

## TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW

<b>SPEAKERS</b>	
Presenter:	Maggie Ma (MM)
Representatives:	Vicki McDonald (VM) Cameron Bruhn (CB)

UQ International Architecture Lecture Series with Maggie Ma

Auditorium, Level 2 State Library of Queensland  
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<p><b>Vicki McDonald</b></p>	<p>Gamba daru gamba ngange gia ngindu which is good evening, it's good to see you in Barunggam, which is the traditional language of the community that I grew up on the Darling Downs, and I guess you would have all seen the big billboard out the front which tells you that it's the International Year of Indigenous Languages, and here at the State Library we're using that as an opportunity to profile the significant work that we've done over the last decade to document, preserve and make accessible the traditional languages of Queensland. So good evening, my name is Vicki McDonald and on behalf of my colleagues here at State Library, I'm really pleased to welcome you here this evening for tonight's lecture. I'd like to begin by acknowledging the traditional owners of this land and pay respects to their ancestors who came before them. The State Library is of course located on Kurilpa Point which is a traditional meeting, gathering and sharing place for Aboriginal people and we proudly continue that tradition today, and every day of the year. And again, it's terrific to see so many people here for the UQ International Architecture Lecture Series. It speaks to the valuable role that State Library and the UQ School of Architecture have in promoting design and architecture as a profession throughout Queensland and beyond and we very much welcome our relationship with the School of Architecture, which is now in its eighth year. And so far this year we've worked with the School of Architecture to host two lectures, and I'm sure some of you were here for those, firstly Ana Luisa Soares of Fala Atelier and most recently Marta Pozo of MVRDV Asia. And both of these lectures, if you did miss them, can be viewed on State Library's Vimeo channel. At State Library our vision is to inspire possibilities through knowledge, stories and creativity, and I'm sure that you'll agree that these lectures very much promote and celebrate creativity. This evening I just want to talk to you briefly and remind you that as Queenslanders you have access to the Asia Pacific Design Library, and the Design Library is located on Level 2, just across there, and there you will find a curated collection of books and magazines. The collection's organised into five key categories, Public Places, Better Living, Communication, Design Thinking and Fashion. The books are available for loan, you just need to be a registered State Library of Queensland member. To join you can do that online or at the, one of the desks. Membership is free and once you're a member you can borrow books but also have access</p>
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	<p>to our electronic resources online, so I really do encourage you to become a member of State Library, and you would have seen some of our collections on display on the red men outside as you came in. So do take that opportunity, and as I said it is free. If you need to leave tonight's lecture early, can I ask that you leave through the back door, it'll make it easier because otherwise we get a bit of sound interruption through this front door here. But for now I'll hand over to Cameron, who will introduce tonight's special guest, Maggie Ma, but enjoy the evening. Thank you.</p>
<b>Cameron Bruhn</b>	<p>Thank you, Vicki. Good evening and welcome everyone. My name's Cameron Bruhn, I'm the Dean and Head of School at the UQ School of Architecture. I'd also like to respectfully acknowledge the Turrbal and the Jagera peoples, traditional owners of the land on which the University of Queensland and the State Library of Queensland conducts business. I'm very excited tonight to be presenting our second 2019 UQ International Architecture Lecture series, and I'd like to thank Vicki and the team at the State Library for their ongoing and fruitful collaboration to present these lectures. This year's series brings together forward thinking, global architects, bringing them to Brisbane to communicate their ideas, their knowledge, their strategies and their role within the international architecture community. This evening we're going to hear from Maggie Ma, Director of DOMAT Hong Kong. DOMAT is a not-for-profit architecture practice that works with communities and people who do not normally have access to the services of architects. It's my great pleasure to welcome Maggie. Would you please join me in welcoming her to the stage.</p>
<b>Maggie Ma</b>	<p>Good evening everyone, thank you, thank you for the University of Queensland and Cameron and Sylvia and Sarah-Jane to invite me here. Excuse me for reading today because I don't want to miss any points. I'm Maggie, I'm an architect from Hong Kong. Today I'm going to show, share some of our experience of how I set up my practice and a couple of our projects. When I studied in the Chinese University of Hong Kong, I was taught one image about architecture which give me a strong impression, this is a mother creating a shelter for her child, it show that architecture is out of love and care for the user. It also shows that architecture is an instinctive act, it doesn't need to be very expensive. So after I graduated I started</p>

working in offices of different scales and I learnt about professional control through practical experience. One experience was working with residential high-rise, I found myself work with highly professional people and consultants and where we achieve a good control in building quality, the budget and construction time. So I started to be familiar with building regulations which control buildings, developments, and it is a process of getting registered as architects as well. For example, we need to be able to understand thoroughly the building regulations in order to maximise the gross floor area for the clients. But gradually I also found that my design work was focused on how to make the building efficient and time and cost effective, and also how to make maximum profit I slowly become finding something missing in the process and the design that I do I find it quite homogenous and not much innovation. So what I was able to involve in commercial design were limited to how to dress up the façade to make it look attractive, while the layout inside is basically very similar, and designs become a focus on the visual decorative appearance instead of having any form, typology or design, designing for user consideration. I still have a very strong belief that design is more interesting when we can engage different stakeholders with different aspects and which we could design for community and shape the, so that we can shape the physical form of the building in response to their need. So I look for works with more humanitarian focus and I work, start working in Rural Urban Framework, a small research group in University of Hong Kong, which work in rural China villages. Then I was open to different opportunity for working in architecture for rural communities and give me new insight in community projects. This is (unintelligible – (ui)) Hospital, one of the project that I worked in. It was a charitable hospital that provides services to the surrounding villages. The building was designed with ramp incorporated to run through the whole building so that's it provide disabled access throughout the upper floor of the building and also become a form of the, become a dominating form for the whole building to help the daily operations. The lift is not considered, it's not used, because of the difficulties in maintenance in the area and we tried to apply local materials and local craftsmanship for making this building. This is another project that I worked on in Rural Urban Framework, it's the house for season, for all season. It was a sustainable farmhouse prototype using

local bricks and mud bricks material, trying to make a permeable façade and also provide courtyard space to bring interior scene into the exterior, exterior scene into the interior. It was incorporated with sustainable system including like bio-gas for cooking and underbed heating. So as a demonstration house, it works with the local women federation as a community, as a community centre, so it's trying to aim at continuing support for the local culture, and this is a picture of its opening. However, when, this is the building condition after four years. The building has been broken and abandoned and I find that being experimental is not quite enough for these kind of projects, I think we need to have a long term consideration, not only in terms of the buildings, materials and construction method, but also in terms of the collaboration with the local operator and collaborators to find, to allow for soft program. So this is an important learning experience for me. So as mentioned from my previous commercial experience, I find my career after school primarily focused on working for society with greater means. However, people with less economic capital in the society could have greater benefits from our professional input. So in school education we also learn that we could design for the user and with different stakeholders in mind but, so after working in Rural Urban Framework, I start to wonder whether we can work with this portion of the society as a professional full time consultant, outside an academic institution. So there are different types of architects in professional field in Hong Kong, some specialise in different building design, for example, shopping mall or commercial or hospital design. We just start to wonder whether we could expand the proportion of social architect in working to benefit of the underprivileged communities. So in 2003 my partner, Mark Kingsley, and I set up DOMAT, it is a not-for-profit practice so different from normal architectural practice. What we earn from the company is not owned by us, but different from a charity set-up, we charge for our service in order to work as a full role of professional consultants. We work in different contexts, in rural area in China architecture facility is in need and charities in Hong Kong usually donate funding to support these areas but often they do not involved architects in the projects. School buildings were often standardised copy provided by the local design institute. They have little variation according to the site context and the local people. So some of the

rural villages are in risk of rapid urbanisation. There are more and more attention to how the relationship develop. The villages in China are adapting to a normal, a modern principle and I think industrialisation of villages is an inevitable trend. So there are more and more ideas coming from outside influencing the village developments. So this is some of the context that we work in. And traditionally charities from outside work together with local government to manage the fund and the project would be not monitored by local design institute in China, which is the local architects in China. However, the local design institute may pay very low attention to the rural projects because of the distance and because of the efficiency. We are also interested to control the building quality, the budgets and time of the construction in the charity projects. So now I will share a project in, that we worked in rural area in (ui). And at first a charity in Hong Kong invited us to this project when they have, where they have been working in this area since 2006. To facil-, they worked in this area to facilitate the education in this area, they have made, built a school building with a dormitory, and its location is on the top, right hand corner. You can see the school, school and dormitory complex in here. So this is also an example of external forces from urban donor which pushes the village to provide massive schooling as a way for the village to adapt to industrialised education, which is close to what we used to, what we are doing in the city. In the, the school provide education for about 200 students and, which is including seven different villages around the area where most of them actually stay in the school dormitory. So this is a scene that they assemble before walking back to their home village for holidays. Our involvement is actually a second phase for further modernisation. The donor noticed that the, the sanitation condition in the school was not good enough and the children did not have a good habit of showering and cleaning themselves. We were commissioned to design the new sanitary facilities to enhance the student's hygiene development. The existing, this is the existing condition of the toilets, was designed as a standard design from the local design institute, and we observed that the children actually bypassed the sink after they go to the toilet because of the location and go straight to the playground. So the shower facility was also poorly installed and was dark and cold in area, unwelcoming for the children who shower at night time. So

as a result the children rarely used this facility and was, have quite poor hygiene standard. So our imagination was to create a new space for the children to love to stay around so that we can, they can build a better hygiene standard. We also imagined that they can have a steamy bathroom so that a comfortable environment would attract the children to use the facility more at night and attract them to wash their hands. Also we would like to input sustainable systems, features in the project that make the building long-lasting. So these are typical example of how an architect we can bring external ideas to the village. We also wanted the village to find architecture useful so we kind of want to stand in their shoes. We tried to adapt ourselves into the village in work-, working approach so that we could learn from their custom to help inspire the design. So in some case, we lower our standard yet we don't want to lose the balance in creating new architecture. We believe that we need to take an empathetic approach in engaging, in village works. On site we research on local construction technique so that we tried to understand a familiar way of working and we want to use the technique that they understand to build up something new so that they, we want to make sure when we leave they are able to maintain the building themselves. From talking to people, we find that the village has a tradition of making grey bricks and we learnt that the village made their own grey bricks for all the houses. With the clerk of work that understand our intention and what we want to look for so we find some leftover grey bricks from the villages. So this is a place, this is the place where we find the grey bricks for our building. This is a family who live nearby the school and raising goats as their daily activity and also doing farming as their daily activities. So as an architect from the city we understand about strict requirement of site safety, but in a village environment we need to kind of adapt ourselves to another mode of working. There are so many wrong things in this photo, like most people don't wear a helmet and there's lack of protection near the cliff and there's children on the site, which is actually the principal's son. This is a, this is kind of a difficult situation for our idea of safety. So we, in the studio we also design through models, trying to study the form and space suitable for the site environment, and we also use the model as a communication tools onsite with the local and the children, they like the model very much and, but they're kind of scared to touch it because

it's so delicate so it's also interesting a reaction from the local. So this is the final design. We have taken several considerations to make sure the building will work for the context and habit of the locals. So when introducing sustainable design we take consideration of how much the villagers can manage. We use low (ui) system like the solar water heater which we can see everywhere in China, south facing window for absorbing the warm temperature into the building during the day, and we used a solar chimney which draw air from the toilet up from, for (ui) while the building, so the building can ventilate, ventilate the toilet through this and also the building can be ventilated through just simple cross-ventilations. So we also understand that cleaning may not be a common, very often in rural area, so we want to reach the shower water from the level above and trying to reach it to drain, drain the water through the urinal for, to give additional flushing for the toilet underneath. And we tried to create user-friendly spaces so that a user could adapt to architecture. I think (ui) space is empathetical, that we share the same language. To improve the awareness of hygiene, we bring the sink to focus in the design, locating it directly outside the toilet. So this, that's become a gathering space that the children could, would unlikely to bypass it. In this way we hope to bring behaviour change to people in the long run. We also bring sky, provide sky lights to provide natural lighting to the area and further focus to the sink location. And seating by the window allow children to just rest and take off their shoes as a ceremonial gesture before entering the bathroom. We want to make a nice space and colourful and fun for children so that they could easily adapt to it. And we make the entrance, want to make the entrance interesting with welcoming steps for children to run through and allow seating under the (ui) to make a community gathering space around the building. So I believe that adaptation of the village is two-way process, in order for the village to adapt to our design, we also need to adapt to their condition. So allow the design to share common language with the villagers. And in the process of working on this village project, I believe that we continue to learn and enrich our knowledge and continue to experiment with empathy to achieve a suitable design for the village development. So now I will show you a very different context that we work on, which is in Hong Kong, and unlike the previous projects, which we are quite distance and remote from our home town, this



is, this is, this project is in our home town and we are subject to much more immediate, direct comment and much more personal. So in Hong Kong we are living in an urban area with densely packed skyscrapers which make a beautiful scene as a tourist attraction. High land price and free market system helps to contribute to this scene by creating taller and taller building with competitive look. But behind this beautiful skyline this system also generates other problem in housing. Hong Kong is highly reported as the most unaffordable city in the world to live, so behind the apparent luxury new developments, in the housing market has been focusing selling and designing for investment purpose. So the new private building developments are all branded as luxury developments with not much choice of a lower price range for private apartment available in the market. So old area are getting increasingly gentrified, low income communities actually have narrower and narrower choice to survive. According to the latest statistic in demographia, international housing affordability survey, Hong Kong has been said to be the number one unaffordable city to live in the world for the last eight years. So compared with number two in Sydney, our unaffordability is almost double. The data means that on average we need to work, earn our income, annual income for 21 years before, not spending any money in food or living in order to buy a flat for us. So to give you a spatial idea, this is a comparison of our area that we could buy with the same amount of money between Hong Kong and Melbourne. Because the housing price, housing market is continue to rise but there are strong demand for lower priced units, the developer start to sell shoebox size houses. However, although the price is lower, the cost per square metre is even more expensive. For example, in this new studio flat unit selling in 2018, the area is 16 square metres, the cost is over half a million Australian dollars. And as a comparison for typical carpark space in Hong Kong of 12.5 square metres, the flat is just barely larger, so, but yet you still have a big balcony because kind of the regulation tweaked to earn more area for the developer. So some people may be willing to pay for this, but is it reasonable value and reasonable quality for living space. And how about those people who cannot afford. In Hong Kong one in five people are living under poverty and in which one in five people are children. So although approximately 30% of the population live in subsidised rental housing, public

housing, the provision of public rental housing has been in a shortage for, in relation to the demand for the last decades. There are strong demand for affordable private rental housing for lower income people who is either waiting or ineligible for public housing. So subdivide homes started appearing in the city as a direct response to the laissez faire housing markets and its demand. Maybe you have seen this image somewhere on the newspaper before. It is unlikely for big spaces to rent out due to their high rent. As a result, landlord started taking existing apartment and try to subdivide it into two or more smaller units to rent out to separate households. There are three times more units produced in the market by this manner. Besides easier to rent out, landlord could also earn more per square metre for smaller units. This is a case that we work on before. We found an original plan of the old tenement building which was built in the 1960s. With two families on each floor, the area is about 70 square metre. The space is probably reasonable for three to four families to, family member to live, and could be divided into make one to two bedroom units. This is the condition now in, when we worked on one of the household, the unit was divided into eight different units for eight different households. The family we worked on was with a father and a son living in this tiny unit. Individual toilets and kitchens were added to the original plan. This is also increasing the load of the building. But only five years ago the buildings department started to try to control these renovations by introducing minor work submission system and most of the subdivided units which were done before were not regulated. So it's hard to believe that the city seems to be progressing but while the condition of living for some people is 10 times smaller. The space per person living in subdivided units is around five square metres which compare to Hong Kong average household and we tried to compare the area with Beijing in China. So these living conditions are largely invisible in public eyes, since a subdivided apartment doesn't affect the appearance of the building façade. It's almost impossible to tell whether the apartment in the building have been subdivided just by looking at them on the street and making this phenomenon very easy to ignore. This is how tight the space inside is, the average units that we work on are 11 square metres, smaller than a carpark space that I showed you before. The area actually includes, this area include kitchen and toilet. And kitchen

is usually inside the toilet, which make another hygienic problem. We often find the living conditions very chaotic with a lot of stuff in the house and lack of organisation. This is worse with the low income family because they may be working on two jobs to supplement their incomes and they do not have time, or they may have a psychological habit of keeping things or collecting things and worrying that they could not afford to buy the next day. So one of the worst conditions that we worked in, the father was an electrician and trying to collect things for mending to supplement his income. He has a four year old daughter and as you can see it's not a very good environment for children, and not even to say any study, good study environment for them. So the unit when we study it, tried to study in the perspective of architecture and we tried to look at the units architecturally by researching, it's actually they are not designed for the perspective of good habitation and decency, but instead they focus on the profit over per square metre. So we did measure drawing, tried to understand the environment and study habitation of people in the unit. This is a sketch, this is a study elevation that we do, that you can see a typical way of how the family accumulates stuff on the floor. And the furniture of the low income family is often second hand and they may not be suitable for tight space, they can be too big for the unit and could not be stacked up to help organisation. So there are empty space on the upper area of the house which are not utilised, as you can see here. As this unit usually situated in the old tenement building actually the ceiling heights is higher than modern new building. So in some cases the units is in extreme shapes, making it very difficult for the family to inhabit. This is a long house with a kitchen and bathroom in the middle, this is the entrance and big walk through the corridor. Toilet is here and the kitchen is kind of together. The bed is at the end, so basically there's no separation, no separation between the rooms and actually it's one long corridor just going to the bed. We also studied the daily routine and circulation of the family to see how they can adjust to live in a space in different time of the day. So this is the situation that exists today and we wonder what we can do about it as architects. So in 2003, 13, an NGO approach us to ask our opinion about what we can about the condition. So they took us to visit several different households. As designer we may be tempted to do a makeover renovation for the interior space to make the environment nicer, however we

are also aware that the beneficiary of the enhancement work should be for the family living there themselves, but not the landlord. So making a renovation and subsequently increasing the value of the room may risk that the landlord may increase the rent and eventually force the family out. So this developed into an idea of using furniture as a special tools to improve the living environment. So by limiting the modification of the home to design our furniture we hope that the benefit of the project remain with the family and even if they move to a new house, another subdivided unit or eventually public housing, they can reuse the furniture and, to keep the benefits. So the project aim actually exists to make the environment more conducive to learning so that in a longer run the child could study, the children could study better in, for this low income family and they can get a better job, try to escape from the poverty cycle. So with the appropriate furniture we can provide a means for better organisation for the house, as well as providing dedicated study area for the children. The furniture design, we focus on simplicity, durability and adaptability. So the design is primarily modular units with size that fits the scale of the small house, allowing for personalisation with different options and combinations. So when the furniture is stacked, the furniture tried to maximise the high area of the living units and try to free up space in the lower area. The middle unit, we tried to make it smaller so that the people have more space to move around. At the same time, the modulisation we can provide a basic visual alignment to make a tidier space, interior environment. So there are different types of furniture that we provide, mainly space for children to study and also we provide unit for general storage so that they can push the storage upwards and try to also introduce flexible units in order to fit to every house. The material we use are locally available plywood with clear finish, we want to expose the honest finish of the material so that it's simple for the user to understand and modify the material themselves. So this is a finished case. We want to create an organised environment with a dedicated area of study for the children, we don't want them to share their table with a dining table. So in working in the layout of the unit, we work with the family's existing furniture as well and we try to provide a clear (ui) for cooking, living, dining and studying, different activities. So going to show this case as an example for family that we worked in. This is a family of three living in about a 10

square metre unit. Although the shape of house is regular, the interior is very chaotic. This is the entrance of the house, they enter and the toilet and kitchen again is basically together. There is a small division of the living space and this is their bedroom. So when we visited the family, the environment was very messy, the, you can see clothes are hanging everywhere in the house. Along the bedroom (ui) the living room and there are many junks that they keep so that the upper bunk bedroom is actually used for collection of stuff, which the family rarely access. So our design, our design aimed to provide an organised environment and free up the bed space for sleeping and to recreate a space for the child to study. We provided, in the living room we provided some upper storage shelf for organising their storage, provide them with the door so that a lot of the mess may be hidden. We also tried to utilise the existing computer table here, originally, originally it is not in use because they accumulated stuff there, so we kind of, we configured the house like up with the existing furniture, and also provide a study desk on the other side. So this is the bed, the upper bunk bed before and after the modification. The family has raised their own incentive to make their home nicer, you can see that in a cleared upper bed space with the happy child. They actually put up a lot of marine theme sticker to make it like underwater environment for his son to, for their son to live. We provide a study desk for the child here, but the family also take their own initiative to buy their own wardrobe, just a simple flexible shelf for themselves to tidy up their clothes, so making the bedroom much more tidy. The son loves his desk and take a strong ownership. We hope that it can help him to build up a habit of tidying. So he has organised his desk in a very specific way. His mother told us that actually he won't allow anyone to mess up his table, he would just jump out from the upper bunk bed to tidy it, tidy it if it's messy. So in the study table we actually designed a secret drawer for the children. We hope that although they are living in a small space, they still have their own privacy. I think it's important that we are not just giving people the design but also want to give them an inspiration and through using our design to change their habit and attitude in living. Hope that they can become more organised and have more care about their living environment. So today we have worked on over 150 families now living in this kind of housing. There's now another NGO using similar models to

improve the housing situation condition and we are glad to see that there's more groups and volunteers doing the same to benefit more people. So indeed our effort is very small compared to 80,000 subdivided units in Hong Kong, our help is only cover less than 0.1% for those in need. So it's important to raise the awareness but we wonder what else we can do. So based on our experience of working in the subdivided units, we wonder how we could apply our knowledge to go beyond those to provide better standard of living to affordable housing. So in recent years, the Hong Kong government has opened the opportunity for NGO to act as operator for social housing. They are transitional housing providing accommodation for low income families for short term relief, and we study several types of these buildings. This, this is one type, this is a renovated building from an abandoned building that the government has taken possession. It's a formal textile factory, staff quarters building, located in the suburbs. So in addition to providing homes to, which the resident can enjoy better environments, the project also provides supporting activities for children and working family in the neighbourhood. So in old urban area, some of the building were acquired for urban renewal by the developers. So this is another type of housing that the NGO collaborate with developer to provide social housing while the land was still waiting for redevelopment. Some of these buildings were compulsorily purchased by the developer after they have acquired 80% of the ownership. So there are several drawbacks, actually several drawbacks to this scheme. Firstly, this type of housing is in generally a poor condition and the NGO need to engage surveyor to choose which units, which is cost-effective to renovate, which results in a low occupancy after the development. Also, the developer only open for the NGO to use for about three years and it usually result in a very rushed renovation by the contractor without architect's input and planning. So the period for occupancy is also very short and we wonder whether this, these are worth to spend the money in this way. A third type of housing are private properties that are rented to NGO by individual landlords. So the context could be very similar to the subdivided units that I shared before. As these are private properties, the NGO has much more choice in the selection. And we worked on one of these units. So in this type of housing, the NGO can negotiate for longer period of lease, for example five to 10 years, with a

fixed and reasonable rent over the period. The renovation cost is subsidised by the government so we can provide incentive for the landlord to join the scheme. To satisfy a large number of beneficiaries, the house was divided to share between the two families. So this is the original condition of the house which was divided to four units before in the old days. And when we start to work on these projects, we wonder how we could design a unit so it will not become another kind of, another subdivided unit that we mentioned. So we tried to cut the plan horizontally and vertically, tried to give the different layout and tried to equal, provide equal lighting and ventilation to each units, and also tried to study the shared space and the private space. So the traditional way of splitting the units will provide a clear separation between the private and public space, but we propose to use an operable partition for the units so that a family can choose their openness. For this fixed provision, we provide separate toilets for them so the house, the house entrance is actually here, we provide two separate toilets for the family because we understand that actually everyone will only likes to be responsible for their own toilet. The hygiene condition will be better if they are responsible for their own. They have a shared kitchen. And this is the most private area which we put the bed in this location, away from the window on this side. There are potential shared space, shared living space in here. So by using the operable partition marked in yellow, the user is able to change the layout in the house after they move in, because we understand that living together for low income families is never easy habit. So this area will provide maximum privacy by closing all the partitions so one family will use this house and one family will use this side, and they have shared kitchen and toilets. As this also provide with individual lock to access their homes. So if the family could get along with each other, they could choose to share their living room to enjoy a bigger living space and they may get a bigger dining table to eat, to have dinner together, like the area in here. So this is a version of even more shared space when they can share the balcony space for their children to play together as well. So there are two, these are the two families who moved into the units. At the beginning both families said they will both open the partitions to share the living room space and after a few weeks one family expressed that they would like to close the space for more rooms to themselves, so while the

	<p>other remain open. We think it's important and respectful to give the family their own choice and do not try to force them to co-live together. So this is the end of the project I'm sharing today and I believe this, that the housing problem actually cannot be solved just by our design alone. So what we have been doing is trying to provide some relief to the family living in inadequate housing. So in the scale of the problem what we are doing actually quite small, but we believe that we need to explore more options for how housing problem can be improved. We also believe that different professions should work together, such as social worker trying to advocate on behalf of the low income family and also some bigger change need to be come from the government in terms of the policies. We hope that what we are doing can make a contribution to this. So to end, I would like to share a video, which summarises and shows the process of the home modification project from the family perspective. ( plays video).</p>
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