
Urban Poor Settlement Profile in Seoul

Vinyl-House settlements & Jjokbang

May 2011

Conducted by



ASIAN BRIDGE
아시안 브릿지



주거권실현을위한국민연합
Korean Coalition for Housing Right
www.kchr63.or.kr

Funded by



BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation

ACCA

CITYNET

Asian Bridge | 3F Wonje Bldg. 93-25 Galwol-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea | Tel: +82 2 832 5448 | Fax: +82 2 832 5449 | asianbridge21@gmail.com | www.asianbridge.asia

Korean Coalition for Housing Rights | 91-6 Ewha-dong, Jongro-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea | Tel: +82 2 3676 7270 | Fax: +82 2 3676 7269 | kchr63@hanmail.net | www.kchr.or.kr

Table of Contents

1.0 Introduction	2
2.0 Survey Subjects	2
3.0 Objectives of the Urban Poor Settlement Survey	3
4.0 Methodology	3
5.0 Summary of Findings	4
6.0 Survey Analysis and Findings	9
6.1 Vinyl-House Settlements in Seoul	10
6.2 Surveyed Communities	11
6.3 Data analysis and Mapping	12
6.3.1 Number of Households	12
6.3.2 Land ownership	13
6.3.3 Average length of residence	14
6.3.4 Land tenure security	15
6.3.5 Registering current residence as address	16
6.3.6 Water supply	17
6.3.7 Toilet Facility	18
6.3.8 Community Solidarity	19
6.3.9 Preference on Public Rental Housing (apartment) and Compensation	20
6.3.10 Preference on community-driven housing projects	21
6.4 Jjokbang in Seoul	22
Reference	25
Attachment 1: Survey Data	27
Attachment 2: Survey Form	31
Appendix: Stories of Vinyl Hose Communities	35

1.0 Introduction

This research has been part of the ACCA (Asian Coalition for Community Action) Program*, which is currently run in more than 150 cities in 15 countries in Asia. The ACCA Program supports and encourages community actions to improve the urban poor's habitat environment such as roadwork, toilets, water supply, housing conditions, and community welfare programs.

To run the program, current condition of communities, such as needs of community members, urgent issues in each community, and residents' preference to community-driven housing projects (self-building housing), had to be figured out first. The research this time has been conducted in this context.

* Note: it is run by Asian Coalition for Housing Rights and sponsored by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. In Korea, it is being implemented in Seoul. Other cities including Gwacheon, Daejeon, and Busan City, will also join the program.

2.0 Survey Subjects

The subjects of this survey include Vinyl-House settlements and Jjokbang in Seoul. This report defines these types of urban poor settlements as the following:



Figure 1 Vinyl-House Settlements



Figure 2 Jjokbang

▪ Vinyl-House Settlements

: Formed by poor tenants evicted from housing redevelopment areas without enough money to rent a single room in other residential areas. They have squatted in empty vinyl greenhouses or have built new ones between existing farming-vinyl-greenhouses. Therefore, the squatter settlement areas have begun to be referred to as Vinyl-House settlements. The

term originates from the first types of squatter's settlements, but now refers to areas where squatters settle in vacant hillside areas or public open spaces without any rights to land ownership and building permits..

- Jjokbang

: A daily rental room, defined as 'a room for residence exclusive of any legal leasing contract and either rent is paid by monthly or daily with no deposit' (KOCER 2005a:13)

3.0 Objectives of the Urban Poor Settlement Survey

General objectives:

- To assess the current situation of urban poor settlements in Seoul
- Identify and prioritize crucial aspects of shelter and livelihood improvement
- Identify the potentials for improving shelter and livelihood aspects
- Identify poor residents' needs

The following are the broad objectives:

- As an alternative method of improving urban poor settlements, evaluate the possibility of community-driven housing projects, and livelihood improvement
- Strengthen residents' capability to recognize problems in their village and leading to reference specifically

4.0 Methodology

Step 1: Collect data from previous reports and other related data

In order to understand the current conditions and geographic location of Vinyl-House communities and Jjokbangs, the research team at Asian Bridge collected the data from previous reports and other related materials concerning poor settlement areas.

Step 2: Set the research topic and categories

Based on the ACCA program's recommended survey questions, the research team redesigned basic survey questions. This process is meaningful as questions are common research topics that can be compared and contrasted with neighboring countries. ACCA program's survey questions are designed by ACHR and IIED (International Institute for Environment and Development) located in Britain providing a guide-line to urban poor housing area researchers in Asia.

Step 3: Discuss the methodology and target areas with representatives of poor settlement areas

The research team discussed and shared the purpose of this research, methodology, and contents with Korean Coalition for Housing Rights (KCHR) and Vinyl House Residents

Coalition for Housing Rights (VRCHR). After the discussion, parts of survey questions were revised according to current Seoul circumstance.

Step 4: Field Research

A field research team consisting of representatives from KCHR, VRCHR, and Asian Bridge. The team collected data by visiting each urban poor settlement area and interviewing representatives from the villages, the village executive board, and long-time residents together for about an hour. These are the main interview categories. (More details on attachment 2)

- Land ownership
- Land tenure security
- Basic infrastructure and accessibility to facilities
- Economic activity
- Preference of counter-plans (ex. Rental house, compensation, etc.)
- Current status of community solidarity

Step 5: Collect additional data

Along with previous data from communities that are already known by media, additional research and investigation was performed for other poor housing areas. The methodologies are detailed below.

- Studying Seoul's satellite images and base maps of potential poor housing areas, especially, Vinyl House communities.
- Collecting data from each local government
- Researching newspaper articles
- Collecting information of other poor settlement areas while interviewing residents during the field research

5.0 Summary of Findings

Vinyl House communities consisted of about 4,900 households which are assumed to home approximately 10,000~15,000 people in Seoul. This number includes 23 communities of 2,347 households that have been researched and 16 communities of about 2,500 households that are going to be researched. Including 3,280 of people who live in Jjokbang rooms, there are about 14,000~18,000 people living in inappropriate housing circumstances. In the case of Jjokbang, the data collected is mainly based in concentrated areas. Considering the fact that Jjokbang are spread out around Seoul, a number of unstable households in the low income bracket are expected to be more than the advance estimate.

- **The level of inadequate living condition differs by districts.**

The level of inadequacy in living conditions had a different tendency in each district. This implies an absence of consistency in Vinyl house community policy in Seoul. For example, the research has indicated that most communities in Seocho-gu ('Gu' is a unit of district)

have eventually become legal, however this is not the case for Gangnam-gu. Communities in Songpa-gu have also been received legal permits for address registration from the local government. For water supply facilities, public water supply is low in Seocho-gu so most people use ground water, while most Gangnam-gu residents are able to use individual water supply systems.

- **Community solidarity and the relationship with infrastructure supplies**

Communities with relatively better infrastructure, tend to have stronger community networks and solidarity than in other villages. Also, the absence of common policies by local government has resulted in residents taking action to solve problems and work out policy on their own. As community based self-governing developed, community members tend to recognize problems in detail and act as one to properly react as a community.

- **Average length of residency is longer than 20 years.**

The reason that the Seoul government has decided to deal with the Vinyl House communities passively has largely been due to speculative forces who supposedly aim for redevelopment merit. The fact is, however, the average length of residence is longer than 20 years, and it implies many people have been living in vinyl houses for their residence.

- **Tendency of forming new Vinyl-house settlements near original Vinyl-house settlements by people had been evicted or forced to move out**

Among visited communities, a few cases of this nature were witnessed. The evicted people by redevelopment projects have formed new Vinyl-house settlements nearby. For example, a community near 'Taehwa farm' which had existed for less than 10 years was formed by people who were evicted from Jangji redevelopment area. It is necessary to perform in depth research about evicted people and their settlement status.

- **Jjokbangs: no big shift of the population of residents in last decades**

There has been only a slight decrease in the number of Jjokbang from 2,824 people in 2002 to 2,692 in 2011. This reflects the lack of proper governmental policy for the low income households over the past 10 years. The number of Jjokbang buildings has decreased by about 100; however, the number of Jjokbang hasn't decreased compared to 2002. When the average density of Jjokbang rooms was 10rooms per building in 2002, about 1,000 Jjokbang rooms were supposed to close down but only 300 rooms have disappeared according to the data in 2011. The Jjokbang room density has increased from 10rooms/building to 12rooms/building since 2002. This has been possible by allocating less space for one Jjokbang room. This indicates that living standards for people who live in daily Jjokbang has worsened.

The following is the data analysis from 23 Vinyl house communities around Seocho-gu, Gangnam-gu, and Songpa-gu.

1. Land ownership

40% of total communities lie on private land, 17% lie on combined land (private+government owned), and the final 43% lies on city owned land. For city owned land, some settlements are in 'site for park' and most are Chaebiji (an area of land recurred by the authorities in recompense of development outlay).

2. Average length of residence

Most communities tend to have been formed about 20~30 years ago, and the average length of residence is often more than 20 years. This indicated the purpose of residency in vinyl house communities is not for short term investment but in order to live.

3. Land tenure security

For the last 2~3 years, the number of warnings to residents that require compensation for Chaebiji and eviction notices has increased. About 60% of communities feel less secure compared to 2~3 years ago.

4. Registering current residence as address

After 2009 it became possible to register one's own address, 40% of actual resident's applications were rejected. If residents do not hold a legal address, residents have difficulties in terms of access public education for their children, postal services, and welfare services.

5. Water supply

About 30% of communities do not receive a water supply. Those communities purchase drinking water or using underground water. This underground water is not drinkable in most cases. Some communities have planted community water supply systems by themselves without receiving any government support.

6. Toilets

More than 50% of community members use pit latrine.

7. Community solidarity

More than 40% of residences hold monthly meetings. About 20% hold meetings when there is a certain issue to discuss.

8. Preference on public rental housing(apartment) and compensation

Only few residents prefer public rental housing(apartment) and compensation. This is due to an inability to pay often expensive rents and other expenses related to renting houses. Furthermore, their work place is generally located around their current residence, moving away to rented accommodation would thus mean forfeiting their livelihoods. Finally many, often elderly, residents have been living in their current communities for a long time, and are afraid to move to alien apartment-style communities..

9. Preference on community-driven housing projects

More than 60% of research participants prefer to live with their neighbors. The other 40% have no preference for community-driven housing projects but would prefer to live with their current neighbors.

6.0 Survey Analysis and Findings

6.1 Vinyl-House Settlements in Seoul

6.2 Surveyed Communities

6.3 Data analysis and Mapping

6.3.1 Number of Households

6.3.2 Land Ownership

6.3.3 Average Length of Residence

6.3.4 Land Tenure Security

6.3.5 Registering Current Residence as Address

6.3.6 Water Supply

6.3.7 Toilet Facility

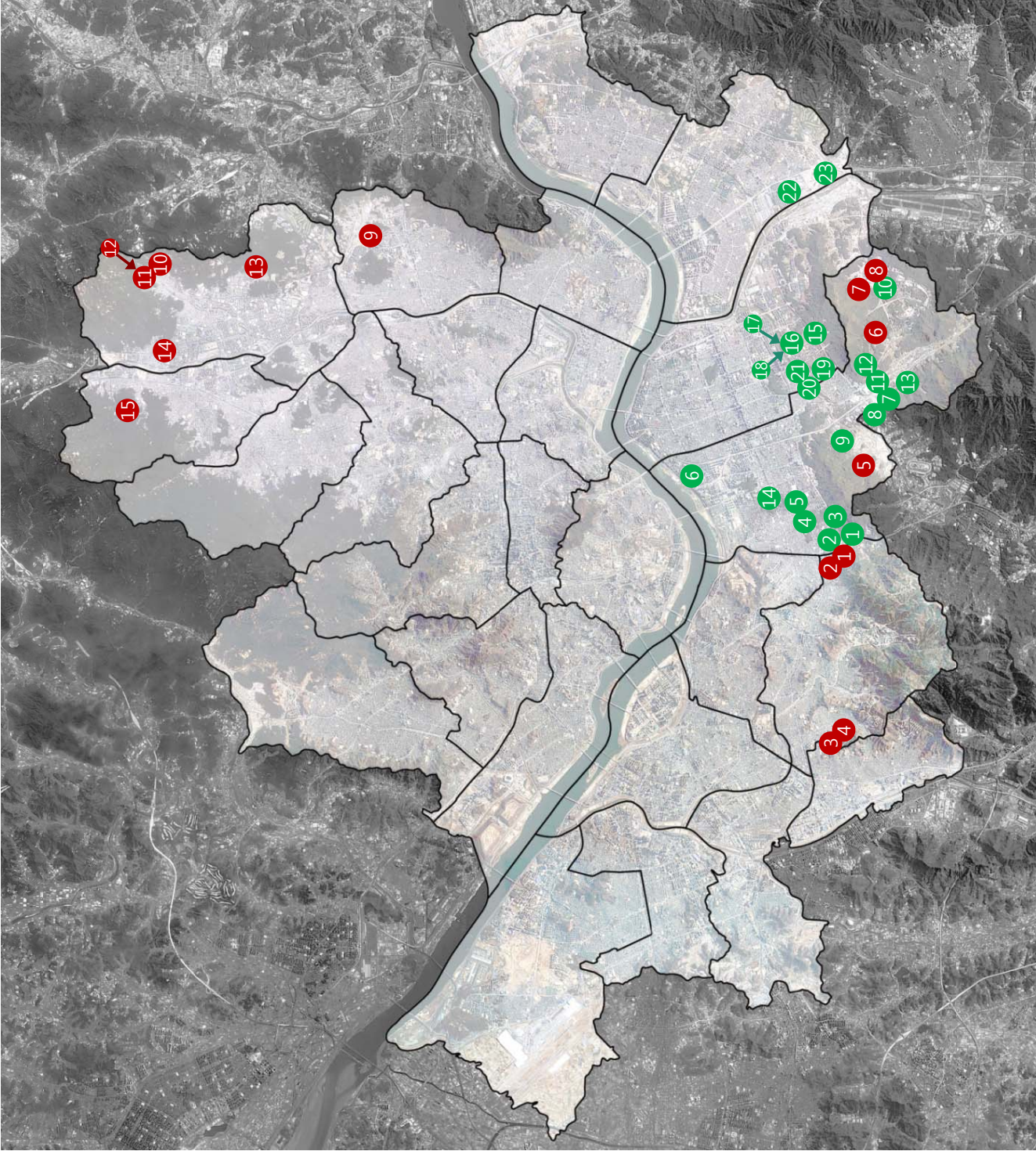
6.3.8 Community Solidarity

6.3.9 Preference on Public Rental Housing (apartment) and
Compensation

6.3.10 Preference on Community-driven Housing Projects

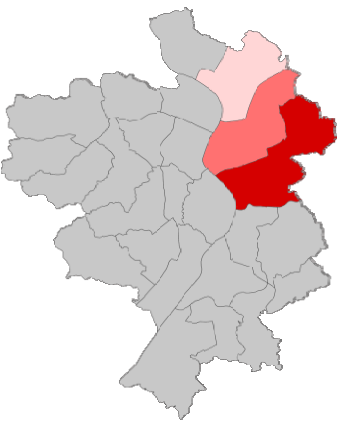
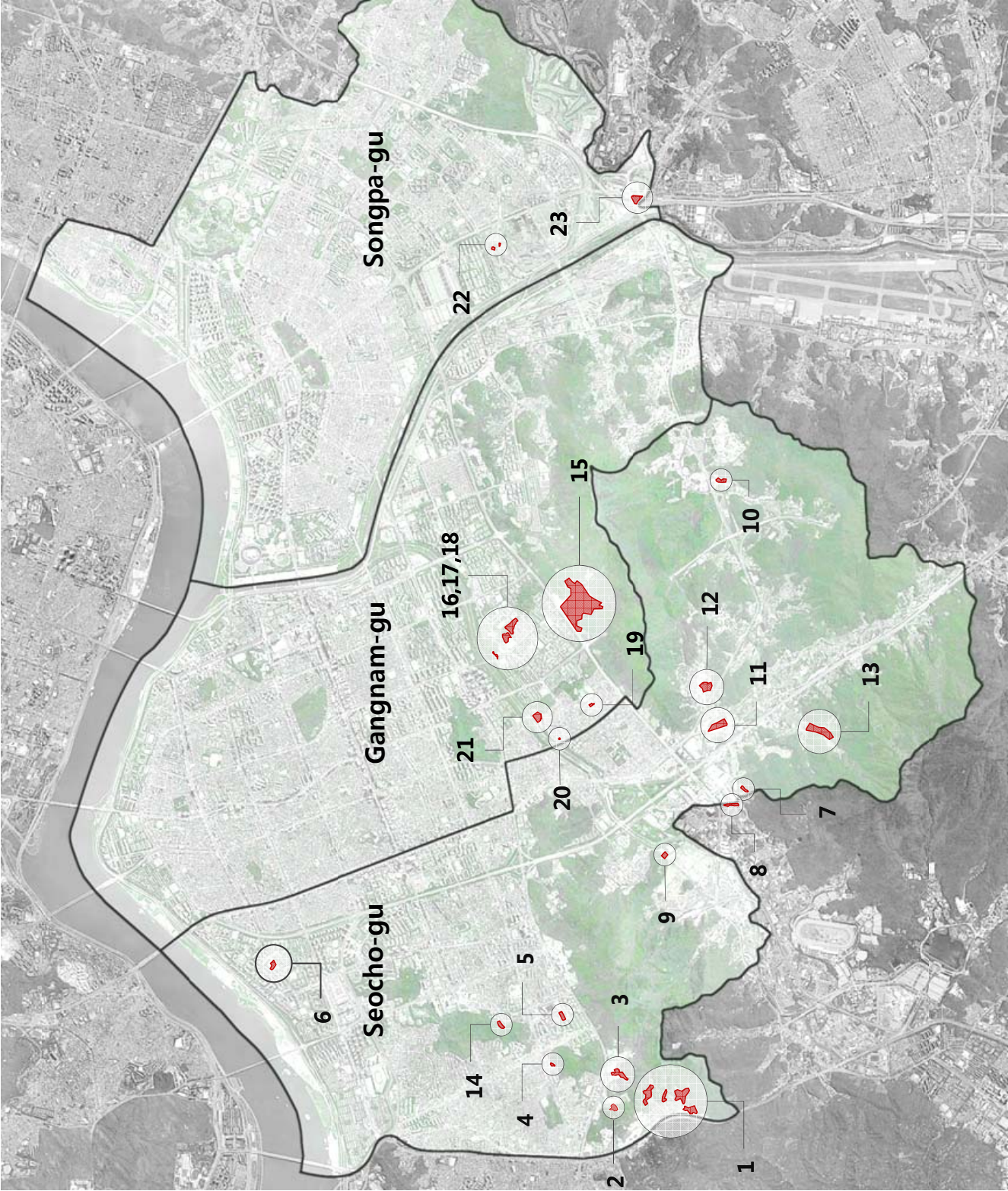
6.4 Jjokbang in Seoul

6.1 Vinyl-House Settlements in Seoul



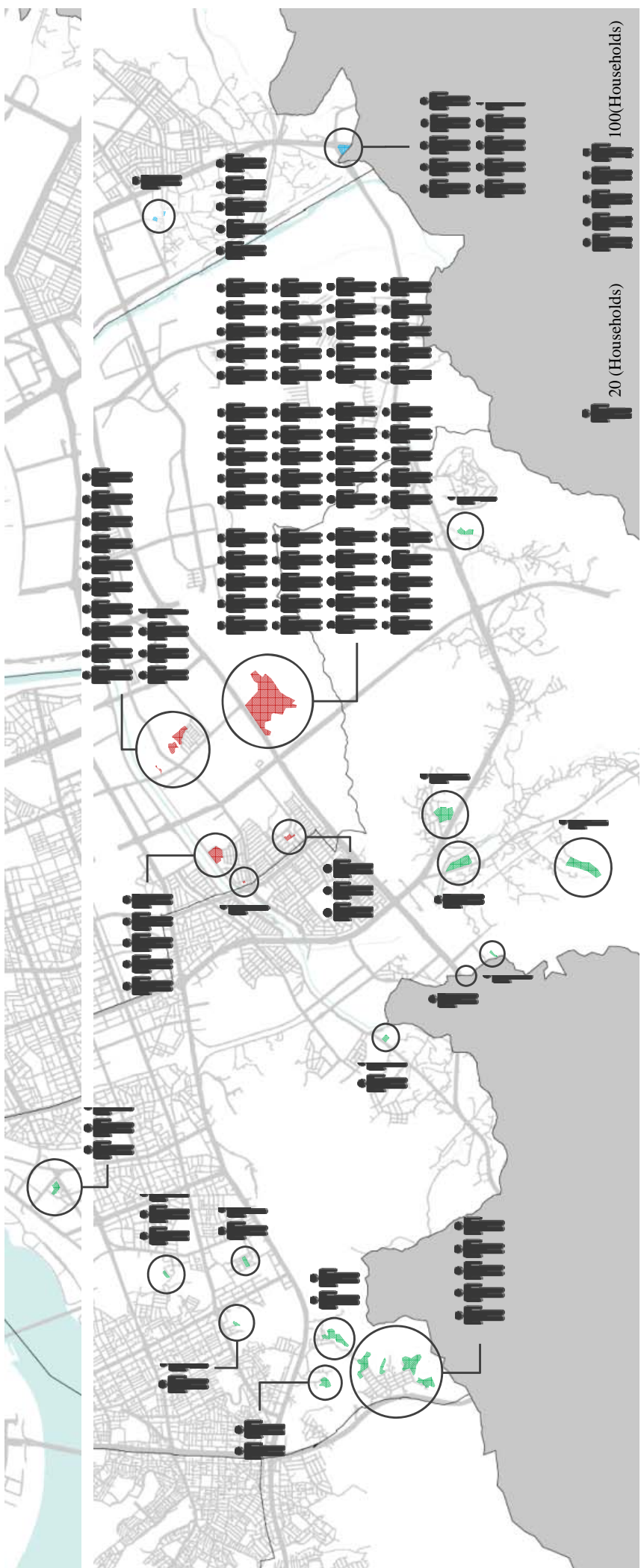
Surveyed Communities	
Seocho-gu	HHS
1. Jeonwon	100
2. Ahraesongdee	40
3. Wesongdee	40
4. Eunbong	25
5. Dooraе	31
6. Jamwon-chebiji	45
7. Chodae	6
8. Joam	15
9. Jeopsi-ggod	23
10. Taewha-nongwon	6
11. Sinwon-dong Ggodmaul	15
12. Nagokdongsamuso	9
13. Barangol	9
14. Sanchung	43
Gangnam-gu	
15. Gooryong	1300
16. Dalteogunlin1	75
17. Dalteogunlin2	163
18. Dalteogunlin3	32
19. Sujung	61
20. Yangjae Jeonghyongwoigwha	11
21. Jaegun	96
Songpa-gu	
22. Gaemi & Saemaul	17
23. Whawhe	185
Sub Total	2347
Other Communities (Number of households is estimated)	
1. Namhyun-dong #1	15
2. Namhyun-dong #2	12
3. Shilim-dong #1	90
4. Shilim-dong #2	10
5. Heoninreung	30
6. Ahgol	10
7. Sateo-maul	10
8. Gyosu-maul	100
9. Sinnae Church-maul	15
10. Heemangchon	350
11. Yangji-maul	1000
12. Hapdong-maul	350
13. 104-maul	525
14. Ongokchogyo	5
15. Dobongchogyo	15
Sub Total	2437
TOTAL	4884

6.2 Surveyed Communities: Vinyl-House Settlements in Seocho-gu, Gangnam-gu and Songpa-gu



Surveyed Communities		
Seocho-gu		HHS
1. Geonwon		100
2. Ahraeseongdee		40
3. Weseongdee		40
4. Eunbong		25
5. Doorae		31
6. Gamwon-chebiji		45
7. Chodae		6
8. Joaam		15
9. Geopsi-ggod		23
10. Taewha-nongwon		6
11. Sinwon-dong Ggodmaul		15
12. Nagokdongsamuso		9
13. Baramgol		9
14. Sanchung		43
Gangnam-gu		
15. Gooryong		1300
16. Dalteogunlin1		75
17. Dalteogunlin2		163
18. Dalteogunlin3		32
19. Sujung		61
20. Yangjae Jeonghyongwoigwha		11
21. Jaegun		96
송파구		
22. Gaemi & Saemaul		17
23. Whawhe		185
Sub Total		2347

6.3 Data analysis and Mapping : Number of Households

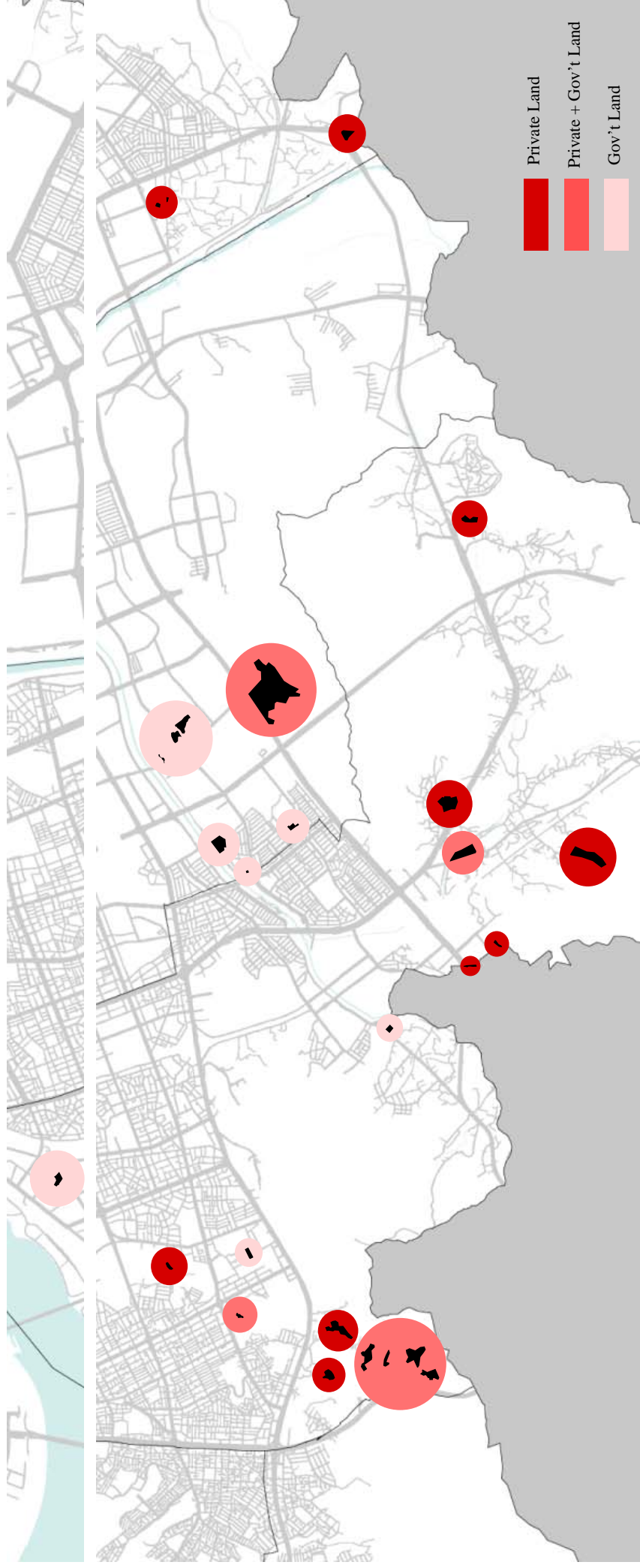


This research targeted 23 major communities in Seocho, Gangnam, and Songpa-gu. It turned out that there are about 2347 households (approximately 5,000~6,000 people) living in the areas. The biggest community is the ‘Goo-Ryong community’ where we have had a difficulty counting the exact number of households. According to residents who lived in Goo-Ryong for a long time, it is assumed that there are about 1300 households in the community. Including other areas that have not been researched this time, there are about 4900 households (approximately 10,000~15,000 people) living in Vinyl House Communities and Illegal Settlements in Seoul. There is also a newly found community around Tae-Hwa farm. This new community is small but residents are from Songpa-gu where reconstruction was enforced. People who were evicted or forced to move out returned and formed new illegal settlements and vinyl house communities. Research about the moving route is needed.

Districts	2011		2005*	
	No. of Settlements	No. of Households	No. of Settlements	No. of Households
Seocho-gu	14	407	13	657
Gangnam-gu	7	1738	9	2645
Songpa-gu	2	202	6	461
Total	23	2347	28	3763

*KOCER (2005b)

6.3 Data analysis and Mapping : Land Ownership

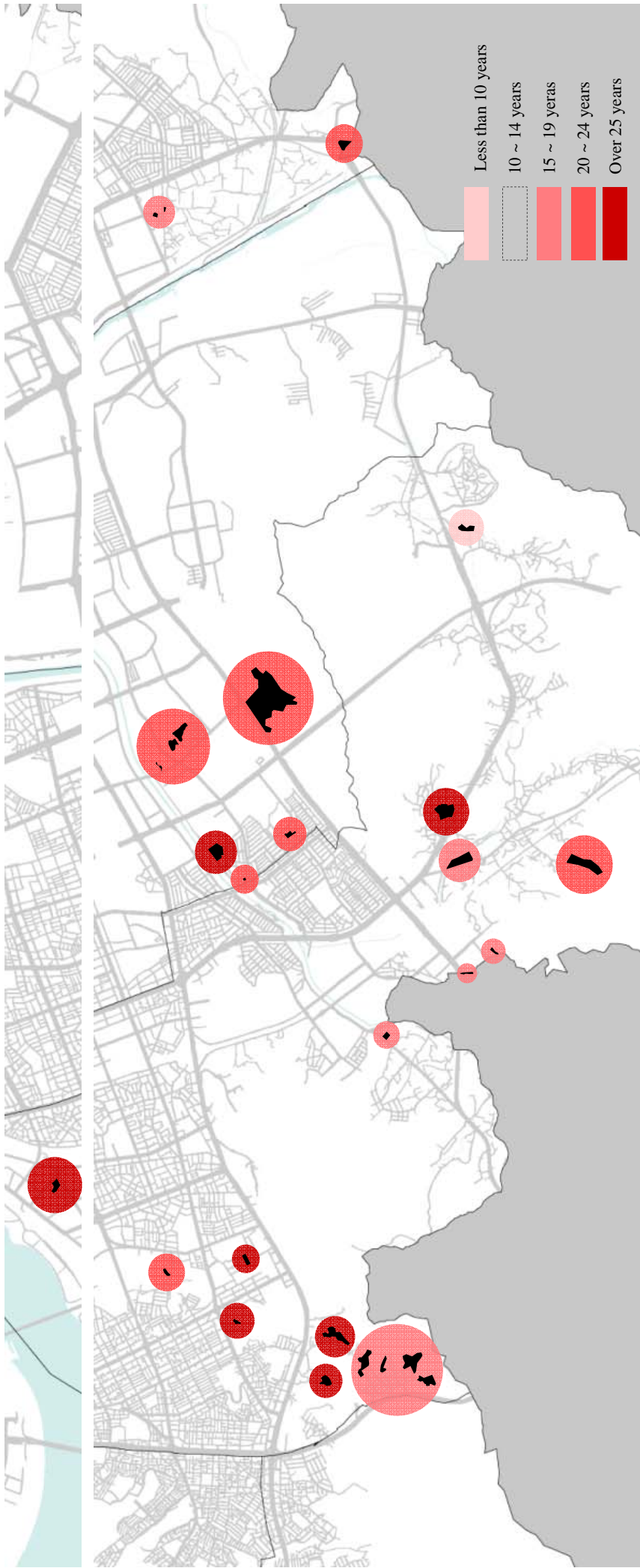


Land ownership statuses differ from community to community. More than 40% of people live on private land, 17% live on lands owned privately and by the city. In fact, most lands owned by private and city are owned by the private sector and this pushes the number of people living on private land up to 60%. Most communities lying on private land are older than 20 years. Most city owned land where Vinyl-house settlers is Chaebiji* or park zones.

*Chaebiji: an area of land secured by the authorities in recompense of development outlay

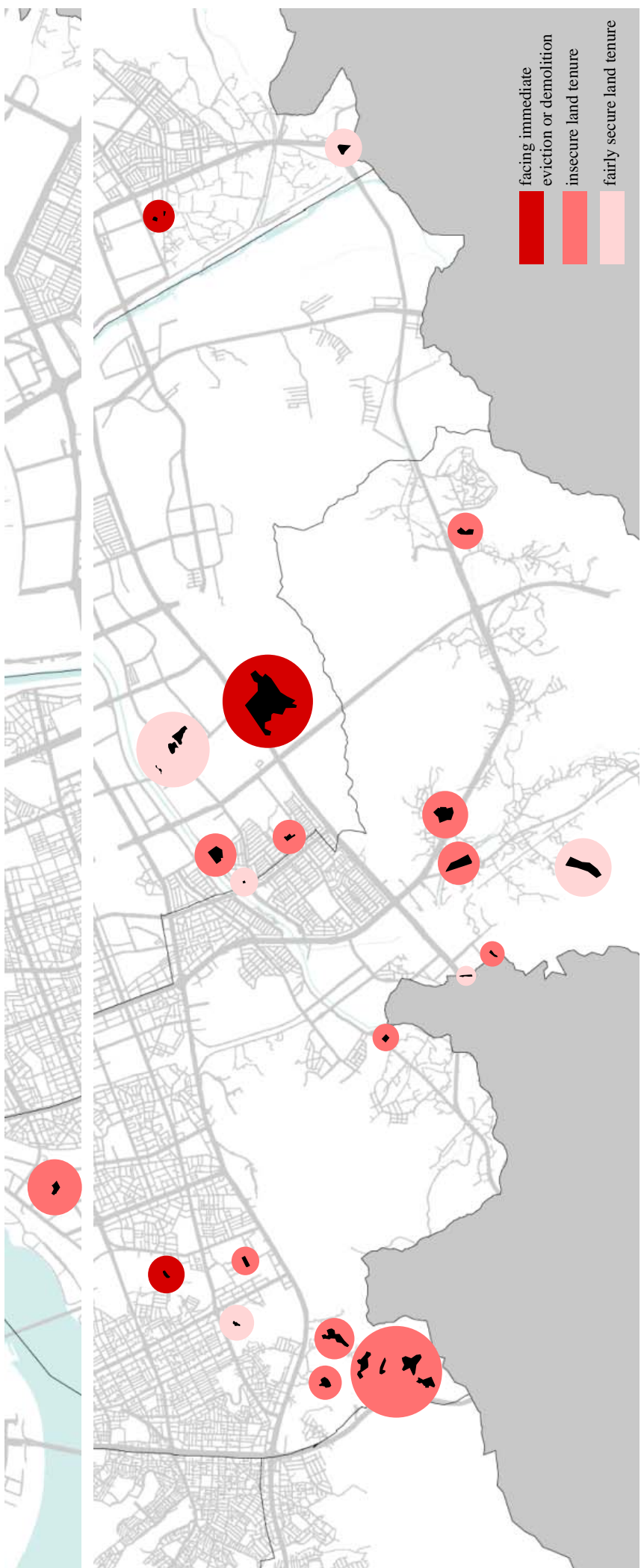
Types	No. of Settlements	%	No. of HHs	%
Private Land	10	43.5%	370	15.8%
Private+Gov't Land	4	17.4%	1440	61.3%
Gov't Land	9	39.1%	537	22.9%
Total	23	100.0%	2347	100.0%

6.3 Data analysis and Mapping : Average Length of Residence



Most communities were formed 20~30 years ago, and the average length of residency in these communities is longer than 20 years. Therefore, it is assumed that the majority of people who live in these communities are not short term speculate who want reconstruction compensation.

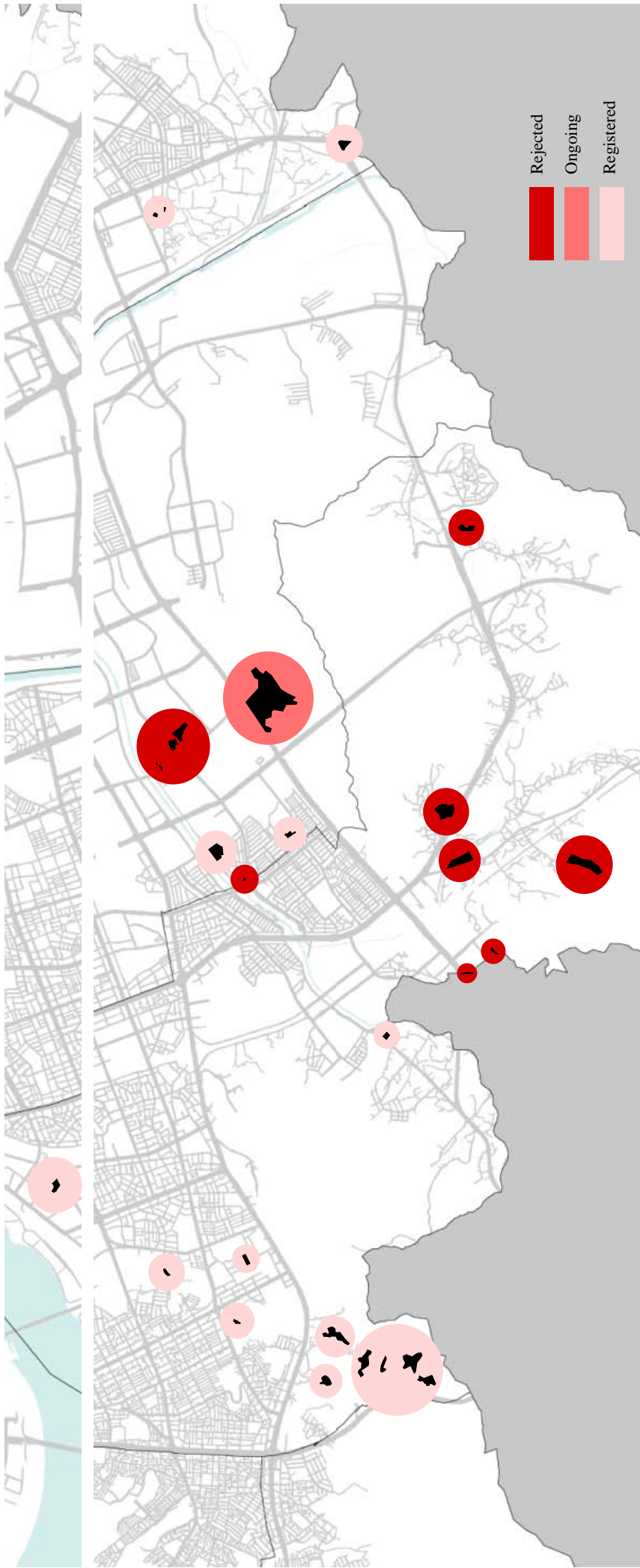
Types	No. of Settlements	%
Less than 10 years	1	4.3%
10 ~ 14 years	0	0.0%
15 ~ 19 years	9	39.1%
20 ~ 24 years	7	30.4%
Over 25 years	6	26.1%
Total	23	100.0%



The land security is categorized as ‘facing immediate eviction or demolition’, ‘insecure land tenure’, and ‘fairly secure land tenure’. If a demolition has been confirmed, residences were classified as ‘facing immediate eviction or demolition’. If participants received a threat of eviction/warning, the residence was classified as ‘insecure land tenure’. If participants did not receive any warning or threat for more than 2years, the residence was classified as ‘fairly secure land tenure’. Currently, Seocho-gu Sanchaeng community, Gangnam-gu Gooryong community, Songpa-gu Gaemi community are facing an immediate eviction or demolition. The 17 Households in Gaemi community are to be demolished next month (June 2011). About 50% of the total residences have insecure land tenure. People from these residences feel they have received more threats regularly compared to the past.

Types	No. of Settlements	%	No. of HHs	%
facing immediate eviction or demolition	3	13.0%	1360	58.0%
insecure land tenure	12	52.2%	472	20.1%
fairly secure land tenure	8	34.8%	515	21.9%
Total	23	100.0%	2347	100.0%

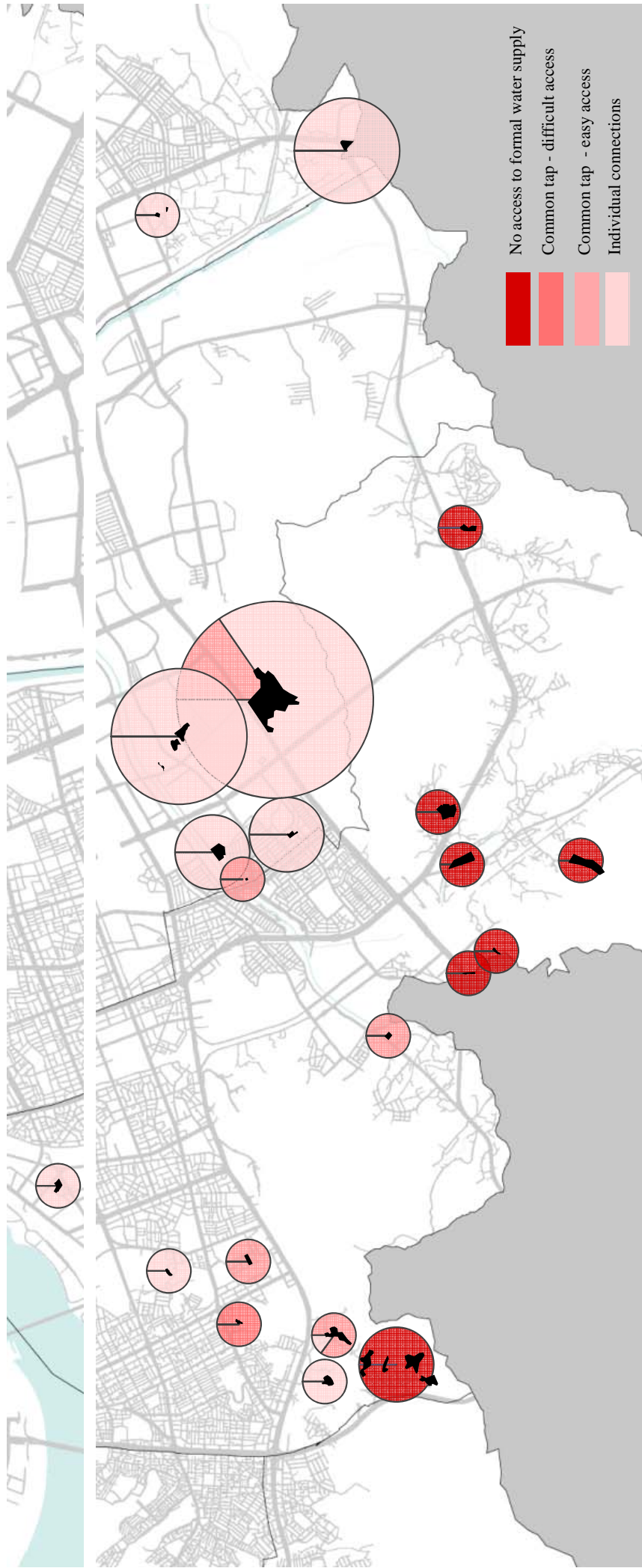
6.3 Data analysis and Mapping : Registering Current Residence as Address



According to research, many vinyl house residents failed to register their vinyl house addresses legally it has been accepted since 2009 by the Supreme Court. In fact, over 40% of communities have been denied registration of their vinyl house addresses legally. In addition, the research found that some communities in Seochogangnam-gu failed to receive enough information about the rights of registering addresses and the process. It was appeared that there are different preferences of registering addresses by each district. Compared to Seocho-gu and Songpa-gu, the ratio of communities registering addresses in Gangnam-gu is lower. The residents face multiple problems such as education, postal services, social welfare, and usage of other public services, when they cannot register current resident address.

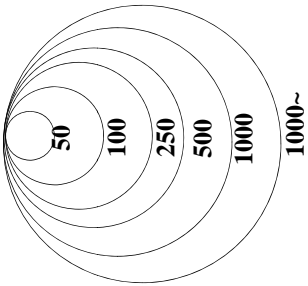
Types	No. of Settlements	%	No. of HHs	%
Rejected	10	43.5%	341	14.5%
Ongoing	1	4.3%	1300	55.4%
Registered	12	52.2%	706	30.1%
Total	23	100.0%	2347	100.0%

6.3 Data analysis and Mapping : Water Supply

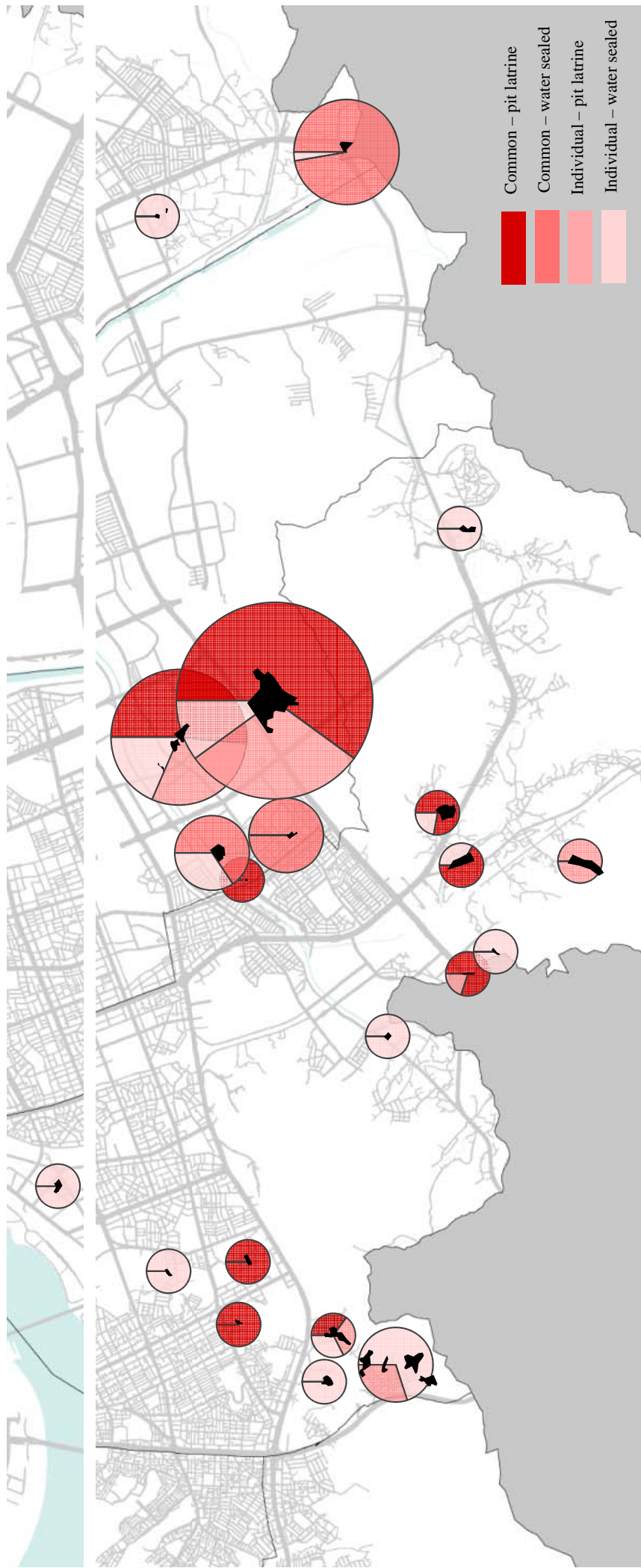


About 1/3 of the researched communities did not have a water supply system. In this case, most residents use underground water, spring water, or buying water at store. Also, Seocho-gu has less water supply systems. Some communities such as Eunbong Jeopsi-ggott, and Witseongdee communities use common tap. Those systems are built by residents themselves the majority of the time not by local government. However, they use underground water more in order to reduce water bills. Nowadays, the residents' health problems have increased since most underground water is not suitable as drinking water.

Types	No. of Settlements	%	No. of HHs	%
No access to formal water supply	7	30.4%	160	6.8%
Common tap - difficult access	2	8.7%	82	3.5%
Common tap - easy access	3	13.0%	242	10.3%
Individual connections	11	47.8%	1863	79.4%
Total	23	100.0%	2347	100.0%



6.3 Data analysis and Mapping : Toilet Facility

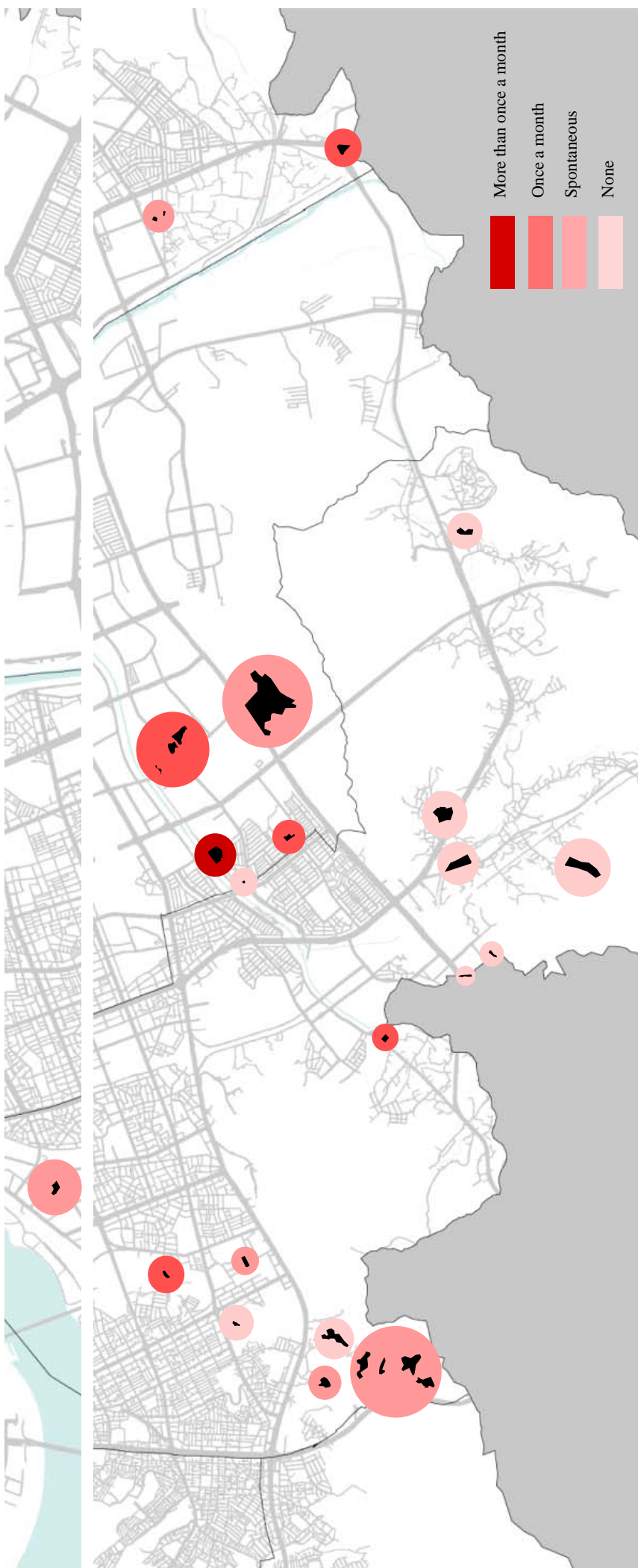


More than half of the communities use common toilets and 80% of these toilets are pit latrine. This has been a threat to communities' hygiene. Only about 40% of communities have individual toilets.

Types	No. of HHs	%
Common – pit latrine	1024	43.6%
Common – water sealed	304	13.0%
Individual – pit latrine	566	24.1%
Individual – water sealed	453	19.3%
Total	2347	100.0%

Ratio of individual toilet installation in each settlement	No. of Settlements	%
Less than 30%	7	30.4%
50% ~ 30%	3	13.0%
90% ~ 50%	3	13.0%
Over 90% OI	10	43.5%
Total	23	100.0%

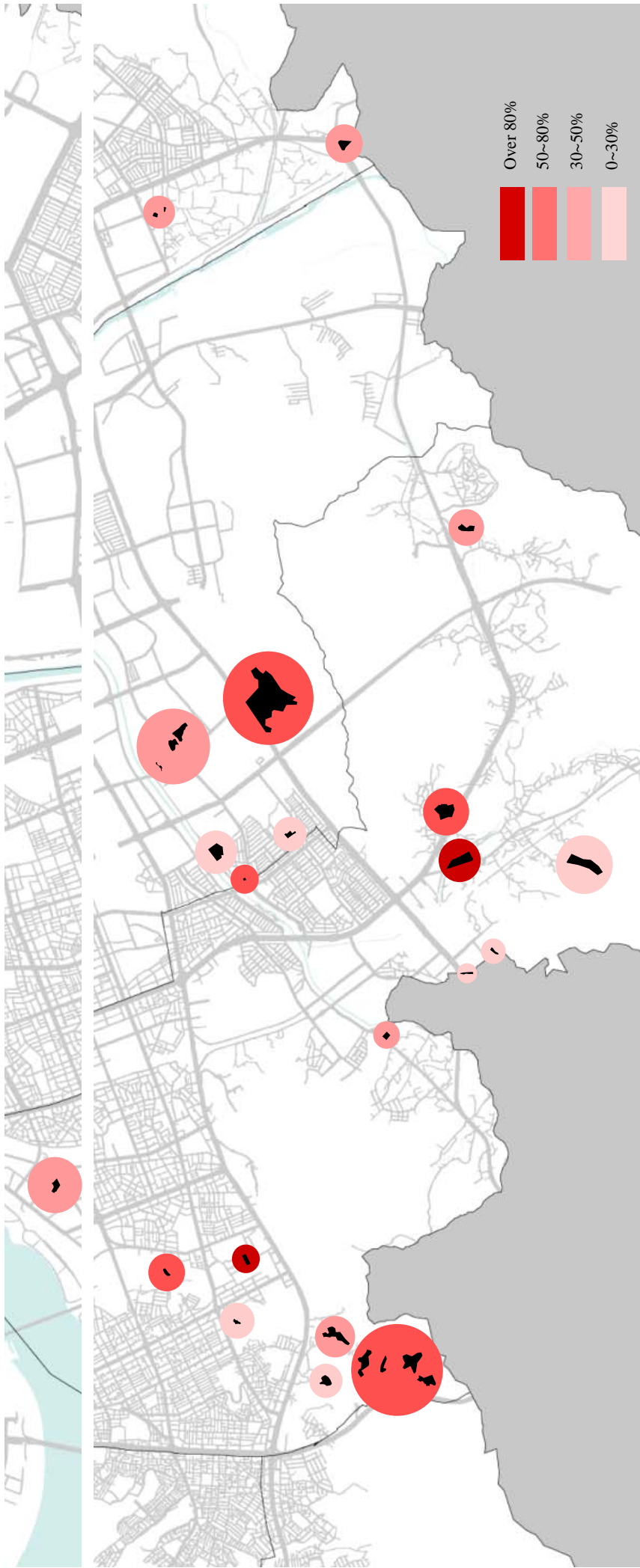
6.3 Data analysis and Mapping : Community Solidarity



Community solidarity was difficult category to measure. This research has tried to analyse indirectly by counting the number of regular community meetings. More than 40% of communities hold at least once a month regular meetings. Seventeen percent hold meetings only when there is an issue to talk about. The Jaegun community has shown the most strong solidarity.

No. of regular community meetings	No. of Settlements	%	No. of HHs	%
More than once a month	1	4.3%	96	4.1%
Once a month	9	39.1%	722	30.8%
Spontaneous	4	17.4%	1393	59.4%
None	9	39.1%	136	5.8%
Total	23	100.0%	2347	100.0%

6.3 Data analysis and Mapping : Preference on Public Rental Housing (apartment) and Compensation

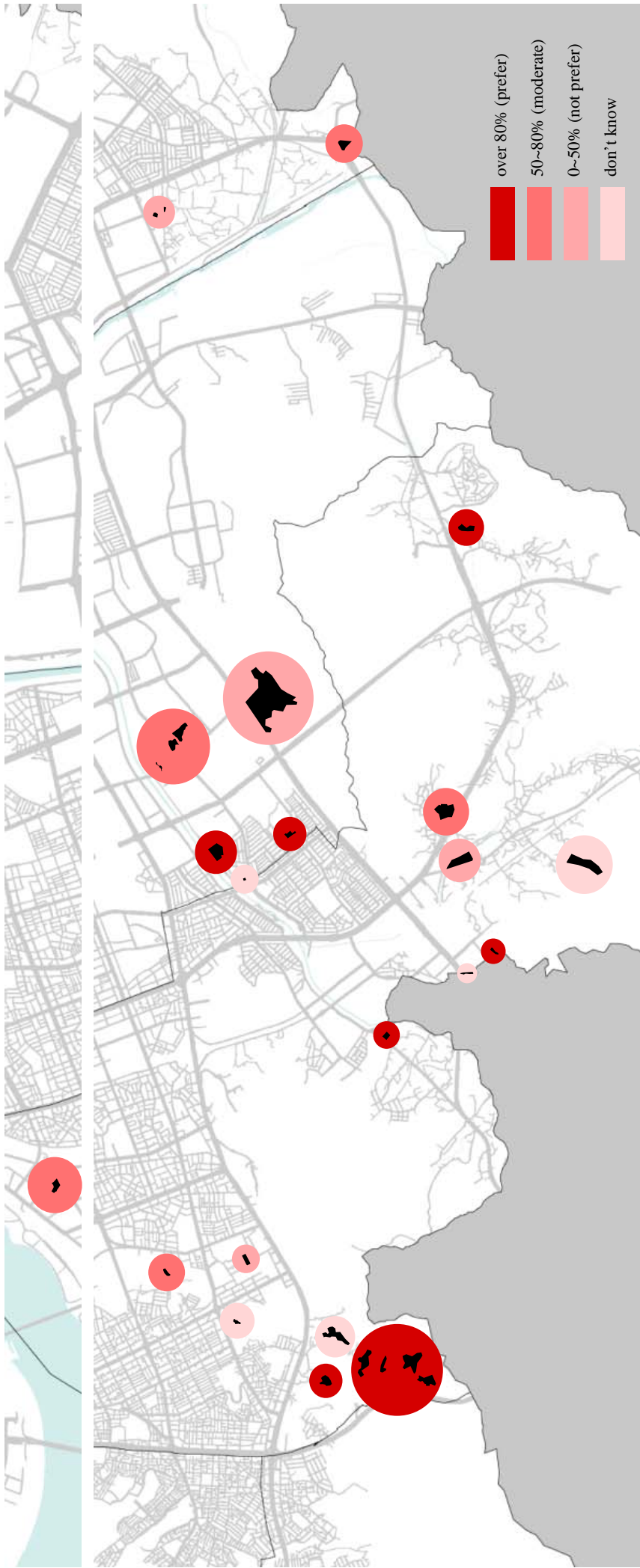


There were only 2 communities of which 80% of members preferred rental housing compensation. Most vinyl house community residents were pessimistic about rental housing and compensation and the reasons are:

1. They cannot afford the living expenses (deposit, rent etc)
2. Work places are located around the community
3. They are afraid to leave their neighborhood.

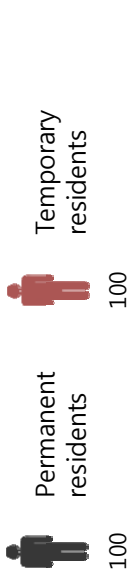
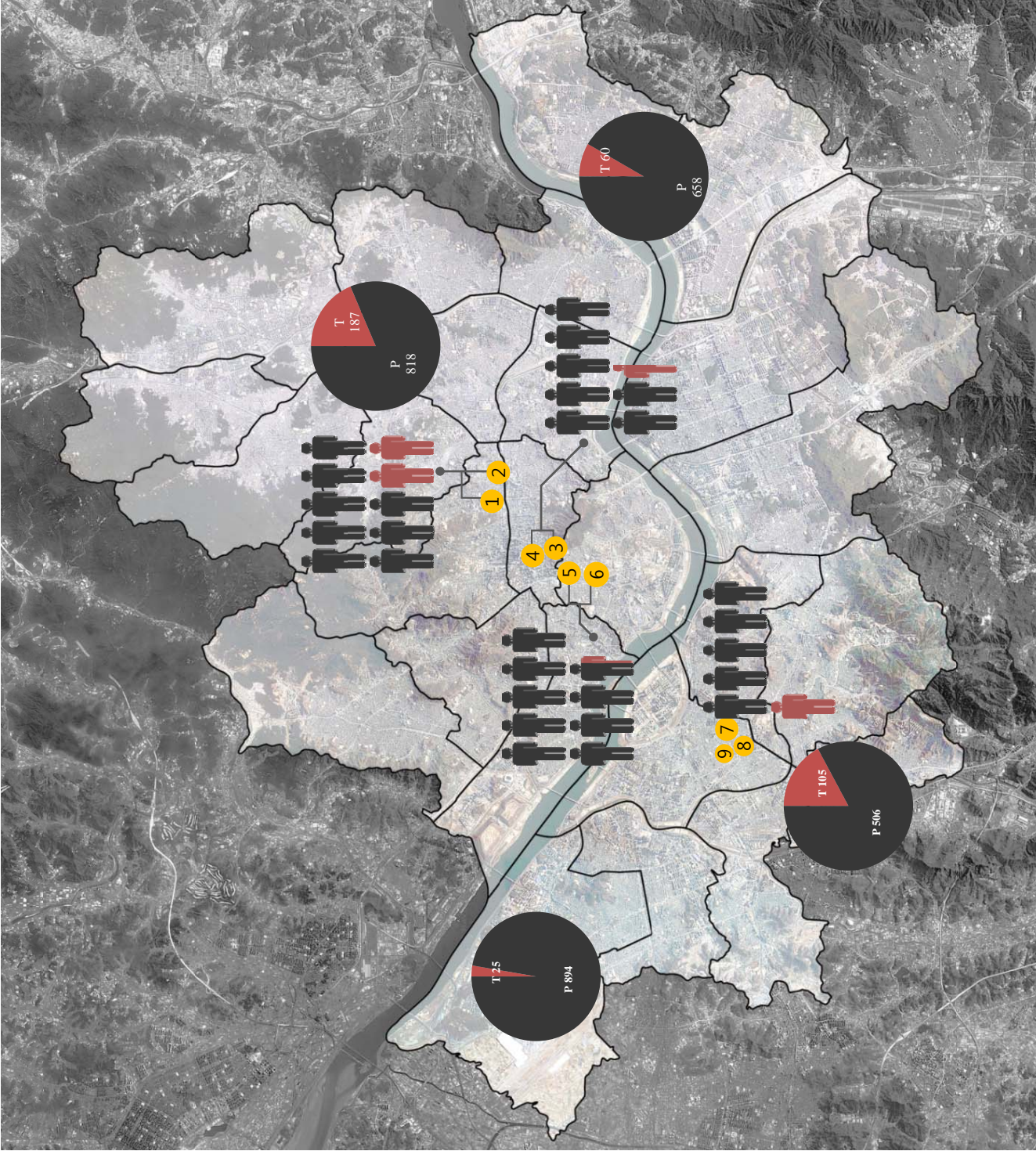
Ratio of households preferring public rental housing & compensation in each settlements	No. of Settlements	%
Over 80%	2	8.7%
50~80%	6	26.1%
30~50%	8	34.8%
0~30%	7	30.4%
Total	23	100.0%

6.3 Data analysis and Mapping : Preference on Community-driven Housing Projects



Preference on Community-driven Housing Projects was categorized as ‘Prefer’, ‘moderate’, ‘not prefer’, and ‘don’t know’. After a brief explanation about Community-driven Housing Projects as an alternative, we collected opinions and preferences. There are 14 communities(out of 23) that have more than 50% members agreed on forming a community community. Abrae-Seongdee community and Jaegun community showed the greatest interest in Community-driven Housing Projects .

Ratio of households preferring Community-driven housing projects in each settlements	No. of Settlements	%
over 80% (prefer)	7	30.4%
50~80% (moderate)	7	30.4%
0~50% (not prefer)	3	13.0%
don't know	6	26.1%
Total	23	100.0%



Jjokbang has generally been considered as a form of temporary residence. However, analyses proved that for a large portion of people it is their permanent residence. In fact, according to a staff member of Dongjadang Sarangbang, most of the residents at Youngsan Jjokbang have been living there for 15-20 years.

Jjokbang clusters	No. of residents		
	Temporary	Permanent	Total
Jongro-gu			
1. Donui-dong	158	532	690
2. Changshin-dong	29	286	315
Sub total	187	818	1005
Joong-gu			
3. near the Namsaemoon Police Station	42	515	557
4. near Yunse building	18	170	188
Sub total	60	685	745
Yongsan-gu			
5. Dongja-dong	25	852	877
6. Gawol-dong	0	42	42
Sub total	25	894	919
Yeongdeungpo-gu			
7. Yeongdeungpo-dong	83	417	500
8. Yeongdeungpo-bondong	5	10	15
9. Mullae 1-dong	17	79	96
Sub total	105	506	611
TOTAL	377	2,903	3,280

Seoul City Welfare Department (2011)

6.4 Jjokbang in Seoul

▪ Jjokbang Building Types



▪ Inside of Jjokbangs



1.2m(W) X 2.4m(L) X 1.74m in average

▪ Inside of Jjokbang Buildings



Corridor (12~15 rooms per floor)



Common Toilet



Common Launderette

6.4 Jjokbang in Seoul

Jjokbang clusters	Year	No. of J Buildings	No. of Rooms	No. of residents			Registered current residence as address	Disables
				Temporary	Permanent	Total		
Jongro-gu								
Donui-dong	2002	93	651	-	-	-	430	-
	2011	87	757	532	158	690	679	114
Changshin-dong	2002	51	595	-	-	-	364	-
	2011	56	527	286	29	315	236	56
Joong-gu								
near the Namdaemoon Police Station & Yunse building	2002	57	929	-	-	-	844	-
	2011	33	708	533	212	745	743	146
Yongsan-gu								
Dongja-dong & Gawol-dong	2002	45	892	-	-	-	728	-
	2011	45	975	894	25	919	564	178
Yeongdeungpo-gu								
Yeongdeungpo-dong, Yeongdeungpo-bondong & Mullae 1-dong	2002	137	788	-	-	-	458	-
	2011	67	541	506	105	611	470	140
Total	2002	383	3855	-	-	-	2824	-
	2011	288	3508	2751	529	3280	2692	634

Adapted from Seoul Development Institute(2002), Seoul City Welfare Department(2011)

There has been only a slight decrease in the number of Jjokbang from 2,824 people in 2002 to 2,692 in 2011. This reflects the lack of proper governmental policy for the low income households over the past 10 years. The number of Jjokbang buildings has decreased by about 100; however, the number of Jjokbang hasn't decreased compared to 2002. When the average density of Jjokbang rooms was 10rooms per building in 2002, about 1,000 Jjokbang rooms were supposed to close down but only 300 rooms have disappeared according to the data in 2011. The Jjokbang room density has increased from 10rooms/building to 12rooms/building since 2002. This has been possible by allocating less space for one Jjokbang room. This indicates that living standards for people who live in daily Jjokbang has worsened.


Reference

Seoul City Welfare Department (2011) Status of Jjokbang in March 2011

Seoul Development Institute (2002) People in Jjokbang

Korea Centre for City and Environment Research (2005a) Research on status of Jjokbang livelihoods and improvement approaches

Korea Centre for City and Environment Research (2005b) Research on status of Vinyl-House livelihoods and improvement approaches



Attachment 1: Survey Data

Attachment 1: Survey Data


	Name of Community	Location	No. of HHs	Land Ownership	Average Length of Residence (years)	Land Tenure Security	Registering Current Residence as Address
Seocho-gu							
1.	Jeonwon	Bangbae-dong 2923-3, 2967, san139-1, 2744	100	Gov't + Private	16 - 20	insecure land tenure	O
2.	Ahraeseongdee	Bangbae3-dong 567	40	Private	over 25	insecure land tenure	O
3.	Weseongdee	Bangbae3-dong 609~620	40	Private	over 25	insecure land tenure	O
4.	Eunbong	Bangbae-dong 273-3	25	Gov't + Private	over 25	fairly secure land tenure	O
5.	Doorae	Bangbae-dong 998	31	Government	over 25	insecure land tenure	O
6.	Jamwon-chebiji	Jamwon-dong 61-6	45	Government	over 25	insecure land tenure	O
7.	Chodae	Yangjae-dong 584-2	6	Private	16 - 20	insecure land tenure	X
8.	Jooam	Yangjae-dong san74	15	Private	16 - 20	fairly secure land tenure	X
9.	Geopsi-ggod	Woomyun-ding 140(Taebong-ro98)	23	Government	16 - 20	insecure land tenure	O
10.	Taewha-nongwon	Naegok-dong 1-2346	6	Private	less than 5	insecure land tenure	X
11.	Sinwon-dong Ggodmaul	Sinwon-dong 153-1	15	Gov't + Private	16 - 20	insecure land tenure	X
12.	Nagokdongsamuso	Yungok-dong 188-2	9	Private	over 25	insecure land tenure	X
13.	Baramgol	Wonji-dong 279-2	9	Private	16 - 20	fairly secure land tenure	X
14.	Sanchung	Seocho3-dong, san160	43	Private	16 - 20	facing immediate eviction	O
Gangnam -gu							
15.	Gooryong	Gaepo-dong 571-5	1300*	Gov't + Private	16 - 20	facing immediate eviction	▲
16.	Dalteogunlin1	Gaepo2-dong 175-4	75	Government	21 - 25	fairly secure land tenure	X
17.	Dalteogunlin2	Gaepo-dong 156	163	Government	21 - 25	fairly secure land tenure	X
18.	Dalteogunlin3	Gaepo-dong 175-13	32	Government	21 - 25	fairly secure land tenure	X
19.	Sujung	Gaepo-dong 1199-13	61	Government	21 - 25	insecure land tenure	O
20.	Yangjae Jeonghyongwoigwha	Gaepo4-dong 1244	11	Government	21 - 25	fairly secure land tenure	X
21.	Jaegun	Gaepo-dong 1279-2	96	Government	21 - 25	insecure land tenure	O
Songpa-gu							
22.	Gaemi & Saemaul	Moonjung-dong 206-2	17	Private	16 - 20	facing immediate eviction	O
23.	Whawhe	Jangji-dong 611-2	185	Private	21 - 25	fairly secure land tenure	O
TOTAL			2347				

Attachment 1: Survey Data

	Name of Community	Water Supply (HHs)				Heating (HHs)				Toilet Facility (HHs)			
		None	Common – difficult access	Common – easy access	Individual connections	Coal briquette	Elec.	Oil	Gas	Common-pit latrine	Common-water sealed	Individual-pit latrine	Individual-water sealed
Seocho-gu													
1	Jeonwon	100				100						70	30
2	Ahraeseongdee				40	10		30					40
3	Weseongdee		34		6	40				14		13	13
4	Eunbong		25			-	25			25			
5	Doorae			31		31	31			31			
6	Jamwon-chebiji				45								45
7	Chodae	6				6							6
8	Jooam	15				15				12		3	
9	Geopsi-ggod		23			23							23
10	Taewha-nongwon	6				6							6
11	Sinwon-dong Ggodmaul	15				14				5			10
12	Nagokdongsamuso	9				8		1		7			2
13	Baramgol	9				9						9	
14	Sanchung				43	0							43
Gangnam -gu													
15	Gooryong			200	1100					780		390	130
16	Dalteogunlin1				75					35		28	12
17	Dalteogunlin2				163					102		38	23
18	Dalteogunlin3				32					2		15	15
19	Sujung				61		61				61		
20	Yangjae Jeonghyongwoigwha			11						11			
21	Jaegun				96						63		33
Songpa-gu													
22	Gaemi & Saemaul				17								17
23	Whawhe				185	40	5	36	104		180		5
TOTAL		160	82	242	1863	302	122	67	104	1024	304	566	453

Attachment 1: Survey Data

	Name of Community	Preference on Public Rental Housing (apartment) and Compensation	Preference on Community-driven Housing Projects	No. of community meetings
Seocho-gu				
1.	Jeonwon	50~80%	over 80%	once a month
2.	Ahraeseongdee	0~30%	over 80%	once a month
3.	Weseongdee	30~50%	no idea	none
4.	Eunbong	0~30%	no idea	none
5.	Doorae	over 80%	0~50%)	spontaneous
6.	Jamwon-chebiji	50~80%	50~80%)	spontaneous
7.	Chodae	0~30%	over 80%	none
8.	Jooam	0~30%	no idea	none
9.	Geopsi-ggod	30~50%	over 80%	once a month
10.	Taewha-nongwon	30~50%	over 80%	none
11.	Sinwon-dong Ggodmaul	over 80%	0~50%	none
12.	Nagokdongsamuso	50~80%	50~80%	none
13.	Baramgol	0~30%	no idea	none
14.	Sanchung	50~80%	50~80%	once a month
Gangnam -gu				
15.	Gooryong	50~80%	0~50%	spontaneous
16.	Dalteogunlin1	30~50%	50~80%	once a month
17.	Dalteogunlin2	30~50%	50~80%	once a month
18.	Dalteogunlin3	30~50%	50~80%	once a month
19.	Sujung	0~30%	over 80%	once a month
20.	Yangjae Jeonghyongwoigwha	50~80%	no idea	none
21.	Jaegun	0~30%	over 80%	more than once a month
Songpa-gu				
22.	Gaemi & Saemaul	30~50%	no idea	spontaneous
23.	Whawhe	30~50%	50~80%	once a month
TOTAL				



Attachment 2: Survey Form

Date of survey	:	
Survey conducted by	:	
This survey form completed by	:	
Community Information		
Name	:	
Location	:	
Address	:	
Community leader	:	
Contract information	:	
	Number of Households	Remark
1. Total number of households living in the community		
2. Age of community (years)		
3. Land Ownership		
3.1 Private land		
3.2 Private + Government land		
3.3 Government land		
4. Land tenure security		
4.1 fairly secure land tenure		
4.2 insecure land tenure		
4.3 facing immediate eviction or demolition		
4.4 Registering current residence as address		
5. Problems of access to basic services		
5.1 No access to formal water supply		
5.2 No storm and flood drainage		
5.3 No underground sewers		
5.4 No toilets; Water sealed; Pit latrine		
5.5 No formal electricity		
5.6 No access/ walkways		
5.7 Others		
6. Economic Activities		
6.1 Level of education		
6.2 Informality of job		
6.3 Types of job		
6.4 Distance of working area from the community		
6.5 Main source for employment information		
6.6 Others		

7. Preference on public rental housing (apartment) and compensation

7.1 Are you willing to move out of the community		
7.2 What type of compensation do you prefer? (e.g. public rental house, apartment, or cash compensation)		
7.3 If you have to move, any areas you prefer		
7.4 Others		

8. Community Solidarity

8.1 Relationship between community members		
8.2 Frequency of the community meeting		
8.3 Any network with other communities?		

9. Already existing community improvements

9.1 Infrastructure improvements
9.2 Housing improvements
9.3 Environmental improvements
9.4 Others

Additional Information on the Community

Any additional information or specific factors about poor communities in this city?

Appendix: Stories of Vinyl Hose Communities

Ahrae Seong-dee village

“We want to live together happily as a family”



- Location : Mt. 99 Bangbae-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul
- History : About 40 years
- Number of Households : 40

Story

Lower Seongdee village has been located in the mountains for around 40 years, intermittently receiving warnings from 100 land owners. Most of the people living in the village have formed a close community, and therefore have refused to be relocated. In April, 2007, a fire caused severe damage to 10 households. Although the local fire department set up fire alarms and water tanks after the fire, none of the villagers were taught how to use them they remain useless. Because of its status as an illegal village, there was no proper infrastructure in place until 1997. Individual electricity supplies were installed in 1997, community tap water supply in 2007, and paved side walk and entrance in 2008 were built. On July 17 2009, a total of 40 households were registered as legal residents. Residents are strongly connected to each other under the lead of a village representative, they have monthly meeting to talk and share of the village's issues. Most residents do not want to move into rental apartments, rather they want to remain where they are simply cultivating small gardens and communicating with other residents.

Telling hope

Greater solidarity amongst the village to help the community when there is a problem is needed. Rather than individualism in urban apartments, we hope to form a close community and live together peacefully.

Doorae Village

“We are ashamed of our lives”



- Location : 998 Bangbae-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul
(behind Sangmoon high school)
- History : About 40 years
- Number of Households : 31

Story

The village has existed for around 40 years, most residents are elderly. The land was initially owned by the National Department of Education. However, some residents have left with compensation due to reconstruction plans by private construction companies. There remain 31 households neglected with no reconstruction plans nor policy by local government. One private construction company proposed a reconstruction plan for the land and the residents agreed to pay moving fees but Seocho local government did not give permission for the plans. A village representative's wife, Han,Jun said that she was ashamed of the negative perception others have of those living in the village. She said that many residents want to leave this village and do not take care of their houses so it has become somewhat of a ghost town. However, she is not giving up hope and continues monthly meetings with residents. Most residents depend on electric blankets during the winter and old facilities structures such as common water supply system, electricity, and squat style toilets are breaking down.

Telling hope

Residents want to get compensation and leave this village as soon as possible. They feel ashamed for their kids. An open communication is needed between Seocho local government and residents.

Jeopsi-ggod Village

“I would be really happy if there is no threat(tear down) on us ”



- Location : Taebong Street 98, Seocho-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul
- History : About 23 years
- Number of Households : 23

Story

The land is owned by the Ministry of Justice. Its name originated from Hollyhock flowers because there were a lot of hollyhock flowers 23 years ago when this village was formed. In 2009, all households could register as legal residents. However, from 2009 households received warnings from the Ministry of justice and villagers formed a committee to react to these warnings. There was a fire incident that started from a malfunctioning electronic panel. Most villagers currently rely on a briquette boiler. OK-level infrastructure is installed for each household (water supply, splash toilet etc.). Most villagers support themselves by selling waste, driving taxis and buses, or doing housekeeping. The Village has separated into two committees; one focuses on getting compensation and the other focuses on Chaebiji compensation. The Chaebiji compensation committee is now stronger and has been absorbing the other committee.

Telling hope

The villagers are ignorant but innocent. Some of them are diligent enough to save their incomes. If there is an alternative that can avert the teardown threat, villagers will support that alternative.

“We have lived here for our entire life without any help”



- Location : 273-3 Bangbae-dong Seocho-gu, Seoul
- History : About 45 years
- Number of Households : 25

Story

Eunbong village is surrounded by Baekseok University and government owned land. The village is also being called as ‘Yaksooteo Village.’ (Yaksooteo means mineral spring.) Along with the small ditch from mountain, Eunbong village is a shantytown consisting of 25 households. Most of residents are seniors who are over 65 years old and each live in 11 households by themselves. The worst thing is that heating system is barely built and except one household, 24 households depend on only electric blanket during winter. Residents pay heating bills over 60,000 KWN (approximately 60 USD) per month during winter. From 3 years ago, residents are able to use electricity and meter has been built in each house. However, most residents are unemployed and they cannot move to other area or rent apartment.

Telling Hope

In fact, the village representative has been suffered from frostbite on his face but he cannot go hospital and cure it because of its expensive bill. Supports and attention are needed to the Eunbong village from government and welfare institutions in all its form immediately.

Yumgok-dong Village

“We don’t want to hide because we are poor. We would like to make out our voice confidently what we deserve”



- Location : Yumgok-dong 188-2, Seocho-gu, Seoul(located in front of Yumgok-dong office)
- History : About 30years
- Number of Households : 9(around 17 people)

Story

Yumgok-dong village lies on private land that is allowed to be used for farming purposes only. Among 9 households, 4 have received eviction warnings. They are facing an immediate tear down threat. Only one household is registered as a legal resident. Every year during the summer, severe damage from rain storms and hurricanes occurs. The Fire-alarm system has been installed across the village due to a large fire which occurred 10 years ago. Except for one house, they use common gauge and drink underground water. Six households use squat style bathrooms. Most of households support themselves selling flowers, waste or working as

part-time cashiers. Due to a low income, most residents are delinquent borrowers. They have no connection to other villages. There are no meetings within the village. However, they are willing to participate to get connected with other villages.

Telling hope

Jeong-ae Yoon(flower whole saler)

– “I moved in after my business failed. I have been trying hard to support myself, but it is really hard when everything is unstable especially the land. It would be really great if the government and land owners consider our situation. We are willing to talk with the government and owner if they would do so.”

Jeonwon Village

“ Humid air, contaminated underground water is killing us.....”



- Location : Bangbae-dong 2923-3, 2967, san139-1, 2744
- History : About 20years
- Number of Households : 100

Story

Jeonwon village is an illegal vinyl house community that lies on the land owned by the city and the Lee family. It is divided to up-town and down-town. Down-town's situation is worse compared to up-town. They haven't received warnings. However, since it is classified as an illegal settlement, infrastructures (toilet, water, etc) are not adequately supplied. Seniors (60 years and older) are the majority in this village. They support themselves by working as daily workers, waiters, housekeepers or junk sellers. Most of these people do not benefit from

national health insurance programs. Thus, people stay at home when they are sick rather than going to the hospital since they can't afford medical expenses.

Humid circumstance in the vinyl house, stream water from the mountain, and polluted underground water contribute significantly to Cheonwon villagers' severe health problems. They have a meeting once a month. They also make savings under the lead of village representatives.

Telling Hope

It is really heart breaking when I see our kids are afraid of bringing their friends to the village. We didn't know how to make out our voice our basic human rights, but it is different now. We made a connection to other villages and also try really hard to find good alternatives by ourselves.

Chodae Village

“We cannot help staying here due to unaffordable rent.”



- Location : No address
- History : About 20years
- Number of Households : 6

Story

This village is located in the middle of the mountains in Yangjae-dong, Seocho-gu it has been there for more than 20 years. There are only 6 households. In this village, there is a church called Invitation and only the people who go to church are connected with each other. There are no regular meetings. However, since the village is really small, they are very close to other village members. The land is owned by 3 different people who have made a number of threats to tear the village down. Most residents are over 50 years old and they are living either as daily labor or collecting papers and selling them. Rental apartments are unaffordable to

most residents. In addition, there are no legal addresses. The water supply system was not constructed properly, so people use ground water which is contaminated. Saving is barely possible although people do not have to worry about rent or bills. If it is possible, people want to move into rental apartments but high rents and deposits are still unaffordable for them.

Telling Hope

We cannot help staying here due to unaffordable rent.

“I really want to get out of this village if I can”



- Location : 153-1 Shinwon-dong, Seoul (10 households use same zip-code)
- History : About 23years
- Number of Households : 10

Story

This Vinyl house community is located along the river. Following the reconstruction trend spurred by the 1988 Olympics, people from various backgrounds settled in this village. There is little communication between residents and no community meeting are held so residents do not know other residents well. Houses are sold for about 20,000,000 KWN (approximately 20,000 USD) and there is no speculator. The land is owned by the government and a private company (Kyungnam Texture Company) and residents living on government owned land have to pay 400,000 KWN (approximately 400 USD) a year penalty. Most residents are seniors and working as daily labor and housekeepers. Residents want to move into rental apartments, but they cannot afford associated expenses. The village is located in a low latitude that causes many problems and underground water is the only water supply they have. Each house have flush style toilets and a community toilet is also used.

Telling hope

We want to move out from this village as soon as possible if our life can be better off.

“ We are trying really hard to be able to support ourselves”



- Location : Gaepo-ding 1197-1, 1197-4 Gangnam-gu Seoul
- History : 27years
- Number of Households : 61

Story

The land is owned by Seoul and Cheonranamdo. It is a shantytown of 61 households(123 people). Twenty three households are made up of senior citizens who live alone, thirteen households are people who are under the poverty level, 4 households are handicapped, and 26% of the minimum cost of living receiver. Furthermore, 87% are daily workers/unemployed and 80% are delinquent borrowers.

Most of the vinyl houses are older than 20 years and need to be fixed. In 2003, Gangnamgu office installed a water supply infrastructure only to the entrance of this village. But villagers worked by themselves to install water pipelines that are connected to the Seoul water supply in the village. In 2009, Ganamgu office also installed a common toilet and most residents are using this. There is a meeting once a month at the village hall, from 2002, people who participate in this meeting have collected monthly fee to support the village

In addition, since the village lies on city owned land and therefore it is illegal settlement, villagers are suffering from harsh warnings and penalties from the Seoul city government.

Seniors, seniors who live alone, daily workers and unemployed residents are saying that it is hard to move into rental apartment since they cannot afford rental expenses.

Telling Hope

We are planning community business to increase the village income so we can move out of poverty. There is unstable housing status, and a fear of demolitions. We will find our own way to start a community business. I know we can do it and I trust us.

Jooam Village

"Our life is a mess, we have nothing"



- Location : 74 Yangjae-dong, Seoul
- History : Over 20 years
- Number of Households : 15

Story

The village is located on the border of Seoul and Gwacheon. It was originally located around Yangjae NH but the villagers were evicted so residents had to move to their current location. Fifteen households have lived in a row for 20 years. Generally, the infrastructure is very weak, residents use common squat style toilets, underground water, and electric blankets. Most

residents are working as housekeepers, daily labor, or collecting papers. Community meetings are not held as the people are very busy trying to make some money. There is no house that can afford rental apartment's deposit and rent. Continuous threat of eviction creates a negative atmosphere around the village.

Telling hope

'No one listens to us. What we want is attention. We hope people will listen to us and pay attention to our issue.'

Jaegun Village

"We are the legal residents in this land and we have lived here for a long time. It is inevitable for us to fight against the government because they treat us as illegal settlers and impose compensational fees when they are the one who made us to live here!"



- Location : 266 Poi-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul
- History : 30 years
- Number of Households : 96

Story

In 1981, the government gathered and accommodated war orphans, street rags, and homeless people forcibly into the area (Jaegum town), and under the direction of leading police officers, self-support labor crops were formed for the purpose of creating compulsory labor. The intention of creating forced labor was to force residents to use their efforts in a positive way. In 1982, the number of labor workers was over 2300, and the government was suffering from

frequent internal arguments about forced labors in the crops. In 1988, after the Seoul Olympics were held, the government disbanded by compulsion self-support labor crops, the addresses were changed a couple of times in order to readjust the division of land. Until 2003, Kangnam-gu district office has rejected registering resident registration for differing reasons. The office argued that residents were illegal occupants, and moved into the area after the labor crops were disassembled; the accounts of the residents however is quite different. At present, people who were forcibly moved into this area have been settled for a long time. In order to prove their long-term residency, since the 1980's, the town committee has collected official materials such as official receipts (It could be a reliable evidential matter for residents in removal area). The residents in Jaegun town will keep on fighting to the end in order to recover their right to live legally in the area. After the government readjusted the division of land, the government imposed penalties to the residents as they assumed that the residents were squatting without any notice in the area. Up to the present, the fine is at least six thousand won per household. The total fine in Jaegun town is twelve billion won. Some of the residents who writhe in agony with poverty, diseases, and the penalty have attempted suicide. Most residents have low social status with a low income. There are ninety six households in the area and each household residents live in a room of ten pyeong (10 pyeong = 33.058m²). The residents use a public restroom, public water facilities, and water meters; the town committee has managed utility bill receipts. The town received support from the Water District Office, and residents have received fire training for fire prevention. The residents have a meeting every single week to communicate to each other and solve the problems they face. Based on their strong community cohesion, they have finally expelled the speculators from the area. The participation rate shows over 90 percent when they have a meeting, they also have a high rate of women participating. College student volunteers support children to help academic achievement, all residents take part in community activities to try to maintain the community hall and study rooms, etc. Moreover, they installed closed circuit television to prevent crimes and fire.

Telling Hope

The City of Seoul and Kangnam-gu district office are trying to solve the problems. Residents hope that the government will withdraw the penalty, we want to be legal residents and to improve our own environment. We are satisfied with living in the town with love. We realize that we do not have enough economic abilities, but we strongly say that Jaegun town is a warmer community than any other.

Dalteogunlin Village

" I did my best to save the villages but I am hopeless now."



- Location : 175-4 Gaepo-23 dong, Kangnam-gu, Seoul
- History : About 20years
- Number of Households : About 250households

Story

Dalteogrunrin town which is divided into three different districts (number1, number2, and number3), and it is a shantytown consisting of 250 households. There is a resident representative in each town, and they have an official council meeting every month. There is no illegal buying and selling, or speculation. This town was formed 20 years ago. However, residents still do not have official addresses, so their address in their resident registration is not their current one. Even though the residents have tried to obtain an official address, they have lost a law suit because the City of Seoul have not admitted the requests of the residents. All of three different districts use public water facilities and water meters. There is no

interaction among residents. Accordingly, it is hard to encourage motivation to figure out community problems.

Telling Hope

It is hard to solve the problems alone. All residents should believe and help each other, and they have to have connections to improve their living conditions.

Gooryong Village

*" We are broken apart by temporary craze of redevelopment and conflict.
There is nothing warmhearted."*



- Location : : Gaepo-dong, Kangnam-gu, Seoul
- History : About 20years
- Number of Households : 1300households

Story

The town is illegally built shacks; it was formed in the process of removal during the Seoul Olympics in 1988. Actual lived-in households number around 1300 out of 2000 households leaving two thirds vacant for speculative purpose. Most parts of the town are on private land. At the beginning, the local government allowed building houses and residency, but buying and selling were not allowed. However, a number of households trying to sell (500~600 won per house) their house have sprouted up, and now there are a lot of speculators in the area for the purpose of speculative enterprise. Since the late 1990's, public servants and developers

conspired to fulfill their own developing purposes, and they instigated previous residents with the living-in system. The public servants and developers cajoled residents and assumed the reins of authority in the town. Since that moment, many residents had high expectations for development, and the community began to break down. Until now, many households have not received addressess, so people cannot register a moving-in notification. Most residents are using squat toilets.

Telling hope:

Before 1990, we were warmhearted community with love and sharing. But soon, temporary craze and attention for redevelopment broke our community, tyranny of speculators and several fires destroyed our village. Now, there is no trust between residents."

Hawhwe town

"Local government built tall panels around our village because they hated the way its looked. People do not know if there is a village inside of walls."



- Location : Jangji-dong, Songpa-gu, Seoul
- History : About 25 years
- Number of households : 185

Story

The town was a landfill, and it formed Hwahwe vinyl greenhouses using Hwahwe farm. The town is close to the boundary between Seoul and Sungnam-si, Gyeonggi-do. In 2008, the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs announced a development plan for Songpa-gu New Town. However, Hwahwe town was excluded from the urban planning. The Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs have planned several times destroy the poor urban environment, aesthetics, and education. However, the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs have faced problems with compensation for people who live in unauthorized housing. Because of this compensation problem, Hwahwe town has been excluded from the development plan. Unlike any other unauthorized housing area, 20 years ago, Hwahwe town received domicile through a High Court ruling. Fires have broken out five times from 1993 to 2009, after the fires occurred, the fire station which is near the town set up the fire fighting facilities. There is a public flush toilet that the Catholic group supports and residents paid for infrastructure such as the electricity, water and sewage systems, etc. In the town, about 70 households residents are older than 65 years old, 25 households are on low incomes, and there are around 40 handicapped people. Most residents work at junkyards and neighborhood markets, or as caretakers or day laborers. There is no interaction between each other because the town was divided into many sects. The small river which is connected to Bokjung-dong is affecting the health of residents because of waste water from the nearby factories.

Telling Hope

Most residents desire to leave the town with enough compensation, and they also believe this town must be developed as soon as possible. Songpa-gu district office is also giving a lot of attention to developing this area. Residents believe that their wishes will be realized soon.

Contributors

Korean Coalition for Housing Rights

Vinyl-House Coalition for Housing Rights

Asian Bridge	Executive director	Hyowoo Na
	Manager	Minjung Oh
	Programme Coordinator	Boram Kim, Dambin Jung
	Intern	Boojung Son, Eunmi Yang
		Eunjin Jeon, Jujin Heo,
		Jongi Lee
	Volunteer	Tom Cowan, Hyungyup Lee, Jiseon Hur

Asian Bridge

The origin of Asian Bridge dates back to February 4, 2003 with The Asian NGO Centre in the Philippines as its precursor. The Asian NGO Centre became a bridge Korean communities and the greater Asian world. Since its establishment, it has galvanized the interest and participation of many Korea Civil Society Organisations in Asian and international issues by developing networks for international information exchange. In 2008, the centre changed its name to Asian Bridge and currently has branch offices in the Republic of Korea and India.

The main programmes of Asian Bridges are: global citizenship training; research and project implements about migration issues; and community organising for community development. These programmes are concerned about the oppressed, the poor and the marginalized people regardless of their nationalities

Korean Coalition for Housing Rights (KCHR)

KCHR is a network of grassroots and community organizations working for housing rights in Korea. It has actively worked for better urban poor development and habitat since 1986.

Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR)

The Asian Coalition for Housing Rights is a regional network of grassroots community organizations, NGO's and professionals actively involved with urban poor development processes in Asian cities.