

WORKSHOP SYNOPSIS

January 10, 2010

PARRA, GOA



Workshop Jointly Conducted by:

Panchayat of Parra

Goa College of Architecture, Panjim

Pratt Institute, New York

Presented below is a compilation of input from participants who attended the Sustainable Development Participatory Planning Workshop held in Parra on January 10, 2010.

After a warm welcome by members of Parra Panchayat and Comunidad, students from Pratt Institute's Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment facilitated a SWOT Analysis exploring the Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities and Threats, followed by a Visioning Exercise for the Panchayat of Parra.

The workshop started with an overview of the planning process and a recap of the workshop conducted earlier in the week in Agonda. Participants were also introduced to the process of Design Guidelines which involved using interactive panels to rank the importance of selected design features.

The workshop concluded with a short presentation and interactive activity on design guidelines. It involved exploring street typologies, street infrastructure development, storm water management, and importance of preserving architectural character.

Workshop Program

10:00-10:15 Sign in and Welcome by Panchayat Members

10:15-10:35 Planning and RP 2021 Overview by Pratt Team

10:35-10:45 SWOT Analysis

10:45-11:45 Vision Statement for Parra: "Preserve – Create – Change" Exercise

11:45-1:00 Introduction to Design Guidelines



The “Strengths-Weaknesses-Opportunities-Threats” Analysis (SWOT) helped record community’s awareness of the existing conditions. Listing problems and opportunities is a preliminary step in the planning process. Such an exercise helps the community to have a common understanding and identify the public purpose for planning.

<p>STRENGTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheltered from negative aspects of tourism • Good water supply and electricity • Agriculture and paddy land in tact (it is physically noticeable) • Consensus on forest as protected area • Cohesive community • Good connectivity • Close to urban areas- all facilities available • 100% clean air and water • Most developed village in Goa- good quality 	<p>WEAKNESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of access to medical facility and doctors • No market • No village focal point • No community center • No medical facility • Attitude of people- influence from other villages • Incapacity of Panchayat to implement plan • Panchayat protecting citizens (legal system) • Lack of working relationships and access to authority • Lack of skilled local labor • Lack of recognition and support for traditional skilled jobs
<p>OPPORTUNITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available agriculture land (self sufficient farming) • Rehabilitation work as basis for economic development (reforestation, redevelopment) • Multiple cropping (multiple seasons) • Paddy and forest land (organic opportunity) • Implement 73rd amendment to power Panchayat • Make village destination for bird watching and other environmental experiences • Micro industry to be developed • Artesian skill- locksmith, carpentry, masonry 	<p>THREAT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversion of paddy and agriculture land into unwanted use (commercial and housing) • Attitude of people (influence from others) • Government policy and proper implementation • Development (village and paddy) • Unauthorized development (for rental properties) • Long term garbage management • Non cooperation of government • Bureaucracy • Mega housing development (dysfunctional to working of village) • People leaving to find jobs elsewhere (out-migration, brain-drain)

The SWOT analysis revealed that the community cares deeply about Parra’s future and well being. They take pride in Parra’s good air and water quality, connectivity, agricultural productivity and sense of community. They would like to strengthen village amenities and develop places such as a market, community center, medical facility. The community feels threatened by bureaucracy, unsupportive government and unregulated development. Parra’s paddies, and forested areas were listed among its resources and its conservation could anchor many future opportunities.

S Strengths

- Sheltered from negative aspects of tourism
- good water supply & electricity
- org + paddy land in tact
 - Physically noticeable
- consensus on forest (protected area)
- cohesive community
- good connectivity
- close to urban areas - all facilities available
- 100% clean air + water!
- most developed village in Goa - good quality

W Weaknesses

- lack of access to medical facility (doctors)
- no market
- no village focal point
- community center
- medical facility
- attitude of people - influence from other villages
- incapacity of Panchayat to ^{fully} implement plans
- Panchayat protecting citizens (legal system)
 - ↳ lack of working relationship, access to authority
- lack of skilled local labor
 - ↳ traditional
- lack of ~~recognition~~ recognition + support for skilled jobs

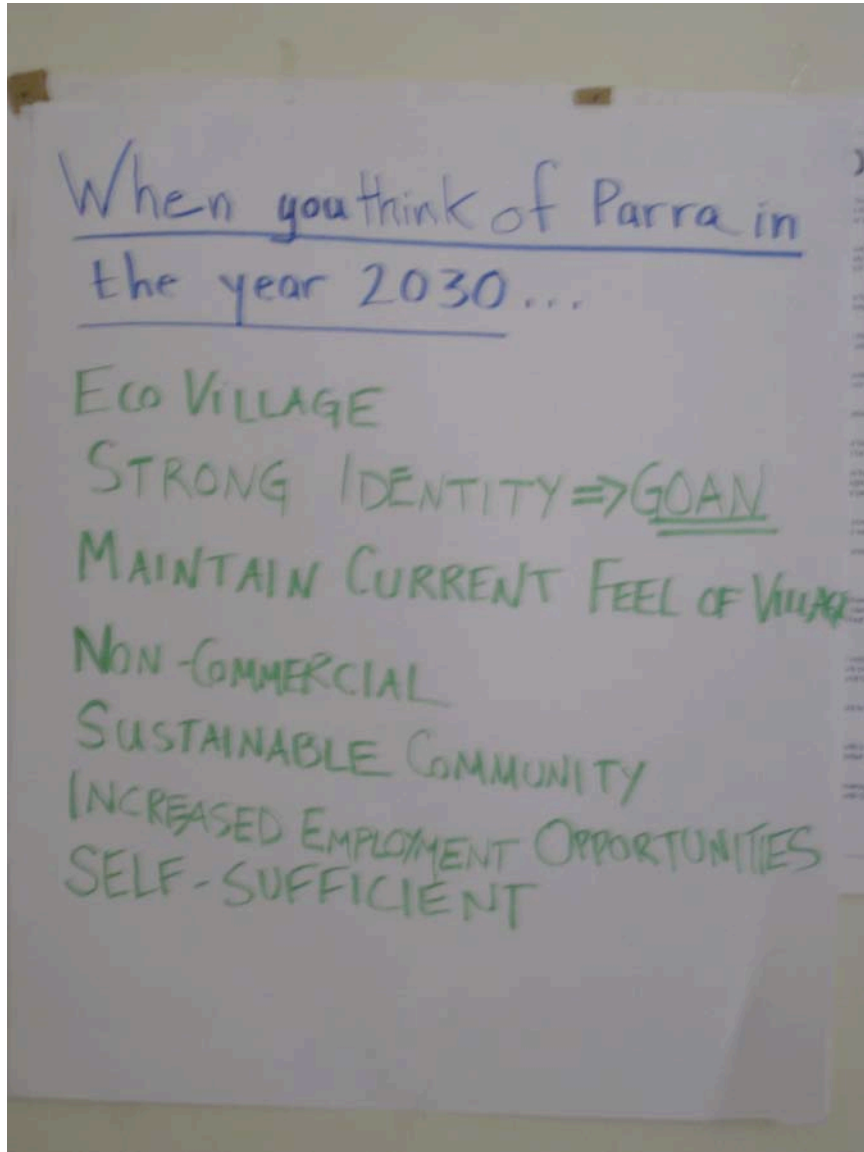
O Opportunities

- available agricultural land (Self sufficient farming) TOUR
- rehabilitation work as basis for economic development
 - reforestation
 - redevelopment
- multiple cropping (more seasons)
- Paddy + forest lands (organic opportunity)
- implement 73rd amendment to power panchayat
- make village set for destination for tourists + other org's experiences
- micro industry - to be developed
- artisanal skill - becombs, carpentry, masonry

T Threats

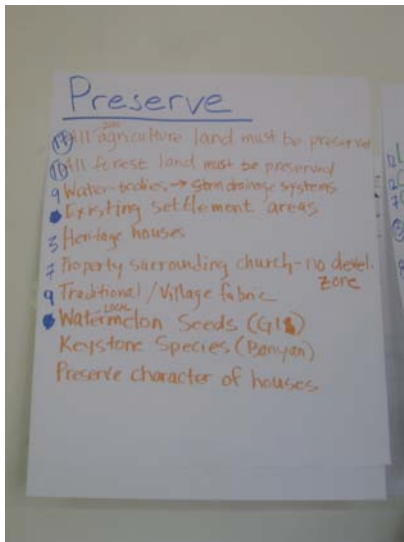
- conversion of Paddy + ag land into unwanted use (commercial + housing)
- attitude of people (influence from other)
- government policies + implementation
- development (infrastructure, village + Paddy)
- ~~unauthorized~~ unauthorized development (for rental)
- long term garbage management
- government non cooperation
- ~~unauthorized~~ unauthorized functioning (developers)
- ~~unauthorized~~ unauthorized housing (developers)
 - ↳ disconnection to workers in village
- people leaving to work elsewhere (out migration)
 - ↳ brain drain

In the Visioning Exercise participants were asked to Imagine Parra in the year 2030. The brainstorming session involved identifying elements to Preserve, Create, and Change.



- When you think of Parra in the year 2030...
- Eco village
 - Strong identity- Goan
 - Maintain current feel of village
 - Non-commercial
 - Sustainable community
 - Increased employment opportunities
 - Self sufficient

Preserve, Create, Change

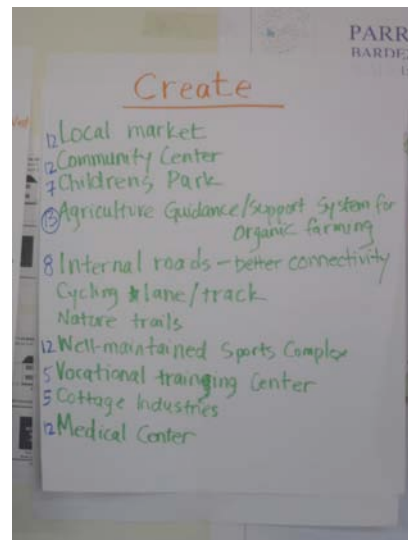


Preserve:

- All agricultural land
- All forest land
- Water bodies and storm drain systems
- Existing settlement areas
- Heritage houses
- Property surrounding church as no development zone
- Traditional village fabric
- Watermelon seeds (GI)
- Keystone Species (Banyan)
- Character of houses

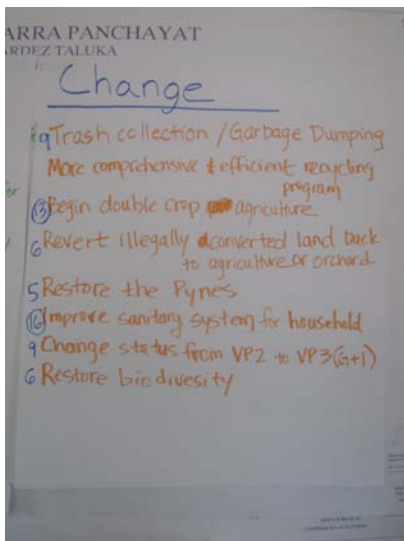
Create:

- Local market
- Community center
- Children's park
- Agricultural guidance
- Support system for organic farming
- Internal roads- better connectivity
- Cycling lane/track
- Nature trails
- Well maintained sports complex
- Vocational training center
- Cottage industry
- Medical center

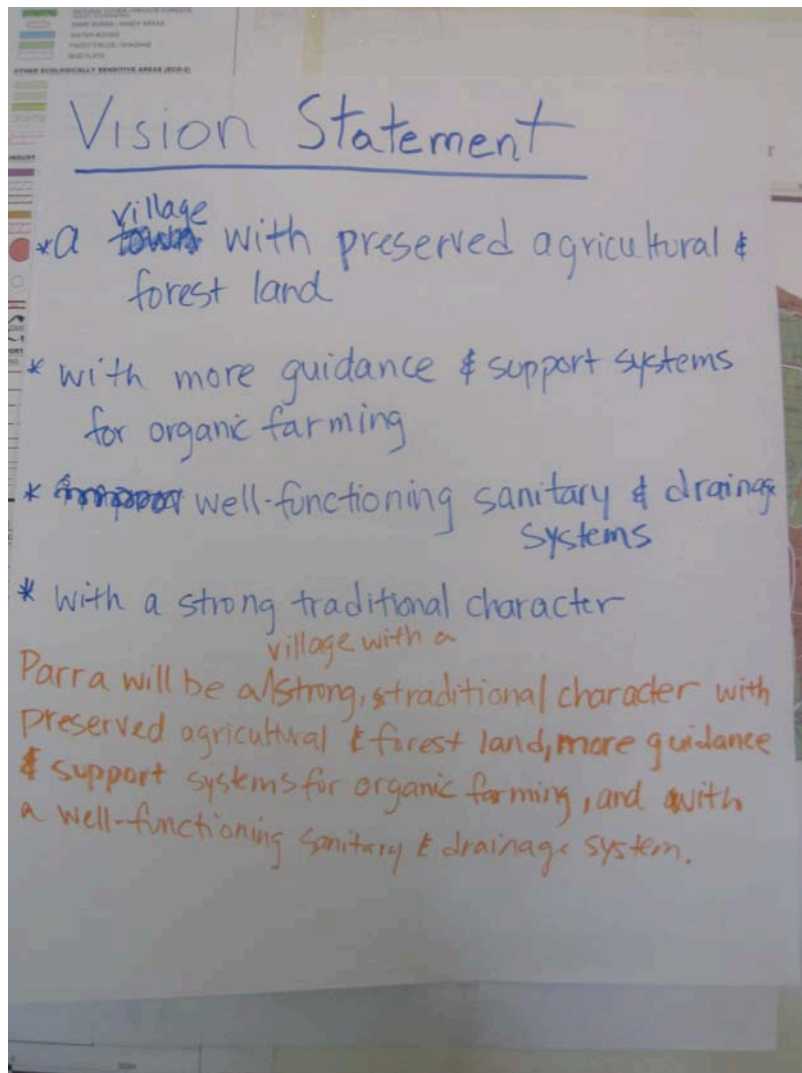


Change:

- Trash collection / Garbage Dumping
- More comprehensive & efficient recycling program
- Begin double crop agriculture
- Revert illegally converted land back to agriculture or orchards
- Restore the Pynes
- Improve sanitary system for household
- Change status from VP2 to VP3 (GI)
- Restore bio diversity



Participants voted on top priorities from those identified during the “Preserve-Create-Change” exercise and developed a Vision Statement based on it.



Vision Statement:

- A village with preserved agriculture and forest land
- With more guidance and support systems for organic farming
- Well functioning sanitary and drainage systems
- With a strong traditional character

Parra will be a village with a strong, traditional character with preserved agricultural and forest land, more guidance and support systems for organic farming, and with a well functioning sanitary and drainage system.

“A vision is like a lighthouse, which illuminates rather than limits, gives direction rather than destination” - James Mapes



ROAD NETWORK
What is important on your street?

	5' to 6' wide street	6' to 8' wide street	10' to 14' wide street
Interconnected			1
Access	1	1	3
Visual interest	3	3	5
Street lighting			4
Street furniture	2	2	2
Other	speed humps? speed bumps? speed limit	speed humps? speed bumps? speed limit	signaled cross? speed limit

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Thank you for letting us participate in Parra's sustainable development planning process
- Pratt team

