



Delft University of Technology

A vision on urban nature

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REGENERATIVE CITY AND INFRA

A VISION ON URBAN NATURE

*We envision the city as a vibrant landscape, teeming with opportunities for nature-inclusive and bio-based building. This perspective is a green thread running through our ongoing research. **Jacques Vink**, architect and author of *Stadsnatuur Maken* and *Stadsnatuur Bouwen*, shares his insights on this vision as an external advisor for our project.*

“A Dutch poet once wrote, ‘The environment of humans is fellow humans,’ displayed on a building on the Nieuwe Binnenweg in Rotterdam. My version would be, ‘The environment of humans is urban nature; an ecosystem of fellow humans, plants, birds, and animals.’ This may not be as eloquent, but I am not Jules Deelder,” Jacques Vink reflects.

The Importance of Urban Nature

The necessity to integrate nature fully into our urban landscapes is more critical than ever. With increasing urbanization, more people are living in close quarters, and the need for plants and animals to thrive in these urban environments is also rising. Often, urban areas are the last refuge for many species.

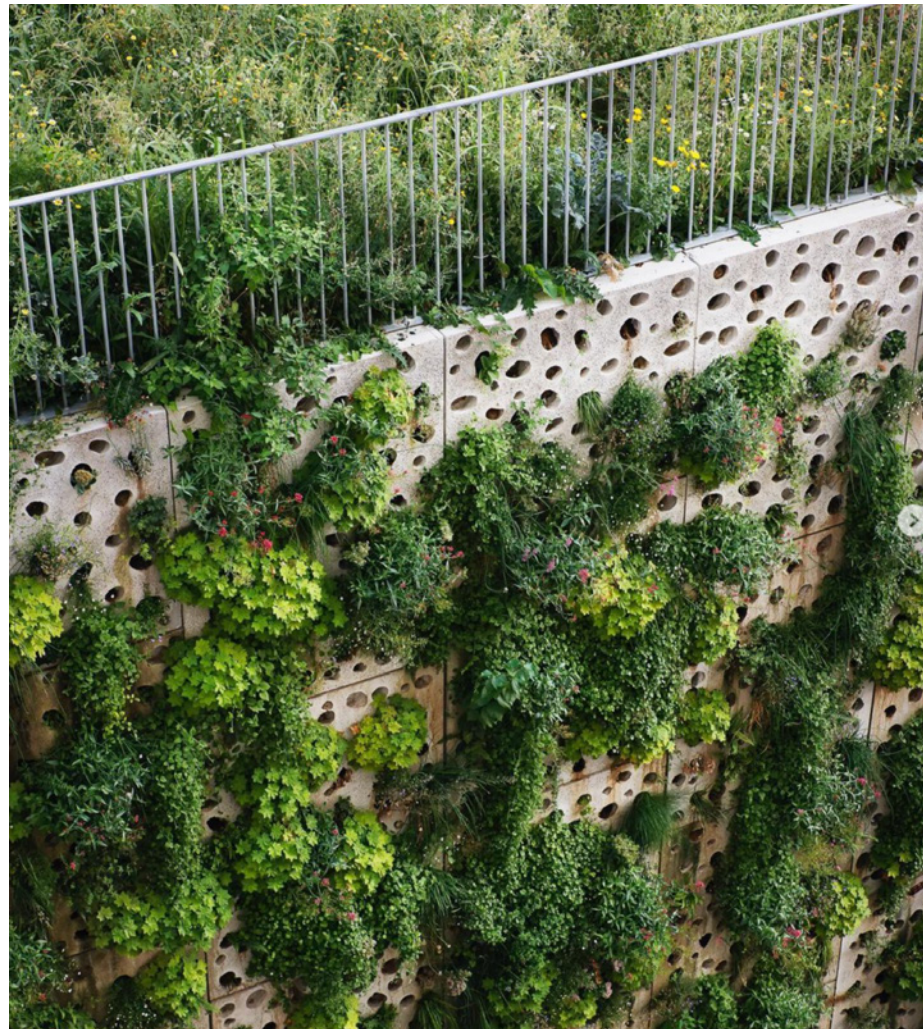


PHOTO CHARTIER DALIX

The City as a Rich Biotope

Cities can be surprisingly rich in biodiversity. For instance, the variety of bird species in green suburbs often surpasses that found in rural areas, rivaling many natural habitats. Not only birds but also other animals and plants are now more commonly found in cities than in the surrounding countryside.

Nature is an integral part of the urban ecosystem, crucial for the livability of human residents. A herb-rich green roof, for example, is a blooming biotope that also cools the building beneath. A green schoolyard benefits wild bees and butterflies and serves as an educational tool for children.

The Vulnerability of Urban Nature

Despite its richness, urban nature is vulnerable. Human activity constantly reconfigures the

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environment, often rendering animal species homeless. Therefore, nature-inclusive building practices are essential to provide ongoing space for urban flora and fauna. By considering all city dwellers, we can create a harmonious coexistence.

Balancing Control and Freedom

Ecologists debate the best approach to nature development and management. Should we preserve existing species or allow nature to take its course? This balance between control and natural evolution is crucial. Most projects fall somewhere between these two extremes.

Jacques Vink advises, “Don’t make it harder than necessary. Design alongside nature. Most of it is already there, and the process rarely starts from zero. Make buildings inviting for species, plants, and animals already present. For urban nature, creating the right living conditions for interconnected species is more important than targeting specific species in a ‘designed’ location. Sometimes, a bit of ‘laziness’ - letting nature take its course - can be productive.”

Towards a Healthy Urban Ecosystem

We aim for a natural cycle that creates a healthy living environment for all city dwellers: urban animals, plants, and humans. By embracing and integrating nature into our urban landscapes, we can build cities that are not only livable but also thriving ecosystems.

Jacques Vink

PARTNERS

STRATEGIC PARTNER

Strategic partners actively participate in developing construction systems, research, the exhibition, or the pavilion. Support with substantial budget, knowledge, and/or experimental possibilities.

Benefits

- Your project featured in the expo*
- Active access and visibility within the network
- Regular research updates
- Invitations to relation and network events at DDW 2024 and DDW 2025
- Media exposure

Contribution

- An annual contribution of 35,000 euros (cash and/or in kind)

**provided it fits the narrative of the exhibition*

PROGRAM PARTNER

Program partners are closely involved in part of the expo program. Supporting with budget, knowledge, or materials.

Benefits

- Regular research updates
- Active access and visibility within the network
- Invitations to relationship and network events at DDW 2024 and DDW 2025
- Media exposure as well as exposure in the expo

Contribution

- An annual contribution of 20,000 euros (cash and/or in kind).

DESIGN/MATERIAL PARTNER

The partners are designers and producers of materials included in the exhibition or pavilion. They are invited by the curator.

Benefits

- Material exposure in the expo and on biobasedmaterials.org
- Active access and visibility within the network
- Invitations to relationship and network events at DDW 2024 and DDW 2025

Contribution

- In-kind contribution of required materials.



CONTACT US

If you are interested in joining our efforts, please contact us at info@biobasedcreations.com
We look forward to collaborating with you to build a regenerative future.

COLOPHON

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