LIVING IN - BETWEEN

- A COMMUNITY WITH FOUR LAYERS OF SPACE DESIGNED IN THE CENTER OF MERKATO, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

GLOBAL HOUSING STUDIO
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SITE EXISTING SITUATION

Markets: the most intense commercial center in Addis Ababa

An exceptional place in Merkato where the grid road system introduced by Italian during the colony period ends.

SITE EXISTING SITUATION

Due to high density, the site is under enormous pressure. With such a high pressure around the site, even when zoom out, there is little decompressing moment there.

URBAN DESIGN

On the west side of the site is the existing "production+living" pattern and the closer to the site the more production activities would happen.

The border of the ground floor is designed to articulate both sides of the Merkato with several front commercial streets and back production alleys.

The commercial spaces are designed to have a direct link with the satellite roads which creates a continuity of the public space.

With the ground floor mainly functional as collective (for production) and public (for commerce) spaces, the residential volumes on the top realize a more private space.

A series of lifted platforms are designed to negotiate with the topography. The morphology of the platforms is to encourage the continuity of the landscape from central to surrounding.

SITE CHALLENGES

Besides the high density, the site is under enormous pressure.

With such a high pressure around the site, even when zoom out, there is little decompressing moment there.

SITE ANALYSIS

SITE FEATURES

1. The site is somewhere near marketo and works as an existing "production+living" pattern in Addis

2. The grid road system introduced by Italian during the colony period ends.

FUNCTIONAL ZONES

commercial area
production zone
residential area

SITE ANALYSIS

URBAN DESIGN
landscape continuity

VIEW A

VIEW B
A comparison between the space of commercial street and production alley.