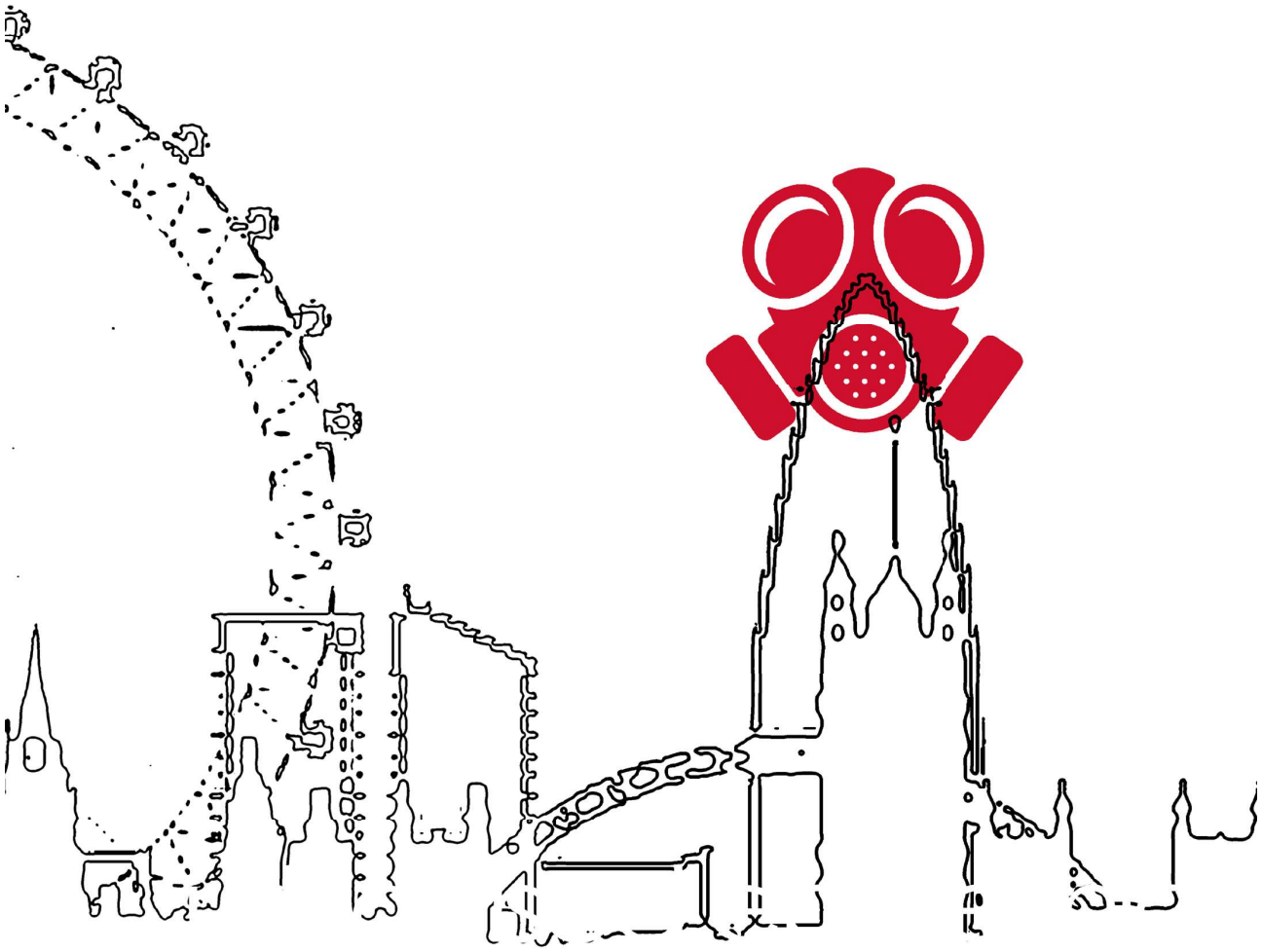
de-Urbanised Epidemics

Planetary Coopetition for

Re-Design of the Concept of Health in Relation to the Built Environment



De-Urbanised Epidemics

Planetary Coopetition for Re-Design of
the Concept of Health in Relation to the Built Environment

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INTRODUCTION

De-Urbanisation is not a reactionary or retrogressive idea. It is a revolutionary design to activate a progressive transition towards a city-like but more egalitarian, communal, ecological and more importantly ethical "more than human" habitats. It is an attempt to radically decolonise all the tools, agencies and institutions that create, sustain and consolidate the post industrial, capitalist, neo-liberal, global, patriarchal, racist, exclusive, exploitative, egocentric, hierarchical, fragmented, arrogant, destructive and consumerist current urban practices and urban spaces . De-Urban Design is a quest for a better life not only for humans but also for the planet, because it believes in the indivisibility of living beings and the planet and aims to strengthen the ties between them by regenerating human-human and human-planet relations. It is more social than ecological because it recognises the social and ethical causes of the current ecological problems.

The current COVID-19 pandemic is not a reason for but a result of the serious planetary crisis, which brings us wars, deforestation, hunger, climate change, discrimination, soil erosion, totalitarianism, and extinction. Even though, compared to the COVID-19 , all the above listed other consequences of the current planetary crisis have had more destructive impacts on the planet and life on it, it was through COVID-19 pandemic that more people started to realize the strong links between all living beings and the planet, the vulnerability of our being in the world, and the unsustainability of our consumerist lifestyles. However, various practices to stop the pandemic were far from addressing the planetary crisis that we are facing, and were ignorant to any necessary systems level change, which is necessarily required for a proper solution. All the measures taken against the pandemic were too temporal and too naive to achieve a more holistic resolution and create a healthier planet and healthier human life. These measures were mostly in the form of restrictions, diets, and painkillers with lots of side effects ranging from isolating people in their bubbles and turning them into more passive members of society, to several human rights and earth rights violations especially of the vulnerable groups.

As a call to invite designers and intellectuals to take an active role, De-Urban Design Studio launched this 'coopetition' to highlight the importance of a holistic approach to find a more permanent solution. The call was titled "Redesigning of the Concept of Health in Relation to the Built Environment".

Academics, researchers, and designers from various fields and diverse geographies joined the team of reviewers and wrote the "call for entries" of this coopetition. Following the successful announcement and publicizing of the call by De-Urban Design Studio, the call reached over 100 000 people and attracted many contributions. The selected contributions in the final stage of the coopetition were creative, complementary and inclusive; 11 of them are published in this book.

For this call, the participants were free to address their revolutionary ideas of De-Urbanised health and wellbeing, in different urban contexts and at any scale: city, neighbourhood or building scale.
Working in a team or as individuals, the coopetitors developed a series of explanatory images in their own design style, supported by a short description to express the personal interpretation of the contest and its future prospective. The graphic drawings have the main role and have the responsibility to explain the concept ideas of the authors.
The topic covered in this coopetition involved many other themes related to the principal contest of the Epidemics and the Built Environment, like the urban green areas and its role in the community, extremely dense cities, nature evicted and deforestation, impoverishment life-quality from the surrounding environment, social and ecological disparities and unexpected urban challenges. Therefore, it is likely to face important topics related to the Planetary crisis and its irremediable impacts to the human settings and the natural environment that have rendered the world inhabitable.
This coopetition was a great opportunity to ensure the exchange of valuable ideas, sharing of information and the dissemination of new theories. Now, the next stage is to publicise these ideas and invite every reader to continue contributing to this idea of "re-designing the concept of health" or more importantly re-imagining our common future.

CONTENTS

Call for Entries

Urbanised humans are the most invasive species on Earth, consuming the majority of the planet's resources. In an endless battle with nature, the urban fosters an unhealthy condition resulting in extinctions and planetary crises, endangering the livelihood of both humans and non-humans. Meanwhile, in the contemporary urbanised world, health is interpreted as the temporal psychological and physical condition of a human body. A permanent and holistic conception of (well)being and its widened territory embracing the vitality of the entire nature are often neglected. Health in the urban environment is inscribed in infrastructures, rather than being a generative concept for a nurturing habitat. The paradigm of our times is that of treatment-an act after the damage has been done, rather than wellbeing, a sustained state of healthiness.

The emergence of epidemics brings forth the significance of a new concept of health and wellbeing in relation to the built environment and beyond. It is evident from the zoonotic sources of the latest epidemics that humans have penetrated deeper into ecozones not occupied before.

Not a competition but rather a "coopetition", this is a call for planetary solidarity to change the unsustainable and fragile "status quo" with speculative scenarios that explore health and wellbeing from the lense of ecology.

How can we describe and imagine a permanent mode of well being that is dependent and grounded on co-existence?
What are the possible ways of "de-urbanising" the concept of health in relation to the built environment, with an emphasis on the issue of epidemics?

The Review Team

Aslihan Demirtas
Aslihan is an architect and the principal of the interdisciplinary studio Aslihan Demirtas Architecture & Research Office and cofounder of KHORA based in Istanbul.
Cristiano Luchetti
Cristiano is an architect, a researcher, and an educator. He is currently an Assistant Professor at the American University of Sharjah, UAE.
Elizabeth Grace Tunka Bengil
Elisabeth is a marine biologist, focusing on conservation of endangered species and habitats. She is also a permaculture practitioner.
Hossein Sadri
Hossein is a Full Professor, Architect, Urban and Permaculture Designer, Co-Founder of De-Urban Design Studio.
Melina Philippou
Melina is an Urban designer, researcher and educator. She is the Program Director of the MIT Future Heritage Lab.

Winners

Skyside: A New Living

Winner

Ravaging through the world, the COVID-19 pandemic has upended our way of life in ways we could not imagine weeks prior. Suddenly dense urban areas have become hotspots for the spread of disease, and people across the world have flocked to remote cabins and homes in the countryside. In many ways the coronavirus has pushed rampant urbanisation to the brink, but the arrival at this moment is far more complex than the pandemic.

The human race has spent decades focusing on urbanisation, efficiency, and convenience. Nature has been evicted from acres and acres of land, to be replaced by dense urban centres that consume the varied layers of the environment, from mining and extraction to deforestation and mass farming. The result is a vicious disconnect between humanity and the true source of its livelihood: nature, not cities. Almost ironically, the coronavirus's spread is inversely proportional to de-urbanisation.

Skyside sets forth a plan to reestablish the relationship between the city and the countryside on one hand and humanity and nature on the other. Reflecting on the pandemic and struggling global ecologies, it aims to re-insert nature into cities, strategically de-urbanising, dis-infecting, and de-densifying neighborhoods, metropolis and regions.

The authors

Layal Merhi - Founder

Architect and academic based in Beirut. She holds a part-time faculty position at the Lebanese American University where she began her architectural studies. She went on to receive her MArch II from The Bartlett, UCL, and has had her work exhibited on a number of occasions. Layal, currently the driving force behind Offsh, is amember of the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Order of Engineers and Architects in Lebanon.

Ramzi Naja - Architect, Researcher, Educator

Architect, researcher, and educator based in Boston, Massachusetts and Beirut, Lebanon. He earned his Masters in Architecture degree from Harvard University' Graduate School of Design, where he was also a teaching assistant and research assistant. Prior, Rams graduated from the Lebanese American University in 2013 and practiced architecture in Beirut and Boston.

Nadine Gherez - Architect, Designer

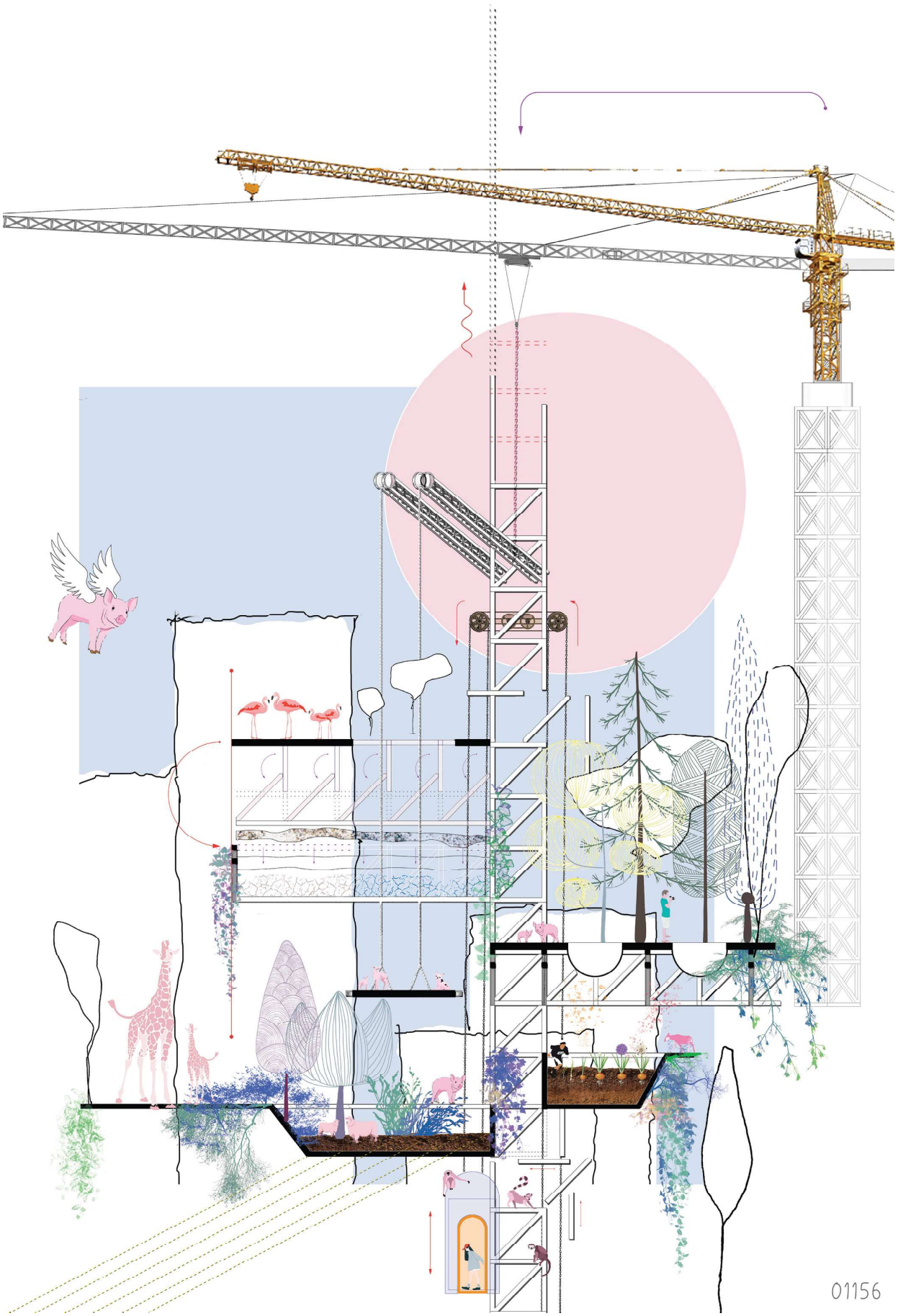
Nadine is an architect and designer based in Beirut. She holds a bachelor's degree in architecture from the Lebanese American University. She is critical, reflective, and has a passion for leadership and planning. She is particularly interested in implementing design with academic research based on cultural and regional analysis.

Alaa Chaar - Architect, designer

Alaa in an architect and designer based in Beirut. He holds a bachelor's degree in architecture from the Lebanese American University. He has been passionate about architecture ever since he was young and believes it is a tool in discovering ways to evolve human and cultural influences. Alaa fluctuates between different modes of aesthetics representation as art has always felt intrinsic to him.

Offsh studio

Bairut, Lebanon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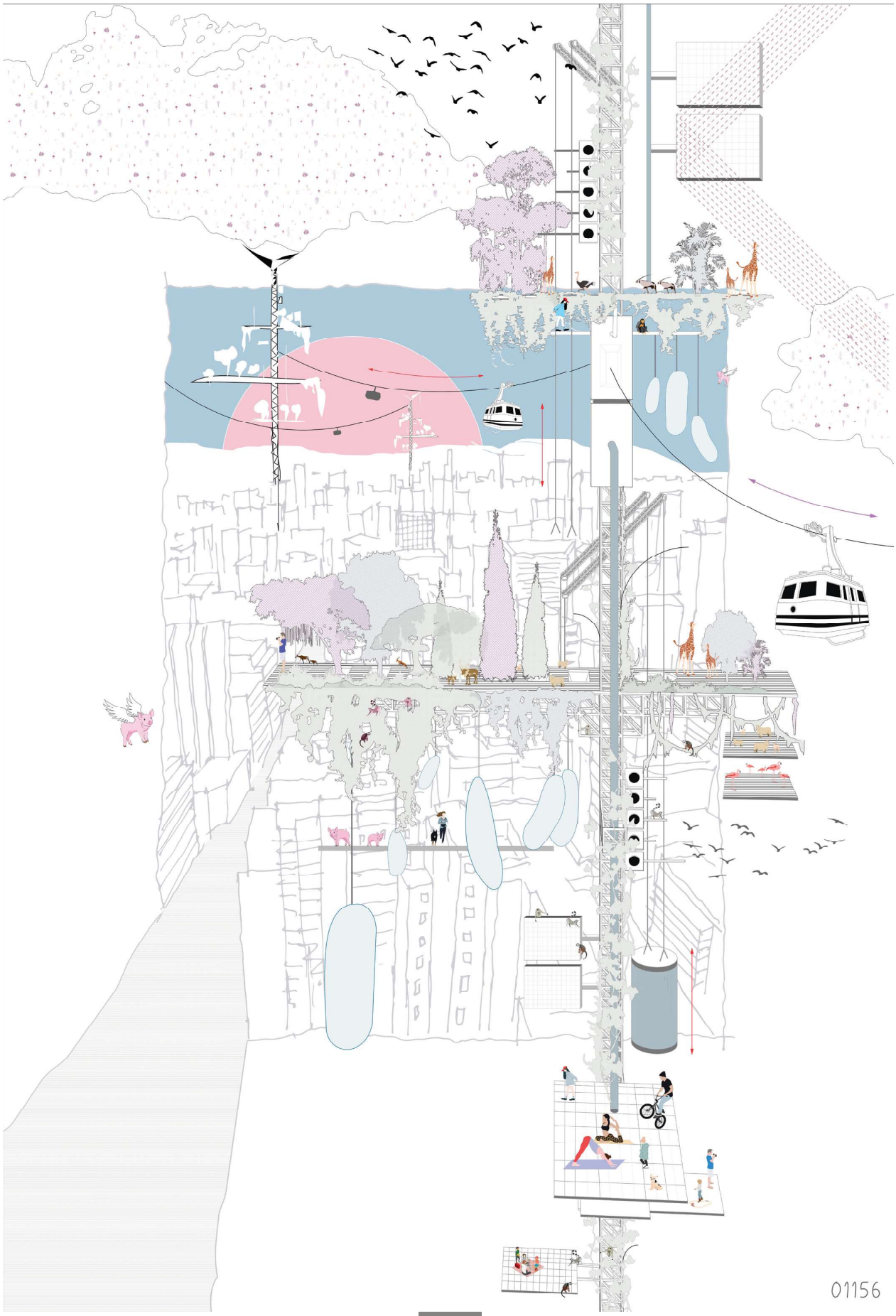
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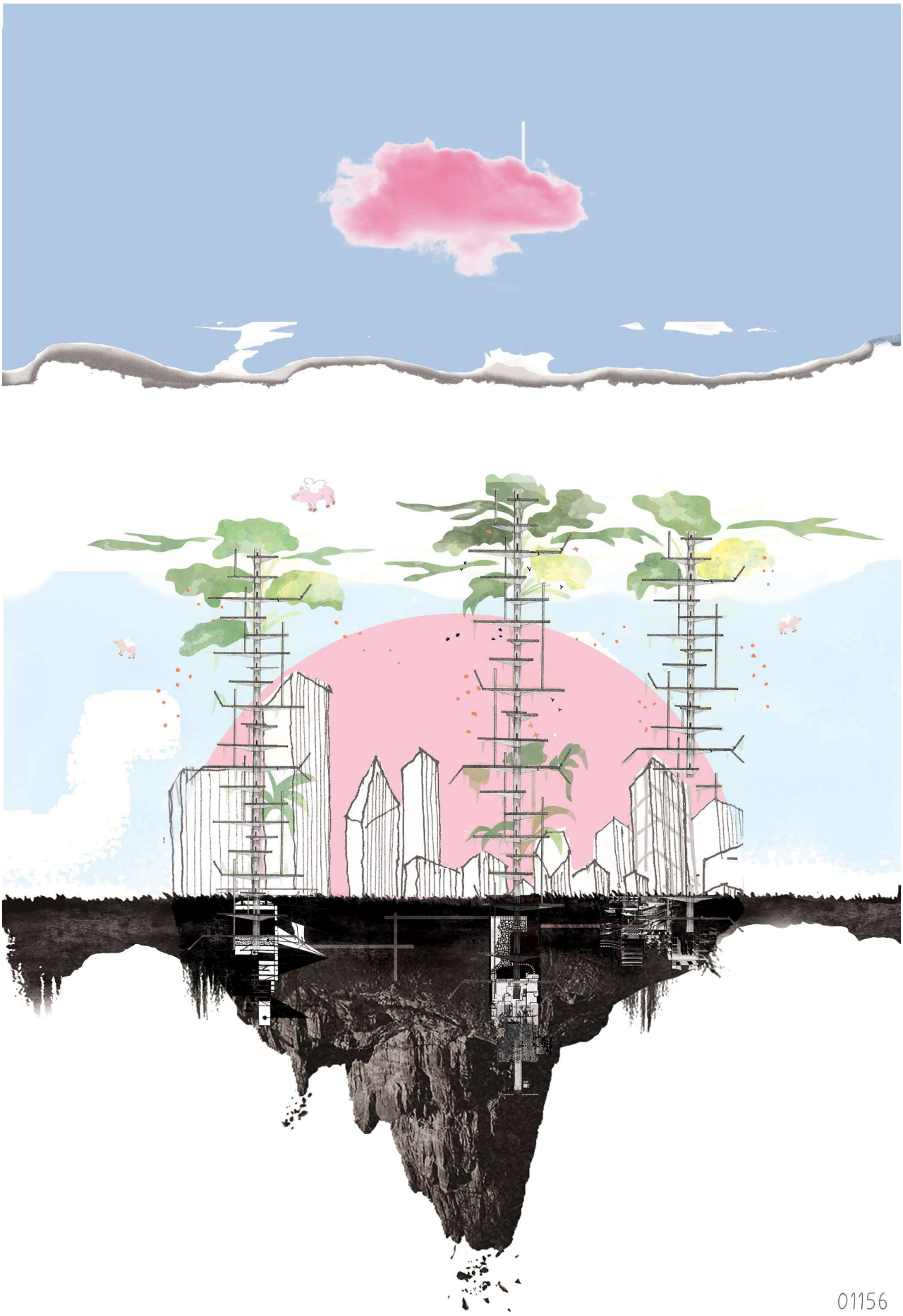

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Ecopoetic Polis

Winner

The last inhabitants of an aged building in zone X have moved out. Already a habitat for various life forms, the building has been designated to move into the subsequent phase of its life cycle as a decaying ruin in the ecopoetic community of X. The area has become a category two disintegration zone as the building is a neighbor of six other ecofacts. The local artists and scientists will now conduct restorative and transformative works to aid the regeneration of contested wilderness in the region and to prepare urban farming spots for the local community near the relevant pathway by using utility service on the site.

In the ecopoetic polis, buildings mimic the organic life cycle: they come into presence, age, and pass away. Like an amoeba, the city puts a foothold to a site while withdrawing from another. Its community continuously and cyclically withdraws the manipulative control of human species, which had formerly led to an impoverished life-quality, from the surrounding environment. The cycle of withdrawal starts by grafting a crack into the built mass. At this place, people maintain a transient relationship with the ground, live closer with other species, survive on local farming, depend on green/renewable energy, and travel through the polis in the sky without any interruption.

The authors

Erum Ahmed - Architectural Designer

Erum Ahmed is a Bengali architect and designer. She has received her Master of Architecture degree from the University of Florida. She previously worked and taught in the USA and Bangladesh. Erum currently lives in Shanghai and works for Perkins Eastman Architects while learning Chinese language and calligraphy. Her central interests lie in the contextual and cultural influence in design-build methodologies and architectural representation.

Bahar Aktuna - Architect, PhD

Bahar Aktuna is a Turkish-Cypriot architect and scholar who holds a Ph.D. in Design, Construction, and Planning from the University of Florida. Her scholarly work encompasses architectural ruins, tectonics, poetics, phenomenology, hermeneutics, and design/build. Besides theoretical and hands-on research work and teaching in academia, Bahar sustains a creative research-based design practice in collaboration with colleagues overseas.

LEARNING FROM THE PROCESS OF THE CRACKS

The fields of the built environment, whether architecture or urban design, do not welcome unprogrammed and uncontrollable non-sites of decay. However, tectonic cracks in decay zones are charged with potency for social and ecological transformation.

A CRACK is a narrow space split between two surfaces.

cracks formed on a continuous surface through dehydration or weathering

A CRACK is an immaterial moment in a mass.

cracks from the dissolution of the softer mass or joints of an assembly

A CRACK is a vulnerable temporal and spatial moment.

A CRACK is energized with potential change in form & matter by erasure & overlay.

A CRACK is the site of ontological change from an artifact (anthropocentric) to an ecofact (ecocentric).

flora and fauna re-emerging from the cracks in decay zones

A CRACK spreads over slowly.

minor cracks turning into major cracks as more new minor cracks keep unfolding

A CRACK reveals.

hidden layers within a built artifact (atectonic form)

A CRACK IS A TECTONIC, SOCIAL, AND ECOLOGICAL AGENT.

GRAFTING AN ECOLOGICAL CRACK TO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

From MEGALOPOLIS
space of overcontrol

To ECOPOETIC POLIS
place of *physis* and *poiesis*

human body/ environment analogy

good health/ natural balance
with antibodies present in the body to resist diseases: an analogy to the underlying natural balance of the biosphere.

infection/ disturbance
with pathogens, foreign to the body which manifest as failing health: an analogy of the disturbance of the balance of the biosphere.

isolation/rest
from others to stop the spread of a disease or from regular activities to let the body rest and heal: an analogy to the temporary suspension of human disturbances on the biosphere.

healing/recovery
where the body replaces the damaged cells and regenerates energy to get back to a healthy state: an analogy to the restoration of the balance of the biosphere which replenishes its damaged ecozones.

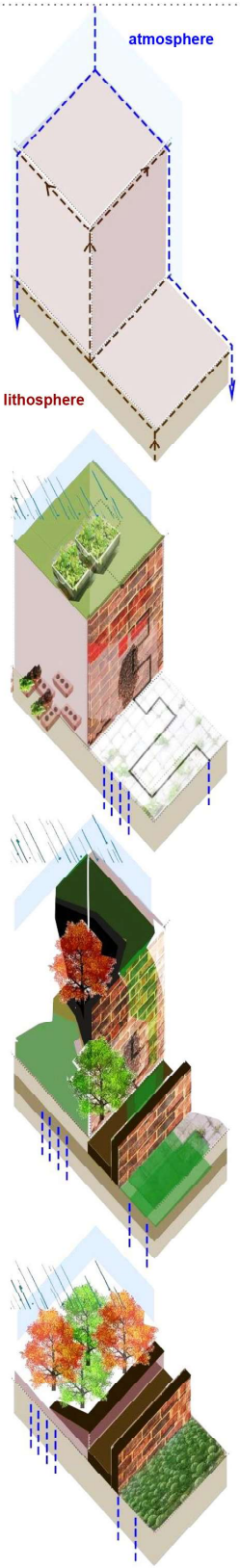
immunity/ prevention
through vaccination or the introduction of the antigens in the body to strengthen the immune system: an analogy to the introduction of a crack to the built environment for its immunity such that the natural balance is already and ever-present.

In megalopolis, economic systems are in a strife with the ecological system as people increasingly colonize nature with a resulting damage on biodiversity. Our ethical project is to alleviate the forces of human colonization in the environment and allow for the reemergence of flora and fauna in the cities through physis: the regenerative force of nature.

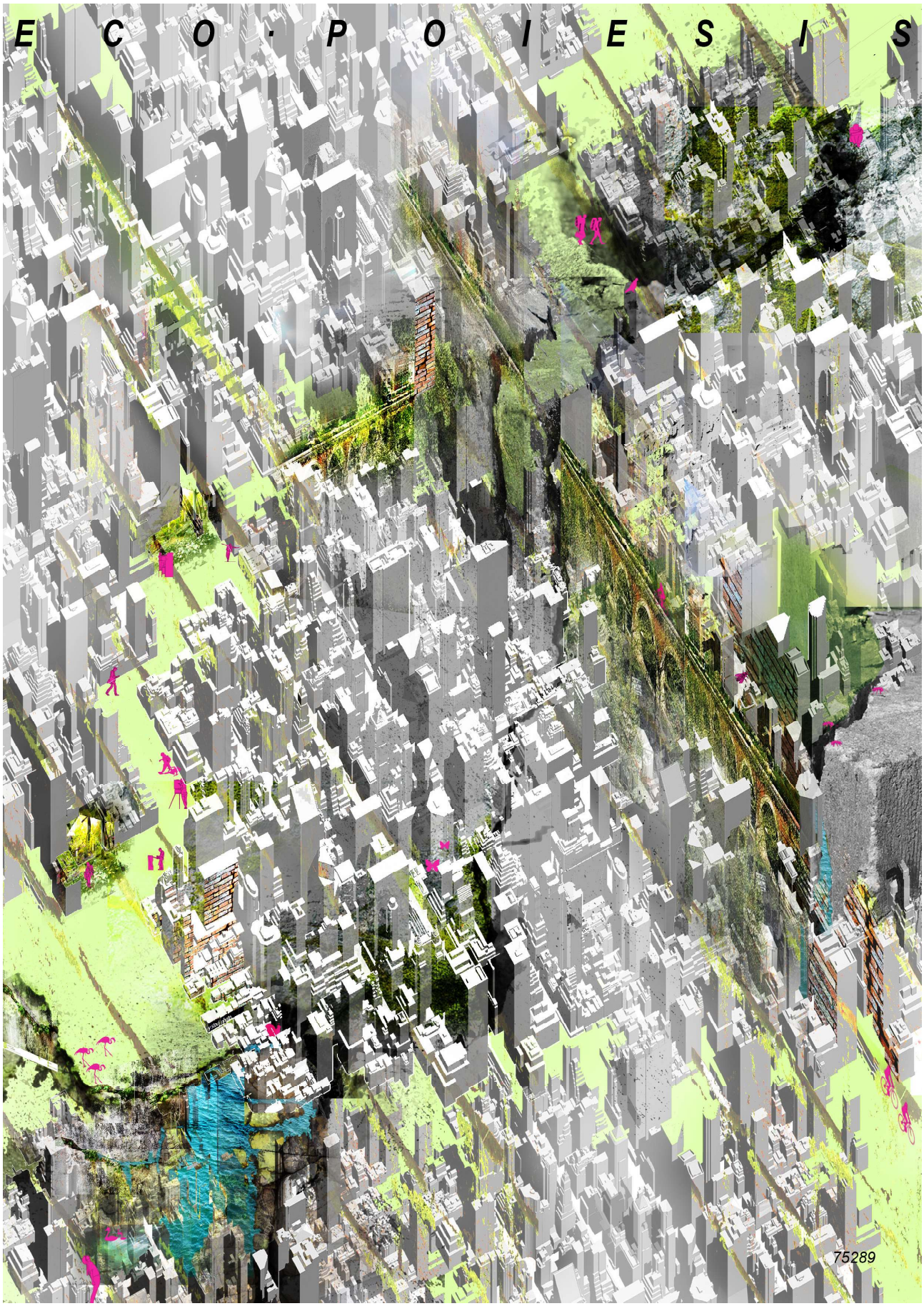
We introduce a small scale ecological crack to megalopolis toward its evolution to ecopoetic polis at large scale. A crack is a vulnerable moment in the surface and materiality of a mass and spatiality of a built form. It is charged with a transformative potential that retains both historical trace and natural trajectory.

The crack allows the formation of ecopoetic loci of transience, disintegration and decay as an ongoing morphosis. The ecopoetic zones restore the damaged ground of habitats over the long duration of geological temporality. Thus, the crack initiates a symbiotic relationship as the surrounding environment nurtures its inhabitants.

Ecopoetic polis is the interval between a fully domestic environment and total wilderness. It is where *physis* and *poiesis* occur in strong connection with each other. Ecopoetic polis protects biodiversity and localizes nutrition for all.



inventory	
weatherable facade materials	transience and cyclical renewals
pervious surfaces	natural water cycle
rooftop gardens vertical gardens	organic urban farming
solar-powered vehicles	elevated ways for uninterrupted movement
repurposed utilities	renewable energy
biodegradable materials	recycling of matter and environment
ecological parks with historical traces	restoration of flora and fauna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Going Back to Wetness

Winner

Wellbeing in its essence is the perception of existence within our ecological context, a shared existence built on trust and endurance, hence resonates towards a resilient sustenance.

Water, the quintessential force that effortlessly embodies the paradox of being a connector yet separator, enables us to decisively reorganize our settlements for wellbeing, encouraging an independent yet interconnected living.

Retracing the wetness that is embedded in our existence, through reclamation of the hydrologic networks allows us to share the abundance of its presence while inducing reversal of social and ecological disparities that have rendered the world inhabitable.

DHAKA ! an urban basin of rivers dotted with numerous water bodies – present and extinct, bedazzled with density and disparity, could be envisioned as a network of self-sufficient and modular mixed-use communities. The spinal separator can become the central connector, a civic flux, a linear purifier. Grimm separators as shared connectors, urban infrastructure should be reclaimed to make way for resilient ecological corridors and connections. Where multilayer intertwined land bridges connect the communities, ensuring an inherently healthy living condition for its inhabitants.

The authors

Razib Hassan Chowdhury - Principal Architect, SILT

Razib's focus of work is on ecological resilience and integrated approach to sustainability.

From micro-scale efficiency to macro-scale optimization of footprint, he thrives to achieve inclusivity through sensitive design across the spectrum.

Amrin Islam - Architect

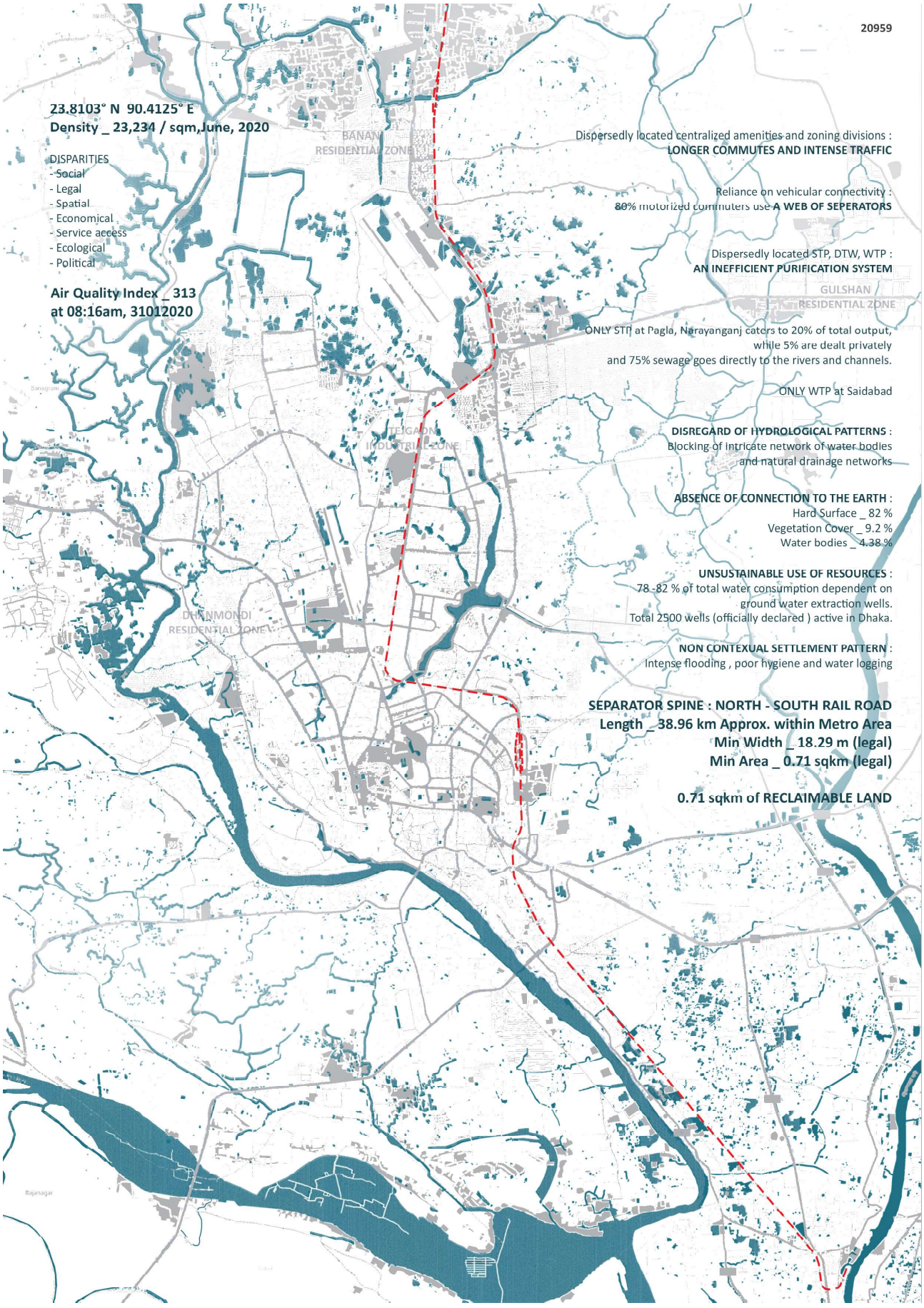
As an architect and studio head, Amrin enjoys working on detail oriented and environmentally responsible projects. She likes to explore beauty - both in work and in leisure by practicing origami in her free time.

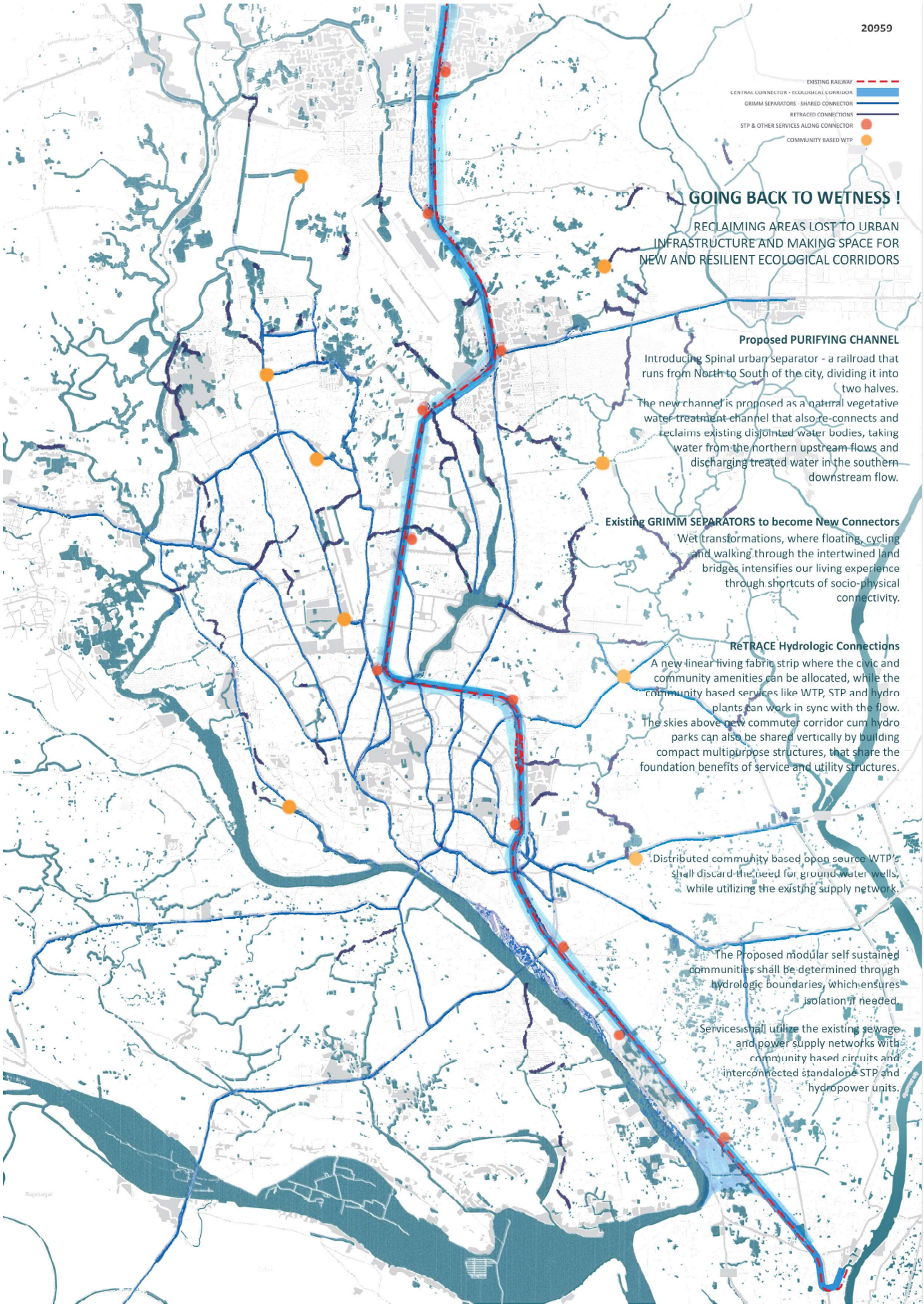
Israt Jahan Nishat - Architect

Israt is interested in projects focused on diversity and sustainability. When not at work, she lives doodling about everyday life stories and under better circumstances, travelling the world.

SILT

Dhaka, Bangladesh


20959
23.8103° N 90.4125° E
Density _ 23,234 / sqm,June, 2020
DISPARITIES
- Social
- Legal
- Spatial
- Economical
- Service access
- Ecological
- Political
Air Quality Index _ 313
at 08:16am, 31012020
BANANI
RESIDENTIAL ZONE
TEJGAON
INDUSTRIAL ZONE
DHANMONDI
RESIDENTIAL ZONE
GULSHAN
RESIDENTIAL ZONE
Dispersedly located centralized amenities and zoning divisions :
LONGER COMMUTES AND INTENSE TRAFFIC
Reliance on vehicular connectivity :
80% motorized commuters use A WEB OF SEPERATORS
Dispersedly located STP, DTW, WTP :
AN INEFFICIENT PURIFICATION SYSTEM
ONLY STP at Pagla, Narayanganj caters to 20% of total output,
while 5% are dealt privately
and 75% sewage goes directly to the rivers and channels.
ONLY WTP at Saidabad
DISREGARD OF HYDROLOGICAL PATTERNS :
Blocking of intricate network of water bodies
and natural drainage networks
ABSENCE OF CONNECTION TO THE EARTH :
Hard Surface _ 82 %
Vegetation Cover _ 9.2 %
Water bodies _ 4.38 %
UNSUSTAINABLE USE OF RESOURCES :
78 -82 % of total water consumption dependent on
ground water extraction wells.
Total 2500 wells (officially declared) active in Dhaka.
NON CONTEXUAL SETTLEMENT PATTERN :
Intense flooding , poor hygiene and water logging
SEPARATOR SPINE : NORTH - SOUTH RAIL ROAD
Length _ 38.96 km Approx. within Metro Area
Min Width _ 18.29 m (legal)
Min Area _ 0.71 sqkm (legal)
0.71 sqkm of RECLAIMABLE LAND


20959
EXISTING RAILWAY
CENTRAL CONNECTOR - ECOLOGICAL CORRIDOR
GRIMM SEPARATORS - SHARED CONNECTOR
RETRACED CONNECTIONS
STP & OTHER SERVICES ALONG CONNECTOR
COMMUNITY BASED WTP
GOING BACK TO WETNESS !
RECLAIMING AREAS LOST TO URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND MAKING SPACE FOR NEW AND RESILIENT ECOLOGICAL CORRIDORS
Proposed PURIFYING CHANNEL
Introducing Spinal urban separator - a railroad that runs from North to South of the city, dividing it into two halves.
The new channel is proposed as a natural vegetative water treatment channel that also re-connects and reclaims existing disjointed water bodies, taking water from the northern upstream flows and discharging treated water in the southern downstream flow.
Existing GRIMM SEPARATORS to become New Connectors
Wet transformations, where floating, cycling and walking through the intertwined land bridges intensifies our living experience through shortcuts of socio-physical connectivity.
ReTRACE Hydrologic Connections
A new linear living fabric strip where the civic and community amenities can be allocated, while the community based services like WTP, STP and hydro plants can work in sync with the flow.
The skies above new commuter corridor cum hydro parks can also be shared vertically by building compact multipurpose structures, that share the foundation benefits of service and utility structures.
Distributed community based open source WTP's shall discard the need for ground water wells, while utilizing the existing supply network.
The Proposed modular self sustained communities shall be determined through hydrologic boundaries, which ensures isolation if needed.
Services shall utilize the existing sewage and power supply networks with community based circuits and interconnected standalone STP and hydropower units.

Best Presentation

Healthy Urban - Metabolism

Best Presentation

Unexpected urban challenges raise the question of what we want to co-exist with. Based on the idea of "20-minute City " and "Urban Metabolism," this proposal approaches de-urbanization through re-frame, re-purpose and re-trofit.

Re-frame Urban Communities

This concept re-frames the urban fabric into a series of communities with a 10-minute-walk radius. The convenient access to daily-necessity supplies and services promotes physical activity and social connections, consequently reducing risks to physical and enhances mental well-being. Governments can implement specific policies in local communities when dealing with emergencies, thus maximizing policy effectiveness, whilst better isolating the emergency.

Re-purpose Urban Spaces

The emergence of virtual communication engenders the need to re-purpose existing urban infrastructure to accommodate the new norm. Sites for demolished buildings and brownfields become public gardens. Driveways are replaced with bike-lanes and more street amenities. Large structures turn into sustainability centres with PV panels, allotments and rainwater collection facilities. Vacant offices and commercial spaces host containers for green, health-care and shared workspace units.

Re-trofit Urban Structures

This process only requires minimum development by inserting sustainable urban services. The added elements bring fresher air, encourage a healthy lifestyle, and prepare the communities for future emergencies.

The authors

Yachen Lin - Master of Urban Design - Master of Community and Regional Planning

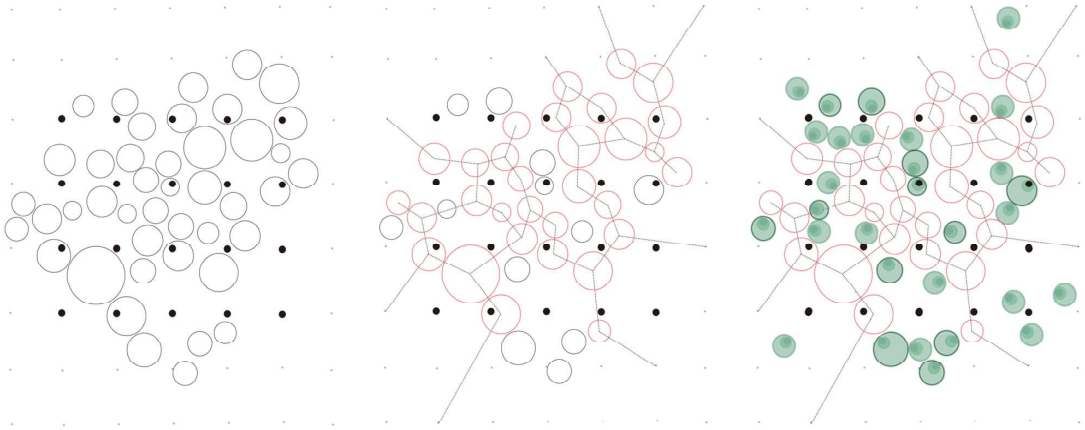
Master student of community and regional planning at the University of British Columbia. She is currently working on research about social impacts of public spaces.

Hang Zhou - Architect, BArch (Hons), MArch, RIBA

As an architect in the UK, Hang has been involved in residential projects and higher education projects for University of Cambridge, University College London and National Institute of Agricultural Botany.

Shengtao Du - Graduate of Architecture(M.Arch)

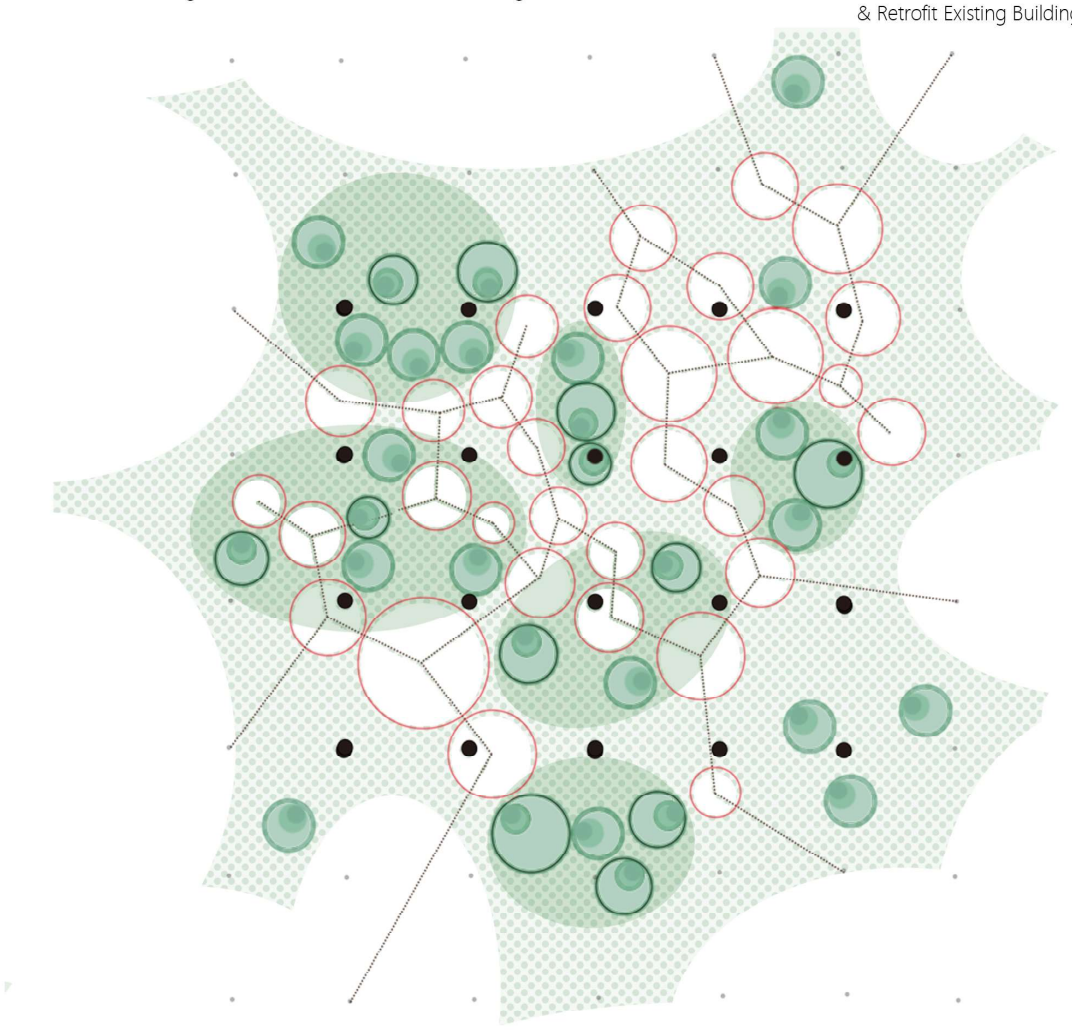
Shengtao graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Master of Architecture. After graduating,
He has contributed to a mixture of projects at different stages including residential, commercial and mixed-use.



Existing Urban Pattern

Organize Infrastructure

Introduce Green Infrastructure
& Retrofit Existing Buildings



Existing Infrastructure

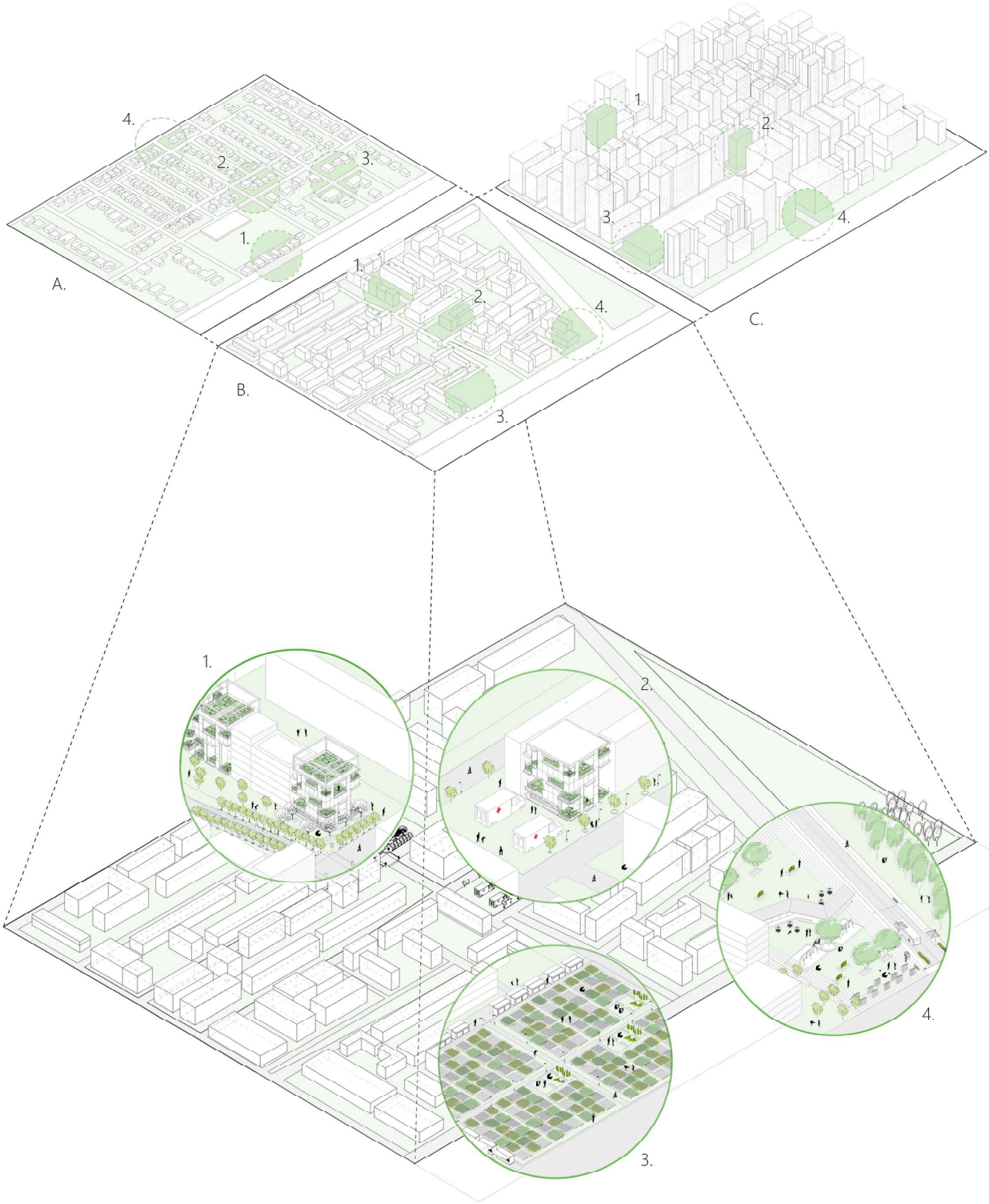
Retained Infrastructure

Retrofitted Building

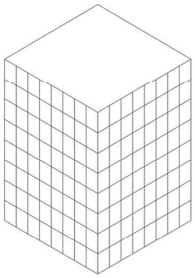
De-Urbanised Area

Reframed Local Community

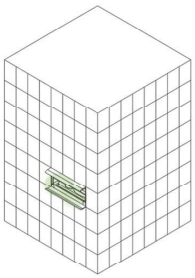
A. Low - Density
B. Middle - Density
C. High - Density



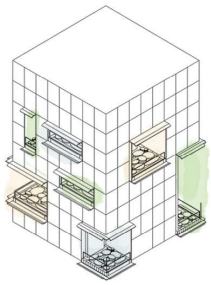
1. Retrofitted Buildings
2. Health Service Centre
3. Sustainability Centre (PVs & Allotments & Rainwater Collection)
4. Redesigned Street & Public Space



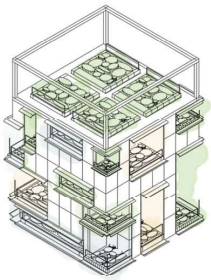
Retired Building



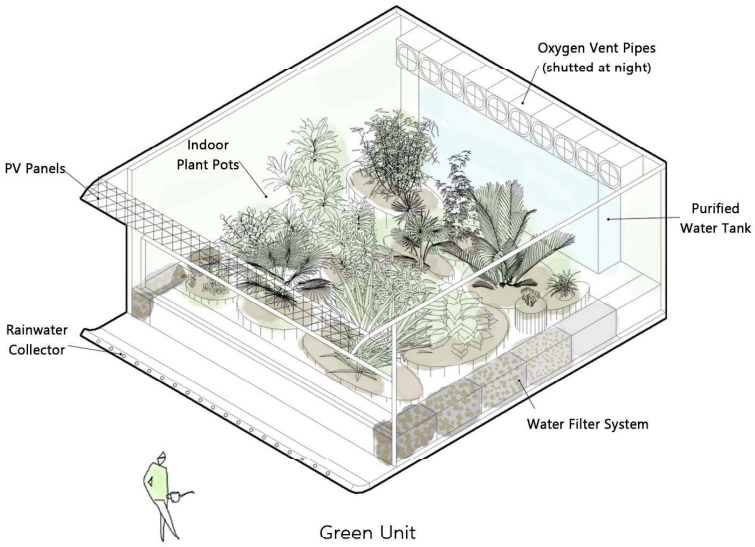
Phase One



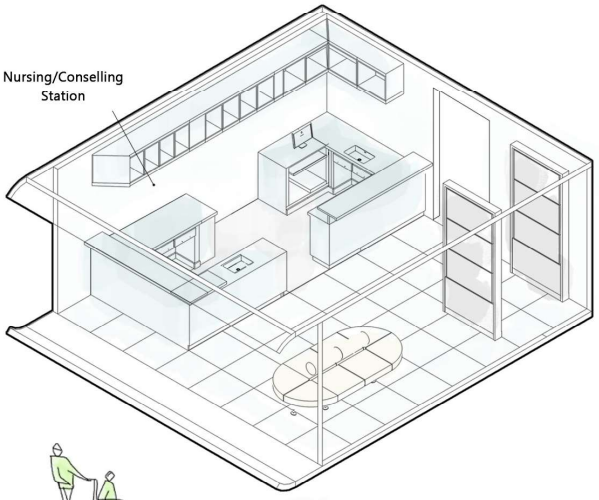
Phase Two



Phase Three



Green Unit



Healthcare Unit

Shared Workspace Unit

Mentions

Nurturing Habitats for Biophilic Cities

Mention

Referring to biological and ecological principles, "freeDOME" project is aimed at re-qualifying and connecting urban, peri-urban and/or rural neglected spaces, through an integrated smart system based on intelligent vehicular Pods and Campus.

Here people can connect and share, grow their own food and develop a new form of work-life environment that can lead to a more inclusive, healthy, active and sustainable lifestyle, respecting the COVID-19 restrictions. This system will reduce the traffic to and from city centres, the consumption of fuel, water, energy and land therefore our environmental footprint.

The campus, based on permaCULTURE, bioMMETIC
and bioPHILIC principles, will serve as self-sufficient farms for hosting the autonomous pods and will be distinguished by their high connectivity, accessibility and environmentally-friendly features. The 'urban farms', seen as smarter sharing-neighborhoods for the 21th century millennials living, are also envisioned as new urban transformation engines, which will render a new land and gentrification culture to fuse seamlessly within the dense urban fabric. Here they should be placed at 15 - 20 minutes walking distance and be connected to each other and to the suburban and rural campus through greenways or ecological corridors for bikes and pods.

The author

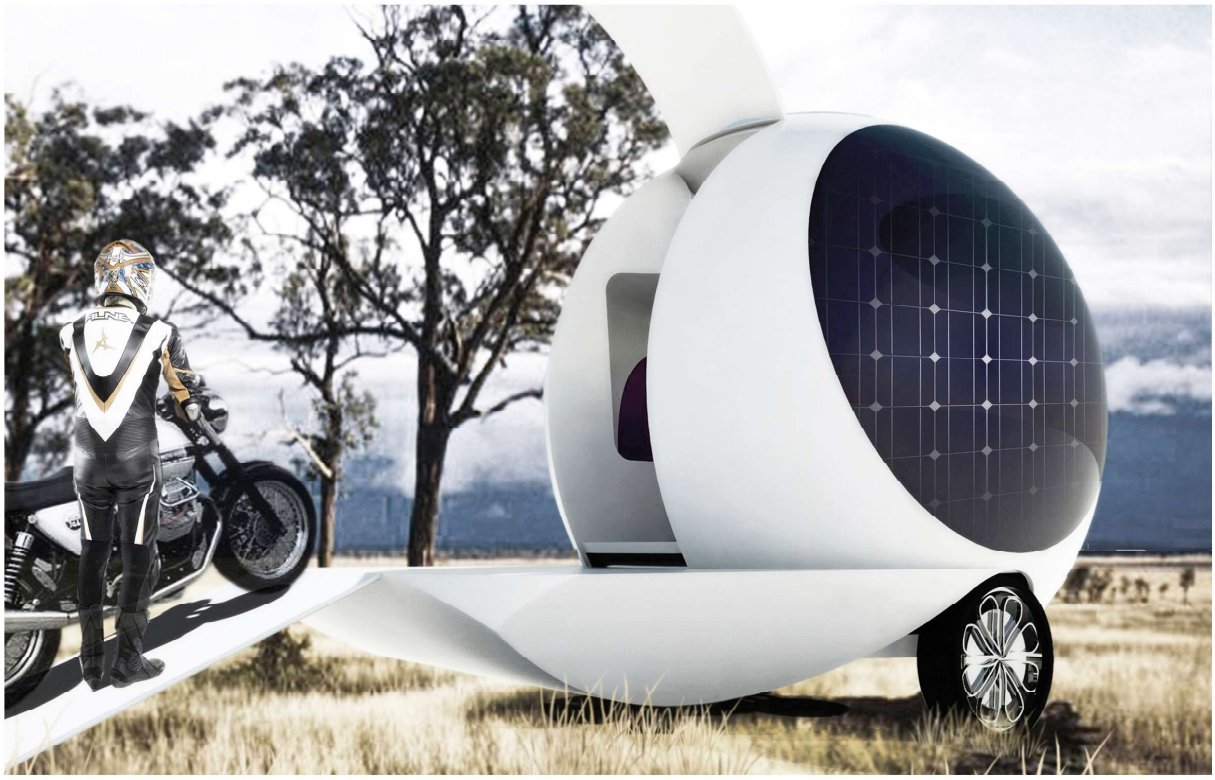
Serena Fiorelli - Architect, bioMIMESIS design

Serena is an architect, permaculture designer and the founder of bioMIMESIS design, a studio and innovative start-up based on the R&D of bio-inspired micro-housing, communities and mobility systems for fragile terrtories regeneration.

00022

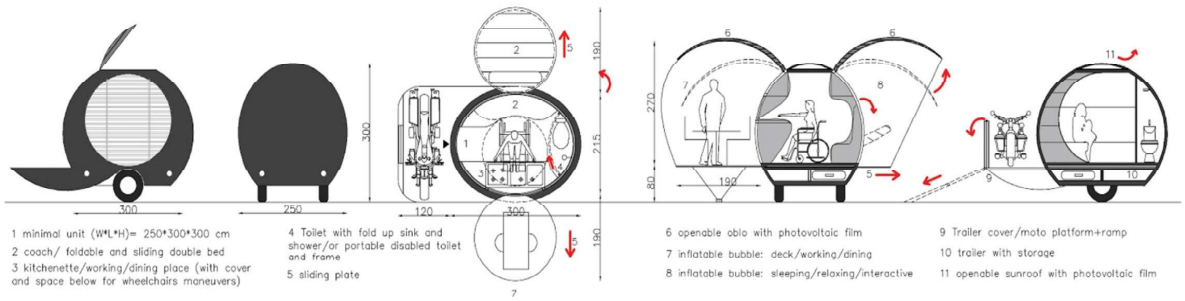
freeDOME biopod

a mini studio-home for a new human/nature interaction

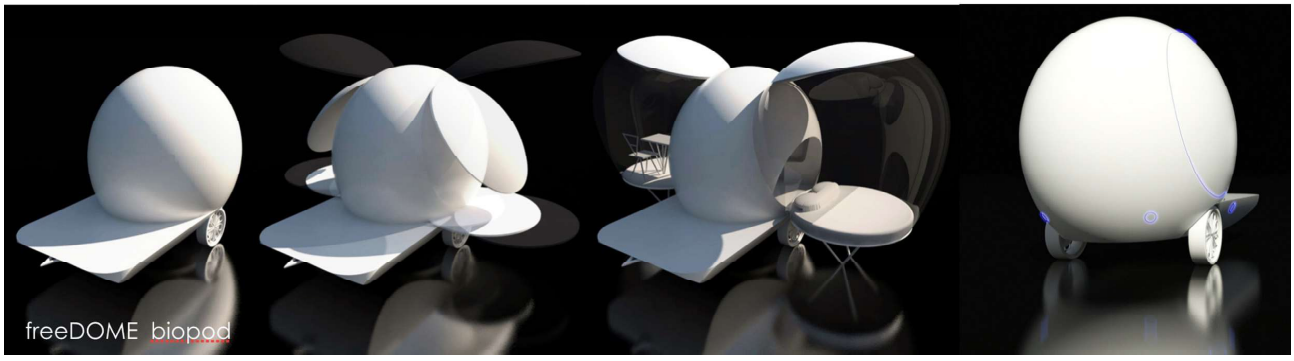


minimal unit

(W*L*H) 240*300*280 cm = 7.5 sq m (closed) / ~ 15 sq m (expanded)



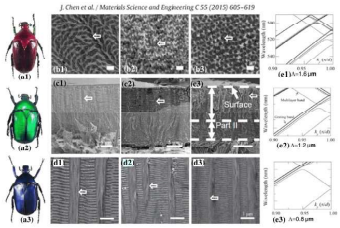
The two resulting bubbles on the opposite wings can be utilised for **COVID-19** isolation for two people, meanwhile allowing them to connect with the natural environment and other community members.



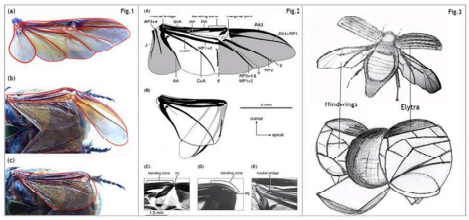
"Sustainable innovations inspired by nature". J. Benjus

- biomorphic and biomimetic design

-20 min walkable distance-



Different structural colors and microstructure of the forewing found in several types of beetles



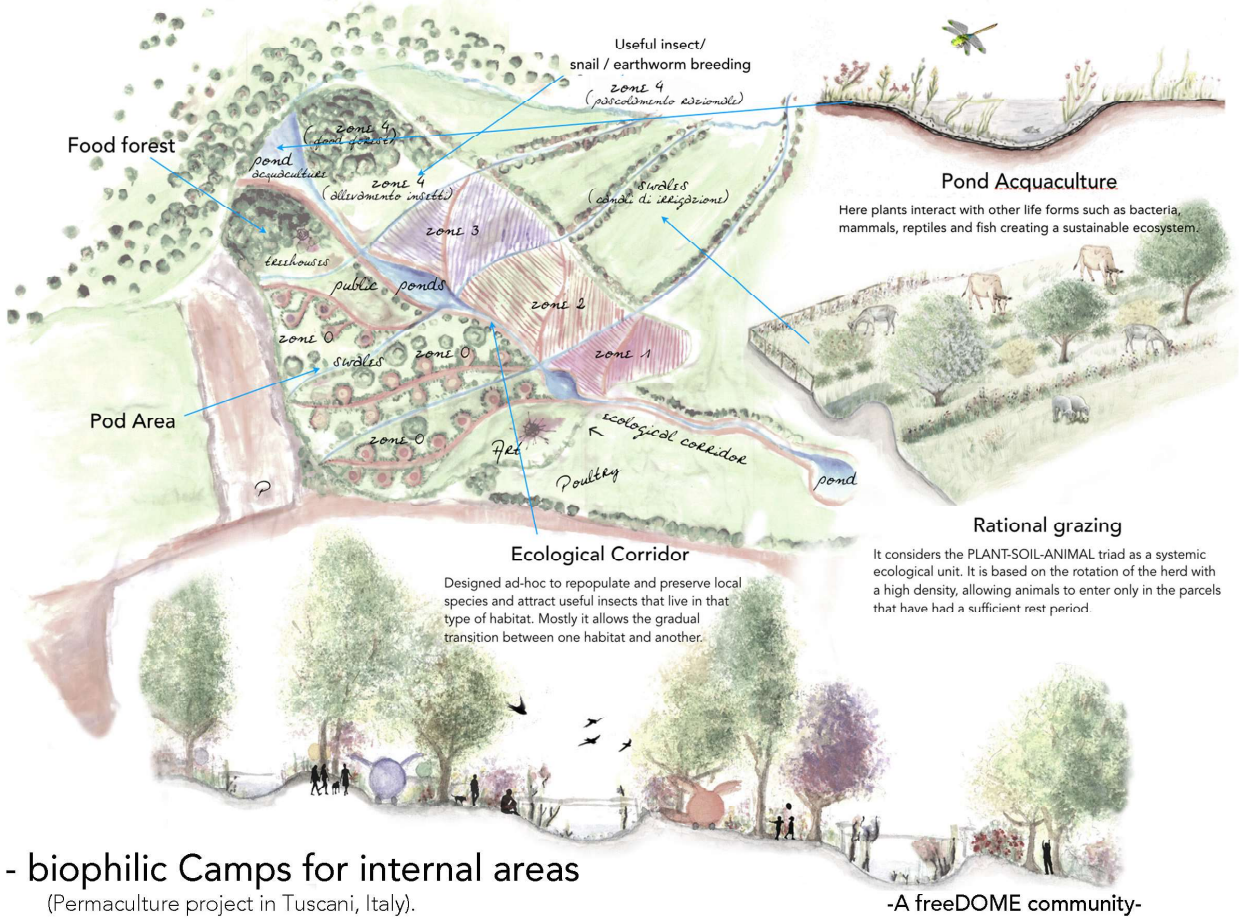
Forewing cross section (in Materials Science and Engineering C 55 May 2015)

biophilic Camps for biophilic Cities - "the inherent human inclination to affiliate with nature" (Kellert, 2015).

Ingenuity. An 1845 sketch by J.H. Le Keux shows an Aboriginal village

A biological soocial insects community

An Indigenous Australian community



Pond Acquaculture

Here plants interact with other life forms such as bacteria, mammals, reptiles and fish creating a sustainable ecosystem.

Rational grazing

It considers the PLANT-SOIL-ANIMAL triad as a systemic ecological unit. It is based on the rotation of the herd with a high density, allowing animals to enter only in the parcels that have had a sufficient rest period.

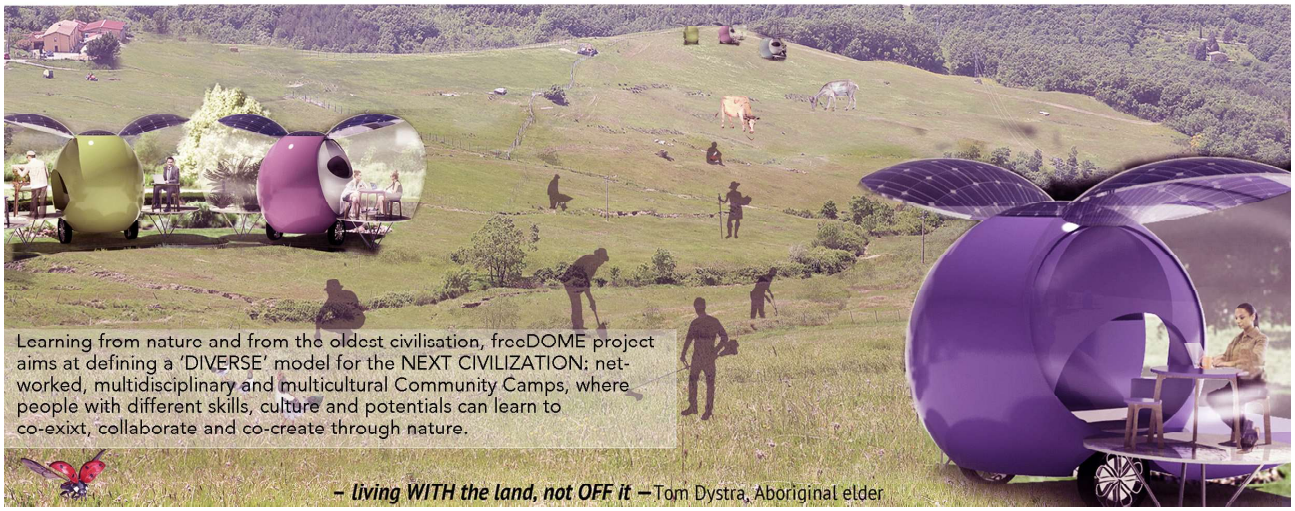
Ecological Corridor

Designed ad-hoc to repopulate and preserve local species and attract useful insects that live in that type of habitat. Mostly it allows the gradual transition between one habitat and another.

- biophilic Camps for internal areas

(Permaculture project in Tuscani, Italy).

-A freeDOME community-



Learning from nature and from the oldest civilisation, freeDOME project aims at defining a 'DIVERSE' model for the NEXT CIVILIZATION: net-worked, multidisciplinary and multicultural Community Camps, where people with different skills, culture and potentials can learn to co-exixt, collaborate and co-create through nature.

– living WITH the land, not OFF it – Tom Dystra, Aboriginal elder

The Role of Urban Green Areas

Mention

Urban green areas must necessarily acquire a central role in future urban planning, in function of the innumerable and irreplaceable environmental benefits they are able to generate (ecosystem services). The main ones include: carbon dioxide sequestration and oxygen production (photosynthesis); reduction of the heat island effect thanks to canopy shading and evapotranspiration; interception and infiltration of rainwater; interception of air pollutants; habitat creation.

In order to ensure a maximization of these benefits, however, it is essential that the planning, design and management of green areas are carried out with greater awareness and technical-scientific in-depth analysis than is currently the case.

Intervention levels and strategies are manifold. We have identified some strategic priorities: at a territorial level, increasing ecological connectivity by creating a real network of green infrastructures; locally, move from an ornamentalism concept of urban green areas to a functional design based on the principles of plant ecology.

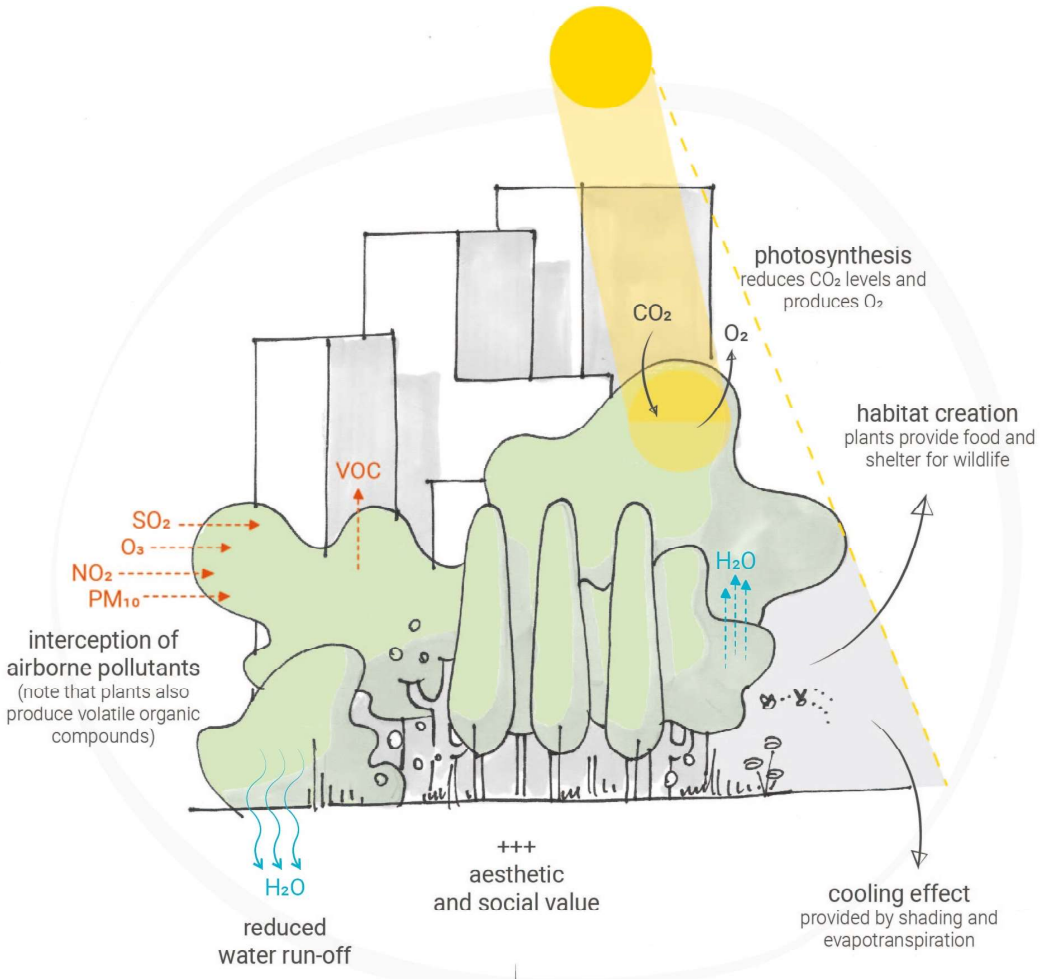
We believe that the application of these principles can lead in a short term to a clear reduction of management inputs and costs and to a maximization of environmental benefits in favor of urban populations and, more generally, to a more harmonious balance with the territory and the environment.

The author

Raffaele Orrù – freelance landscape agronomist

He mainly deals with the design of urban greenery and landscape. He is interested in the principles of plant ecology, which he tries to put into practice in the design process.

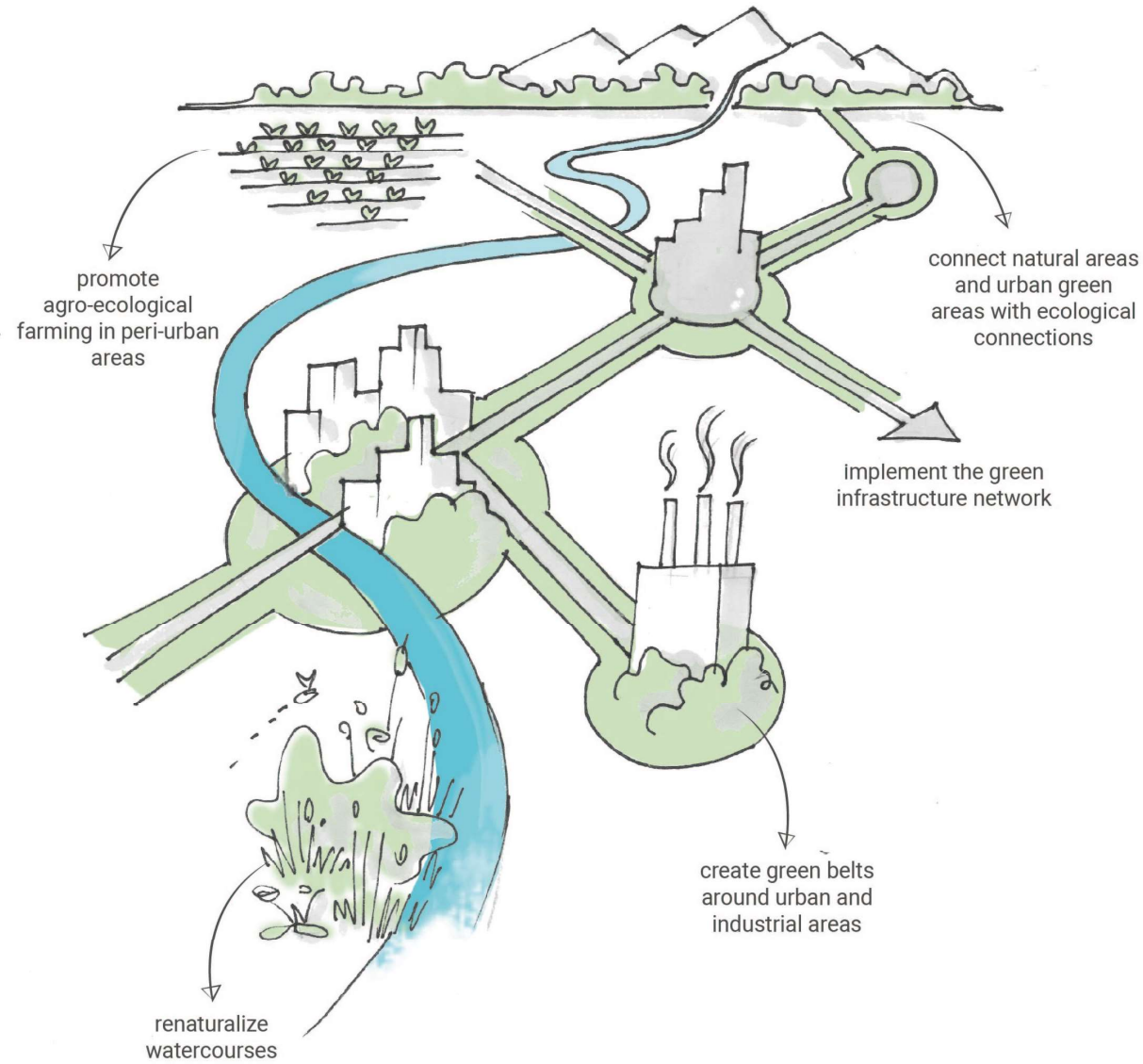
the role of
urban green areas



2020 -> 2030
work to increase the ecosystem services provided by green urban areas

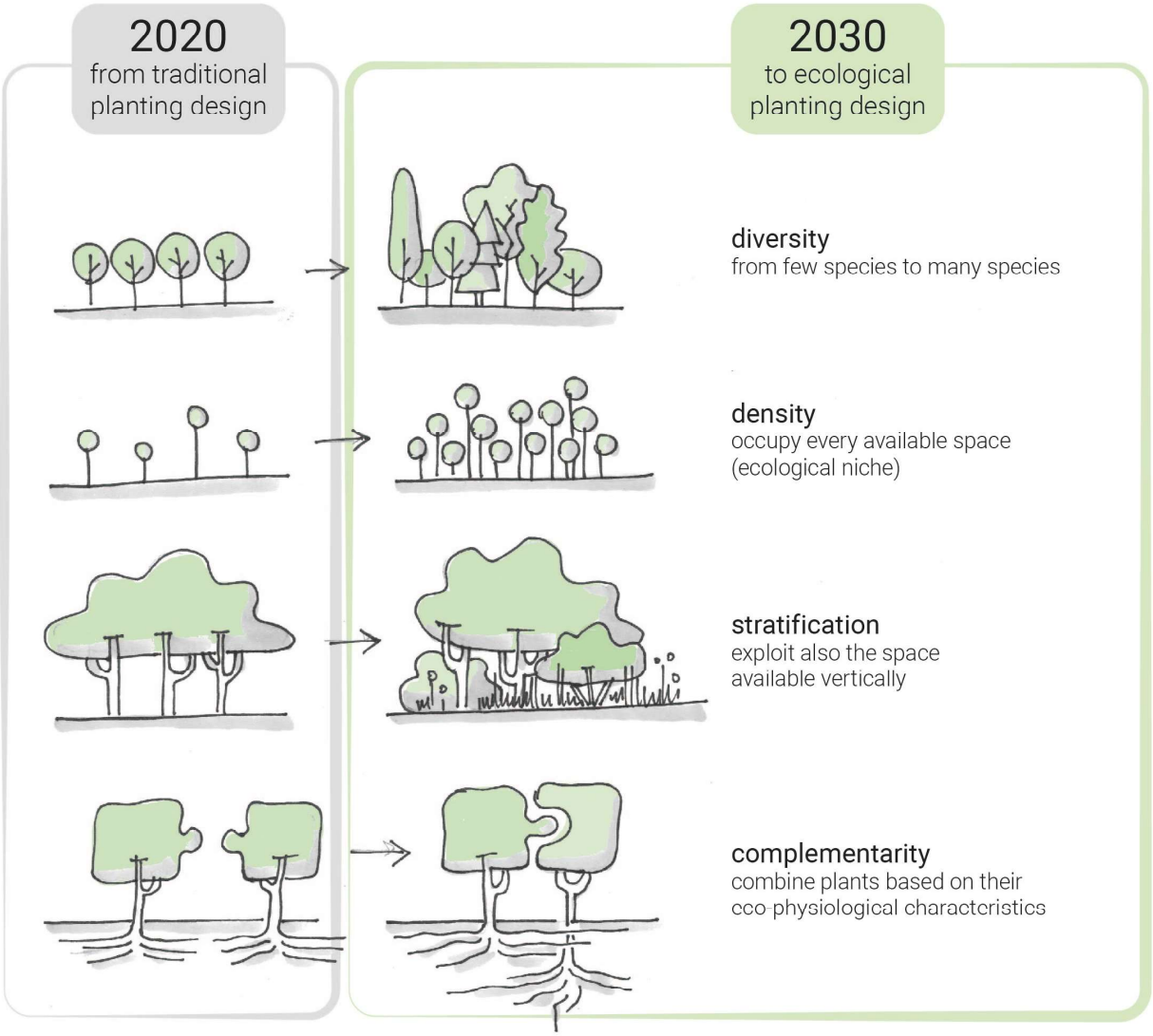
2020 -> 2030
work to increase the ecosystem services provided by green urban areas

large-scale strategies and tools



2020 -> 2030
work to increase the ecosystem services provided by green urban areas

small-scale strategies and tools



Re-shaping Commute

Mention

A city has re-imagined the story of commuting for us all. The part of the day that is intense and unattractive has been decompressed and become a "healthy refreshment".
The new normal is a city that provides for mental space and aural stillness. It is built around the creation of breathing space which we embrace whilst going from point A to B. The strategy to change what a journey through the city means to us - is the green grid. We overlay green landscapes over a busy stressful city map and redesign the experience of our daily travel.

Connections between neighbourhoods become a network of saturated urban ecosystems, which respond to creative, interactive and physiological aspects of human needs. This turns our daily commute into a soothing experience, remoulds the exhausting routine and offers easier access to a variety of leisure activities on the way. With loneliness and social-distancing behaviour on the rise, the idea celebrates a sense of communal wellbeing. Such diverse habitation scenarios instil a sustainable and content lifestyle that focuses on the self-care mindset, giving plenty of scope for curiosity and trust to thrive.
We suddenly find ourselves on a journey that is so pleasant.

The authors

Marta Sánchez Rosique - ARB Architect

Marta is an architect with international training and experience. She currently works as part of Dexter Moren Associates planning team. Marta enjoys exploring the intersection of vernacular architecture and contemporary design.

Vitalija Katine - BA (Hons) MArch PGDip ARB RIBA

Vitalija is a talented architect specialising in hospitality. Before starting her own design studio Arcnote, she has worked for numerous award-winning practices. She is passionate about translating aspirational concepts into spatial design.

The Human Body as the World

Mention

An epidemic is a disease that quickly and severely affects a large number of people and then subsides. The urban fosters an unhealthy condition resulting in extinctions and planetary crises, endangering the livelihood of both humans and non-humans. We are disoriented; lost in an enigmatic scale of contentious momentum. We were led astray and have lost track of the center.

The center is how we bring the universe into a personal wholeness. Our being centered activates the rich life which moves so mysteriously and decisively in our bodies. Paradox is at the center. The dynamic of life and death is a tender thread lying in every instant. Centering is the process which enables us to feel It not as a thread, but a sphere. The urgency is to bring man into man's consciousness, for life is not transforming energy, but transforming person.

Vitruvius wrote that the human body fits inside a circle and a square. The circle represented the cosmic and the divine; the square, the earthly and the secular. Proposing that a man could fit inside both shapes was a metaphysical proposition: The human body wasn't designed according to principles that governed the world; it was the world.

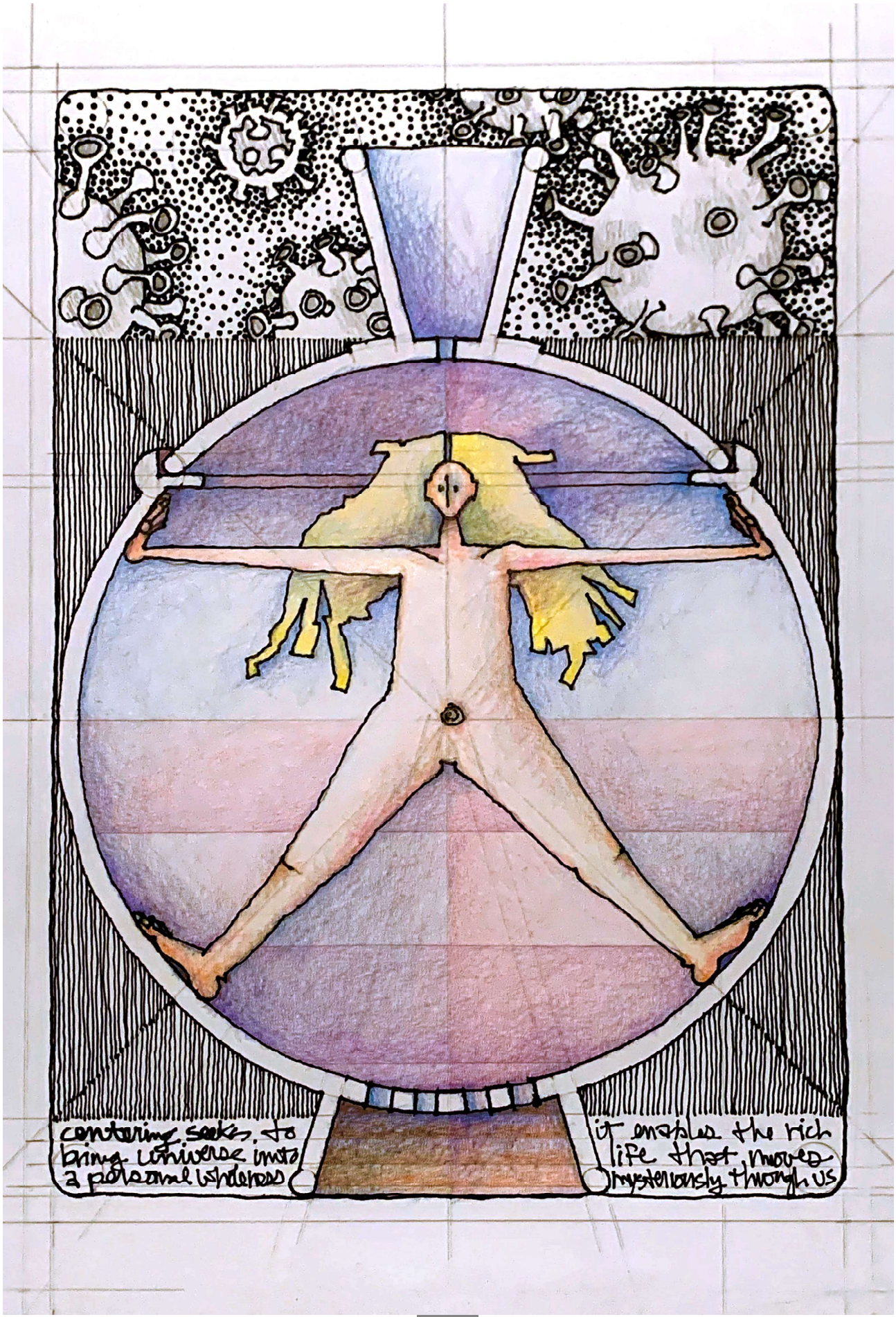
The author

Brian Dougan - Architect and Professor

Brian Dougan, Professor of Architecture, Department of Architecture Art and Design, American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

Brian Dougan practices breadth as a means to depth and believes in a pedagogy of demonstration and veracity.

His promotes learning how to learn. He draws and makes pottery.


centering seeks to bring universe into a personal wholeness
it enables the rich life that moved mysteriously through us

Over Your Car Park, Grass Will Grow

Mention

There are over 13,000 excess off-street car parking areas in the city of Melbourne while there is 41% of car-parks empty. A future of driving where people not driving is closer than ever. It is clear that we will have a surplus of land back at us with autonomous driving and public transport alternatives being promoted by the government of Australia.

In the case of Brunswick, Melbourne, car-parks take up to 31% land while there is only 16% land of urban forest for humans. Increasing urban forest will contribute to improve public health and liveability, but how can we turn a 100% human-dominated car park into an urban forest?

When humans build our city, we break open a way through trees and grass, but when other species try to take up a human-built space, it takes only one crack.

This project is a 30-year-long process, where structures with plants and human activities will collapse because of the exuberant vitality of vegetation on it. By giving the plants a chance to crack the car-park, the car-park will be traded for a micro-ecosystem that benefits public health.

The author

Peishen Wu - Landscape Architect

Master of Landscape Architecture, RMIT University.
Bachelor of Environmental Design, Guangxi Normal University.

Highly motivated by projects, which serve the broader community with a social agenda.

He enjoys applying environmentally sustainable principles to support the design and together with pragmatic approach to detailing. He is also interested in exploring biomimicry in projects, and revealing the natural processes of the environment to educate the community.

Over Your Car Park, Grass Will Grow

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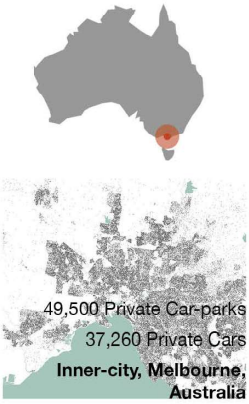
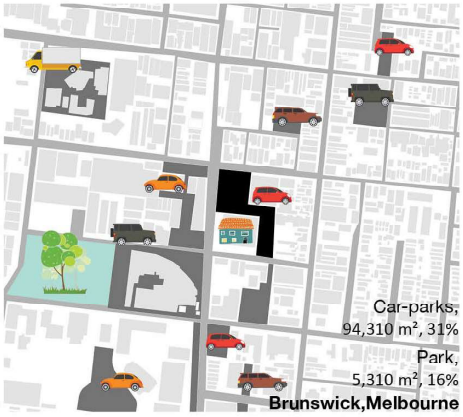
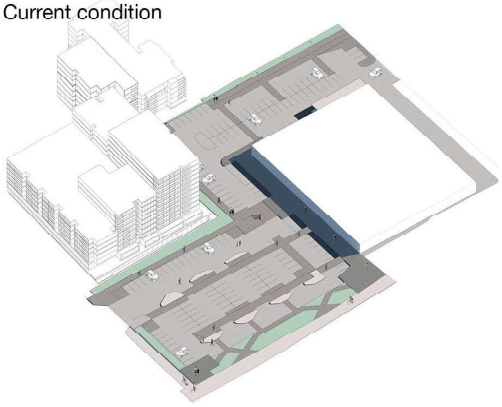




Car-park in 2020

Current condition

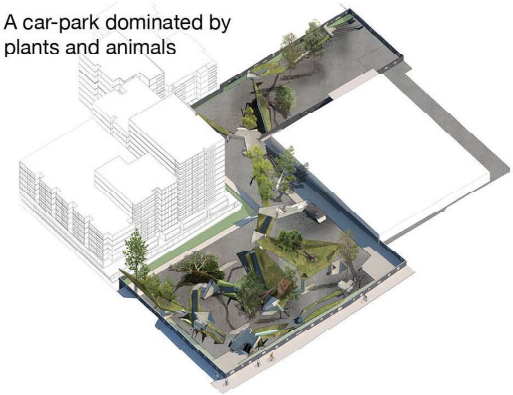


Car-park in 2025

A car-park with plants and human activities

Car-park in 2040

A car-park dominated by plants and animals



Over Your Car Park, Grass Will Grow

Car Park in 2050

This project is a 30-year-long process, where structures with plants and human activities will collapse because of the exuberant vitality of vegetation on it. By giving the plants a chance to crack the car-park, the car-park will be trade for a micro-ecosystem that benefits public health.

Projects selected for Publications

Vaastu Shastra, The Architectur

Publication

Architecture in today's world is being considered mainly as a style in Architecture with varying schools of thoughts. Designing or planning has become a game of play with spaces, colours, graphic designs and various construction materials.

The moment a human is confined to a space (Vastu – shelter) cutting him off from nature, the effect of this is seen in his behaviour. This is where the architect needs to provide the correct proportion of all the five elements in Nature namely Earth, Water (moisture), Light & Heat, Air and Ether (Universal sound) for the different activities through the openings (Windows) in the definite direction.

The quest is for creation of physical settings with conducive environments in which human beings would successfully carry out various activities and this process of creation is called in Hindu Sciences the "VAASTU SHASTRA" the only methodology to propagate science in Architecture.

What an Architect should consider!

"Designing a building in Architecture is Energizing the Spaces meant for Specific Function, using LENGTH, BREADTH, HEIGHT and MATERIALS as useful tools on a given SPACE".

We the Architects can learn Architecture and many more things from nature. An ant-hill an object (shelter/ building) to LIVE-IN.

The author

Appanna Sirdeshpande - Architect and Professor

Professor Appanna D Sirdeshpande has been a practicing Architect for the past 45 years in Bangalore, India. His expertise is in Vastu Shastra and his aim is to extend his services and knowledge to the people to lead a comfortable life.

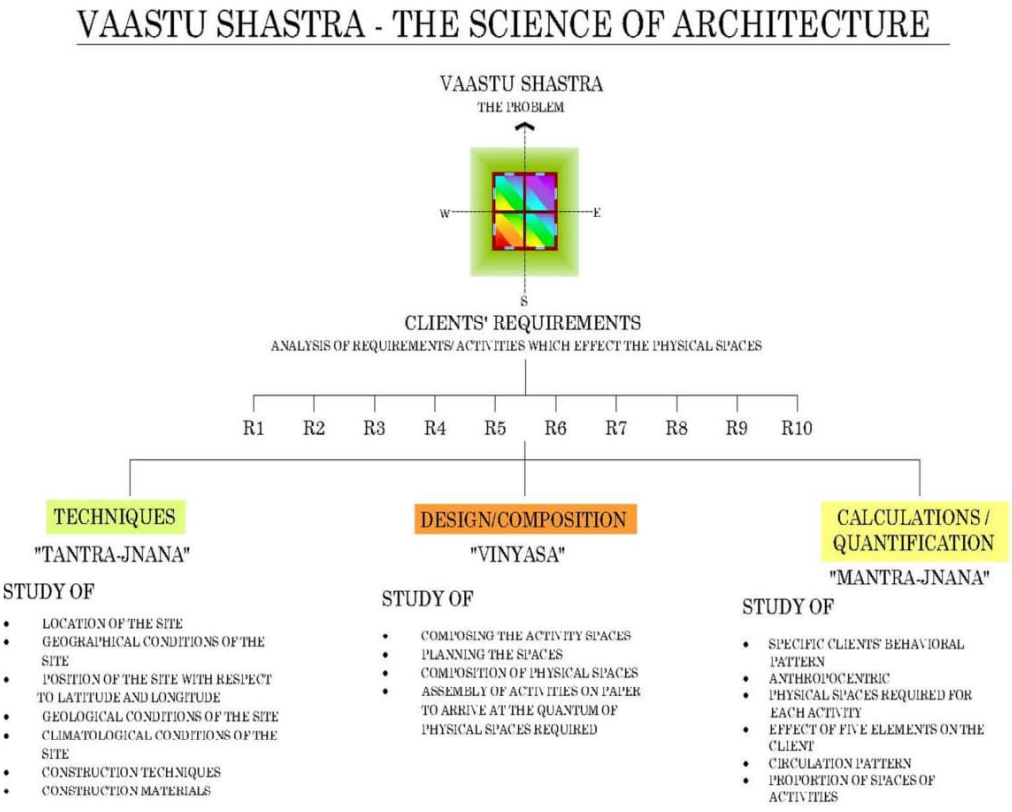
Prof. Appanna D Sirdeshpande has been a partner in the Firm Appanna & Nirmala, Architects and Associates, in Malleshwaram , Bangalore. He is a member of Council of Architects (COA) , India and Indian Institute of Architects (IIA) India

VAASTU SHASTRA, THE ARCHITECTURE...

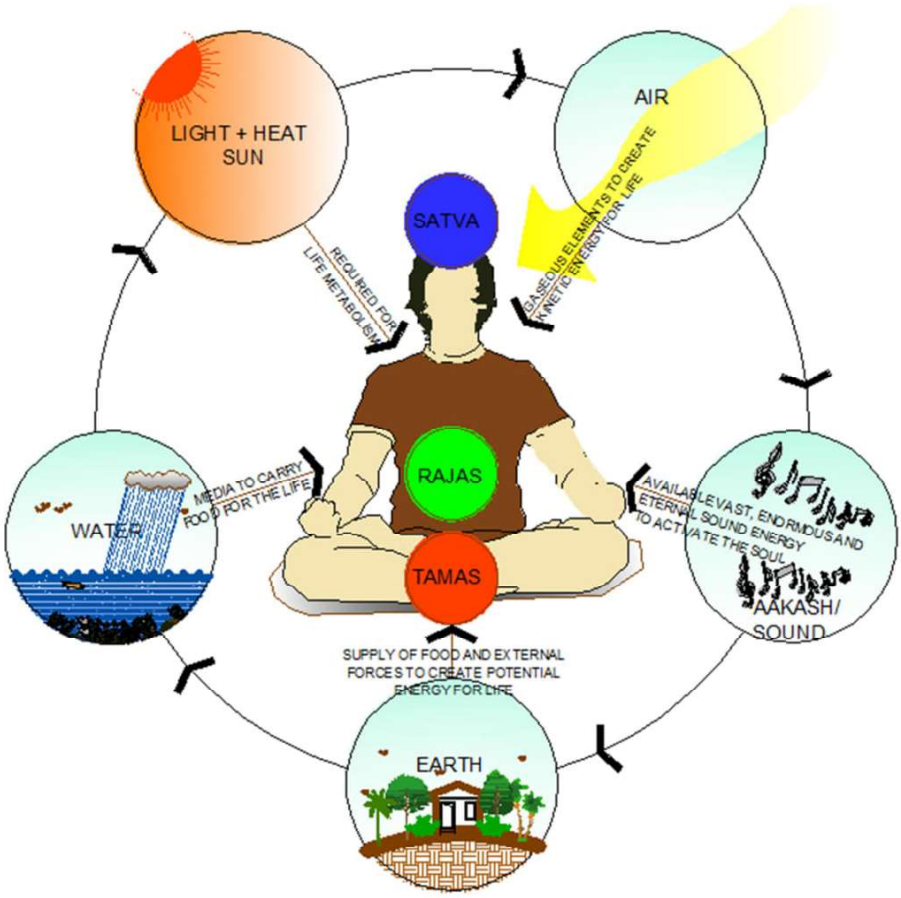
By Prof. Appanna D Sirdeshpande, M.Arch – IIT Kharagpur, India

Architecture in today's world is being considered mainly as a style in Architecture with varying school of thoughts. Designing or planning has become a game of play with spaces, colors, graphic designs and various construction materials.

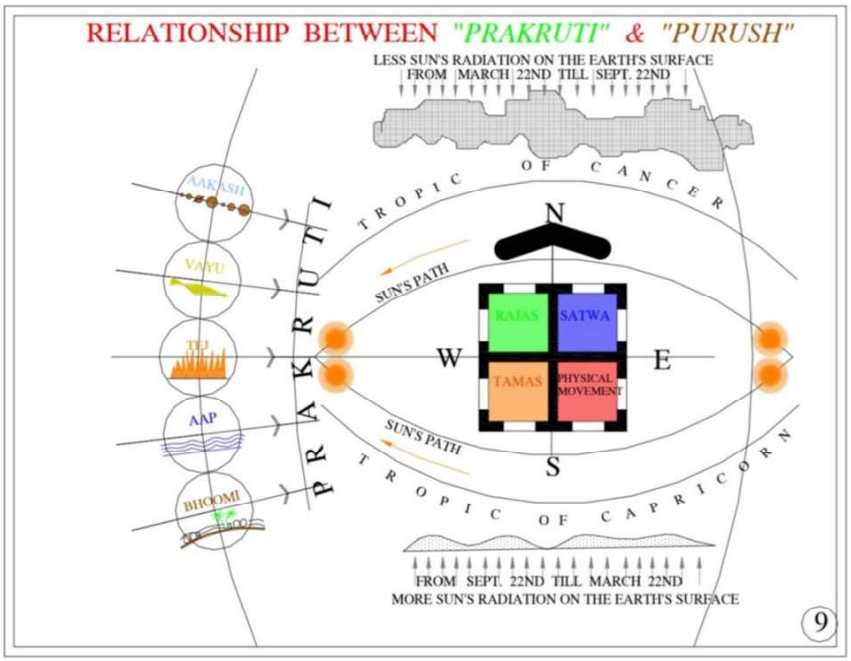
"An ARCHITECT IS one who can enter the mind of the CLIENT with the help of BRIGHT LAMP OF KNOWLEDGE, and who can have the PHILOSOPHICAL AND SCIENTIFIC APPROACH in designing buildings. ONLY SUCH AN ARCHITECT can treat the CLIENT SATISFACTORILY".

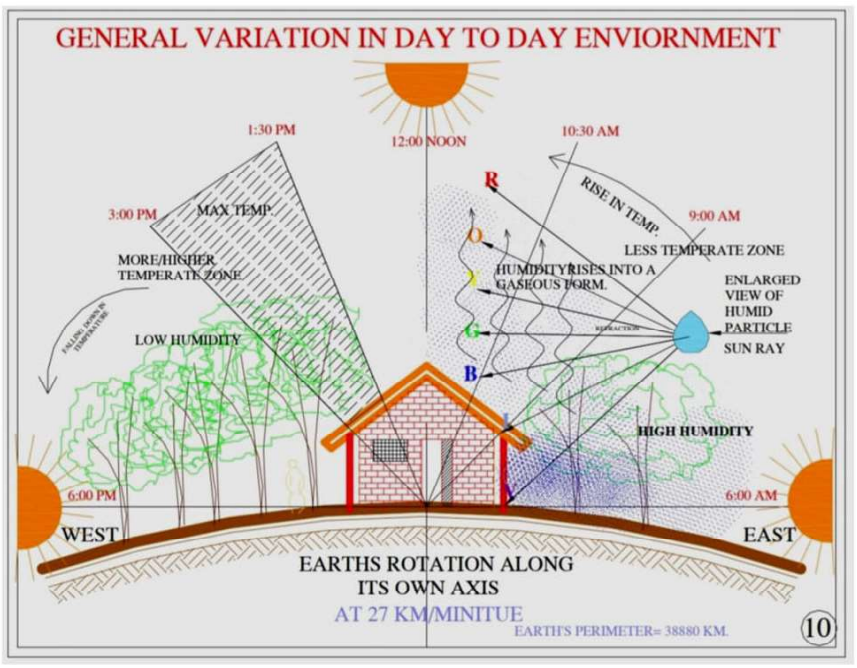


Nature is the main source of energy for a man-made Environment. The moment a human is confined to a space (Vastu – shelter) cutting him off from the nature, effect of this is seen in his behavior. This is where the architect needs to provide the correct proportion of all the five elements in Nature namely Earth, Water (moisture), Light & Heat, Air and Ether (Universal sound) for the different activities through the openings (Windows) in the definite direction which bring in definite radiation due to the Sun's Movement for that particular activity.



NATURE AND ITS FIVE ELEMENTS


RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN "PRAKRUTI" & "PURUSH"
LESS SUN'S RADIATION ON THE EARTH'S SURFACE
FROM MARCH 22ND TILL SEPT. 22ND
AAKASH
VAYU
TEJ
AAP
BHOOMI
PRAKRUTI
TROPIC OF CANCER
SUN'S PATH
N
W
E
S
RAJAS
SATWA
TAMAS
PHYSICAL MOVEMENT
SUN'S PATH
TROPIC OF CAPRICORN
FROM SEPT. 22ND TILL MARCH 22ND
MORE SUN'S RADIATION ON THE EARTH'S SURFACE
9


GENERAL VARIATION IN DAY TO DAY ENVIORNMENT
1:30 PM
12:00 NOON
10:30 AM
3:00 PM
MAX TEMP.
RISE IN TEMP.
9:00 AM
MORE/HIGHER TEMPERATE ZONE
LESS TEMPERATE ZONE
HUMIDITY RISES INTO A GASEOUS FORM.
ENLARGED VIEW OF HUMID PARTICLE
SUN RAY
LOW HUMIDITY
HIGH HUMIDITY
6:00 PM
6:00 AM
WEST
EAST
EARTHS ROTATION ALONG ITS OWN AXIS
AT 27 KM/MINITUE
EARTH'S PERIMETER= 38880 KM.
10

3

Quality Education at Far End!

Publication

More than half of the world population now lives in urban areas. This paradigm shift becomes a threat to the co-existence of humans and their surroundings. Economics, political, and social issues merge with the results of modernization make people want to create a city. As a result, they invade deeper untouched eco-systems. Urban areas license for better living standards.

For de-urbanization, one possible solution could be the development of satellite areas ensuring all primary facilities, such as superior education for minors. If this is possible, people won't migrate to urban areas for their children's better education. In the event of epidemics, children's social well-being hampers because they had to remain in small apartments. But every apartment has some common spaces for multipurpose uses.

These spaces may turn into schools for children that will remain fully functional at the time of epidemics. Maybe soon when peoples' office spaces could be accommodating in their residential areas and they don't have to search for good educational institutions for their children. They may live an eco-friendly apartment building in a remote area. Fewer movements, less carbon emission!

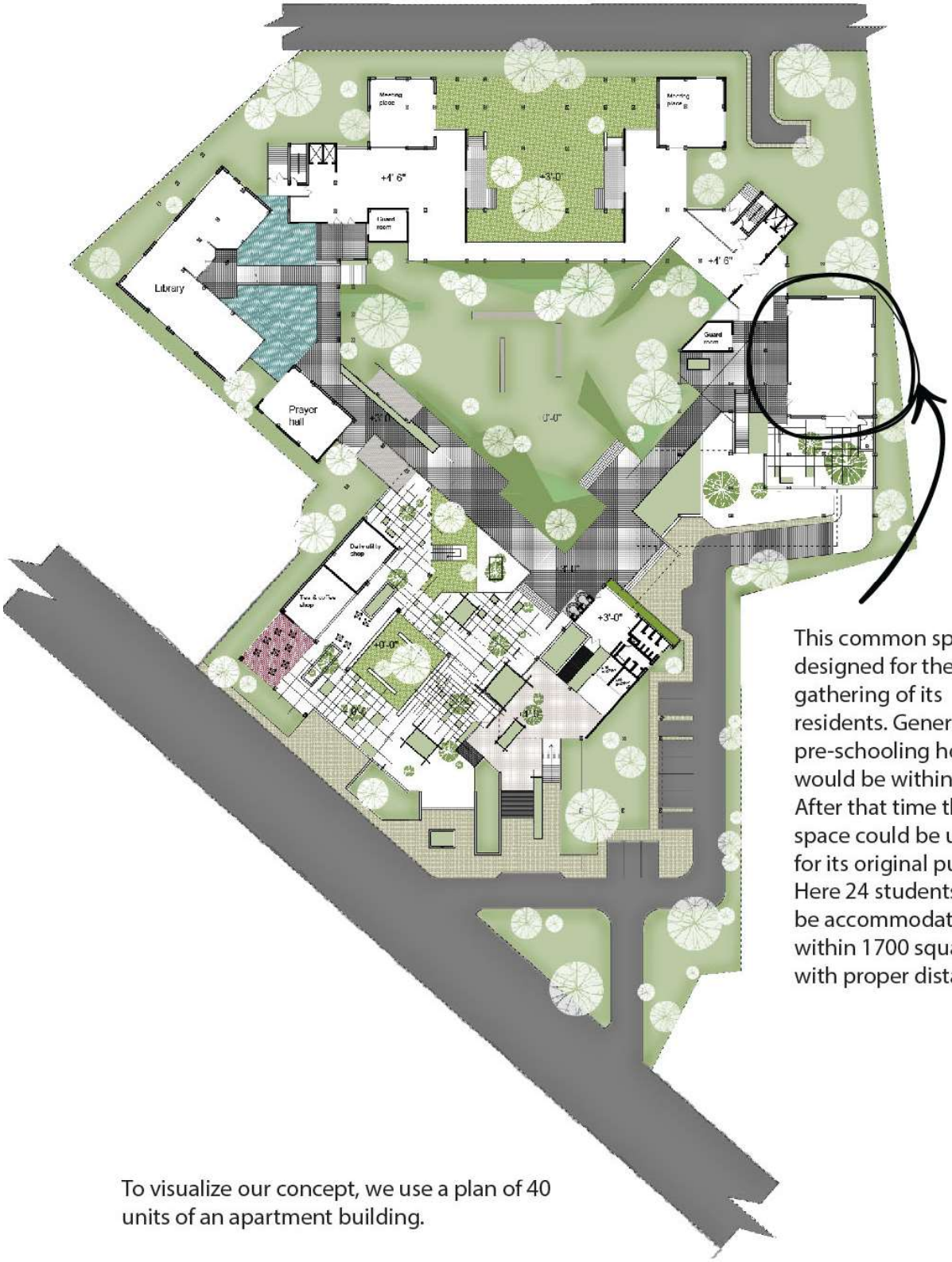
The authors

Abhijit Mazumdar - Architect

Architect Abhijit Mazumdar is working as an Assistant Professor at the Department of Architecture, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh. He is a proud associate member of the Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB) and also a registered architect of RAJUK, the Capital Development Authority of the Government of Bangladesh. He got recognition from Aga Khan Foundation for his contribution to an Aga Khan Award-winning project named Arcadia
A floating Elementary School in 2019.

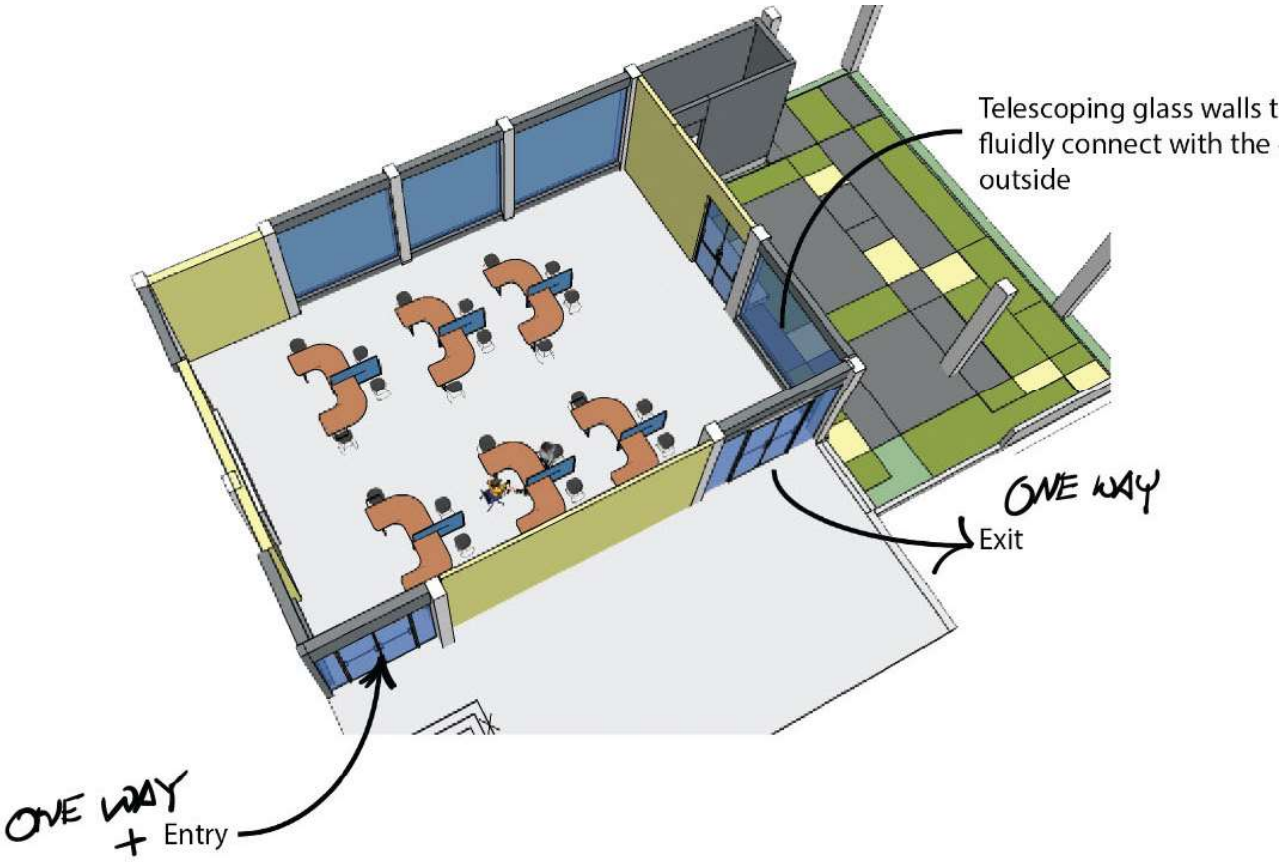
Architect Priyati

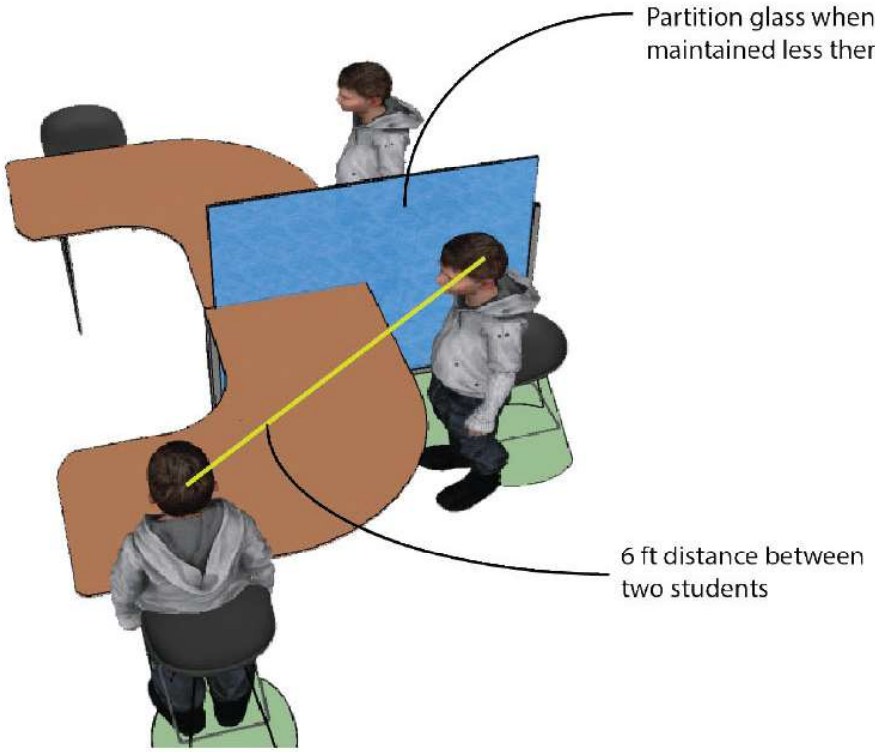
Architect Priyati golder, an associate member of the institute of Architects Bangladesh, is presently working with a renowned consultancy firm named 'indigenous'. Urban Heritage is the ground of her interest. In addition, she would love to explore the tales of towns and regions.



This common space is designed for the social gathering of its residents. Generally, a pre-schooling hour would be within 3-4 hr. After that time this space could be used for its original purpose. Here 24 students are to be accommodated within 1700 square ft with proper distancing.

To visualize our concept, we use a plan of 40 units of an apartment building.





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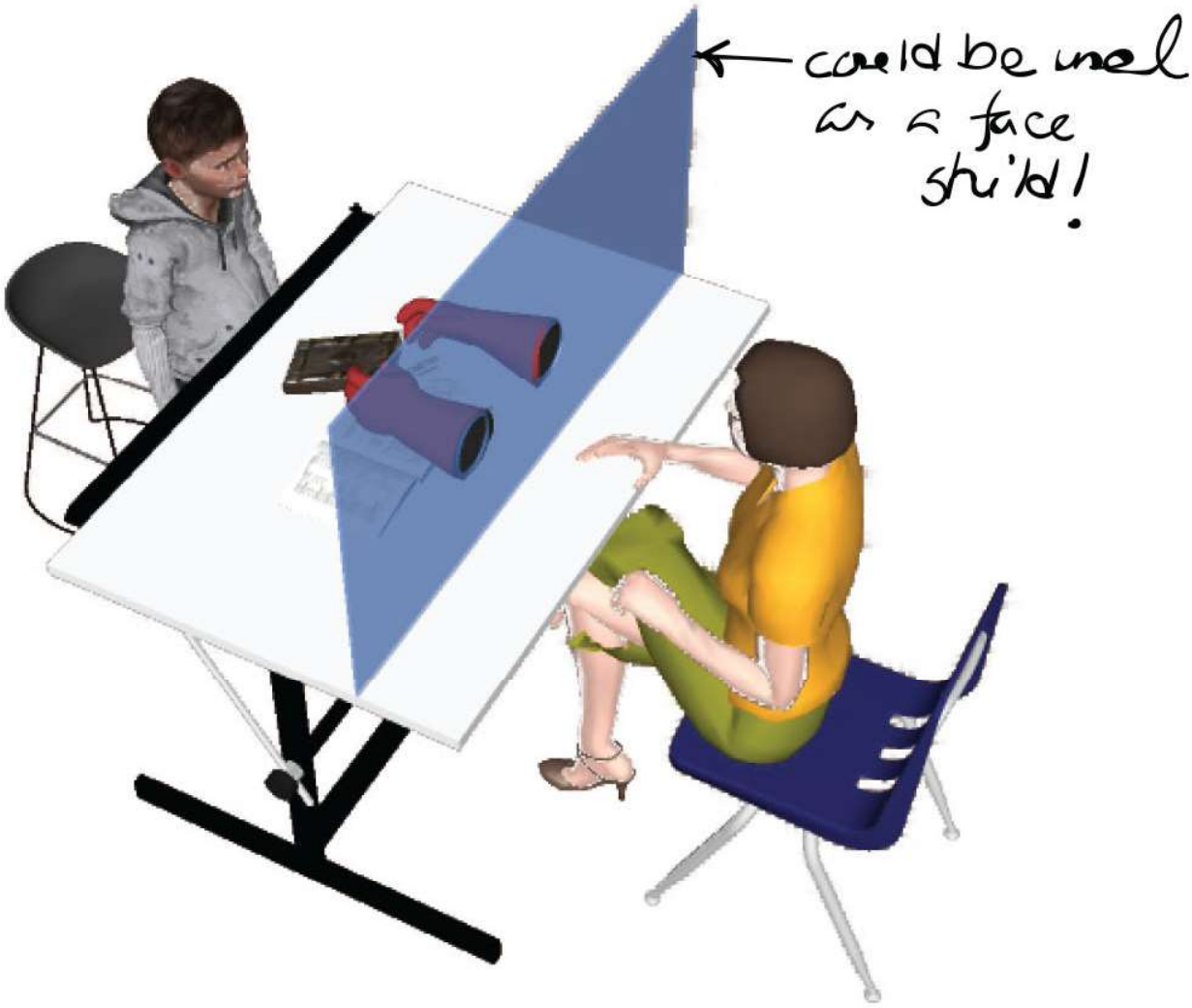

Sometimes online classes are not the best tool for learning. With this device, the facilitator could show practically exhibits things. Such as how to draw an apple.