The INTERLINK respects the natural contours of the site, which the locals want protected, in multiple ways. For one, the bridge anchors itself and merges with the Slopes that line the Esplanade, a design decision which offers multiple advantages. Respecting the local activities and events that take place alongside the Esplanade (specifically the Sunday Esplanade Market), merging onto the slopes offers a significant platform extension — approximately an additional 122,000 sq ft — for hosting these activities, thus providing more incentive for extensive hosting and participation of local events. It also leaves room at the heart of the primary site for lawns/plaza space, open and flexible to any additional activities or performances, as well as a pleasant rest area for visitors to sit, relax, and enjoy. Finally, it also takes advantage of the significant sectional shift that occurs in the landscape. The slopes are a natural response to the abrupt drop in sea level height change that occurs in the ground moving from the Esplanade to Jutka Boulevard. The bridge proposes an added level to its program that calls for the Slopes to be carved out, and an “underground” condition be created. The circulation that occurs on the lower level of the bridge could then continue and guide visitors to these “underground” spaces. This then transforms the function of the Slopes to that of a green roof over these conditioned spaces underneath, without ever taking away the quality of the Slopes with makes them unique to the people and to the site.