

Collaboration workshop on social design between the school of the Arts And Design, University Of Nairobi And Zurich School Of The Arts (19th – 31st January, 2015)



Design as a profession is very dynamic. In a fast changing world, it is important to show the relevance and importance of design involvement in change making processes. The aim of this collaboration is for the two schools to individually develop their solution to a collaboratively chosen global challenge and exchange and discuss the results afterwards. The workshop will target "Food Security", since the topic offers challenges in the Swiss context and is highly relevant to the African Continent too.

The workshops will begin by lectures on social design and its relevant design methods. Students then engage in research and are free to focus on any aspect of food security like food production methods, tools, malnutrition etc. Once the students have chosen their topic, the goal would be, to apply research and social design methods (such as participatory design, co-design, cultural probes etc.) and come up with concepts and first stage prototypes to tackle the problem within their culture. Final results can either be Service, Process, Product or Communication Design.

At the end of the two week workshop, students from the collaborating schools will present their results in their respective schools and also present results from the "parallel" -workshop.

The idea is to show various design approaches and to make cultural differences visible. For example if students work on "Food Security" the results in Switzerland will most probably be very different to the results in Africa. All students get in touch with the other culture and see how important it is to collaborate while tackling global