



1 Taihu Lake



3: Anting New Town



2: Jiangnan Polders



4: Pudong Coast

Country / City	Belgium / Leuven
University / Schoo	University of Leuven
Academic year	2017-2018
Title of the project	Requalifying Suzhou Creek as a Zero-Carbon Elastic Spine, Yangtze Basin, China
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Máster d'Arquitectura del Paisatge -DUOT - UPC
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TECHNICAL DOSSIER

Requalifying Suzhou Creek as a Zero-Carbon Elastic Spine

Title of the project Yangtze Basin, China

Authors 11 MaHS/ MaUSP students (names on projects)

Title of the course Landscape Urbanism Studio: Climate Change & Urban Deltas

Academic year 2017-2018

Teaching Staff Kelly Shannon, Stefanie Dens, Christian Nolf (fieldwork)

Department/Section/Program of belonging Faculty of Engineering Science, Department of Architecture,

Master of Human Settlements & Master of Urbanism and Strategic Planning

University/School University of Leuven

Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

The transect is 140 km x 10 km, located in the Taihu Basin of the Yangtze River Delta. The vision is premised on rebalancing ecology and creating new landscape structures to both adapt to climate change and frame future urbanization. Across the transect, new landscape and settlement morphologies/ typologies are developed. Two distinct water landscapes frame the transect. Taihu Lake in the west supplies drinking water and Pudong Coast is in the east. Between is a continuous, non-hierarchical pattern of urbanization which includes Suzhou, an ancient water town of 10 million inhabitants, and Shanghai, a metropole of 24 million inhabitants. While the coast has to cope with sea level rise (1 meter by 2050), Taihu Lake suffers from issues related to water quality and quantity. Learning from indigenous techniques for floodwater management, there is the opportunity to move away from flood control towards controlled flooding. Suzhou Creek is requalified to become the territory's primary spine which, in turn, restructures open and built space. It is reestablished as the lifeline, literally and figuratively of Taihu Basin. It is a linear ecological threshold which is conceptually elastic in that it contains a sequence of productive, performative and recreational landscapes. Orchards mark an expanded public realm and reveal its continuity. The new hybridized, elastic water spine frames strategic densification. Within the logic of constructing a New Socialist Countryside, a territory of new nature is established to simultaneously absorb flood waters and future population growth (within new hybrid, medium-rise, high-density zero-carbon typologies).

For further information

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Requalifying Suzhou Creek as a Zero-Carbon Elastic Spine Taihu Lake, (Suzhou), Jiangan polder system



Requalifying Suzhou Creek as a Zero-Carbon Elastic Spine Anting New Town, (Shanghai), Pudong Coast



Taihu Lake

A.Ahuja M. Q. Nguyen

BACK TO SHAN SHUI enhance 'water & mountains', de-clamation & deurbanization, massive afforestation and return to nature

A De-industrializing with Nature S. Chen news wetalnds & housing

B Luzhi Water Square M. Finotello floating market & transport hub

C Requalifying Polders S. Van de Velde intensification of typologies







Jiangnan Polders

S. Chen M. Finotello S. Van de Velde

BUILDING THE NEW SOCIALIST agricultural intensification & stewardship, ecological awareness, new settlement

COUNTRYSIDE typologies

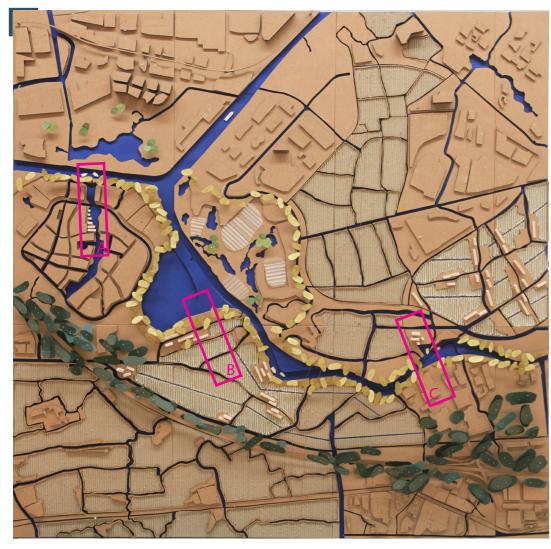




A Jianli Creek Requalification A.Ahuja civil to civic spine

B Ecotones M. Q. Nguyen forestry think-tank





Anting New Town

O. Missiaen M. Van Hulle M. Zakharova

SUZHOU CREEK ELASTIC SPINE space for the water, expanded public realm, new settlement

A Urban Watermarks M. Colabianchi 21st century village

B Zhangjia Interchange Y. Wu infrastructure landscapes



C Energy Super Dyke wind generation, aquaculture



Pudong Coast M. Colabianchi

L. Isan Y. Wu

LET IT FLOOD sea level rise response, village densification, productive water landscapes



A Anting Water Square flood pocket as public space



B Meandering Minjacun O. Missiaen densified agriculture/urbanism



C Anting Transferium M. Van Hulle soft mobility as form generator

