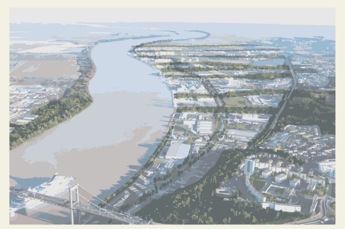
THE RIVER STRIPS STRATEGY

1/ CONNECTORS BETWEEN THE RIVER, THE PORT AND THE CITY

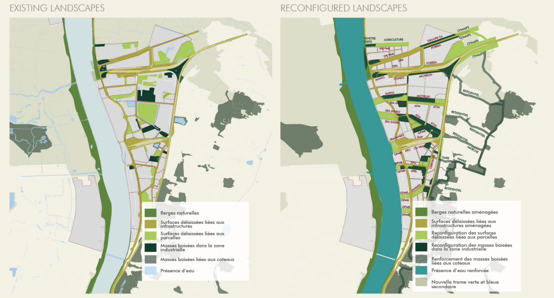


The Strip Strategy is a new strong and legible landscape structure, which starts from the inhabited plateau of Bassens and goes to the river by crossing the large industrial-port area. It weaves links, currently non-existent, between two fabrics that turn their backs on each other, between two radically different scales.

These wide strips are imagined as «non-constructed» spaces, strongly landscaped, allowing not only the port to continue to develop and to densify (outside these strips), while guaranteeing the space necessary to introduce new functions (ecological, economic, energetic, social and cultural) making it sustainable and innovating.

It is not a question of limiting the expansion of the port, quite the contrary! Today, out of the 600 ha of the port, 30%, i.e. about 180 ha, are occupied by vegetation, mostly in a state of fallow land. The project proposes to keep this proportion of landscape but to structure it to give it a meaning and a real territorial value.

The ambition of this new landscape structure is therefore to open up the port, to make it «liveable» and to reconnect it to its context.



CONNECTING INHABITED MILIEUS

Between the alluvial plain, the limestone hillsides, the agricultural spaces and the northern marshes, the industrial-port zone, highly mineralized, is an obstacle to the circulation of species.
The strips must make it possible to preserve and, above all, to increase biodiversity within the territory, while guaranteeing coherence with the functioning of the port.

A NEW LANDSCAPE STRUCTURE FOR THE PORT

In the image of the historical structure of the land on the banks of the Garonne and of the existing blue network, we propose a new landscape structure which leans on the existing while seeking a certain rationality. The challenge is to introduce biodiversity into the port, to create ecological continuities and to propose a new quality environment to companies, employees and inhabitants.

A NEW WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The strips will contribute to the prevention of flooding risks, which are important in the port, by creating areas for temporary water storage.
On the other hand, in response to the very high level of waterproofing on the site, the strips will support optimized water management. The industrial plots are invited to direct their rainwater towards these spaces.

"LIVING AND PRODUCTIVE" LANDSCAPES

The project promotes the landscape as a productive element, generating economic value. The creation of an industry around the productive landscape will allow the emergence of projects of renaturation, soil permeabilization, biomass, depollution or soil fertilization. The strips will also be able to integrate urban agriculture projects and the valorization of spaces for food production and collective ecological services.

A NEW MOBILITY SYSTEM

This landscape structure will allow the integration of a new network of soft mobility. The future pathways will help create links between the city of Bassens and the Garonne. This new east-west network is also accompanied by the redesign and pacification of the main roads of the Quai Français, Place Edouard Herriot and Avenue des Guerlandes.

SHARED SERVICES & PLACES OF INTEREST

The creation of walking paths is accompanied by new programs, services and meeting places. These strips are «equipped»; they offer services to workers, local residents and tourists: educational spaces, observatories, kayak or bicycle rentals, company crèche, kindergartens, guinguettes and restaurants, coworking spaces, concierge service, urban farm, shared gardens, EV terminals that animate the port and make it livable and alive.

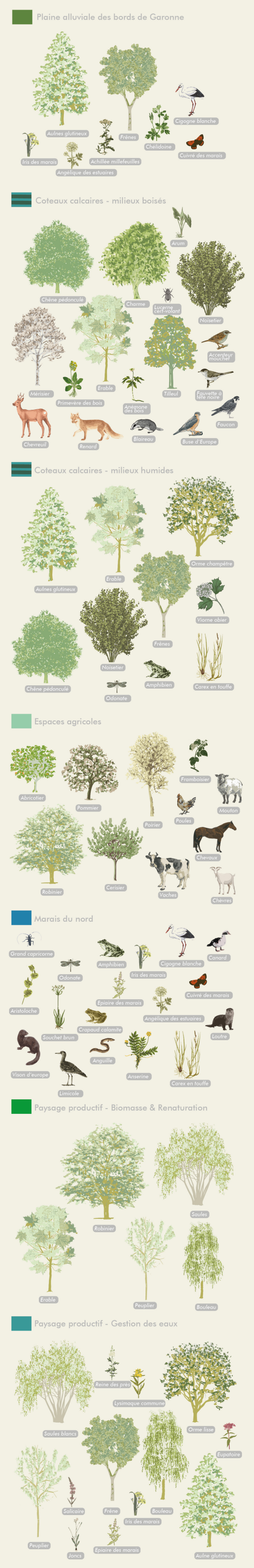
EXISTING OPPORTUNITIES

From the inhabited town of Bassens, the view of the Port, and in the distance the Garonne, shows a complex and active industrial-port landscape that seems almost inaccessible. From the hillsides, we perceive despite everything, in the middle of the monumental installations, an important and disorganized vegetal presence but which confers to the port a strong identity. It is this territorial landscape that serves as a basis for thinking about the project.

- the natural banks in the middle of the long waterproofed portions of the quays;
- the wastelands: those linked to the railways and roads and those linked to the plots of land, without defined uses;
- woodlands: abundant on the hillsides and in the heart of vast land reserves in the industrial zone;
- the presence of water: retention basins resulting from the strong impermeability of the grounds and some traces of water courses or brooks.

TERRITORIAL BIODIVERSITY

Today, in a highly artificialized port, the River (S)trips project proposes to leave an important place to nature. The objective is to combine the restoration of species diversity with economic growth and the proper development of the port. The ecological continuities that are created must allow the circulation of species between the different environments and the atlas below is an example of the fauna and flora that could be found in the port.

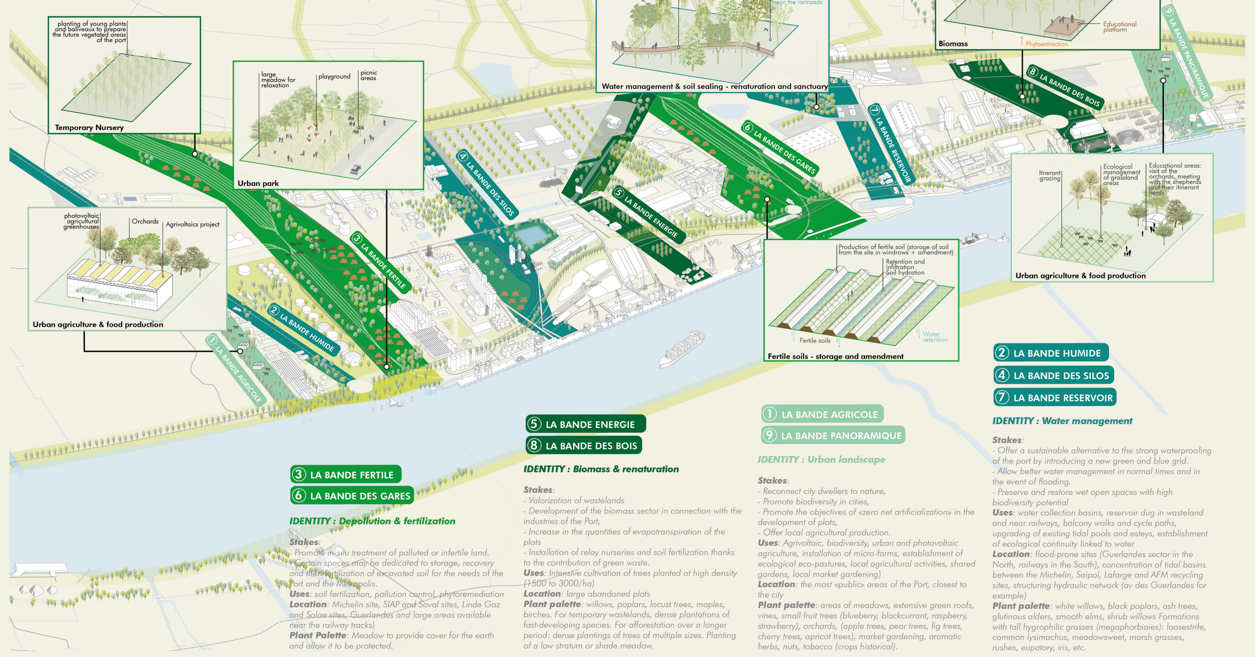


2/ PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPE - IDENTITIES OF STRIPS

Within the strips, the creation of a sector around the productive landscape allows for the emergence of renaturation projects, soil permeabilization, biomass, depollution, soil fertilization or agriculture.

Nine large strips have been created in the port. Each of them has, what we call, a dominant identity. Depending on their existing characteristics (geography, topography, types of industries, existing vegetation, state of soil pollution, for example), a productive landscape type is proposed.

For example, an agricultural dominated landscape is proposed at the interface between the port and the agricultural lands to the north; the presence of large wastelands along the railroad tracks allows for the installation of landscapes intended for the depollution and fertilization of soils in the «bande fertile» and the «bande des gares»; the presence of tidal basins in the «bande des silos» allows for the installation of landscapes intended for water management.



A PARTNERSHIP GOVERNANCE

A long-term process
The implementation of a charter

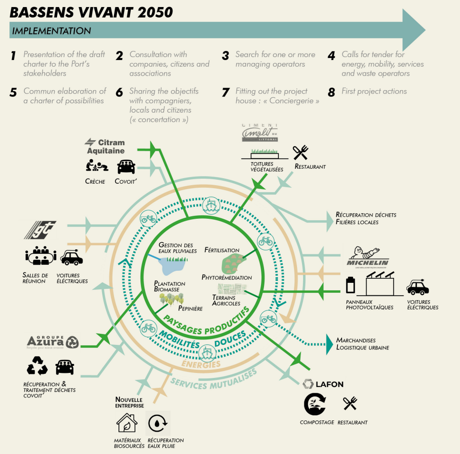
Transforming an existing port into an «urban port» requires a framework that enables the economic territory to be enhanced, energy efficiency to be increased and the concept of industrial ecology to be developed by optimizing the management of resources and by placing the notion of use and mutualization at the center.

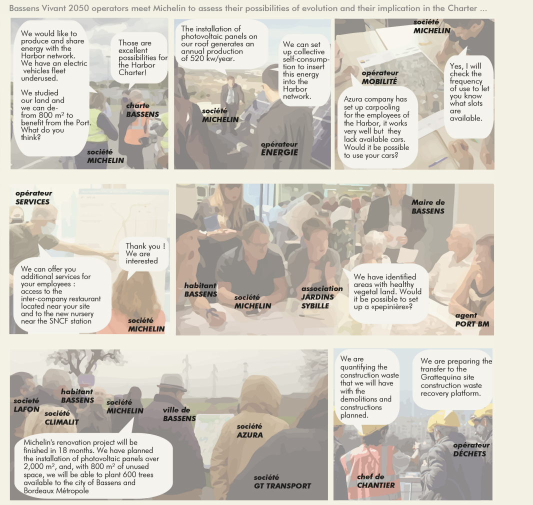
The Bassens 2050 Charter will enable the various economies present in the Port to be better structured and to promote the arrival of innovative companies.

The companies that join the Charter will be able to benefit from the advantages linked to sustainable development, to set up in a setting that enhances their image and innovative services for their activities and their employees.

Objectives :

- To ensure a dynamic and shared management of the port in order to optimize the development process of the port
- To multi-produce and exchange instead of mono-consuming energy
- Optimize the management of material resources including land consumption
- Redevelop the port as an efficient place for all forms of mobility and put the use of soft modes and shared services at the center
- Increase the landscape performance of the port by developing productive sectors that support biodiversity





RIVER TRIPS THE PORT EXPERIENCE

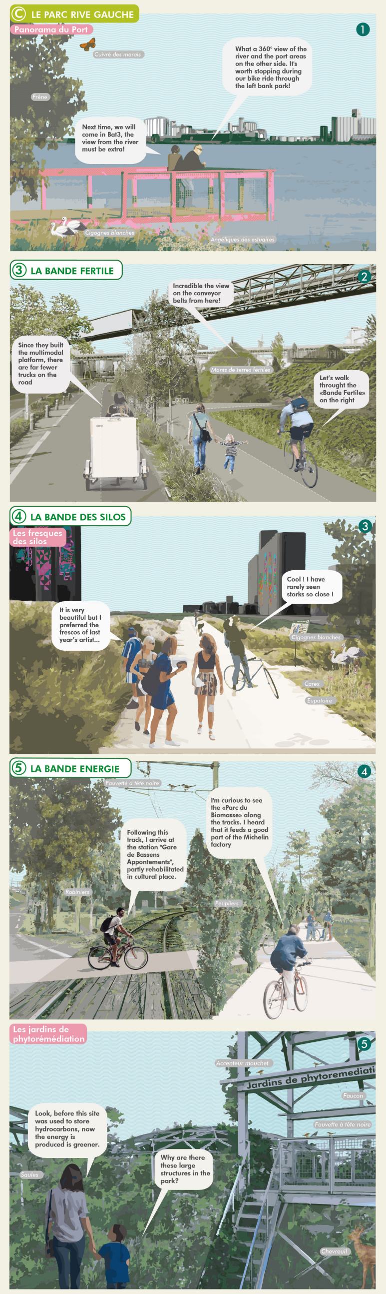
ENHANCE THE INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

The new walking routes, through the port but also on the left bank, encourage soft modes of transport while staging and showing off this unique urban-port landscape! The proposed developments are accompanied by an enhancement of the industrial heritage of Bassens: works of art on the silos, recovery of the structures of the hydrocarbon tanks, rehabilitation of the Halles Lafon, scenarization of the conveyor belts, belvederes and observation tower giving a view of the immensity of the port, among others.
The goal is to change the industrial image of the port perceived as a «no man's land» in order to give meaning to the port activities, to make them visible, and to rebuild in the minds of the inhabitants «a proud awareness of the port».

AN ATTRACTIVE PROGRAM

The creation of the new structure is accompanied by new programs, services and meeting places. These strips are «equipped»; they offer services to workers, local residents and tourists: educational spaces, observatories, kayak or bicycle rental, company crèche, kindergartens, guinguettes and restaurants, coworking spaces, concierge service, urban farm, shared gardens, EV terminals that animate the port and make it livable and alive.

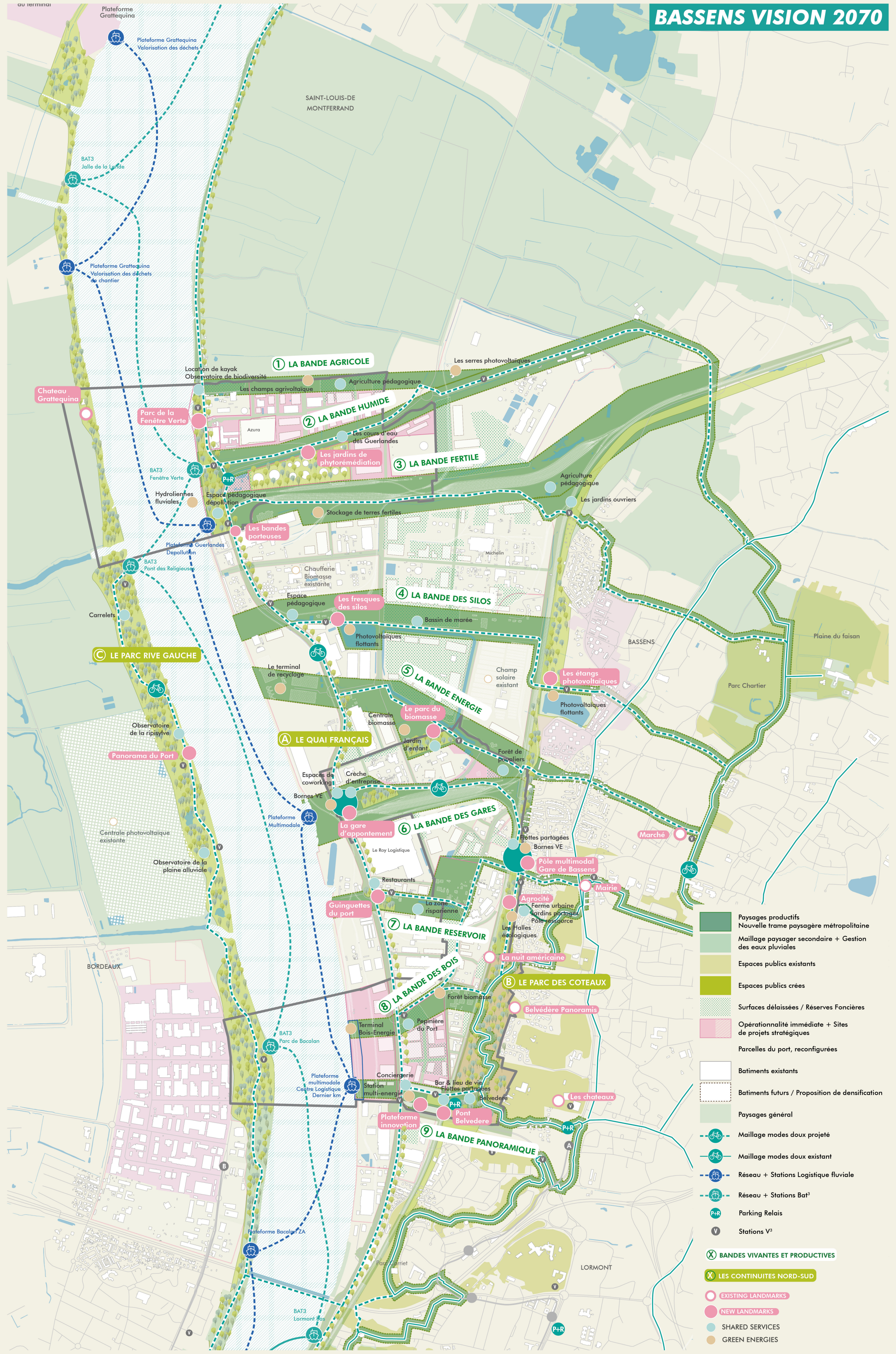
Plan sur le modèle des «Super balades à vélo» de Bordeaux Metropole



COHERENT AND PHASED ACTIONS

TERRITORIAL PHASING

BASSENS VISION 2070



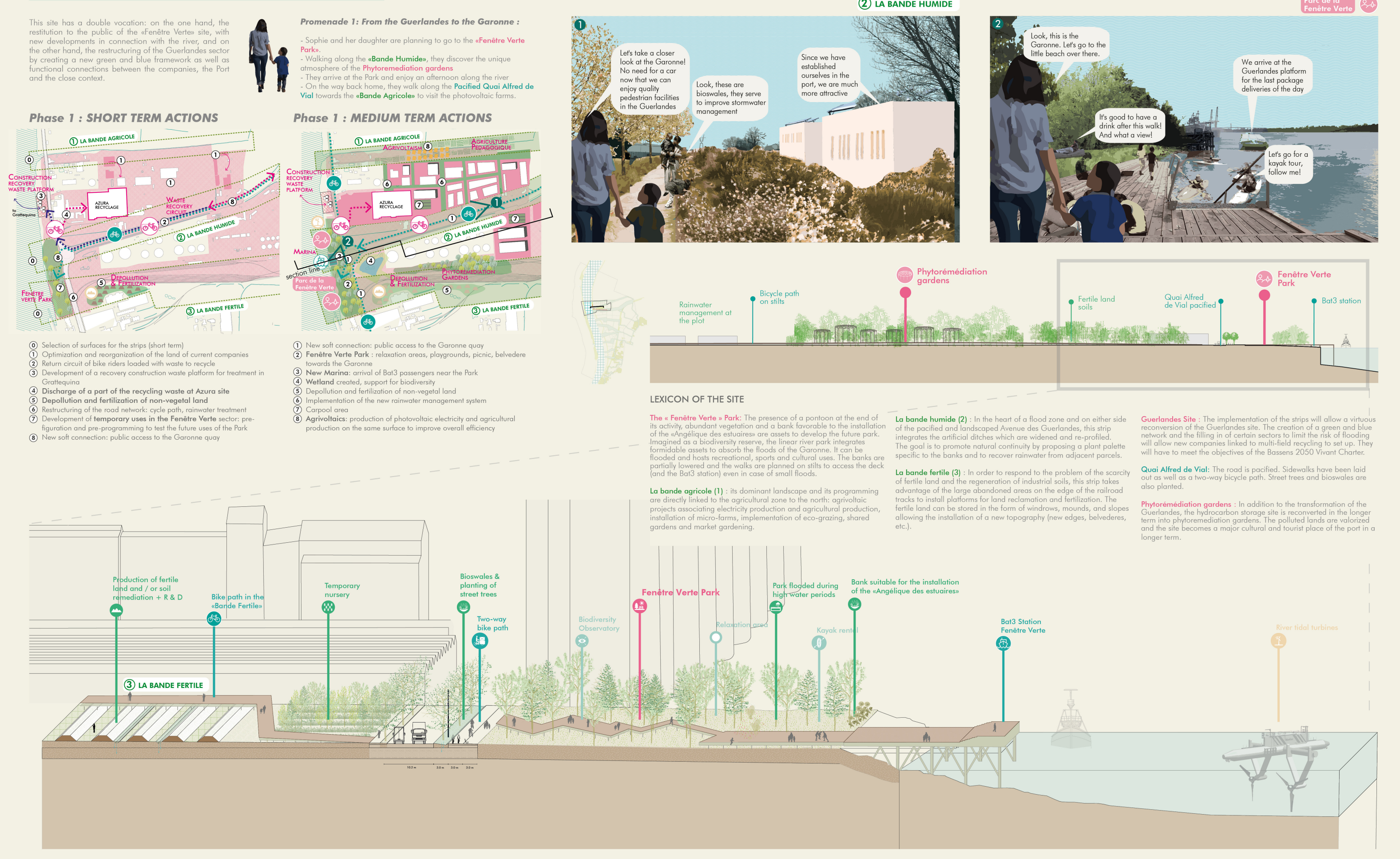
PROJECT SITES

SITE 1 : GUERLANDES / GREEN WINDOW

From the Guerlandes to the Garonne

Phase 1 : SHORT TERM ACTIONS

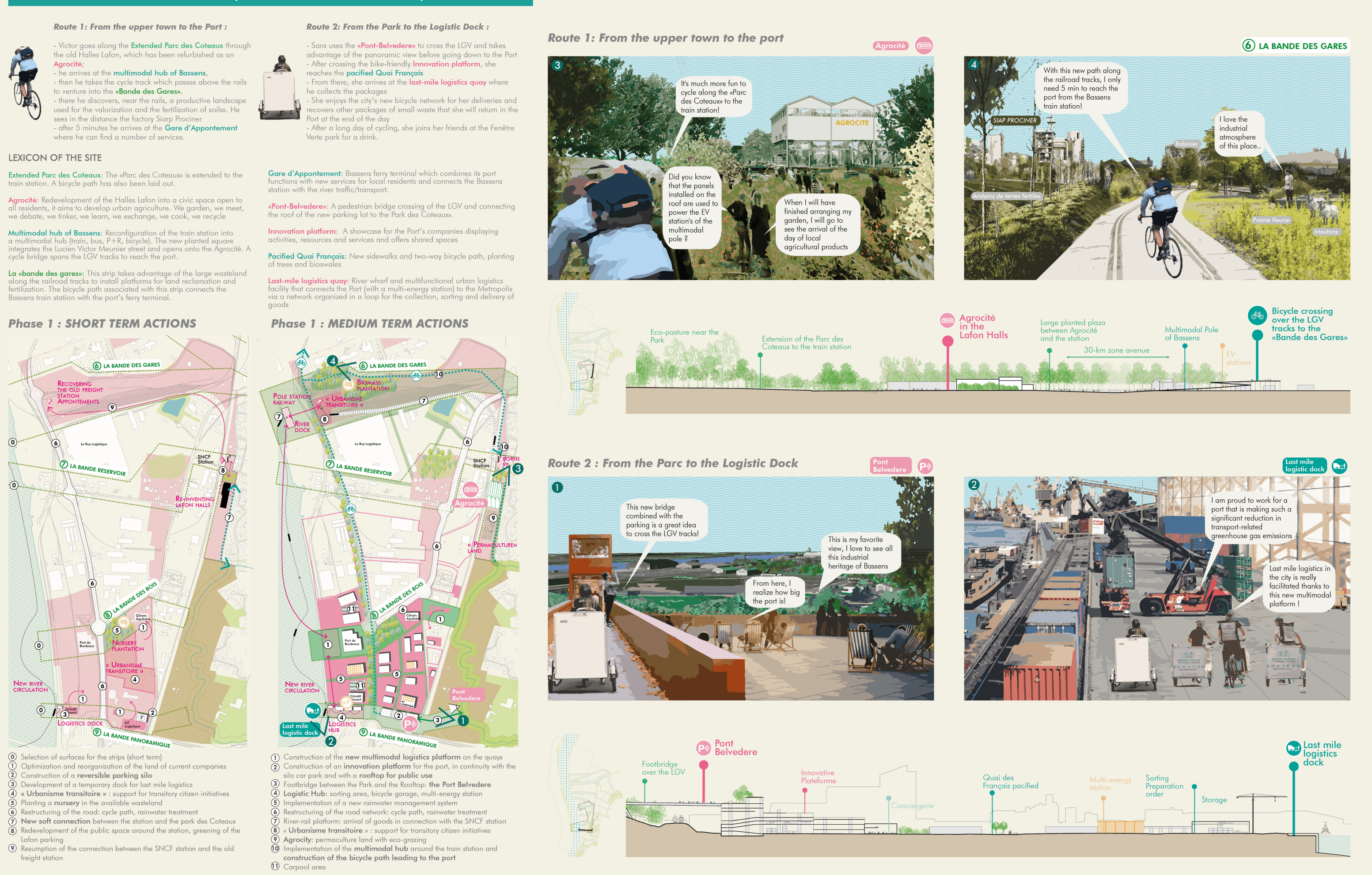
Phase 1 : MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS



SITE 2 : RIVERSIDE WHARF / TRANSPORT WHARF / BELVEDERE

Route 1: From the upper town to the port

Route 2: From the Parc to the Logistic Dock

Phase 1 : SHORT TERM ACTIONS

Phase 1 : MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS