

Project

Post-Disaster Urban Regeneration through Community Co-creation

Location

Antakya, Turkiye

Date

2024

Client

Turkiye Design Council

Status

Concept Design Complete

Size

76.108m²

SDUR

In February 2023, Antakya was struck by two powerful earthquakes, leaving the city in ruins and its people deeply affected. Thousands were displaced, finding refuge in temporary shelters, their homes and daily lives shattered. The once vibrant streets and cherished historical buildings of Antakya lay in ruins, posing immense challenges for the road ahead.

The reconstruction efforts that followed were driven by more than just the need to rebuild infrastructure; they sought to restore the very essence of Antakya. This vision aimed to go beyond bricks and mortar, focusing on reviving the city's spirit. By weaving together local memories, social bonds, and neighborhood connections, the

project aspired to create a resilient and culturally rich community. In rebuilding Antakya, the hope was not just to repair what was broken but to breathe life back into the city, honoring its past while paving the way for a vibrant future.

Invited by the Türkiye Design Council to redesign Antakya—a city known for its diversity and inclusivity—we understood the necessity of deepening our connection with the local community. We committed to designing collaboratively with residents at every stage of the process.

Revitalization of Hatay





How we did it?

To ensure a community-centered approach, we began the co-design process with ethnographic research in Antakya, Samandağ, Serinyol, and Defne Harbiye throughout October 2023.

Collaborating closely with psychologists, anthropologists, and trauma experts, we enabled a trauma-informed and responsible co-design process. Insights from this research were compiled into a report and [documentary for the collaboration group](#).



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02 First Isometric Illustration of Design
03 Exterior Render
04 Top keywords emerging from our listening sessions

SOUR

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05 Captures from our listening sessions
06 Exterior Render



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In disaster-responsive urban regeneration, there is a recurring tendency to overlook the human element in design. We often detach city dwellers from their lived experiences and the trauma of the disaster they have endured. As we reflect on rebuilding efforts, it becomes crucial to adopt a more empathetic and trauma-informed approach. How might we design cities in the aftermath of disasters with greater care, integrating principles that acknowledge and support the emotional and psychological well-being of those affected? How might we integrate care in our design practice? This paradigm shift not only rebuilds physical structures but also fosters communities where healing, resilience, and human dignity are central to the urban fabric.

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07 Exterior Render

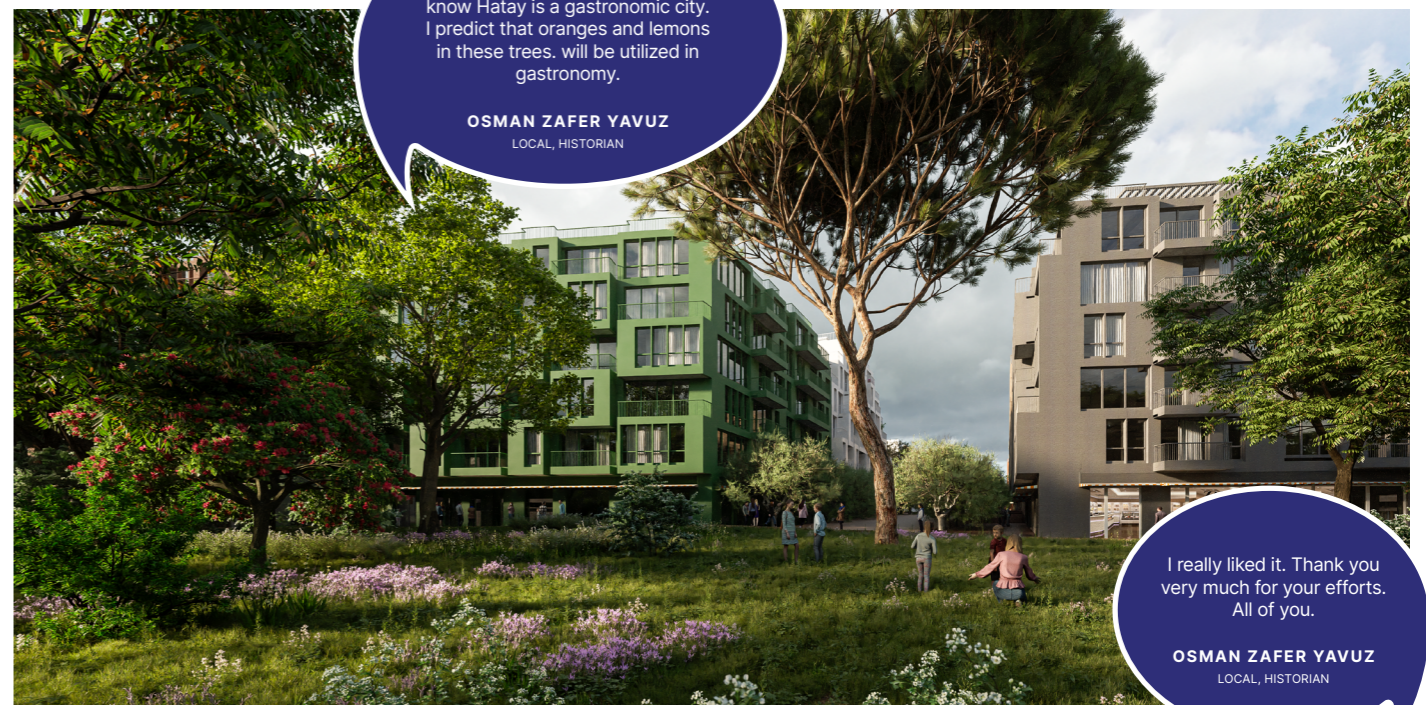
08 Some of the quotes from our co-creation sessions



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09 Exterior Render

10 Exterior Render

11 Some of the quotes from our co-creation sessions