SELB STEP BY STEP
A guide for an inclusive city

List of STEPS FORWARD

This list is open by definition, and we expect it to be developed in conversation with stakeholders and over time, reflecting in their monitoring and evaluation. The steps are organised according to their scope: Buildings (B), Uses (U), Urban furniture and amenities (A) and Street design and life (S).

a vision for SELB 2030

The size and complexity of the site and the ambition of the competition brief cannot be responsibly and sensitively addressed with a monolithic architectural intervention or a closed urban masterplan. Quite the opposite, the **transition towards an ecological urbanism requires that a number of steps are progressively taken** towards the objectives stated: rewilding, diversifying, and decarbonising. In the following documents, we describe in detail our vision for Selb for the next decade.

Plate 2 enumerates the steps proposed for the next decade and identifies a limited number of key agents and species to keep in mind when designing and assessing the interventions. The extensive view of the site demonstrates **how some of these steps can be implemented and how the networks of people and wildlife will be strengthened.** As can be appreciated, these measures will improve the connectivity of their networks by developing nodes, links, and stepping stones.

Plate 3 zooms into the area delimited by Obere Bergstrasse in the West, Erkersreuther Bächlein to the North, the cemetery to the East and Lorenz-Hutschenreuther-Straße to the South. It describes the typologies of public realm and buildings proposed and presents the guiding principles and how they connect with the three long-term goals. Furthermore, this sample demonstrates how this **environment could be inhabited, becoming a thriving, inclusive and resilient urban ecosystem.**

CRITICAL AGENTS and KEYSTONE SPIECES

As it is impossible to consider the endless diversity of species and agents, the guide proposes to focus on the needs and desires of a limited number of critical agents and keystone species that **have a disproportionately large effect on their environment relative to their presence and abundance.** The selection has been made attending to two criteria. Either their vulnerability ensures that if they can thrive, everyone else can, or they play a critical role in maintaining the structure of an ecological community. Without critical agents and keystone species, Selb urban ecology would be dramatically different.

ELDERLY PEOPLE
Elderly people represent an increasing share of the population of Selb. Designing an age-friendly city that cater to their patterns of habitation and mobility is essential for urban resilience

ENDANGERED SPIECES
Endangered spieces are the most vulnerable and thus urgent action is nedded. Besides, they act as indicators of larger trendsñ targeting them is an effective way of positively impacting many others in the ecosystem

PEOPLE WITH VISUAL IMPAREMENTS
Architecture and urban design are dominated by ocularcentrism. Designing for visually impaired people results in an space with enhanced tactil, olfactory, sonic qualities

POLLINATORS & ECOSYSTEM ENGINEERS
Pollinators are key for buidiversity and adaptation to climate change. Most plants that are critical in the functioning of ecosystems by providing food and habitants for many animal species, depend on pollinators for reproduction

YOUNG PEOPLE
Young people are often dependant on adults and their views rarely heard. However, designing child-friendly cities is crucial to the future well-being of any society.

WILD HABITATS
Wildlife plays an important role in balancing the environment . It provides stability to different natural processes of the nature. Humans are also are also a part of wildlife wich is key for wellbeing.

PEOPLE ON WHEELS
Reduced mobility will affect more than half of the population at any time of their lives. For everyone to have an opportunity to play an active role in the community, accessibility is increasingly crutial

S03 - PLANTING NEW STREET TREES
Plant new trees and low level vegetation in as many streets as possible, uisng diverse species to increase biodiversity

S02 - RIVERSIDE WALK
Make existing and new riverside paths inclusive, visible, and easily accessed from the main streets.

S04 - SAFE PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS
Make pedestrian crossings more legible and introduce more of them to create a pedestrian friendly environment and support walking.

S05 - EXPAND STREET WIDTH
Use small adjacent areas to include benches and ledges to ensure people can rest at least every 100 m.

S06 - DECLUTTERED & BARRIER-FREE STREETSCAPE
Provide a continous step-free path accross the public realm and order existing and new elements on th public realm to help navigation

S08 - REDUCE ON STREET PARKING
Progressively remove parking spaces in the public realm, while incrementing public transport and incentivising clean mobility options

S07 - PERMEABLE SURFACES
Increase the amount of permeable surfaces in ground and building cover to mitigate flooding risk and support soil-based spieces

A01 - INTERGENERATIONAL PUBLIC SPACE
Built new public spaces and retrofit existing ones incorporating amenities that cater to the whole range of ages, especially young, teenage and elderly people

A02 - INCLUSIVE BENCHES & LEDGES
Locate simple and elegant benches with arm rests and back rest every 100 m to create an inclusive public realm.

A04 - DRINKING FOUNTAINS
Incorporate drinking fountains in the public realm to support long distance cyclists, people walking and even animals.

A03 - IMPROVED STREET LIGHTING
Human scale light fixture attached to existing light columns. Replace light bulbs to warm LED lights.

A07 - KIOSK
Built light and removable open-fronted huts that support public life (through uses and services like toilets) in plazas and parks

A05 - PROVIDE HOUSES FOR ANIMALS
Increase animal presence by introducing bird houses and bat houses across the town in suitable locations: building facades, street columns or fences.

A08 - ACTIVE TRAVEL HUB
Provide infrastructure (parking, hiring services, repair stations) that supports inclusive physcally active ways of moving, like walking, cycling and scooters

B04 - GREEN ROOFS
Incentivise the construction of green roofs in new and existing buildings to improve energy performance, profive habitat stepping stones and mitigate flood risk

B01 - POLLINATOR WINDOW TRAIL
Give window planters and seeds to neighbours to create an extensive and collective corridor for pollinators in the area.

B05 - FLEXIBLE BUILDINGS
Design and build new buildings following Open Building principles that foster flexible uses and adatation to future needs by means of design and tectonics

B03 - CONSTRUCTION WASTE RECYCLING
Adaptive reuse is the preferable option to deal with existing buildings. However, with those structurally unsound, recycling of waste for new construction is the best option

B02 - FACADE RENEWAL
Improve the energy performance of existing buildings by renewing facades with sustainable materials to increase insulation and street aesthetics.
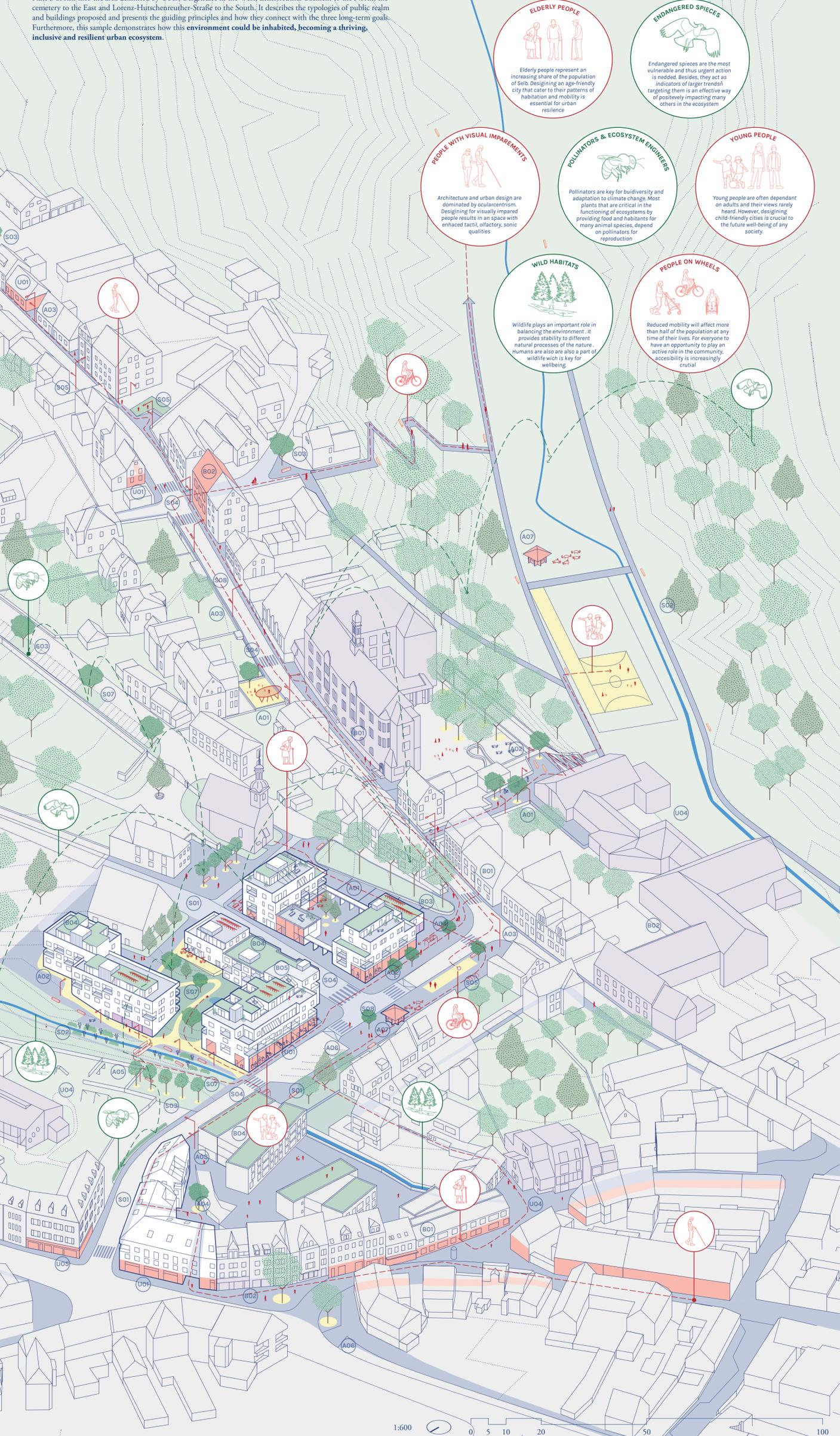
U02 - SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE GARDENING
Engage with neighbours and gardeners to introduce intensive sustainable gardening practices in private and public green areas.

U03 - INFORMAL PLAY SPACES
Provide a network of vacant and ambiguous open spaces that can be used in unexpected playfull ways by various user groups

U01 - GROUND FLOOR RETAIL
Ground floor retail in main artery streets to expand the commercial activity to the boundaries.

U04 - RAISING COMMUNITY AWARENES
Organising activities and workshops in existing and new institutions with members of various communities to raise awarnes on ecological urbanism

U05 - CIVIC ACTIVATION OF VACANT SPACES
Incentivise the temporary use of vacant plots and retail units for civic uses and test innovative initiatives that can benefit various communities

S01 - BIKE FRIENDLY ROADS / REDUCED SPEED
Existing streets are narrow and the best way to include an inclusive cycle network is to reduce vehicle speed in main artery roads to create a slow-speed safe shared road

1:600   0   5   10   20   50   100