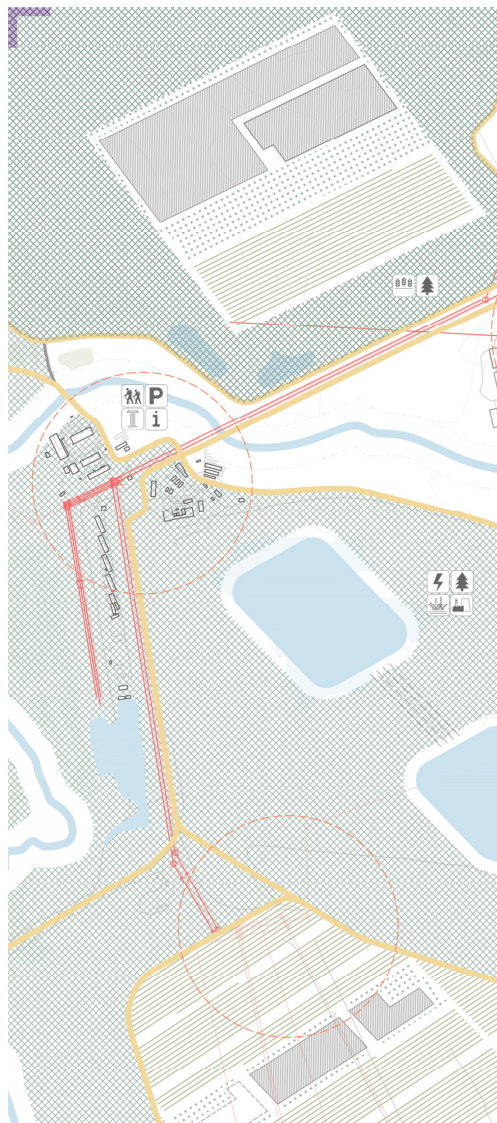
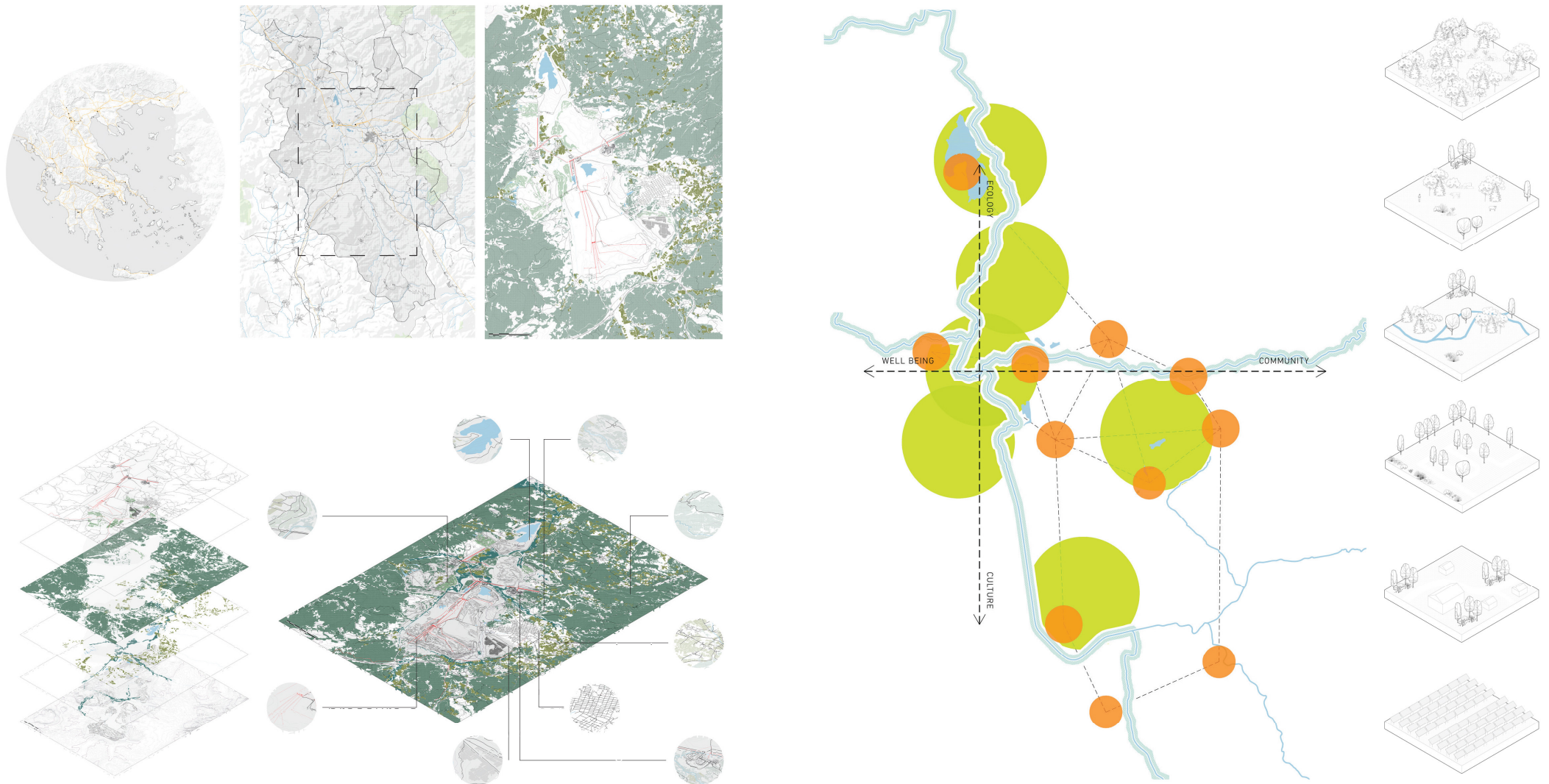




Please provide a 250-word text explaining the selection criteria used to choose the five projects representing the school in the Ribas Piera Prize. Detail the aspects evaluated, such as conceptual quality, innovation, thematic relevance, technical resolution, or any other criteria considered in the selection process with a single image, characteristic of the academic process, to accompany the text.

The selected projects, either master's theses or final designs, showcase how M.A. students from the A.U.A. view their role in shaping the built and natural environment using principles learned during their two-year master's program. The unifying concept across all four projects is the restoration, reuse, and adaptation of landscapes at multiple scales—from regional to local—guided by the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Each project aimed to address environmental and social issues through innovative, strategic design, focusing on themes such as biodiversity, soil, water, heritage, agriculture, energy, and recreation, to enhance quality of life, promote social cohesion, and foster inclusive, democratic landscapes. Technically, the projects show careful and thoughtful design, using advanced methods, accurate spatial analysis, and innovative material and ecological solutions to ensure both feasibility and lasting impact.

ENERGY TRANSITION LANDSCAPES: MEGALOPOLIS' LIGNITE MINE RECLAMATION



Country/City GREECE / ATHENS
University / School AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS / SCHOOL OF PLANT SCIENCES
Academic year 2024-2025
Title of the project ENERGY TRANSITION LANDSCAPES: MEGALOPOLIS' LIGNITE MINE RECLAMATION
Authors YIORGOS MICHAILIDIS

Title of the project	ENERGY TRANSITION LANDSCAPES: MEGALOPOLIS' LIGNITE MINE RECLAMATION
Authors	YIORGOS MICHAILIDIS
Title of the course	MASTER DIPLOMA THESIS
Academic year	2024-2025
Teaching Staff	MARIA PAPAFOTIOU / ANGELIKI PARASKEVOPOULOU / AIKATERINI GKOLTSIOU
Department / Section / Program of belonging	DEPARTMENT OF CROP SCIENCE LABORATORY OF FLORICULTURE & LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE / MASTER IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
University / School	AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS / SCHOOL OF PLANT SCIENCES



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

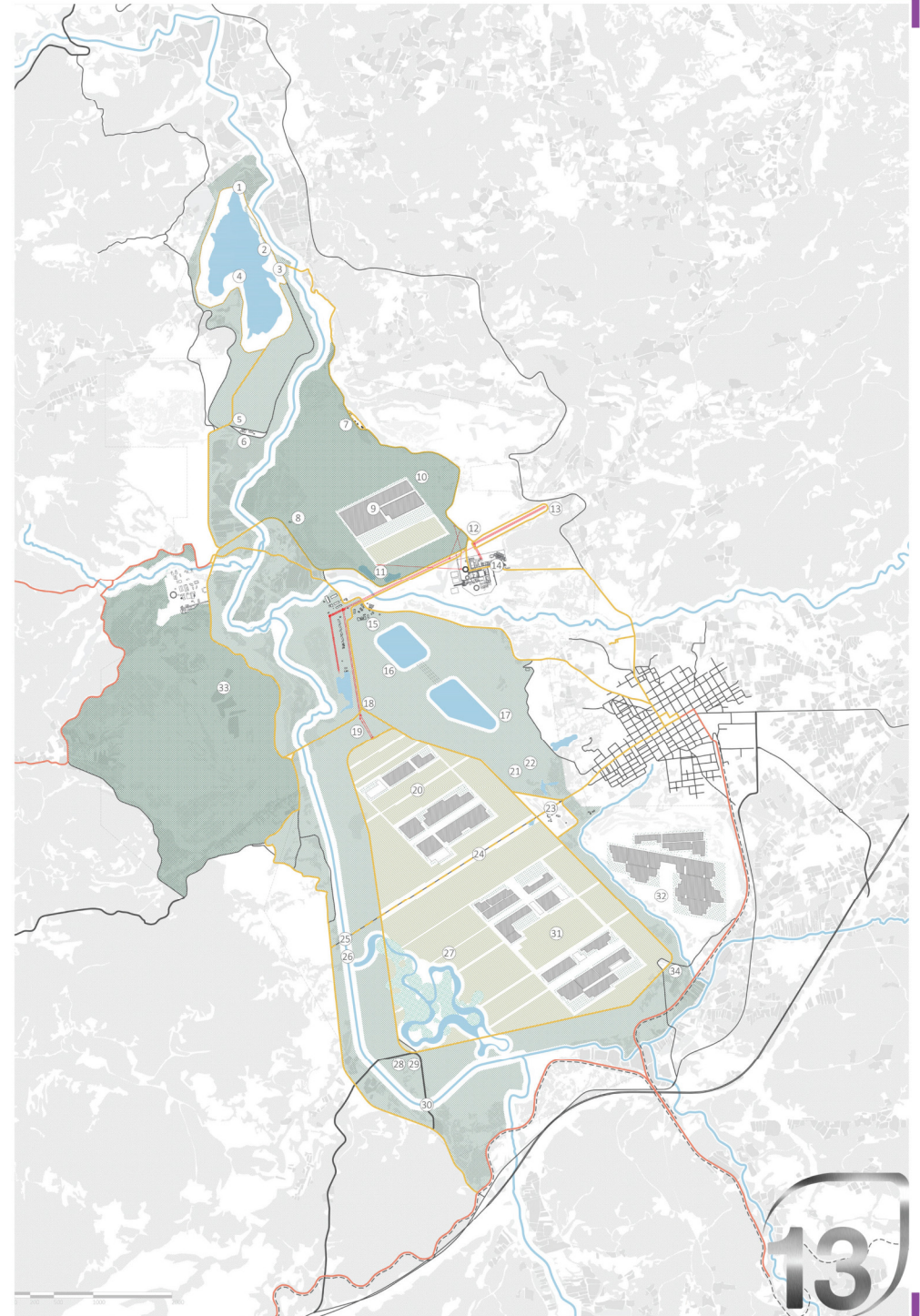
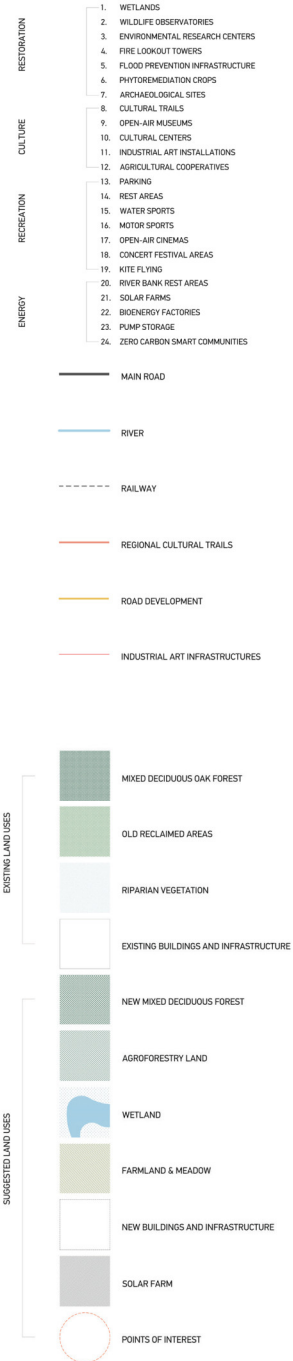
The European Union, wanting to accelerate the achievement of the climate goals for 2030, prohibits the use of lignite for energy production and puts an early end to coal mines. Megalopolis, a former rural area, having experienced great economic and urban development since 1960 thanks to lignite mining, is now called upon to face environmental degradation, economic and social decline. At the same time, renewable energy sources are becoming key factors in changing landscapes, putting even greater pressure on the environment. The shaping of land uses is at the core of the search for sustainable relationships between energy production, environmental protection, social participation and democratic governance. Taking into account both the challenges and the opportunities that the energy transition brings to landscapes, evaluates the already approved plans for the area and proposes an alternative strategy for the rehabilitation of lignite mines. The proposed strategic plan envisions the creation of "hybrid landscapes" accessible to visitors and residents of the area.



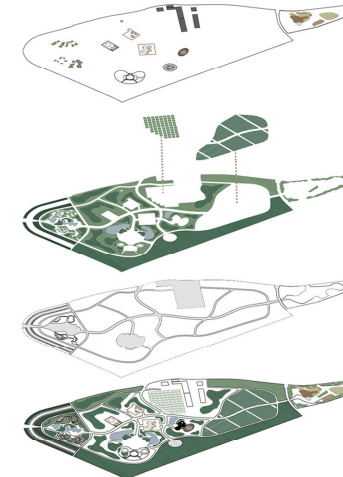
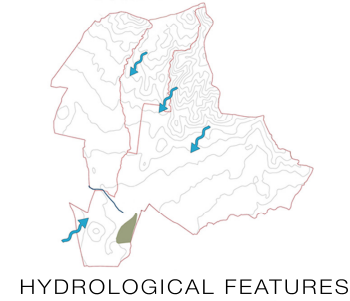
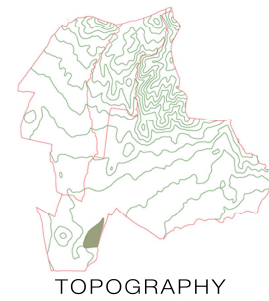
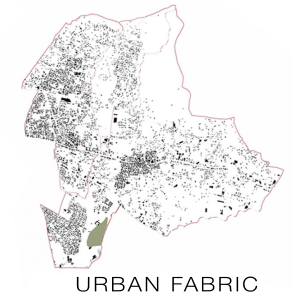
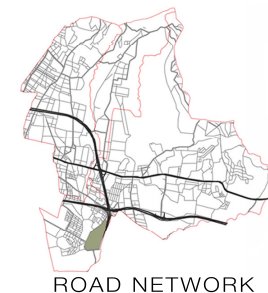
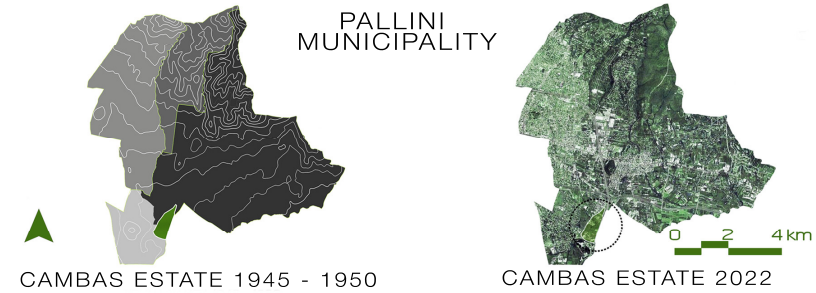
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REVITALIZATION OF THE CAMBAS ESTATE AS A CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL PARK



Country/City GREECE / ATHENS

University / School AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS / SCHOOL OF PLANT SCIENCES

Academic year 2022 -2023

Title of the project REVITALIZATION OF THE CAMBAS ESTATE AS A CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL PARK

Authors OLYMPIA TSICHLAKI

Title of the project REVITALIZATION OF THE CAMBAS ESTATE AS A CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL PARK
Authors OLYMPIA TSICHLAKI
Title of the course ADVANCED STUDIO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
Academic year 2022-2023
Teaching Staff ANGELIKI PARASKEVOPOULOU / MARIA PAPAFOTIOU / AIKATERINI GKOLTSIOU
Department / Section / Program of belonging DEPARTMENT OF CROP SCIENCE
 LABORATORY OF FLORICULTURE & LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE / MASTER IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
University / School AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS / SCHOOL OF PLANT SCIENCES



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

The Cambas Estate is located in Pallini, Attica, in the Mesogeia plain. It operated as a winery from 1875 until 2000, when its operations ceased. By law, the Cambas complex has been declared a preserved monument; however, it remains an inactive site to this day. Since antiquity, the Mesogeia plain has been closely linked to vine cultivation. The name "Mesogeia" means "middle land" because the area lies between two seas and two mountains. This creates a peninsula, an ideal place for vineyards. The central idea of the proposal is the reuse of the historic Cambas Estate and the revitalization of the wider area through the creation of a modern vineyard-park. The project aims for a holistic upgrade of the urban, natural and agricultural landscape, combining cultural heritage with the principles of sustainability and social cohesion. The estate will be transformed into a multifunctional vineyard, a vibrant exhibition space featuring dozens of grape varieties and a hub of entrepreneurial activity centered on wine tourism, becoming a unique destination for immersive experiences. At the same time, the park will host cultural events, festivals, outdoor sports activities and wine tasting programs, enhancing the educational and experiential character of the site. The proposal activates public space as a dynamic meeting point of nature, culture and agricultural production, upgrading not only the landscape but also the quality of life for both residents and visitors, serving also as a model of landscape architecture, sustainable development and social innovation.



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 biennialadm@coac.net <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0OcBqS9k8Q>

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MASTERPLAN

1. CAMPING
2. PARKING
3. OUTDOOR THEATER
4. OPEN - AIR CONCERT VENUE
5. DIGITAL ART EXHIBITION
6. OUTDOOR SKATING AREA
7. SKATE PARK
8. PARK CAFE
9. PICNIC AREA
10. VINEYARDS OF EXHIBITION
11. VINEYARDS OF PRODUCTION
12. DOCTOR'S OFFICE
13. PUBLIC TOILETS
14. WINERY
15. WAREHOUSE
16. MEADOW
17. GROVE
18. PLAYGROUND



HYDRAULIC REHABILITATION & FLOOD MITIGATION MATSIS STREAM

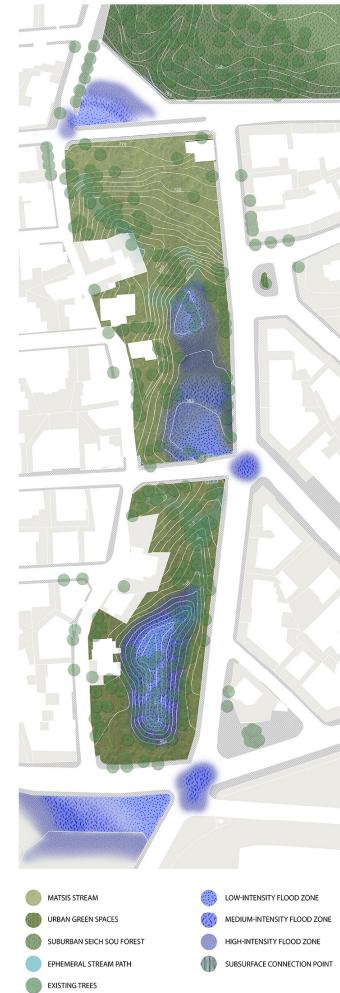
EXISTING VEGETATION - MAIN NATIVE SPECIES



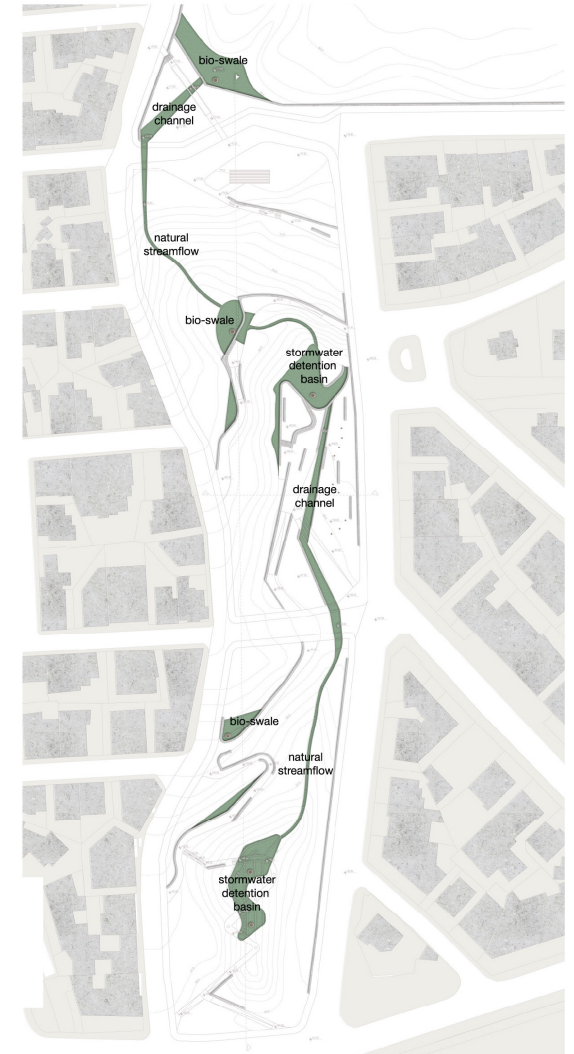
EXISTING VEGETATION - STEEP TOPOGRAPHY



EXISTING FLOOD ZONES



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY



Country/City GREECE / ATHENS
University / School AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS / SCHOOL OF PLANT SCIENCES
Academic year 2022 -2023
Title of the project HYDRAULIC REHABILITATION & FLOOD MITIGATION - MATSIS STREAM
Authors THEOFANO-NANO KATSANOULA

Title of the project HYDRAULIC REHABILITATION & FLOOD MITIGATION - MATSIS STREAM
Authors THEOFANO-NANO KATSANOULA
Title of the course DIPLOMA THESIS
Academic year 2022 -2023
Teaching Staff MARIA PAPAFOTIOU / ANGELIKI PARASKEVOPOULOU / AIKATERINI GKOLTSIOU
Department / Section / Program of belonging DEPARTMENT OF CROP SCIENCE
 LABORATORY OF FLORICULTURE & LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE / MASTER IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
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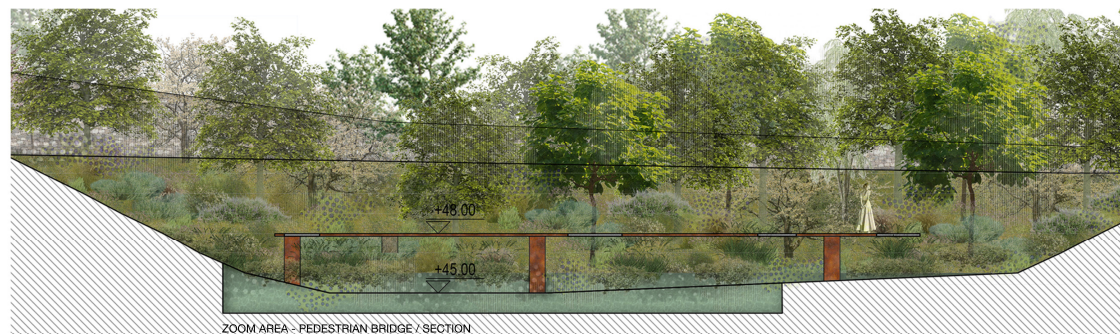
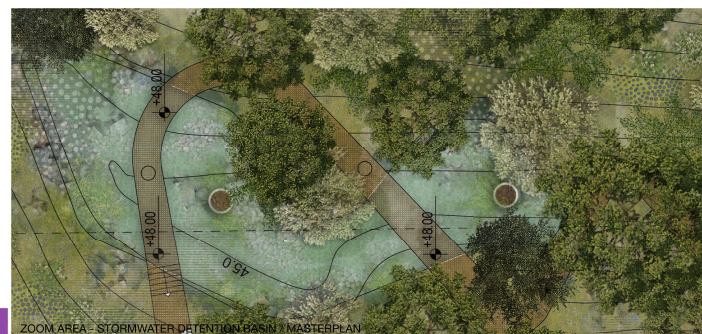
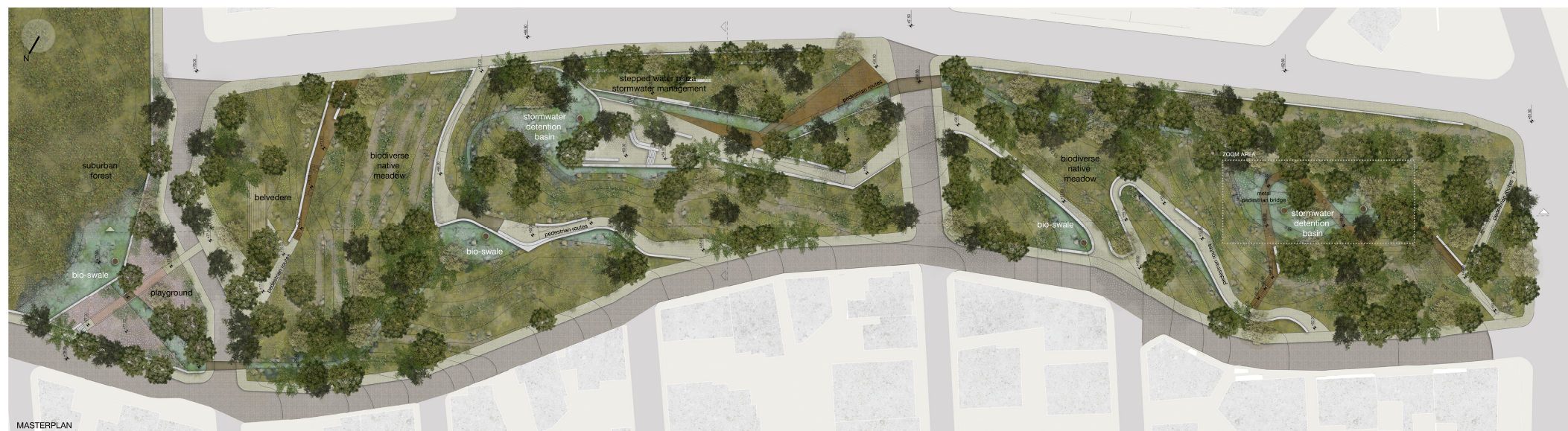
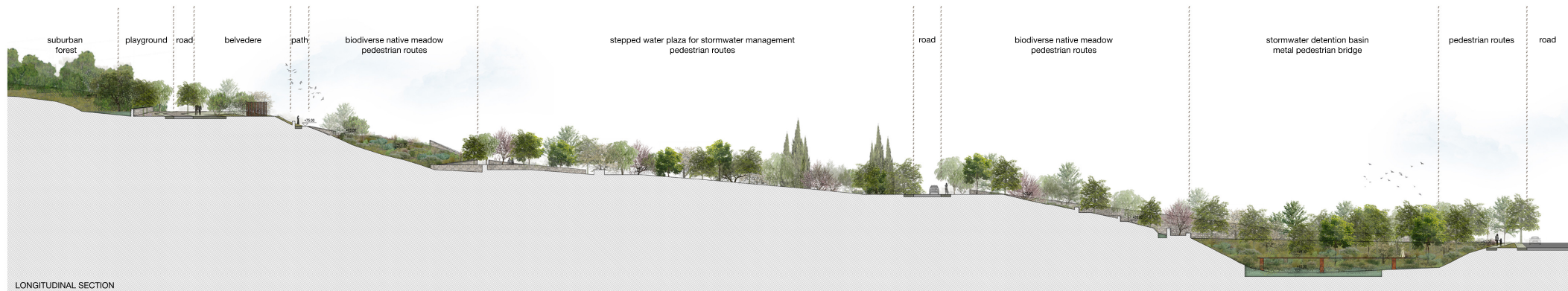
This study explores the multifaceted importance of urban watercourses within the densely built urban fabric and proposes strategies for the restoration of these degraded landscapes. The selected case study is the Matsi Stream, located in Thessaloniki, Greece. The research focuses on the stream's hydraulic functions, the flood phenomena associated with it, the dominant plant species, and the condition of its banks. At the same time, the study examines strategies for the restoration and rehabilitation of urban streams. It investigates flood protection measures and the specific site characteristics. A design proposal is developed, based on flood protection, restoration of hydraulic functionality, and the provision of public green space for the local community and the wider urban population. Furthermore, a fundamental aspect of the design proposal is the conservation of the existing vegetation and the strategic enrichment of the area with native plant species. This approach aims to enhance habitat quality, support local biodiversity, and promote the long-term sustainability of the ecosystem. The integration of indigenous flora contributes not only to the stabilization of soil and prevention of erosion but also to the restoration of natural ecological functions and resilience against environmental stressors.



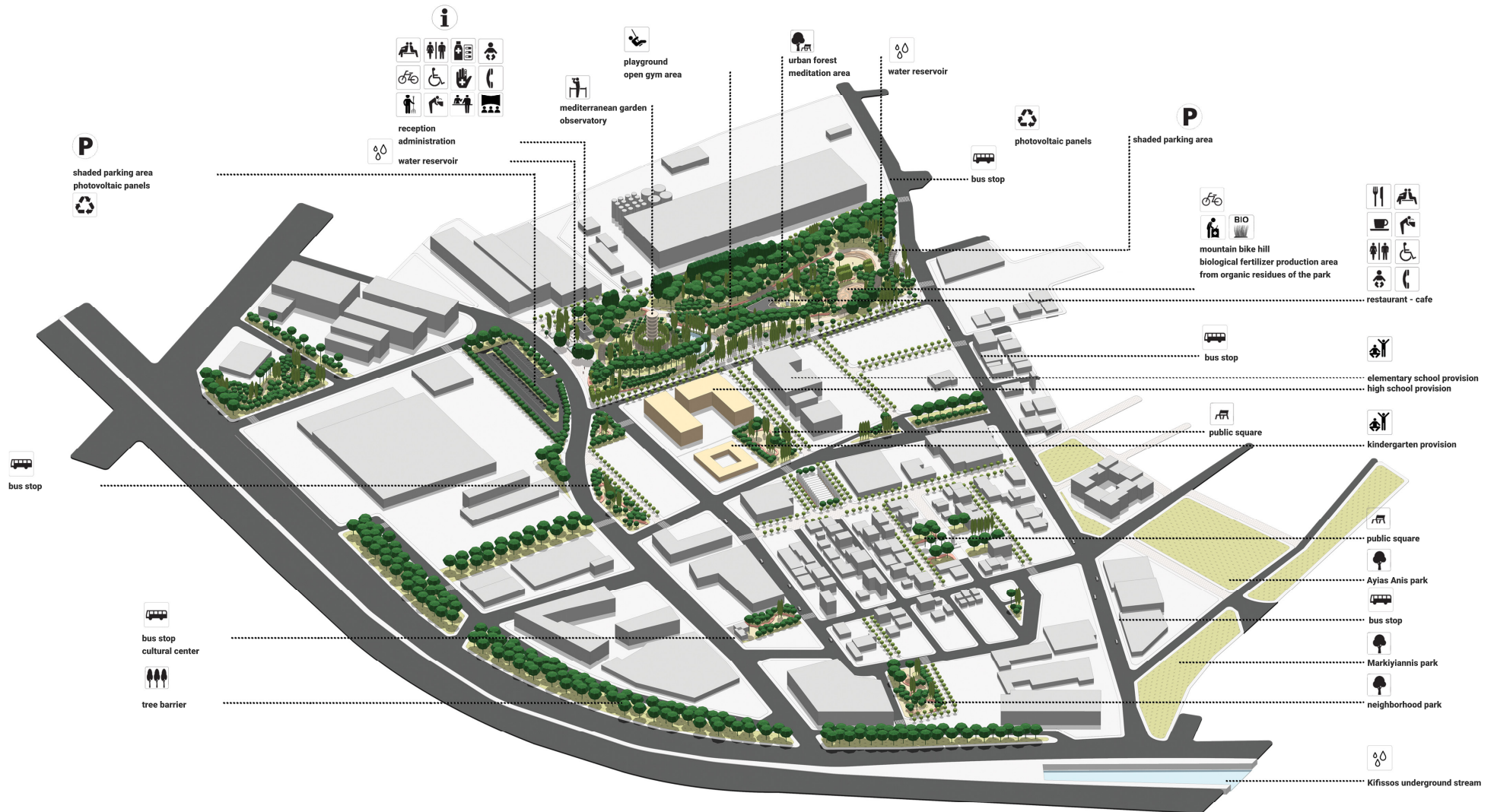
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URBAN GREEN LUNGS



Country/City GREECE / ATHENS
 University / School AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS / SCHOOL OF PLANT SCIENCES
 Academic year 2022 -2024
 Title of the project URBAN GREEN LUNGS
 Authors ALEXANDROS KITRINIARIS

Title of the project	URBAN GREEN LUNGS
Authors	ALEXANDROS KITRINIARIS
Title of the course	ADVANCED STUDIO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
Academic year	2023 -2024
Teaching Staff	MARIA PAPAFOTIOU / ANGELIKI PARASKEVOPOULOU / AIKATERINI GKOLTSIOU
Department / Section / Program of belonging	DEPARTMENT OF CROP SCIENCE LABORATORY OF FLORICULTURE & LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE / MASTER IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
University / School	AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS / SCHOOL OF PLANT SCIENCES

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

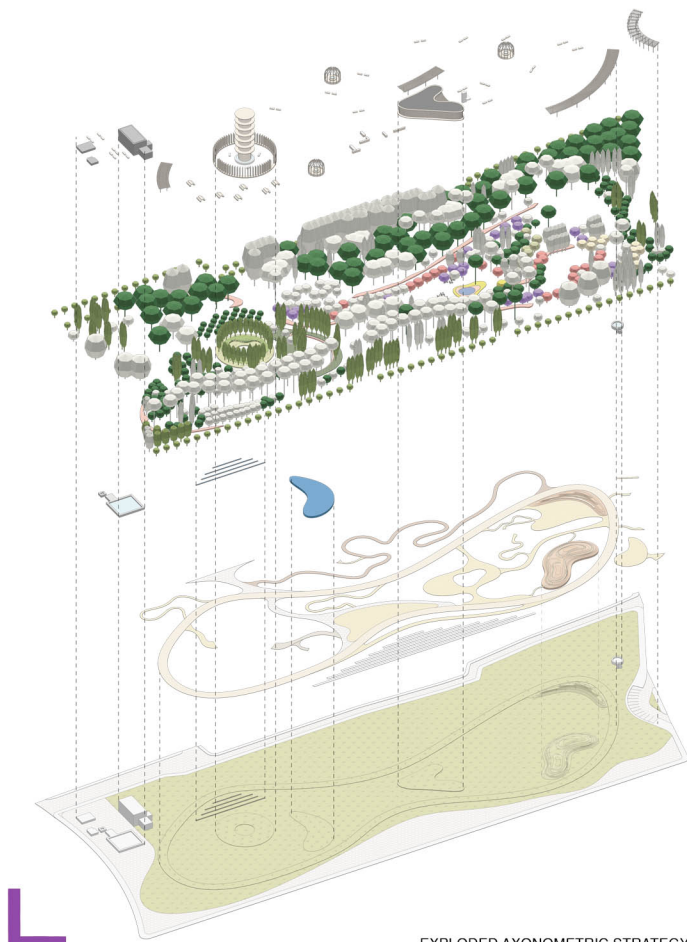
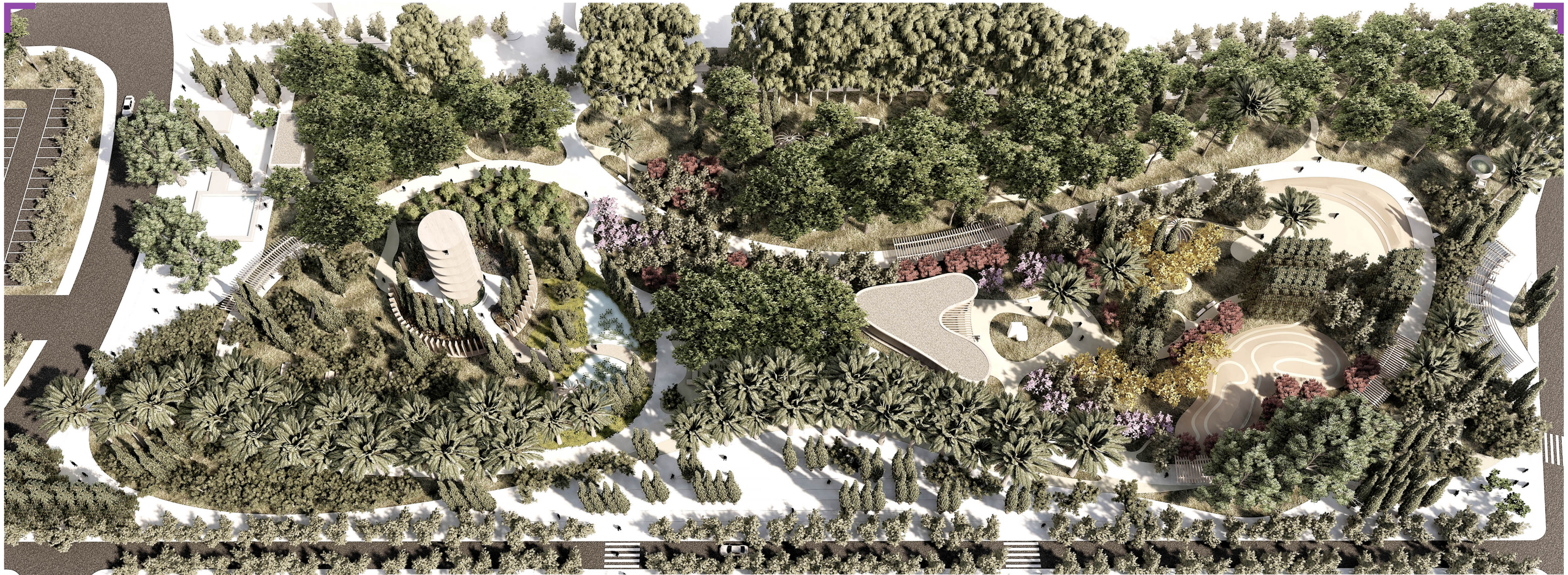
The study area is a residual area of the city, maintaining a discontinuous relationship with the urban space. The purpose of the proposal is to create an urban green ecological ring that will serve as a green lung for the city, aiming to improve the microclimate and enhance thermal comfort. The approach is based on the recirculation and reuse of water resources from existing wells, boreholes, and historic tanks for sustainable irrigation, combined with Mediterranean drought-tolerant vegetation, resistant to urban pollutants. The project focuses on the development of a network of green spaces at the neighborhood scale, functioning as a "cool urban island" by reducing local temperatures and improving living conditions. Central to this vision is the revitalization of the former Park, designed as a habitat for local flora and fauna and a landscape node of hyper-local importance. The park will incorporate restored water systems and native arid vegetation, strengthening ecological resilience and sustainable urban regeneration.



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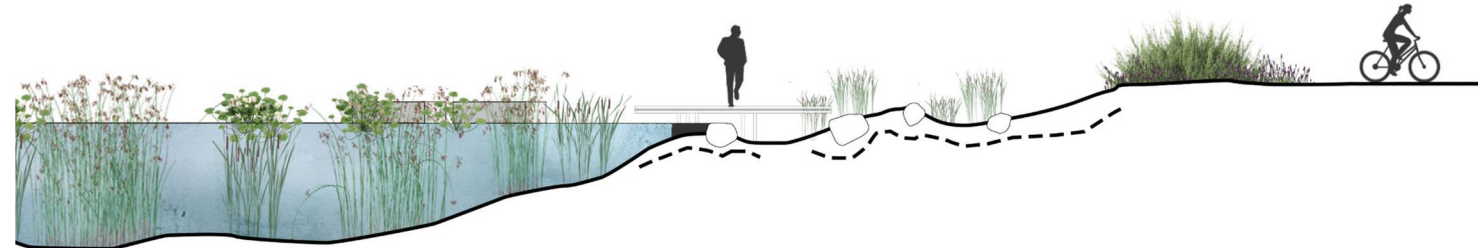


EXPLODED AXONOMETRIC STRATEGY



Indicative diagram of the park ecosystem development, taking into account the climatic conditions of the wider study area. The height and density of plantings correspond to the progression of years, enhancing biodiversity and the ecological component of the region.

VEGETATION INDEX



Indicative Section of Slope and Lakebed Stabilization with Natural Drainage and Geotextile.

