

An aerial photograph of a densely packed informal settlement, likely a slum. The buildings are small, multi-story structures with various roof types, including corrugated metal and flat roofs. The buildings are tightly packed together, with narrow alleys and streets visible between them. The overall scene is one of intense urban density and informal construction.

# Adventures of an Agile Architect

Dan North  
**ThoughtWorks**

# Prologue

Technical: SOA gone bad

Clients coupled to services via WSDL

Lots of duplication

Lots of duplication

Operational: complex, flaky infrastructure

EJBs in non-standard, old version of JBoss

Organisational: developers in silos

Conway's Law

Team arguing



# Epilogue

## Technical

“Good” SOA

Clear context boundaries

## Operational

Deterministic deployment

Stable in production

## Organisational

Happy team!

Systemic and sustainable

# The story

Introduction: Listen, Listen, Listen

Chapter 1: Set a strategy

Chapter 2: Change the culture

Chapter 3: Introduce command pattern

Chapter 4: Get rid of the EJBs

Chapter 5: Introduce bounded contexts

Chapter 6: Share the love



# What I learned

There's always a reason

Have a shaman

and be a shaman

Strip away everything you can

until it breaks!

You can't (or shouldn't) “buy” architecture

Use transitional architectures

Life moves on



Any questions?

[dnorth@thoughtworks.com](mailto:dnorth@thoughtworks.com)

<http://dannorth.net>