USING GIS FOR ADVOCACY IN AUTHORITARIAN COUNTRIES

- Cambodia: Sahmakum Teang Tnaut (Engineers Without Borders).
- Kuwait: Amec (then Amec Foster Wheeler).
- Qatar: Esri Northeast Africa.

Bonus: ISIS next door

Kuwait 2013-17
12,500km away

Qatar 2017-18
12,000km away

Cambodia 2011-12
6,500km away

WILFRED WATERS
CAMBODIA AUTHORITARIAN BINGO

- Prime minister: Hun Sen for 34 years.
- Was in Khmer Rouge, a genocidal regime.
- Human Rights Watch: “Fully fledged military dictator”.
- 100% of parliamentary seats.
- Main opposition party banned.
- Opposition leader exiled.

Transparency International: Corruption Perceptions Index

#mercatorfail
Rehabilitation of Cambodia’s railways: Comparison of field data

A report comparing data collected by the IRC and the independent NGO STT

- Cambodian local government organization
- Advocacy for urban poor communities
- Violent evictions often for commercial/residential property development
- Banned 5 months due to railways report, finding systematic under compensation of evictees
Half of my placement occurred when they were banned.

Object relational database of dates, places of eviction notices, threats, relocation events.

Collated 6 years of data.

Lead to map animation.
Animation of the appearance of eviction threats, displacement events, relocation waves and relocation sites in Phnom Penh, Cambodia

1982 - 2012
Map of Boeung Kak lake was filled in in 2012 when I was there

I removed it from Google Maps and OSM

I made a map of relocation potential for people evicted around the lake to a preserved settlement northeast of the lake.

Report sent to government/press: “Outside the Lines”.

Potential relocation site
I founded the Phnom Penh Mapping Meetup

Over 9 meetups we had 23 presenters

Facebook group 1000+ members

Still going

Google Maps and Apple Maps representatives have presented

First ever public display of Angkor Wat LIDAR survey
OPENSTREETMAP MARATHONS

- 30 new OSM members, 20 Khmer.
- 37 hours spent during 3 events.
- Many more hours outside these times due to addiction.
- A guy from Laos set up a server to do monthly shapefile exports of OSM for us.
Politician Musallam Al-Barrak gave speech during Arab Spring in 2012: “...we will not allow [the king] to rule individually...”
- Parliamentary immunity revoked.
- Charged with undermining the status of the king.
- Imprisoned 2 years.
- Thousands protested, tear gassed.

Transparency International: Corruption Perceptions Index
AMEC FOSTER WHEELER/WOOD PLC

UK company, bound by The Modern Slavery Act 2015, but:

- Western managers called Easterners (India, Philippines) “boys”
- Verbal sexual harassment of Indian female staff by male British staff, in public
- Easterner vs Westerner Staff IDs, pay and health insurance
- G4S (also UK company) security contractors had their passports confiscated
KUWAIT MAPUP -&gt; KUWAIT HUMAN RIGHTS MAPUP

10 events
- Map of maid abuse cases
- Map of corruption of common labour supply countries
- Princess Bibi Nasser attended
- Web map of expat worker bans

Legend
- More than expected abuse cases
- Fewer than expected abuse cases

Kuwait
- Population: 29860000 (6%)
- Predicted cases: 25
- Actual cases: 74 (19%)

Lebanon
- Population: 43200000 (9%)
- Predicted cases: 36
- Actual cases: 58 (15%)

Bahrain
- Population: 1380000 (2%)
- Predicted cases: 12
- Actual cases: 25 (6%)

Saudi Arabia
- Population: 29994272 (64%)
- Predicted cases: 251
- Actual cases: 120 (31%)

United Arab Emirates
- Population: 8210000 (18%)
- Predicted cases: 69
- Actual cases: 115 (29%)

Other Countries
- Population
- Predicted cases
- Actual cases

Human Rights Mapping Meetup 1

Human Rights Mapping Meetup 2

Abstract: This map shows the geographical distribution of labor supply countries for the Gulf region, along with their respective corruption indices.

Method: On a trip to Doha in 2014, I came across an international call to act by women from the Gulf region. This map visualizes labor supply countries, as shown in the bottom map. The list of countries is supported by other sources, such as the Transparency International Freedom House, which released a report in March 2014. This report highlighted few labor supply countries, through specific socio-economic governance, human rights, and political freedom indices. Today, I present the radar graph that can be accessed at the bottom of this page. The radar graph is divided into several categories, such as human rights, freedom of speech, and corruption. The radar graph can be accessed at the bottom of this page.

Conclusion: This map is not etched for the final version of the map. The map is a work in progress and will be updated as more data becomes available. The radar graph can be accessed at the bottom of this page.
According to the BBC, Majeed al-Alawi, Bahrain Labour Minister, likened the Kafala System to slavery.

Kafala states: Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

Current ban imposed by home country on workers going to a Kafala state from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mauritania, Nepal, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Syria, Uganda.

Mutual ban on workers going to a Kafala state: Ethiopia and Kuwait.

Possible future ban on workers going to a Kafala state from: Philippines.

For sources, click countries on map.

In 2014

- Kafala sponsorship system for migrant workers
- Leads to abuse
- Even corrupt developing countries ban citizens going there
- Designed mobile app
- Social media campaign
- 50 page project proposal plus research on transport deaths and pollution
- Field survey + map of 1000+ bus stops
- Mapillary: 650km of 360 image capture campaign

**BUSKW:** Public tx app and campaign
RESIGNATION FROM AMEC FW/WOOD PLC

- Management asked me to do a map animation of progress of work in North Kuwait asset
- They knew I had submitted my resignation due to their failure to manage safety, human trafficking and multiple suicides on projects in this asset
- Delayed job as long as possible
- Then refused to do job 4 days before scheduled departure date
- Told not to return to office

Dear Wilfred,

The project has decided that at this point in time you are not adding value to its delivery and your behavior is seen as disruptive and therefore, it no longer requires your services.

You are therefore required to leave the office with immediate effect and not return to the premises until your departure out of Kuwait. HR will be in contact with you tomorrow to discuss transport arrangements to the airport for your demob flight. Please hand over all company properties before you leave the office premises.

We take this opportunity to thank you for your contribution to the project and wish you all the very best for the future.

Regards,

[Signature]

[Name]

Kuwait HR Manager, Amec Foster Wheeler
THEY DID NOT KNOW I
INSTEAD DID A MAP
ANIMATION OF SAFETY
CASES AND HUMAN
TRAFFICKING @ N KUWAIT

- Gathering Centre 30
  - Work site open despite suicide there, February 2017, declared not work related
  - Electrician fired for calling ambulance 17 May 2017
  - Broken leg due to falling cabinet June 2017, no formal safety report

- Gathering Centre 31
  - North Korean workers March 2016
  - Road fatality falsely declared not work related, March 2017

YES IT’S ON YOUTUBE  https://youtu.be/9Ko-vrclgEk
ETHICS REPORT TO END ALL ETHICS REPORTS

- Reports using company Ethics Point
- UK Global Compliance Officer visited Kuwait
- All foreign embassies in Kuwait
- New York times etc & Middle East newspapers
- Recruiters
- CEOs of Wood PLC, Amec Foster Wheeler, Kuwait Oil Company
- Princess Bibi Nasser
- Human Rights Watch etc
QATAR
AUTHORITARIAN
BINGO

- One family rule.
- Democratic reform process stopped since Arab Spring 2011-12.
- Poet imprisoned for life in 2012 for insulting the king.
- Alcohol, pork banned without a permit.
- Flogging and stoning are legal punishments.
- Modesty police.
- Transport blockade with Arab world, alleged terrorism funding

#mercatorfail

Transparency International: Corruption Perceptions Index
Headhunted: public transport app project
Volunteering for BusKW lead to this job 😊
Felt like a reward for resigning from Kuwait
Could not bring Egyptian staff to Qatar due to blockade
Project failed due to this
Further sweet justice: we were taken off the job 2 months before my contract ended
Paid five figures a month for two months to do this:
RECOVERY

- Cycled from Bulgaria to Washington DC
- 6,500km
- 3 months, 2 months moving
- 108km/day
- 200km/day by the end
Still thinking of ways I could punish Amec Foster Wheeler/Wood PLC and the Kuwait Oil Company, 2 years later

- Intolerance of any vague sniff of unethical or unsafe workplace behaviour
- Good for the bank account
- Delayed life compared to peers
- Love of western democracy and freedoms
- Love of Adelaide, who knew
- Bored with cycling

You are invited to:

Welcome to Adelaide Mapup 7.

It will involve old theodolites and smart villages in India.

THEODOLETES

We will have an early 1900s theodolite on display from the collection of one of our members. We will be in the courtyard at The Treasury so we can look through it and take measurements.