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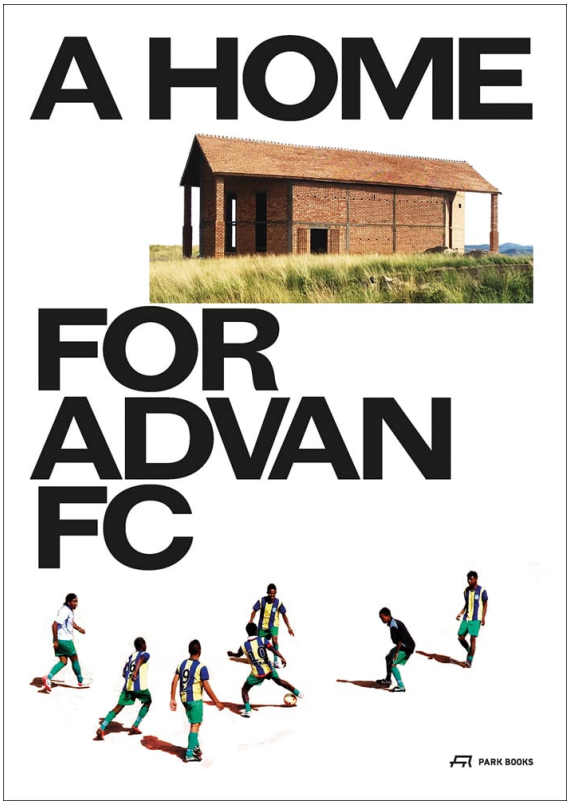

A Home for Advan FC

Handbook for a Madagascan Building with Global Adaptability

Edited by Nele Dechmann

Edited by Atlas Studio

ISBN	9783038602699
Publisher	Park Books
Binding	Hardback
Territory	World excluding Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Puerto Rico, United States, Canada, and Japan
Size	297 mm x 210 mm
Pages	96 Pages
Illustrations	50 color, 70 b&w
Price	£25.00

- Tells the story of a prime example of bottom-up development-aid based on pragmatism and with the goal of self-empowerment in construction
- Documents the architecture and construction process of Advan FC's education centre in Madagascar's mountain region
- The Advan FC education centre serves as a model of potentially universal usage anywhere in the world
- The continuous exchange of knowledge between this project's participants, originating from deeply differing cultural and socio-economic backgrounds, demonstrates an inspiring alternative to conventional international collaborations

The new education centre of Advan FC on the island of Madagascar is a prime example of a bottom-up development-aid project based on pragmatism and with the goal of self-empowerment. When Viktor Bänziger, who runs a bar in the heart of Zurich, visited Madagascar as a tourist in 2015, he was struck by the severe poverty and difficult living conditions of the local population and decided to act. In close collaboration with Zurich-based architect Nele Dechmann and the president of Advan FC, Titus Solohery Andriamananjara, the project for a new football ground and surrounding buildings was developed. The complex, which is soundly based on local building knowledge and construction methods, gives local children the opportunity to develop their football skills and, more importantly, to receive minimal reading and writing lessons after football training and to have meals together. The remote location in Madagascar's mountains and the tight budget suggested a simple typology that conveys a common architectural language despite the different uses of individual buildings. A key part of the entire concept is a simple manual for the actual construction that leaves many decisions and responsibilities to the local community.

This book tells the story of an extraordinary participative undertaking, which very likely will never be completed entirely, of people originating from deeply differing cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. It introduces a model of potentially universal usage anywhere in the world. And it documents the architecture of Advan FC's education center and its construction process in rich detail through photographs and plans.

Nele Dechmann is a Zurich-based freelance architect. Her focus as practicing architect and theorist is on new forms of housing.

Atlas Studio, founded in 2011, is a Zurich-based design agency, whose work focuses on the fields of arts and culture.

Published 1st Sep 2022