

Analysing outdoor airflow and pollution as a parameter to assess the compatibility of mass-scale low-cost residential development

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1 **Analysing outdoor airflow and pollution as a parameter to assess the compatibility of mass-scale** 2 **low-cost residential development**

3 **Abstract**

4 Land use compatibility has always remained an integrally crucial factor for city development.
5 Traditional contentious theories integrating land use planning principles, demand-oriented market
6 development and industry-induced air pollution regulations have debated the adjacency of residential
7 and industrial land uses. However, in the event of inevitable and unprecedented urbanization, where
8 land shortage has compelled cities to expand towards the industrial peripheries, low-income
9 resettlement planning turns evident. However, this process turns detrimental when land use
10 incompatibility affects newly settled population. Adjacent industrial pollution degrades health and
11 liveability, ultimately forcing the population to vacate the housing and recur poverty recycling
12 phenomenon. This study aims to assess micro-level land-use compatibility from health and liveability
13 viewpoint using environment-based computational fluid dynamics (CFD) analysis as a surrogate
14 measurement technique. It is assumed that if site-based ventilation potential and airflow assessment can
15 be performed at early design for site-selection and post-construction stages for rational retrofitting, it
16 would deliver a liveable environment to the low-income inhabitants. While industrial development is
17 irresistible, this study focused on environment-sensitive built-environment planning, utilising
18 aerodynamically potential morpho-metrics of urban form density, inter-building gaps and integrated
19 open spaces. Simulated results demonstrated that while existing built-environment planning failed to
20 deliver improved ventilation, the simulation-based approach of iterated built-environment designs
21 created air channelling and pollutant transport paths, thus reducing the air pollution stagnancy quotient.
22 This study, by applying a system-driven methodological approach aided in bridging the knowledge gaps
23 of micro-level land use compatibility assessment from environmental perspective and health viewpoint.

24 Keywords: Land use incompatibility; health and well-being; low-income; mass-scale housing;
25 computational fluid dynamics (CFD); airflow and pollution; built-environment.

26 **1. Introduction**

27 Land-use compatibility has always remained an integrally crucial factor in urban sectors, often igniting
28 an eternal conflict between humankind and land. While Hong Kong adopted land reuse and reclamation
29 strategy as a sustenance measure (Wang., Shen., Tang., & Skitmore. 2013), resettlement phenomenon
30 has become evident in metro-cities of developing nations like India. However, land-use compatibility,
31 ecological environment and even landscape of the newly developed and resettled land and adjoining
32 land-use often remain unassessed and overlooked in current land use planning guidelines.

33 The growth of cities is a universal process, as part of which the low-income group (LIG) becomes the
34 inevitable surplus. In response to this context, housing authorities and state government agencies tend
35 to develop hyper-dense low-cost mass-scale housing for the LIG and economically weaker section
36 (EWS). Nevertheless, the problem arises when these low-cost mass-scale housing strategies ultimately
37 deteriorate the liveability of intended population leading to 'rebound' (Debnath, Bardhan, & Sunikka-
38 blank, 2019) (Sarkar, & Bardhan., 2020b) and 'poverty recycling' phenomenon (Jones, 2017; Sholihah
39 & Shaojun, 2018).

40 Liveability, the idea which implies the ability of living space to support well-being, despite being a vital
41 factor, remains under-researched in low-income neighbourhoods. Reduced liveability in low-income
42 settlements include deplorable living conditions like poorly built housing structure on inferior
43 contaminated or disaster-prone and disadvantaged sites etc. Degraded living condition often exposes
44 the low-income people disproportionately to health risks (Govender, Barnes, & Pieper, 2011). Literature

45 on temporal and intersectional concerns of liveability encompasses various domains of social cohesion,
46 belongingness, privacy and safety, education, employment, housing, leisure and culture which are not
47 only subject to change but also depends on population cohort (Badland et al., 2014). However, this
48 study expresses liveability as the essential context where one's basic health and physical condition
49 would not deteriorate among low-income sector.

50 The key challenge lies in ensuring that low-cost mass-scale residential development does not come at
51 the cost of existing ecological conditions and more importantly, at the expense of the liveability and
52 health of the disadvantaged population. Lack of land-use compatibility, ecological sustainability and
53 liveability assessment have risked the neighbouring ecological milieu on one hand and more
54 significantly the health and well-being of the current low-income population residing in the newly
55 developed sites on the other hand. This alarming situation has called for the necessity of liveability
56 assessment through land-use compatibility and spatial complexity measurement.

57 Mumbai metropolitan-city had stabilized population growth in last two decades, yet, 52.5% of the city
58 population reside in slums occupying only nine per cent of the city's area (Weinstein, 2012). Given the
59 current focus of affordable housing authorities on formulating slum rehabilitation schemes and more
60 importantly on the development of low-cost mass housing, the Development Plan for Greater Mumbai
61 2014-2034: Preparatory Studies reported that "*Given the severely constrained supply of land and high*
62 *population density, obtaining land for public purpose in Greater Mumbai is extremely challenging*".
63 Hence, Mumbai turns to be a prominent case currently experiencing two types of low-income housing
64 development phenomenon- i) in-situ development, where the slum households undergo up-gradation
65 locally, with housing and basic infrastructure improvement, and ii) altered movement, where the land
66 parcels are procured by the state government to develop infrastructure projects, resulting in the wide
67 eviction of the inhabitants and resettling them to rehabilitation housing elsewhere under Project
68 Affected People (PAP) scheme (Bardhan, Sarkar, Jana, & Velaga, 2015).

69 Often under conditions of severe land shortage, the government is continually searching for means of
70 procuring enough land to meet the escalating housing shortage demands. Nevertheless, the government
71 initially in the lieu of performing a trade-off between cost and availability of land, sometimes ignore
72 the principles of land use compatibility ultimately jeopardising the health and liveability of the intended
73 residents. These instances are currently witnessed in Mumbai when some of the disadvantaged
74 population demanded to shift to other locations, or tend to rent out and vacate the mass housing not
75 only due to the regular socio-economic incompatibility but majorly due to degraded health conditions.
76 This 'rebound' phenomenon turns detrimental to the government authorities, not only by nullifying the
77 cost of land and vacated housing but also in the process of resettling the population again, thus mounting
78 the economic burden.

79 Recognising the key roles played by land-use decisions in controlling the ecological setting and micro-
80 environment of the developed land has the potential to contribute to innovative approaches to formulate
81 more effective land-use planning policies for forthcoming low-cost mass-scale housing development
82 projects. Moreover, the current land-use planning guidelines require an efficacy and compatibility
83 assessment tool for evaluating risks to neighbouring landscape on one hand and health and liveability
84 of the target population on the other hand.

85 Urbanisation has been repeatedly cited as a driver of disconnection from nature, although careful
86 planning and management of urban infrastructure can assist in improving the urban functioning
87 (Andersson et al. 2014). This study aligning with the above theory, attempts to treat cities as a socio-
88 ecological system, in which both subsystems are equally important and their sensitive development
89 determines liveability in the city.

90 The novelty of this study lies in considering land-use conflict as an inescapable event and investigating
91 an optimum route to solve the pressing issue. Understanding the current land-use setting of low-income
92 mass housing archetype on one hand and their micro-climatic condition, on the other hand, would aid
93 in identifying the role of land-use parcelling and especially morphological design in modulating the
94 environmental characteristics, which would, in turn, have an indirect impact on occupant health and
95 liveability. This study attempts to adopt a health and liveability perspective on land-use compatibility
96 assessment taking Mumbai slum rehabilitation housing as a case study. It tries to address the research
97 question – how micro-climatic condition particularly site-based airflow distribution acts as a criterion
98 to assess the residential-industrial land-use compatibility? The evaluation technique applied here
99 elucidates how urban ecology and morphology interlinkage impacts land-use compatibility to ensure
100 an improved and healthy environment in low-cost mass housing land? Objectively this study aims to a)
101 understand the locational and land-use setting differences among low-cost mass housing archetypes, as
102 a comparative analysis would enable in identifying the differences in land-use parcelling as well as the
103 quotient of healthy environment, b) how land-use incompatibility has changed the micro-climate and
104 environmental condition in these existing areas, ae) understand which morphological attributes can be
105 applied as policy variables to take careful land-use decisions and improve the environmental condition
106 of this socio-ecological setup, and db) to identify a feasible land-use planning approach where all
107 systems can co-exist. This study, by beholding the notion of socio-ecological system, bridges together
108 urban morphology and environmental planning analysis, and further puts forward convincing
109 morphological indicator-based proposals that would make residential buildings in peripheral
110 environment-sensitive zones more ‘liveable’. The inferences from this study extend conventional
111 understandings of land-use compatibility to account for crucial health concerns affecting low-income
112 disadvantaged populations. This would aid in formulating and revising forth-coming land-use policy
113 guidelines in cities of developing nations, especially in the global south.

114 2. Literature Review

115 Socio-anthropological theories explicated that ‘*measures in the change in social organization are*
116 *strongly associated with measures of change in land-use*’ (Bellamy & Foster, 1999; Axinn & Ghimire,
117 2011). While the resettled population condition their displacement with the guarantee of seeing
118 improvement in their standard of living as observed in Lao PDR (Romagny, 2004), this often remains
119 unfulfilled. The key-aspect of ‘change in land use’ associated with ‘change in social organisation’ is
120 rarely ventured in the theories of ‘displacement’. Inefficient space design, poor planning, operation and
121 monitoring coupled with other socio-political challenges during low-income mass housing development
122 has caused socio-spatial injustice resulting in degraded ‘spatialisation’ (Lefebvre, 1991),
123 impoverishment and disruption of social fabric among the marginalised sector (Sarkar, & Bardhan.,
124 2020b). Established theories like four-stage Scudder-Colson diachronic theoretical model of low-
125 income settlement (Michael M. Cernea, 1995), later evolved Impoverishment of Risks and
126 Reconstruction (IRR) Model (Cernea, 1997), as well as their contested researches (Aboda, Mugagga,
127 Byakagaba, & Nabanoga, 2019), recognised potential key-risks of low-income especially displaced
128 population, however, barely considering the aspect of ‘change in land-use’ and its impact on
129 inhabitants’ health and liveability. On the other hand, theories like ‘Lefebvre’s production of social
130 space’, ‘Mercer Quality of Living Indicators’ and ‘Clements-Croome et al., (2017)s’ SuBET planning
131 tools’ emphasised that health and liveability is a subject of geographical form, land-use, built-
132 environment and environmental setting.

133 2.1 Land use compatibility of low-cost residential development

134 Mainstream theoretical underpinnings on urban morphology and industrial land use locations including
135 concentric ring theory by Burgess, 1926, sector theory by Hoyt, 1939 and multi-nucleated zones theory
136 by Harris and Ullman, 1945 have always planned low-income settlements close to the industrial zones.
137 Contrastingly, the later-evolved land-use zoning bodies and regulatory authorities restricted the
138 residential development close to the red industrial zones. Hence, with industrialization, the industries
139 following ‘firm occupy facilities’ principles were observed to shift to the peripheries on one hand. On
140 the other hand, with escalated urbanisation the residential and mixed-use boundaries gradually
141 expanded and crossed the peripheral industrial land-use boundaries, thus leading to the emergence of
142 land use-environment integration as well as conflict.

143 The traditional land-use planning principles like Jabotabek plan in the late 1970s for greater Jakarta
144 metropolitan region suggested a fundamental policy message that land use management must be
145 dramatically improved to reduce the negative impacts of land-use changes and urban-industrial conflicts
146 for an environmentally sustainable development. Yet, the subsequent land development programmes
147 initiated ‘negative’ land use controls through zoning laws on one hand, and unrestrained private sector
148 land use on the other hand. Consequently, the Jabotabek plan despite having environment as one of its
149 concerns failed to institute a decision-making process capable of overcoming the obstacles in the way
150 of sound environmental management through land-use planning in the existing situation. The major
151 difficulties included i) absence of effective coordination between government bureaux charged with
152 aspects of land-use management, ii) absence of initiatives to guide private land development away from
153 environment-sensitive zones, and iii) lack of political will to implement existing regulations (Douglass.,
154 1989).

155 Land use compatibility assessment has been widely researched while measuring noise pollution levels
156 surrounding an airport (Kiani, Nassiri, Hosseini, & Monavari, 2014). Compatibility evaluation model
157 (CEM) approach using multi-criteria evaluation analysis method has been utilised for evaluating
158 different levels of physical compatibility of multi-functional and intensive urban land uses both
159 horizontally and vertically (Taleai, Sharifi, Sliuzas, & Mesgari, 2007). Recent improvements in land-
160 use zone compatibility assessment methods include public participatory mapping involving
161 consistency, conflict potential, zoning compatibility and sensitivity analysis (Brown, Sanders, & Reed,
162 2018; Karimi & Brown, 2017). Raman & Roy, (2019) proposed a taxonomy of urban morpho-metrics
163 suchlike scale, composition, compatibility, degree of mixing, density while assessing levels of land-use
164 planning. Expert-system approaches have been implemented while analysing the non-productive land-
165 use (Šalkauskienė, Gudritienė, & Abalikštienė, 2019). Wang., Shen., Tang., & Skitmore. (2013) utilised
166 a coupled approach of GIS-MCDM for supporting land-use decisions to investigate the environmental
167 aspect in five redevelopment sites of Hong Kong. Use of heavy computation-based algorithms are
168 nowadays widely used for land-use spatial optimum location-allocation modelling (Huang & Song,
169 2019; Jana, Bardhan, Sarkar, & Kumar, 2016).

170 While tools for land-use compatibility assessment has been widely ventured, a speck of researches
171 elucidating its interlinkage with health condition highlights the blind-spot in land-use compatibility
172 literature. A recent study on Chinese cities revealed that the pollution-intensive industrial agglomeration
173 directly impacted low-income urban residents’ health expenditure, however, recommended to reduce it
174 by strengthening environmental infrastructure (Li., Lu., & Li. 2020). Yet most researches are restricted
175 in the identification of consequences of incompatible land-use mix, while not looking at the feasible
176 optimised solutions.

177 **2.2 Outdoor ventilation: Metric of micro-level land use compatibility assessment**

178 While land use compatibility might be dependent on several factors, a significant but rarely ventured
179 parameter is the quality of air and outdoor ventilation potential. Especially in currently unavoidable
180 fallouts of unprecedented urbanisation, where heavy polluting industrial belt share lands or adjacency
181 with mass-scale residential plots, the prevalent direction of airflow, ventilation potential, the
182 composition of air quality and more importantly, the severity of health issues that might affect the
183 liveability of the population should be predicted and tested. Also, ~~it is well-acknowledged in the~~
184 literature evinces that ~~effective-efficient~~ natural ventilation ~~strategies~~ can ~~comprehensively-hugely~~
185 ~~impact-influence~~ comfort within the built-environment. Natural ventilation driven site-based air
186 ~~movement-flow distribution apart from~~can improve indoor air quality, and thermal comfort ~~also on~~
187 one hand and reduces health cost up to 18%, on the other hand (Dutton, et al., 2013).

188 Experimental and observation-based studies have witnessed that these current low-income mass
189 housing tenements in Mumbai are defined by inefficient indoor air path, leading to poor indoor air
190 quality (Sarkar & Bardhan, 2019a, 2019b, 2020a), high air temperature trapped zones (Bardhan,
191 Debnath, Malik, & Sarkar, 2018) and low pollution disposal rates (Lueker, Bardhan, Sarkar, & Norford,
192 2020). While looking for the contributors, it was observed that poor land use aggregation has degraded
193 living condition in these housing since most of the affordable housing colonies are placed in close
194 proximity to low-cost unhealthy sites such as garbage sites, dump-yards, petroleum refinery, medical
195 waste incinerators, chemical factories or are located adjacent to mangroves and coastal lines. This
196 phenomenon has ~~in~~advertently deteriorated the living condition from the aerodynamic and eco-
197 environmental viewpoint.

198 While some critical reviews on the effect of air pollution control regulations on land use planning have
199 discussed issues regarding the socio-economic impacts of constraining land use in the name of air
200 quality, on one hand, the others deal with conflicting environmental goals and optimal allocation of
201 land to achieve local and regional growth (Roberts et al., 1975). Adequate researches on integrating
202 land use planning and meta-level air pollution levels have established the connection between land-use
203 changes, spatial density, distribution of contribution of air pollutants, ventilation effects and thermal
204 landscape (Basagaña, Rivera, Aguilera, Agis, & Bouso, 2012; Romero, Ihl, Rivera, Zalazar, & Azocar,
205 1999; Weng & Yang, 2006). Yet, these studies lack the local-level land use compatibility assessment
206 coupled with micro-climate examination and the severity of infeasible land use aggregation.

207 **2.3 Urban morphology: An approach to modify outdoor ventilation**

208 The phenomenon of high-rise compact design of cities often results in environmental degradation
209 including the trapping of pollutants and stale air in the urban canopy (layer) i.e. the distance between
210 the urban land and building height. Considering the recent milieu of climate change and urban
211 development, the cohesive environmental-design is the most efficient avenue for warranting health and
212 comfort to the citizens (Merlier, Kuznik, Rusaouën, & Salat, 2018).

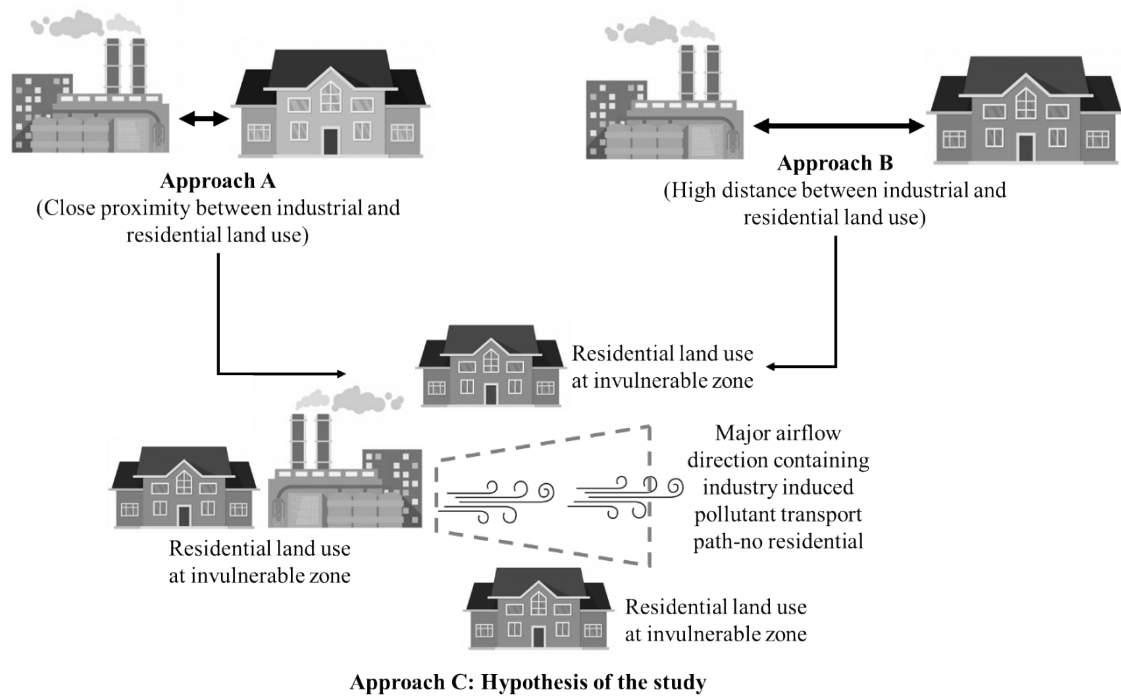
213 Built-environment at micro-level intensifies the environment-related problems since apart from
214 increasing thermal capacity they also increase surface roughness, de-shaping airflow in the urban
215 boundary layer especially, in the urban canopy layer (UCL) (Zhou, Wang, Chen, Jiang, & Pei, 2014).
216 The decreased airflow advertently leading to reduced ventilation effectiveness, increased heat stress and
217 extreme indoor pollution levels (Lueker, Bardhan, Sarkar, & Norford, 2020) in urban areas affect human
218 morbidity levels (Bardhan, Debnath, Jana, & Norford, 2018). This turns exigent for low-income sector
219 who holds two-third of the city population, and where financial constraints curb the residents from
220 utilising active cooling techniques to achieve desirable thermal comfort levels.

221 Despite complication of urban air flows owing to complex urban built-forms, turbulence and multi-
222 scale and multi-physic qualities of urban atmospheric phenomenon, the morpho-metric of building
223 disposition or urban porosity is an elementary urban element and crucial to thermal comfort, external
224 airflow features, natural ventilation potential and micro-level building energy performance (Mei et al.,
225 2017). Urban morphology, represented as a three-dimensional texture composed of a conscious
226 arrangement of built-bodies and unbuilt volumes have often been characterised from an aerodynamic
227 viewpoint for inducing direct and effective air paths (Chan & Liu, 2018). Aerodynamic conditions
228 resulting from the urban form-wind flow interaction sturdily impact pedestrian-level wind pattern and
229 thermal comfort by generating turbulence and convective heat and mass transfers, ventilation potential
230 of urban areas through urban heat island phenomenon and pollution dispersion and building energy
231 consumption pattern (Cheung & Liu, 2011).

232 Urban microclimate related complex airflows have been widely modelled using Computational Fluid
233 Dynamics (CFD) by urban physicists, wind engineers and climatologists (Montazeri, Blocken, Janssen,
234 & Hooff, 2012). CFD has been employed as an established tool for modelling airflow around buildings,
235 thermal comfort, pollutant dispersion (Ma, Jiang, & Li, 2015), indoor air quality (Sarkar & Bardhan,
236 2018, 2019a), humidity (Kim et al., 2008) etc. Besides, CFD can be used efficiently for performing
237 parametric studies (Yuan & Ng, 2012).

238 **2.4 Hypothesis of the study**

239 While on one hand, the traditional land-use principles proposed to settle the low-income blue-collared
240 sector near the industrial belts to reduce the transport-oriented impediment (Approach A), the later
241 evolved land-use zoning regulatory authorities recommended complete abandonment of residential land
242 adjacent to the red industrial zones (Approach B) (see Figure 1). However, in the current unavoidable
243 event of unprecedented urbanisation, this study proposed a conceptual scenario (Approach C in Figure
244 1) where residential sectors can share adjacency with industrial land-use, provided i) the severity of
245 land-use incompatibility is assessed before zoning, ii) the industry-sourced polluted air-plume does not
246 affect adjacent land, and iii) in the incident of susceptibility to the pollution, the industry-induced air-
247 plume direction should be examined and the adjoining morphological design should be sensitive enough
248 to detour the incoming pollutant transport path. Subjective interpretation of this framework elucidates
249 that neighbouring residential development should not be placed in the way of polluted air funnel
250 emitting from the adjacent industry.



251

252

Figure 1 Graphical representation of the hypothesis.

253 Toed in Figure 1, it can be hypothesised that *'rational urban morphology and environmental planning*
 254 *interaction can minimise the severity of industrial-residential land-use incongruity, thereby reducing*
 255 *the health and liveability concerned risk on population.'*

256 3. Study Area: Slum Rehabilitation Housing in Mumbai

257 The recent Slum Rehabilitation Housing (SRHs) in Mumbai are ~~typically represented as~~ tall structures,
 258 ranging from 5-30 floors high with apartment units less than 25 m². ~~Through T~~ the successful recently
 259 formulated slum rehabilitation ~~proecessscheme has benefitted,~~ the slum dwellers ~~are benefitted~~ with
 260 ~~provision to~~ individual-level basic infrastructure, land tenure, access to the capital in the form of
 261 property. In the following section, two Mumbai based case studies representing typical compact mid-
 262 to-high rise low-income housing-SRH typologies have been represented (see Figure 2).

263 *Natwar Parekh SRH colony*

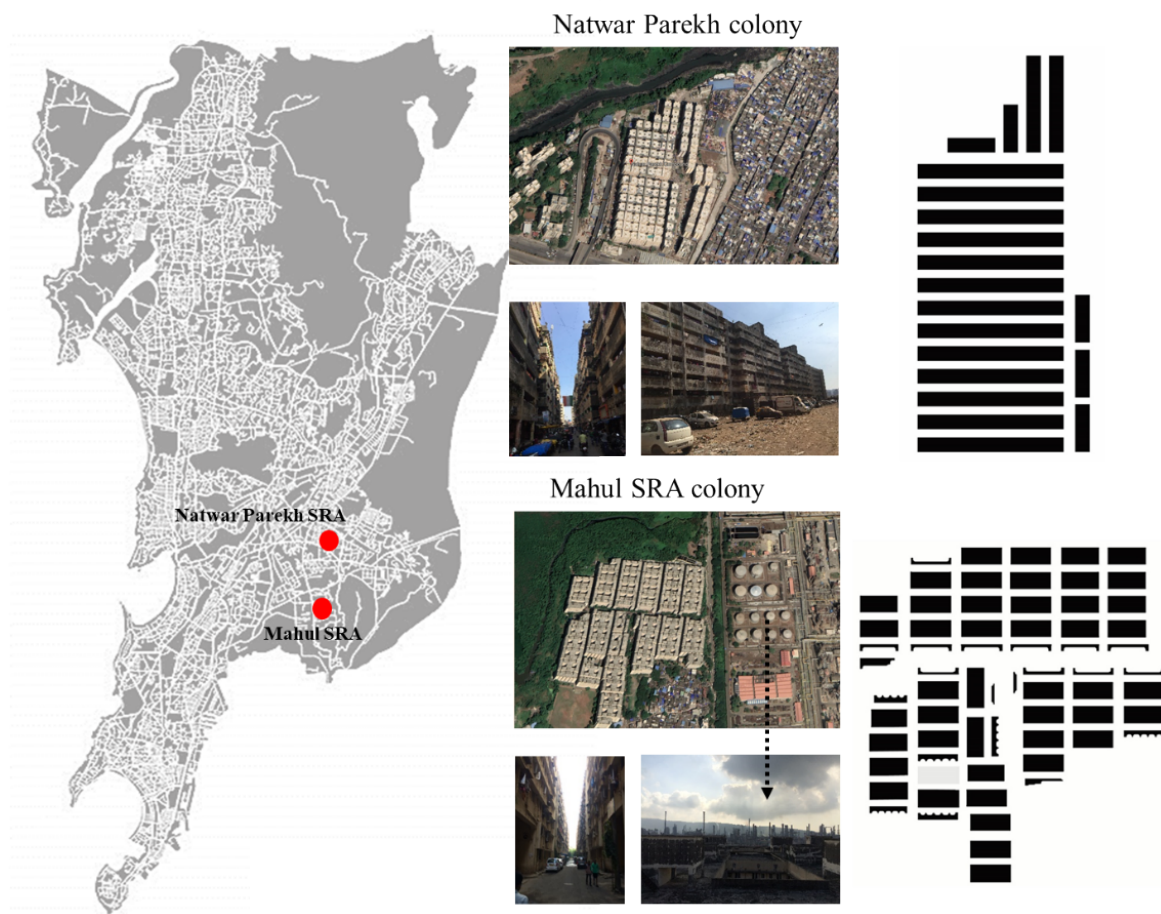
264 Natwar Parekh colony, manifesting typical SRH colonies of Mumbai, was constructed in 2008 and
 265 ~~contains-consists of~~ 4800 dwellings across 50 blocks. Here, apartments are accessed viaby single-loaded
 266 corridors along the dwelling perimeters, with toilets and bathing rooms abutting an internalcore
 267 ventilation shaft or void. Natwar Parekh SRH, built under in-situ SR programme, is surrounded by low-
 268 rise slums on one side and co-operative housing as well as luxury apartments on the other side. Other
 269 mixed-use retail and commercial retail include banks, non-polluting industries, garages and go-downs
 270 of leather products, highlighting the presence of compatible land use.

271 *Mahul PAP Township*

272 The Mahul Project Affected Persons (PAP) Township near Trombay belt of Mumbai, built under Slum
 273 Rehabilitation Authority (SRA)'s Development Control Regulation 33 (10) Clause 3.11, or the PAP
 274 scheme was selected as the second case study area. The SRH colony, consisting of 68 six, seven and
 275 eight floored buildings, covers a total area of approximately 160, 000 sq. metre. The average maximum
 276 building height is about 18m and 24m. The plan area density, λ_p is 0.59. The width of the street and

277 side alleys ranges from 3m to 4m, whereas the major vehicular road crossing the site measures 13m.
 278 The aspect ratio of the street canyons (H/W: Height of building/Width of the adjacent street) ranges
 279 from 6.25 to 8.33. The vegetation levels are extremely low, and mostly located in the small courtyards
 280 and along the main streets.

281 Figure 2 shows the regional setting of Mahul PAP Township. The total area of the proposed land for
 282 SRH construction was 156,640.90 sq. metre, out of which an area measuring 28,418.78 sq. metre was
 283 in the possession of a multi-disciplinary nuclear research centre of national importance since 1963, as
 284 a buffer zone for security purposes. In April 2012, the centre objected to the scheme as it was falling
 285 under the buffer zone, and raised concerns about the scheme being a potential threat to national health
 286 and security. However, the numerous security concerns, cautions and objections raised by the centre
 287 and an oil and natural gas company regarding the proposal of the residential plot adjacent to the refinery
 288 was disregarded. Consequently, the land use of ‘special industrial zone’ was converted to ‘residential
 289 zone’ and rehabilitation buildings were constructed adjacent to the refinery. The state government
 290 authorities, while converting the land use category, however, imposed a condition of leaving a
 291 segregating set-back distance of only 52 metres between the polluting industrial and residential plot
 292 (Naik, 2018). The location of the township close to refineries, eco-sensitive zones of mangrove belts,
 293 industrial areas, and chemical storage complexes is a key contributor to pollution, affecting health and
 294 liveability. It also creates multiple hazards and scope for disaster and makes the entire area highly
 295 vulnerable and risky concerning social, economic, physical, medical, and environmental aspects. As a
 296 result, Mahul residents vehemently opposed to stay back and opted to vacate the apartments and shift
 297 elsewhere.



298

299

Figure 2 Regional setting of the case study areas.

300 4. Methodology

301 A mixed-mode methodology was ~~adopted~~implemented for evaluating land-use compatibility in the
302 selected slum rehabilitation sites. ~~Based-Framed~~ on a sequential heuristic, this study forwards a
303 systematic process-driven assessment approach drawn upon Mumbai SRH as case examples. The
304 methodology treats urban development as a socio-ecological system, where both subsystems co-exist
305 and conflicting land-use can share adjacent land parcels, however, solely after careful management and
306 planning. This study, showing the route for cautious land-use planning is executed in five phases:

307 Phase 1: Investigating the challenges regarding land-use compatibility in affordable mass housing sites
308 through literature review and global scenarios.

309 Phase 2: Examining the existing rehabilitation sites using outdoor ventilation and airflow distribution
310 efficiency as a proxy measure of land-use compatibility.

311 Phase 3: Generating iterated hypothetical scenarios by varying criteria-driven urban morpho-metrics.

312 Phase 4: Examining and comparing land-use compatibility of the scenarios by estimating urban
313 morpho-metrics and simulating outdoor ventilation as testing parameters.

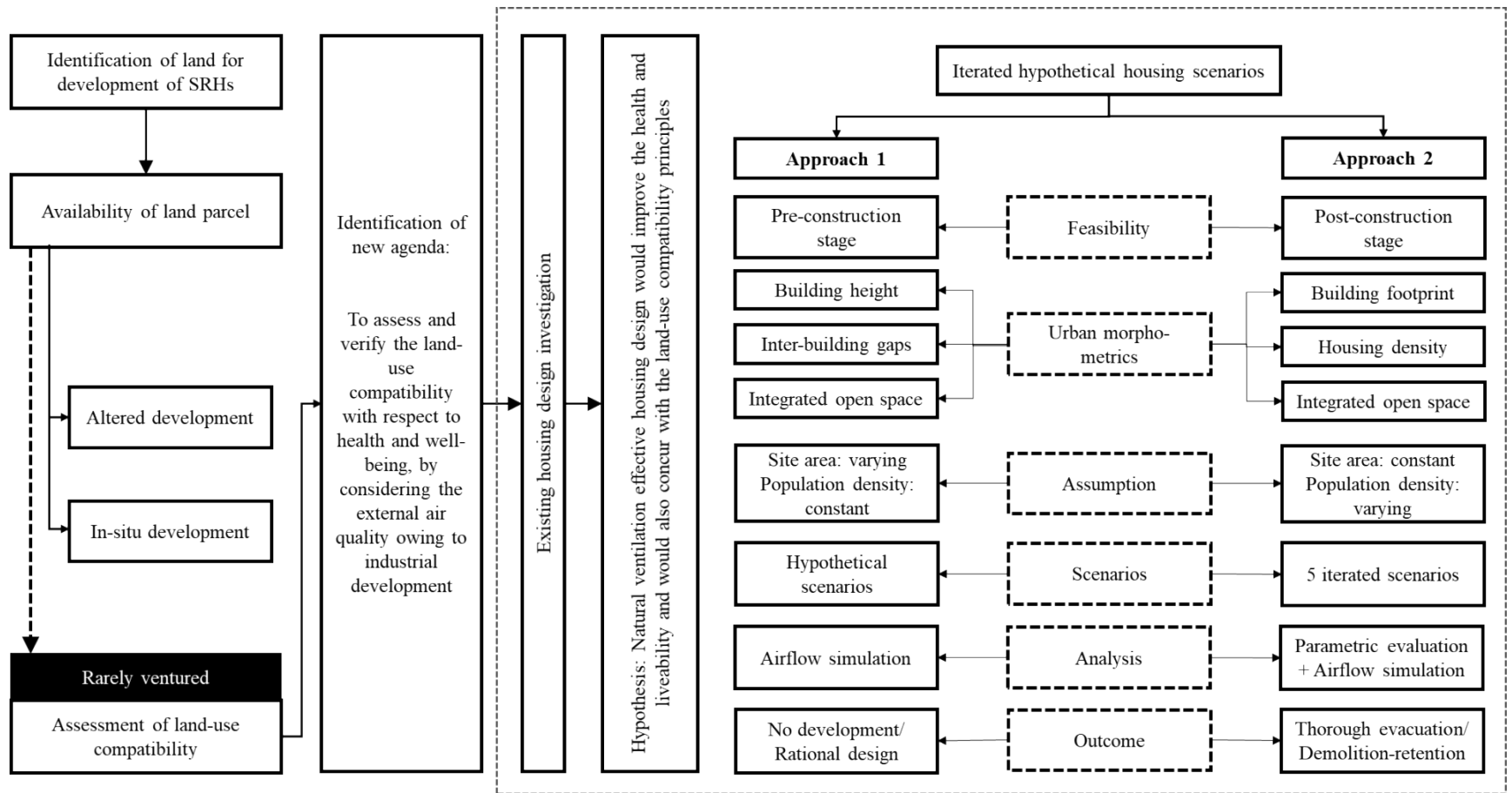
314 Phase 5: Delivering recommendations at post-construction scenario which can improve the health and
315 living condition of the rehabilitated population.

316 Here the methodology of assessing land-use compatibility offered two approaches: Approach 1 for pre-
317 construction stage and Approach 2 for post-construction stage as seen in Figure 3. While preparatory
318 land-use compatibility assessment becomes easy at the early design stage, the method of in-situ adaption
319 turns challenging at post-construction stage.

320 In the case of a greenfield site (Approach 1 in Figure 3), after testing the severity of the effects of
321 industrial-residential land-use incompatibility and conflict, careful planning and optimized land-use
322 decisions can be undertaken. If the risks persist to be medium to high, the land can be deliberately
323 restricted for residential development. While careful planning can be a feasible alternative if the risks
324 are low. In this milieu, evidence-based urban morpho-metrics with high aerodynamic potential can be
325 utilized to generate alternative scenarios, followed by analyzing their airflow distribution. By
326 comparing the site-based airflow characteristics, wind channelization and ventilation potential
327 concerning the prevailing and concerned wind direction, the most feasible built-environment setting
328 can be proposed.

329 However, for post-construction scenarios (Approach 2 in Figure 3), thorough demolition and evacuation
330 remains only alternative if the risks from industrial-residential land-use conflict turn high; while careful
331 planning and rational demolition-retention approach can be adopted in a low risk context. Nevertheless,
332 in-situ adaptations are recommended post-assessment of wind channelization and ventilation potential of
333 possible alternate scenarios.

334 In bringing together urban morphology and environmental analysis, the methodology applied in this
335 study recommends few proposals that would make residential development in peripheral, highly
336 polluting industrial zones more liveable and healthy. These range from extensive preparatory
337 assessments in the early design stage to in-situ adaptations that would improve airflow and ventilation
338 within existing buildings.



339

340

Figure 3 Methodology adopted in the study.

341 **4.1 Measuring outdoor ventilation: CFD simulations**

342 The commercial CFD code ANSYS FLUENT v16.2 was used to perform the simulations. The
 343 computational domain dimensions were prepared based on the best practice AIJ guidelines by
 344 Tominaga et al., (2008). The height of the domain was kept 144m for Natwar Parekh and Mahul SRH
 345 colony conforming to 6 times the maximum building height. The domain boundaries were kept to a
 346 distance of 360m with reference to 15 times the maximum building height, to consider different
 347 approaching airflow directions. The computational grid was created, resulting in a tetrahedral mesh of
 348 897,737 cells for Natwar Parekh and 6, 379,459 cells for Mahul SRH colony with a minimum of 25
 349 cells on the building corners and walls. For deducting the computational cost, the geometry of the
 350 housing complexes was abridged with an accuracy of 1m, while particulars like balconies, windows
 351 and other details were neglected.

352 Uncertainties associated with natural ventilation including stochastic nature of local wind conditions
 353 and obstacles in the airflow path makes it difficult to estimate natural ventilation numerically. This
 354 study adopted a deterministic simulation approach while accounting the natural ventilation linked
 355 unreliability. The models were well-mixed using double precision, three dimensional, parallel, and
 356 finite volume pressure-based solver.

357 The steady-state Reynolds-Averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) equations were solved in combination
 358 with standard k- ϵ turbulence model. Here k is the turbulent kinetic energy (m^2/s^2), and ϵ is dissipation
 359 rate (m^2/s^3) of the fluid, here wind. It is a two-equation model, with a general description of turbulent
 360 properties of flow provided employing two transport equations. The turbulent fluid is initially presented
 361 as a laminar flow, with higher viscosity, next the turbulent motion-related differential equations are
 362 estimated, from which the micro-level higher viscosity values are calculated. The Semi-Implicit Method
 363 for Pressure-Linked Equations (SIMPLE) algorithm and second-order UPWIND discretisation method
 364 were used for coupling pressure-velocity equations and discretising the convection term in the
 365 governing equations respectively. The simulations used hybrid initialization with minimum 10,000
 366 iterations to achieve convergence. Along with the justification of the grid independence test, the solution
 367 was considered to converge till 10^{-6} (RMS) of the residuals of the air velocity profile in all the simulated
 368 models. The wind-related data collected from [the](#) Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) Mumbai
 369 were utilised as boundary conditions for the CFD simulations. The general boundary conditions,
 370 generated following the AIJ guidelines are presented in Table 1.

371 Table 1 General boundary conditions for site-based airflow CFD simulations in ANSYS.

Model Classification	Method
Solver	Segregated solver; 3D steady-state; First-order Implicit form; Finite Volume Solver; Absolute velocity formation
Energy Equation	Not-Activated
Viscous Model	Standard k- ϵ turbulence model; Standard Wall Function; Full Buoyancy effects
Computational Domain	5H (inlet and lateral sides), 15H (outlet), 7H (top) (where H represents the height of the building)
Inlet air velocity	2.5m/sec (IMD Mumbai)
Discretisation method	Second-order UPWIND discretisation
Pressure-Velocity coupling algorithm	SIMPLE (Semi Implicit Method for pressure linked equations)
Convergence criteria	10^{-6}

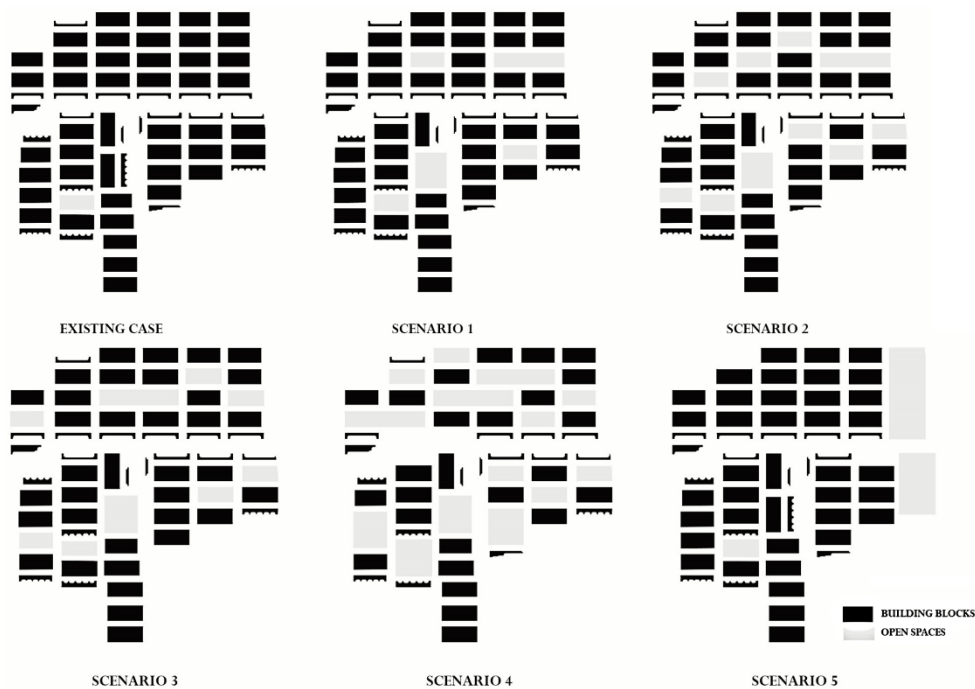
373 **4.2 Generation of iterated scenarios**

374 Owing to the challenges concerning land-use compatibility at post-construction scenario, where
375 alteration of building disposition using well-established built-environment metrics becomes
376 unmanageable; the only degree of freedom includes demolition of affected buildings and reducing the
377 victim population density. Figure 2 illustrates that the refinery is located at the eastern side of the Mahul
378 SRH colony, while according to Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) Mumbai, predominant wind
379 direction remains east for three to four months annually. In the case of the annual effect of high pollution
380 levels from the adjacent refinery, thorough demolition would have been the only alternative. However,
381 owing to seasonal or quarterly impacts as observed in Mahul SRH colony, partial demolition and
382 conservation was selected as the optimal approach. Hence, considering the current wind-pattern and
383 building density as the major metrics, six hypothetical scenarios were generated.

384 A criteria-based scenario generation framework was applied here to create the base-case and five
385 hypothetical iterated urban built-forms (Scenario 1 to Scenario 5) as elucidated in Figure 4. The
386 following criteria included were:

- 387 i) Building blocks should be removed in such a way that the consequential building
388 disposition enables wind channelization within urban fabric through air-path creation
389 (Edward Ng, 2010).
- 390 ii) Built-forms should be removed in a way that increases the number of buildings' front
391 facades facing open spaces.
- 392 iii) Building blocks should be removed such that the open spaces are interconnected.
- 393 iv) Building blocks should be removed in a way such that the density is gradually reduced.

394



395

396 **Figure 4 Iterated Urban built-forms modelled for Mahul SRH colony.**

397 Figure 4 elucidates that Scenario 1 to 4 were generated following the afore-mentioned criteria.
398 However, Scenario 5 was formulated as a different controlled group alternative where only the affected
399 building blocks on the eastern side of the site were removed, thus reducing the density. In Scenario 5,
400 the other criteria and building arrangement remained constant. This approach was adopted, as a

401 comparison between the controlled alternative and other scenarios would aid in understanding the
402 impact of morpho-metrics and building arrangement on site-based airflow distribution.

403 Hence, this section presents major urban morpho-metrics like density, building area, inter-building
404 distance and integrated open-spaces and highlights urban morphology analyses-related notions to
405 couple them with aerodynamic reflections (see Table 2). In this approach, the population or number of
406 apartments were varied while the site area remained constant.

407 Table 2 Urban morpho-metric indicators used for parametric evaluation.

Spatial variables	Description
Site Coverage (SC)	Total site area (m ²)
Number of Building blocks (NB)	The number of building blocks in the site.
Building Footprint (BF)	The area of building in a site.
Social interaction space (SIS)	Amount of social interaction space or positive space within the site which can be utilised as community ground, play areas etc.
Ratio of positive to negative space (PN)	Rise in open space does not essentially decipher that space has a proper utilisation, i.e. positively influence on the residents, or has a functional advantage. These spaces are often termed as spaces left over after planning (SLOAP) or negative space.
Housing Density (HD)	Estimated by associating the total population in the urban area to the total site area.

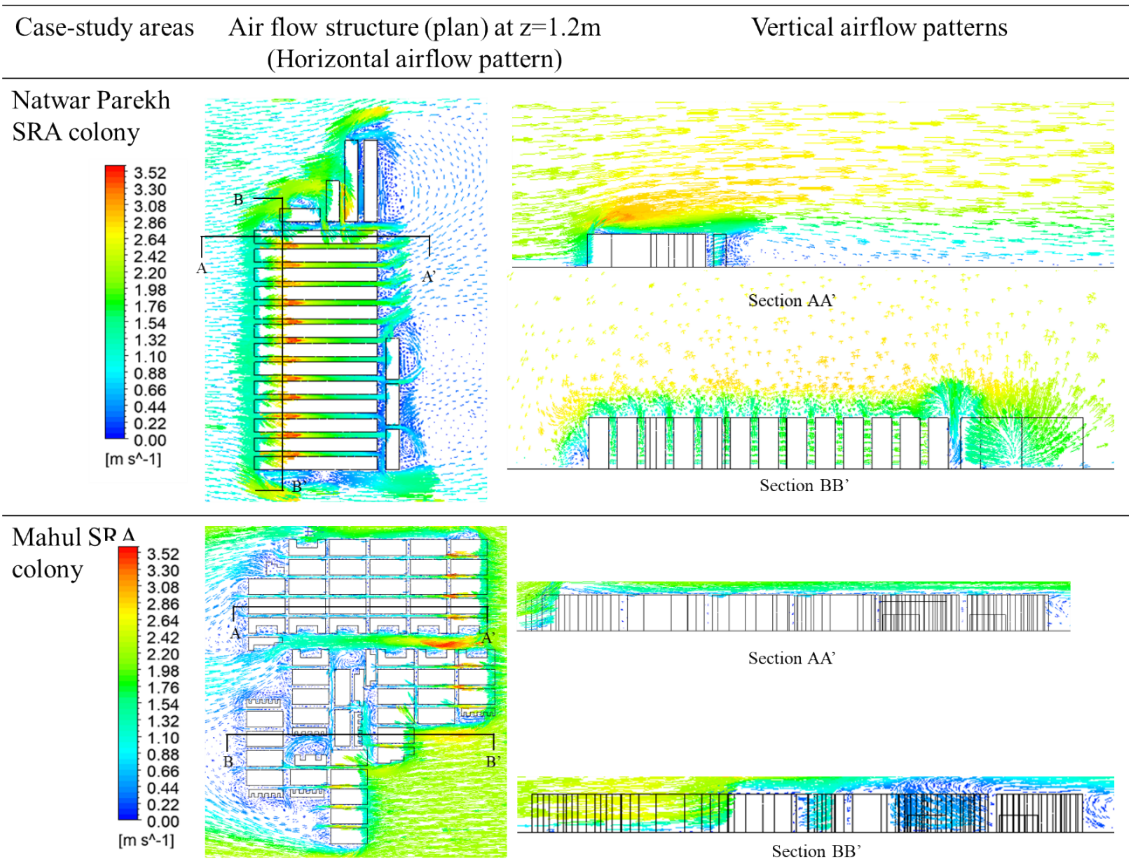
408

409 5. Results

410 5.1 Simulation of outdoor ventilation of the existing scenario

411 The site-based airflow analysis around the buildings with an ambient air velocity of 2.5m/sec is
412 illustrated in Figure 5. The ‘dark blue’ (0.00-0.66m/sec) bands infer that natural ventilation is
413 insufficient to promote thermal comfort in the living spaces through cross-ventilation. While the
414 ‘yellow’ to ‘red’ (2.20-3.52m/sec) bands infer that high naturally-driven wind velocity would be able
415 to deliver thermal comfort and high air exchange rates without the aid of any electro-mechanical cooling
416 devices ([Bardhan et al., 2018](#)) ([Bardhan, Debnath, Malik, & Sarkar, 2018](#)).

417 The housing layout of Natwar Parekh colony allows cross-ventilation within the buildings, with air
418 velocity ranging between 1.10-2.42m/sec along the building structures. The orientation of buildings
419 concerning prevalent wind direction allowed the formation of air-paths thus increasing wind
420 channelization effects. This flow is defined by separation at obstacle edges and the formation of
421 reattachment and recirculation phenomenon upwind, on the sides and downwind the obstacles, which
422 increase turbulence. Since the tenement windows face along the structure, turbulence and cross flow
423 modify the ventilation potential, and recirculation phenomena with span-wise flow develop behind each
424 building facets, thus increasing airflow potential.



425

426 Figure 5 Site-based external airflow simulations for base-case scenarios (Authors' computation and
427 simulation).

428 However, a relatively lower range of air velocity (blue colour bands) was observed between the building
429 blocks for Mahul SRH colony, deducing high probability of inferior air exchange rates and deteriorated
430 cross-ventilation effectiveness throughout the site. The CFD simulated average air velocity for Natwar
431 Parekh was recorded 1.54m/sec, while it ranged as low between 0-0.22 m/sec for the Mahul SRH
432 colony, which advertently leads to poor airflow. Furthermore, the low airflow zones were found
433 consistent irrespective of height, representing that the built-environment design itself obstructs and
434 controls the airflow throughout. The poor airflow characteristics in Mahul SRH colony as shown in
435 Figure 5 ~~is due to~~ can be attributed to the ~~compactly arranged~~ hyper-dense ~~tall~~ towering and bulky and
436 ~~huge buildings-structures~~ with ~~minimum- low~~ intra-building ~~distanc~~e gaps. Yuan & Ng, (2012) in their
437 study on Hong Kong identified that ~~densely- compactly~~ packed ~~buildings- built-volumes~~ escalate the
438 incoming wind resistance and ~~obstru~~e the air penetration within the urban fabric through
439 skimming airflow ~~regime~~. The ~~tight~~ constricted ~~narrow- streets- side alleys~~ in Mahul colony with ~~tall~~
440 ~~towering- structures- built-volumes~~ on ~~both- either~~ sides ~~ways~~ result in the ~~formation- of~~ advertently
441 ~~develop~~ deep ~~urban-~~ canyon with H/W ratio of 8.33 for 3m wide alleys and 6.25 for 4m wide alleys,
442 ~~substantially higher than~~ far exceeding the ~~prescribed- recommended~~ value of 0.7 ~~as per~~ according to the
443 Oke's law. Edward Ng, (2010) also suggested building ~~width to be three times the~~ height and ~~ten times~~
444 ~~the length- length for enhanced air channelization. to be three and ten times the width respectively.~~ But,
445 Mahul SRH had length, width and height of 57.74m, 27.92m and 25m which obstructed the air
446 ~~path~~ channel. The ~~Hong Kong based~~ Team Clean Final Report ~~of Hong Kong~~ suggested that absence of
447 wind channels, ~~compact tall and bulky~~ compactly arranged huge and towering built volumes, ~~narrow~~
448 ~~constricted street-~~ alleys, the dearth of integrated open spaces and ~~insufficient- inadequate~~ air paths
449 ~~deteriorated- degraded~~ the urban ventilation which led to thermal discomfort- and incidence of Severe

450 Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in Hong Kong in 2003. With compactly arranged high-rise
451 buildings in the upstream zone and devoid of any integrated large open-to-sky space, the whole site
452 exhibited lower ventilation potential because of the skimming wind flow regime. Though the obstacle
453 dimensions and geometry in Mahul SRH colony affected the cavity zone length and aided in forming
454 additional recirculation phenomena in the building corners and niches, low air velocities persisted
455 between obstacles and channel flows. However, the problem gets inflated as Mahul SRH colony,
456 located adjacent to the polluting refinery, gets affected by the degraded air quality with stale polluted
457 air and extremely low pollutant transport rate.

458 **5.2 Simulation of outdoor ventilation of iterated scenarios**

459 The airflow simulations of the iterated scenarios are demonstrated in Table 3. This section determines
460 how natural ventilation and site-based airflow distribution is varying depending on the morpho-metrics
461 of number of buildings, building footprint, integrated open space and housing density.

462 *Number of building blocks (NB)*

463 In this study, the number of building blocks (NB) referred to the number of built-volumes present on
464 the site. As the built-volumes were eliminated, the number of building blocks within the site reduced
465 from 68 to 45 in the iterated scenarios. With the elimination of the building blocks, while keeping the
466 site area constant, the air channelling paths within the site turned more efficient. Due to the lesser
467 number of built-volumes, the aspect ratio also decreased to 2.02, noticeably less than the existing case
468 (6.25-8.33). Parametric studies on wind flow and environmental simulations showcase that secondary
469 and weaker wind vortexes tend to develop if aspect ratio becomes more than 2 (Edward Ng., 2010) (See
470 Figure 6b). Elimination of building blocks leading to increase of open spaces and lower canyon ratio
471 escalated the site-based airflow distribution from 0.22m/sec for the existing case to 1.68m/sec for
472 scenario 5 through breakage, reattachment and recirculation phenomenon. However, it can be observed
473 from Table 3 that for Scenario 1 and Scenario 2 where only 6 and 10 built-volumes were removed, the
474 air-paths were not prominent. Whereas for Scenario 3 and Scenario 4, where 12 and 23 building blocks
475 were removed from the site, higher site porosity led to the formation of three distinct effective air-paths,
476 which would advertently increase the polluted air disposal rate.

477 However, the controlled alternative of Scenario 5 with 10 built-volumes removed, performed poor in
478 terms of ventilation potential than other scenarios (average velocity: 0.22 m/sec), thereby establishing
479 that sole removal of building blocks would not aid in improving the site-based ventilation rate. Whereas,
480 careful and rational built-volume elimination by following architect Charles Correa's principles of 'a
481 series of flowing open-to-sky spaces' mentioned in his book 'The new landscape' would lead to efficient
482 site-based ventilation at a neighbourhood scale (Charles Correa, 1988).

483 Jane Jacobs while stating that 'urban renewal/slum clearance never looked at the needs of city-dwellers'
484 had argued that '*buildings should be positioned to provide natural surveillance of the street*' (Jacobs,
485 1961). However, with the decrease in urban canyon ratios in the hypothetical scenarios, the rationally
486 designed urban morphology would now be capable of providing natural surveillance thus complying
487 with the theories of 'Broken window' and 'Defensible space' as well.

488 *Building Footprint (BF)*

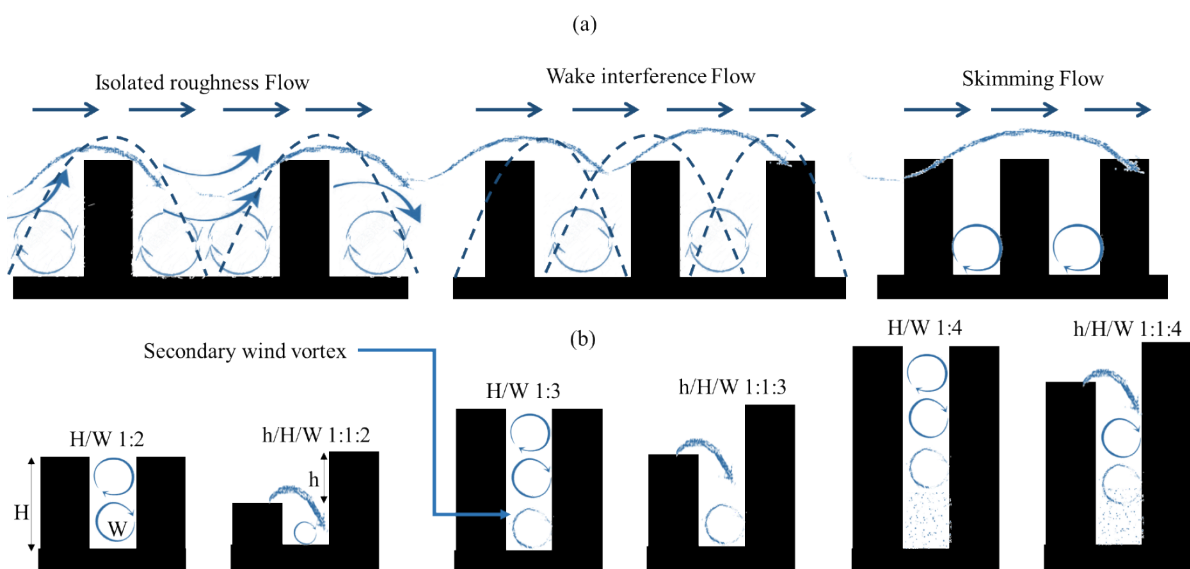
489 The morpho-metric of building footprint (BF), similar to NB offers a measurement of the total area of
490 built volume in the site and ranges from 0 to 1, where the value of 'one' refers to the context where the
491 whole site is fully occupied by building forms. Table 3 demonstrates that the building footprint
492 gradually decreased from 0.59 for the base-case scenario to 0.53, 0.49, 0.48 and 0.37 for Scenarios 1 to
493 4 with the gradual removal of built-volumes. With the decrease in building footprint, the amount of

494 open spaces within the site gradually increased. Hence, an increase in site-based ventilation rate was
495 noticed.

496 *Positive to Negative Space (PN)*

497 In this study, positive space refers to the large open spaces formed by eliminating the built-volumes
498 from the site which can be utilized for social interaction, whereas the narrow unutilized inter-building
499 alleys were considered as the ‘negative’ (Azhar & Gjerde, 2016; Carmona, 2010), disconnected and
500 ‘non-community’ spaces (S. J. Lee, Hwang, & Lee, 2015) or spaces left over after planning (SLOAP)
501 (Bardhan, Debnath, Malik, & Sarkar, 2018). The ratio of positive to negative space has been utilized as
502 another morpho-metric for determining ventilation potential. The value below ‘one’ indicates a higher
503 amount of negative space, while the value more than ‘one’ refers to higher amount of positive space
504 within the site. Ventilation principles and wind flow regime as shown in Figure 6a elucidates that while
505 narrow negative spaces lack airflow through skimming flow regime, the wide positive spaces
506 experience improved ventilation potential through isolated roughness and wake-interference flow
507 regime. Table 3 demonstrates that while the amount of negative space was higher than that of the
508 positive space in existing case (P/N: 0.14), the ratio increased to 1.18 for Scenario 1. Subjective
509 interpretation of this phenomenon elucidates that removal of 6 built-volumes from site increased the
510 amount of positive open spaces, thereby increasing P/N ratio more than 1 for the Scenario 1. Similarly,
511 the P/N ratio gradually increased for Scenario 2 (2.13), Scenario 3 (2.39) and Scenario 4 (6.95). While
512 the average air velocity over the existing scenario was 0.22m/sec, it increased to 0.77-1.68m/sec for the
513 hypothetical scenarios. This can be attributed to the creation of voids within the urban built-environment
514 which aided in increasing airflow through high velocity wind vortex formation.

515 However, it can also be observed from Table 3 that despite 10 built-volumes were eliminated from the
516 controlled alternative of Scenario 5, the positive to negative space ratio remained 1.43, less than that of
517 Scenario 2 (P/N: 2.13) with the same number of removed buildings. This resulted in poor airflow
518 performance over the site, even with P/N value of more than ‘one’. This can be attributed to the fact
519 that although 10 buildings were removed, it did not impact the rest of building disposition pattern of
520 the site and failed to create large integrated open areas or positive space, thereby minimizing the
521 reduction of negative spaces.



522

523 Figure 6 (a) Patterns of airflow regime based on the urban canyon, (b) wind flow based on
524 canyon ratio (Adapted from Edward Ng., 2010).

525 *Social Interaction Space (SIS)*

526 The morphological indicator of social interaction space (SIS), in the similar notion of that of positive
527 to negative space, is defined as the ratio of the amount of positive space to the total site area. The value
528 of SIS would range from 0 to 1 where the value 'zero' refers to the absence of any positive social
529 interaction space, and the value 'one' refers to maximum possible positive open space. Absence of any
530 integrated large open space led to the SIS value of 0.01 for the existing case. On the other hand, with
531 the gradual removal of 6,10,12, and 23 building blocks, the amount of large positive open space
532 increased thereby increasing the SIS value from 0.01 to 0.08, 0.13, 0.14, and 0.25 respectively from
533 Scenario 1 to Scenario 4. These open spaces acting as breathing zones aided in the formation of air
534 paths with increased polluted air disposal rates.

535 However, similar to P/N indicator, Table 3 shows that despite the removal of 10 built-volumes from the
536 controlled alternative of Scenario 5, the SIS remained as low as 0.11, less than that of Scenario 2 (SIS:
537 0.13) with the same number of removed buildings.

538 Wilmsen, Adjartey, & Hulten, (2019) had contested that the IRR model focuses only on materialistic
539 up-gradation while failing to illuminate on the social liveability parameters of the displaced population.
540 However, the presence of adequate positive and social interaction space in these rehabilitated sites
541 would not only improve the micro-climate and health condition but would also integrate a sense of
542 community interaction and social cohesion thereby, upgrading the social organisation among the
543 disadvantaged population.

544 *Housing Density (HD)*

545 The morpho-metric of housing density is defined as the number of dwelling units per unit hectare of
546 site area and is expressed as Dwelling Unit (DU)/ Hectare(Ha) i.e. DU/Ha. Here, the existing layout of
547 Mahul SRH colony with a current density of 1327 DU/Ha was reduced gradually by removing the
548 building blocks to comply with the building codes and design guidelines (National Building Code of
549 India: 500DU/Ha and Greater Mumbai Development Control Regulations: 200 DU/Ha). Five iterative
550 scenarios were generated with a density of 1000 DU/Ha (Scenario 1), 800 DU/Ha (Scenario 3), two 650
551 DU/Ha (Scenario 2 and Scenario 5), and 500 DU/Ha (Scenario 4). It can be observed from Table 3 that
552 Scenarios 1 to 4 exhibited high air velocity zones. Although Scenario 1 with reduced density of
553 1000DU/Ha had higher occurrences of red-orange colour bands, the air channelling or pollutant
554 transport paths were still not prominent, which could degrade the ventilation performance.
555 Nevertheless, the flow field was observed to be heterogeneous at pedestrian-level and highly affected
556 by building density differences for Scenario 3 with density 800DU/Ha. The other characteristic of flow
557 in open squares or street intersections showed higher mean and turbulent velocities (1.38-1.53m/sec).
558 Scenario 4 with 500DU/Ha density performed superior among all the alternatives in terms of ventilation
559 rates and airflow with an average air velocity of 1.68m/sec. Despite Scenario 2 and controlled
560 alternative of Scenario 5 had similar density (650 DU/Ha), better ventilation performance with effective
561 air-paths was observed for Scenario 2 owing to the judicious creation of ventilation corridors or air
562 paths.

563 This phenomenon establishes that architects and urban planners should necessarily connect the
564 morphological variable of urban density with the urban design concept of 'connectedness of spaces' as
565 recommended by architect Charles Correa to design climate-sensitive housing layouts (Charles Correa,
566 1988). Even with higher density Scenario 3 (800 DU/Ha) also performed better than Scenario 2 (650
567 DU/Ha) in terms of 'social interaction space' and 'positive to negative space'. Subjective explanation
568 of these designs exhibits that the present alignment of the SRH Township intrinsically blocks wind-
569 flows crossways, while other scenarios deliver improved cross-ventilation conditions. Although
570 Scenario 4 displays additional extent of higher velocity zones across the buildings, considering the
571 current urbanization trend, population density as well as the efficiency of airflow across the buildings

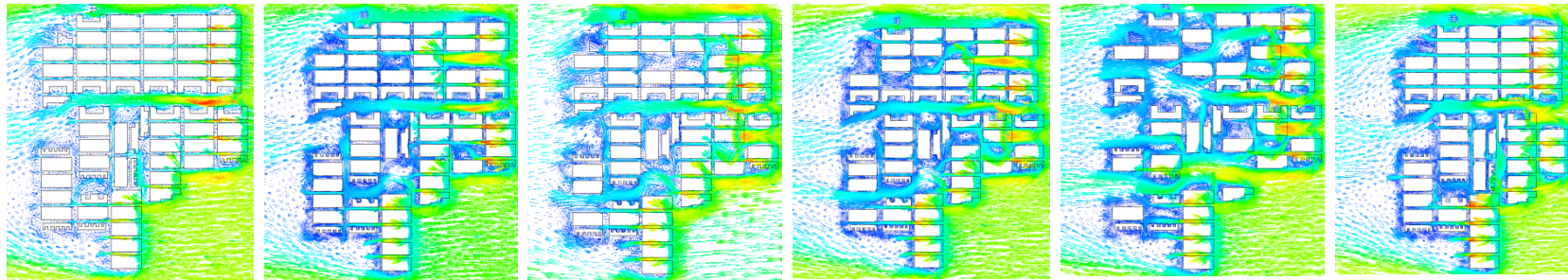
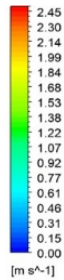
572 and formation of cross-ventilation air paths, Scenario 3 with 800DU/Ha can be considered as optimised
573 built-form for Mahul SRH that can promote better pollutant dispersion rate and higher indoor air quality
574 as well. With improvement in site-based ventilation potential, the pollution disposal rate would increase
575 by increasing air change rate. Consequently, the pollution from refinery reaching the site would be
576 removed at a faster rate, thereby minimising its health-related impact on retained inhabitants.

577 Additionally, the built-environment design with a rational spatial disposition and environmental setup
578 would also improve the health and liveability of displaced population, thus concurring with the theories
579 of 'Maslow's pyramid of needs', 'Mercer Quality of Living Indicators', 'Lefebvre's production of
580 social space' and 'SUBETs planning tools'.

Table 3 Parametric evaluation and site-based airflow analysis of the existing case and the iterated scenarios.

	Base case scenario	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4	Scenario 5
Site Coverage(sq. m)	170000	170000	170000	170000	170000	170000
Number of buildings (NB)	68	62	58	56	45	58
Building Footprint (BF)	0.59	0.53	0.49	0.48	0.37	0.51
Social Interaction Space (SIS)	0.01	0.08	0.13	0.14	0.25	0.11
Positive to Negative space (PN)	0.14	1.18	2.13	2.39	6.95	1.43
Housing Density (HD)	1327	1000	650	800	500	650

Airflow



Based on authors' computation and simulation

584 The paper focuses on the aspect of land use compatibility on the development of mass housing schemes
585 for Lower Income Group (LIG) and Economically Weaker Section (EWS). In this research, there is no
586 differentiation made among who should be occupying in those housing such as a) people already
587 inhabiting the site, b) within neighbourhood or c) people relocated from other parts of the city or/and
588 d) even if these apartments are put on sale at market prices. While relocation has its own drawbacks
589 such as loss of job, disruption of social network, inadequacies of social infrastructures and importantly
590 access to street (Michael M. Cernea, 1995; Jones, 2017; Sholihah & Shaojun, 2018), this research argues
591 that selection of sites that affirm with the security of health aspects should be maintained with utmost
592 diligence.

593 Despite traditional land-use planning theories follow restricted zoning laws, consequently parcelling
594 conflicting land-uses distantly; this study by treating currently urbanising cities as a socio-ecological
595 system investigates into an optimum solution where conflicting land-uses can coexist after careful
596 planning and management. By cultivating the interlinkage between urban morphology and
597 environmental planning, this study introduces environmental analysis as an evaluation tool and
598 morphological indicator-based habitat planning proposals as criteria for testing the micro-level land-
599 use compatibility. While land use incompatibility assessment concerning air pollution regulations has
600 been widely researched and contested, the methods of land use compatibility testing tools especially for
601 determining micro-level effect of incompatible land-use zoning on local level air quality remains an
602 elusive concept. Furthermore, land use compatibility with respect to health and liveability aspect has
603 been studied a few times. This study is, therefore, an initial approach in deriving a system-driven tool
604 for land use compatibility assessment at micro-scale, particularly from the health and liveability
605 perspective, specifically for high rise, high-density low-income housings, where indoor mechanical air-
606 conditioning may be a luxury.

607 In metro-cities, the challenge of land-use incongruity upsurges when habitation in infeasible land use
608 adjacency distresses health and liveability of the inhabitants. In Mumbai, government authorities, while
609 developing low-cost mass housing, compellingly converted an atomic research centre marked special
610 industrial land use, initially kept for industrial security, to 'residential' land use. Subsequently, the
611 tenements in Mahul, close to the refinery, gradually were exposed to the deteriorated quality of air with
612 benchmark exceeding concentrations of pollutants like Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) especially
613 nickel and Benzo Pyrene ([Maharashtra Pollution Control Board \(MPCB\) Mumbai, 2016](#)) ([Shroff, Rao,
614 & Pathak, 2019](#)). Technical reports on the health status of Mahul residents revealed a higher incidence
615 of skin diseases and upper respiratory problems within three years after shifting to the slum
616 rehabilitation units.

617 Interestingly, Mahul colony was surrounded by chemical factories, industrial belts, commercial and
618 retail areas and health facilities generating job opportunities, therefore eradicating the key-aspects and
619 risks of joblessness, homelessness, health insecurity that lead to the impoverishment of the displaced as
620 explained by Cernea's IRR model (Cernea, 1997; Michael M. Cernea, 1995). Yet, this scheme failed at
621 Mahul since the residents determined to leave the mass housing majorly for health issues and not regular
622 socio-economic problems. Poor health cropping up from deteriorated air quality among many other
623 causes eventually compelled the residents to vehemently drive for vacating the rehabs and shift
624 elsewhere.

625 This study takes up the challenge in this precarious situation and attempts to deliver a systematic
626 approach based methodology, which would promote improved liveability to the disadvantaged
627 population. Taking infeasible land use aggregation as an unescapable phenomenon, this study aimed to

628 examine the severity of the local level residential-industrial land-use conflicts. Unlike typical land-use
629 planning researches, this study promoted a diagnostic approach applicable both at early design stages
630 and for rarely ventured but significant post-construction phase considering airflow as a measurement
631 strategy. While this analytical reminiscent approach at pre-construction stage would aid in rectifying
632 the inaccuracies in initial land-use zoning and inhibit the erroneous displacement of the population; it
633 also becomes inevitable at post-construction stage, where optimal habitat planning evolved through
634 land use compatibility testing would aid in delivering improved residential liveability.

635 While the low-income mass housings especially the slum rehabilitated colonies in Mumbai are placed
636 in diverse settings, few turns detrimental. Hence, this study compared the liveability challenges, owing
637 to poor air quality, raising from inaccurate land-use zoning for two case studies at varying ecological
638 set-up. While Natwar Parekh colony was located in an appropriate residential land use, surrounded by
639 low-rise residential zones; Mahul colony was the affected one. Therefore, this study utilised
640 Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) for testing the land use compatibility of these LIG housing. It
641 was reckoned that Natwar Parekh colony performed better in terms of air flow. This evinces the fact
642 that not only the built-environment design but also the compatible land use would allow better external
643 urban microclimate, and enhanced liveability. However, deteriorated ventilation effectiveness was
644 observed for Mahul SRH, where poor site-based air flow indicated stagnancy of air between the
645 buildings, further reducing the pollutant transport rate (Figure 5). Mahul SRH Township was
646 additionally suffering from external pollution sourced from petroleum refinery induced combustion
647 activities. This indicates that while retaining the adjacency of polluted industrial development, careful
648 built-environment planning might solve the air pollution issues.

649 This study, after testing the severity of land-use incompatibility suggested rational demolition-retention
650 of built-volumes as an optimal mitigation strategy. Here we hypothesized that 'better liveability can be
651 achieved through improved urban micro-climate, which can be promoted through efficient site-based
652 natural ventilation; which in turn is a subject of land-use compatibility and built-environment design.'
653 Considering housing density as a primary examining indicator, and amount of voids, number of building
654 blocks as other well-established morpho-metrics (An et al., 2019; Asfour & Gadi, 2007; Cheung & Liu,
655 2011; Zhang, Gao, & Zhang, 2005), this study generated hypothetical iterated scenarios by altering the
656 building blocks arrangement and built-density quotient. However, wise and rational elimination
657 approach, involving the consideration of urban design's 'flow of open-to-sky space' related principles
658 become necessary.

659 Table 3 elucidated that with gradual decrease in built-volumes, the site porosity increased, thereby
660 increasing the amount of open space. This consequently decreased the urban canyon ratio to 2.02 from
661 8.33 (existing case) and increased the positive to negative space ratio to 2.39 and 6.95 for Scenario 3
662 and Scenario 4 respectively from 0.14 (existing case). The deep urban canyon in the existing case led
663 to the formation of weaker secondary wind vortexes, which advertently obstructed the airflow within
664 the urban fabric (Figure 6). Also, CFD simulations elucidated that while the existing case devoid of an
665 integrated open space and high housing density (1327 DU/Ha) exhibited inefficient air velocity (0-
666 0.22m/sec) through skimming flow regime, Scenario 1 to Scenario 4 with reduced density, adequate
667 integrated open spaces and shallow urban canyons exhibited increased air velocity of 0.77-1.68 m/sec
668 by experiencing isolated roughness and wake interference airflow regime. When the urban spatial
669 variable of density was examined, Scenario 2 and Scenario 3 with 650 DU/Ha and 800 DU/Ha
670 performed better in terms of airflow than the controlled group alternative Scenario 5 with 650 DU/Ha.
671 This can be attributed to the rational morpho-metric-based built-volume arrangement which assisted in
672 generation of air channelling and distinct pollutant transport paths. This complexity of the urban
673 structure and voids enhance air mixing due to the formation and unification of different vertical and

674 channelled flows. The average air velocity for Scenario 2 and Scenario 3 was in the range of 0.77-
675 1.68m/sec while it reduced to 0-0.22m/sec for Scenario 5, thus advertently implying the notion of
676 judicious removal of building blocks (Ramponi & Blocken et al., 2015²).

677 However, this study utilised this air channelizing paths and introduced the notion that if the urban
678 morphology is judiciously designed such that the residual built-volumes' position avoid the prevalent
679 direction of incoming wind plume from the refinery, the pollution transfer would get less obstructed,
680 thereby increasing the ventilation and polluted air transport rate.

681 7. Conclusion

682 This study develops a pluri-disciplinary approach to emphasize the necessity of land use compatibility
683 testing to avoid inaccuracies in land parcelling and zoning, which can otherwise impact health security
684 at large. This study, treating cities as a socio-ecological system, brings together urban morphology and
685 environmental planning analysis and recommends certain proposals that would promote healthy and
686 liveable environment in LIG residential zones sharing adjacency with industrial belts. These vary from
687 planning assessments in the early design stage to retrofitting adaptations at post construction stage that
688 would improve airflow and ventilation within existing buildings. The set of urban morpho-metrics of
689 number of buildings in a neighbourhood, building footprint, canyon or aspect ratio or inter-building
690 gaps, integrated and interlinked open spaces and greenery and most importantly housing density need
691 to be included in the LIG mass housing design and planning process as a base-line and evaluation
692 criteria for ensuring health and liveability among low-income population. Based on this study, the
693 following recommendations can be proposed:

- 694 • Urban canyon is an integrally crucial morpho-metric with aerodynamic potential. While Oke's
695 law prescribes an aspect (H/W) ratio of 0.7, this study through environmental simulations
696 preferred an acceptable value of 2 (H/W=2). This implies that the recommended height of the
697 building can be twice of the width of the adjacent alley for better ventilation.
- 698 • For high-density cities, one of the most important and useful morphological indicator is
699 building footprint or number of built-volumes in a site or ground coverage ratio. The wind-
700 tunnel experiments indicate that the average wind velocity ratio gets halved when the ground
701 coverage increases from 10 to 30 per cent (Kubota., 2008). The simulation predicted results
702 derived from this study recommended a relaxed building footprint of 37 to 49 per cent.
703 However, in this case, careful building disposition plays a crucial role. Development should be
704 laid out and oriented to maximise air penetration.
- 705 • Spatial porosity and permeability at ground level is also very effective in improving urban
706 ventilation. One of the major indicators include the ratio of positive to negative space, where
707 the prescribed value should at least be equal to 'one'. The CFD predicted results demonstrated
708 that for better air exchange rates and improved ventilation potential, the recommended ratio of
709 positive to negative space might lie in the range of 1.5 to 3. This implies that an adequate
710 amount of integrated and interlinked open space and greenery, with the maximum number of
711 buildings' front facades facing parklands should be provided in a neighbourhood for better
712 health conditions.
- 713 • Open spaces should be interlinked in such a way as to form air paths or breezeways or
714 ventilation corridors. In this case, the indicator of social interaction space might lie in the
715 range of 0.08 to 0.25 for better ventilation.
- 716 • Housing density is another key parameter to be considered while designing mass-scale housing.
717 While best-case suggests a density of 500 DU/Ha as also recommended by NBCI, housing

718 density in current urbanisation trend and land-shortage scenario might go up to 800DU/Ha,
719 provided the building disposition is designed rationally.

720 If the land-use compatibility can be assessed using environmental planning approaches like CFD and if
721 the afore-mentioned morphological indicator-based recommendations are implemented, the industrial-
722 residential land-use conflict can be eradicated and restricted at the early design stage or even can be
723 minimised at post-construction phase, thereby reducing the risk of population ill-health conditions. The
724 outcomes of the study are policy-specific; however, the recommendations have implications to a larger
725 stakeholder group who are pursuing land use-housing-urbanisation interaction. Recognising the
726 ~~concept~~ notion, language and epistemology of the urban morphology and environmental planning
727 interaction ~~provide~~ offer the ~~architects~~ building designers, urban planners, and ~~habitat~~ housing
728 policymakers with a parametric coupled simulation-driven approach to the land-use planning procedure
729 for upcoming mass-scale housing. The morpho-metrics ~~analysed~~ investigated here are also
730 ~~intended~~ proposed to better understand the environmental impacts of land-use incompatibility on health
731 and liveability, which remains a blind-spot in current urban planning. While emission density zoning is
732 required from the air pollution side, spatially sensitive planning is also essential from land-use planning
733 perspective. Especially, in cities like Mumbai, where the current government housing authorities face
734 exorbitant financial burden after the failure of LIG mass housing projects, these early compatibility
735 checks implemented in planning policies can prevent further precarious ‘rebound’ phenomenon.

736 **Limitations**

737 The methodology involved in this study has only considered air pollution; while other categories of
738 pollution or hazards induced from the polluting industries have not been accounted. One of the plausible
739 reason behind this is adequate safety measures that can effectively counter the hazardous events. Also,
740 in this study, the authors have considered the pollutant levels and concentrations, and medical status
741 reported in other studies from environmental institutes and government hospitals. In-situ experimental
742 measurements have not been conducted in this study. The quantitative recommendations proposed in
743 this study are based on the authors’ computations and simulations and are contextual, hence, need
744 further validation.

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