**IRAN: Majara Complex and Community Redevelopment (AKTC – ACCESS ALL)**

SOUNDBITE (Persian) MOHAMMADREZA GHODOUSI, ARCHITECT:

“The overall concept of this project is inspired by the topography of its own context.

It is connected to the cluster of trees and the land. When one of the colleagues in the office suggested using this method, and I was reminded of it, I was actually very happy that we could introduce something that the previous generation had done, but now on a larger scale, in a more permanent and updated way. This method had features that were both environmentally friendly, since it’s a type of rammed earth and also aligned with our goals due to its low-tech nature. This allowed us to engage the people of Hormuz, who are mostly involved in fishing

and trade-related activities, in the process.

As I mentioned, the goal of this project was to revitalize Hormuz and, at the same time, to shift the narrative of tension in this region toward reconciliation and peace. That’s why, throughout the project, efforts were made to focus on both the local community and the environment, so that both could become more empowered.”

SOUNDBITE (Persian) EHSAN RASOULOF, CLIENT:

“Our aim was to do two things simultaneously: first, to create a sense of belief, pride, and confidence within the local community so that they, and all of us who are interested in tourism and sustainable development in Iran, could share this belief from the community’s perspective as well, that these tourism projects, one after another, can serve as opportunities for comprehensive development in Hormuz.”

SOUNDBITE (English) TOURISTS:

“The energy behind the place, the people we meet that has made it. And the staff that works here also has this extreme friendliness and sweetness and inclusiveness that it's just it kind of fits the whole experience.”

**B-ROLL**

1. VARIOUS OF DRONE SHOTS OF THE COMPLEX AND NEAR BY MOUNTAIN RANGE
2. TWO MORE PROJECT OF THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT
3. MORE OF THE COMPLEX
4. INSIDE SHOTS
5. MUSIC PLAYED

**STORY:**

Known as the 'rainbow island' for its multicoloured mountains, Hormuz was historically an important trading port, but had been conflict-damaged. Tourists were mostly day-trippers; only backpackers would stay overnight.

The Majara Complex and Community Redevelopment project is a bottom-up regeneration plan involving a series of architectural projects that engage the local community and preserve the environment. Among them is the Rong Cultural Centre, a café and bicycle rental centre in two steel-reinforced super-adobe domes with connecting stairs that provide a vibrant public space. The Majara Residence offers comfortable tourist and art/design residency accommodation plus all-community facilities including a public library, craft and oral history studios, worship space, eateries, and recycling centre. Inspired by the soil’s colours and particle sizes, its 200 varying-sized domes – echoing vernacular water-storage structure forms – are clustered organically. The Typeless (badban) Community Space, for monitoring and managing visitors’ presence to avoid negative impacts, contains flexible modular spaces under a canopy roof.

To be eligible for consideration in the 2025 Award cycle, projects had to be completed between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2023 and should have been in use for at least one year. Projects commissioned by His Highness the Aga Khan or any of the institutions of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) are ineligible for the Award.