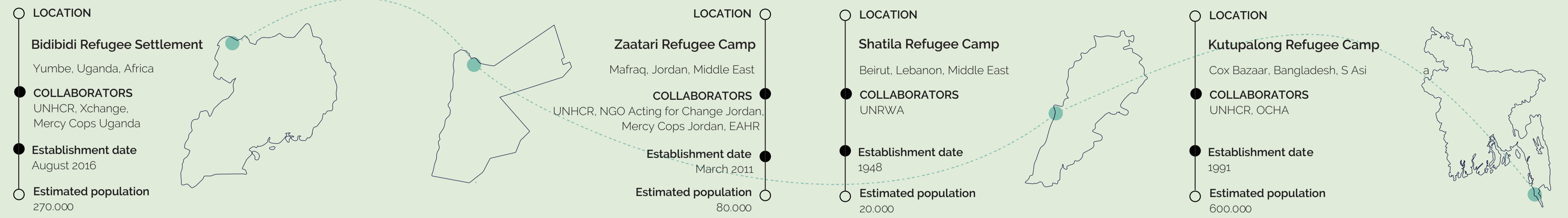


LIFE BETWEEN SHELTERS

Refugee camps of today becoming cities of tomorrow



TOPIC

What role does architecture play in the process of today's refugee camps becoming sustainable cities of tomorrow?

Refugee camps are becoming permanent at a rapid pace and can no longer be considered temporary settlements. Therefore, design solutions fostering the social life of the newly formed communities is critical.

We are now living through the largest wave of human displacement worldwide. According to UNHCR 70.8 million people are forcibly displaced globally including 25.9 million refugees of whom over half are children. Spontaneous generations, children banned from a future, camps prescribed into stateless cities - all due to being dictated as 'temporary', 'provisional' or 'in-between'. However, life still happens in-between - walls, shelters and borders.

How can design assist w communities throughout the camp's transition into a livable city?

Bidibidi is the first rapidly growing refugee camp worldwide accommodating South Sudanese refugees escaping the civil war.

The camp is currently undergoing an 'urban experiment' aiming to transform it into a permanent settlement.

However, a sustainable city is more than permanent buildings - it is about a strong sense of community.

Refugee-led group responsible for community work



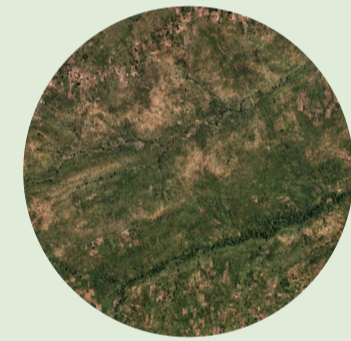
In Bidibidi refugees are encouraged to farm and open businesses



The social life of the camp is vibrant - refugees organise music events



Main 'highstreet' of Bidibidi Settlement



Maps of Bidibidi - May 2016 (above) and December 2016 (right)

What educational infrastructure can support the future of Zaatari's refugee children?

Jordan's first refugee camp, Zaatari, hosts the greatest population of Syrian refugees.

48 % of the camp's inhabitants are children who have been out of school for years.

In the context of only 16 existing schools, most of the young population reaching the camp continue to lack education.



100 Classrooms by EAHR (Emergent Architecture and Human Rights)



Busy, active and social roads of the Zaatari



80 children are born every week in the camp

Aerial views of Zaatari Refugee Camp (above & right)

Educational Infrastructure

Child dedicated spaces

What design interventions can bring the altered dense settlement of Shatila to safer conditions?

Shatila is the densest refugee camp worldwide.

Home to over 20,000 Palestinian refugees and more than 1 million Syrians, the camp is acutely overcrowded.

In the absence of building regulations, the uncontrolled vertical expansion of Shatila is bringing the camp's infrastructure into a catastrophic state of repair and dangerous living conditions.



Unsafe living conditions on the streets of Shatila - overload of electricity network



Density of buildings in Shatila reach 7 storeys with no reinforcements to existing foundations



Aerial view of Shatila within Beirut City

Density Responsive Design

Reinforcing Existing Architecture

Top refugee hosting countries

- Lebanon - 1 in 6 people
- Jordan - 1 in 14 people
- Turkey - 3.5 million
- Pakistan - 1.4 million
- Uganda - 1.4 million

Climate Resilient Design

Temporary & Adaptable Design

City Transition

How can the future of Kutupalong be planned in the face of unfavourable policies and environmental conditions?

Kutupalong is the world's largest camp sheltering Rohingya refugees fleeing persecution in neighbouring Myanmar.

Besides the landslides, deforestation and intense monsoon seasons, the camp's future of becoming a permanent settlement is further threatened by the banning of permanent construction.

Bamboo prototype for a quick to disassemble shelter



Aid organisations making efforts to provide more permanent and stable structures



Monsoon season in Kutupalong

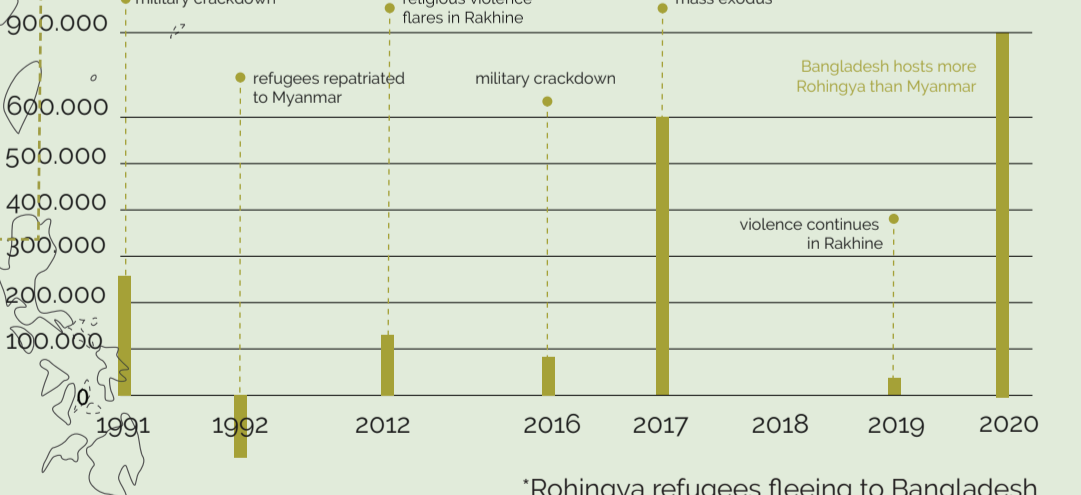


Aerial view of the Kutupalong Refugee Camp

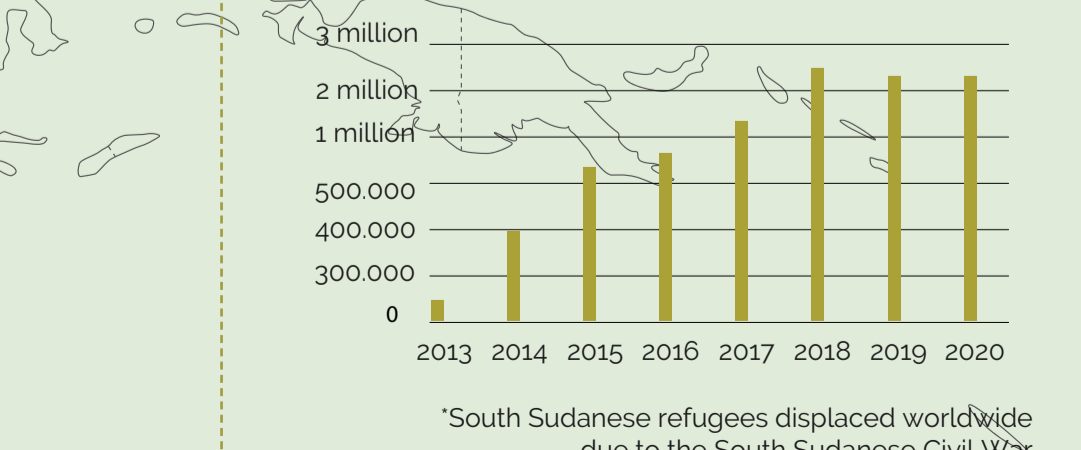


Living conditions of Kutupalong

Rohingya Refugee Crisis



South Sudanese Refugee Crisis



OBJECTIVE & METHODOLOGY

The proposed research will contribute to the future of architecture assisting people worldwide during hardship. In times of arising crisis such as the current global pandemic, we can gain knowledge from communities in emergency and ways in which aid architecture can respond to crisis within cities.

The investigation will explore the spaces located in between the shelters of a refugee camp focusing on: the transition process of a camp into a sustainable city, the educational plan which can support the future of refugee children and the social infrastructure which builds community resilience.

The journey will be documented online through an open collaborative platform dedicated to humanitarian design and response.

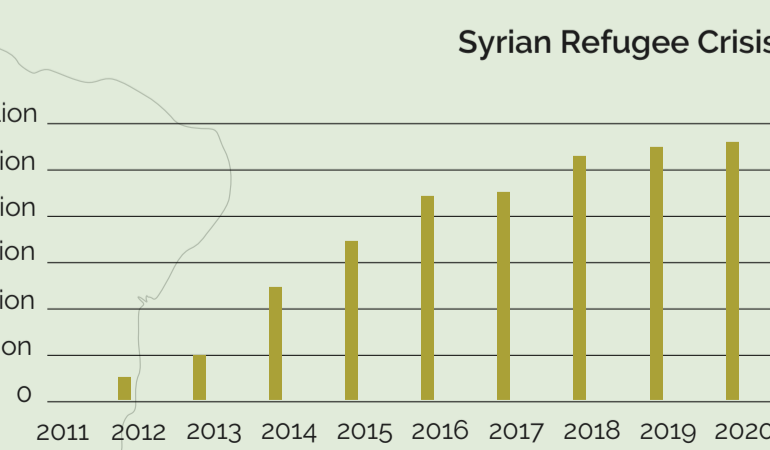
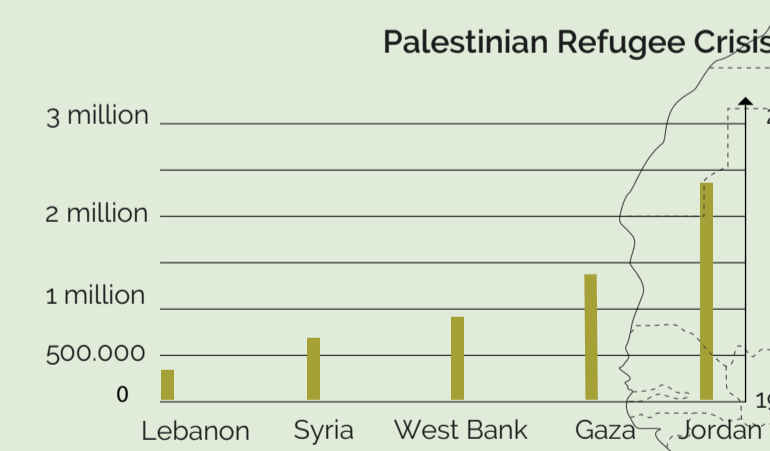
Mediums

PHOTOGRAPHY - VIDEO-RECORDING - INTERVIEWS - MAPPING - SKETCHING

PERSONAL MOTIVATION

Since a young age I have been exposed to the process and consequences of displacement as both my parents experienced the status of a refugee by seeking asylum throughout European countries during the Communist period in Romania.

With half of my family still dispersed across the world, I am firmly determined to investigate and contribute to the issue of displacement as an architect.



*Syrian refugees displaced worldwide due to the Syrian Civil War

Social Infrastructure

City Transition

Refugee camps/settlements

- Kutupalong Refugee Camp
- Bidibidi Refugee Settlement
- Zaatari Refugee Camp
- Shatila Refugee Camp

Top refugee countries of origin

- Syria - 5.6 million
- Palestine - 5 million
- South Sudan - 2.3 million
- Myanmar - 1.1 million

*refugees worldwide