

TU Delft MSc Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences Transitional Territories graduation studio

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### 1. Personal motivation

- 2. Problem analysis
- 3. Design goals
- 4. Strategies
- 5. Vision for the territory
- 6. Conclusions



#### How we live



Typical residential street in Amsterdam. Taken by the author, 2022.

### How they live



Squatters in San Pío X, Murcia, La Verdad, 2022.



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meso scale: Region de Murcia macro scale: Segura basin



### THE SITE

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT** 





### **SPAIN: LEGAL RIGHTS FOR MAR MENOR ECOSYSTEM IN EUROPEAN FIRST**

April 5, 2022



The Spanish Congress of Deputies has voted, by overwhelming majority (only one party voting against), to give the green light to a Popular Legislative Initiative assigning legal status to the Mar Menor, Europe's largest saltwater lagoon. This vote triggers the process to pass a law granting the lagoon its own rights, making it the first European



## ECONOMY

Motivation	Problem analysis	Design goals	Strategies	Territorial visio
		land e	xploitation ————	
	water scarcity			
		— commo	dity export	

intensive agri-food systems

anthropogenic activities

technological advance



flood risk

Main Research Question:

How to find more socially and ecologically equitable ways of human and natural work in the Region of Murcia?

Analysis Sub-Questions:

RQ1: What are the systems that pose criticalities in the region and what are their limitations?

RQ2: How is the land operationalised to sustain the regional economic model? What are the impacts of this process on the natural systems?

RQ3: What are the working and living conditions of the migrant workforce? How is the seasonality of production affecting the labour dynamics?

# THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Agroecology Agrarian Urbanism Nature-based solutions The Black Mediterranean



Valerie Imbruce, Agricultural Biodiversity Study, Florida, 2004.

Strategies



Agronica / Territory for the New Economy, Andrea Branzi



Accumulation

Matter// Topos// Habitat// (Geo)Politics





### MATTER

🔺 Dam Extractions for agrarian use
Extractions for urban use ----- Main rivers of the Segura basin Main rivers of the Segur
Hydrographic network
\_\_\_\_\_ Limit of Murcia Region
Limit of Segura basin
Aquifers
Reservoirs Agricultural Demand Units (UDAS) Zones highly vulnerable to nitrates Affected area by nitrate pollution Sea water Coastal lagoon

Motivation

Hyper-reservoir Entrepeñas & Buendia stock



— Monthly stocks



Precipitation patterns in the region of Murcia through the last 31 years.



Timelapse showing the Mar Menor between January and September 2019. Continuous floods can be observed at the mouth of the Albujón creek. / Copernicus - Sentinel Hub



Metabolic section. The author, 2022.



Seasonality of the agro-food production in relation to employment contracts. The author, 2022.





Clearance

learance





- ------ Sub-catchments of river basin Hydrographic network Zones vulnerable to nitrates + Monitoring stations Network of water retention ponds to improve connectivity and provide a range of ecosystem services (1)Enhancing dune dynamics in Dunas de la Llana Preserving the salt marsh of San Pedro del Pinatar
- 2 3 4 Creating a vegetated foreshore connected to the urban fabric
- Creating riparian zones for the stream of Rambla del Albujón
- 6 Restoring seagrass meadows
- $\overline{\mathcal{O}}$ Renaturalization of the Marina del Carmolí wetland

\*contributions of the middle section from October 2019 to July 2021

Systemic mappings



 Existing well
Hydrographic network
Sub-catchments of river basin
Canal Taibilla ------ Irrigation ditches Limit of aquifers Groundwater vulnerability High High Moderate Sea water Coastal lagoon

Strategies



 Existing well
Hydrographic network
Sub-catchments of river basin
Canal Taibilla ----- Irrigation ditches Limit of aquifers Groundwater vulnerability High Moderate Sea water Coastal lagoon







The flooding of the El Albujón boulevard kept nearly ten thousand residents of the towns in the northern area of Cartagena on alert due to the possibility of an overflow in several of its sections. J.M. Rodriguez, 09/29/2012.





# **BIODIVERSITY POTENTIAL**





- 1. Summarv of the analvsis
- 2. Design goals
- 3. Strategies
- 4. Vision for the territory
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Pergeneration of a replane line of a replane lin	Motivation	Problem analysis	Design goals	Strategies	Territorial vision
			Regeneration of a depleted land	nitrate runoff aquifer damage drought flooding social seggregation precarious living conditions citizenship rights Vulnerability	
				Bioph	
Exploitative economies Agro-production Temporal labor					
Exploitative economies Agro-production Temporal labor			Iongterm stability inclusion Social equality	longern ganns dweiselaein productive	
Tourism			Exploitative economies Agro-production Temporal labor Tourism	$\rightarrow$ $\rightarrow$ $\rightarrow$ $\rightarrow$ $\rightarrow$	

Crops	Water need	Resilience Flood Drought	Irrigation technique	Labor need	Soil	Sun	XII	Winter I	П	Ш	Spring IV	v		VI	Summer VII
vineyard	•	0 0	drip		sandy clay	0 0	S			S H					
olive	• • • •	0 0 0	drip		wide range of soils	0 0 0	S H			S H			S H P		
beans	• • • •	0 0	surf-drip		well-drained	0	S			S H P			S H P		
fruit trees	• • • •	0 0 0 0	drip		sandy clay	0 0 0	S H			S H			S H P		
wheat	• • • •	0 0 0	drip rainfed		sandy clay	0 0 0	S H H P			S H P			S H P		
pea	• • • • •	0 0 0	drip		salty heavy clay	0 0	S H P			S H P			S		
cauliflower	• • • •	0 0 0	surf-drip			0	S H P			S H P			S   H   P		
barley	• • •	00	drip rainfed		gravel limestone	0 0 0	S H P		100355	S Stations H P			S H P		
artichoke	••••	0 0	surf-drip		deep sandy drained	0 0 0 0	S H P			S H P			S H P		
sugarbeet	• • • • • • •	0000	surf-sprink		clay	0 0 0 0	S			S H P			S H P		
tomato	•••••	0 0	surf-drip		clay	0 0 0 0	S			S H			S H		
asparagus	• • • • • • •	0 0 0	drip	$\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $		0 0	S H P			S H P			S H P		
pepper	••••	0 0	surf-drip		sandy drained	0 0 0 0	S			S H					
red pepper	• • • • • • •	0 0	surf-drip		sandy drained	0 0 0 0	S H P			S H P			S H		
lettuce	• • • • • • •	0 0 0 0	surf-drip		sandy silty	0	S H P			S H P			S     H     P		
rice			surface		sandy drained wide range of soils	0 0 0	S			S			S H P		

units: 500m³/ha

 $\Delta = 1$  worker









low working intensity mild working intensity high working intensity Seeding Harvesting Processing

Motivation	Motivation Problem analysis			Design goals				3	Territorial visic		
	Existing mo	nocultures									
	Potatoes Gorey 40x60cm	Tomatoes Cor	rn Strawberries	Melons	Watermelons	Peas	Chickpeas	Zucchini			



#### Proposed crop rotation systems









- I. Summary of the analysis
- 2. Design goals
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### STRATEGY 1. RENATURALIZING GREEN CORRIDORS


Existing green spaces







Proposed green corridors



----- Railway Proposed green corridors Floodplain Urbanization





Systemic section of the design strategy.



# **STRATEGY 2. NEW SETTLEMENT EXPANSION**









Agro-settlement



Three scales that facilitate different types of social interaction:

## Individual scale



Residents cultivate their own plots in the community garden to supply their own food



## Household scale





Neighborhood scale Communities come together to manage, harvest and process the crops



Motivation	Problem analysis	Design g	goals S	Strategies	Territorial vision
	User profile				
	single worker		30m <sup>2</sup> ground floor apartment with front patio		

young couple

family of 1-2 children



60m² two-storey house

120m<sup>2</sup>

60m<sup>2</sup> apartment



# STRATEGY 3. CROP DIVERSIFICATION FOR FLOOD & DROUGHT RESILIENCE

# 2. CROP DIVERSIFICATION FOR FLOOD & DROUGHT RESILIENCE



intersection









STRATEGY 2A- REFORESTATION WITH NITROGEN-FIXING TREES





Reduced fertilizer

Woodchips as mulch under fruit trees for nitrogel recuperation











ATTAN Wood chips



30 days after blooming highest NUE early post-harvest extremely low NUE/ large nitrate leaching early post-harvest

Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE)



## Fruit orchards

## Fruit orchards

High-frequency irrigation & optimal in-season nutrient management









Transect 1



Ш

IV

V

Ш

XII

VII

VI

VIII

IX

Х

XI

season





Existing conditions of urbanization [Local scale]





Problem analysis

Design goals

Existing conditions of cultivation [Local scale]







1km







Phase 2- Construction of new settlement





Phase 2- Construction of new settlement

Slow mobility principles

Reduce speed limit to 30/h in local streets.
Reduce speed limit to 15km/h in inner city streets / work towards shared space.

3. Build wide and accessible sidewalks.

4. Provide safe pedestrian crossings.









Problem analysis

Design goals



Phase 3-Proposed system of production [Local scale]



Aleman grass
Rice
Taro
Flood-tolerant sugarcane
Sorghum





Crop-labour balance





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Processing and distribution



Phase 1

# Construction of a new pumping station at the mouth of the river













Phase 4





Design goals













Stakeholders

Power and Interest







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Design goals

Conclusions | Tangible outcomes

Cultivation genealogies

design tools on a nano scale based on climate and topography specificities that take into account local processes



Conclusions | Tangible outcomes

Spatial transformation

mouth of Rambla del Albujon ecological transition and new aagro-settlement



Design goals

Conclusions | Tangible outcomes

Spatial transformation

Future vision for the territory of Campo de Cartagena comprising of context-specific strategies



Limitations | Further research

On the context:

Hydraulic performance of the aquifer | Depth, intensity and exact zones of pollution

Extent of extractive infrastructures (wells, desalination plants, other structures)

On theory:

Cultural understanding of food systems

Investment in NBs and understanding of the benefits of such design solutions




