REHABILITATION AFTER EARTHQUAKE

The catastrophic Wenchuan earthquake which hit Sichuan Province of China four months ago had thrown us into a profound reflection. While we can provide tents and other facilities to help the survivors pass through the period, how can we help them recover psychologically and re-establish the sense of security? While speed and scale have become the dominant demand of the temporary facilities, how can we avoid the waste of energy and resources in the transformation from the temporary to the permanent? Could we intertwine these two concerns and make them contribute to each other in the reconstruction?

The OPEN BUILDING is the extended field, no longer confined to a mere external flexibility of living space but extended to the basis of maintaining a friendly relationship of the neighborhood and bulidability in a more ecologically way, might effectively respond to these concerns. In this design, temporary residence is designed to be a solid capsule. In the later stage of constructing permanent buildings, these capsules are integrated so as to preserve the family memory during the unforgettable time.

The permanent building is divided into support and shell. Government constructs the support in a rapid way, while the shell contains all the permanent construction. These capsules can be constructed with local materials such as bamboo by the residents themselves. In this way, people will participate in the construction to satisfy the specific needs and answer the change of the family size of the survivors. The capsule can move along the individual apartment as well as along the track into the court. This enables the change of apartment space in the regular time and provide a gathering space in some special occasions. As a whole, the block acts as a support for the capsules.

The capsule can also be erected in such a way by moving along the track into the court, they offer the apartments space in the regular time and provide a gathering space in some special occasions such as memory day of the earthquake or some other festivities. As a whole, the block acts as a support for the capsules.