Culturally-sensitive urban master plan, Agadir, Morocco

Relevance to target issues by author

Innovation and flexibility – Progress
Innovative solution for the earthquake resistance: the project integrates mixed concrete-steel structure instead of reinforced concrete. The project invents terraced façade, a kind of openwork steps that let air and light to enter between them. Compared to the standard surrounding architecture, the project by its form and its innovative concepts present a jump in its site. The project incorporates the patios that bring air and light inspired by the local architectural expertise.

Environmental quality and resource efficiency – Planet
The complex is fully autonomous in terms of energy, thanks to effective orientation allowing it to get the most of natural light and ventilation thanks to its patios, skylights, and the openwork terraced façade. The slope of the roof south orientation receives photovoltaic panels. Inspired by the local expertise, the project will collect rainwater for reuse in irrigation and other functions. In the construction stage the project will not spend much energy as the cement factory is just 20mins away, and suppliers of wood and steel are 10mins from the center. The landscape level the project uses the Argan tree and other local species adapted to the soil and consumes less water than eucalypts currently present on the site which kill soil fertility. The eucalypts were introduced from Australia but the protectorate.

Ethical standards and social equity – People
The project promotes social heterogeneity, expression, and tolerance. It is a hub for citizens, tourists and visitors. The project has an educational purpose, in which we practice good citizenship. For example, the library readers can access the terrace with their books and mingle with the public, like that we familiarize the public with the culture of the book the project focuses primarily on the human capital, to empower, educate, and give him complete freedom of expression and allow him greater accessibility.

Contextual and aesthetic impact – Proficiency
The project emerges from the soil full with symbolism and cultural charges. The level curves become lateral façades and the ground becomes the fifth façade, the project celebrates the rebirth of the city. Its gentle slope terrace is the culmination of the beautiful surrounding landscape bypassing the site. The advantageous orientation allows Agadir’s 360 days of sunshine/year to be fully exploited. The project is a complete continuity: simultaneously a project of landscape, architecture, urban design and interior.