

*'time to go home'*  
the diaspora to nature

It is said that by 2050, 60% of the global population shall live in urban centers/cities. In the Philippines, we beg to differ. Young Filipinos are beginning to leave the city due to the debilitating urban fabric (isolation from community, lack of communal open and green spaces, toxic commutes, and steady pollution) of the country's capital, Metro Manila. Many are venturing outwards to the many islands and provinces that offer tranquility, cheaper lifestyles, and, most of all, nature at its finest. Yet such out-migration from the city / even those from abroad to these provinces creates a rupture within these far-flung majestic tropical islands. Provinces in the Philippines, those where the best nature can be experienced are most often than not also the poorest. Thus, city people, having more financial capabilities in comparison to the locals of a province, are wont to take advantage of this and create businesses that either support the locals or exploit them.

Sustainable tourism is one thing, but *considering the actual sustainability and accessibility of housing/settlements of both locals and migrants in the province plays a massive role in creating (or destroying) a holistic ecosystem that not only helps nature, which are what the locals are used to cultivating and protecting, but also what the city people (those with higher educational attainments) can genuinely contribute to.* The prosaic saying, 'think global, act local', is heavily embedded here, where globally-minded city people fruitfully integrate with a locally-minded community. And this can only begin where and how we live.

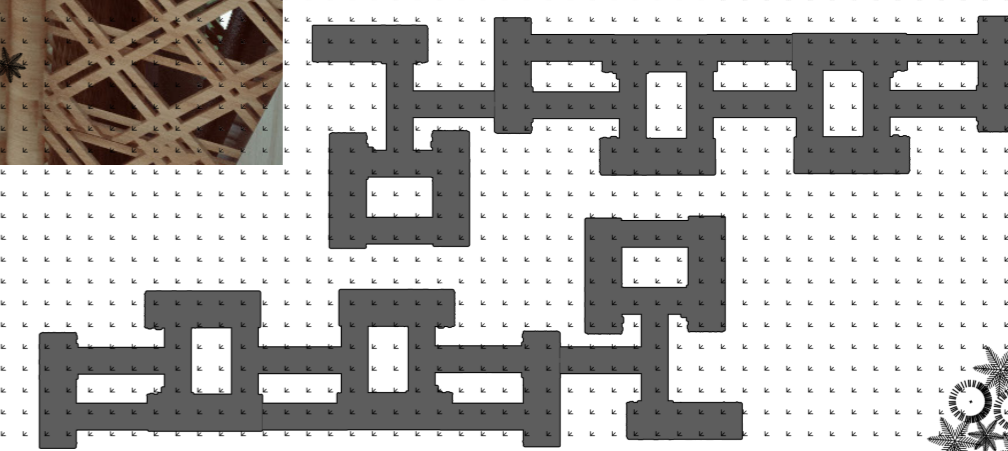
*Time to go home.*

LOCATION  
**Siargao Island, PH**  
TOTAL FLOOR AREA  
**21.95 sqm**



the diaspora to nature from Metro Manila to other islands/provinces in the Philippines

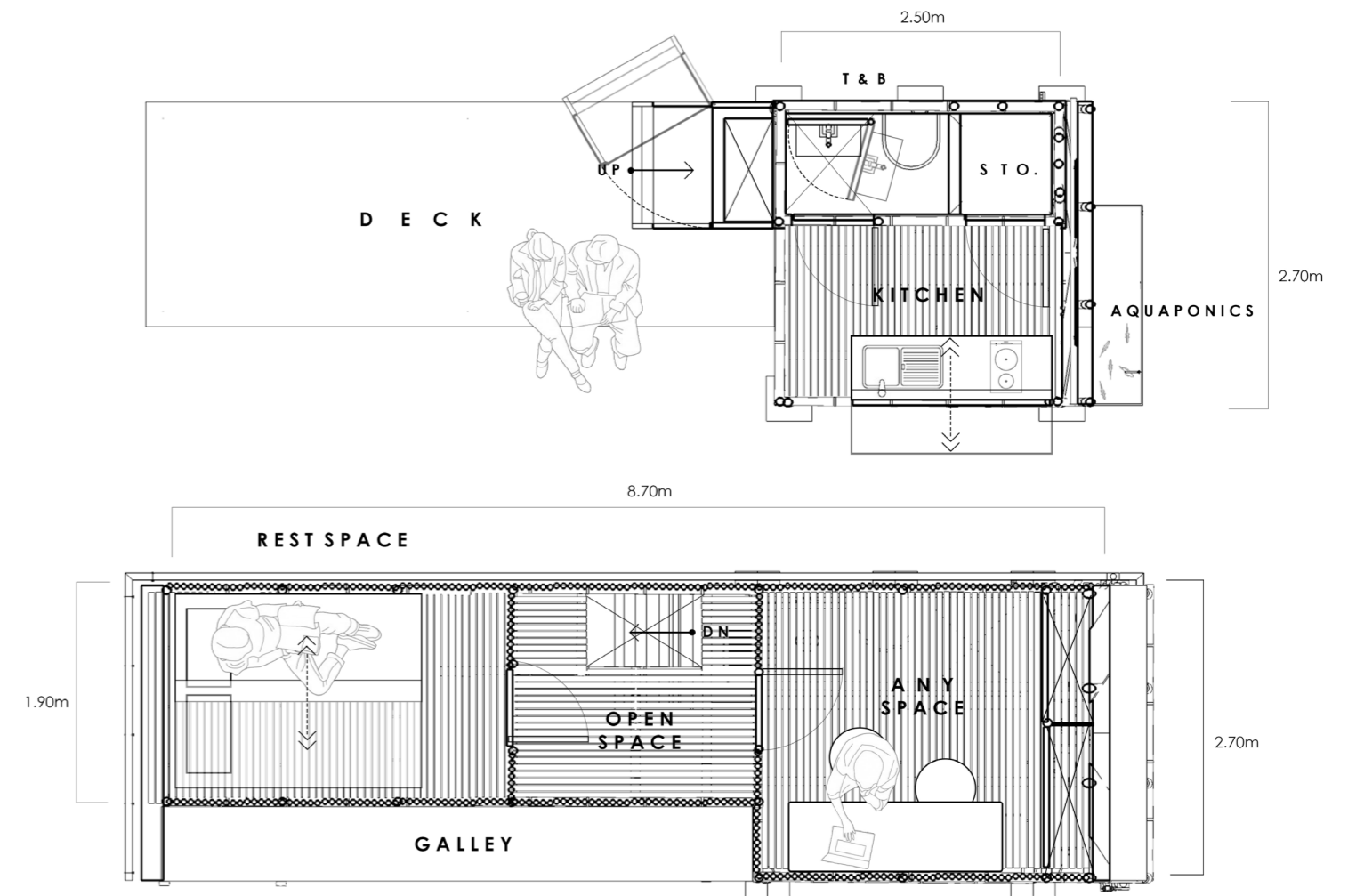
the connection of several microhomes creating communal spaces for a meaningful community





*lifestyle-defined  
transformable spaces  
& furniture*

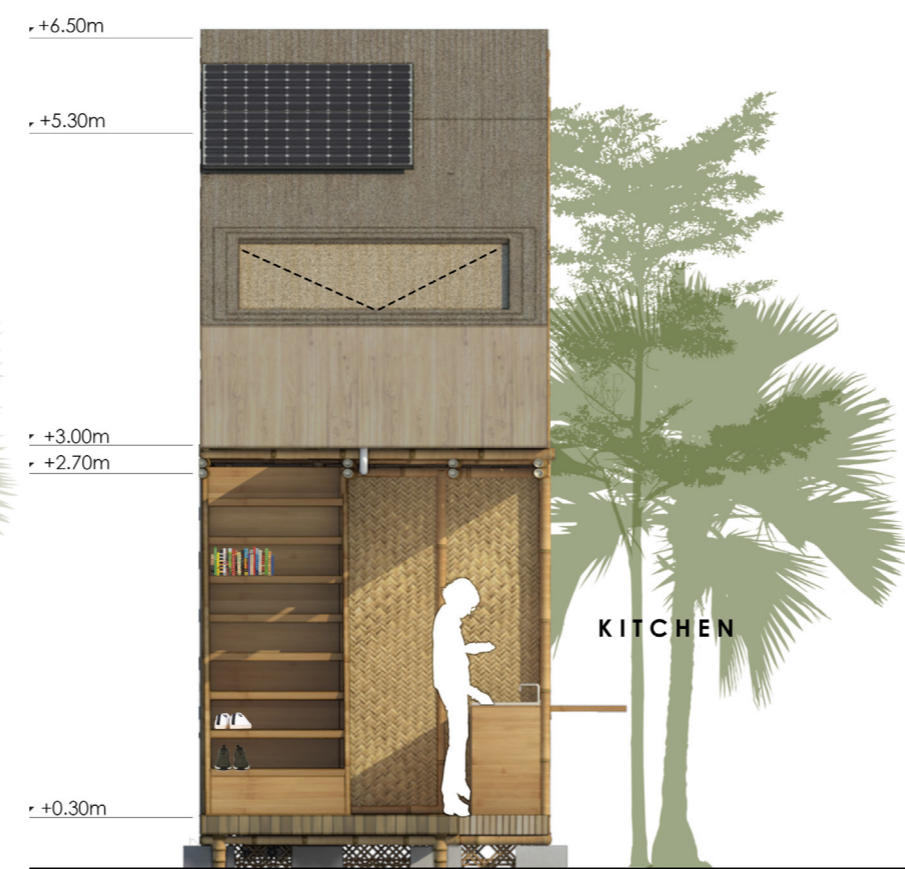
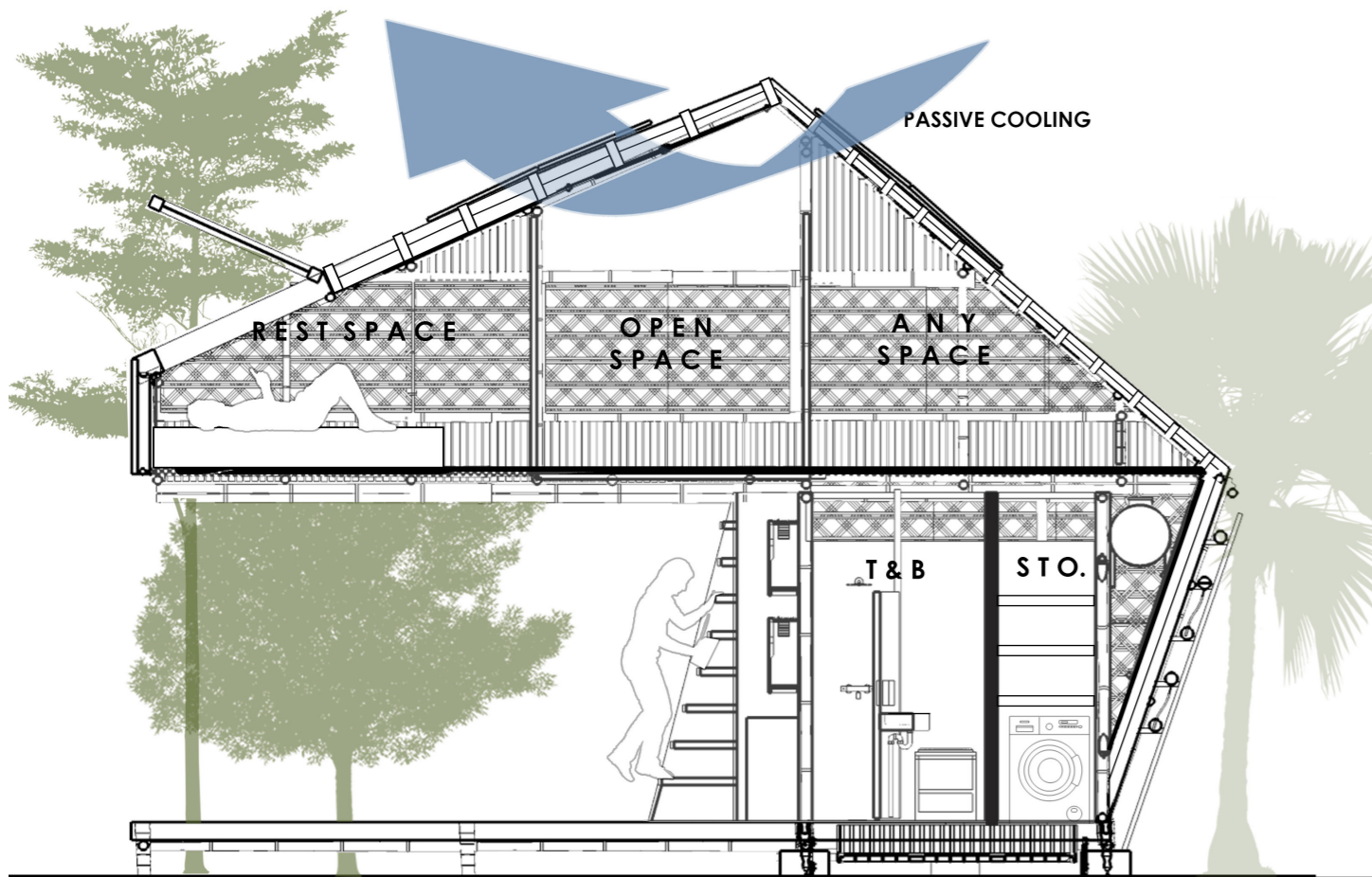
the diversified lives of young city people of today has led them to look outward for respite, adventure, and sense of home. travel has been so integral to the lives of city people that a bedspace is more than enough, but what if the (micro)home, where true stability and rest must lie is also transformable according to lifestyle so that one can live in it as fully as one does outside?



*nature is home; home is nature*

every activity in each space is always connected to nature; seemingly no boundary exists between the self and one's environment as it changes through the day.

the transformability and compactness of the spaces that remain having the need for definition like the bathroom and the kitchen are placed in the stronger base of the structure. the upper floor is suspended in a cantilever with spaces open for both rest, play, work, or anything, say a professional couple from the city truly living with nature could make it to be.



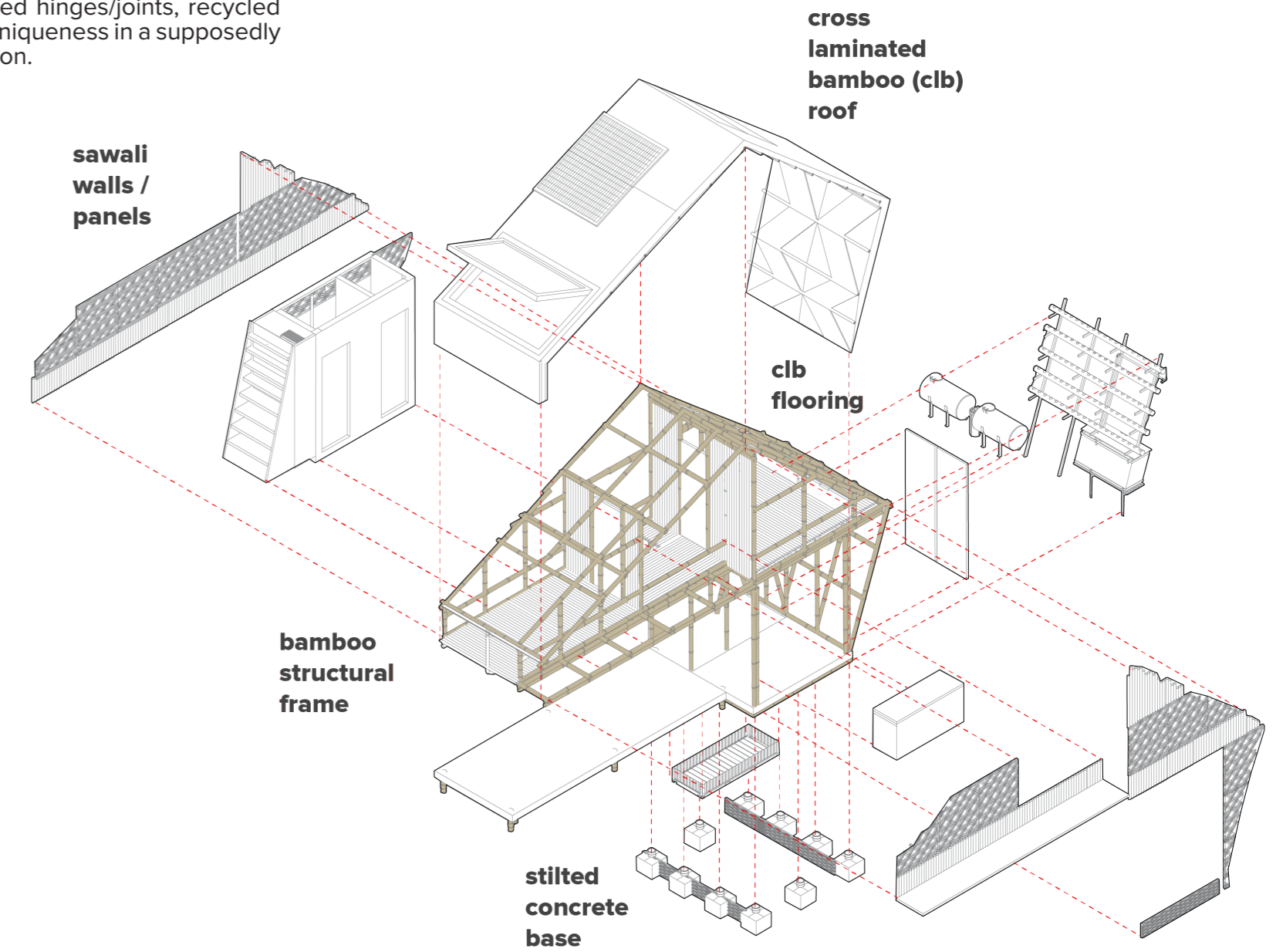
*global approach x local methods*

materials used are of those sustainably sourced from the Philippines i.e. bamboo, sawali, nipa, and, concrete, although making them more durable and modular with new building technologies such as 3d printed hinges/joints, recycled plastic for concrete blocks as aggregates --- without sacrificing the need for personality and uniqueness in a supposedly modular world, hence the traditional solihiya pattern for window screens and ceiling insulation.

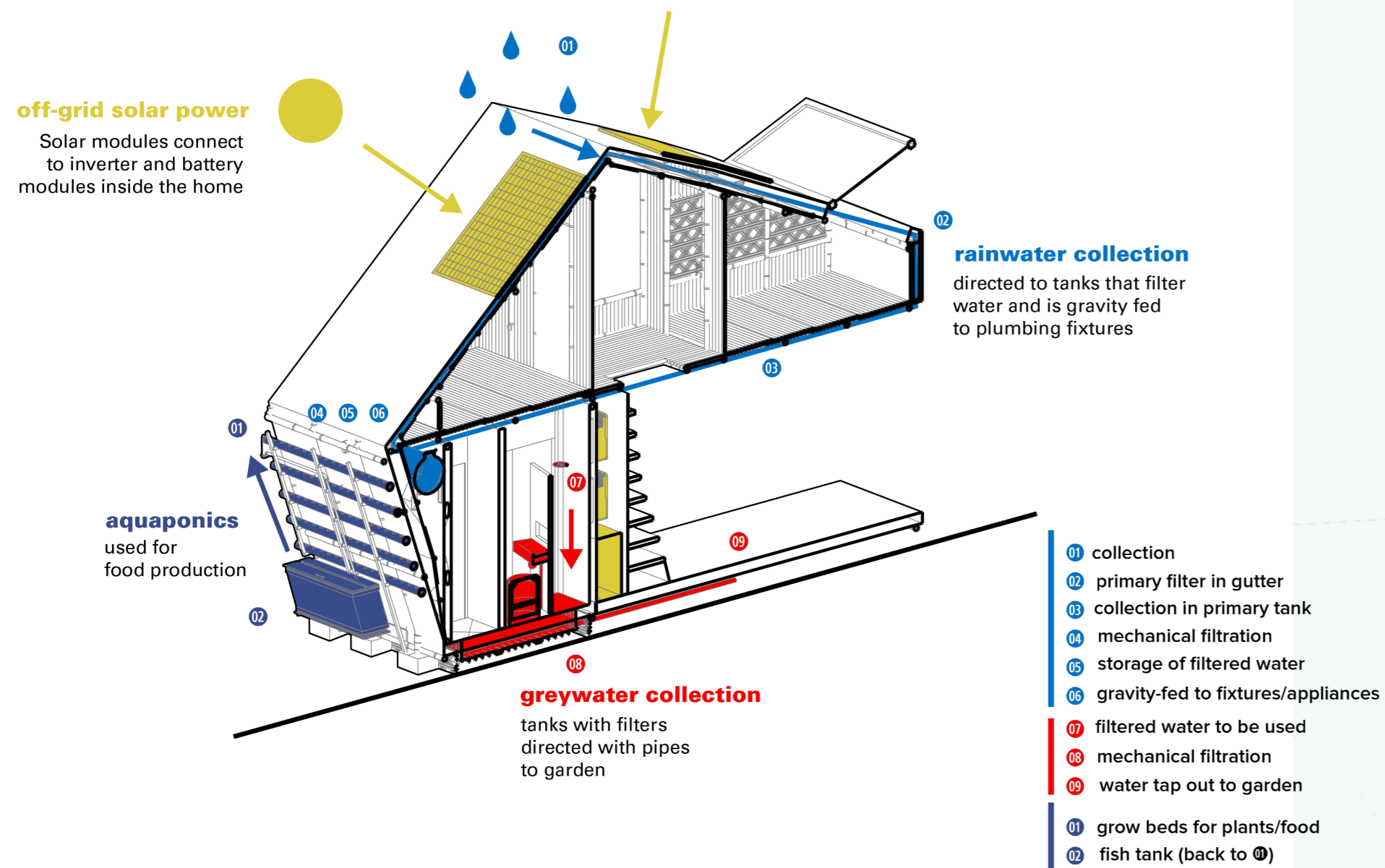


*a microhome that is light, easily-assembled, compact, yet stable and distinct*

patterned after the open programming and building methods of vernacular Filipino architecture such as the Bahay Kubo, saliently still existing in the agricultural provinces; this microhome demonstrates assembly-disassembly practices, enhanced indigenous material treatment and use, and its visual quality as unintrusive to its surroundings, yet fitting in many contexts in the Philippine Islands.



*self-sufficient and self-sustaining*



*communities formed with nature and food*

each microhome shall have nature itself as its living room, allowing an openness that can create communal spaces with the structure (open courtyards via connecting decks) as well as the kitchen spaces that, as it is in Filipino culture, is all about sharing food and celebrating life together with it (*salu-salo*).

