

# Architecture for good

Help Article 25 design and build schools and hospitals where they're needed most

The 2010 Haiti earthquake affected hundreds of thousands of lives and livelihoods. Just one example of the impact the devastation had during this national crisis was at the Boisrond Tonnerre School, in Port-au-Prince, which was reduced to rubble in a matter of seconds.

The life-threatening danger posed by earthquakes can be mitigated substantially through design and construction. Well-designed buildings with seismically resistant construction can create safe spaces for people to live, learn and play.

At Article 25, we are driven by the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights – that everyone has the right to adequate, dignified shelter. As humanitarian architects, we are proud proactive signatories to the UN's Compact, and we frame our work within the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. We design and build schools, hospitals and homes where they are needed most.

Our efforts bring us into the communities we support in low-resource settings, who are often recovering from disasters and conflict, and face some of the most complex and deep-seated poverty challenges on the planet today.



Article 25's seismically resistant and climatically responsive design proposals

By working collaboratively, Article 25 uses the construction process for social good too. We bring together skilled and unskilled workers, and can influence contracts to ensure women are an integral part of the workforce. By doing so we can double and sometimes treble the earnings of those who gain a new trade, and they take a lasting legacy that helps their families beyond our initial project.

Back to the school in Haiti, and we are very proud to announce that the school we designed and built reopened on the same site last September. The children can now enjoy an inspiring space to learn and play, safe in the knowledge that these buildings have been designed to resist an earthquake of the same magnitude as that in 2010. We worked in partnership with Outreach International, the local community in Port-au-Prince, and with the pro bono support of engineers Buro Happold and Max Fordham, to make this drawing board dream a powerful reality for these children. ■

**This is a clarion call to all funders and prospective partners working to tackle the challenges set by the UN through the Sustainable Development Goals. Work with us to support vulnerable communities so that they become resilient, thriving communities. Together we can make design matter. Please get in touch: [info@article-25.org](mailto:info@article-25.org). [www.article-25.org](http://www.article-25.org) or +44 (0)203 197 9800.**

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**Article 25**  
Humanitarian Architecture



Before and after: The school was devastated by the 2010 earthquake. Students enjoy their new classrooms, 2018

