LAGI 2025 - SOLAR BLOOM

The primary goal of the planned structure is to provide a solution to the needs arising from the extreme weather conditions affecting the settlement of Marou, primarily floods and water shortages. All this is done in a way that does not cause damage to the current natural structure. During the creation of the concept, both the locals and the respect we show for nature had a great influence. This is also reflected in the resulting design.

The central element, which is an architectural form evoking a flower, is delicately connected to the stream found in the area. This association is further strengthened by the interlocking surface of the solar panel roof structure and the spectacular, organic design of the water lenses. The funnel-like shape of the roofs evokes the hibiscus flower, and their functional purpose is to maximize the use of sunlight and effectively collect rainwater.

The building complex consists of several interconnected circular units. The water, which serves as the guiding line of the design, first arrives in shallow pools that also act as a visual element, from which it flows through coconut fiber filters into underground storage tanks. The flow and transparency between the individual units override everything, resulting in a gently blending spatial organization. Under the roof structures, there are community spaces, sleeping cabins and relaxation zones, in which complete comfort is ensured by natural ventilation and shading. Offering visitors a retreat, a community experience and a connection with nature at the same time.

The planned building chain aimed to drain the excess water coming from the loaded stream during the rainy season and store it in underground cisterns, which will supplement the water consumption of the locals during the dry season. Furthermore, water from the sloping, solar-covered roofs into shallow pools is also collected in these underground tanks after flowing through a multi-layered coconut fiber filter system and filtering out any contaminants.

Sustainability is a key focus of the design, with the roof structure made of bamboo, the walls and foundation made of locally quarried rock, and the pools made of “coconut concrete” to ensure watertightness. The building adapts to the local terrain in every way, not destroying it but complementing it, while providing space for community programs for the locals, as well as shelter and accommodation for visitors.

The architectural concept not only responds to the challenges posed by nature, but also creates space for a new and more livable future. The design is not only practical with its poetic form, but also deeply human, a symbol of a symbiosis between nature and man, where the flower is not only a formal element but also an image of the life-giving system.