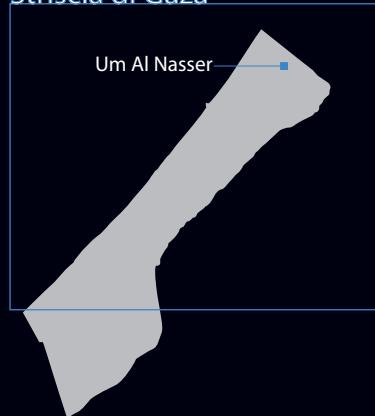


speciale

La Terra dei bambini
Um Al Nasser
Arcò, Mca



Striscia di Gaza



To grow from the desert

Arcò

The idea of building the Um al Nasser children's center "The Children's Land" in the Gaza Strip started in 2011 as a response to a call from the local Bedouin community to the Vento di Terra NGO, asking for access to quality health and educational services for children and women of their village.

The Child Center is a one floor building partially underground, that covers a 400 square meter area. The building is composed of six classrooms, a dean's office, a teachers' room, a welcome area, a laboratory for psychomotor activities, a multipurpose space, an infirmary, kitchen and toilets. "The kindergarten grows from the desert": the insulating walls that surround the central courtyard and the classrooms are made of bags filled with soil. This is the earth-bag technique that was used for the first time in the 1980s by Nader Kalili. The walls protect the kindergarten area where the children play and study. The building is conceived in terms of environmental sustainability, using innovative technical solutions to reinterpret the local identity and culture. There are several details that make this building an "architectural model" for the Palestinian construction



②



CREDITS

School "The Children's Land", Um Al Nasser,
Gaza Strip
Promoter
Vento di Terra Ong
Architectural design
Arcò - Architettura e Cooperazione,
MCArchitects
Engineering
Paolo Bacci – E Plus Studio

SOSTENIBILITÀ NEL DESERTO

L'asilo, coprogettato dal gruppo Arcò e dallo studio Mca, risponde a una richiesta diretta della comunità beduina di Um Al Nasser raccolta dalla Ong Vento di Terra. L'obiettivo era di dare servizi di qualità in un edificio che ha l'ambizione di proporsi come un manifesto del costruire sostenibile in contesti di emergenza come la striscia di Gaza. I temi toccati sono i materiali da costruzione, l'inerzia termica, la ventilazione naturale, la raccolta e fitodepurazione dell'acqua, la produzione di energia, la tecnica costruttiva che deve essere facilmente adattabile all'autocostruzione. Il doppio tetto, molto efficiente a queste temperature, evoca il linguaggio delle tende, icona dell'abitare nelle comunità beduine. I muri che definiscono il perimetro dell'edificio sono parzialmente ipogei stabilendo un rapporto diretto con il paesaggio circostante anche grazie all'intonaco realizzato con terra locale. Il risultato è un edificio con un linguaggio contemporaneo in grado di declinare i valori della sostenibilità e integrarsi nella cultura in cui si inserisce. (P. Dionisi)

In apertura, il Gruppo Arcò
e Mario Cucinella
1 Prospetto ovest dell'edificio
2 Vista del cortile interno
da sud verso nord

**Sistema di schermatura
progettata in modo
tale da avere un
corretto contributo
di luce naturale
all'interno delle classi**



speciale

La Terra dei bambini
Um Al Nasser
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ARCÒ

Arcò has been founded by a group of young engineers and architects that understand architecture as the "resolution of contingent problems through an aesthetic interpretation – and so, sensitive – of reality". Such an approach has led Arcò to find and to contribute with its own skills, the world of International Cooperation in order to face and to solve architectural problems in emergency situations. Sustainability is approached in a social sense by seeking different techniques suitable to the specific sites of action, enabling self-construction processes, in an economic sense through the choice of the building techniques, using recycled and/or recyclable materials, in the environmental sense through the use of renewable energy sources and passive bioclimatic architecture principles. A fundamental goal for every project is the transmission of knowledge and skills through a process of capacity building of techniques and principles which have always been present in the local historical context.

(3)



MCA

Mario Cucinella founded Mario Cucinella Architects in Paris in 1992 and in Bologna in 1999. The studio has solid experience in architectural design with particular attention to energy and environmental issues, industrial design and technological research through collaboration with universities and research programs of the European Commission.



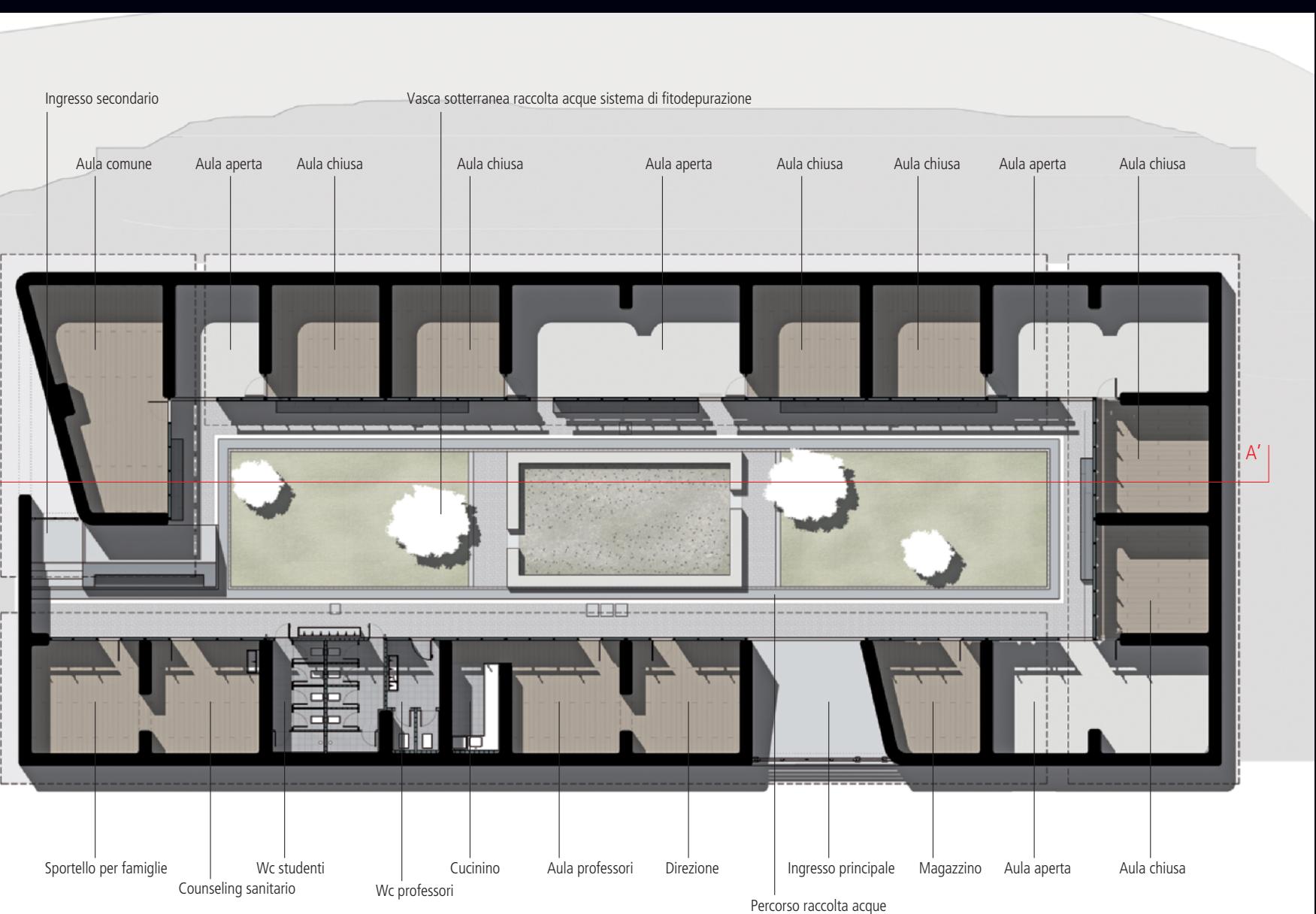
⑤

3 Panchine disposte lungo il perimetro del cortile
4 Dettaglio della

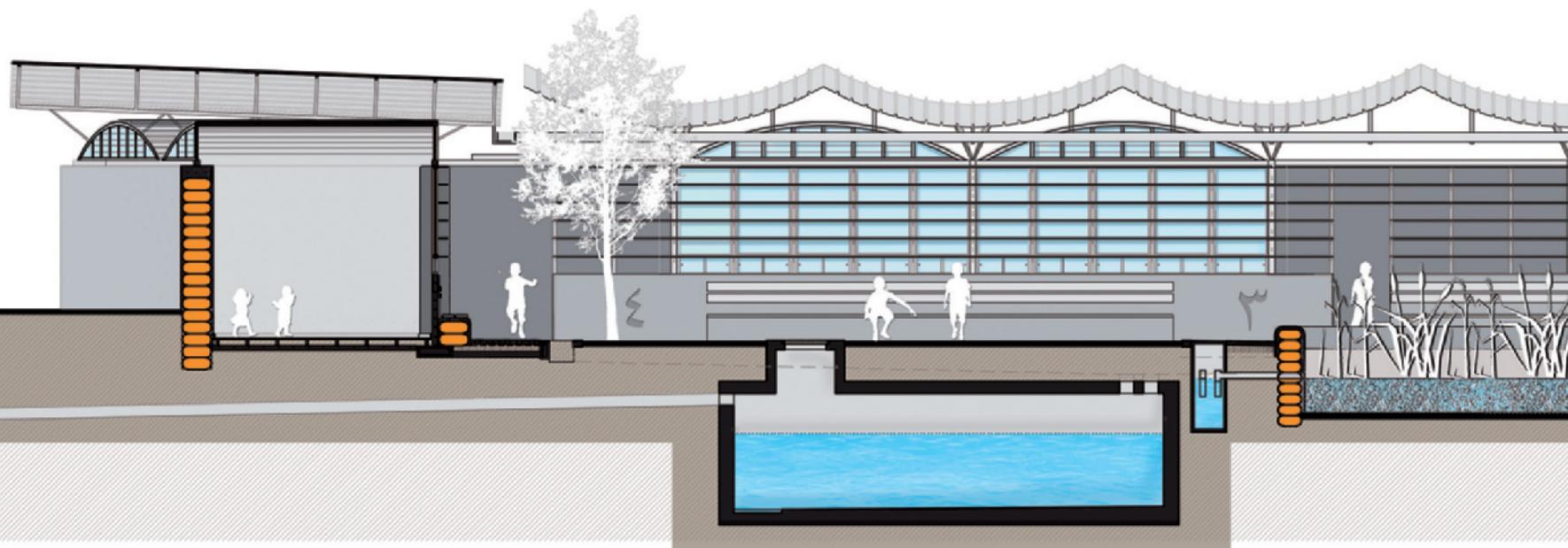
facciata interna
5 Vista di una delle classi aperte

speciale

La Terra dei bambini
Um Al Nasser
Arcò, Mca



6



7



⑧

sector. Low cost and low tech solutions have been chosen because they are easy to explain and to be replicated in similar contexts by the local community. Designers were supported by experts that dealt with structural, energetic and water-recycling aspects.

The use of sand and wood minimizes the employment of polluting materials that have a high environmental impact. The classrooms benefit from wall and floor's thermal inertia with lower internal temperatures in summer and higher in winter.

A natural ventilation system allows to

enjoy a lower perceived temperature and an optimal hygro-thermal comfort.

The double roof system activates the convective motions and the exchange between hot and cool air from the bottom. The center is equipped with a rainwater collection system that stores the water collected through the roof in an underground tank. Moreover, the photovoltaic panel system takes an advantage of the inclinations of the roof and provides energy to the structure.

© RIPRODUZIONE RISERVATA

6 Pianta del
complesso scolastico
7 Sezione

longitudinale
8 Vista di una delle
classi chiuse

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www.progettarearchitettura.it/dxEBA

