Implant on the roof is a legal risk operation. Establishing a program that generates use value in the periphery of a building. An extension, beyond the interior. To produce a space on the margin, as a way to question the lack of common places and more autonomous and free spaces in our cities.

In cities where empty lots, buildings and unused infrastructures abound absurdly, spaces that represent real transformation opportunities are not available for these processes, simply because they are the object of other interests: land speculation, real estate business, and all kinds of aspirations disconnected to social needs.

The project builds an annex that challenges the boundaries of the building, but also an urban policy action, starting from hacking another place. When it is expected that everything is controlled in the city, the need arises to conquer new territories. This is the main challenge facing the intervention.

The implant allows to provide the roof with cultural functions, hosting a harrow to inhabit and next energy efficiency devices, on the premises of the Do It Yourself Institute, a warehouse in the middle of a group of sheds where workshops and workers from the community of Vallecas, Madrid, coexist.

IMPLANT ON THE ROOF
IDYS_ Instituto Do It Yourself
Foster the socially responsible role of built environment professionals by stimulating social modes of practice before speculative economic profitability.

Implant on the roof project is located in IDYS, an agency that constitutes a space for action and thought, linked to collaborative practice, the maker culture of urban commons, community action, and citizen initiatives. At the institute is structured around programs focused on collaborative pedagogies: a non-formal education platform for the advancement of abilities and skills in the development of collective and community projects, and a non-academic research processes that study collective experiences and open tools used in direct interventions.

Research-action through concrete operations is a constant in the philosophy of IDYS, developing new methodologies and prototypes to intervene in physical infrastructures connected to citizen opportunities, from this place as a space of experimentation.

The trajectory along these years with the development of spaces through self-construction processes has led to the organization to propose a format of residencies where invited urban laboratories develop different workshops to guides the interventions, as is the Implant on the roof.
“Share Knowledge, promote discussion, reflection and awareness, and collaborate in the advancement of the -social production of habitat-”

From this space, the exchange of experiences between collectives that share complementary knowledge and interests is encouraged. Initiatives not only for construction but to edify ideas and symbolic discourses about how to transform collectivity spaces, using citizen intelligence through precise actions.

This project also constitutes a learning pill in specific knowledge, technical capacities and the use of tools. Pedagogical processes from the culture “do it yourself” and “do it together”, that enable a resilient training with critical capacities to approach to real problems, are immersed in this case, like others experiences that promote teamwork and group decision making, implying a horizontal model where negotiation and consensus building to achieve common objectives.

During the institute growth, the Implant on the roof is raised as an extension of the industrial ship, prefigured as another work unit. A scenery for exhibitions, talks, and meetings.
Vallecas constitute one of the engine territories of the neighborhood movement which was able to start the social, barrial and urbanistic transformation in the city during the ’80s, actually being a neighborhood that concentrates the biggest part of the social and activist capital coming from these neighbor’s association. Workers, cultural and artistic groups, young associations and all the network of popular organizations, are gathered with strong affective and political roots around the community, giving meaning to the dispute for the territory control from the local enterprises.

The spaces safeguard for the use of the community is one of the struggle flags, which precisely find a referent in these Do It Yourself Institute facilities, as an articulator space for a lot of experimental initiatives.

In this context, Implant on the Roof project is a depicting component of the possibilities of turning de environment from small actions, which articulately could trigger a more complex ecosystem of free, open and participative spaces within the neighborhood.