The United Nations Environmental Council will have a global coordinating function in sustainable development. It will be a central organisation that collects, produces, propagates and exchanges information on sustainability worldwide, concerning ecological, social and economical sustainability issues. This new council should have a billboard function in sustainable design. The building will be located next to the existing UN Headquarters on the East River bank in Manhattan, New York.

### URBAN ANALYSIS

- **Masterplan of the Location**: Scale 1:1000

### URBAN CONCEPT

#### STEP 1: UN platform as 'island' within the Manhattan grid
- The platform of the UN forms an 'island' within the Manhattan grid and the UN plot is part of this platform.

#### STEP 2: Connecting the city to the waterside
- Most visitors of the UN site will approach from 42nd street, but also 47th street is an important city axis towards the East River.

#### STEP 3: Emphasizing the UN platform with park as main entrance
- Emphasizing the identity of the UN platform by creating one platform with a park in front, which is the new main entrance to the UN complex along the axis to the water.

### THE NEW MASTERPLAN

- **Strategy for 'green belt' around Manhattan**: There is a missing link at the UN plot.
- **UN platform vs the Manhattan grid**: The UN platform forms an 'island' within the Manhattan grid.
- **Missing link**: The UN plot is part of this platform.

### URBAN DESIGN

- **Main city axis along the UN site**: The southern part of the plot has direct sunlight all day long, ideal for a park which can connect the park at 47th street to the water.
- **Relevant buildings around the UN site**: The UN plaza hotel is located next to the site and the Trump tower forms the highest building in the skyline surrounding the UN site.

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THE NEW MASTERPLAN AND NEW URBAN CHARACTERS

CHARACTER 1: 1ST Avenue Park

- a new park along 1ST Avenue for pedestrians
- continues water element guiding towards the UN Park
- relaxing area for inhabitants of whole district

CHARACTER 2: UN Park

- a new park in front of the new UN main entrance
- the pond can be transformed into a square
- suitable for all season activities: pond, market square, festival area or ice track

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URBAN DESIGN
THE NEW MASTERPLAN AND NEW URBAN CHARACTERS

CHARACTER 3: UN Boulevard

- a new boulevard connecting the city centre to the waterfront
- the water element is guiding towards the UN main entrance
- connecting the UN Park to the UN Square

CHARACTER 4: UN Square

- a new square as entrance to the new UN Council building
- smaller inner gardens form a art garden related to the UN
- a new UN library is connected to the square, along with exposition- and product spaces about the UN and sustainability
STEP 1: Platform with minimal option
all program is integrated within the UN platform, to create a building mass on top of the platform that is as minimal as possible.

STEP 2: Platform with horizontal option
the program for the delegates is integrated within the UN platform and the program for the employees forms a horizontal slab above the UN square.

STEP 3: Platform with vertical option
the program for the employees is shaped as a tower on top of the UN platform, creating a separate park next to the UN platform.

STEP 4: Adjusted platform with high rise
the UN platform is shaped with the main entrance to the UN complex now located at the park side, an inner courtyard is formed. the new UN square.

STEP 5: High rise within UN composition
finally the new UN tower is positioned on the platform within the Manhattan skyline, by which the UN park stretches out in front of the Trump Tower.

NORTH FACADE - VIEW ON MAIN ENTRANCE

OLD ICON VS NEW ICON
the new building will be a new icon for sustainability, as was the existing Secretariat building for the technical possibilities of the last century.

CREATING ONE UN PLATFORM
the masterplan envisions one UN platform, one podium with clear boundaries.

MAIN ENTRANCE AND PARK
by adjusting the UN platform to the routing axis out of the city, a park is created which is also the new main entrance to the plot.

ARCHITECTURAL CONCEPT AND MODELLING

ARCHITECTURE CONCEPT AND MODELLING

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MODELLING PROCESS

COMPOSITION FROM WATERSIDE
the FDR canopy emphasizes the composition of the UN buildings seen from the waterside.

COMPOSITION FROM CITY SIDE
the composition of the UN buildings as a whole is not visible from the city side, by extending the platform a collective identity can be created.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

MAIN ENTRANCE AND PARK
by adjusting the UN platform to the routing axis out of the city, a park is created which is also the new main entrance to the plot.

NORTH FAuce - VIEW ON MAIN ENTRANCE
scale 1:350
NEW MAIN ENTRANCE FOR UN COMPOUND

Impression of the new UN main entrance out of the UN Park
Impression of entrance hall - water element continues into lobby

Impression of auditoria - water element continues on the outside (UN boulevard)
Buildup of the tower:

- centralized cores
- middle zone for installations and shafts
- standardized office sizes to unit size of 2.7 meter

Buildup of the tower:

- routing zoning in the center
- new semi-outdoor spaces are integrated on each floor
- office spaces can be extended to the outside facade
Installation concept tower - during summer

Installation concept tower - during winter

STRUCTURAL CONCEPT

STEP 1: Base

Column - beam system of lower part is based on the existing load-bearing system of the UN compound

STEP 2: Cores

Massive timber cores

Lowest 2 floors are concrete cores

STEP 3: Columns and beams

Timber column-beam system in facade as rigid framework

STEP 4: Concrete floorslabs

Timber column-beam system combined with prefab concrete floors for stability

STEP 5: Superstructure

Superstructure is needed for the stiffness of the facade

STEP 6: Timber panels

Timber panels are integrated in the facade to give the timber structure more expression

Impression of office interior in tower
Impression of base facade structure