



PALIMPSEST

Creative Drivers for Sustainable
Living Heritage Landscape

PALIMPSEST Closing event

23th April 2026

**THURSDAY 23 APRIL 2026 | from 9 am to 4:30 pm - Spazio CRAFT
Building 11B Via Ampère, 20 - Campus Leonardo - Politecnico di Milano**

PALIMPSEST operates within the framework of the New European Bauhaus initiative and explores the transformative potential of creative and artistic initiatives in real-world contexts, with a particular focus on landscape transformations oriented towards environmental sustainability. PALIMPSEST experimented in three pilot cities: Jerez de la Frontera (ES), Łódź (PL), and Milan (IT).

9:00	Registration and welcome
.....	
9:30	PALIMPSEST Perspectives, Practices and Lessons Learnt moderator Annalena Amthor (online* in english)
.....	
11:30	From Research to Transformative Action I Policy Roundtable PALIMPSEST in Dialogue with HeritACT and UNLOCKTHECITY! EU Projects moderator Irene Bianchi (in- person in italian)
.....	
1:00pm	end of the morning session
.....	
3:00pm	Landscapes in Trouble, Landscapes in Action: Theories and Practices Between Space, Art and Ecology I Book Launch (in- person in english)
.....	
4:30pm	end of the afternoon session

Welcome & institutional greetings

Carolina **PACCHI**

Head of DASTU - Politecnico di Milano



PALIMPSEST

Creative Drivers for Sustainable
Living Heritage Landscape

Unconference series

PALIMPSEST

Perspectives, Practices and
Lessons Learnt

9:00 **Registration and Welcome**

Institutional greetings | **Carolina Pacchi** Head of DASTU - POLIMI

9:30 **PALIMPSEST Perspectives, Practices and Lessons Learnt**

Moderator: **Annalena Amthor** (online* in english)

R&I actions in NEB initiative | **Laura Kasnauskaite** PALIMPSEST Project Officer

PALIMPSEST overview | **Grazia Concilio** PALIMPSEST coordinator - POLIMI

Culture, creativity and care | **Irene Bianchi** DASTU - POLIMI

Assessing the co-creation process | **Chema Segovia** CULTURALINK

The three pilots in a nutshell | **Nicola Morelli** Aalborg University

Legacy and future scenarios |

Jerez de la Frontera (ESP) **Francisco Pazos** Nomad Garden

Łódź (POL) **Michał Piernikowski** Lodz Design Festival

Milan (ITA) **Daniela Masotti** ERSAF

Closing comment | **Sanna Lehtinen** Aalto University

R&I actions in NEB initiative

Laura **KASNAUSKAITE**

PALIMPSEST Project Officer

PALIMPSEST Overview

Grazia **CONCILIO**

PALIMPSEST Coordinator



AALBORG UNIVERSITET
KØBENHAVN

COAL



novelcore
RESEARCH & INNOVATION



CULTURALINK
CONSULTORÍA EN CULTURA Y COMUNICACIÓN



LADISLAV SUTNAR FACULTY
OF DESIGN AND ART
UNIVERSITY OF WEST BOHEMIA



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863
DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA
E STUDI URBANI



Ayuntamiento
de Jerez



SEMANTIKA



Land as PALIMPSEST

(Corboz, 1983), understood as "*a stratified archive (database) of objects, signs and their meanings*" (Secchi, 1998), which become visible in the **landscape.**



sustainability
horizon

environmental
challenges

local resources

*creative
action*

VALUE
DISTRIBUTION

**co-creation
process**

**everyday
urban practices**

place-specific needs

economic sustainability

What if PALIMPSEST II?



*Art is one of the supreme opportunities for that **gentle revolution** of the senses and the mind that **breaks through the constraints of habit and inertia** and points the way to a genuinely new life for each of us (M.Proust)*

PALIMPSEST showed that it takes time (true!), but proved that trajectories of habit and inertia can be affected ... and more effectively if CC agents are involved.

Having time and opportunity PALIMPSEST II would verify whether the “gentle revolution” is possible through a coordinated and synergic large scale change of several trajectories.

Culture, creativity and care

Irene **BIANCHI**

DASStU, Politecnico di Milano



What **role** might artistic and creative perspectives and practices play in **supporting sustainability transitions** in “**fragile**” landscapes and territories?

1. to hypothesise | **envision** | narrate future places
beyond entrenched habits
1. to test | redefine | **expand** the geometries of collaboration
beyond established networks
1. to challenge | **hack** | reconnect practices and modes of action
beyond routines



Which **methodological approaches and tools** can **open research and action pathways beyond organizational and disciplinary silos?**

- 1. structured yet open-ended** co-creation / collaborative pathways
- 2. place-sensitive yet non-localist** forms of experimentation
- 3. evaluation frameworks** attentive to capturing **multiple dimensions of value**



Which **conditions** allow these pathways to “take shape” and root in the specific contexts?

1. a **disposition to care and reciprocity** across spatial and social relations
2. the identification of **practices** that operate as **‘boundary objects’** in the construction of fertile experimentation, even in the presence of divergent perspectives and of sustainability trade-offs
3. to avoid decoupling sustainability as a goal from the **sustainability of processes**

Assessing the co-creation process

Sendy **GHIRARDI**

CULTURALINK

Evaluation approach

Integrated assessment

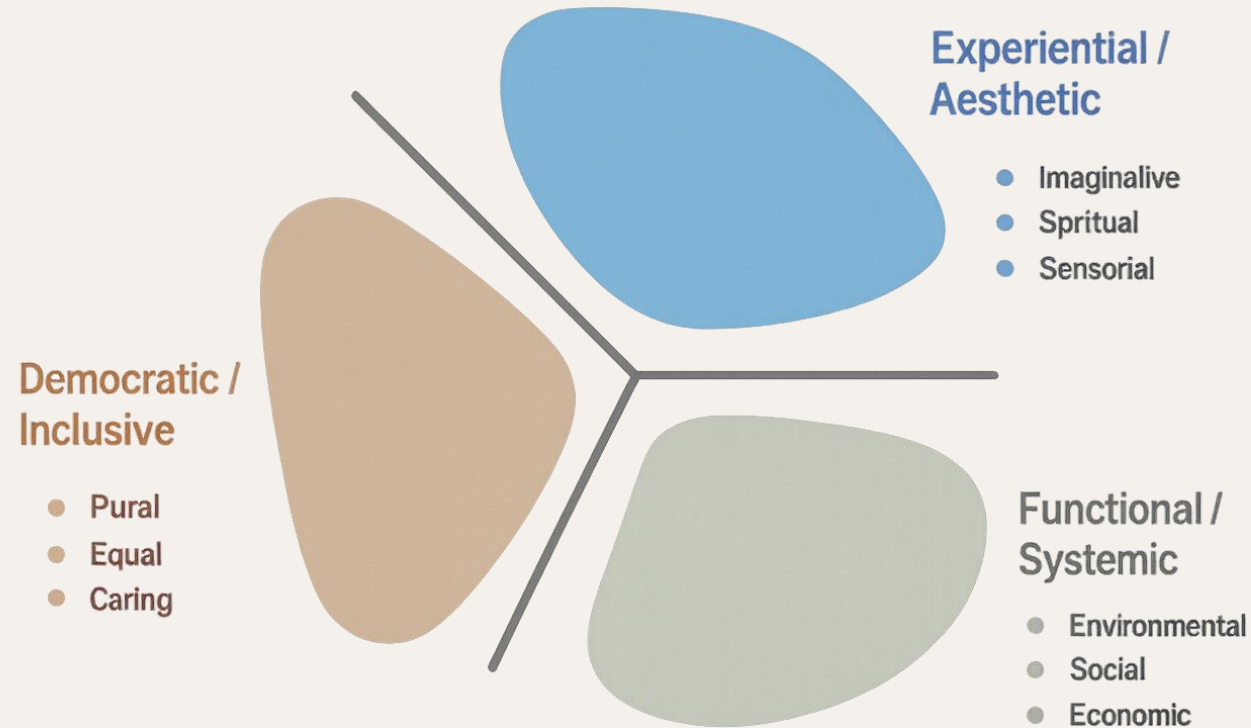
- Formative → supports the process and learning
- Summative → assesses outcomes and impact

Path to impact

- Transformation is non-linear
- Value emerges through interactions over time

From measuring outputs to understanding how value is generated along the process

The PALIMPSEST Assessment Prism






Aligned with the New European Bauhaus
→ Sustainability | Aesthetics | Inclusion

Co-creation diagram



AGENTS

-  Experts
-  Creative Agents
-  Groups & Non-formal
-  Institutions & Formal




ROLES & INFO FLOWS

-  Reception
-  Contribution
-  Co-creation

APPROACH

-  Structured
-  Experimental

SUB-PROCESSES

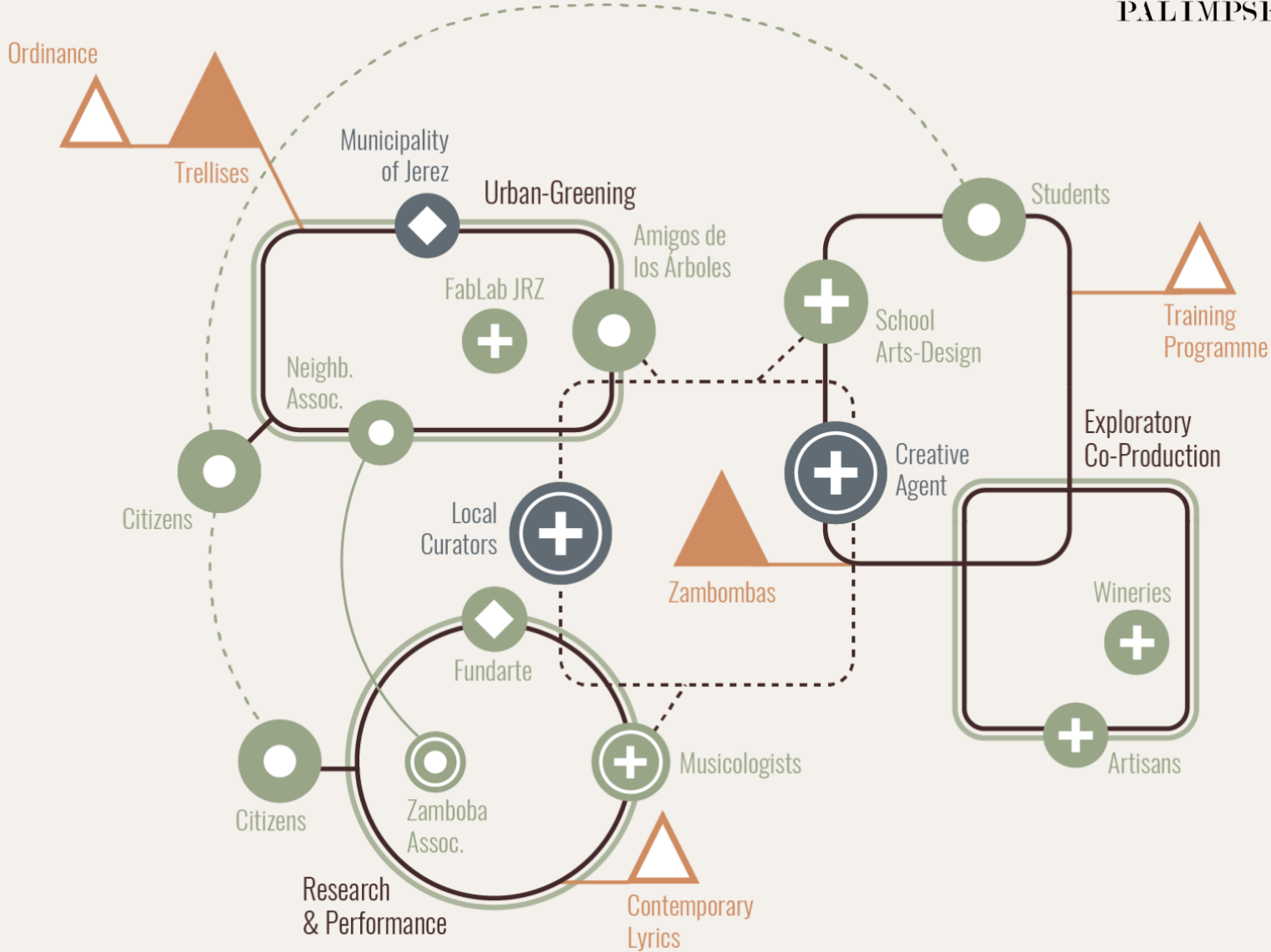
-  Interconnected
-  Sequenced
-  Indirectly connected

OUTPUTS

-  Intangible
-  Tangible

LOCAL ECOSYSTEM

-  Internal
-  External

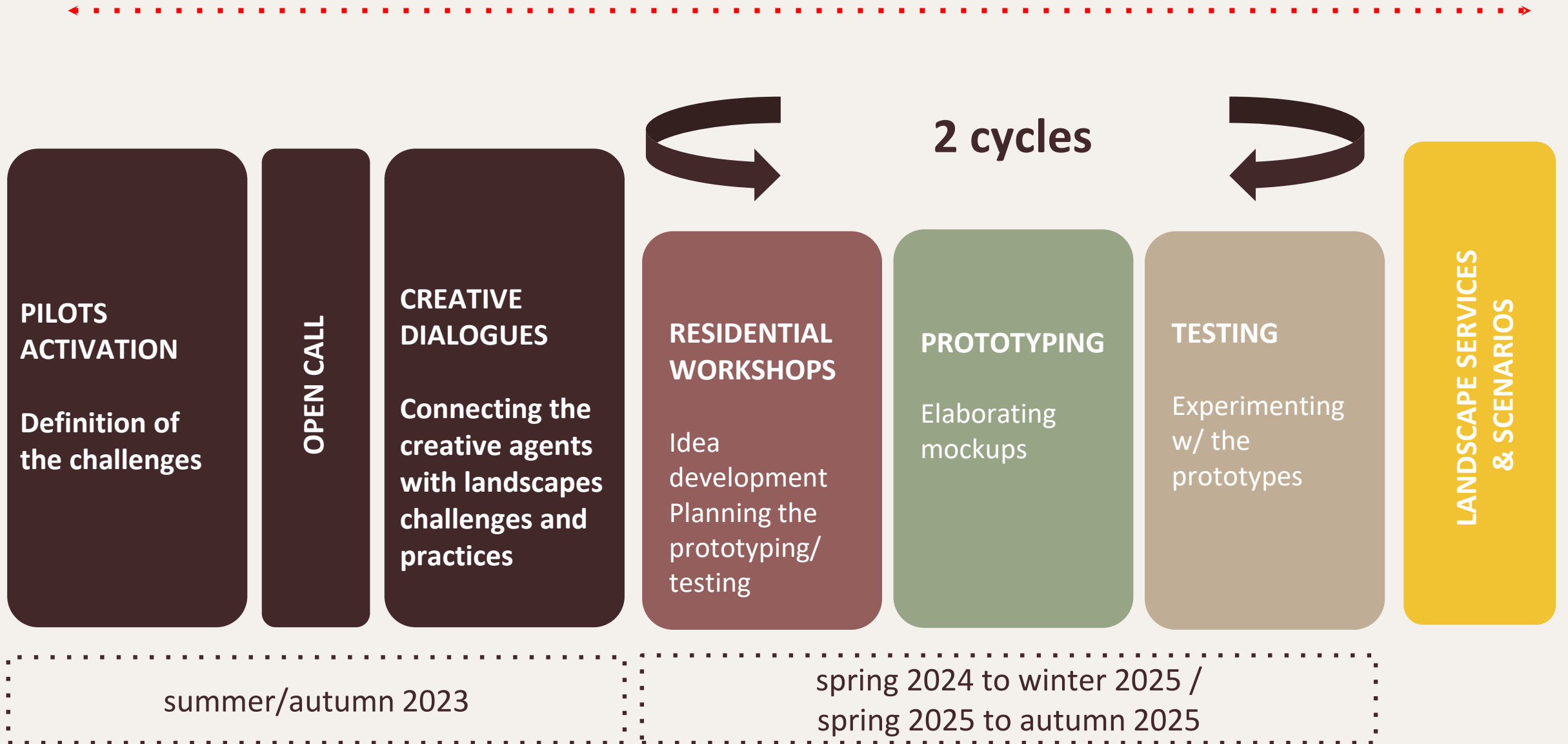


The three pilots in a nutshell

Nicola **MORELLI**

Aalborg University

CO-CREATION AS METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE

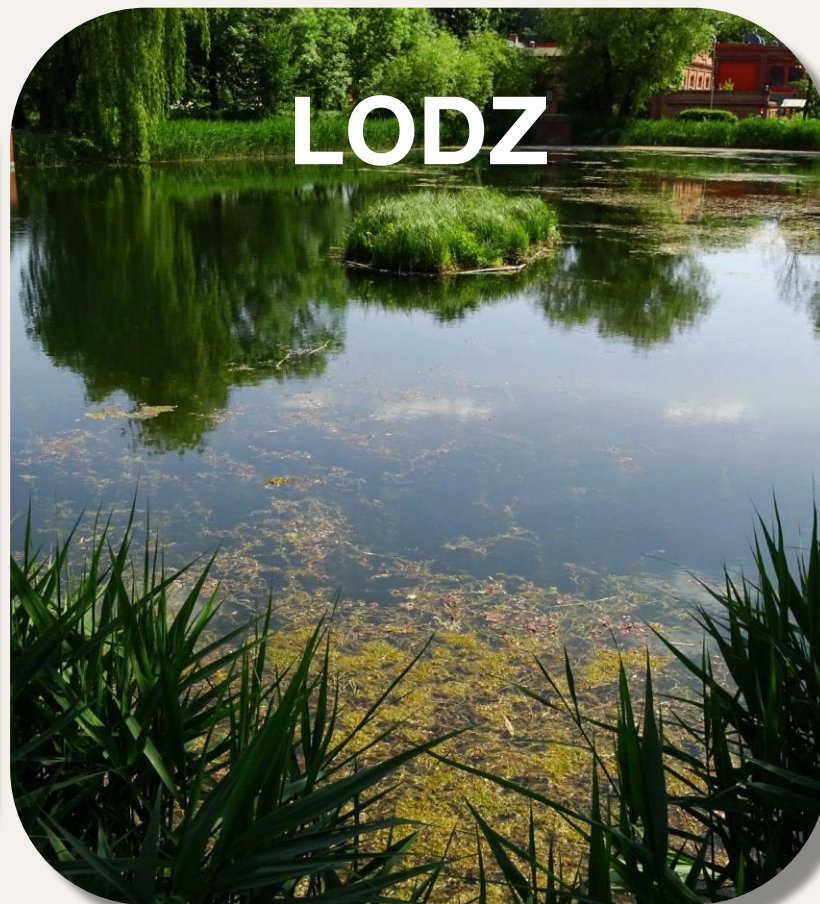


JEREZ de la FRONTERA



***Green energy
landscape, wine
production culture and
urban heat***

LODZ



***Water management
Flash floods, drought
events, water pollution***

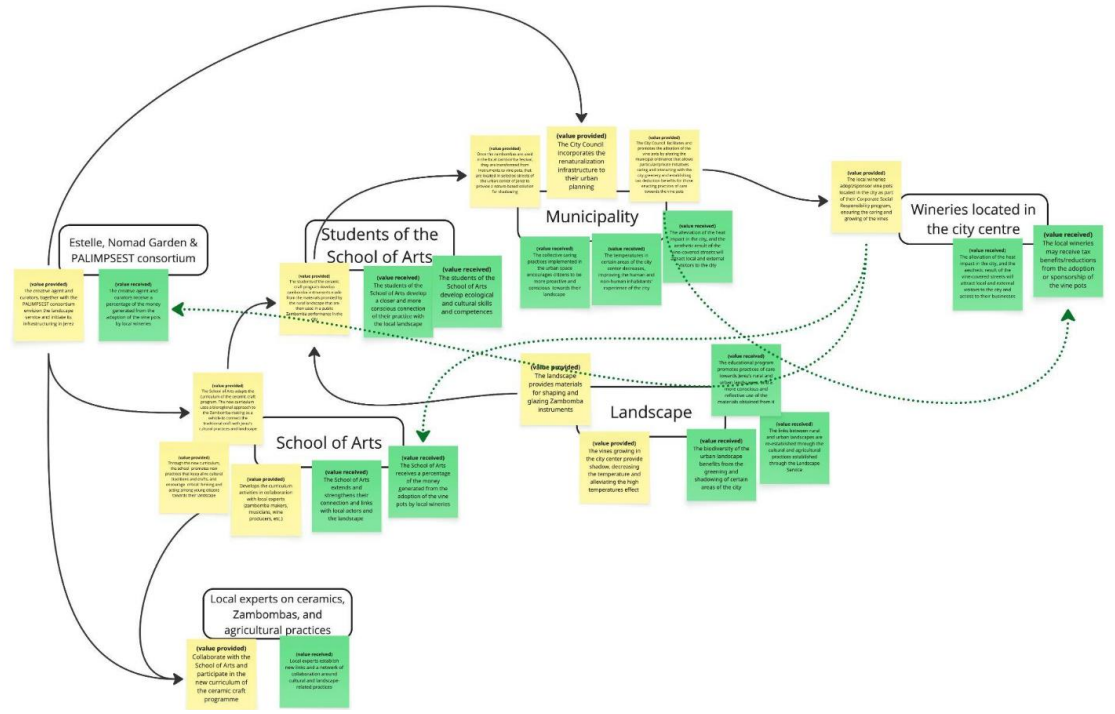
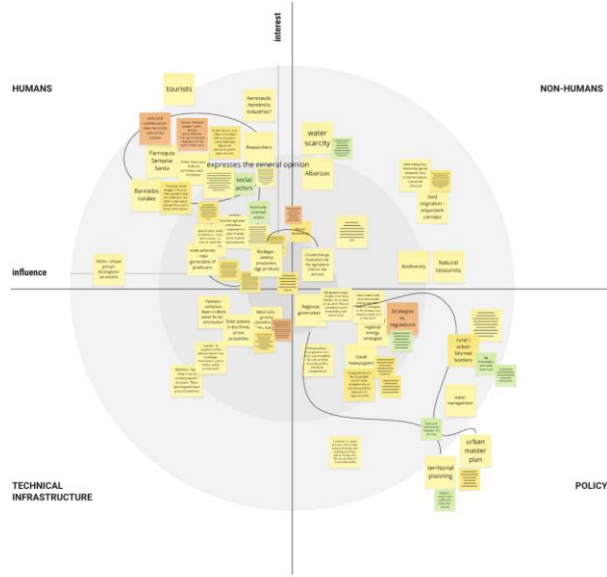
MILAN



***Rekindle the bond
between the city and
the Lambro River***

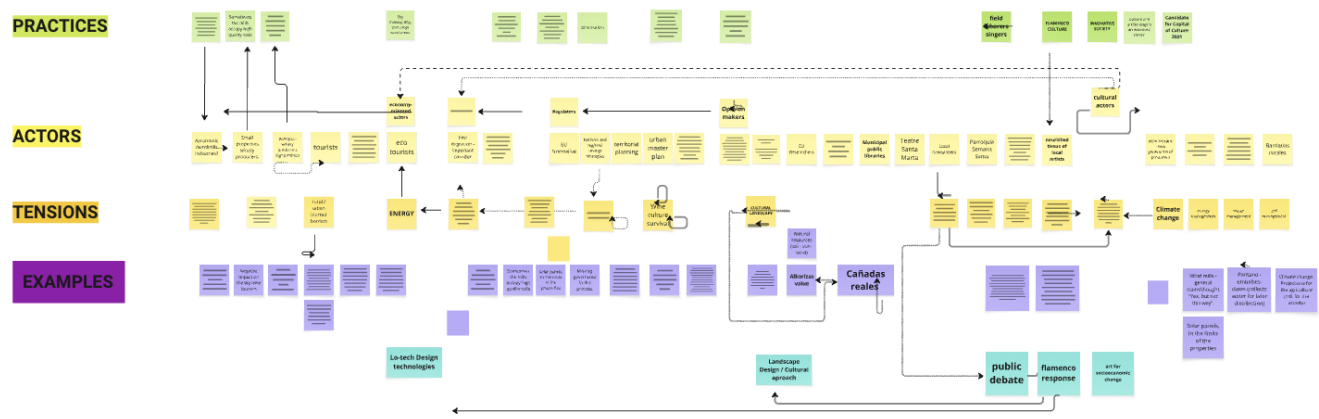
ECOSYSTEM MAPPING

Jerez de la Frontera



PRACTICES & TENSIONS

Jerez de la Frontera



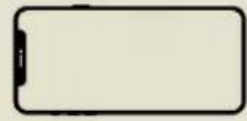
Hacking and connecting

- Landscapes are generative contexts in which old stories are told and new one can be built
- we work through systemic prototypes, i.e. prototypes that were “hacking” existing practices
- New narratives as back bones of new services that create relational value (i.e. value generated by the interpersonal interaction between different stakeholders,
- landscape-related narratives highlight a system of meanings; they are activated by the creative intervention and coordinated by the curator.



A dark blue, irregular, rounded shape that serves as a background for the first part of the text.

Legacy and future scenarios



PLEASE
ROTATE YOUR
PHONE



Fran PAZOS

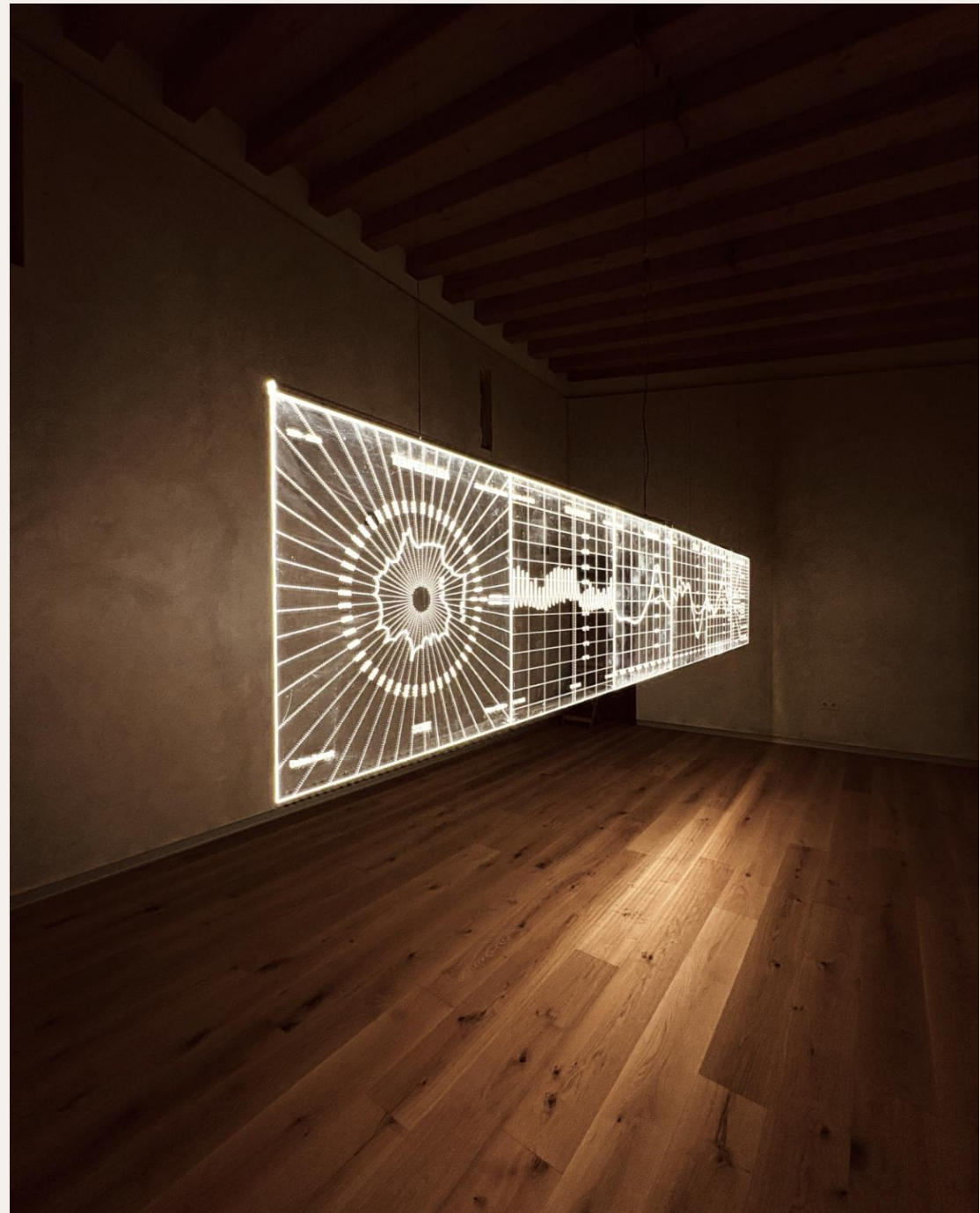


Culture and creativity can be the engine that both legitimises and finances a Nature-Culture-Based Solution (NCBS) for local climate adaptation.

A multi-actor network with a shared goal rooted in the bioregion of Jerez.

Environmental monitoring recorded cooling of 8–9°C on average, with peaks reaching 14°C during heat events.

A strengthened position for community stewards: their knowledge is now visible, measurable and institutionally legible.



ENCUESTA PALIMPSEST

: Ayúdanos a evaluar el proyecto en este QR >



¿Te gustaría que se extendiera el uso de los emparrados?

Poco | Mucho

¿Te gustaría tener emparrados en tu calle?

Poco | Mucho

¿Te gustaría tener un emparrado en la fachada de tu casa?

Poco | Mucho

¿Estarías dispuesto a colaborar con sus cuidadosos?

Poco | Mucho

¿Estarías dispuesto a colaborar con donaciones o micromecenazgos?

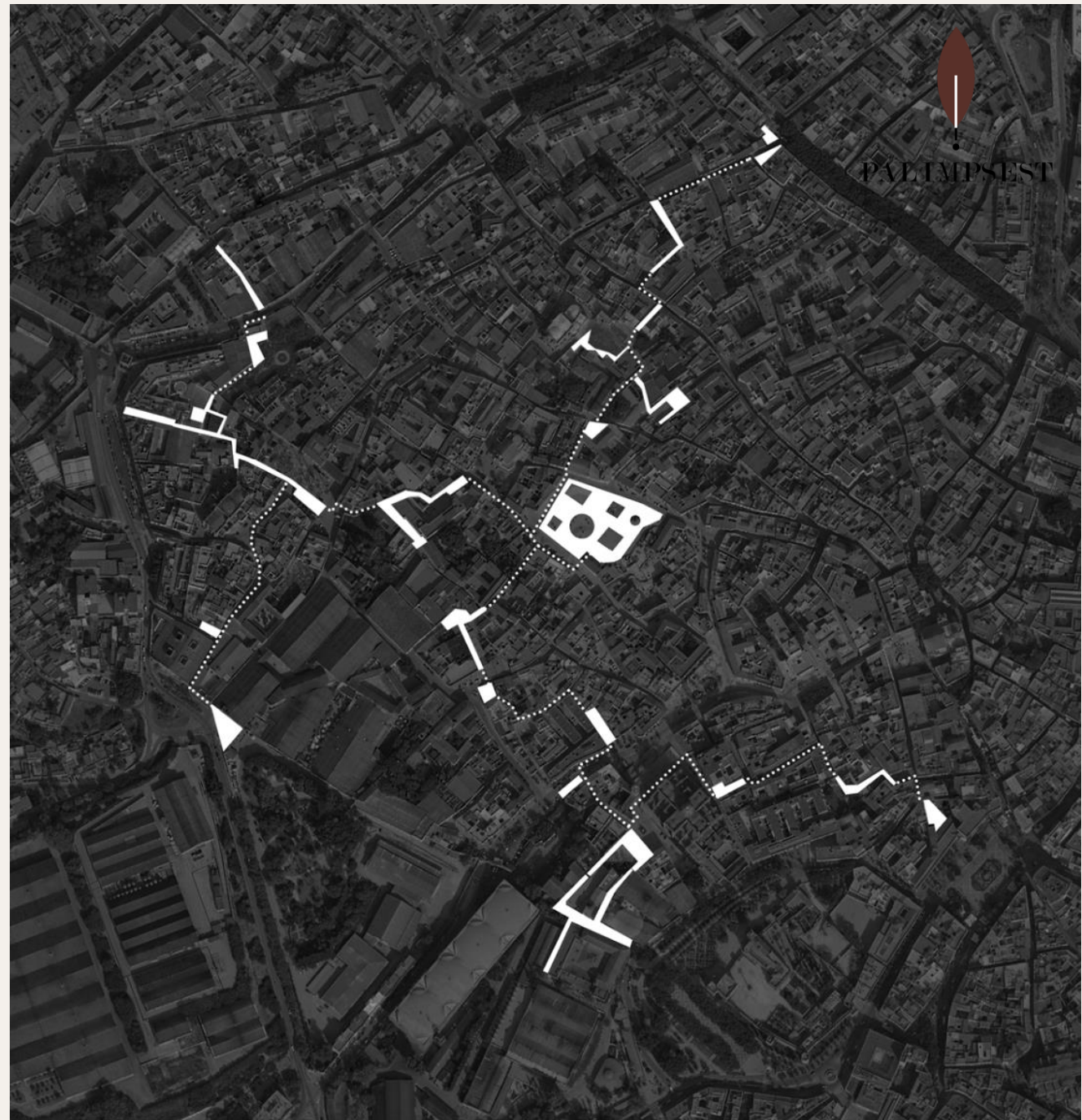
Poco | Mucho

Social recognition and cultural catalysis

Turning grassroots stewardship into a recognised urban strategy where neighbours, local CCIs and lawmakers act with co-responsability.

Plausible future scenarios:

1. Consolidation in Jerez.
2. Creative-economic scaling (medium term).
3. Replication and knowledge transfer (medium-long term).



Alcaldesa de Jerez (Cádiz) resalta el proyecto de Emparrados para dar sombra natural a calles del centro con parras

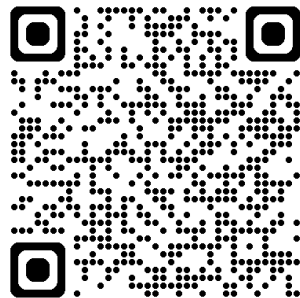


SONE legacy supported by

1. Hybrid governance
2. Cultural rituals
3. Rooted productive cycle

Challenge: develop policy, training and sustained community stewardship while strengthen local identity and turn living heritage into resilient infrastructure.

SCAN HERE to watch
**PALIMPSEST Jerez de la Frontera |
Songs of the Nearby Earth (SONE)**
YouTube @PALIMPSESTEUProject (8'46")





Michał **PIERNIKOWSKI**

PALIMPSEST

Łódź
journey



Co-creating



Testing



Experimentarium



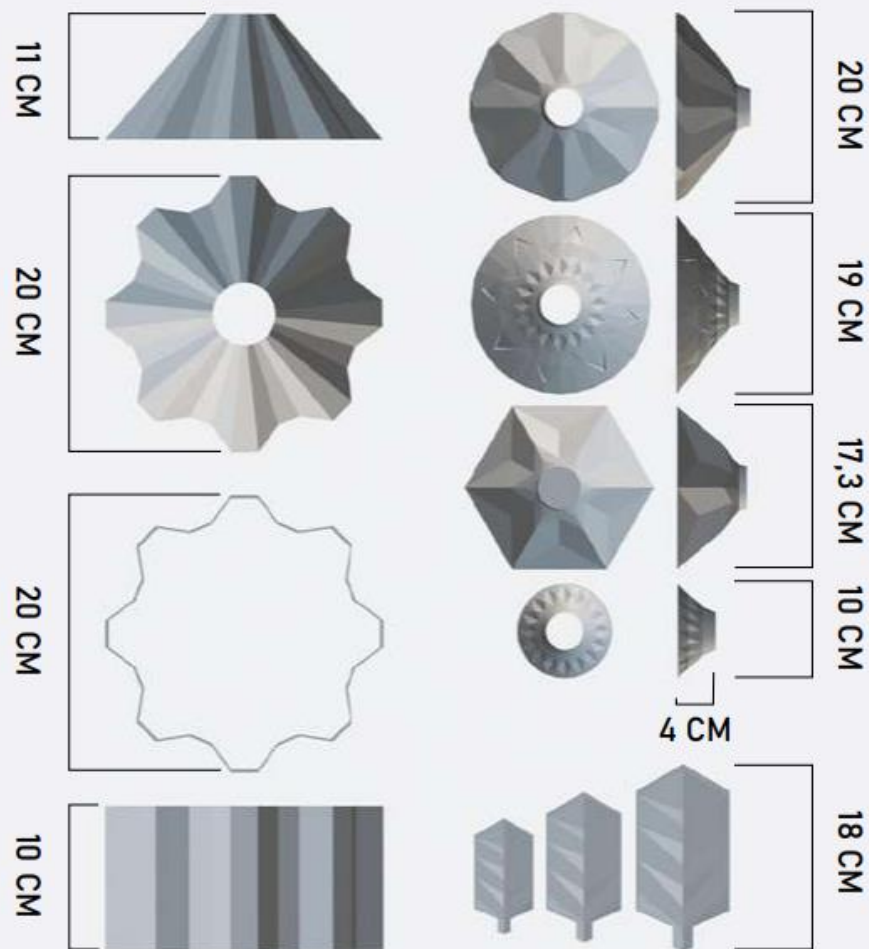
Toolkit

PALIMPSEST

Łódź
journey



Rain Flowers are a tool that can be independently crafted from ceramics, installed, and further developed – both in community gardens and in courtyards, on balconies, or in public spaces. They combine craftsmanship, design, and natural soil processes, making it possible to capture water where it falls and use it to support urban greenery.



PALIMPSEST

Łódź
journey



Workshop III: "The Łódź Meander – Łódź Birthday at Abramka", ph.t. ŁAC, Deer Garden. Natrualnie



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PALIMPSEST

Łódź
journey



Research at the Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection, University of Łódź



Research at the Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection, University of Łódź



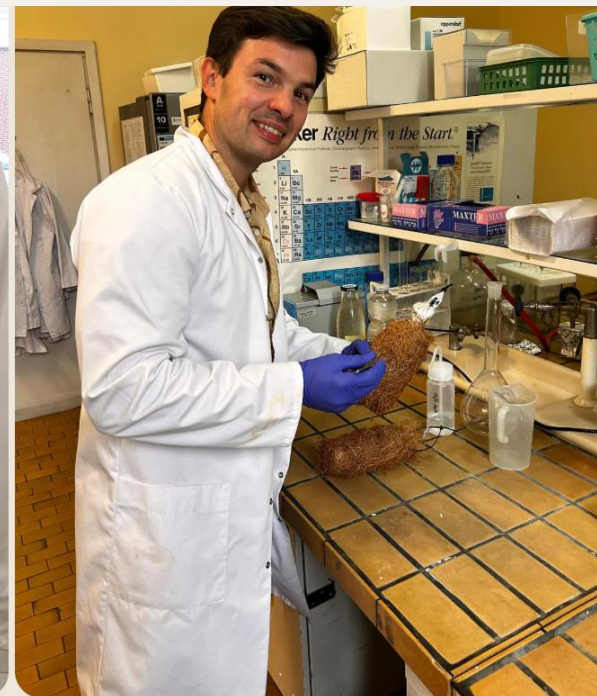
Research at the Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection, University of Łódź



Research at the Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection, University of Łódź



Laboratory tests at ERCE



Laboratory tests at ERCE

PALIMPSEST

Łódź
journey

Toolkit

VOL 1. ŁÓDŹ MEANDERS



CORE
Biodegradable
garden fabric

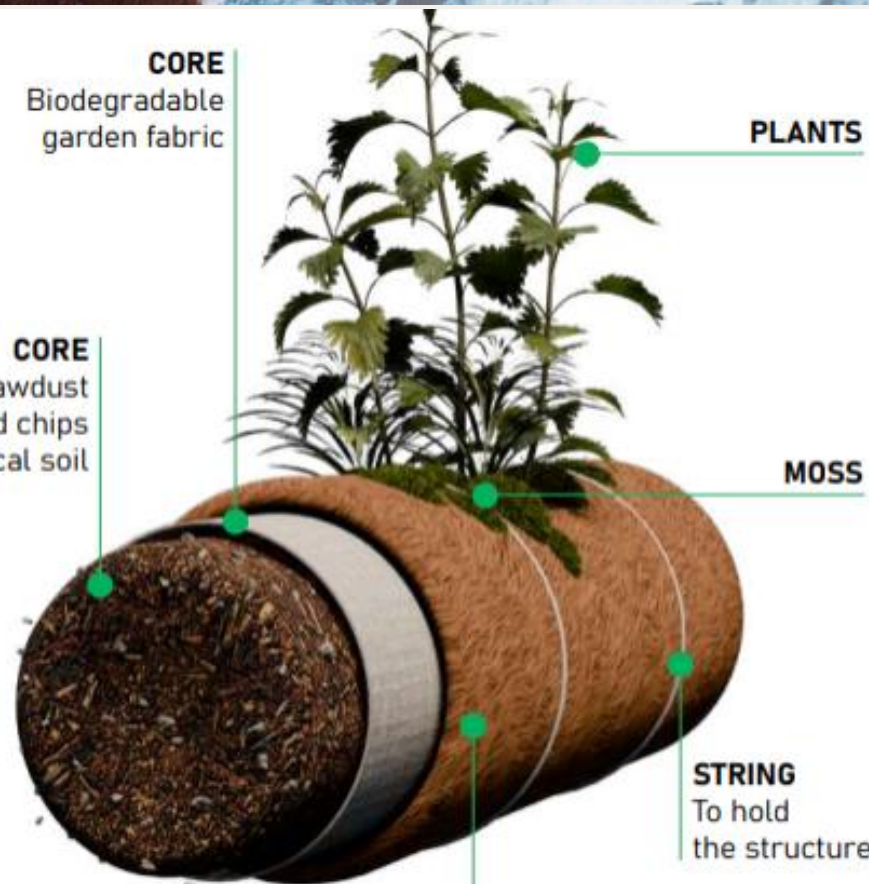
CORE
Mix of Sawdust
or wood chips
and local soil

PLANTS

MOSS

STRING
To hold
the structure

OUTER WRAP
Coconut coir mat or a wool mat



PALIMPSEST

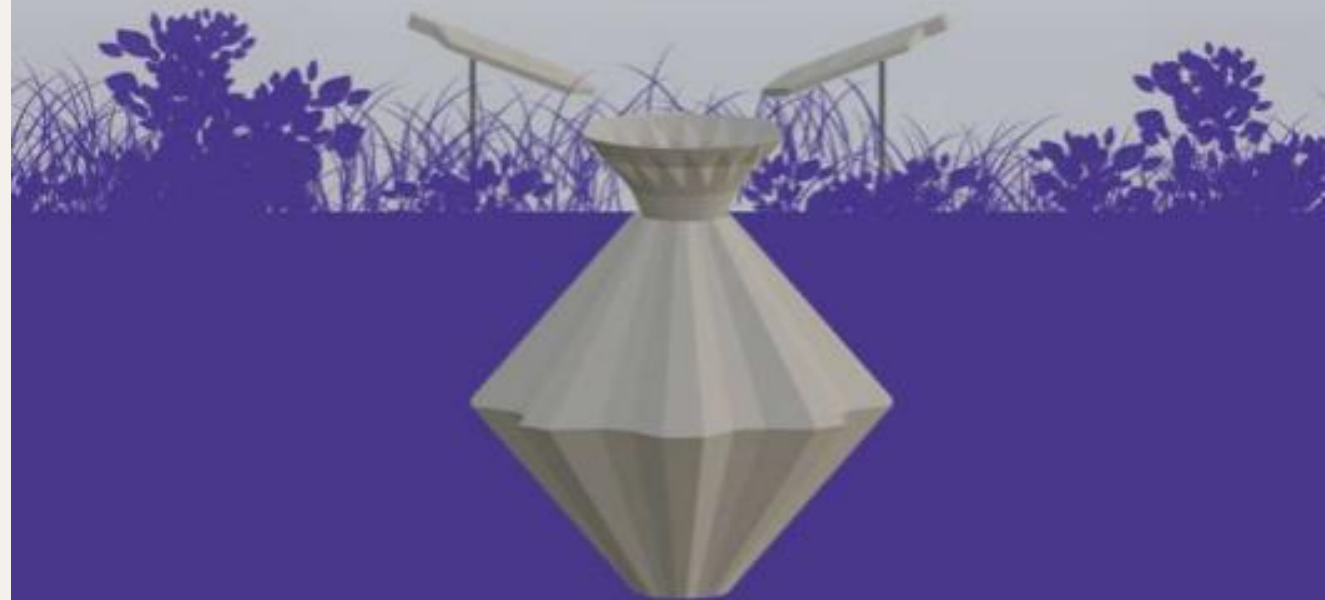
Łódź
journey

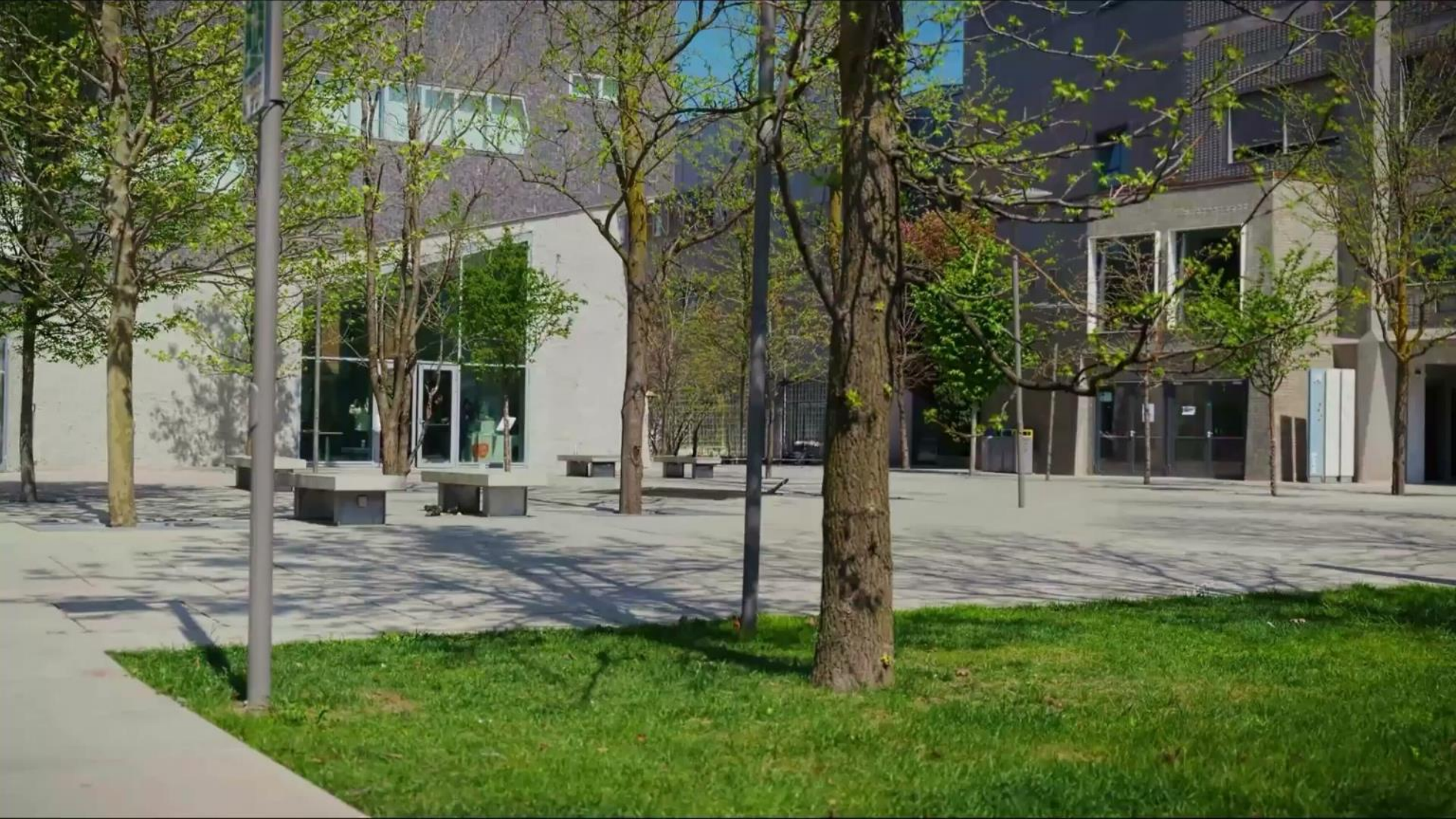
Toolkit

VOL 2. RAIN FLOWERS



Rain Flowers maintain a stable, predictable mode of operation. They are a simple tool that anyone can install independently: bury the vessel, position it at the correct depth, add ceramic funnel, and optionally complement the set with ceramic leaves. Workshop activities conducted during the project showed that residents quickly understand how the system works and are eager to test it in their immediate surroundings.





Daniela **MASOTTI**

The **ACQUALAMBRO** machine will accompany “contratto di fiume” activities for long time...

It works as symbol to work for a shift of the mindset while acting, imagining, designing ... for/with the Lambro river.



memory / identity

**Lambro Lucente
and the Lambro stands by
and watches...**



IMMACHINARIUM

going on with more machines

food / agriculture

**Cascina Biblioteca
The water meadow**



nature / care

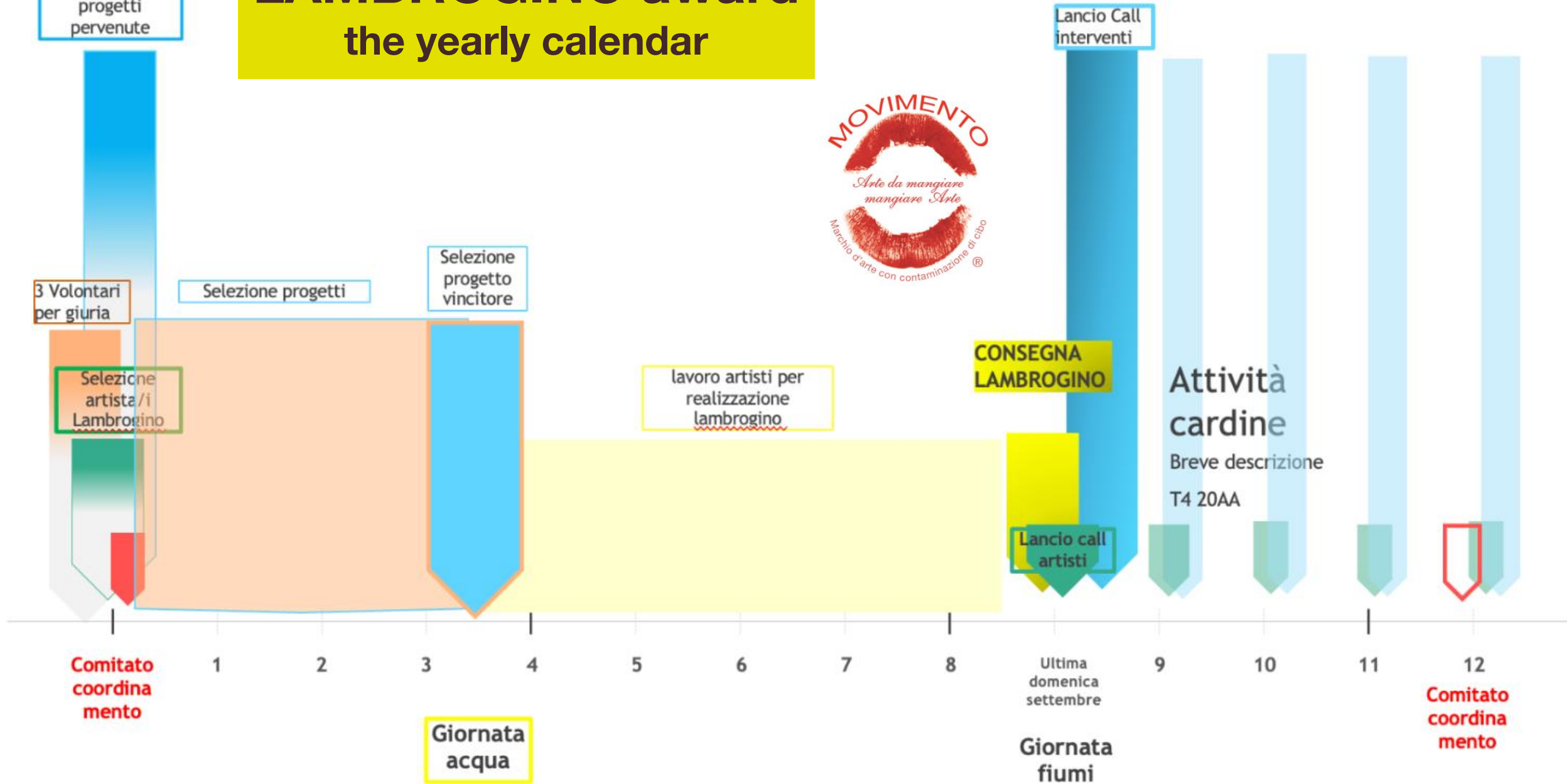
**Legambiente Monza
The leaf over the Lambro**



LAMBROGINO award (1st edition: March 2026)



LAMBROGINO award the yearly calendar



River contract NEW action



- link between environmental managers and creative practitioners
- introducing a creative approach as a tool to recognise the drivers of river-related environmental challenges



Sanna **LEHTINEN**

Starting Points

- To treat places as layered tapestries of natural, cultural and social histories
- To use this layered reading as the basis for regenerative transformation
- To unlock the latent potential through art–science co-creation with local communities



Process

- Build local coalition, set goals
- Read place layers
- Co-create via Labs and calls
- Prototype and implement small demos
- Monitor, iterate, publish open toolkit



Core Legacy

- Transferable, open, place-based co-creation methodology
- Blending art, design, science and community engagement to guide regenerative transformations
- Approach verified in pilot sites through nature-/ culture-based installations and local labs



PALIMPSEST



PALIMPSEST outputs



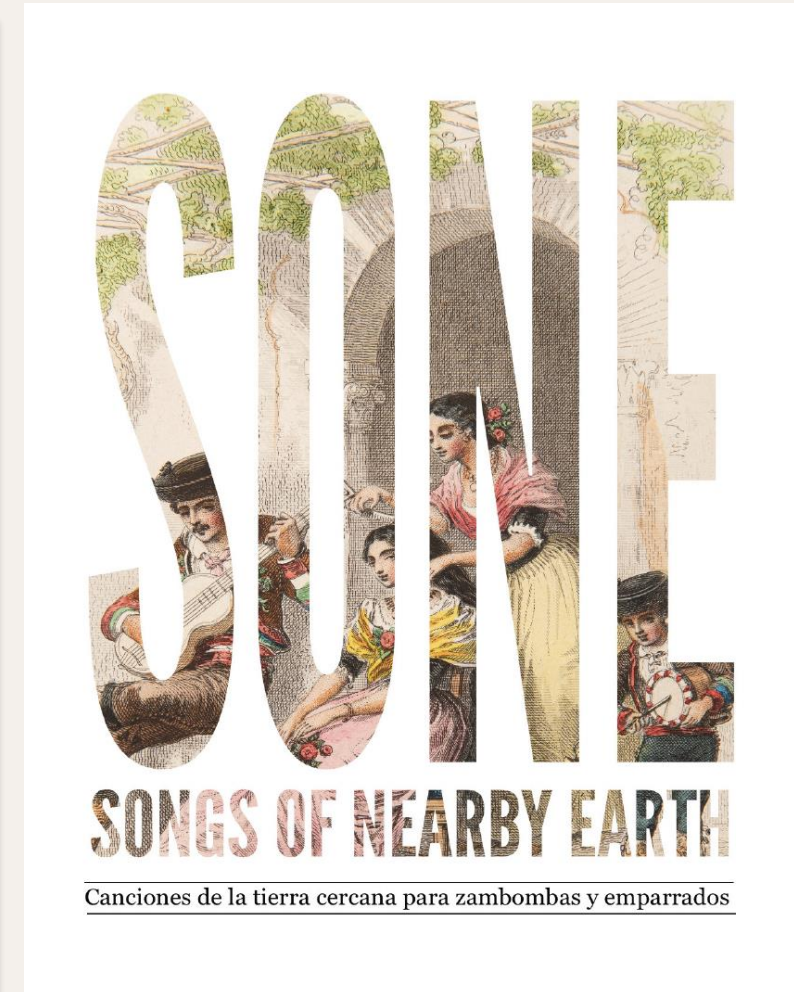
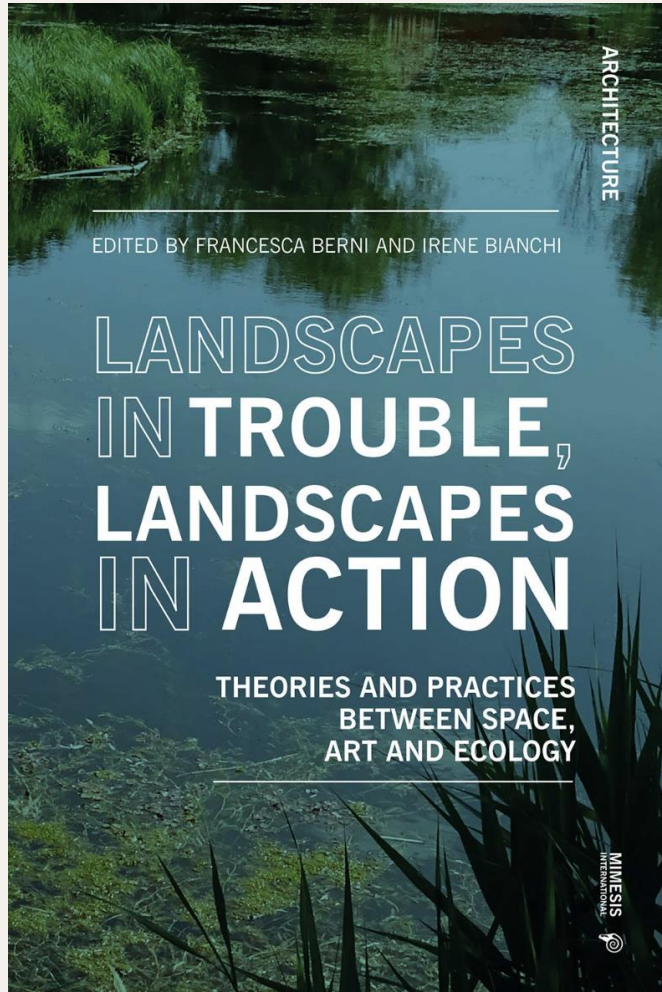
**interview series w/
experts**

*pills w/
actors*

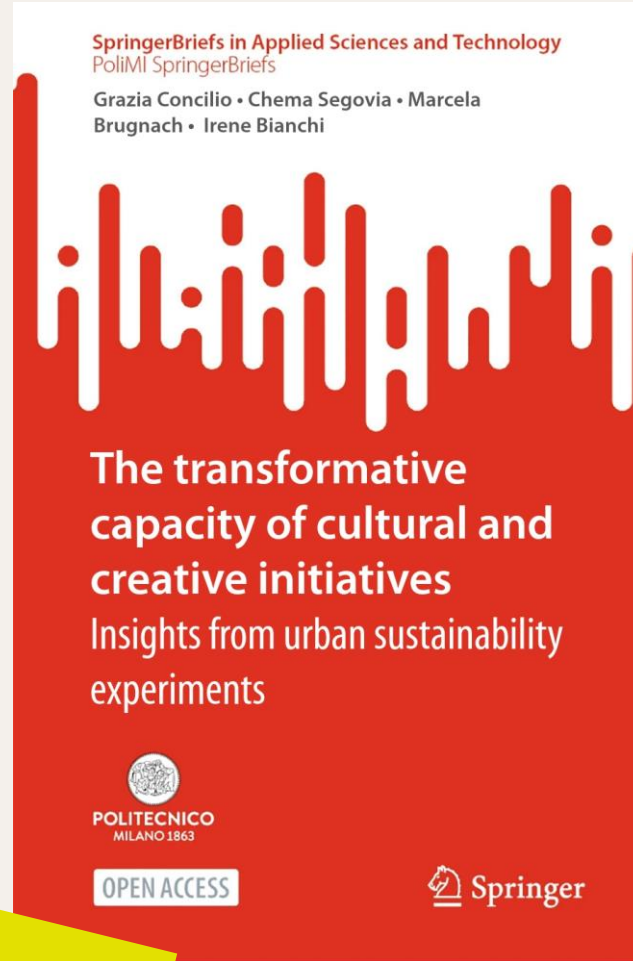
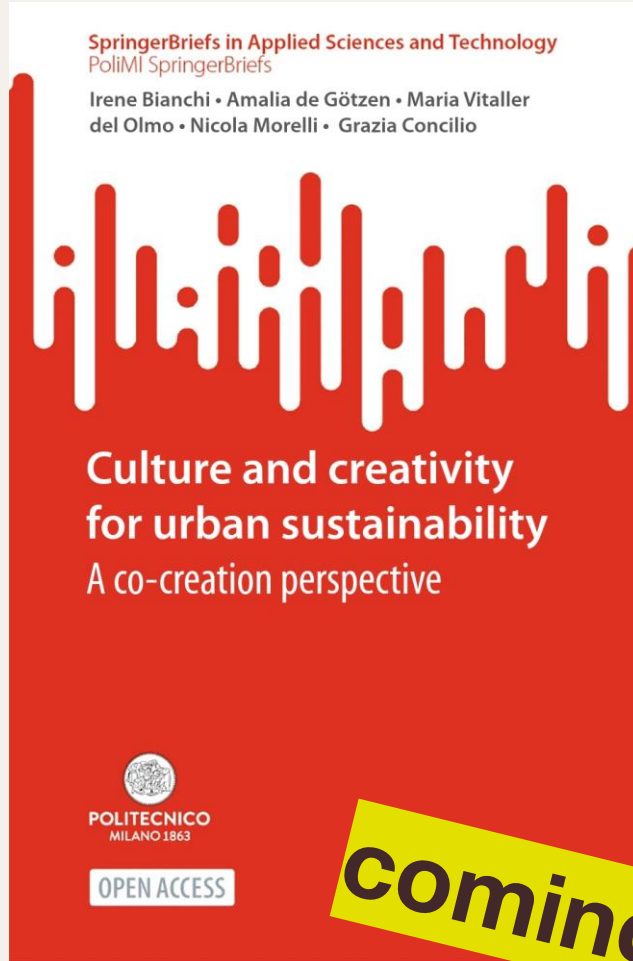
**PALIMPSES
T overview**

pilots' activities

PALIMPSEST publications



PALIMPSEST **NEXT** publications




coming soon!!

follow us:



PALIMPSEST repository





PALIMPSEST


re:SCAPE

A living digital space
for creative, sustainable interventions
to environmental challenges

Register **HERE:**



Funded by
the European Union



New
European
Bauhaus

THE FESTIVAL of the NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS

Life. Spaces. Buildings.



PALIMPSEST & NEBULE Cluster Take the stage at the NEB 2026!

COME AND JOIN
THE MAKERS OF CHANGE
BRUSSELS
9-13 JUNE 2026
ART & HISTORY MUSEUM
PARC DU CINQUANTAIRE



PALIMPSEST in the NEB Fair 2026

