Architecture
for + with + by
Refugees
Architecture for Refugees
= open source online platform to collect and share knowledge on “refugee architecture”
the Users
+
Dennise Castillo
Henrik Ceccaroli
Zsófia Glatz
Bence Komlós
60 million “refugees”
“Living with people who different - racially, ethnically, religiously or economically - is one of the most urgent challenges facing civil society today. Together argues that cooperation needs more than good will: it is a craft that requires skill. In modern society traditional bonds are waning, and we must develop new forms of secular, civic ritual that make us more skilful in living with others. From medieval guilds to today’s social network, Richard Sennett’s visionary book explores the nature of cooperation, why it has become weak and how it can be strengthened.”
BUDAPEST
“Central to the framework is the nation of INFORMATION. For more basic than money, INFORMATION is what really drives our world.”

p.7. With People in Mind: Design and Management of Everyday Nature
INFORMATION

INFORMATION

INFORMATION
KNOWLEDGE

WORKSHOP 1.0
SUMMARY
Refugees
Architecture
Solutions

Architecture for + with + by Refugees
Our work protocol will follow subsequent activities as described:

1. TORSHOV SYMPOSIA AND WORKSHOPS

FIRST DAY SYMPOSIA

In a first attempt to explore the grounds of Torshov, we will summon a kick-off symposia that will focus on the experiences from the community.

This community will include all participants: refugees, students and invited collaborators, such as academics and experts on the field. We will ask for voluntary testimonies, focusing on notions of home and encounters of domesticity while being in transit. These testimonies will become a body of knowledge from which to extract the content and program of our designs.

Topics of discussion will be related to the basic functions of a home: such as eating, sleeping/resting, hygiene, communication, play.

DESIGN-BUILD WORKSHOPS

Parallel to the symposia, we will run design-build workshops for continuous seven days at Torshov refugee site, Transittoppet. The workshops will group multiple teams. Each team will have ten members (eight collaborators and two leaders) and will design and build artifacts that reflect on one of the following basic functions:

DESIGN THEMES

Each workshop will have an assigned theme, given by raffle. Design themes will include:

- sleeping
- eating
- communicating (to people left "home", with each other, with anyone...)
- bathing
- excretion
- playing
- jolly joker

Jolly jokers are functions that are open to be discussed and assigned at the first day symposia by all teams. Other themes may change depending on these discussions.

DESIGN GUIDELINES

Each artifact will be made of a certain maximum amount of material and a certain maximum size (to be transportable in a pickup truck). We will have formal constraints to guide the design: a defined volume to occupy and a common face for all elements to be later assembled together. All units should be inhabitable. These constraints will ensure that artifacts can be coupled together forming a functional unit. This assembly will be set to be tested at the Transittoppet, will be disassembled (as autonomous artifacts) throughout the city, and later reassembled at the Triennial. [1]

CONSTRUCTION

Teams will have seven days to design and build their artifacts. The organizers will promote educational guidelines amongst workshop leaders. Team leaders will be encouraged to promote democratic work practices amongst all team members. These practices will be discussed throughout the workshop so that all team leaders are equipped with a range of possible methodologies: voting, consensus, creation of sub-teams, self-assignment of distinct roles, target setups, time control, communication, cooperation within the group and with the other teams, project management, etc. The goal is that the process of design and building runs in parallel to that of the construction of the community.
KNOW-HOW
REFUGEE ORIENTED and BASED development
generate and empower COLLABORATION
SHARING existing INFORMATION
CONNECT people
think GLOBAL, act LOCAL
LONG-TERM influence
raise FUNDS
build up a COMMUNITY
REFUGEE ORIENTED and BASED development

generate and empower COLLABORATION
SHARING existing INFORMATION
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OPEN SOURCE ONLINE PLATFORM
OPEN SOURCE ONLINE PLATFORM

- Q&A
- Call for Projects
- On-site
- Meetups
- Projects
- Texts
- Videos
- Institutes
- Events
- Basic data

Architecture for + with + by Refugees
1. INFORMATION

You bring information, calls, events to the Platform. The information can be first or second hand.

Information such as: needs, on-site information, questions or answers, call for projects, texts, videos, events, basic data, etc.

2. PLATFORM

You share your information on the open source online platform. It is available for everyone. You tag the information you have shared so it is immediately organized into the main topics.

The platform has a general pool of information and a specialized best practices. Your information and your knowledge, expertise is available on the platform for everybody which helps to find partners for further developments.

3. MATCHMAKING + COLLABORATION

On the Platform everyone can find partners for collaboration. The platform connects and empowers you for collaboration.

Collaboration can be on a global scale - virtual, or on a local scale - physical. The platform organizes online and offline, local and global discussions and workshops.

MANAGEMENT - Architecture for Refugees

The Architecture for Refugees Platform and Community Support projects, ideas and collaborations with information, knowledge, know-how and fundings. We help with administrative, communicational and financial advice.

The Platform will also take actions to use the collected knowledge to initiate new projects. We will call for design projects, competitions and fundraising campaigns.
Facebook Public Group

Architecture for Refugees

Poignant illustrations show the desperation of life in a refugee camp.

An illustrated tour of the Calais "Jungle", home to thousands of refugees.
On our Facebook PAGE you can find even more articles, projects, calls, events! Check it, share it and collaborate! facebook.com/Architecture-f...

Refugees Welcome! #refugees #architecture #a4refugees
Meetups
neighbors getting together to learn something,
do something, share something...

Sort by Best match
Webpage
On site
Q&A

Mathilde Duvinage

Hello, I live in Paris, and I wonder where you are based? Is there any meeting point in Paris?

And do you have projects coming up? I am an architect interested in joining the reflection and to think about some projects! See you! Mathilde

Christina Risinger

Wed

Thanks, we have already shared this blog tool !

Susana Dos Santos

Mon

Dear Susana, all these things sounds great! I will...

Dear Mathilde,

me personally (Bence Komlosi - co-founder) is based in Zürich and developed but some meeting sounds great. I was also thinking to do an online meeting! We would be a date on Facebook and could share ideas, thoughts, ... I think it would be also interesting to organize local events dealing with the topic, we could suggest you to join our group and ask if there is a will like to have a Paris meeting. I can also post it on our Facebook page.

There is no specific project, but we are exploring ideas, writing with the team. The idea is to have some planning with you and to share ideas, discoveries. Please write these questions on the Facebook page.

Have a lovely Monday.

Bence Komlosi

Okay thank you for your answer Bence & really nice to meet you. I'm not sure to have enough time and energy to carry a project these days, but I'm really interested in the subject and I know other people that do some things in other activities domains for and with the refugees, so I think architects (and I mean myself as well) should also think about the problematic and experiment things. That's why I wanted to join the group, but I don't have for the moment any precise project I have to reflect on the subject! But maybe a meeting with refugees could be interesting.

and I should read the posts of the page. There seems to have a lot of interesting things to read.

FEB 1ST, 3:29PM

Sent by Bence Komlosi (P)

FEB 1ST, 4:39PM

Write a reply...
Call for Architecture for Refugees
CatalyticAction Designs Playgrounds for Refugee Children in Bar Elias, Lebanon

06:30 - 8 December, 2015 | by Jodi Tomas Franco

"Within humanitarian responses, programmatically, children often become invisible." (Marc Sammers)

The Syrian crisis has forced thousands of families to leave their homes in search of safe places to continue with their lives. Many families have moved to Lebanon, where the UN has raised a series of informal settlements. While effective in providing shelter, they don’t provide specific solutions for children, many of whom have had their studies interrupted and don’t have public spaces equipped to play sports and interact with other kids.

In response to this situation, the architects of CatalyticAction have designed and built a playground in one of the schools developed by The Kayany Foundation and American University of Beirut’s Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service, involving children throughout the entire process and allowing the structure to be easily disassembled, transported and either reassembled or repurposed.

Description from the Architects: The Syrian crisis is the world’s largest refugee crisis for almost a quarter of a century under UNHCR’s mandate (UNHCR, July 2015). It has devastated lives; uprooting families from their homes and forcing them to leave the country to find safety elsewhere. The conflict

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In 4 Days, 100 Volunteers Used Mud and Reeds To Build This Community Center in Mexico

MISC

MORE MISC

University of Miami Hosts Sustainability Workshop for High School Students

MISC
Beyond the Tent: Why Refugee Camps Need Architects (Now More than Ever)

By Katherine Allen

In 2013 alone some 1 million people have poured out of Syria to escape a civil conflict that has been raging for over two years. The total number of Syrian refugees is well over 2 million, an unprecedented number and a disturbing reality that has put the host countries under immense infrastructural strain.

Host countries at least have a protocol they can follow, however. UN Handbooks are consulted and used to inform an appropriate approach to camp planning issues. Land is negotiated for and a grid layout is set. The method, while general, is meticulous – adequate for an issue with an expiration date.

Or at least it would be if the issue were, in fact, temporary.
IBTASEM - A playground as a response to the refugee crisis

Published on Dec 11, 2015
In August 2015, CatalyticAction completed the pilot playground project ‘IBTASEM’ as emergency response to the Syrian refugee crisis in Lebanon. The pilot project acts as a catalyst by triggering the awareness for a much-needed space for these children in a time of crisis.

No comments to display
Events

Social Design Elevation Days 2016


Impact Hub Munich
Gottlinger Straße 9, 81371 München, Germany
Show Map

Feb 20 at 7 PM to Feb 24 at 10 PM


Am 21. Februar 2016 von 19:00 Uhr bis 22:00 Uhr werden die ersten Prototypen der Wohnungen in den Aktionsräumen des "Provision" präsentiert.

Am 22. Februar 2016 von 11:00 Uhr bis 19:00 Uhr werden die Wohnungen in den Aktionsräumen des "Provision" für die Öffentlichkeit geöffnet.

Am 24. Februar 2016 von 18:00 Uhr bis 22:00 Uhr werden die Wohnungen vor Ort in den Aktionsräumen des "Provision" gezeigt.

Architecture for Refugees
There are millions of people in refugee camps around the Middle East.

Some countries have accepted those from neighbouring nations who are fleeing war and conflict.

But now, the King of Jordan - a country that borders Iraq and Syria - says it’s at "boiling point" after allowing 635,000 refugees from Syria.

He says if countries from around the world want Jordan to continue helping refugees then they’ll need a lot more help.

There are more people claiming refuge in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey than anywhere else, including Europe.

Jordan

Syrian refugees registered in neighbouring countries: taken from UNHCR asylum applications by Syrian nationals from April 2011 - November 2015.

Most Popular

1. Students 'sex rating' females on Facebook

2. Refugee crisis: How did countries react

3. Greg James starts Gregathlon challenge

4. WWE superstar Daniel Bryan retires

5. Home-maded for the Rabbit in Glasgow

Architecture for + with + by Refugees
Institutes
WHO WE ARE

The “Architecture for Refugees” aims to be an open platform for architects, urban planners and designers to join their forces for a better built environment for refugees. This Page is the first step but we are open for any suggestions! Join us and let’s work together! Should we start a group, is it a better way of being an open platform?
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**PLAYGROUNDS FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN**

The Syrian crisis has forced thousands of families to leave their homes in search of safe places to continue with their lives. Many families have moved to Lebanon...

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**WHY REFUGEE CAMPS NEED ARCHITECTS**

In 2013 alone 1 million people have poured out of Syria to escape a civil conflict that has been raging for over two years. The total number of Syrian refugees is well...

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**A PLAYGROUND TO THE REFUGEE CRISIS**

If you need help, please visit our Help Center. There you'll find answers to many common questions about creating an account, watching and uploading videos, and...

READ MORE >>

**ARCHITECTURE FOR REFUGEES 2016**
Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM) has been chosen to represent Germany at Venice Biennale 2016 with the exhibition Making Home. Germany: Arrival Country. The DAM team – including general commissioner and director Peter Cachola Schmal, curator Oliver Elser, and project coordinator Anna Scheuermann – has already begun to collect examples of buildings that are being transformed for refugees and migrants – from large reception centers to refugee-led bicycle workshops. All work will be presented to the public in early 2016 as “an information pool for planners and policy-makers.”

“The current refugee situation is part of a massive worldwide flow of migrants. It leads people from the countryside into cities,” says the team. “What are the challenges facing cities with incoming refugees and migrants? Where in Germany are the preferred ‘arrival cities’ located? How do newcomers become socially integrated citizens? And how can architecture and urban design contribute to this process? Taking as a starting point the hypotheses put forward by the Canadian journalist Doug Saunders in his best selling non-fiction book Arrival City, the DAM team, with Saunders as advisor, examines these questions in the exhibition ‘Making Home’ in the German Pavilion. How, in the future, can Germany’s “arrival cities”, such as Offenbach am Main respond and hypothetically shape the conditions that create a good ‘Arrival City’?”

Exhibition and catalogue design will be executed by the Berlin practice Something Fantastic.
Due to the refugee crisis, this contribution to the 2016 Architecture Biennale is not limited to the pavilion in Venice but also includes three ongoing projects in Vienna.

More concretely, three teams have been commissioned to work together with NGOs not only to design the conversion of empty buildings into temporary accommodation for people whose asylum claims are being processed but also to accompany these buildings in the longer term.

Objectives of these interventions are to subject the social responsibility of architecture to a reality check, to provide humane places to live for those affected and to present the results in Venice to a broader public.

15th International Architecture Exhibition La Biennale di Venezia 2016
Austrian Pavilion
NEXT STEPS

Meetup

Webpage

Facebook

Partners

Promotion

Funding

Twitter
The Culture of Care
by Sally Weintrobe

“Actively breaking the loving link makes us feel less guilty. It creates the culture of un-care.”
CALL FOR COLLABORATION!
Architecture for + with + by Refugees