Repurposing of offshore platforms in the Adriatic Sea

The project takes place in the Adriatic Sea, where there are more than 200 offshore platforms which, once exhausted their resources, are destined to be removed. This intervention has to face issues of ocean reception and the destruction of marine life. Therefore, the design makes its way through the protection of flora and fauna and improving underwater tourism.

Of the offshore platforms, about 20 are methane extraction. Of which sewerage the areas between Rimini and Ravenna, where the project takes place. Considering the potential of low and medium which can be recycled, is determining the only destiny to which those structures are destined. For this reason, a Best to Reef alternative is being considered, in which the platforms are converted into diving centers; it will attract tourists and no marine life will be destroyed.

These platforms have a period of production of about 15 years after which the owners are required to remove them. However, in the place of this operation, and the loss of ecosystems, underwater platforms, has started a worldwide shock of alternative solutions. The marine ecosystems which take place on the piers of the platforms support the floors of creating real underwater gardens, artificial reefs, not only in order to repopulate marine flora and fauna but also to attract an ever-growing underwater tourism in this area.

Concept and Strategy

After an accurate analysis of the current extraction data of the area and the visibility of the structures from the land, a single platform was taken as a case study in which we could develop a project. A further subdivision of the platform is between above and under the sea level and gives a better understanding of the project.

Masterplan of Hotel and Diving Center

The Underwater Design

Research and Concept Design

The position below water includes the routes for divers, the underwater gardens, and testing areas of marine species, which is off the road before the diving center. The requirements for each room is sculpted into a complete underwater landscape, meeting the needs of each area.

This underwater landscape is made not only for recreational purposes but also to stimulate growth of algae, seaweed and plants. As a result of this joint growth, fish life is also attracted to the platforms to complete the Kelpfish. For Diving Center, above sea level, consists of all those functions and services dedicated to facilitate the divers in their excursions.

This model was designed so it can be applied to other platforms in the Adriatic Sea that, depending on the circumstances, can be upscaled from the first phase; where only the platforms are left on the bottom of the sea; in the last stage consists in the whole platform dedicated to new purposes, like diving center, marine research area and accommodation for tourists.