



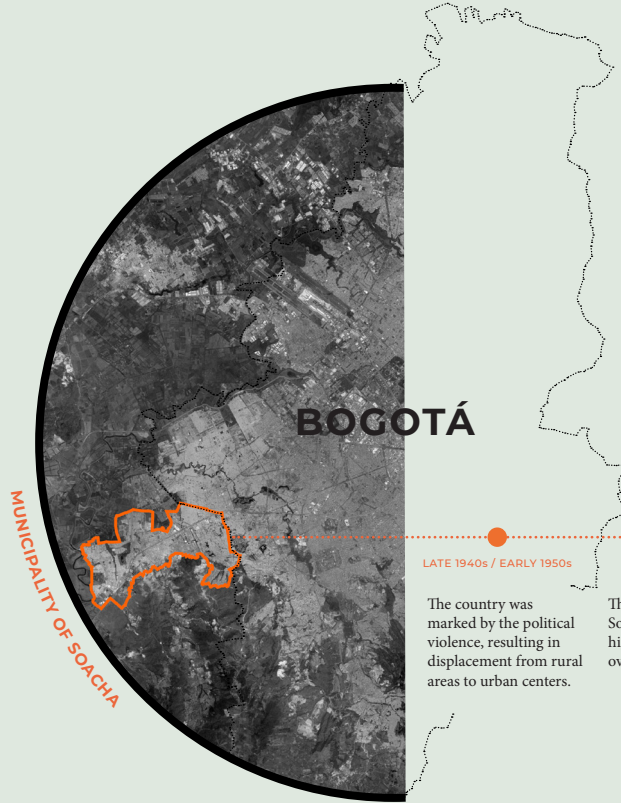
- 2001 1st Community room
- 2012 Salón de Botellas
- 2016 Vegetable Garden
- 2017 Library
- 2018 Public Bathroom
- 2021 Auditorium



Proyecto Escape

Proyecto Escape is a non-profit association in Altos de Cazucá, one of the socially weaker districts in the south of the Colombian capital. Unfortunately, due to insufficient financial means, many families there still live in very difficult life situations and have to struggle with problems like crime, drugs and gang wars.

With their work, Proyecto Escape actively deals with these problems in order to promote development of the social environment in Altos del Pino and thus to achieve progress and an improvement of the living conditions of the people living in this district. Proyecto Escape in alliance with other organizations has organized various Workshops in Architecture and Emerging Urbanism, focusing on the exchange of knowledge between the inhabitants of the neighborhood, students and professionals around the construction of different community projects through participatory processes.



The community of Altos del Pino is located in Soacha, a municipality that borders Bogotá, the capital of Colombia, on the southern side of the city. This conurbation connects the district of Ciudad Bolívar in Bogotá with Altos de Cazucá, an informal settlement located on the northern side of the municipality of Soacha.

LATE 1940s / EARLY 1950s

The country was marked by the political violence, resulting in displacement from rural areas to urban centers.

1980s

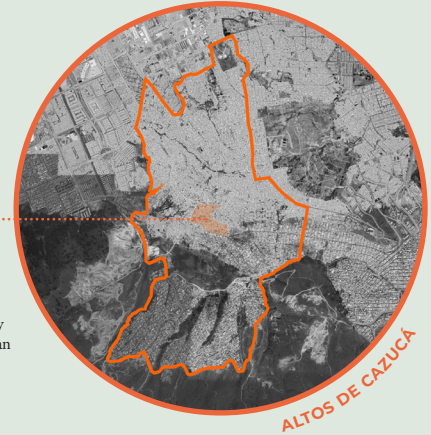
The municipality of Soacha received very high migration from all over the country.

1960s

The annual growth rate rises to 12.5%

NOW

Home to the largest internal migrant population and recently as well to the Venezuelan migration.



“We’re the forgotten victims of this war”

– Rosa Fierro



IDPs – victims of Colombia’s long-running armed conflict, that ended in November 2016 – had to leave their mostly rural homes due to ongoing violence, threats to life or as a result of war strategies in the last 50 years. According to the city’s Regional Office for Victims (CRAV), Soacha is one of Colombia’s top destinations for displaced people. The informal settlements are illegal but the authorities are powerless to stop them as the displaced have nowhere else to go.

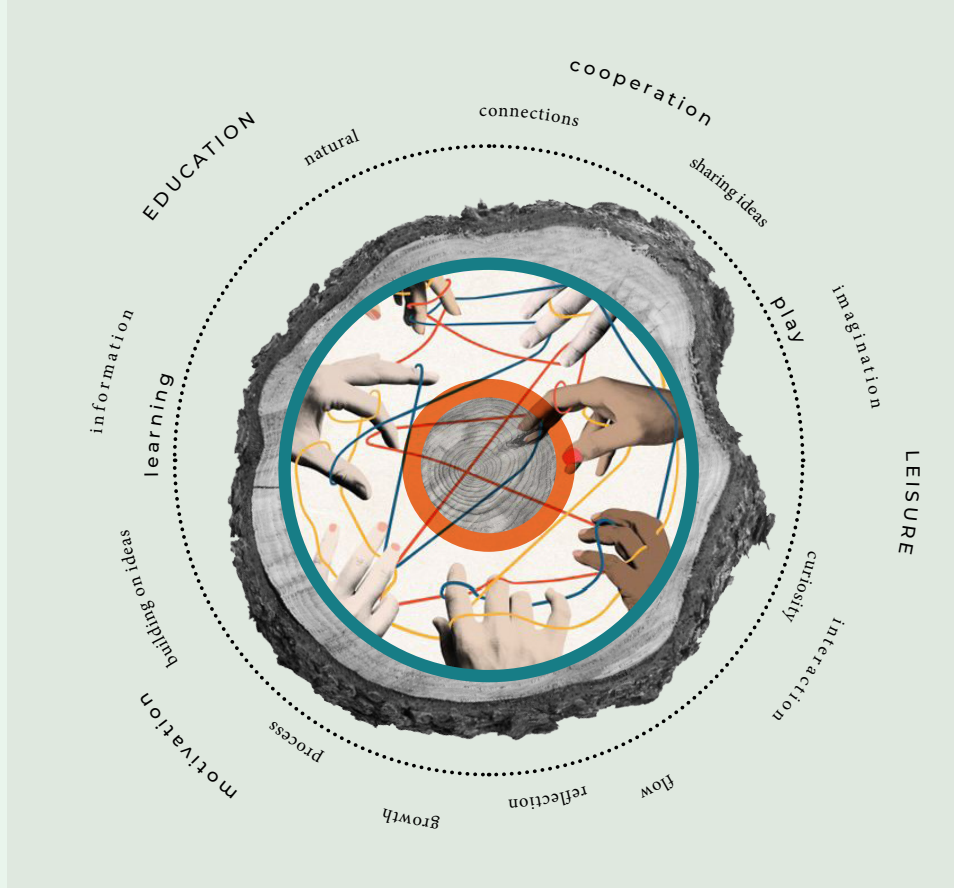


Soacha is also one of the municipalities with the highest number of Venezuelan migrants in proportion to its size. During the political crisis almost 1,5 million Venezuelans immigrated to Colombia. Many of them leaving their family behind because of high transport costs. Most of the Venezuelans that are arriving are young adults who are looking for jobs to provide their family back home. The lack of a nationally valid document that proves their identity complicates the process of finding work.



“There is nothing back home for my family”

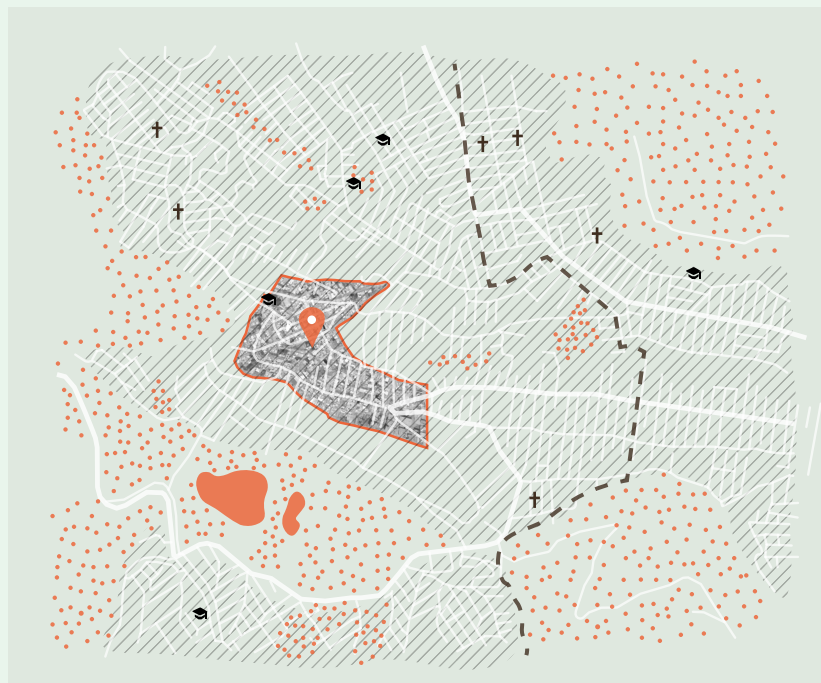
– Eduard Sanche



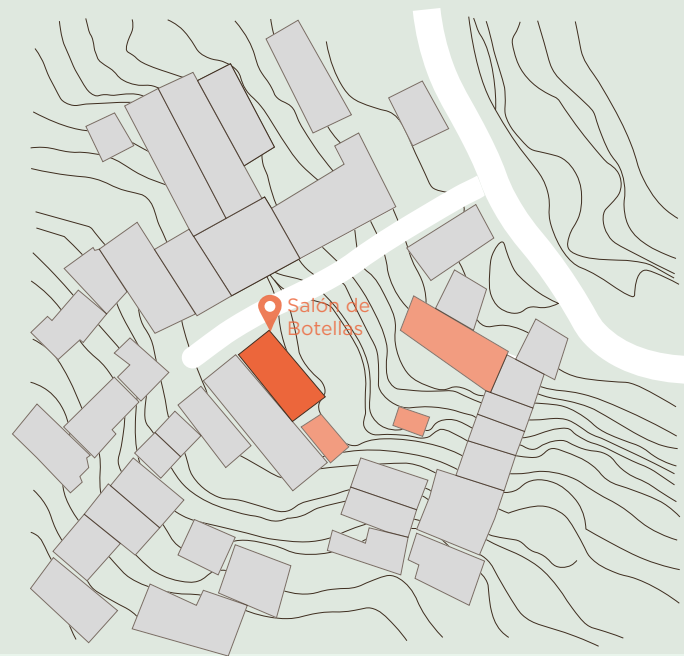
Interplay of education and leisure

Altos del Pino is a neighbourhood with multiple environmental, social and economic issues, that put the high and dense population in a situation of constant vulnerability. The high poverty and the deficit of public space in the sector has a negative impact on the education of the residents which prevents the correct development of the community.

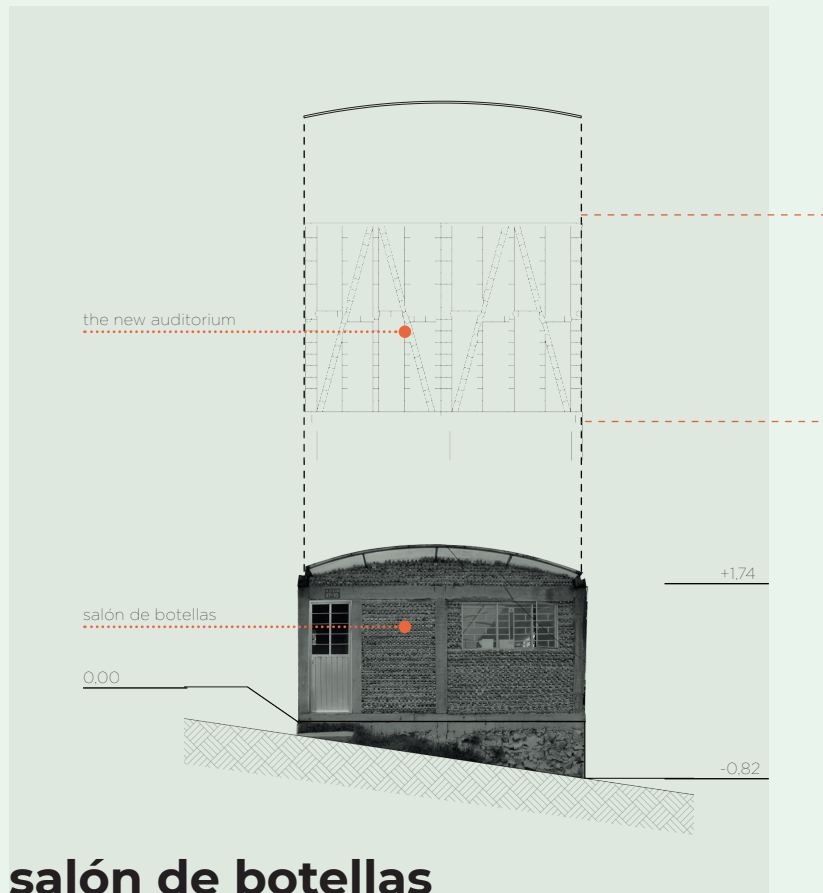
In my thesis the main objective is to collectively design and build an auditorium for the community center that will allow the Proyecto Escape Foundation and the community of Altos del Pino to promote and carry out various activities around culture and education in an adequate space.



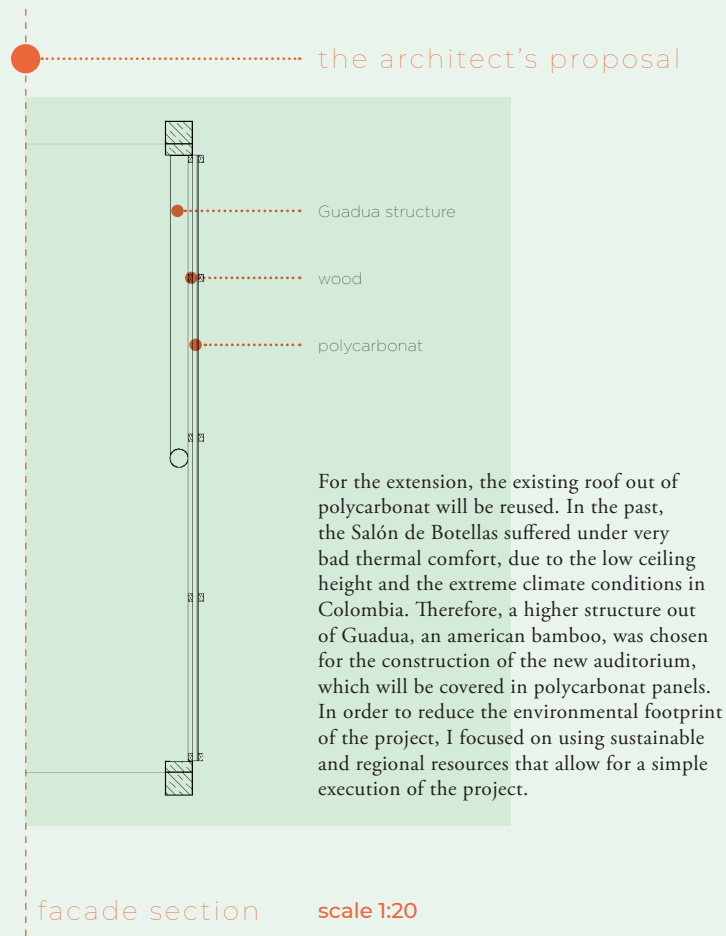
- | | |
|--|---|
|  build |  Streets |
|  Altos del Pino |  Boarder to Bogota |
|  Lake |  Vegetation |
|  Schools |  Churches |

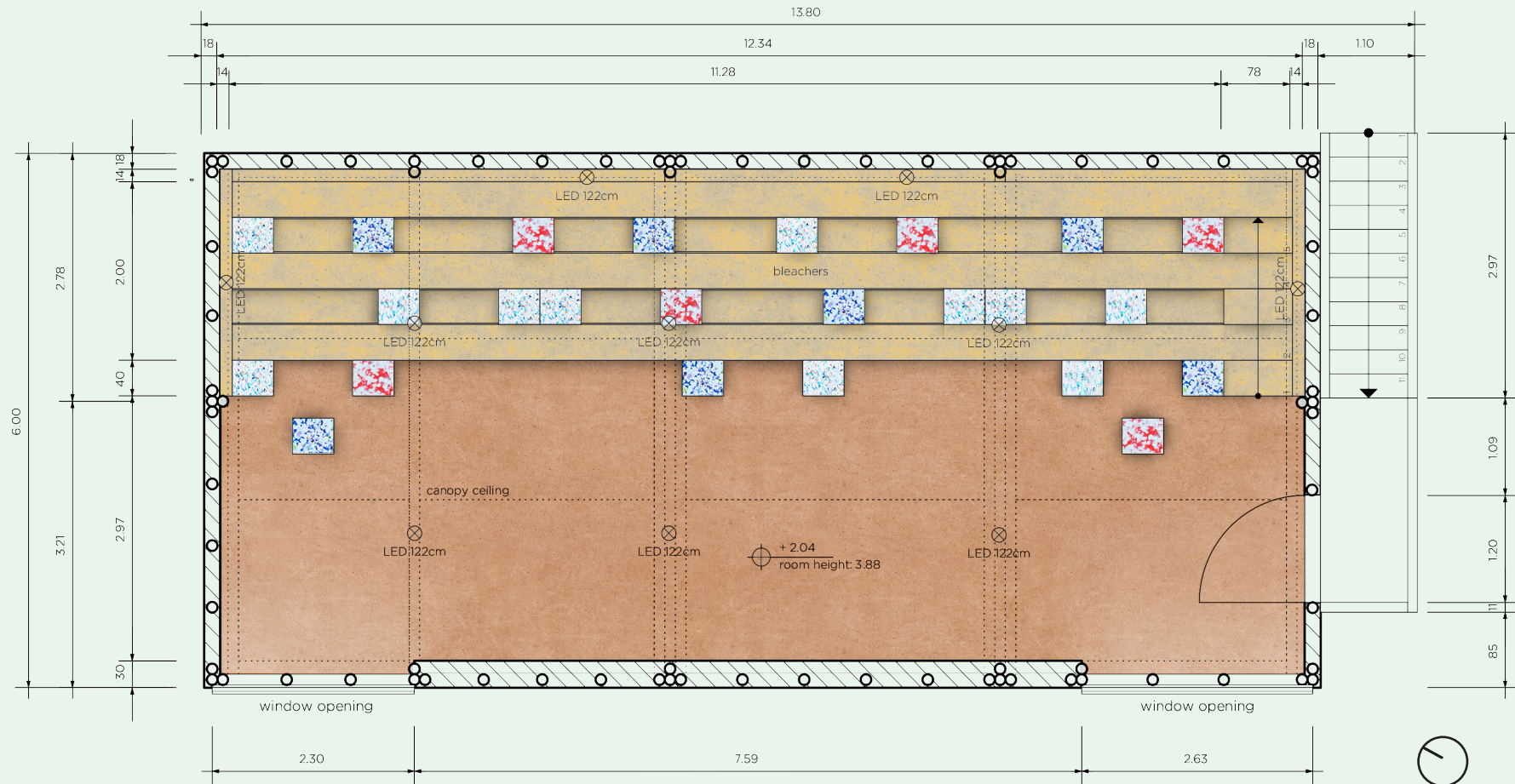


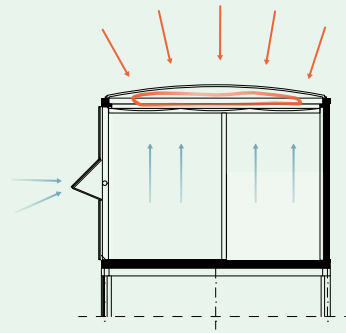
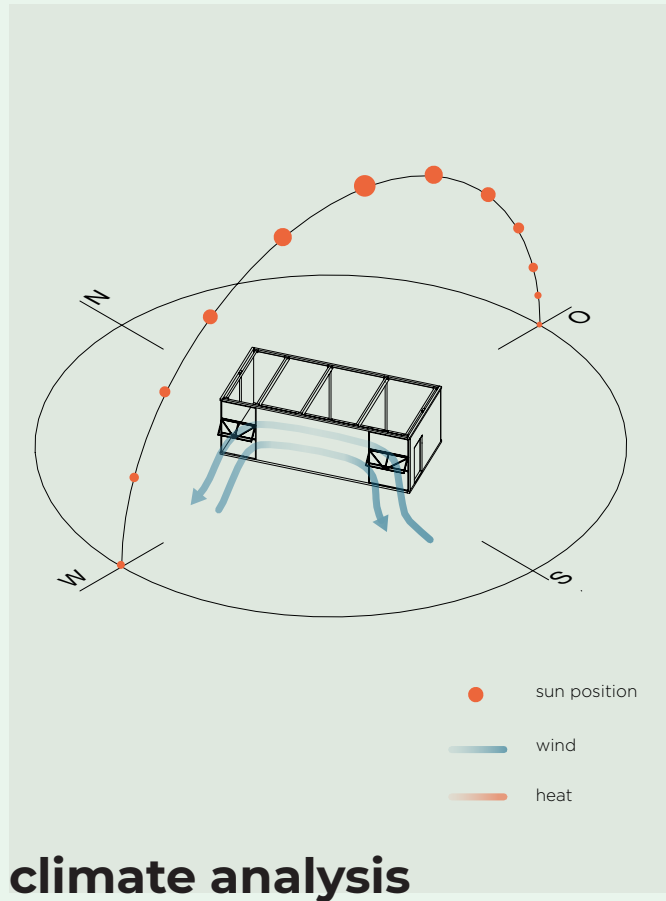
In order to implement higher education and cultural activities, Proyecto Escape needed additional floor space. Therefore, it was decided to extend the existing community room “Salón de Botellas”, which is part of the configuration that forms the Community Center of Cazucá. The room was built in 2012 by the community, using recycled plastic bottles. Around the area of the Community Center, we find various educational, cultural and religious institutions, which are using the space to promote and carry out workshops and activities for the community members.



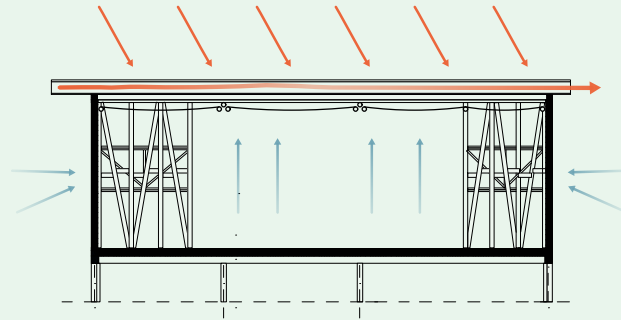
salón de botellas



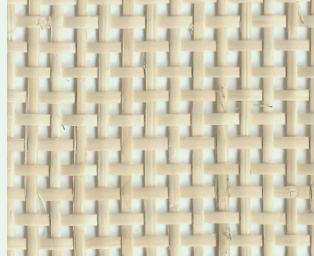




For the climate control of the auditorium a natural air cooling system is needed. The window openings are located to the wind direction, so that a refreshing air circulation can take place in the room. The inclined window opening protects the room from strong wind waves and tends to direct the air upwards.

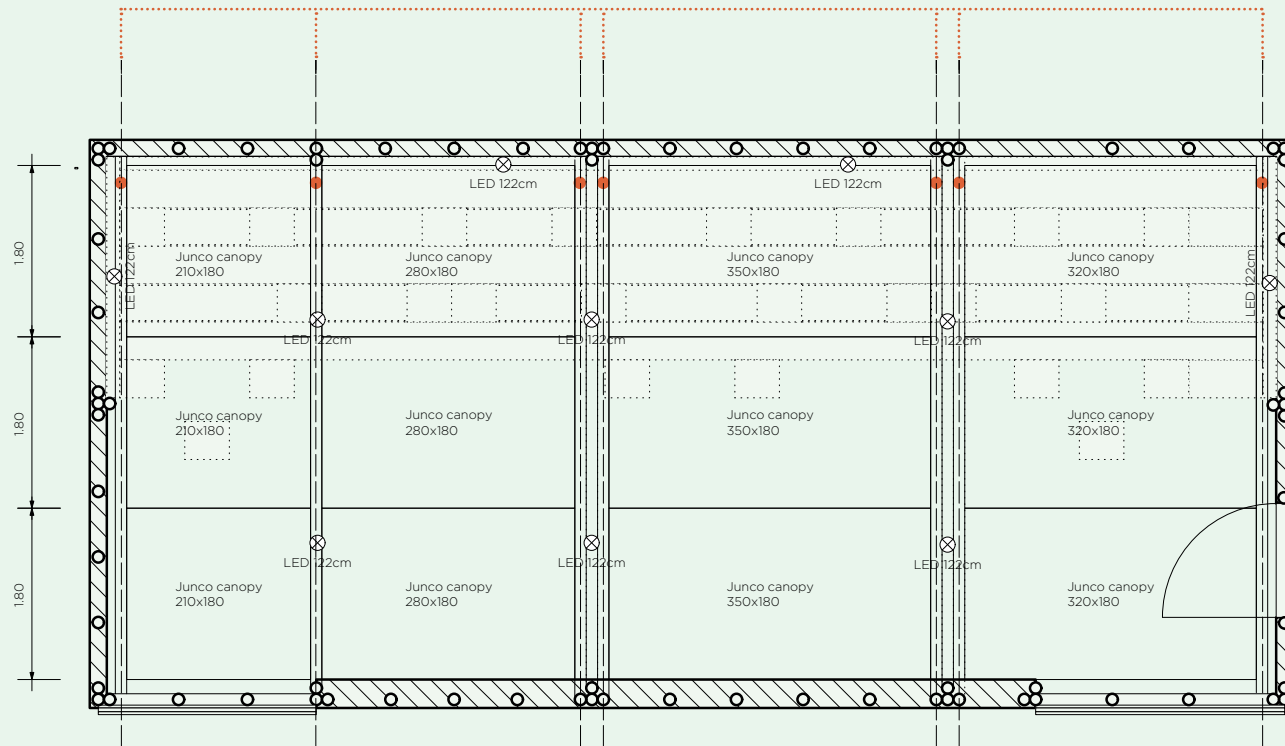


As the existing ceiling made out of polycarbonat is going to be reused, the plastic will save and recreate a lot of heat. Therefore, the installation of a canopy ceiling out of junco will keep the heat above. Nevertheless, a gap in between the ceiling and the beams will allow the hot air to exit the building.



Junco is a plant cultivated in the lake “Lago de Tota”, approximately 200 km northwest of Bogotá. The lake suffers from the plant’s overpopulation which is why the residents around the area are inventing alternative forms of using the plant. For a canopy ceiling, Junco has perfect characteristics. It does not need to be treated with insulating products, because its main quality is impermeability, it also protects from solar rays, keeps the interior warm at night and cool during the day. Getting up to 10°C of difference with respect to the outside.

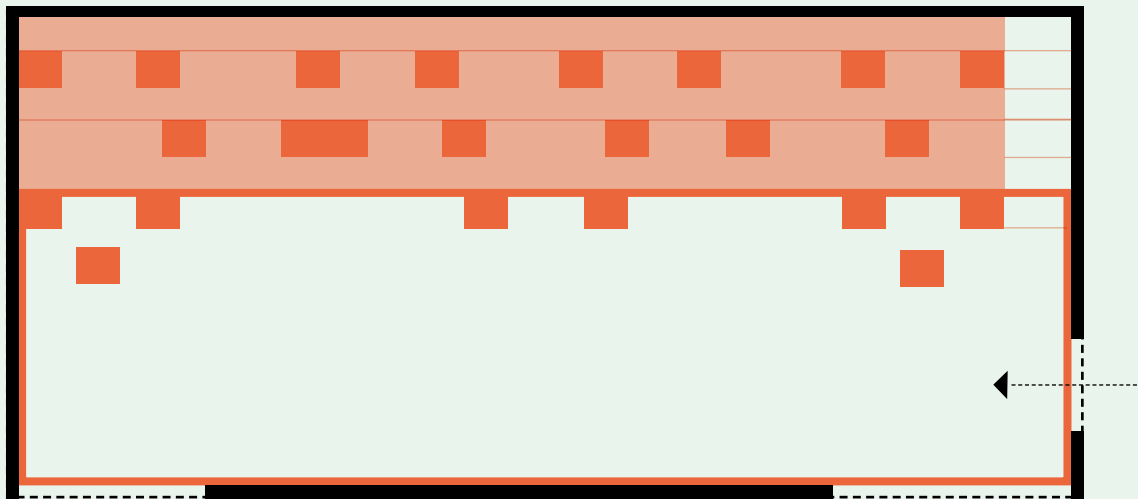
The Junco weavings are tied to the gudua construction running horizontally in the room.



ceiling plan



elevation



CONCEPT

The concept for the auditorium is based on the balance between defined and free space. With additional mobile stools the auditorium provides an engagement in its usage. The variations of the spatial concept include a classroom for schools, a space for cultural education, a space where different celebrations can be held, a community cinema and a room for gatherings.

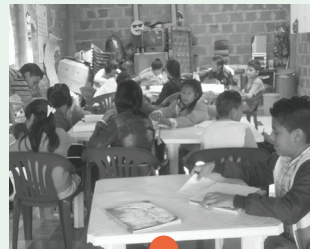
The spatial arrangements were customized for the community's needs and wishes and its flexibility reflects the diversity of the community.



Recreational facilities in the form of a cinema



Assembly possibility for members of the community

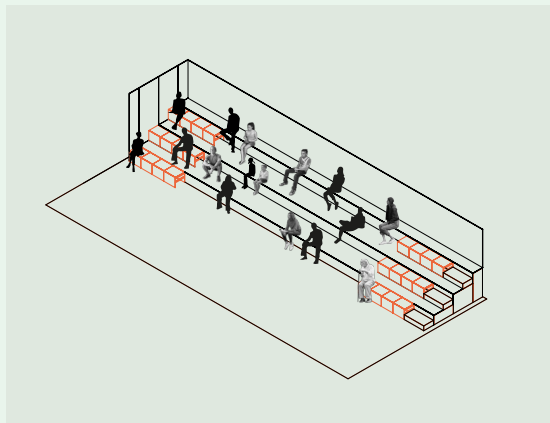
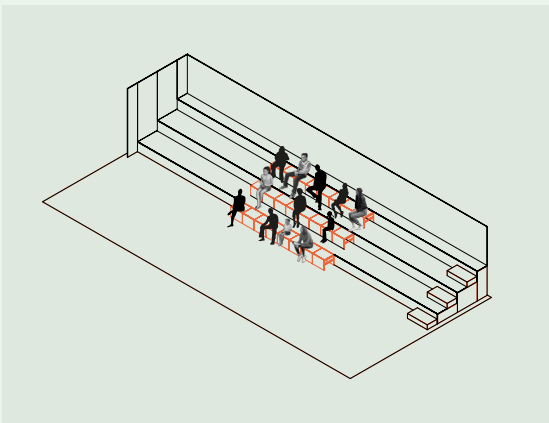
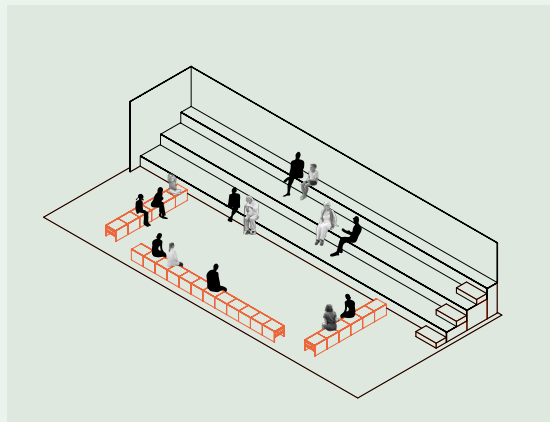
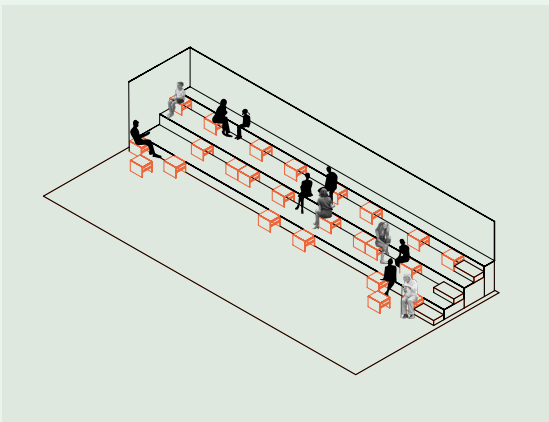


Teaching space for schools + cultural or religious institutions

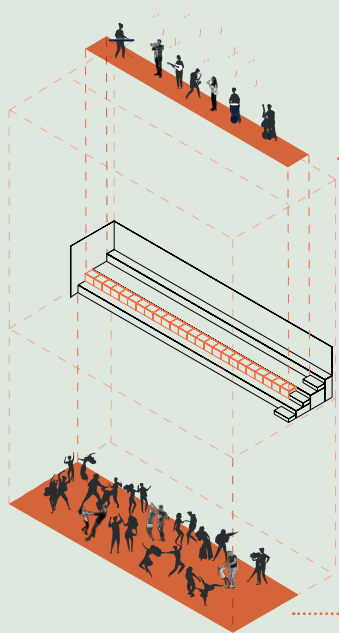
 defined space in shape of bleachers with space for 66 people sitting

 24 mobile stools

 > 40 qm free space



**spatial
arrangement**



When the max. amount of free space is needed the bleachers can convert into a stage.

1,20 x 11,28m

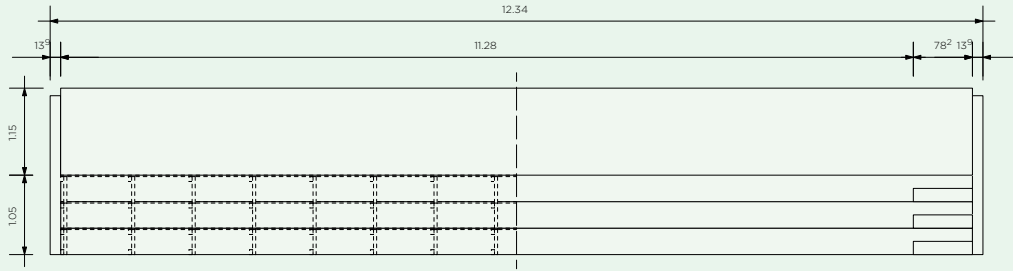
Another conceptual aspect for the auditorium was the importance of socialising within the community. The integration is a process of strengthening and building intercultural citizenship that aims to create alternative forms of sociability that are participatory and based on solidarity.

>40 m² max. free space

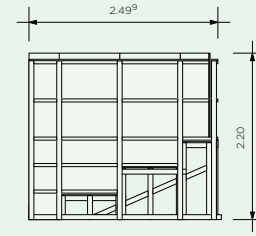
0,5 m² per person

80 PEOPLE

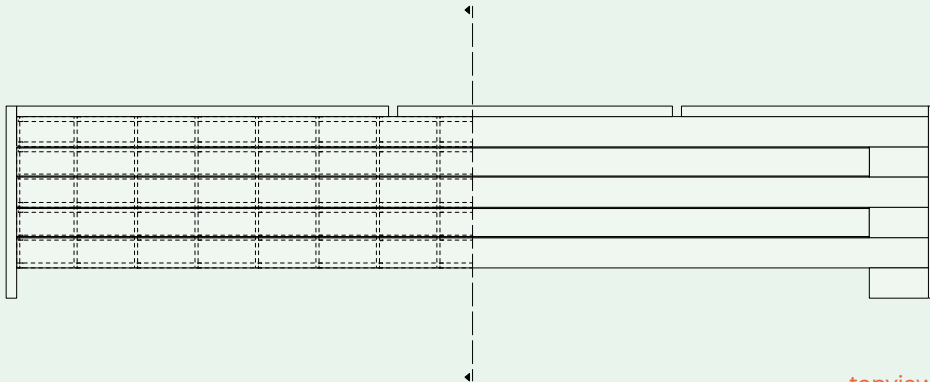




frontview



sideview

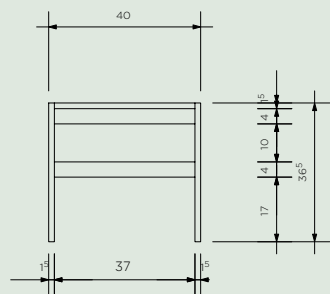
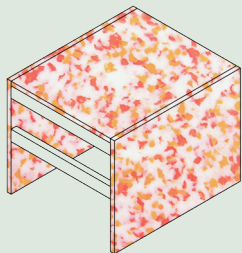


topview

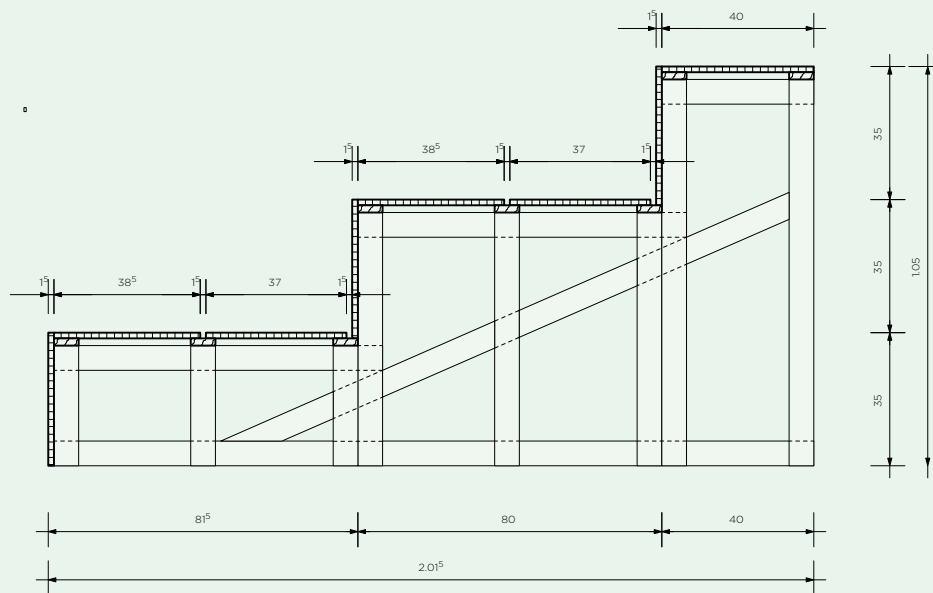
bleachers construction

three-plane projection

scale 1:100



The stool will be out of recycled plastic and reflects the colorful neighborhood of Altos del Pino.



stool

section

scale 1:20

1

Construction of the timber framework. Vertical battens have a distance of 80cm to one another.

2

The vertical battens of the framework indicate the position of the bleacher's scaffolding.

3

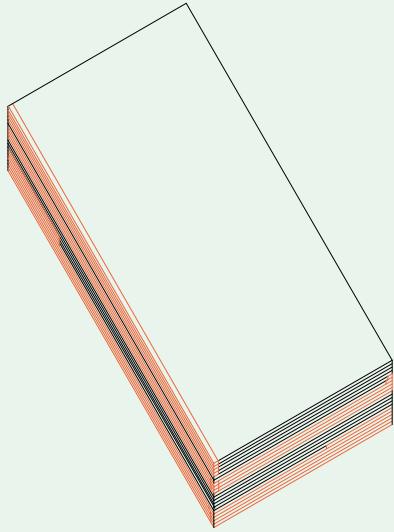
Horizontal battens give the scaffolding stability.

4

Attachment of the OSB cladding.

5

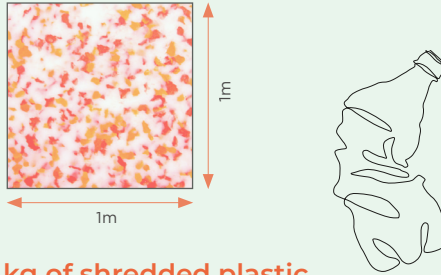
The steps are sewed to the OSB cladding.



19 OSB Panels

• 2440 x 1220 x 15 mm

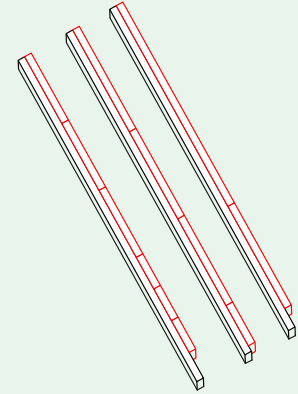
The bleachers and the wall panels will be cut out of 19 OSB Panels. OSB is used as it is a simple way to reduce the costs for the project. The choice of material was made taking into account durability, quality and economy.



216 kg of shredded plastic

• 18 x 1x1m²

The stools will be made out of shredded plastic that is compressed into 1x1m² sheets. As 3 sheets produce 4 stools, a total of 18 sheets will be needed for the current planning of 24 stools for the auditorio. The recycling of the plastic, the production of the sheets as well as the building of the stool itself will be executed through workshops by Projecto Escape where the community is invited to.



Timber structure

• 48 x 3200x41x65 mm

• 40 x 3200x19x65 mm

The construction was planned with timber in standard dimensions in order to save unnecessary costs on custom-made products.

material analysis



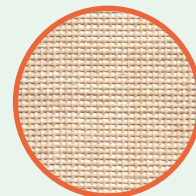
PRECIOUS PLASTIC

The Proyecto Escape Foundation has set its focus on sustainability. In the future they want to engage in the precious plastic community and create a workspace for the neighborhood. It can offer art workshops for schools with the aim to educate the community about plastic and its environmental consequences. The collecting and recycling of plastic also encourages the resident's participation in the project as it did in the past when the "Salón de Botellas" was built.



BUILDING WITH EARTH

Bahareque is a traditional way of building in Colombia. With the cooperation of the Observatorio Urbano + Habitat de la Universidad de La Salle there is a possibility of offering workshops for students on how to build with earth. As the Community members of Altos del Pino have a lot of knowledge about that topic, students and professionals can exchange their knowledge about Bioarchitecture and practice experience through the workshop.



WEAVING WITH JUNCO

Many residents of Altos del Pino migrated from districts of Colombia where weaving techniques are taught and passed down in families for decades. By offering workshops to the community, members have the chance to participate in the project by introducing innovation and new design to their neighborhood.

future workshops