

## 068 Plan d'Aou

**Project Name:** A New Urban Village

**Location:** Marseille, France

**Client:** European 12 / City of Marseille

**Type:** Urban Design Competition

**Size:** N/A

**Status:** 2013 Awarded 1st prize - On-going

**Work Scope:** Masterplan

The masterplan proposes a rethinking of the traditional historic French Village, known worldwide for its community building abilities as well as its celebration of the natural setting. These main components are integrated in the proposal in predominantly two ways:

- The focus on community building via the creation of a series of different community spaces and sub-spaces providing the individual with social choices.
- The celebration of the secluded nature of the site through framed evocative views and vistas.

The topological plateau creates an urban island, surrounded by both green and a diverse city fabric. This unique situation is indeed worth preserving yet new connections are necessary for facilitation of human behavior and well-being thus the connections are all carefully chosen and designed with high urban quality.

### Adaptability

The masterplan proposes a socially adaptable 'crumble' structure in which housing units are small but adjoined allowing for flexible and adaptable use over time. The 'crumble' structure also allows for exposure of both private, semi-private, semi-public and public spheres.

The main concept of the proposed masterplan is thinking in terms of types of infrastructure: social, human, community, ecological, economic etc.

The project "A New Urban Village" is exactly what Plan d'Aou needs. arki\_lab's skills in relation to involving citizens and especially children and schools in urban development will be very beneficial for all residents.

Nicolas Binnet, Director for Marseille Rénovation Urbaine

