Redefining Guimarães

FINALIST

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We believe that landscape architecture in the 21st century is not merely an aesthetic intervention, but a fundamental instrument for urban resilience. We must take responsibility for influencing our surroundings considering the climate problem and the rising danger of flash floods. As a result, our design offers Guimarães a sustainable, ecologically oriented solution, rejecting the conventional practice of concealing water and excluding nature. Based on this understanding, we divided our concept into the following four phases, adapting to the nature of the different scales.

The first phase addresses the relationship between greenery, the river, and the built environment, aiming for a stable Green Ring through the green ring initiative. It proposes a reinterpretation of the river with an integrated flood management system, utilizing nature-based solutions to create a resilient "Blue-Green Spine" that supports wildlife movement and fosters a resilient ecosystem. We create a direct link between the urban lowlands and the protected Penha Hill by filling in the gaps left by the infrastructure. We were also focusing on revitalizing the Couros River and breaking up concrete pavements to restore the natural bed wherever possible, transforming the waterfront from a dangerous area to a vibrant community site.

Although adjacent to the biodiverse Green Ring, Bairro C remains physically disconnected from it. The proposed solution involves creating “green fingers” to facilitate the flow of greenery into the urban area. The process involves identifying existing urban green spaces that have the potential to form an ecological network. The objective is to integrate these isolated patches into continuous green wedges extending throughout the city and reaching Barrio C’s boundaries. Our strategy focuses not merely on visual appeal but on ecological restoration, advocating for the removal of invasive species like Eucalyptus in favor of native plants, and the utilization of drought-tolerant species for the granite slopes of Penha Hill and deep-rooted species along the river to prevent erosion and mitigate urban heat.

In the Bairro C area, characterized by dense urbanization and industrialization, the Focus shifts from blue-green infrastructure to the development of open space and an ecological network. The strategy emphasizes outdoor connections and aims to integrate natural and cultural elements, continuing the established green connections throughout the area. We explored the open-closed relationships of the open space network and categorized the existing natural elements, searching for areas that can potentially serve as both open spaces and green spaces.

For the last phase, the concept is still based on allowing nature back into the urban space along the river as a shaping and organizing force. The opening up of the area, the arcaded connections and the “room-park”-like space create a more intimate, yet permeable urban environment. The project aims to be a small-scale, yet complex urban and ecological valuecreating intervention that actively operates from a community, environmental and Climate adaptive perspective. By designing hiking trails that originate from our site, our goal is to take people out into nature, introduce them to the beauty and diversity of Penha Hill, the cultural heritage of the city, and the principles of nature-based thinking in agriculture and Flood protection.

With our urban planning suggestions, we rewrite not just the physical area but also the citizens' mental map. We foresee a Guimarães where nature, heritage, and community once again form an organic union.

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REDEFINING GUIMARAES

BY THE RIVER

We divided the presentation of our work on the four posters along the four pillars of our concept, showing how these elements are combined and how we move from the challenges of the river and nature, through the relationship between the natural and urban fabric, and then the duality of the city's historical and industrial heritage, to the connection of culture and society with the help of the river, which closes the harmonious cycle of our concept.

Guimarães is shaped by a dual identity: a UNESCO World Heritage city known as the "Cradle of Portugal" and a vibrant textile center of the Ave Valley. Located at the footh of Penha Hill, the city's historical development has been closely intertwined with its waterways, particularly the Couros River. However, rapid urbanization and industrial growth have severed this long-standing relationship. Today, the urban fabric functions more as a barrier than a connector, turning away from water systems and disrupting ecological continuity between the protected hillsides and the valley floor. The city now faces the challenge of reconciling its rich built heritage with its overlooked natural geography.

Pre-Design Analysis

Topology
The result of our topographic survey revealed the vertical dominance of Penha Hill and the horizontal extension of the Couros Valley. The slopes direct the natural water to flow towards the city and at the same time provides a visual experience; the mountain presents visitors with a magnificent panorama and diverse recreational opportunities. The valley provides a great location for agriculture, and the forests surrounding the city are good starting points for creating a green ring and green fingers protecting the city.

Soil
The area is characterized by a geological duality defined by the relief. The steep slopes are covered by shallow, acidic, granite-based cambisol soils, which historically limited use to forestry and erosion control (Penha Hill). In contrast, the valleys contain deep, fertile alluvial soils accumulated by the river network, which form the basis of the region's intensive agriculture and productive landscapes (Veiga Plain).

Multi-Scale Landscape Concept

Peri-Urban Layer
The first phase addresses the relationship between greenery, the river, and the built environment, aiming for a stable Green Ring through the green ring initiative. It proposes a reinterpretation of the river with an integrated flood management system, utilizing nature-based solutions to create a resilient "Blue-Green Spine" that supports wildlife movement and fosters a resilient ecosystem

Urban Layer
Although adjacent to the biodiverse Green Ring, Bairro C remains physically disconnected from it. The proposed solution involves creating "green fingers" to facilitate the flow of greenery into the urban area. The process involves identifying existing urban green spaces that have the potential to form an ecological network. The objective is to integrate these isolated patches into continuous green wedges extending throughout the city and reaching Barrio C's boundaries.

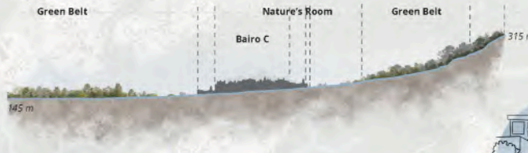
Site-Specific Layer
In the Bairro C area, characterized by dense urbanization and industrialization, the focus shifts from blue-green infrastructure to the development of open space and an ecological network. The strategy emphasizes outdoor connections and aims to integrate natural and cultural elements, continuing the established green connections throughout the area.

Greenbelt Connectivity Strategy

We began our concept by mapping the current green ring initiative and identifying the ruptures that result in the current fragmented landscape. Although Penha Mountain and the agricultural valleys have significant green values, they are isolated by the expanding urban fabric. The lack of continuity prevents the free movement of wildlife, creates heat islands in the city center, and disrupts the natural water cycle. Our strategy proposes "ecological stepping stones" to bridge these gaps. We have laid out the forests, fields and grasslands that are essential elements and provide help in connecting the city with the green ring. This phase focuses on the transitional zone where the built environment meets nature. The ultimate vision is a stable, continuous Green Ring that surrounds and weaves through Guimarães. This restored network allows for the unobstructed movement of wildlife from the mountains to the river valleys, as well as creating a resilient ecosystem that can mitigate floods, cool the city, and provide a unified recreational landscape for the community.

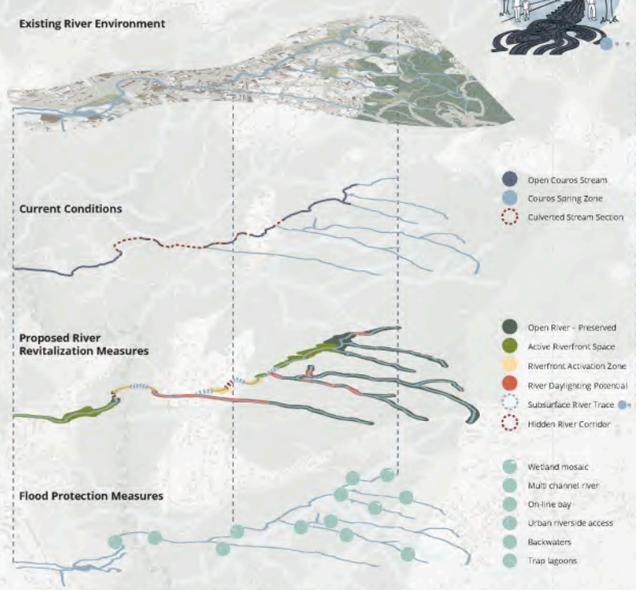
River System Analysis

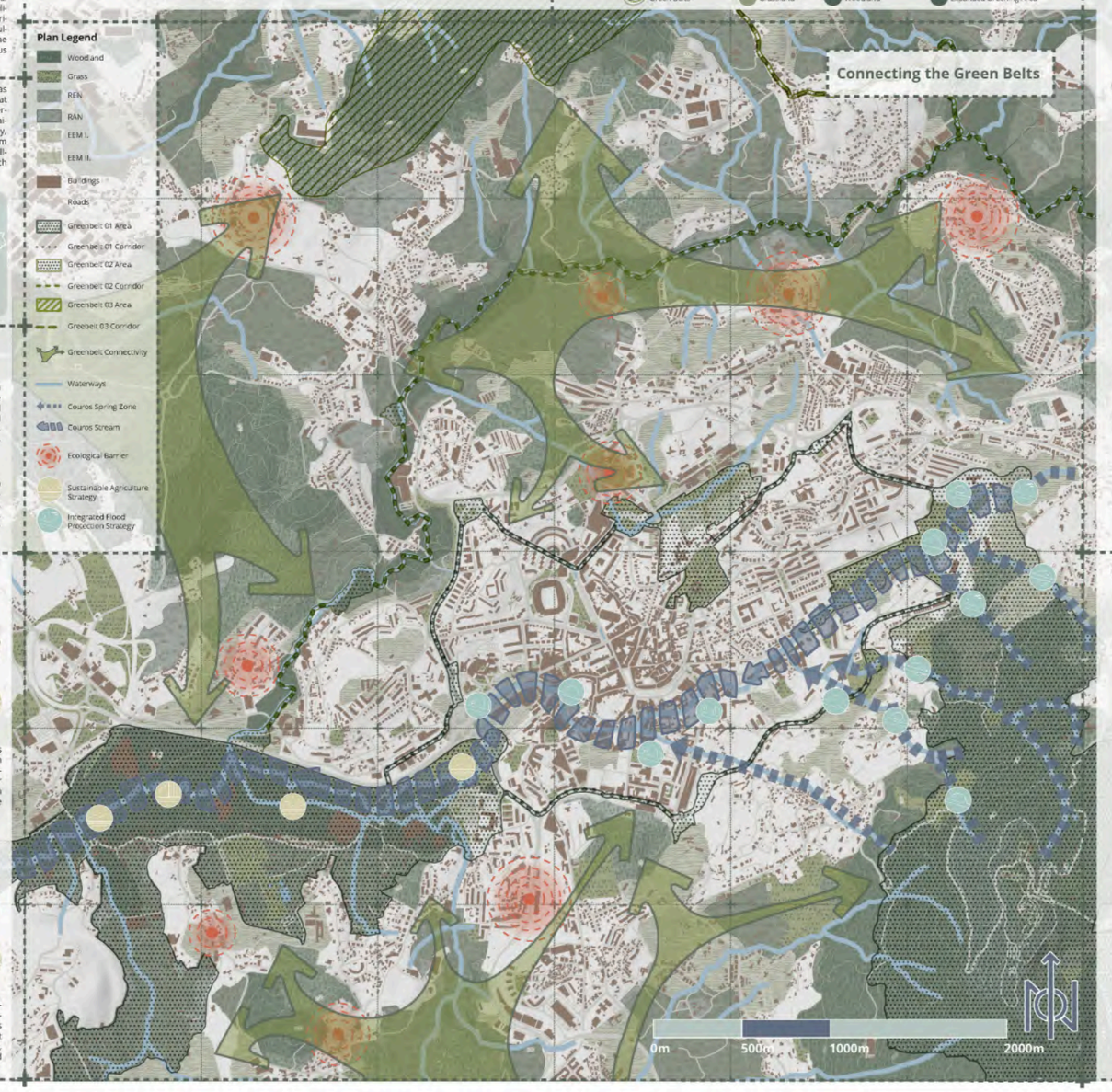
One of the main focuses of the hydrological analysis is the urban section of the Couros River, which revealed that a significant portion of the watercourse runs underground in pipes or concrete channels. This condition results in a fragmented ecological system and a complete lack of public accessibility and visibility. The analysis identifies key spatial intersections where the hidden water system meets underutilized public spaces, highlighting the strategic potential for bringing the water to the surface and restoring ecological connections. Another emphasis of our research was the risk of flash floods affecting the city and also its vulnerability, aggravated by the abrupt topographic transition between the steep slopes of Penha Mountain and the paved urban valley floor.



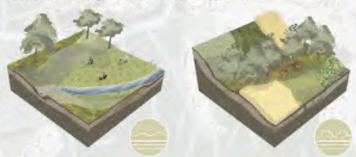
Design Response

The design response proposes the unfolding and reinterpretation of the river. The strategy focuses on breaking open covered sections and, where spatial conditions allow, restoring the natural riverbed or making the water visible and accessible at least in more architectonic form. The concept also outlines an integrated flood management system: by applying nature-based solutions - from sediment retention lagoons to water-retaining wetland mosaics - the proposal transforms the river into a resilient "Blue-Green Spine." This approach both moderates flood risk by slowing water flow and reclaims the waterfront as a diverse and active recreational space, physically reconnecting Penha Hill with the historic urban fabric.



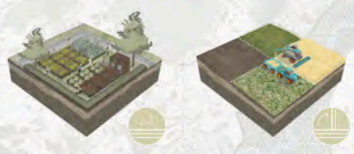


Sustainable Agriculture Strategy



Agricultural Floodplain
The goal is to revive the riverside landscape by aligning agriculture with natural water cycles. These sites use the nutrient-rich alluvial soils for flood-tolerant crops and seasonal grazing. The floodplain acts as a safety buffer, allowing controlled flooding during rainfall and serving as productive land during dry periods.

Shelterbelt
Linear strips of native trees and shrubs protect agricultural plots from erosion and drying. They also form vital ecological corridors, providing habitat for both mammals and pollinators, which naturally control pests and reduce the need for chemical inputs.



Community Garden
These sites function as transitional zones between the city and the countryside, enabling urban residents to participate in the productive landscape, fostering a deeper connection with the region's agricultural heritage while promoting self-sufficiency.

Crop Rotation
This is a long-established soil management technique aimed at preserving soil fertility. Rotating crop species on the same fields prevents nutrient depletion and pest overpopulation, while promoting soil biodiversity and enhancing its resilience.

Flood Protection Strategy

Urban Riverside Acces
The terraced waterfront strengthens the connection between the city and the stream. It provides safe access for residents, functions as a community space during dry periods, and can be flooded during high water, creating a resilient interface between urban life and the water.

Multi Channel River
The goal is to distribute flow energy by splitting the main channel into smaller ones. This increases the river's width, slows water velocity during floods, and reduces destructive impact. In addition the resulting islands serve as protected nesting microhabitats for wildlife

Wetland Mosaic
A system of shallow basins and marsh vegetation functions as a biological sponge, absorbing excess rainfall and delaying flood peaks. The dense roots of the reeds naturally filter pollutants, improving water quality before it returns to the main branch of the river.

Trap Lagoons
These sedimentation basins serve a dual purpose. By widening the cross-section, they reduce flow velocity, allowing temporary water storage while sediment and debris can settle before reaching the city center, thereby protecting infrastructure downstream.

On-line Bays
The lateral bulges are designed to increase storage capacity. The widened sections act as temporary reservoirs during heavy rainfall, retaining excess water and reducing pressure on the narrower, channeled sections in the city center.

Backwaters
The channels connected to the river provide calm water refuge for fish and amphibians during fast floods, slowing the flow and acting as obstacles. In flood-free periods, they serve as warm, nutrient-rich nurseries for young aquatic life.

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REDEFINING GUIMARAES BY THE NATURE

Planting Strategy

Our strategy focuses not merely on visual appeal but on ecological restoration, advocating for the removal of invasive species like Eucalyptus in favor of native plants. Specific initiatives include replanting traditional Chestnut Groves with Sweet Chestnut (Castanea sativa) to honor local heritage and selecting drought-tolerant species for the granite slopes of Penha to mitigate erosion and urban heat. Additionally, a riverside gallery forest will be developed along the Couros River, utilizing deep-rooted species to prevent erosion and Willows (Salix) to filter pollutants and provide shade.

Connecting the Green Belt to Bairro C

Barrio C is surrounded by the rich biodiversity of the Green Ring, but is physically separated from it. We would create "green fingers" that can fill out this incomplete connection. The goal is to channel the external green flows towards the center of the city and quarter.

In the next step, we identified urban green spaces suitable for ecological integration. These important elements include, among others, existing street trees, public parks, and urban lawns. Although they currently operate as standalone elements, these green patches are what could act as a link between the green ring and Barrio C.

By connecting scattered existing patches, our goal is to create continuous green wedges that extend deep into the city, up until the boundary of Bairro C. Furthermore, we make suggestions on what elements can be added to the existing green infrastructure to create this green and ecological connection.

Integrated Green Connectivity Strategy

Urban Woodland
An urban woodland is a densely treed urban area that improves air quality, reduces the urban heat island effect, supports biodiversity, provides recreational and leisure space, and contributes to stormwater management and the overall resilience of the urban environment.

Modular Urban Planting
Modular urban planning uses a flexible, unit-based city structure that can quickly adapt to changing needs. It improves infrastructure efficiency, promotes sustainability, enhances the functionality of urban spaces, and supports community engagement.

Urban Tree Planting
Street tree planting increases urban green spaces, improves air quality, reduces the urban heat island effect, mitigates noise, supports biodiversity, provides shade and comfort for pedestrians, and enhances both the aesthetic and social value of streets.

Green Wall
A green wall is a vertical structure of living plants that can increase urban green space on a small footprint. It improves air quality, reduces the urban heat island effect, insulates buildings, supports biodiversity, creates a visually pleasant environment, and enhances the urban microclimate.

Green Roof
A green roof is a building roof covered with living plants. It improves thermal insulation, reduces the urban heat island effect, manages stormwater, supports biodiversity, creates a visually pleasant environment, increases energy efficiency, and enhances the urban microclimate.

Wildlife Overpass
A wildlife overpass is a vegetated bridge that links different natural habitats, providing connectivity between them. It primarily supports biodiversity and offers passage and refuge for animals, but also manages stormwater, improves air quality, and can provide recreational space for residents.

Nature-Trails

By designing hiking trails, our goal is to take people out into nature, introduce them to the beauty and diversity of Penha Hill, the cultural heritage of the city, and the principles of nature-based thinking in agriculture and flood protection. Heading east from the city, the Penha Hill hiking trail takes us through the sacred silence of the mountain, where the valley opens up from lookouts set into granite cliffs, while information boards and interactive stations help us learn about the natural wildlife of the area. At the foot of the mountain, the trail joins the Couros River hiking trail. Here, the new water management and flood protection strategy facilities are accessible via riverside boardwalks and footbridges, while rest areas have been designed to allow for a glimpse of aquatic life. Conversely, heading west, the Eco-Agro hiking trail leads to the farming landscape around the city. On the winding road between community gardens and orchards, temporary market pavilions connect local producers with the population, giving a new community and agrotourism function to the green ring on the outskirts of the city.

Birdwatching Hide

Seasonal Market Pavilon

Rain Shelter

Footbridge

Riverside Boardwalk

Scenic Viewpont

ECO-AGRO *NATURE-TRAIL*

1. **Portao do Jardim** *The Garden Gate*
2. **Talhao das Possibilidades** *The Possibility Plot*
3. **Terminal de Ribeiro** *The Stream Terminal*
4. **Raizes Comunitárias** *The Community Roots*
5. **Escudo Verde** *The Green Shield*
6. **Campo Mosaico** *The Mosaic Field*
7. **Jardim Ribeirinho** *The Riparian Garden*
8. **Parque da Colheita** The Harvest Park

CURROS RIVER *NATURE-TRAIL*

1. **Laboratório da Paisagem** *The Landscape Lab*
2. **Horta Pedagógica** *The Teaching Garden*
3. **Meandro do Rio** *The River Meander*
4. **Planície Fértil** *The Fertile Plain*
5. **Observatório de Aves** *The Bird Observatory*
6. **Moinhos de Água** *The Watermills*
7. **Galeria Ripícola** *The Riparian Gallery*
8. **Caminho Real** *The Royal Path*

PENHA HILL *NATURE-TRAIL*

1. **A Porta do Vale Sagrado** *The Sacred Valley Gate*
2. **Lago do Reflexo** *The Reflection Pool*
3. **Gigantes de Granito** *The Granite Giants*
4. **Ninho da Águia** *The Eagle's Nest*
5. **Baloico do Horizone** *The Sky Swing*
6. **Centro da Biodiversity** *The Biodiversity Hub*
7. **Cascata Verde** *The Green Cascade*
8. **Portal Real** *The Royal Gateway*

Plan Legend

- Green Belt 01
- Greenbelt Connections
- Existing Green Spaces inside the Green Belt
- Green Connectivity inside the Green Belt
- Integrated Green Connectivity Strategies
- Bairro C Border
- Eco-Agro Nature-Trail
- Couros River Nature-Trail
- Penha Hill Nature- Trail
- Penha Hill Cable Car

The Green Connectivity System

0m 500m 1000m 2000m

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REDEFINING GUIMARAES

BY THE CULTURE

The Open Space and Green Network of Bairro C

As the third part of our concept, we reach the Bairro C area, which, as a dense urban and industrially loaded area, deviates from the tools used so far, and instead of focusing on blue-green infrastructure, our strategy focuses on the examination and development of open space and the ecological network. As a continuation of the already established green connections, the area is organized based on and along outdoor connections while integrating as many natural and cultural elements as possible.

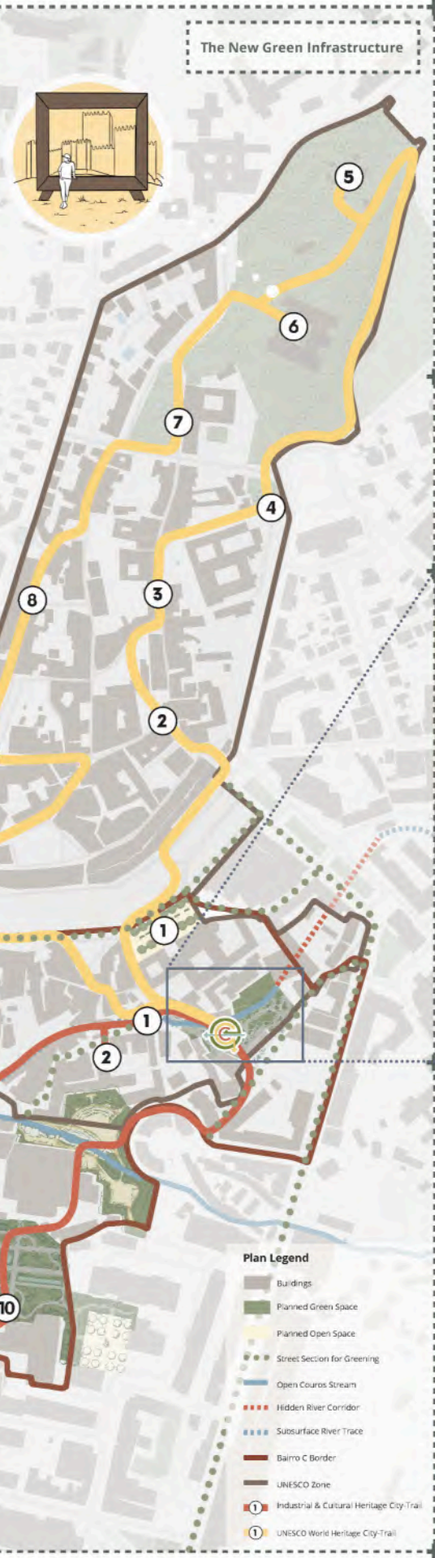
We began our research by exploring the open-closed relationships of the outdoor network, that is we differentiated which areas are open or closed to public use and also categorized the existing natural elements, also keeping in mind the exploration of potential new green spaces. From the intersection of these two analyses we created a map that displays areas that can potentially serve as both open spaces and green spaces, grouped according to their current design and the opportunities they offer.

The obtained object-level results were then further analyzed at network level. On one hand, we looked for outdoor connections that form a system, and where the appearing obstacles could be bridged with minimal intervention. On the other hand, we looked for similar connections between green spaces and tried to find optimal solutions so that their network can provide ecosystem services properly. Finally, by comparing these two networks, we got one of the outdoor elements that also have some green space quality, meaning existing and potential intervention areas and connections that are useful not only for people but also for the ecosystem.

Pre-Analysis - Culture

In our analysis, we examined not only the built heritage but also the vibrant intangible cultural heritage: we learned about Guimaraes' festivals, including the Batalha das Flores, the unique Azulejo (tile) art, and the deep-rooted textile traditions, the Traje de Lavradeira folk costume.

The New Green Infrastructure



UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE *CITY-TRAIL*

1. **Cruzeiro da Igreja de Sao Francisco** *Cross of the Church of St. Francis*
2. **Padrao do Salado** *Salado Memorial*
3. **Arco do Amor** *Arch of Love*
4. **Porta do Burgo** *Burgo Gate*
5. **Guimaraes Castle** *Guimaraes Castle*
6. **Palace Duques de Braganca** *Palace of the Dukes of Braganza*
7. **Painel de azulejos á Virgem Maria** *Tile Panel of the Virgin Mary*
8. **Casa das Rótulas** *House of the Lattices*
9. **Igreja da Misericordia** *Church of Mercy*
10. **Largo do Toural** *Toural Square*

INDUSTRIAL & CULTURAL HERITAGE *CITY-TRAIL*

1. **Fio de Água** *The Water Thread*
2. **Tanques de Memória** *The Memory Basins*
3. **A Costura Urbana** *The Urban Seam*
4. **Carretel Verde** *The Green Spool*
5. **A Tapecaria de Pedra** *The Stone Tapestry*
6. **A Roda de Fiar** *The Spinning Wheel*
7. **Alfinete de Granito** *The Granite Pin*
8. **As Pregas Industriais** *The Industrial Pleats*
9. **A Tela das Artes** *The Arts Canvas*
10. **Jardim Bordado** *The Embroidered Garden*

City-Trails

These two routes connect the city's industrial assets and UNESCO heritage elements to bring them closer to the population and enhance the city's local identity. Along the water line, old tanning pools and concrete ramps are transformed into lively community points: open-air exhibition spaces tell the story of the past, while temporary stages and market pavilions provide space for contemporary events. On the UNESCO heritage site route photo frames placed at strategic points direct the visitor's gaze to the most beautiful details of history.

The Trasnformed Tanning Basins

Nature's Room

A small urban space where nature is allowed to return

The presence of the open watercourse, which offers a rare opportunity for a direct connection between urban space and water, played a major role in the selection of the planning area. The concept is based on allowing nature back into the urban space along the river as a shaping and organizing force. The project does not seek to improve existing, rigid urban structures, but to open them up: the pavements are fragmented, the continuity of the surfaces is broken, giving space to natural processes. This transformation is a response to the challenges posed by climate change, creating a more resilient, nature-based system.

Vegetation settles on the fragmented surfaces of the space, water visibly shapes the space, and the passage of time is also reflected in the use of materials. Locally recycled construction debris and wood as ecological elements – bug hotels, lizard beds – reinforce the character of nature's free operation and its superiority and dominance over artificial elements. The river is the central organizing element of the space: with its slightly widened riverbed, accessible banks and concrete cube elements that also functions as a seating, crossing and playing surface. By shaping the terrain, the area also furctions as a flood protection tool and a kind of water reservoir during heavy rains. Furthermore, the UNESCO-protected leather tanning basins are transformed into ornamental and plant-filled water surfaces, reinterpreting industrial heritage. The opening up of the area, the arcaded connections and the "room-park"-like space create a more intimate, yet permeable urban environment. The plant application is lush, diverse and resistant, with lawns appearing only in prominent spots. The project aims to be a small-scale, yet complex urban and ecological value-creating intervention that actively operates from a community, environmental and climate adaptive perspective.

Conflicts

Concept

Solution

Planting Strategy

From Pavement to Riverbed

The planting concept is based on a deliberate ecological transition from paved urban surfaces to the natural bed of the Couros River. Vegetation density gradually increases from the rigid pavement, with species selected for Guimarães' climate zone and local acidic soils. Green inserts in the pavement break monotony. Sunny areas feature drought-tolerant, fragrant species such as *Lavandula stoechas* and *Thymus serpyllum*, while shaded zones are covered with robust groundcovers like *Vinca mojor* 'Variegata' and *Liriope muscari*. The geometric structures of former industrial tanning basins are highlighted with textured ornamental grasses. Fine strands of *Calamagrostis acutiflora* and *Miscanthus* 'Little Zebra' recall the textile past, while *Equisetum hyemale* and *Juncus effusus* evoke the presence of water. Near the river, native, pollinator-friendly shrubs such as *Cistus salvifolius* and *Arbutus unedo* form a dense transitional zone. Along the Couros, *Carex pendula* and *Iris pseudocorus* appear, while native trees like *Salix atrocinerea* and *Betula celtiberica* provide canopy and create new habitats.

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REDEFINING GUIMARAES

BY THE **PEOPLE**

Now | Short Term Effect | Long Term Effect

The Green Belts

Mapping connection points enables the first linking green areas and provides direction on where deficiencies need to be addressed and interventions need to be made. The improved connectivity between green areas strengthens biodiversity and recreational functions. The long term effect is a unified, year-round green network that maximizes ecological, health and community benefits.

The River

Initially, we will make the river more accessible and organic with targeted interventions, such as uncovering and coastal recreation opportunities, so that people can connect more easily. In the long term, full river network rehabilitation and linked recreational zones create a unified waterside experience, maximizing biodiversity and ecosystem services sustainably.

Cultural Network

After we have identified and selected cultural participants who are willing to join our initiative, we will create a network that will attract interested parties. As the locations develop, the value of the network will increase, demand will increase, and the number of participating businesses will increase. A network is created that is present everywhere and it is a status to belong to it.

Coprehensive Management

Cooperation

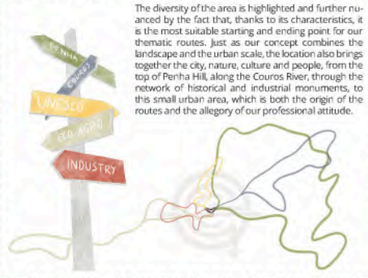
To ensure long-term resilience, we propose a collaborative model in which the Municipality would provide the legal framework and finance the basic infrastructure, while Local Industry would actively support hiking trails through social responsibility and sponsorship. LivingLab could guarantee the scientific integrity of projects through continuous biodiversity monitoring. In addition the public is integrated not only as users but also as active caretakers, taking responsibility for cultivating community gardens and reporting maintenance needs.

Financing

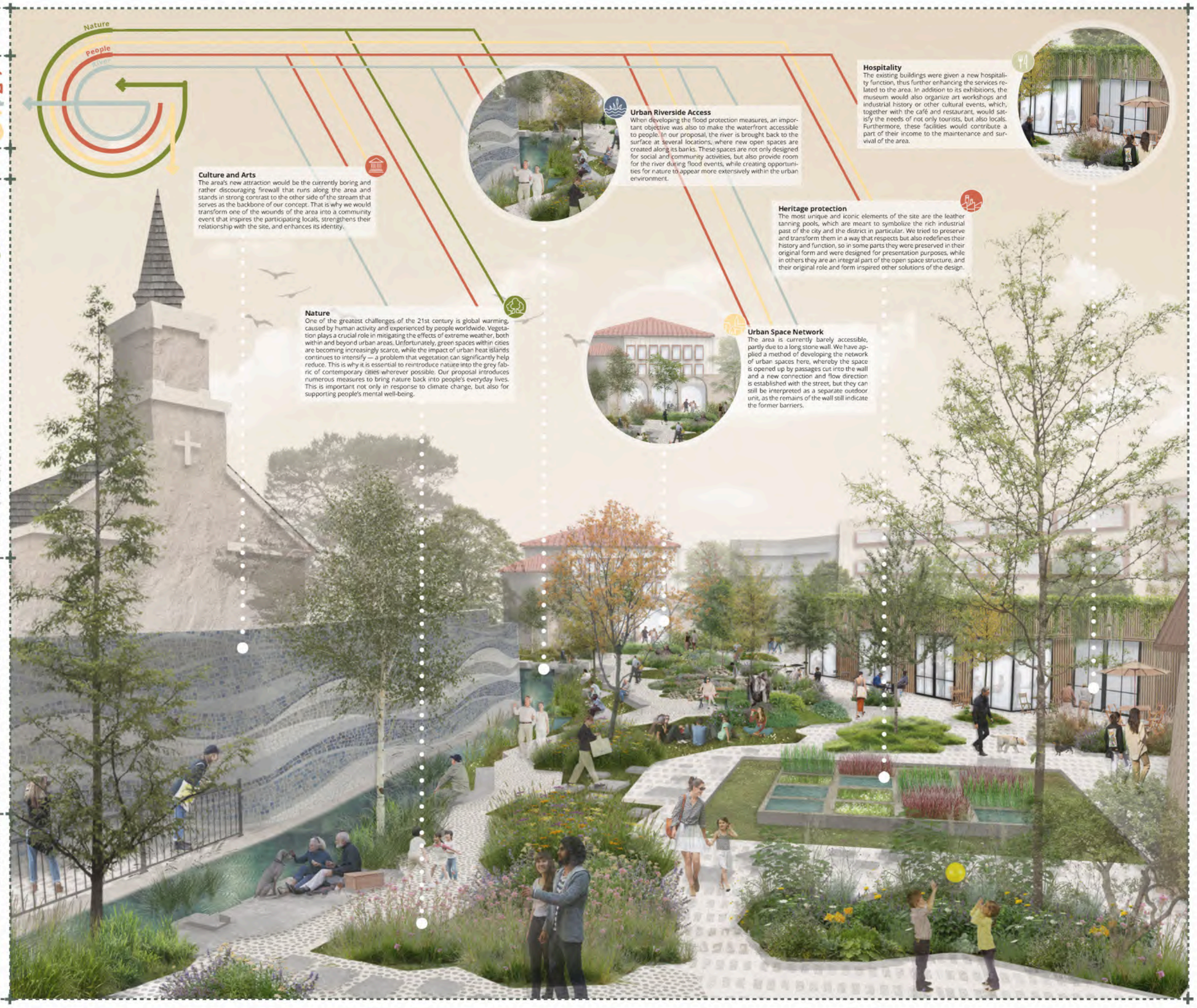
- Corporate Stewardship ("Adopt a spot"): Local businesses sponsor specific project elements – such as new lookouts, community spaces or tree planting – as part of their Social Responsibility initiatives.
- Circular Agriculture: Goods produced on community fields are sold at local markets, and the proceeds are directly invested back into the park's maintenance fund.
- Rentable Event Spaces: Generating revenue from rental fees for temporary outdoor events, festivals and markets held in newly created multifunctional spaces.
- Income from Ecotourism: Revenue from guided nature walks organized along the revitalized green corridors and themed heritage tours to the Old Town and through Bairro C.

Maintenance

We are transforming maintenance from a municipal burden into a shared community responsibility through a Zoned Management Strategy. While high-traffic urban spaces receive intensive, daily care, the riverside areas and the Penha slopes receive extensive management, with mowing once a year, supporting wild biodiversity and reducing costs. This is complemented by "Digital Stewardship", where residents use the existing BiodiversityGO! app to report problems (e.g. broken branches, slippery pavement due to debris, architectural elements to be renovated). By involving volunteers in simpler gardening tasks, the community transforms from passive users to active guardians of the landscape.



The diversity of the area is highlighted and further nuanced by the fact that, thanks to its characteristics, it is the most suitable starting and ending point for our thematic routes. Just as our concept combines the landscape and the urban scale, the location also brings together the city, nature, culture and people, from the top of Penha Hill, along the Couros River, through the network of historical and industrial monuments, to this small urban area, which is both the origin of the routes and the allegory of our professional attitude.



Culture and Arts
The area's new attraction would be the currently boring and rather discouraging firewall that runs along the area and stands in strong contrast to the other side of the stream that serves as the backbone of our concept. That is why we would transform one of the wounds of the area into a community event that inspires the participating locals, strengthens their relationship with the site, and enhances its identity.

Urban Riverside Access
When developing the flood protection measures, an important objective was also to make the waterfront accessible to people. In our proposal, the river is brought back to the surface at several locations, where new open spaces are created along its banks. These spaces are not only designed for social and community activities, but also provide room for the river during flood events, while creating opportunities for nature to appear more extensively within the urban environment.

Hospitality
The existing buildings were given a new hospitality function, thus further enhancing the services related to the area. In addition to its exhibitions, the museum would also organize art workshops and industrial history or other cultural events, which, together with the café and restaurant, would satisfy the needs of not only tourists, but also locals. Furthermore, these facilities would contribute a part of their income to the maintenance and survival of the area.

Heritage protection
The most unique and iconic elements of the site are the leather tanning pools, which are meant to symbolize the rich industrial past of the city and the district in particular. We tried to preserve and transform them in a way that respects but also redefines their history and function, so in some parts they were preserved in their original form and were designed for presentation purposes, while in others they are an integral part of the open space structure, and their original role and form inspired other solutions of the design.

Nature
One of the greatest challenges of the 21st century is global warming, caused by human activity and experienced by people worldwide. Vegetation plays a crucial role in mitigating the effects of extreme weather, both within and beyond urban areas. Unfortunately, green spaces within cities are becoming increasingly scarce, while the impact of urban heat islands continues to intensify — a problem that vegetation can significantly help reduce. This is why it is essential to reintroduce nature into the grey fabric of contemporary cities wherever possible. Our proposal introduces numerous measures to bring nature back into people's everyday lives. This is important not only in response to climate change, but also for supporting people's mental well-being.

Urban Space Network
The area is currently barely accessible, partly due to a long stone wall. We have applied a method of developing the network of urban spaces here, whereby the space is opened up by passages cut into the wall and a new connection and flow direction is established with the street, but they can still be interpreted as a separate outdoor unit, as the remains of the wall still indicate the former barriers.