Refugees, Resiliency, and Public Space

The BSA Syria Initiative

Monday December 12, 2016
The Syrian Refugee Crisis:

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 4.8 million Syrians have fled to Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq since the Syrian Civil War began five years ago. More than half are under the age of 18. The average stay of refugees is 17 years—an entire childhood. Global displacement has surpassed that witnessed in the wake of World War II, and children remain its most impacted victims.

80% of refugees in Lebanon live outside camps. Lebanese communities have been welcoming but this has put pressure on already stressed facilities and public resources.

What roles can design—and designers—play in the face of such overwhelming challenges? What is the agency of architects in establishing stability in these contexts? Can public space support family resiliency? How might this relate to challenges faced by Boston?

Bekaa Valley

Source: http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php
The Camp:

Source:
http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php
Day-To-Day:

Source:
http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php
Kids:

Source: http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php
The Site:

Source:
http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php
Partners:

Karamys Foundation

SAWA for Development & Aid

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