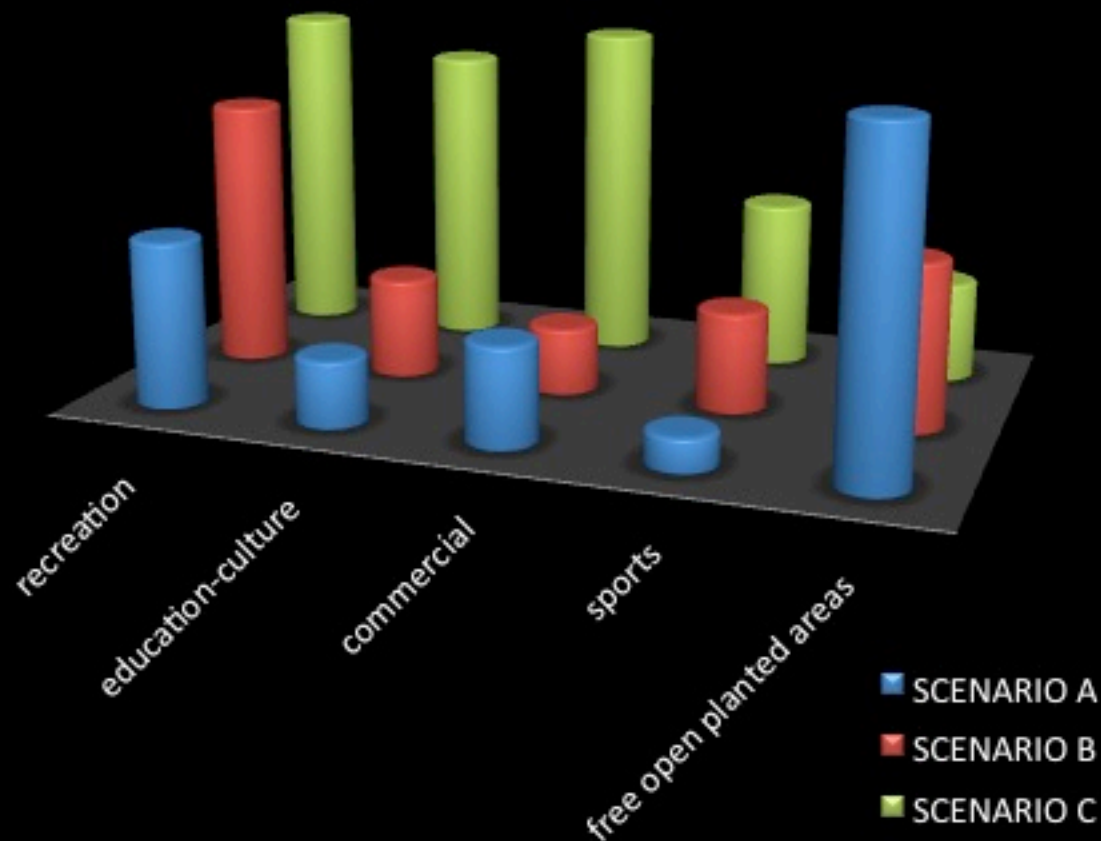
## POSSIBLE FORMATIONS INSIDE THE BLOCKS OF L , U SHAPE AND CENTRAL AREA





The study area is a part of a continuous urban fabric and is dynamically connected to it. Thus, in a city of a **constant evolution** and change, urban design could not be deterministic but **flexible** to any possible variations of the parameters of the environment.

## CENTRALITY – RATIO OF USES\_







**Transitions** from one scenario to another

Transparent **Borders** ?

Achieving **connections** with surroundings

**inhabitants** should remain