

# SHELTER FOR PEOPLE AND PLANTS

## RENOVATION OF POST DISASTER SCHOOL IN PUERTO RICO

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Agriculture is a weak field for Puerto Rico, due to its colonial history, exposure to nature disaster, and contemporary economic trend. Now Puerto Rico faces declining agriculture and serious dependence on food import. This project propose a institution that merges education, planting, production, community participation, and disaster relief shelter together. This new model is a institution focuses on agriculture education and also production, business and culinary that relate to agriculture. It is also a center for agriculture professionals to exchange knowledge and experience. Its serves as a seedbank and seedling distribution center for people who want to adopt this model. It could serve as a business center for trading agricultural goods. The uniqueness of this place would allow this place to be a tourist attraction, people could come visit and experience it. Most importantly, while disaster happen this place could be a shelter for both people and plant.

The site situates in the inland of Puerto Rico, in a town called Aguas Buenas, where has less exposure to risks like flooding. Based on the survey of soil type and slope, although this are sits within a mountain area, it has very little risk for landsliding. Many school shut down after Hurricane maria due to many reasons. The existing school on the site is one of it, abandoned. The school's main volume sits southnorth direction on the top of a open lot, facing south. The entry of the school is on the north of the lot very close to Aguas Buenas' city plaza. The proposal propose to keep the existing school and build an extension on north side in northwest direction as a welcoming to the visitors close to the entry.

The plant type for this growing field would be coffee, plantain and vegetables that were all shown as top harvest in Aguas Buenas agriculture census. Research has shown planting coffee, plantain and some vegetable together would benefit each other's grow. Besides, chicken would be raised mobility on the site. Some of the food yield in this field would supply the kitchen in the institution and allow this place to be food secured during disaster period. Coffee and extra food would be processed in the factory part of this institution. The seedlings produced by these plants would be raised and kept safe in the green houses. It would work as a seedling distribution center for people who want to adopt this model in their own business or who lost their plants during the disaster and want to recover and restart.

Besides, the green house, factory, dining hall mentioned above, the program of this school also includes, an exhibition center showing the knowledge of growing the plants with a seed bank storing all kinds of seeds; classrooms, lecture room, business center, and multiscale accommodation.

It is a shelter for both human and plants that people could learn and grow with the plant they planted.













