



### INDIVIDUALITY

People are always in search of an identity, especially if they are at the beginning of their family life. They are in search of an environment where they can have contact with other families who share their way of living, an environment that allows them to take initiative in shaping their future. This project makes possible for the coexistence of families with different desires. It allows in a different degree the dwellers to adapt the spaces they inhabit according to their wishes.

### DWELLING TYPOLOGIES

Some of the houses are destined for people that prefer having their dwelling ready to move in. These are the bigger houses and are positioned in the spaces of the old school buildings. The reuse of the school buildings reduces drastically the cost of (re-) building. That makes possible even for middle class families to allow themselves these bigger dwellings. Other dwellings are meant for families that like to adapt the spaces of their house. These dwellings are built upon the retained school buildings. Their owners receive only the first floor of a 3 levels house insulated. The second floor and the roof are left *casco* and are to be filled in time by their owners with the functions they find most appropriate. This reduces the initial costs for buying a house and spreads the investment in time. There are also some small dwellings are meant for the people with smallest budget and no specific attraction to building work.

### SOCIAL SERVICE

Between the two older buildings comes a completely new construction, which becomes common property of the inhabitants of the complex or of a housing corporation. On its ground floor are placed spaces that could be used as a clubhouse by the owners or could be rented for commercial use. The 3 levels above these flexible spaces are destined for parking. In case in the future the inhabitants decide to use less cars one or all of the floors initially used for parking could be turned into new dwellings adding in such a way to the urban density and typology diversity. The top level of this new building is a place with an attractive view to the old centre and is meant for recreational activities like playgrounds, open-air cinema or even sunbathing.

There are 6 different typologies proposed at the initial stage of development, ranging from 60m<sup>2</sup> to 140m<sup>2</sup>.

## EN PLEIN AIR

The sense of belonging to a specific community is strongly reinforced by the presence of the two gardens defined by the building volumes. The one orientated to the south is to be used by the inhabitants as a vegetable garden. The one under the big old trees would be the socialising space, also open to outsiders.

The coming together of the abovementioned social, economic and ecological issues makes this project specifically appropriate for families with a feeling for urban life and renders it both environmentally and socially sustainable.

## FACTS

location:	Delft, The Netherlands
status:	competition entry, third prize
site:	plot 4.470m <sup>2</sup> , total built-up area 4.350m <sup>2</sup>
programme:	housing, 21 units
client:	Stadsgewest Haaglanden
budget:	-
when:	November 2009