

FACT FILE /KIGALI



MU MYEMBE NEIGHBORHOOD

“Mu myembe” neighbourhood is a name that was given to an informal settlement in Kigali, Rwanda, that has since sprawled along the wetland spanning “Nyabugogo” (a prominent commercial and transport hub) to what is known as0 “Rwandex” industrial park.

It is a neighbourhood in close proximity to the “Gikondo” industrial area.

It is believed that the neighbourhood emerged in the late 80’s as shelter for workers linked to the industrial zones and construction sites of the major buildings on that hill.

The neighbourhood however, was vacated during the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

Over the years, as Rwanda gained stability and a sense of promise, the population of “Mu myembe” has increased as a result - drastically being influenced by the return of refugees and rural-urban exodus in search for security and job opportunities.

In terms of architecture, it then becomes an interesting opportunity to explore what shape this neighbourhood could take from primarily a social sustainability lens.