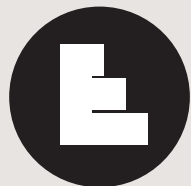


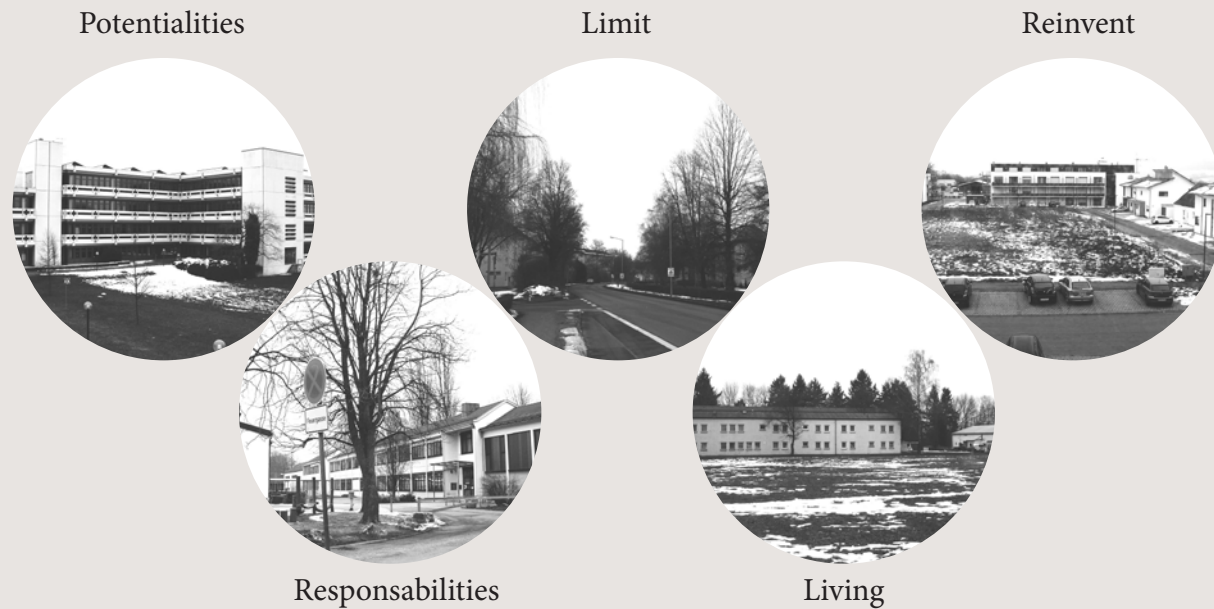
CREATIVE CITY

Schwäbisch Gmünd

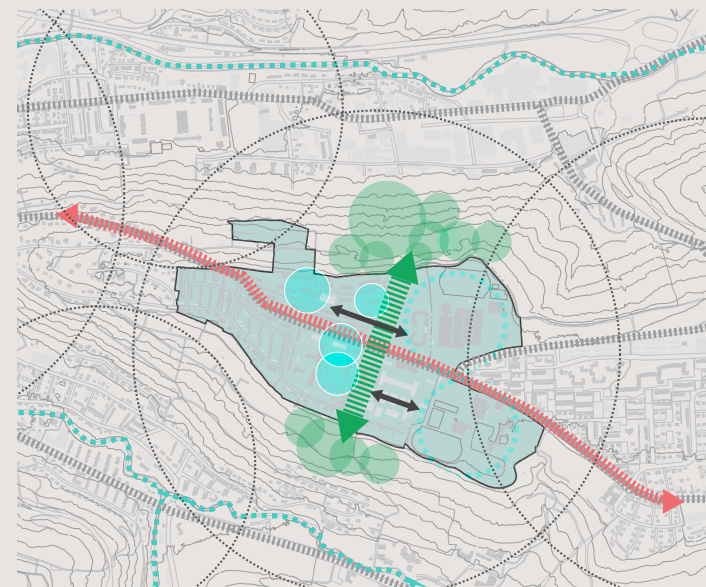
Hardt district



SCHWÄBISCH GMÜND HARDT DISTRICT, TO A REVITALIZING LIFE ?



The city of Schwäbisch Gmünd is part of the Stuttgart Metropolitan region. By its status the city has the network logistic support adapted to its location, creating a Metropolitan polarity that tends to evolve in relationship with Stuttgart. The Hardt district owns a strategic position inside Schwäbisch Gmünd, close from the city-centre and linked with the Oberbettrigen district. This area begins a vital mutation process in order to become a fully connected spot. Affected by modern changes in the post-war period, the Hardt district was first influenced by its characteristic as a former US army base. That's why this entity is ruled by its monofunctional zoning, with the lack of transparency between programs that are setting up boundaries becoming complicated to deal with. The district is evolving and needs to integrate new amenities. With this evolution, the substratum itself needs to change its state. This base must evolve in accordance with the needs of today's society. It is necessary to go beyond the functionality and enhance the district's power : its «community».



The Hardt district must evolve into an urban articulation with it's own activity without erasing its own identity. The entire area is full of potentialities and needs an ambitious director scheme to reveal the area's strengths. New solutions to connect the North and South parts of the district are growing as a necessity to equally distribute the qualities of the whole and create a coherent entity in sync with the metropolitan evolution.

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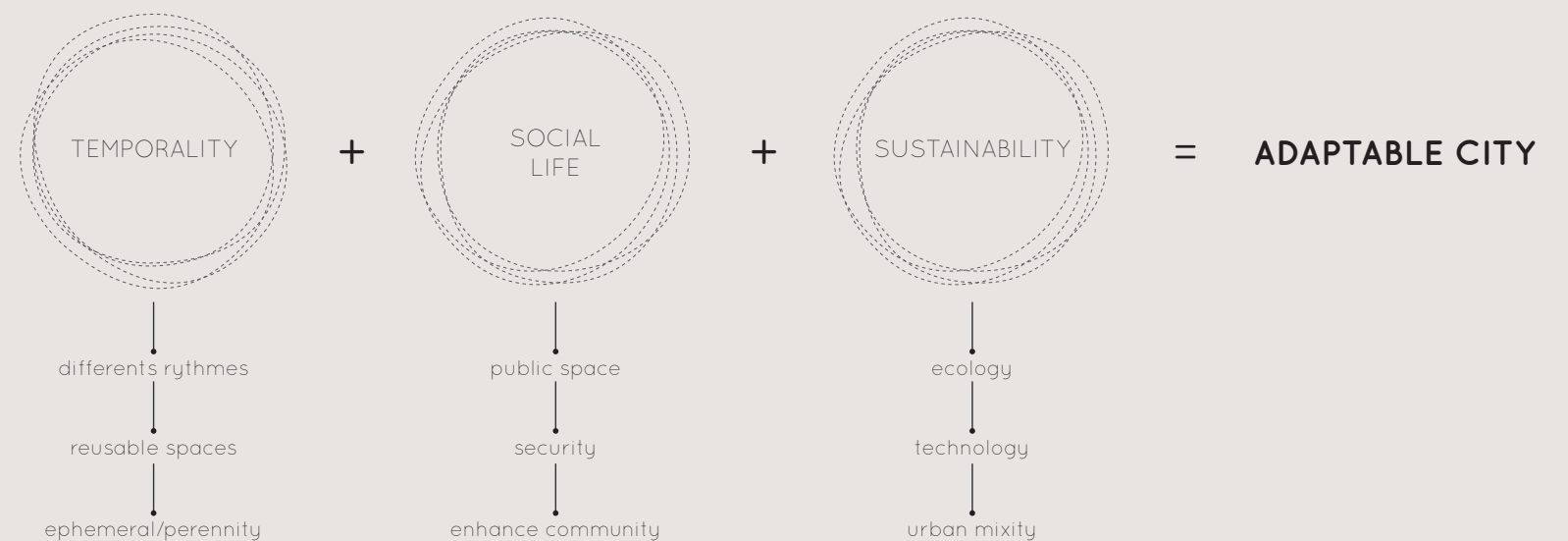
AN ADAPTABLE CITY

An adaptable and sustainable city is a place that understands the contemporary needs and their various mutations. Thinking about the rhythms in the city asks a series of questions concerning the triple-scale : day/week/season. The question isn't just how to deal with the different programs but more about how to mix different problematics that have no sense independently.

- Temporality : The question is not only the design of new urban spaces but also the reprogramming of the city rythms. It is essential to understand the temporality of each amenity and the link that can grow between inhabitants towards their public space. The outside and inside must have a resonance. We need to manage carefully temporality to save space.

- Social life : The social life is the link that creates a coherent whole. The public space is the socials life catalyst. It's important to create several dynamic areas to enhance the strenght of the community. The public space cannot be thought without its temporality. The reversibility of space through time is an issue we cannot neglect. The public space has a faster rythm of adaptability than the buildings next to it and it's essential to use some urban areas to experiment those changes. Social life can only be enhanced by a right combination between perennity and ephemerality.

- Contemporary issues : The aim is to redirect the positive emerging dynamics of the technology to recreate an urban realm aware of its surroundings. The autonomy of the district goes along with its energetic autonomy. By using intelligent technologies, it allows us to build a more responsible urbanity sustainable through time. By seting up mixed-use programs, the assets of an amenity is able to outweigh the weaknesses that another can have and vice versa. Mixing programs also impacts on the district's social life; another process is taking place and new relationships between programs appear, promoting exchange in the community and highlighting the feeling of being «a part of the whole».



The purpose of an adaptable city is not just to impact on the programs of the district but also to work on the substance of the whole. By considering the main issues of the site, the design proposes a new hierarchy of the elements composing the layout of the Hardt district.



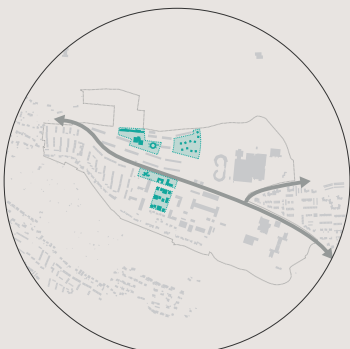
01 - Micro centralities
Highlighted spaces are the key sites of the new polarization of the area, with a strong urban planning. These spaces are thought as the main frame of the proposal.



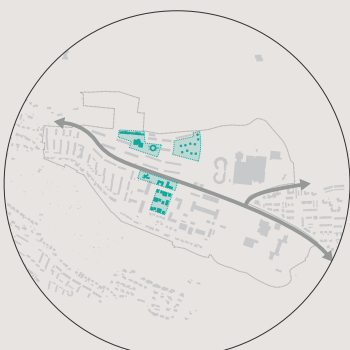
02 - Knowledge centers
The Teachers college and the Vocational center are essential areas of the city's development.



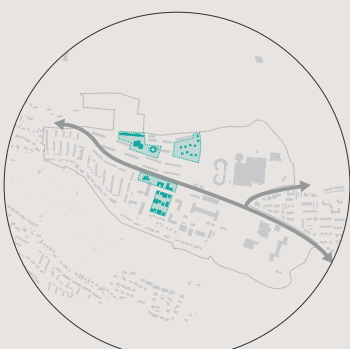
03 - Green ribbon
The green ribbon creates a malleable vegetal link between north & south in the area.

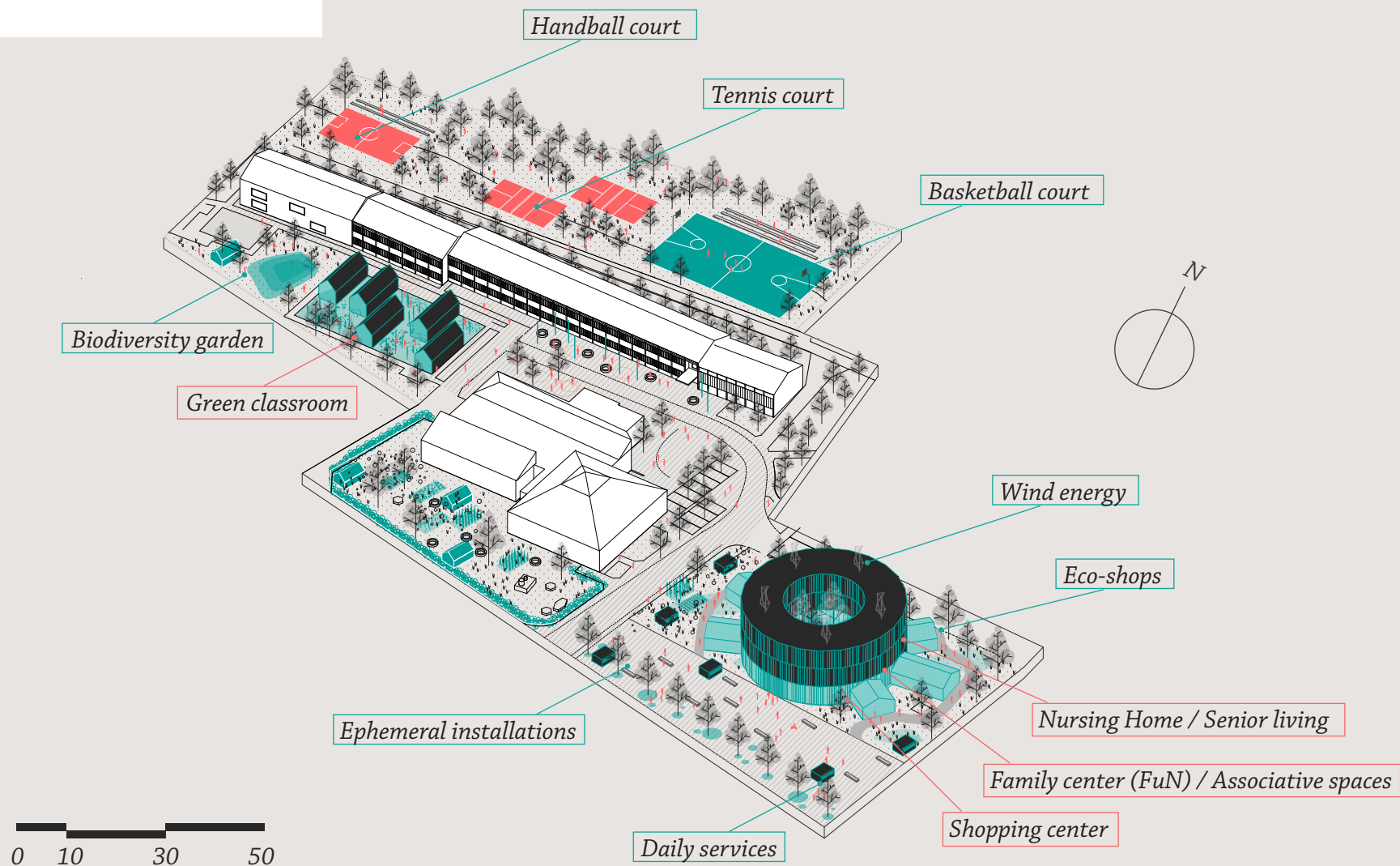


04 - Public spaces
This link enables the junction of the site's different components together and create significant east/west connexions.

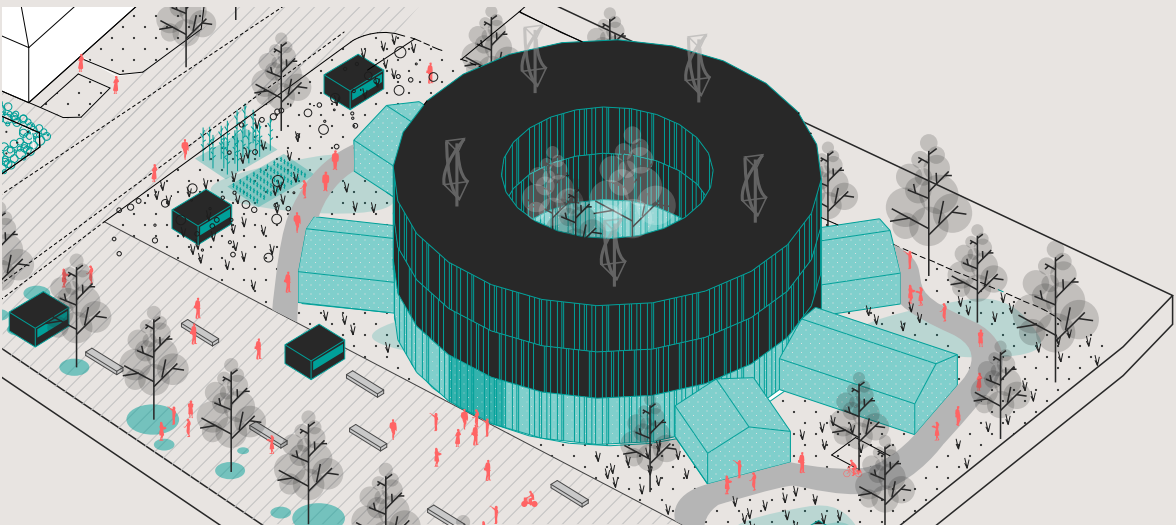


05 - Various events
The public space concentrates various playgrounds and sports facilities to enhance the neighborhood life.

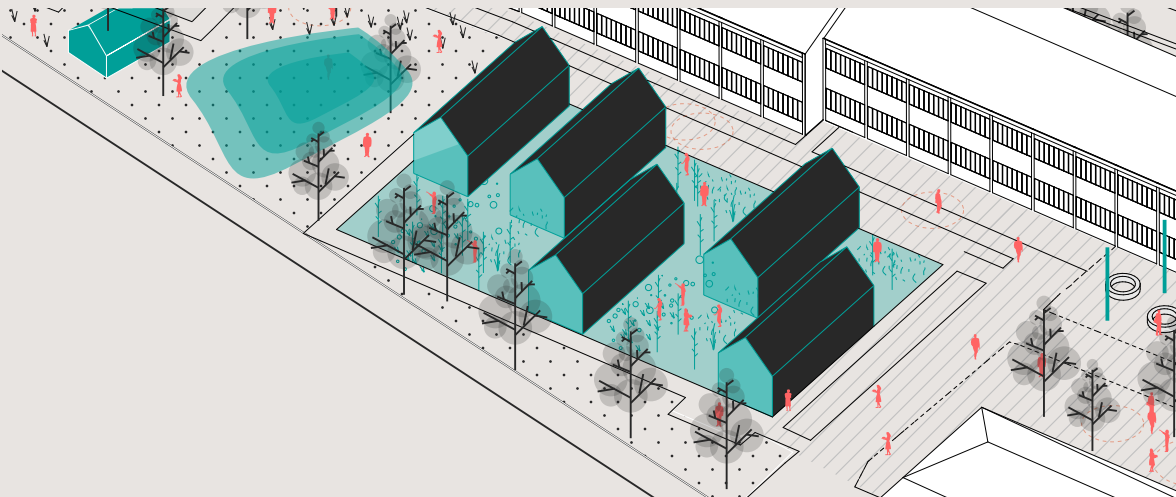




SITE A - THE SOCIAL CENTER



The site A has the potential to become the social center of the district. By improving the qualities of social facilities in the site, it becomes a key place in the mind of inhabitants. A landmark incubator is erected instead of the supermarket. In this mixed-use building, the programs are horizontally layered in order to provide an adequate privacy to each function. On the first floor a shopping center aims to create a daily dynamic life for the need of each inhabitants. Moreover a system of eco-shops is set up to raise everybody's awareness among the benefit of an healthy alimentation. On the second floor the Family center (FuN) is mixed with associative spaces to provide a place for the neighborhood's community. On the third floor the Nursing home and the Senior living are integrated. With privileged views over the city, the last floor offers an incredible way to live the place. It is important to integrate the Senior living and the Nursing home in this complex in order to create the diversity and proximity needed within the neighborhood's heart hosting every daily needs.



With the integration of green classes connected to a biodiversity garden, the school building is here to sensibelize the youth to the importance of preserving nature. The sports area takes place on the other side of the school building. This is making possible the raises of the number of sports courts and creates a sports complex among the trees, which provides an incomparable quality of life through the various experiences.



SITE B - GREEN VILLAGE



On the site B the creation of a Green village provides a new urban scale in the district. Organized around a generous garden on its central point, the space is dedicated to the creation of a new way of living inside the urban area.

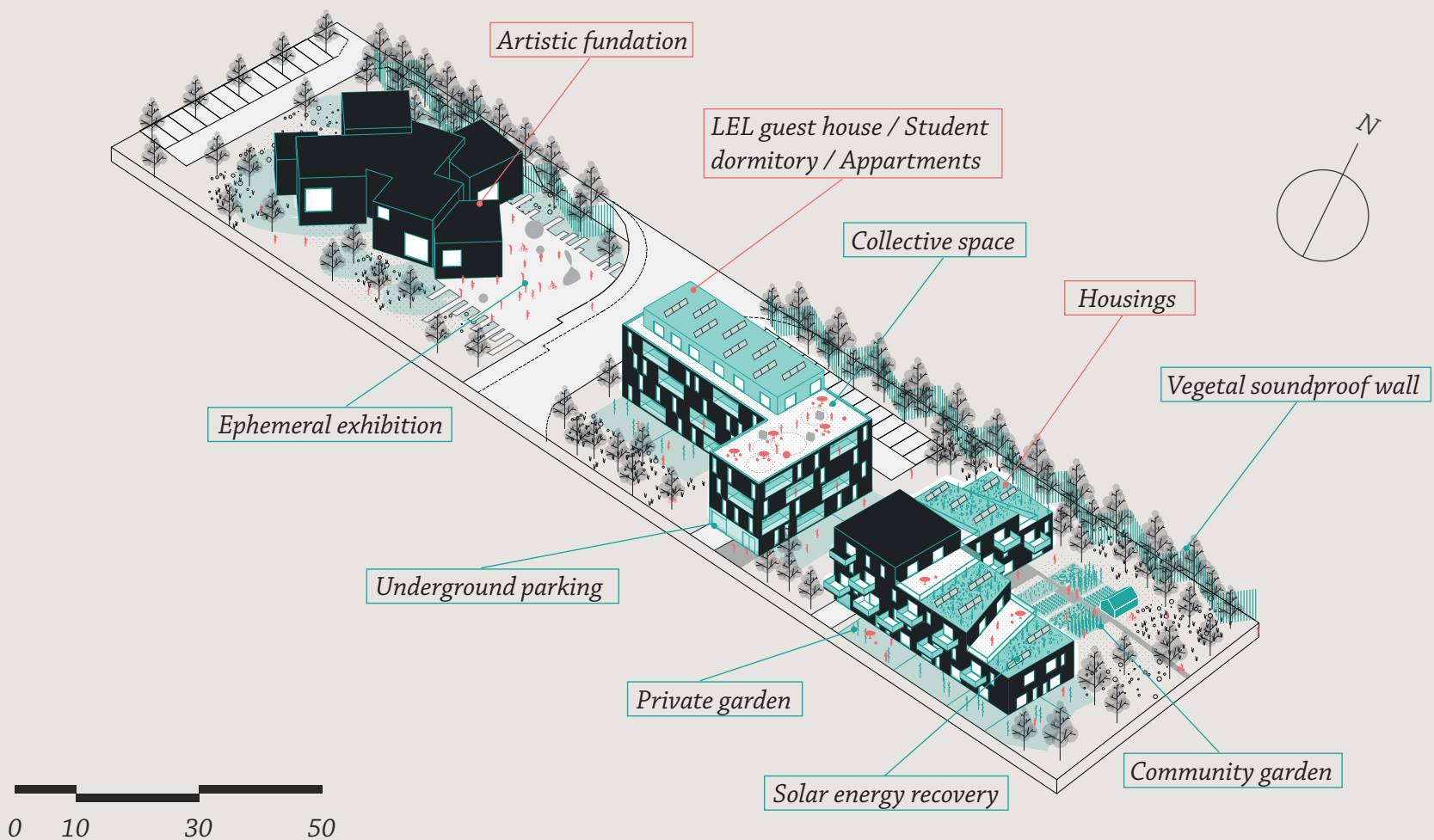
Each buildings possess an individual guidance to free the views towards the landscape and optimize the natural light supply. Parking lots are organized as shared parkings, two by two the buildings are mutualizing both entries and covered parking spaces. This allows an economy during the construction process and requires fewer roads dedicated to access.

On the roof of each building are implanted urban farms. The energy consumption of greenhouses are optimized by the choice of an efficient thermal envelope, the establishment of mobile thermal screens, a central computer for managing energy and indoor climate greenhouses, temperature different set for each greenhouse, reduced air infiltration, rainwater recovery and a hot water storage.

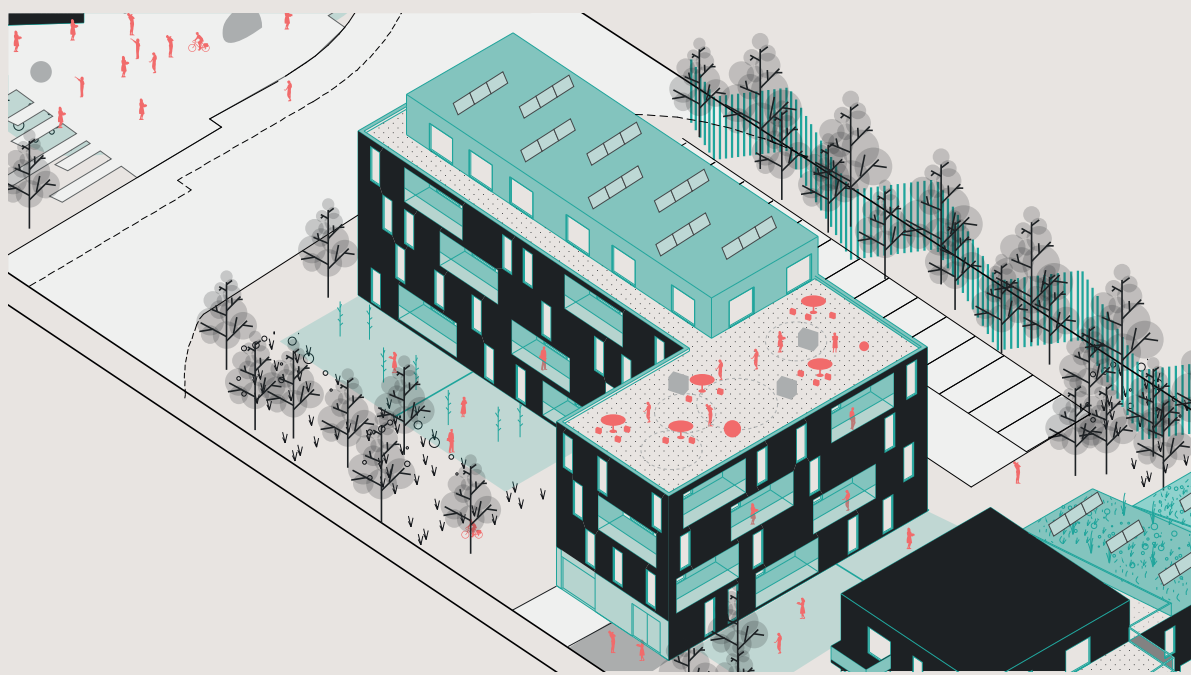
The meeting of a farm and housing in a single building certainly encourages exchanges between these two programs. Urban farms produce edible fruits and vegetables on site by residents, according to a neighborhood sales system to define.

Near the green belt, the design on site B intends to create a living parc, a place where a small community can share activity and productivity. By the creation of playgrounds and thematic gardens, the designs centre becomes a lively place where inhabitants can enjoy the surrounding nature. This kind of new architecture system can provide a better quality of life and allows the acceptance of density as a goal for an increased life experience.

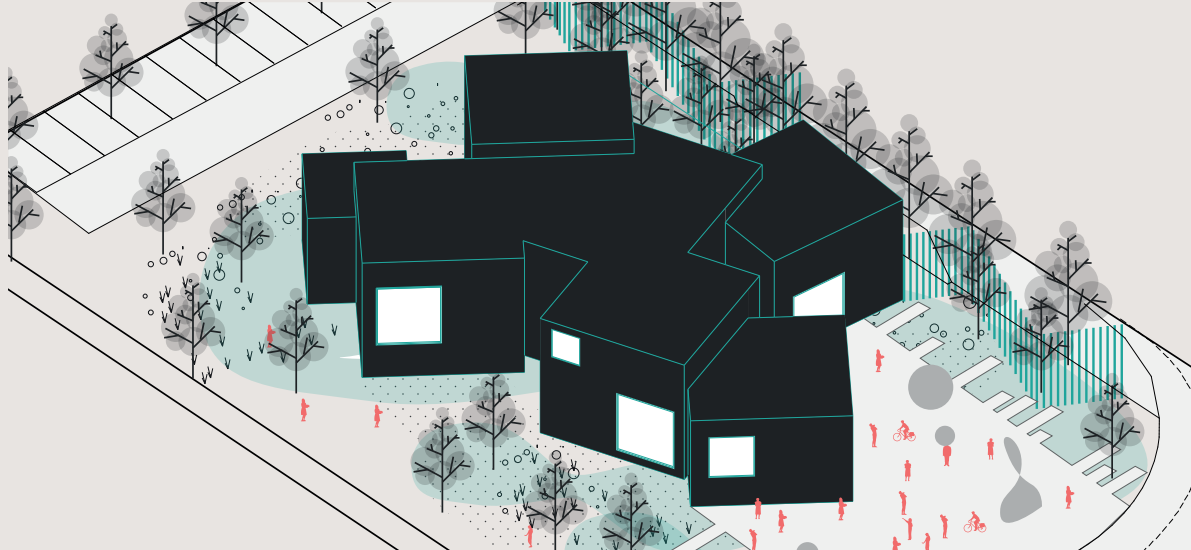




SITE C - LIVING LIMIT

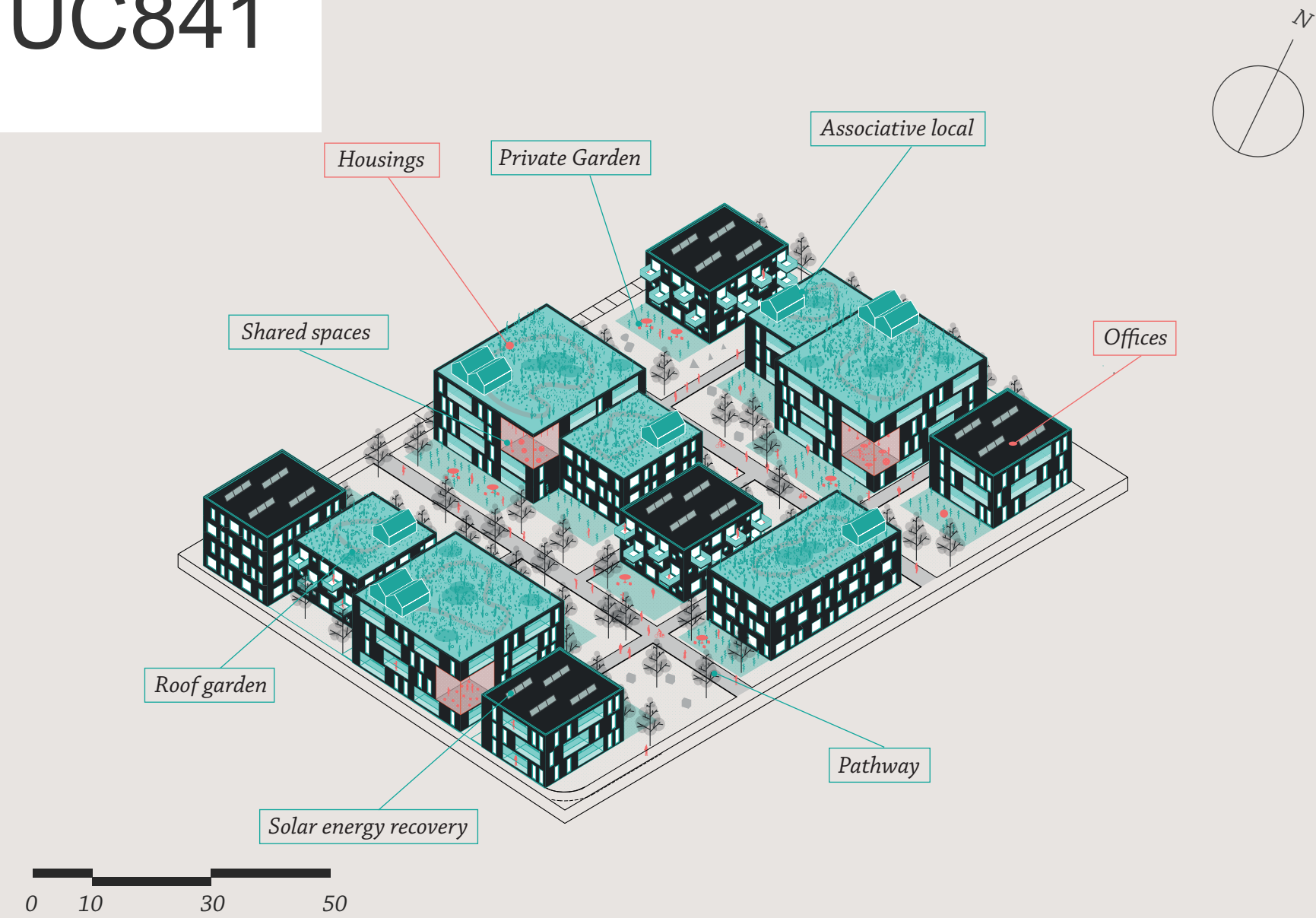


On site C the new LeL guest house is a mix between apartments and a student dormitory house provide generous outdoor spaces within the needed density. The attic is intentionnaly smaller than the main body of the buildings in order to create a usable roof. This space is shared by the whole building and can create meeting areas between inhabitants inside the same building. This space overlooks the city and creates a unique place to share experiences for everyone.

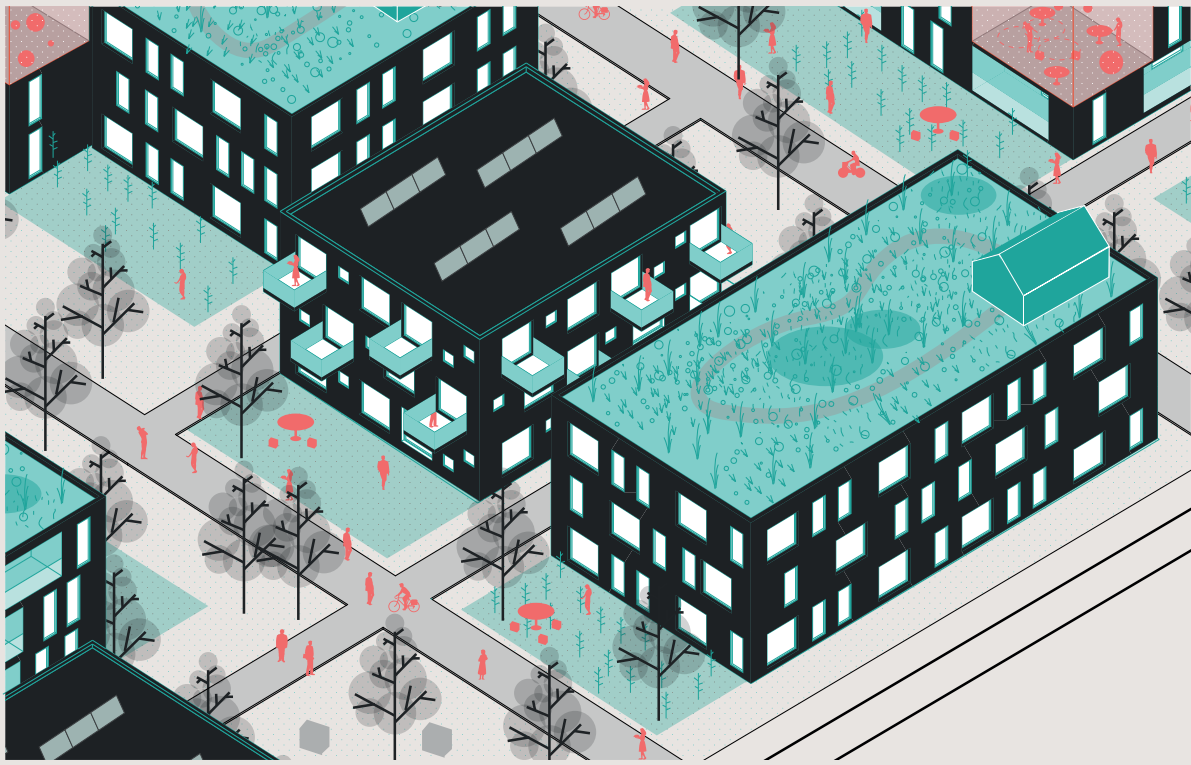


The proposal of the cultural fundation installation on the west part of the site is meant to create a dynamic flow with the rest of the neighborhood. In that way the Oberbettringer road is no longer seen as a monochrome boundary but become an colorful and attractive place for cultural events. This proposal tends to enhance the urban fringe's image. A vegetal soundproof wall is created along the Oberbettringer road on some specific parts. This principle is the only one capable of effectively countering the sound of the road. By mixing this wall with urban equipments and porosity, the function disappears through a real urban function.





SITE D - SMART AREA



The entire area is based on the idea of a new way to save energy in order to create a more responsible and aware city. By the introduction of a «smart grid» it is possible to set up this intelligent way of using our energy resources.

The «smart grid» is a principle of the electricity distribution network called «smart» that uses computer technology to optimize production, distribution, consumption and which aims to optimize all the network electricity meshes that allows each of the producers and consumers to improve energy efficiency in the whole.

Having in mind that electricity cannot be stored easily, quickly and economically in large quantities, the «smart grid» technology seeks to adjust and manage in real time both production & distribution (the principle of supply & demand) of electricity by prioritizing needs of consumption (quantity and location).

By creating an area combining housings and offices it allows to use solar energy recovered economically. Pairing up energy and temporality of the various amenities, leads us to an optimal storage/distribution cycle through the week.

Temporality is the key of the strategy: A house and an office don't have the same needs during the week. That way, we can store the energy of the house during the day when it's not in function and the excess can be used by the office. The reverse process applies during the weekend.

This technology, set up on a small area, optimizes power saving on transport networks. In addition it allows the decentralization of production and a greater autonomy.

This process allows a reconciliation between people by creating a common singularity to preserve and compose with.

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