Braced! Architecture on the Fringe of Collapse
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Manifesto

We live in a world, from countries like Mexico to India, full of cities densely populated by buildings that are structurally unstable. Taiwan, among the list of countries, has one of the most dense populations of buildings at risk officially identified by the government. Having compiled a large list of most at-risk buildings in Taipei city, I observed a lack of intervention in downtime recovery from natural disasters due to economic and management reasons. While buildings that were collapsing were immediately taken down, other buildings, those that are still standing, are stuck in a limbo of inaction and disuse. With natural disasters like earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, and many more, these at-risk buildings are at the fringes of collapse; there is an urgent need to address this problem. Braced investigates the issue of structural instability through a design intervention that imagines the structure and space of buildings by bracing rather than demolishing.