

1. CHALLENGE.

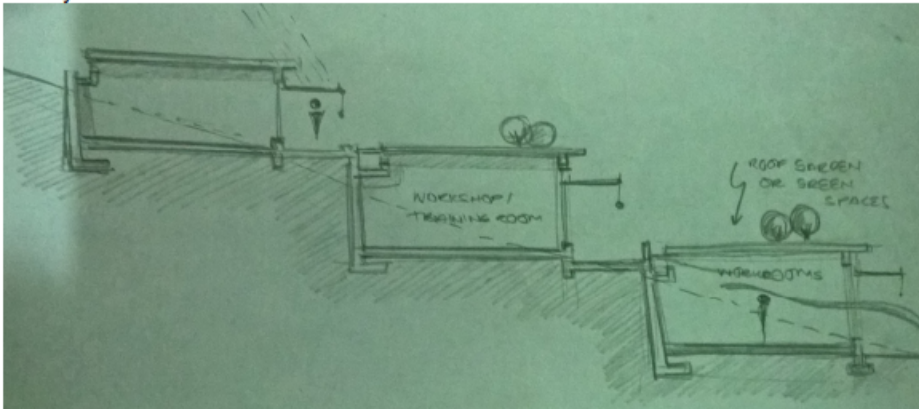
There are high levels of unemployment and underemployment in the country. Currently there are few centres/ facilities that offer skills , work experience and business advice to youth for nation building.

2. DESIGN INTENT

Commissioned to design a youth and entrepreneurship centre. The facility is aimed at improving the participation of youth in enhancing the national economy. The design incorporates skills training and social interaction.

3. DESIGN THEME/CONCEPT: elevating the youth

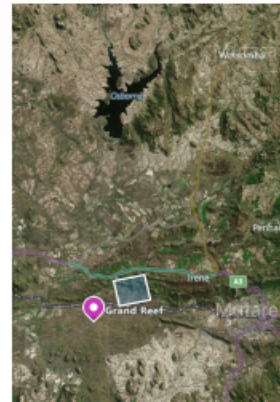
Inspired by the need to enhance the Zimbabwean youth's socio-economic status. The building form , landscaping and spatial configuration are to reflect the theme ' rising youth'. Hence a sloping site was chosen to give a sense of ascension to the facility.



sketches above show the design form development.

4. SITE LOCATION AND MORPHOLOGY

The site is located in Grand Reef , approximately 40 km north-west of the city of Mutare. The area is situated in the rural-urban fringe of the City.



The figure on the right shows the location of the proposed site in Grand Reef. The site is distinctively sloping .

4.1. Site strengths

- favourable wind prevalence to initiate wind farming ,an alternative source of power to the centre and surrounding communiites.
- Proximity to Osbourne dam in the northern side for supply of water to the site.
- High levels of solar radiation almost throughout the year are ideal for solar power systems on the centre's roof systems and from the ground .
- Sloping site favourable for rain water harvesting for storage .

5. BUILDING TECHNOLOGY.

1. ADAPTABLE INTERNAL WALL DESIGN

-demountable internal walling systems in workshops and training rooms to allow flexibility of space usage. Shown in Section A-A

2. THERMAL MASSING

-double-brick walling system to retard high levels of insolation ,thereby keeping the indoor spaces at optimum temperatures

3. CLIMATE-RESPONSIVE FACADES

-use of modern glazing systems which can actively moderate the amount of natural direct light admitted into the internal spaces. They respond when there is excessive glare. The glazing system is used in the auditorium, performing arts section of the centre.

4. PASSIVE SUNSHADING SYSTEM.

-use of deep recess in window and door openings
the design of the facility incorporates sun mild steel shading panels

6. BUILDING MATERIALS.

Locally available: granite stone(Available fromfrom Zimunya), brick masonry, timber (penhalonga)

Imported materials: climate responsive structural glass , retractable walling systems for flexibilitly