

# LIFEHOUSE EARTHQUAKE SURVIVAL KIT

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**IN THIS PROJECT WE TACKLE THE PROBLEM WITH FORCED DISPLACEMENT DUE TO EARTHQUAKES. OUR FOCUS WAS TO ENABLE INDIVIDUALS TO TAKE PREPAREDNESS MEASURES TO MITIGATE THE NEED FOR EXTERNAL AID IN DISASTROUS EVENTS, TO RELIEF RESCUE WORK AS WELL AS RAISING AWARENESS OF RISK.**

Displaced: moved or put out of the usual or proper place. Human displacement is when people are forced to leave their homes or place of habitual residence. In 2014 more than 88 million people were displaced worldwide due to armed conflicts or natural disasters. As the world's population grows larger, people become more vulnerable to the risk of being displaced.

The project was initiated by Makers With Agendas, a design studio in Copenhagen. Their initial brief was to tackle the problems with forced displacement.

Our research made us realise that earthquake preparedness and risk reduction is considered a matter for governments, NGOs and is seldom articulated as a matter of the individual. A problem that might occur with this mindset is that victims of disaster are left clueless until help arrives. We see a possibility to, as an addition to the regular aid systems, to encourage and enable people to take preparedness measures on their own without obstructing standardised aid systems.

To cover earthquake aid scenarios the solution needed to address a continuous time line starting with preparedness before an event occurs. Our proposition is individual and not dependent on external organisations or government to deliver aid when needed. It is already in the hand of the user before an earthquake occurs and enables the user to self-help in a critical situation when forced to evacuate the home.

Lifehouse is an earthquake survival kit. Containing everything you need when forced to evacuate in an earthquake. The kit is an unobtrusive solution for the home environment and the prepared individual.

The backpack is the mainframe of the kit and allows free movement. A hidden compartment ensures that the user can store and bring personal belongings. It is top-loaded and compartmentalised to ensure that the weight is distributed evenly, equipped with a detachable flashlight on the shoulder strap that helps the user to navigate in case of a blackout. A radio provides emergency information on where to move for safety. The reflecting poncho protects from the climate, whether it is gazing sun, rain or wind. Padded with ultra light thermal insulation it can transform into a sleeping bag for one person or a blanket for two. The shelter is suited for the scenario of earthquake displacement and the need for movability. It is as easy to set-up as to take down. It provides protection from the climate and offers a private space. The shelter is optimised for one but can cater for two persons. The self-inflating balloon is used to signal position and need for help. The kit comes with rationed food and water for the first 72 hours. The first aid kit is divided in packages corresponding to needs for different cases of aid. This is to make it easier to find what is needed, especially in a stressful situation.



