



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

Honors thesis

MASTER DEGREE COURSE IN ARCHITECTURE FOR
SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

Abstract

**“Welcoming beyond borders”. Design of temporary
accommodation facilities for migrants at the Port of
Augusta (SR)**

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by

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The thesis develops within a current context that links the theme of welcoming migrants to the figure of the architect: on one hand, the European (especially Italian) emergency to face migration flows, on the other hand architecture's commitment in frontier contexts, recently dealt with during the 15th Venice Architecture Biennale. In this thesis "borders" means both "boundary site" and "emergency site", a physical and real boundary that, for about two years, has been the first Italian port for number of migrants landed on its shores: the commercial port of Augusta.

During this work of thesis, our interest about the topic of reception in emergency contexts was fueled by the meetings with experts in this field, which made this project part of concrete, current and real problems, reaching an equally concrete and achievable goal. Offering a dignified welcome to minors, women and men fleeing from wars, persecutions and violence, is first of all a moral and social duty, along with which the architect offers his technical skills in responding to the primary needs of individual and ensuring quality of living even in critical situations. As architecture students, we wanted to exploit the acquired knowledge, dealing with an existing problem in a territory that is dear and close to us. The first part of the thesis is the result of a research and analysis about the issue of immigration from a political and managerial point of view, during which we redrafted the collected information in a few maps and sheets of immediate understanding, a necessary framing for the approach to the project. Through the survey and interviews with staff working in the area, we found that the port of Augusta needs an improvement in the organization of the routes and in the provision of facilities suitable for the safety, usability and well-being of migrants. The *Tube Shelters* project starts from the very first landing stage, where we have designed a shed system that will accompany migrants to the modules for health and identification checks. In order to ensure better social integration while at the same time ensuring the safety and privacy of users, separate dormitories for men, women, families and children have been designed, as well as open-air common areas equipped with a system of ribbon seats, covered trails, and a "square" with a coverage. We paid special attention to technological systems, ensuring performance related to thermo-hygrometric well-being and to economic and environmental sustainability, such as assembly and dismounting speed, cost-effectiveness and modularity of construction, reuse of waste processing, exploitation of solar energy and natural ventilation. In fact, the modules designed to accommodate dormitories, controls and free time activities have a structure of scaffolding tubes, prefabricated OSB and thermal insulation panels which, for ease of assembly, can be built into self-constructing. For this purpose, we have developed a manual illustrating the construction phases of a standard module, including times, quantity of material and tools needed. Finally, an approximate cost analysis confirmed the viability of the project even in economic terms. "Welcoming beyond borders", therefore, faces different concepts: border to cross, emergency to be faced, reception to offer decently and qualitatively. And this brings into play sustainability issues that find expression in this project: temporariness, use of local and renewable resources, reuse, innovation, self-building, social participation and cultural integration.



View of covered route in dorms area



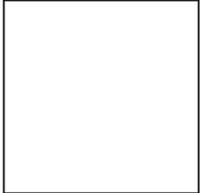
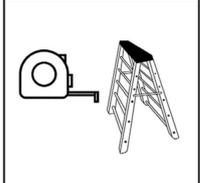
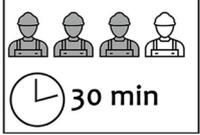
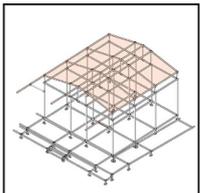
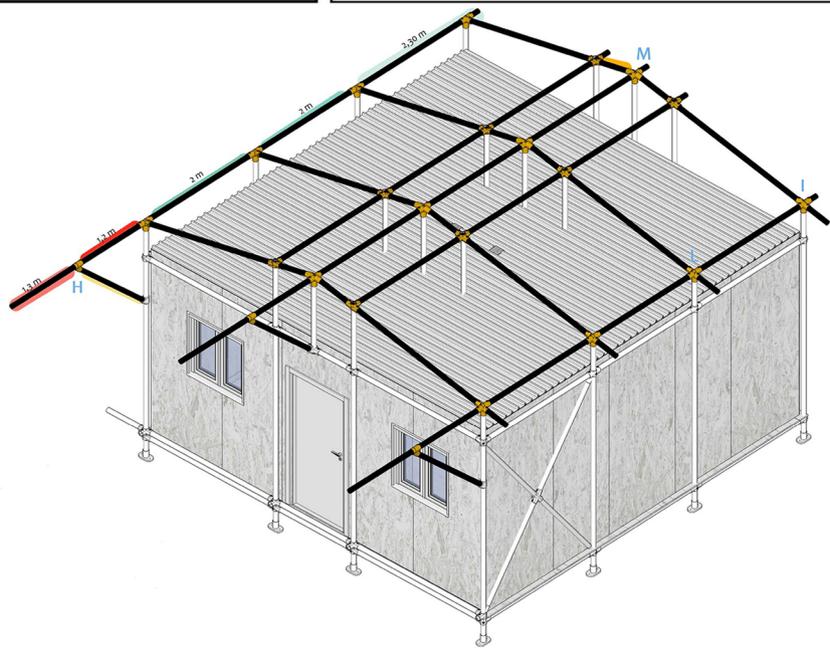
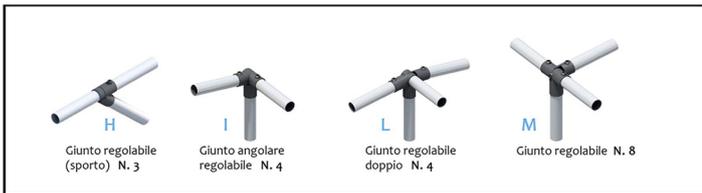
View of common areas

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TUBI INNOCENTI
 Metri lineari: 47 m

Numero pezzi

A x5	2,3 m	N x8	0,7 m
B x10	2 m	O x2	1,2 m
C x3	1,3 m		
M x3	1,2 m		



Type sheet of the self-constructing manual

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