LAGI 2025 FIJI

LAND ART GENERATOR
RENEWABLE ENERGY CAN BE BEAUTIFUL

LAGI 2025 Fiji Narrative Template

"Meke na Mana" redefines the relationship between architecture, nature, and tradition in Marou, Fiji. Our architectural sculptures abstract the distinctive movements of meke, the traditional Fijian dance, transforming them into structures that catalyze both spiritual mana and physical energy through solar collection. These sculptural elements create shaded spaces that function as venues for cultural celebrations and social gatherings, similar to a living bazaar where community converges. The design establishes a visual dialogue with the Vatu Rua volcano, an ancestral force of mana, while the sculptures "dance" along the pathway connecting the village with this natural landmark. "Meke na Mana" honors the Fijian worldview where energy, movement, and community are indivisible, offering a contemporary spatial experience deeply rooted in the cultural identity of the archipelago.

The implantation site of Meke na Mana is a dance floor symbolizing movement and connection, where the structures representing man and woman gracefully glide across the stage. Their trajectories form pathways that embrace plazas, creating inclusive spaces where inhabitants can gather, interact and feel a sense of belonging.

Each sculpture is equipped with solar panels, harnessing renewable energy to sustain the village while reinforcing the connection between culture and sustainability.
From a technical standpoint, *Meke na Mana* aims to supply energy to the 67 households on the island of Marou, Fiji, through the generation of approximately 75 kW of power. To achieve this, an estimated photovoltaic surface area of 350 to 400 m² is required. The project employs monocrystalline photovoltaic solar panels as energy catalysts, seamlessly integrated into the architectural sculptures both formally and functionally. Each panel, measuring 1 m × 1.6 m, is installed on the upper sections of the structures. The sculpture representing the female figure in the *Meke* dance incorporates 22.4 m² of solar collection area, while the male figure sculpture contributes 70.4 m². With the deployment of four modules of each typology, the total photovoltaic surface reaches 370.8 m², enough to meet the energy needs of the entire Marou community. This integration demonstrates how art, tradition, and technology can converge to create sustainable and culturally grounded energy solutions.

In *Meke na Mana*, the design incorporates an integrated rainwater harvesting and storage system through roof structures that channel water toward **biosoils**, filtration surfaces that enable controlled percolation into underground storage tanks. This system responds to the region's climatic conditions while also generating micro-landscapes that strengthen the bond between infrastructure and ecology. Each sculptural unit is capable of storing between 1,500 and 2,000 liters of water,

contributing to the community's water resilience. The construction process was conceived around a modular, lightweight system with simple joints, enabling easy transport, assembly, and community-led construction. From the foundation to the upper energy and water-harvesting elements, every component was designed to minimize material use and reduce costs, ensuring that each part interacts efficiently within the broader vision of a self-sufficient community farm,where architecture, water, and energy converge in an accessible, resource-conscious, and culturally grounded proposal.

Through this integration, Meke na Mana embodies the concept of mana, where energy, culture and communal life come together in a harmonious and meaningful way.