INTRODUCTION

One of the key issues caused by natural disasters is the loss of housing and the need for temporary shelters. This is a vast subject, and numerous solutions have been proposed for temporary shelter, driven largely by environmental concerns. While tented environments are the most prevalent, these unfortunately do not last beyond a reasonable time frame, disrupting family life. Better solutions are needed within stringent economic constraints that allow for more privacy. While there are political causes for migrating populations these are not predictable. Natural hazards can be anticipated by the government, which can in turn plan for their circumvention and mitigation. After catastrophic events like hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, the Sri Lanka tsunami ten years ago or the recent Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, the consequences of vulnerability are being felt more than ever. These solutions have spurred teams of professionals to propose safer solutions. Two examples are shown briefly in this short article, with further references to other proposals by category of risk.

TSUNAMI-FARE®

LIGHT CONSTRUCTION

The platform of the house is raised above the ground on stilts using concrete base is hollow giving an open facade that can be lowered during an incoming tsunami.

The structure comprised of lightweight wood and the house as it rises during a flood. The platform of the house is raised above the ground on stilts using concrete base is hollow giving an open facade that can be lowered during an incoming tsunami.

The Prajnopaya Foundation built the 400 sq ft house prototype. The designs shown have been tested more by cultural traditions, and most importantly the economic conditions, cultural norms, house traditions, and most importantly the economic constraints. Political will ultimately is a major determining factor in setting standards for building, for the use of land and requires some investment to ensure environmentally safer communities.

CONCLUSION

Context plays a large role in determining the design of a safer house starting with environmental conditions. cultural norms, house traditions, and most importantly the economic constraints. Political will ultimately is a major determining factor in setting standards for building, for the use of land and requires some investment to ensure environmentally safer communities.

available at www.thesustainablearchitecture.com for "Make it Right Foundation" Kieran Timberlake Architects. The designs shown are speculative, one off or in limited production. The designs shown are speculative, one off or in limited production. The designs shown are speculative, one off or in limited production. The designs shown are speculative, one off or in limited production.

The Tsunami Float House was designed with one purpose to investigate the development of technological strategies to ensure environmentally safer communities.
By anticipating the forces of nature and by designing for safety and security, housing becomes less vulnerable to environmental hazards.

**COLOMBO**

COORDINATES:
6°55'00.01"N 79°49'59.99"E
Area (metropolitan): 14.4 sq mi
Population (metropolitan): 752,993
Density: 44,920/sq mi

**NEW ORLEANS**

COORDINATES:
40°50'N 14°15'E
Area (metropolitan): 3,755.2 sq mi
Population (metropolitan): 1,167,764
Density: 1,965/sq mi

Thousands of people were proposed to be relocated by the Sri Lanka Public Security Ministry after the 2004 Tsunami.