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O y in Community structures in Tagpuro in the Philippines by Eriksson Furunes with Leandro V Locsin Partners adapt to the destructive forces that wrecked their Tacloban antecedents

In November 2013, the largest tropical cyclone to make landfall in recorded history ploughed across the

islands in Eastern Visayas, one of the poorest regions in the Philippines. Haiyan, the super typhoon, left

homes. The damage was particularly severe in Leyte and the city of Tacloban, where most of the temporary

'One of the mothers who joined the

overlooking the ocean and the scenic San Juanico Bridge, opening up towards the sea to reduce resistance

encouraged to play or do their homework instead of being out in the streets, exposed to a myriad of social

against strong winds. It had provided a calm, peaceful refuge for children, a place where they could be

more than 6,000 people dead, more than 27,000 injured, and 3.9 million people were forced out of their

evacuation centres were built to meet the immediate needs of the victims.

vulnerabilities, abuse or exploitation in downtown Tacloban.

workshops said: "I didn't know that **Editorial:** trying to turn the tide we were capable of building that". 3 APRIL 2019 BY MANON MOLLARD Among the structures compromised across the city were facilities belonging to Streetlight Philippines, a The lighthouse nonprofit organisation that runs health and educational programmes for Filipinos living in the slums of 5 APRIL 2019 BY LILI ZARZYCKI Tacloban. One of these was a newly built study centre, initiated and built by architecture students from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. The centre had been nestled in a former children's park

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County Offaly, Ireland by Peter and Mary Doyle Architects 8 JULY 2019 **BY JOHN MCLAUGHLIN AND AOIBHEANN** NÍ MHEARÁIN **Source: Nelson Petilla** Study centre, by Eriksson Furunes with Trond Hegvold and Ivar KV Tutturen, Tacloban (2010)

The structure was built in close association with the community it served, starting with workshops that

the seafront, building a mezzanine for the older children, and making use of materials that are readily

could help the students to identify the users' wants and needs, such as choosing to situate the centre towards

accessible in their community. The main structure was made of locally sourced wood, which was anchored to a hollow block wall at the back of the building - akin to a quintessential Philippine architectural style during

the Spanish colonial era, the Bahay na Bato, where the upper half consists of timber and the lower half is

When Typhoon Haiyan battered most of the city, the study centre did survive the peak of the typhoon, but it

Johannesen, the founder of the nonprofit, recalls ending up on the roof of the office with 72 of the children, youths and parents; protected from the typhoon wall by the hill behind them, but still subject to the flood.

was eventually destroyed by the storm surge that followed. The water rose so rapidly that Erlend

Study centre, by Eriksson Furunes with Trond Hegvold and Ivar KV Tutturen, Tacloban (2010)

made of concrete blocks.

Source: Nelson Petilla

In the typhoon's aftermath, resettlement areas were built further inland, in Tagpuro, a district around 12 kilometres north of central Tacloban. Streetlight followed the resettlement, acquiring a property in the area where they were most needed. Johannesen shares that there are still not enough buildings for schools, amenities and services in this area. You move around a hundred thousand poor into the middle of nowhere, you're lacking infrastructure,' he says. 'There's still no water now, the deep wells have E-coli.'

ground floor plan

Trond Hegyold and Ivar KV Tutturen) who had built the study centre, to lead the construction process for a

community-driven rebuild, similar to the workshops they had done for the study centre in Tacloban, where

Through weekly workshops, it became clear that the community wanted to replicate the old study centre;

Streetlight also identified that the residential facilities from downtown Tacloban had to be moved to the north; thus, the facility would also include an orphanage. The workshop participants sourced wood from trees fallen during the typhoon, as timber buildings would best withstand future winds; they also studied other types of houses that may have details they want to duplicate, for example, one resident identified a

bamboo veranda, and another drew a slatted window from a house in the vicinity. Children would write poems about what specific parts of a building meant for them, which parents would design and make into

new community building in Tagpuro. Johannesen and Furunes both underscored that they wanted a

locals would feel accountable for and be able to take ownership of what they would create.

Source: Alexander Eriksson Furunes

section BB

ground floor plan

Source: Alexander Eriksson Furunes On the porch of the Tagpuro project (2016) Having the space, time and resources for a project like the one in Tagpuro is not commonplace, but perhaps,

it can serve as a reminder that it can be done. In seeing the new study centre and orphanage come to life,

of building that'. Especially after the disaster, she tells how building a site they can call their own was an exercise in getting together, asking for and offering help – an act of cooperation and volunteerism called

Margarita Allunam, one of the mothers who joined the workshops says: 'I didn't know that we were capable

currency, which mirrors the common relations, knowledge and resources present in this specific local context' 'There's no good English word for bayanihan, right? It's not community service, it's deeper. It's much more culturally rooted, says Johannesen. In Norway, we have the same term, which is dugnad, and it has the same cultural depth to it and that's what we saw, really. Bayanihan gives value to solidarity and reciprocity over monetary currency, which mirrors the common relations, knowledge and resources present in this specific local context. This model of organisation can give shape to new power structures and trigger dialogues with an equal standing to power holders such as the government, international organisations, aid organisations or

outside interest groups acting on behalf of the people', argues Furunes. Surrounded by warm waters that will continue to get warmer, the Philippines will only become more vulnerable to natural disaster. When typhoons clobber the country, the resilience of Filipinos is widely talked about. It is as though resilience is the Filipinos' national identity; author Jose Raymund Canoy recently argued that the story of the Filipino is the story of 'human resilience in a weak state', largely because Filipinos do not have a choice but to be resilient for themselves and for each other. **Community structures, Tagpuro**

This piece featured in the AR April issue on Oceans - click here to purchase your copy today **DRAWINGS DOWNLOAD**

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From conceptualisation to construction, the entire project lasted almost three years, including more than 400 hours of workshops, and opened in 2016. The new study centre now has a music room, a library, bathrooms activities. The new facilities have three concrete volumes: an orphanage housing at-risk children and youths, a new study centre, and Streetlight's on-site office which contains an open area with shared workspaces as The design and construction of the programmes in Tagpuro are indeed a departure from the majority of the being lined with concrete buildings and stores topped with corrugated roofs. There are still ruins that have not been attended to, 'spaghetti wires' hanging over corners, and buildings remain enveloped with worn-out paint. Ventilation and liveability still look to be a potential concern, but six years on, the town is again filled

section **DD** study centre section AA orphanage section CC The new community building in Tagpuro (2016) - click to download and a staffroom built in heavy volumes while open areas serve as a space for the children's after-school architecture in downtown Tacloban, where the main roads have been rebuilt and side streets are back to with the archetypal sound of a Philippine city: the noise of tricycle engines, the laughter of children and

well as meeting rooms for the Streetlight staff. street vendors, and music blasting from jeepneys.

The new community building in Tagpuro (2016) - click to download

coastline, made out of plywood, cardboard boxes, plastic sheets and tarpaulins – materials that are weak in the face of a natural disaster. The economic needs of the Filipinos living in downtown Tacloban will almost always overpower their fear of a calamity, especially with the lack of livelihood opportunities and poor attention to infrastructure presented by resettlement areas.

alleviate the economic issues that come with relocation, and Alfred Romualdez, the mayor of Tacloban when

Typhoon Haiyan happened, also slammed the government policy, saying that it was a 'knee-jerk and

account other factors such as elevation, oversimplifying the designation of 'safe' and 'unsafe' spaces.

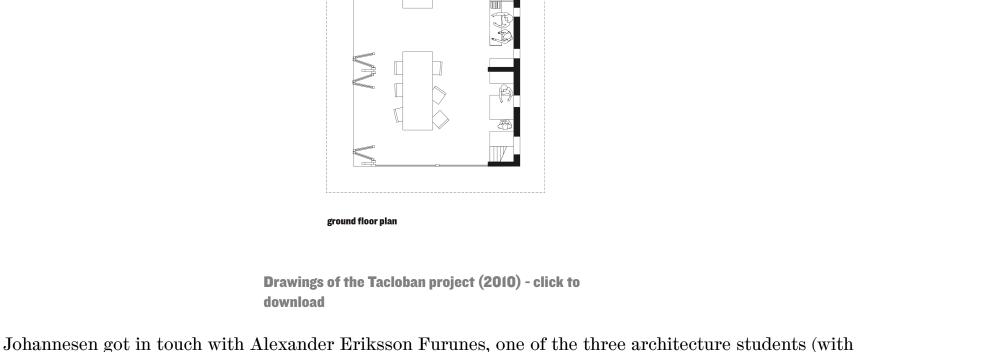
Some families have rebuilt their homes despite the no-build zone, mostly shanties that snake along the

haphazard response': unilaterally designating a 40-metre band along the Leyte coastline fails to take into

bayanihan in Filipino; a form of social support that is all the more highlighted during times of crisis. 'Bayanihan gives value to solidarity and reciprocity over monetary

Architect Eriksson Furunes with Leandro V Locsin Partners Project lead (Tagpuro) Alexander Eriksson Furunes, Sudarshan Khadka, Jago Boase Photographs Alexander Eriksson Furunes unless otherwise stated

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prototypes.

Crucially, the workshops enabled families to articulate psychological issues they had to deal with as a consequence of experiencing Haiyan. Sudarshan Khadka from Filipino architectural firm Leandro V Locsin Partners - who joined Eriksson Furunes on the project - revealed that some of the participants specifically did not want galvanised iron (GI) corrugated roofs because they saw people getting sliced by them during the typhoon. This type of roof also emphasised the sound of rain, which was an issue because there were kids who would cry when it started raining as they would associate the sound with their trauma. Instead of the GI roofing, the new buildings were given a standing-seam roof that will only crumple under strong winds. Architecture and the processes of reconstruction became a means for the community to start reclaiming their lives. In order to be resilient against typhoons, the building features open voids, making use of diamond-shaped, light, timber-slatted frames set between concrete volumes, to make sure that strong winds can pass through it. Construction techniques were essentially similar to the ones employed in building the old study centre in Tacloban, but to further ensure that the structure could withstand a disaster equivalent to Typhoon Haiyan, mock-ups were built to test their strength.

Just weeks after Typhoon Haiyan, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) declared a 40-metre no-build zone in Tacloban, based on protocols detailed in the 1976 Philippine Water Code, but the policy has been criticised for its potential both to undermine safety and hinder efforts to rehabilitate those displaced. Anakbayan, a human rights group, called the no-build zone 'anti-poor' as it did not offer to

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