









All images are taken in San Pablo LaLaguna in the past few months.
They aim to show different aspects of the beautiful Earthen Heritage of the town.

San Pablo lies on the highlands of the Lake Atitlan in Solola, Guatemala.



HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT OF SAN PABLO LA LAGUNA, GUATEMALA SARA LUIZA KOLATA, TRIBE LAB

Project's mission is to preserve ways of building of the Tz'utujil Mayan people though providing socially, ecologically and economically conscious inclusive architectural design.

With the Housing Redevelopment Project we aim to build 20 houses for over 180 occupants. All houses will be built using vernacular techniques of Tz'utujil Mayan people from San Pablo La Laguna.

Our team consists of a Polish Architect, one indigenous founder from San Pablo La Laguna, 20 local Tz'utujil natural builders and a local Education Partner (Return to the Forest) all sharing one vision of community empowerment though building and education.

We plan to implement our project utilizing participatory methods in all aspects of the project development: design, material sourcing, manufacturing and construction. By an incorporation of volunteering programs we will open our project into participation of students from various university programs, including design students as well as other travellers and building enthusiasts who are willing to learn about ways of building of the Mayan people though hands on experiences in the field. Such program will enable culture exchange and help with managing the labour costs of construction.

Our Housing Redevelopment project expands into implementation of sustainable energy sources though collaboration with another local NGO: ATC and a permaculture program. With our education, volunteering and construction program we plan to tackle such pressing issues as improper housing, lack of water and electricity, lack of sanitary amenities, social decomposition, economic struggle, malnutrition, gender inequality and economic dependence on scarce governmental investments.

