



JURY REPORT

ORGANIZATION & JURY COMPOSITION

Organization E17

European NL

Launching Partner E17

The Urban Region Breda-Tilburg (SRBT) is the host region for European 17 in the Netherlands.

In the SRBT, nineteen municipalities, four water authorities, the province of Noord-Brabant, and the national government are collaborating on the sustainable development of the region. The region is participating with six locations namely, Groenewoud and Kenniskwartier in Tilburg, 't Zoet and Schorsmolen in Breda, the shopping centre in Etten-Leur, and the Taxandriaweg in Waalwijk.

These six prototypical sites which had been selected within the Stedelijke Regio Breda Tilburg could catalyse opportunities on multiple levels. Places that could enhance the region's ambition towards social equality, resiliency and contribute to 'future proof growth'. These six sites will be a testing grounds for the Stedelijke Regio Breda Tilburg's ambition and progress spatial and socioeconomic development for the region as a whole. The development framework is currently being drafted and designed. Each site represents an unique set of local problems but similar situations are found all through the region and in the country. Because of prototypical problematic of each site in combination the theme for European 17 "Living Cities", the design ideas will contribute accelerated learning for all 19 municipalities within the regional mosaic, and help implement innovative spatial solutions to the local needs.

The European 17 sites have been selected to implement this ambition, through research by design and its aim of implementing exemplary projects. The six assignments are in line with the theme of European 17 and the central theme "Broad prosperity" of the Stedelijke Regio Breda Tilburg.

9 Member Jury

Bart van der Vossen (NL)

Directeur Ruimte at Gemeente Utrecht, Amsterdam, North Holland, Netherlands (<https://bartvandervossen.nl>)

Don Murphy (NL)

Founder VMX Architects, Supervisor Schiphol Municipality of Amsterdam and Eindhoven (<http://www.vmxarchitects.nl>)

François Chas (FR)

NP2F Architects, Paris (<http://www.np2f.com>)

Johan de Wachter (BE/NL)

Founding partner at 2DVW Architecten, Owner at JDWA, Associate professor KTU (LT) (<https://jdwa.nl>)

Martin Sobota (DE/NL)

Architect, Founding Partner CITYFÖRSTER, Rotterdam (<http://www.cityfoerster.net>)

Marieke Kums (NL)

Founder STUDIO MAKS, Rotterdam, Professor at Leibniz University Hannover (<http://www.studiomaks.nl>)

Peter Veenstra (NL)

Founder, Landscape architect at Lola landscape architects, Netherlands (<https://lola.land>)
Stephanie Bru (FR)
Principal at BRUTHER / Stéphanie Bru & Alexandre Theriot, Greater Paris Metropolitan Region (<http://bruther.biz>)
Huub Kloosterman (NL)
Founder Urban Xchange, co-founder The Dutch Mountains Eindhoven (<https://www.urbanxchange.nl>)
Oliver Thill (NL) (substitute jury member)
Owner of Atelier Kempe Thill architects and planners (<https://www.atelierkempethill.com>)
Tania Concko (NL) (substitute jury member)
Founding Director at TCAU / Tania Concko Architects Urbanists (<https://www.taniaconcko.com>)

Date Technical Committee

28th September

Date 1st Jury Day

12th and 13th October 2023: Shortlisting of entries by the national juries (around 20% max. or at least 3)

Forum of Cities and Juries

10th-11th Nov. 2023: European Comparative analysis of the shortlisted ideas at the “Forum of Cities and Juries”

Date 2nd Jury Day

17th November 2023: Final selection of entries by the national juries

FACTS & FIGURES

Sites	Number of registrations	Number of submissions
Groenewoud, Tilburg	14	8
't Zoet, Breda	22	12
Schorsmolen, Breda	17	8
Etten-Leur	12	12
Kenniskwartier, Tilburg	25	10
Waalwijk	16	16
	106	66

PROCEDURE

This chapter explains how the jury and the technical committee evaluated the projects at the different phases: the preliminary analyses, the first jury meeting to select the projects for the shortlist, and the second jury meeting to select the winning projects.

PHASE I: PRELIMINARY ANALYSES BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

In the preliminary analysis phase, the European E17 organization checked if the projects were carried out and submitted in accordance with the rules of European E17. The partners and representatives of the project sites, together with the Project team European NL, also drew up recommendations to inform the jury in phases II and III.

Check by European NL Board and Project Team European NL

The goal of this round was to check if the projects had been carried out and submitted in accordance with the rules of European and the site briefs. Also, an overview was made of the types of strategies and interventions for each competition site, as a preparation for jury sessions I and II. Check by European NL Board and Project team European NL resulting in completed score forms per entry.

People taking part in this round:

Board members European NL: André Kempe (chairman) and Sabine Lebesque

Project team European NL: Madir Shah (Director, European NL / E17 Project leader), Peter van Schie (Head urbanist, department of urban development, City of Breda), Marco Visser (Senior urbanist, department of urban development, City of Tilburg)

The participants read all entries. Every member was first reader of 1/5 of the entries, meaning he or she filled in a score form and introduced the proposals to the others. In dialogue with each other, the score form was finalized. This form had a ‘technical’ purpose only: to check to what extent the entries answered all the questions described in the site briefs. No projects were eliminated; all projects met the rules of European E17.

Consultation with Site Representatives

The aim of this round was to access the knowledge of site representatives to provide the jury with site-specific information and views. In addition, it was essential that the various partners, in response to the European submissions,

had in-depth discussions about the future of the city with each other at an early stage. This increases the chance for results to be included in the implementation phase following the announcement of the winners.

People taking part in this round:

Board members European NL: André Kempe (chairman), Sabine Lebesque (secretary), Jonathan Woodroffe (treasurer)
Project team European 17: Madir Shah (Director, European NL / E17 Project leader), Peter van Schie (Head urbanist, department of urban development, City of Breda), Marco Visser (Senior urbanist, department of urban development, City of Tilburg)

Site representatives E17: Sander Boon (Waalwijk), Gijs Evers (Kenniskwartier), Onno van der Heijden, Patrick van t Loo ('t Zoet, Breda), Bram van Duuren, Jasper van der Wal, Stein van Brunschot (Groenwoud, Breda), Fien Gooskens, Walter van Beers (Schorsmolen, Breda), Peter Paul Stoof (Etten-Leur)

The project partners and site representatives were given sufficient time to study all the plans. Per project all panels were presented in hard copy. As an introduction to the viewing, the European NL project team presented the outcome of round I an overview of the types of strategies and interventions per competition site. Round II resulted in the formulation of recommendations for the jury. The recommendations are annexed to the jury report.

PHASE 2: FIRST SESSION OF THE JURY TO MAKE A PRESELECTION AMONG THE ENTRIES

Dates 1st Jury Session

12th and 13th October 2023

Goal

Objectives of the 1st Phase of the Jury was to reach a pre-selection of a minimum 3 entries for the sites of Groenwoud, 't Zoet, Schorsmolen, Kenniskwartier, Etten-Leur and Waalwijk. List below are the preselected entries for each site location.

Process

The first Jury Day started with a welcome and introduction by the program manager E17. He explained the various challenges and extensively shared the findings from technical committee and the recommendations made by the technical committee. All jury members selected Marieke Kums (NL) as the Jury President.

Next, the jury reflected on the challenge in plenary sessions of around 3 hours per location. What characterizes the different areas, what problems do they face and what was the brief of European 17 and why? The site representative presented in short, the recommendations (± 15 mins). This discussion gave rise to some critical comments and questions about the set challenges. The jury then defined points of interest for the judging per location.

Next day in the afternoon, all jury members were given ample time to revisit the entries, with the aim of formulating a personal top 3/5 per location. So as not to influence each other, the jury agreed to express individual votes by pasting sticky notes on the project sheets prior to the discussion. The jury members subsequently discussed the panels which had sticky notes on them in plenary sessions. This discussion resulted in a substantiated, unanimously adopted preselection. The number of places for candidates on the preselection was proportional to the number of entries submitted for locations. The preselection contained a total of 21 proposals. The preselection is purely based on the main qualities addressed by the design proposals.

Sites	Number of entries	Preselected entries
Groenewoud, Tilburg	14	3
't Zoet, Breda	22	3
Schorsmolen, Breda	17	4
Etten-Leur	12	3
Kenniskwartier, Tilburg	25	5
Waalwijk	16	3
	106	21

PRE-SELECTION

Groenewoud, Tilburg (3 Pre-selections)

Bricolage city - AE265



Densification Plan: The project consciously aims to densify the area by introducing a new typology that blends work and living environments.

Context-Sensitive Approach: The project results from a sensitive analysis of the existing context, leading to punctual interventions that harmoniously densify Groenewoud while maintaining a balanced proportion between green areas and built environments, characteristic of garden cities.

Respect for Garden City Typology: The panel and project demonstrate a certain respect for the garden city typology, highlighting a commitment to preserving its unique characteristics.

Resilience Through Vegetation: The project proposes the strategic use of vegetation as a natural divider between private, semi-public, and public spaces, enhancing the area's resilience and creating a harmonious living environment.

Suburban jungle - UR946



New Typology: The project introduces a new typology that addresses the balance between private and public spaces by providing inside access to blocks, ensuring private areas are considered.

Building Clusters: Blocks are organized as isolated islands within a green environment, creating a unique and integrated landscape.

Added Volume: The proposal adds volumes for extra apartments, forming an all-sided structure with an additional layer on top. The first two layers of the addition feature ground-based houses.

Gentrification Concerns: A potential drawback is the project's inclination towards gentrification through the introduction of new elements, which may have social implications.

Interior-Oriented Views: While the project establishes a strong relation between elements, some concerns arise regarding views, which seem to be predominantly interior-focused.

Emerging Groenewoud - YM283



Densification Strategy: The "Emerging Groenewoud" project employs a densification strategy by adding new program elements on top of or adjacent to existing apartment buildings.

Green Space Preservation: It places a strong emphasis on preserving green areas, contributing to the project's identity.

Comprehensive Program: The proposed program envisions a dynamic mixed-use community that offers educational and employment opportunities. It includes essential services such as elderly care, child care, and education services, catering to diverse community needs.

Redefining Park Edges: the strategic placement of new insertions along the edge of the park, effectively redefines the park's boundaries, enhancing the urban environment and creating a more dynamic community.

Terraced Houses on Car Park: One point of discussion is the inclusion of three terraced houses on top of a four-story car park. This aspect requires further evaluation and consideration.

'T Zoet, Breda (3 Pre-selections)

Strata scapes - XJ414



Process and Strategy: "StrataScapes" prioritizes a process and strategy over detailed design, proposing an alternative, yet plausible approach to current development practices.

Local Material Creation: The project aims to create a local material, Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT), promoting sustainable and locally sourced building practices.

Intriguing Design: While focused on strategy, the project's design is noteworthy for its lightweight, fun, and playful elements, suggesting the potential for creative and innovative solutions.

Sandbox Scenario: "StrataScapes" serves as a sandbox-like scenario for Het Zoet, featuring wood manufacturing within the area, contributing to an industrial ambiance.

Platform for Innovation: A key question revolves around the project's potential impact and its role as a platform for generating ideas and engaging the community in envisioning and creating the future of the site.

Back to the future - FQ248



Authentic Focus on Ecology: Despite initial concerns of greenwashing, the project's strong commitment to ecology has charmed observers, emphasizing its genuine dedication to environmental sustainability.

Productive Environment: The project aspires to create an inclusive and ecologically sustainable human settlement, emphasizing productivity and environmental considerations.

Ecology-Centric Approach: The project prioritizes ecology by placing the program to the back of the site and promoting ecological considerations along the River Mark.

Reassessing Urban Front: It proposes a reevaluation of the urban front by introducing water elements inward, potentially enhancing the urban environment.

Community and Nature Coexistence: The project places a significant emphasis on coexisting harmoniously with nature and people, promoting a sense of community.

Precision and Development: "Back to the Future" is characterized by its precision and well-developed ideas, potentially resulting in practical and effective solutions.

Blij da - LR826



Recognizable Destination: "Blij da" is designed to be a recognizable and inviting place, not only for locals but also for visitors from Amsterdam.

Flexible Program: While incorporating a substantial program, it maintains flexibility, allowing for various uses, from functioning as an event venue to hosting smaller-scale activities on top.

Undefined Open Space: The project features a significant amount of open space that remains "undefined," providing room for versatility and unrestrictive use.

Branding of Possibilities: Its branding centers around the idea of a place brimming with possibilities, unconfined to a single definition, fostering an environment of creativity and adaptability.

Iconic Potential: The project stands out for its use of cheerful and vibrant colors, creating an environment that has the potential to become an iconic destination with ample room for further development.

Schorsmolen, Breda (4 Pre-selections)

Nurturing Schorsmolen - DD641



Detailed Phasing: The project offers a comprehensive and detailed phasing plan, outlining steps that can be initiated immediately.

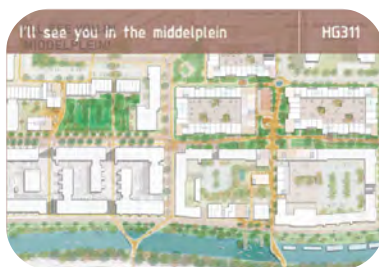
Small-Scale Interventions: It introduces small-scale interventions on both the block and urban scales, promoting adaptability and connectivity without imposing restrictions.

New Connections: The addition of two bridges creates new connections within the area, enhancing accessibility and movement.

Effective Strategy: The project is noted for having a well-thought-out strategy, providing quality interventions for both short-term and long-term urban development.

Open-Ended Outlook: There is a discussion about the certainty of the project's future outcomes, leaving it somewhat open-ended and adaptable to changing needs and conditions.

I'll see you in Middleplein! - HG311



Selective Demolition: The project strategically demolishes selected areas while preserving parking and adding a deck for communal spaces.

New Urban Heart: It creates a new central area in the neighborhood with a focus on aquapuncture-like urban interventions.

Generous Public Spaces: Partial removal of blocks to make room for more spacious public areas.

Densification Strategy: The plan involves demolishing and relocating sections to widen the urban space, while also raising new additions to create connections between the inside and outside.

Realistic Interventions: It proposes practical and appropriate interventions like decks, shared courtyards, and reimagined streets to transform the area.

Architectural and Urban Design: The project combines architectural and urban design elements to revitalize and transform the urban environment.

Open up Schorsmolen - VR948



Densification Strategy: The project adopts a straightforward strategy focusing on densification through various means, enhancing urban density and functionality.

Waterfront Quality: The quality of the waterfront is a priority, with a desire to create an active urban fabric by including a diverse program within the project.

Legible Neighborhoods: The project emphasizes legible neighborhoods, providing clear structure and organization and at the same time encourages diverse co-creation, allowing for the emergence of different typologies.

Public-Private Distinction: There's a clear distinction between public and private spaces within the design, ensuring privacy and accessibility are well-defined.

Internal Access: Blocks within the project are accessed from the inside, creating shared inner areas where entrances are located, eliminating the concept of a quiet side of the house.

Schorsmolen Meadows - LB377



Courtyard Redesign: The project focuses on redesigning courtyard spaces, with an emphasis on enhancing their functionality and aesthetics.

Small Programs: It introduces small programs within the project, including guest houses and apartments, adding diversity to the community.

Car-Free Streets: The design enforces car-free streets, prioritizing pedestrian and cyclist-friendly environments.

Added Building Decks: Building decks are incorporated, allowing cars to pass below, which contributes to creating pleasant street views.

Mixed Architecture: The project introduces new architectural elements that blend with existing structures, potentially transforming the architectural character of Schorsmolen. But lack densification despite the addition of smaller elements.

Etten Leur (3 Pre-selections)

Future Nostalgia - NT565



Multi-Scale Strategy: The project employs a multi-scale strategy, addressing different aspects of the red perimeter.

Structural Development: It focuses on developing a large structure by strengthening the existing one, capable of evolving over time.

Vertical Diversity: The design incorporates vertical diversity, adding layers and variation to the project.

Balanced Density: The project maintains a balanced density, ensuring efficient use of space.

Potential Overproduction: There's a concern about potential overproduction of space on the ground floor, raising questions about its intended use and programming. This issue requires collaboration with the city and clients to resolve.

Engineering Challenges: The project demands careful collaboration with engineers to ensure that it can be fully realized, as some aspects may be technically complex.

Connecting places - SD363



Global Urban Connection Strategy: The project develops a comprehensive urban connection and display strategy, enhancing connectivity and accessibility.

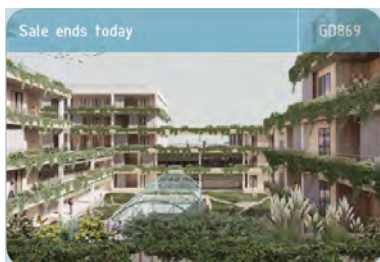
Green Urban Integration: It integrates green elements into the urban landscape, proposing an acupuncture-like repair strategy to improve connections and promote a more sustainable and eco-friendly environment.

Controlled Density: The project maintains controlled density, ensuring that the urban space is efficiently utilized.

Eco-Focused: It addresses eco-friendly aspects, highlighting the significance of the roof as an important feature.

Unclear Building Intervention: There are concerns about the clarity of building interventions and the project's intentions. More precise details may be needed for a better understanding of the design and its objectives

Sale ends today - GD869



Covered and Usable Ground Floor Spaces: The project ensures that ground floor spaces are covered and easily accessible, enhancing their usability.

Phased Development: It offers the possibility of developing the project in phases, allowing for flexibility and adaptation.

Respect for Initial Footprint: The project respects and conserves the initial footprint of the shopping center, partially recovering its structure.

Transition from Consumption to Living: Recognizing the need for a change in shopping culture, the project proposes a transition from consumption-based to living-based experiences.

Lack of Vertical Mixity: The project maintains a clear boundary between the housing and commercial sections, lacking vertical integration or mixity.

Potential Overproduction of Ground Floor Space: Concerns about potential overproduction of space on the ground floor and questions about its use and programming require collaboration with the city and clients.

Waalwijk (3 Pre-selections)

Infranature - KV364



Anti-Hub and Lightweight: "Infranature" is described as an anti-hub, intentionally lightweight, and simple in design, making it a practical and achievable project.

Composition: The project comprises three main elements: a long building, a temporary parking structure, and a bridge garden.

Conceptual Approach: Instead of introducing a new world, the project acts as a "frame" that enhances the existing site's unique characteristics, emphasizing movement, connectivity, and turning spontaneous encounters into events.

Hyper-Neutral and Realizable: The project's design is characterized by hyper-neutrality, simplicity, and feasibility, emphasizing seamless movement, connectivity, and experiential aspects.

Machine-Like Design: "Infranature" adopts a machine-like appearance, raising questions about its functionality and how it operates.

About Belts and hats - AS654



Improved Connectivity: The project enhances previously nonexistent and unclear connections, making them clearer and more accessible.

Growth Strategy: "Belts and Hats" introduces a growth strategy based on two key elements: belts for connection and hats for densification, with efficient mobility as a unifying theme.

Three Belts Strategy: The project outlines a strategy involving three belts: the landscape belt, the commercial belt and the dynamic belt. Each connection is thoughtfully programmed through a color-coding system, adding a visual and functional element to the urban development.

Long-Term Vision: It represents a long-term strategy for connecting two parts of Waalwijk, with a phased approach. The first phase includes the Landscape belt and a mobility hub, followed by the Commercial belt and logistic hub, and concluding with the Dynamic belt and creative hub.

Bike-Friendly: The project features three strong bridges, all of which are designed to accommodate bicycle traffic, promoting sustainable mobility.

Climate safari - LX757



Innovative Urban Composition: This project stands out with its interesting urban composition, offering a fresh and playful perspective.

Ambiguous Solution: "Climate Safari" presents a solution that effectively addresses the needs of both parts of the city, demonstrating adaptability and flexibility.

Spatial Connectivity: It initially doesn't align with the city's morphology but later establishes connections both spatially and across boundaries, extending into the industrial area.

Entrance to Industrial Park: By crossing the Energy HUB, "Climate Safari" creates a new entrance to the industrial park, offering direct access for citizens from the city center.

Energy Efficiency Focus: The Energy HUB acts as the core of an energy efficiency system, capable of enhancing various processes related to consumption and waste reduction.

Tech Architecture and Diverse Program: The project adopts a tech-oriented approach, treating buildings as climate machines, and offers a wide range of program elements to promote diversity within the urban space.

Kenniskwartier, Tilburg (5 Pre-selections)

An Unexpected Neighbour - BH301



Detailed Approach: The project provides greater detail in its design and planning, offering a comprehensive solution.

Noise Management: It effectively addresses noise issues, enhancing the overall quality of the environment.

Mixed-Use Design: "Unexpected Neighbor" combines working and living spaces, particularly on the higher floors, promoting a multifunctional urban environment.

Enabling the Area: The project aims to act as a catalyst for the West Tilburg area through its openness, diverse program mix, and interactive elements.

Architectural Considerations: While the design is less playful due to relatively blank side facades, it prioritizes functionality and connectivity.

Community Connection: The project, referred to as a "neighbor," fosters community connection, with features like a swimming pool serving as a hub for interaction among residents.

Symbiosis - IH345



Mixed Programme: The project features a mixed-use program distributed throughout the block, promoting diversity and functionality.

Design Emphasis: It places a strong focus on beautiful and innovative design, incorporating more radical program elements.

Contrasting Plazas: The building is flanked by two strikingly different plazas. The east side harmonizes with Tilburg's blue-green axis.

Inviting Ground Floor: The ground floor is designed to be an inviting and creative space, showcasing the innovation and productivity of its users.

Deep Floor Plates: Despite potential challenges, the deep floor plates offer opportunities to combine diverse programs.

Shared Spaces: There's an emphasis on increasing shared spaces, emphasizing the importance of community engagement and collaboration. In some areas, the shared spaces exceed the built areas by almost five times!

Density: Mode d'emploi - FE896



Engaging and Playful: The project is noted for its interesting, funny, and hopeful composition, presenting a playful approach to urban development.

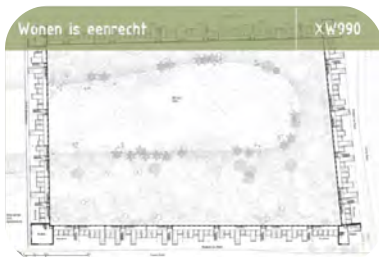
Super Block Organization: It organizes the Super Block around a lake and establishes connections with urban paths, creating an urban layout that revolves around the water feature.

Podium as a Hub: The podium serves as a central node where multiple streets converge, hosting public functions and open to the city.

Extension Around the Lake: The concept can potentially be extended to encompass the entire water body, offering a comprehensive and connected urban space.

Architectural Diversity: While the project has some interesting aspects, there are noted contradictions in the architectural style, material usage and overall aesthetics. It is described as somewhat reminiscent of 80s design and may come across as whimsical rather than rigorous in its approach.

Wonen is een recht - XW990

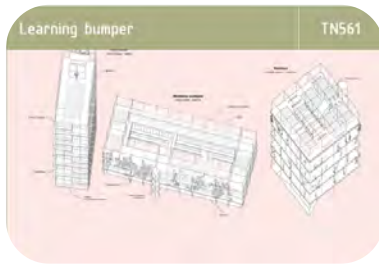


Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 25): The project aligns with the principles, emphasizing the right to housing.

Architectural Pursuit: "Wonen is een recht" is not a definitive solution to the housing crisis but rather an architectural exploration dedicated to finding innovative solutions.

Densification and Nature Expansion: The project focuses on densifying housing while concurrently expanding and integrating nature into its design.

Biodiversity and Rewilding: The architectural approach is centered around biodiversity and rewilding, using these concepts as a foundational starting point for the project.



Diverse Composition: The project employs a composition of different elements to create a dynamic urban space.

Connectivity: It links to a longer stretch around the area, enhancing urban connectivity and accessibility.

Innovation and Interaction: "Learning Bumper" capitalizes on the short timeframe of innovation, promoting fluid exchanges and creating a space for interactions.

Balancing Paradoxes: The project's challenge is to embrace and harmonize paradoxes, allowing opposites to coexist and overlap, fostering a dynamic and inclusive environment.

Blurred Boundaries: It explores the blending of living and working spaces, capitalizing on the evolving boundaries between the two.

Program Mix Suggestions: The project suggests an innovative mix of program elements, enhancing the diversity of the urban space. While it's architecturally interesting, the specific architectural style is not clearly defined.

FINAL-SELECTION

PHASE 3: SECOND SESSION OF THE JURY

17th November 2023: Final selection of entries by the national juries

Goal

Objectives of the 2st Phase of the Jury is to reach the final selection of Winner (12000€), Runner-up (12000€) and or special mention per site. Each jury member was allowed to recall maximum of one entry which was not in the preselection with very clear argument for short discussion.

Process

Jury session started with presentation by the jury representatives (Johan de Wachter, Martin Sobota) who have been to the “Forum of Cities and Juries” and a short recap of the preselection made in the prior jury session.

The jury members individually determined their preferences for the positions of winner and runner-up per location on the basis of hard copies of the project sheets. Again, so as not to influence each other, they used sticky notes. Next, all jury members substantiated their choices. Projects that were not sufficiently developed to qualify for the position of winner or runner-up, but did contain valuable elements for the debate about the different locations were discussed as candidates for a special mention. Finally, the jury once again discussed the selection of award-winning projects in hard copy per location. In this reflective round, the jury confirmed its selections. All the jury’s selections were unanimous.



Geornewoud, Tilburg

Dormant green suburb to future-proof living

The City of Tilburg seeks opportunities in the combination of accommodating its growth and reactivating urban life in peripheral postwar neighborhoods.

The aim is to attract and retain residents, in particular young generations, to improve the socioeconomic status, to diversify the composition of population and to stimulate healthy and productive suburban living.

Densification is part of the city's strategy, but to make city districts like Groenewoud twenty-first century proof a new mix of functions is crucial to spark socially coherent milieus and to create solutions for the climate adaptability.

The City of Tilburg believes that the regeneration of the central area in such districts together with the local residents is key to setting climate transition in motion.



Jury comments for GROENEWOUD, Breda

The jury acknowledges the high caliber of submissions in the competition, showcasing innovative approaches to urban development.

The winning project, Bricolage City (AE265), impressively integrates work and living spaces while maintaining a context-sensitive approach rooted in meticulous analysis. The harmonious densification of Groenewoud, in line with the garden city typology, demonstrates a commitment to preserving unique features and fostering resilience through strategic vegetation use.

The runner-up, Sub-urban Jungle (UR946), introduces a novel typology emphasizing the balance between private and public spaces. Its isolated islands within a green environment create an integrated landscape, although potential gentrification concerns are recognized. The project establishes a strong relationship between elements while prompting considerations about predominantly interior-focused views.

The special mention, Emerging Groenewoud (YM283), strategically employs densification, preserving green spaces and envisioning a dynamic mixed-use community. The proposed program addresses diverse community needs, with ongoing discussions about specific aspects, such as the inclusion of terraced houses atop a car park.



Winner

Bricolage City (AE265)

Authors: Laura Izzo (IT), architect, Alessandro de Cadilhac (IT), architect, Lorenzo Gaveglione (IT), architect

Team location: Santiago de Compostela, Spain

The project strategically aims to densify the area by introducing a novel typology that seamlessly integrates work and living spaces. It reflects a context-sensitive approach, rooted in a meticulous analysis of the existing surroundings. Punctual interventions harmoniously densify Groenewoud while preserving a balanced proportion of green areas and built environments, in line with the characteristic garden city typology. Demonstrating a commitment to preserving unique features, the project emphasizes resilience through the strategic use of vegetation. Natural dividers between private, semi-public, and public spaces contribute to the area's harmonious living environment.



Runner-up

Sub-urban Jungle (UR946)

Authors: Margit van Schaik (NL), architect, Jesper Baltussen (NL), architect

Team location: Rotterdam, Netherlands

Introducing a new typology, the project prioritizes the balance between private and public spaces by incorporating inside access to blocks, emphasizing consideration for private areas. Organized as isolated islands within a green environment, the blocks form building clusters, creating a distinctive and integrated landscape. The proposal involves adding volumes for extra apartments, resulting in an all-sided structure with an additional layer on top, featuring ground-based houses in the initial two layers. However, concerns about potential gentrification implications emerge, as the project introduces new elements. While establishing a strong relationship between elements, the project raises considerations about predominantly interior-focused views.



Special mention

Emerging Groenewoud (YM283)

Authors: Yue Shen (CN), architect urbanist, Xiaojie Huang (CN), architect, Xijie Ma (CN), architect

Team location: Rotterdam, Netherlands

The "Emerging Groenewoud" project employs a densification strategy, introducing new program elements atop or adjacent to existing apartment buildings. A key focus lies in preserving green spaces, integral to the project's identity. Envisioning a dynamic mixed-use community, the proposed program includes educational and employment opportunities, as well as essential services like elderly care, child care, and education, addressing diverse community needs. The strategic placement of new insertions along the park's edge redefines boundaries, enhancing the urban environment and fostering a more dynamic community. However, ongoing discussion surrounds the inclusion of three terraced houses atop a four-story car park, necessitating further evaluation and consideration.

't Zoet, Breda

'Cultural quarter' at the river Mark

The City of Breda seeks opportunity to develop large-scale urban area within the city border and close to the historical center. The ambition is to make Breda a highly urbanized, international, and connected city by 2040.

The housing challenge and anticipating climate change in 't Zoet serve as a lever to address the challenges of energy transition, smart mobility, biodiversity, health, circular economy and climate adaptation. Most of the 25,000 homes that Breda plans to build by 2040 will be located in the city center.

In 't Zoet, there is an potential to build between 4,000 and 6,000 homes. 't Zoet is designated to become be a complementary, inclusive, energy-neutral and international living and working environment and will be elaborated in conjunction with the water, nature and climate ambitions of Zoete Delta and the mobility challenges associated with Breda and the region.



Jury comments for T ZOET, Breda

The jury applauds the outstanding submissions in the competition, showcasing diverse and innovative approaches to urban development.

The winning project, StrataScapes (XJ414), stands out for its emphasis on process and strategy, promoting sustainable practices through the introduction of Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT). Despite its strategic focus, the design exudes creativity and playfulness, offering potential for inventive solutions and contributing to an industrial ambiance.

The runner-up, BLIJ-DA (LR826), is recognized for its welcoming and versatile design, conceived as a recognizable destination for both locals and visitors. The intentional incorporation of open and "undefined" spaces fosters adaptability, creativity, and an iconic potential, marked by cheerful and vibrant urban expression.

The special mention, BACK TO THE FUTURE (FQ248), distinguishes itself with an authentic commitment to ecology. Prioritizing sustainability, the project's focus on ecological considerations along the River Mark and its emphasis on coexistence with nature and community contribute to its standout qualities.



Winner

Strata-scapes (XJ414)

Authors: Izabela Słodka (PL), architect, Federica Zatta (IT), landscape architect
Team location: Rotterdam , Netherlands

"StrataScapes" places a strong emphasis on process and strategy, prioritizing an alternative approach to current development practices rather than detailed design. The project advocates for sustainable building practices by promoting the creation of a local material, Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT). Despite its focus on strategy, the design of "StrataScapes" stands out with its lightweight, fun, and playful elements, suggesting a potential for creative and innovative solutions. Serving as a sandbox-like scenario for Het Zoet, the project introduces wood manufacturing to the area, contributing to an industrial ambiance. A central question revolves around the project's impact and its role as a platform for innovation, inviting community engagement in envisioning and shaping the future of the site.



Runner-up

BLIJ-DA (LR826)

Authors: Shuangyun Chen (CN), landscape architect, You Wu (CN), urban planner
Team location: Rotterdam , Netherlands

"Blij da" is conceived as a welcoming and recognizable destination, catering not only to locals but also drawing visitors from Amsterdam. Its design incorporates a substantial yet flexible program, accommodating a range of uses, from serving as an event venue to hosting smaller-scale activities. Notably, the project features a significant amount of open space intentionally left "undefined," fostering versatility and unrestrictive use. The branding revolves around the concept of a place filled with possibilities, promoting an environment of creativity and adaptability. The project's iconic potential is emphasized through its cheerful and vibrant colors, creating an environment that has the capacity to evolve into an iconic destination with ample room for further development.



Special mention

BACK TO THE FUTURE (FQ248)

Authors: Maria Vittoria Tesei (IT), architect urbanist, Flavio Martella (IT), architectural and urban theorist
Team location: Madrid , Spain

"Back to the Future" distinguishes itself with an authentic focus on ecology, dispelling initial concerns of greenwashing and showcasing a genuine commitment to environmental sustainability. Aspiring to create an inclusive and ecologically sustainable human settlement, the project prioritizes productivity and environmental considerations. This ecology-centric approach is evident in the strategic placement of the program at the back of the site and the promotion of ecological considerations along the River Mark. The proposal suggests a reevaluation of the urban front by introducing water elements inward, potentially enhancing the overall urban environment. Emphasizing coexistence with nature and people, the project fosters a sense of community. "Back to the Future" stands out for its precision and well-developed ideas, offering the potential for practical and effective solutions.

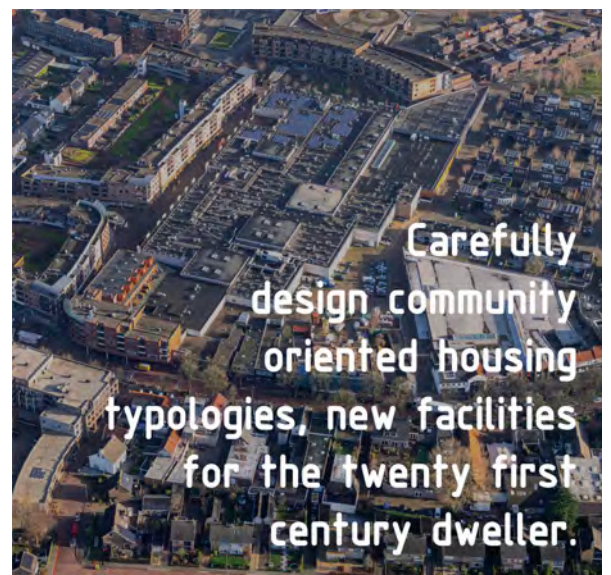
Etten-Leur

From consumption-only to resilient mixed-use

The City of Etten-Leur seeks opportunities in the combination of accommodating its growth and reactivating urban life in the shopping center.

The aim is to redevelop the large consumption-only shopping experience to a more mix-use locally rooted experience which will become a cozy “Central living-room” for everyone, embedded in existing historical character of Etten-Leur.

Densification is part of the city’s strategy. Transforming city district that are currently reliant on mono-functional shopping and consumption into a circular production and healthy consumption hub, creating economically stable environments fit for the twenty-first century. This can be enhanced by adding high-quality, climate-resilient new homes and other facilities that attract and retain residents and stimulate healthy and productive mid-sized city living.



Jury comments for ETTEN-LEUR

The jury commends the outstanding submissions for the Etten-Leur competition, showcasing inventive urban development approaches.

Securing the winning position, "Future Nostalgia" presents a comprehensive strategy that reinforces the existing structure, emphasizing long-term evolution. The project introduces vertical diversity and balanced density, optimizing space utilization. However, concerns about potential overproduction on the ground floor underscore the necessity for meticulous coordination with the city and clients to navigate engineering complexities for the successful realization of this ambitious project.

As the runner-up, "Sale Ends Today" prioritizes the usability of ground floor spaces, emphasizing coverage and accessibility. The phased development approach respects the initial footprint of the shopping center and adapts to the changing culture of shopping. While proposing a transition from consumption-focused to living-based experiences, the project maintains a distinct separation between housing and commercial sections.

The jury did not choose any special mention for this competition.



Winner

future nostalgia (NT565)

Authors: Francesco Conti (IT), architect, Edoardo Quattrucci (IT), architect, Riccardo Bettini (IT), architect, Sarah Gjergo (IT), architect

Team location: Porto San Giorgio , Italy

The project employs a multi-scale strategy to address various aspects of the red perimeter, emphasizing structural development by reinforcing the existing structure for long-term evolution. Incorporating vertical diversity, it introduces layers and variation while maintaining a balanced density for efficient space utilization. However, concerns arise about potential overproduction on the ground floor, necessitating collaboration with the city and clients for resolution. The project also poses engineering challenges, requiring meticulous coordination to address technical complexities and ensure successful realization.



Runner-up

Sale Ends Today (GD869)

Authors: Iago Pineda (ES), architect, Andrea Las Hayas (ES), architect

Collaborators: Leire Blanco (ES), architect, Inés Clavell (ES), architect

Team location: Barcelona , Spain

The project prioritizes the usability of ground floor spaces by ensuring they are covered and easily accessible. It offers flexibility through phased development, respecting and partially recovering the initial footprint of the shopping center. Recognizing the shift in shopping culture, the project proposes a transition from consumption-focused to living-based experiences. However, it maintains a distinct separation between housing and commercial sections, lacking vertical integration. Concerns regarding potential overproduction of ground floor space raise questions about use and programming, necessitating collaboration with the city and clients for resolution.

Waalwijk

New mobility hub at the heart of Waalwijk

Waalwijk is fastest growing city in all of Brabant. This is a great incentive to facilitate the further development of companies in direct surroundings. This quantitative and qualitative leap requires that Waalwijk is an integral part of the larger urban network with good regional connections. Waalwijk urgently needs to accommodate its growth and establish a strong network hub embedded directly in the beautiful historical city center.

Densification is part of the city's strategy, the aim is to develop an extension to the existing city center which can become a vibrant mix-use urban area, synergistic programs which attract residents, in particular people who work in the logistics businesses, improves the image of waalwijk, diversify the composition of population and to stimulate healthy and productive living and business environment for future.



Jury comments for WAALWIJK

The jury commends the exemplary submissions in the Waalwijk competition, showcasing remarkable urban innovation.

The winning project, "Belts and Hats," is celebrated for its transformative ideas on connectivity, introducing a growth strategy with distinctive belts for connection and densification. The project includes three distinct belts—the landscape belt, commercial belt, and dynamic belt. The phased approach demonstrates a thoughtful, long-term vision for Waalwijk's development.

The runner-up, "Climate Safari," brings a fresh and playful perspective to urban composition, displaying adaptability and flexibility. The tech-oriented approach, treating buildings as climate machines, and the diverse program contribute to the project's significance in enhancing urban diversity for Waalwijk.

The special mention, "Infranature," is recognized for its intentional simplicity and achievability. Acting as an anti-hub, the project's lightweight design, conceptualized with a long building, temporary parking structure, and bridge garden, emphasizes movement and connectivity.



Winner

About Belts and Hats (AS654)

Authors: Joaquim Olea Fernández (ES), architect, Mireia Martín Salvanyà (ES), architect

Collaborators: Olímpia Solà Inaraja (ES), architect

Team location: Girona, Spain

The "Belts and Hats" project significantly improves connectivity by establishing clear and accessible connections, incorporating a growth strategy centered around two key elements: belts for connection and hats for densification, all unified by an efficient mobility theme. The strategy involves three distinct belts—the landscape belt, commercial belt, and dynamic belt—each carefully programmed with a color-coding system, adding both visual and functional elements to the urban development. With a phased approach, the project envisions a long-term strategy for connecting two parts of Waalwijk, beginning with the Landscape belt and a mobility hub, followed by the Commercial belt and logistic hub, and concluding with the Dynamic belt and creative hub. Notably, the project prioritizes sustainable mobility, featuring three robust bridges designed to accommodate bicycle traffic.



Runner-up

CLIMATE SAFARI (LX757)

Authors: Luis Navarro Jover (ES), architect, Carlos Sánchez García (ES), architect

Collaborators: Nuria Martínez Martínez (ES), architect, Jonathan Berna Amorós (ES)

Team location: Novelda, Spain

The "Climate Safari" project stands out for its innovative urban composition, introducing a fresh and playful perspective to the urban landscape. Its solution is characterized by adaptability and flexibility, effectively addressing the needs of both city sections. While initially deviating from the city's morphology, the project later establishes spatial connections, reaching into the industrial area and creating a new entrance through the Energy HUB, providing direct access for citizens from the city center. The Energy HUB serves as the focal point of an energy efficiency system, contributing to various processes related to consumption and waste reduction. With a tech-oriented approach, treating buildings as climate machines, the project offers a diverse program to enhance diversity within the urban space.



Special mention

INFRANATURE (KV364)

Authors: Andrei Barbu (RO), architect, Alexandru Moldovan (RO), architect, Ioana Cojocaru (RO), architect. Collaborators: Ioana Radulescu (RO), philosopher, Alice Georgescu (RO), architect, Danut Mario Cacu (RO), architect

Team location: Bruxelles, Belgium

The "Infranature" project adopts an anti-hub concept, intentionally designed to be lightweight and simple, ensuring practicality and achievability. Comprising three main elements—a long building, a temporary parking structure, and a bridge garden—the project takes a conceptual approach, acting as a "frame" that enhances the existing site's unique characteristics. Emphasizing movement, connectivity, and transforming spontaneous encounters into events, it achieves hyper-neutrality and feasibility. The design's machine-like appearance prompts questions about functionality and operational aspects.

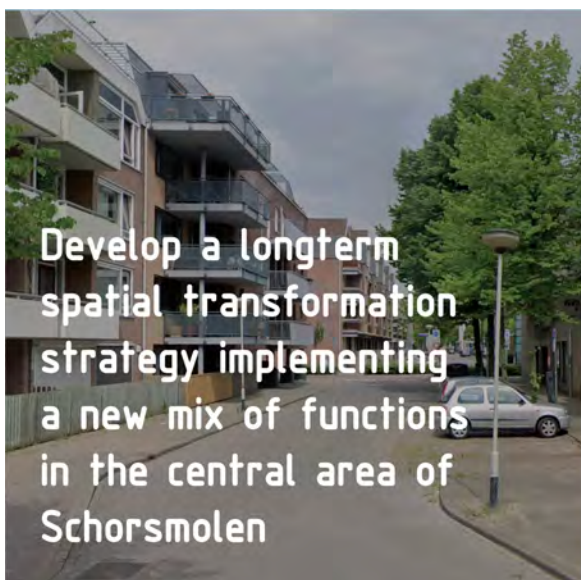
Schorsmolen, Breda

Socially connected and climate adaptive

From the perspective of Breda, Schorsmolen presents an opportunity to transform a fragmented urban fabric into a vibrant and cohesive neighborhood. The vision is to create a mixed-use, socially inclusive, and sustainable neighborhood that celebrates its diversity and history.

To achieve this, local housing corporations can play a crucial role in testing and implementing new forms of collective living concepts, which can enhance social cohesion and create more affordable housing options. It is important to involve and empower the local community through participatory design and planning.

Climate adaptation also needs to be taken into consideration, green infrastructure and sustainable design practices that promote resilience and mitigate the effects of climate change and become an integral, connected and attractive part of Breda and beyond.



Jury comments for SCHORSMOLEN, Breda

The jury commends the outstanding projects in the Schorsmolen competition, each presenting innovative solutions for urban development.

"I'll See You in Middelplein!" clinched the winning position by strategically employing selective demolition, creating a new central area with aquapuncture-like interventions, and implementing a thoughtful densification strategy. Realistic interventions such as decks, shared courtyards, and redesigned streets demonstrate a comprehensive approach, combining architectural and urban design elements for a holistic transformation of the urban environment.

The runner-up, "Open Up Schorsmolen!" impresses with its emphasis on waterfront quality and a straightforward densification strategy, enhancing urban density and functionality. The project maintains a strong commitment to legible neighborhoods, ensuring clear structure and organization while fostering diversity in co-creation.

The special mention, "Nurturing Schorsmolen," stands out for its detailed phasing plan and small-scale interventions, promoting adaptability and connectivity without imposing restrictions. The addition of two bridges enhances accessibility and movement, showcasing an effective strategy for both short-term and long-term urban development.



Winner

I'LL SEE YOU IN MIDDELPLEIN! (HG311)

Authors: Giacomo Gallo (IT), architect, Catarina Breia Dias (PT), architect

Team location: Amsterdam , Netherlands

The project employs a selective demolition approach, strategically removing specific areas while preserving parking and introducing a communal deck. This initiative aims to establish a new central area in the neighborhood, featuring aquapuncture-like urban interventions. Notably, blocks are partially removed to create more expansive public spaces. The overall densification strategy involves demolishing and relocating sections to expand urban areas, accompanied by the addition of new structures to foster connections between interior and exterior spaces. The plan proposes realistic interventions such as decks, shared courtyards, and redesigned streets to effectively transform the area. Combining both architectural and urban design elements, the project seeks to revitalize and reshape the urban environment.



Runner-up

Open Up Schorsmolen! (VR948)

Authors: Corné Strootman (NL), landscape architect

Team location: Rotterdam , Netherlands

Prioritizing waterfront quality, the project seeks to create an active urban fabric by integrating a diverse program. Adopting a straightforward densification strategy, the focus is on enhancing urban density and functionality through various means. Emphasizing legible neighborhoods, the design promotes clear structure and organization while encouraging diverse co-creation for the emergence of different typologies. A distinct separation between public and private spaces is maintained to ensure well-defined boundaries for privacy and accessibility. Internally, blocks are accessed from the inside, fostering shared inner areas concentrated around entrances.



Special mention

Nurturing Schorsmolen (DD641)

Authors: Stefano Agliati (IT), architect urbanist, Mathias Gorz (PL), architect urbanist, Ganesh Babu Ramaiah Perumalsamy (IN), architect urbanist

Team location: Rotterdam , Netherlands

The project stands out for its detailed phasing plan, offering a comprehensive guide with immediately initiatable steps. It introduces small-scale interventions on both block and urban scales, fostering adaptability and connectivity without imposing restrictions. Notably, the addition of two bridges enhances accessibility and movement, contributing to the project's effective strategy for both short-term and long-term urban development. However, there is an ongoing discussion about the certainty of the project's future outcomes, maintaining an open-ended and adaptable approach to accommodate changing needs and conditions.

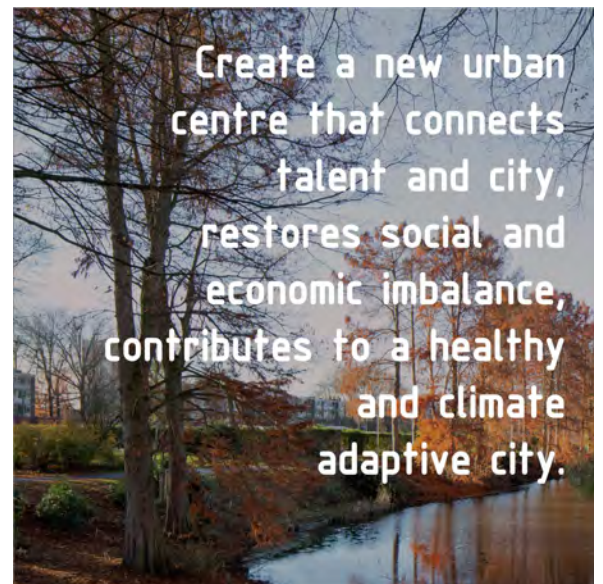
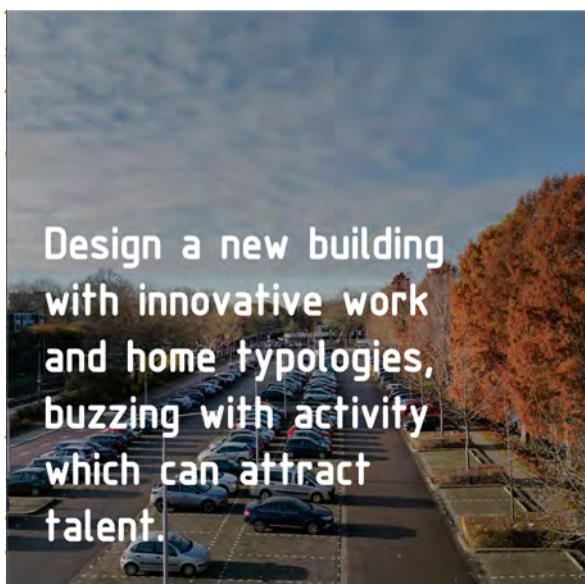
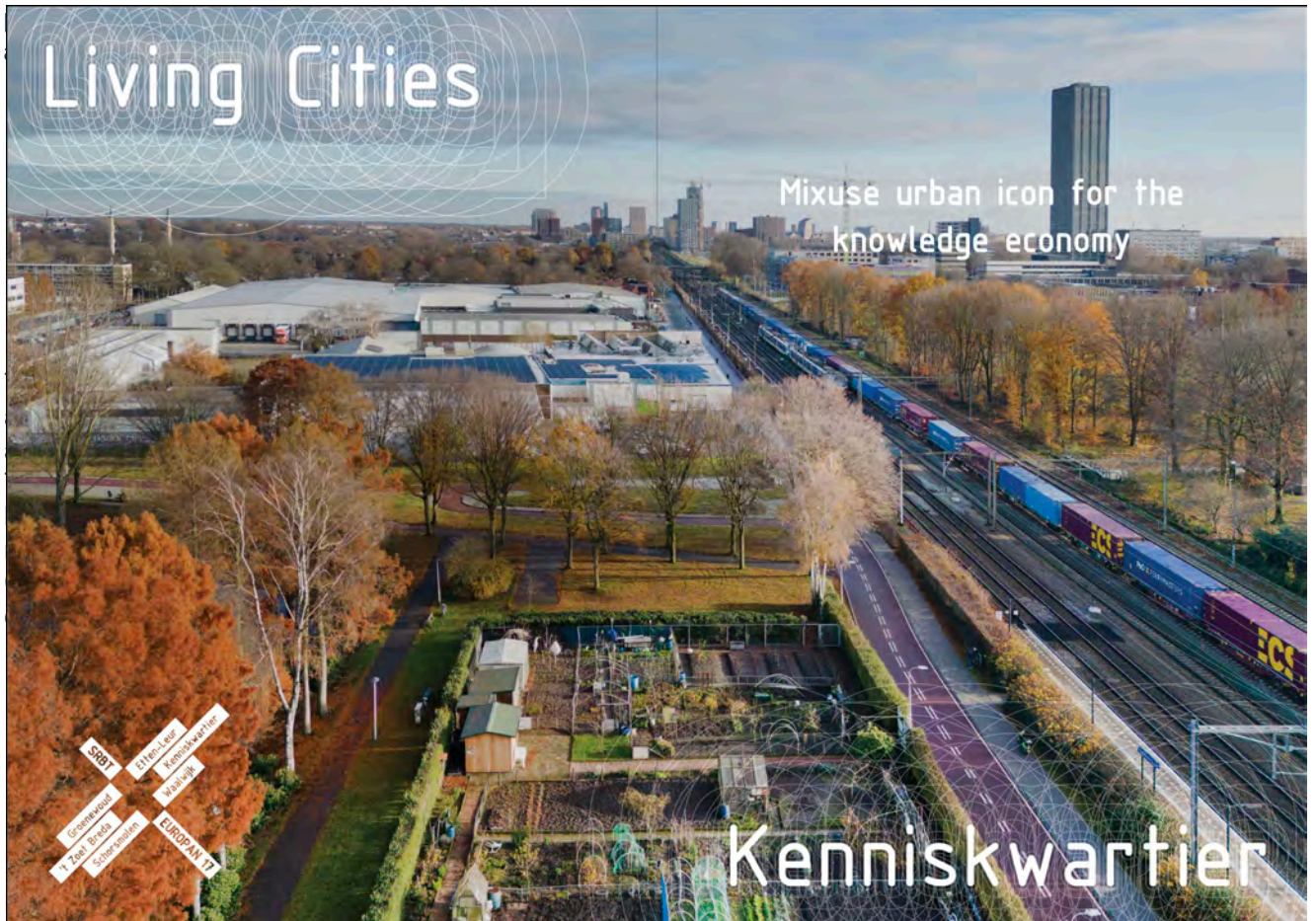
Kenniskwartier, Breda

Mixuse urban icon for the knowledge economy

The City of Tilburg seeks opportunities to accommodate its growth in the existing city. Densification of urban voids, in particular the ones near a public transport hub, with a strategic position in the city are a part of this strategy.

This type of development is ideally suited to catalyze new interaction milieus, since it offers the opportunity to implement a new work-and-live program connecting citizens with all sorts of backgrounds, knowledge and skills levels, various economic status and other 'resources' that are already present in the surroundings.

The project area at center of the 'Kenniskwartier' is an urban void that is at the intersection of multiple neighborhoods with diverse urban dynamics, which offer opportunity to development iconic circular knowledge oriented milieus to be established in Tilburg.



Jury comments for Kenniskwartier, Breda

The Kenniskwartier submissions in the European competition exhibit a rich tapestry of innovative urban development concepts.

The winning project, "SYMBIOSIS," takes center stage with its strategic distribution of a mixed-use program, fostering diversity and functionality within the block. Its commitment to striking and innovative design, including contrasting plazas and expansive shared spaces, highlights a dedication to pushing architectural boundaries. Despite potential challenges, the project leverages deep floor plates for unique programming opportunities, emphasizing interconnectedness and collaborative workspaces as integral elements.

The runner-up, "Density: Mode d'emploi," charms with its captivating and optimistic urban composition. The Super Block, organized around a picturesque lake, forms a harmonious urban layout that revolves around the water feature. The central podium serves as a vibrant hub, hosting public activities and contributing to an interconnected urban space.

Special mentions "An Unexpected Neighbor" and "Wonen is een recht" add further depth to Kenniskwartier's narrative. The former stands out for its detailed design addressing noise issues, fostering community interaction, and serving as a catalyst for West Tilburg. The latter, aligned with human rights principles, positions itself as an architectural exploration committed to innovative housing solutions.



Winner

SYMBIOSIS (IH345)

Authors: Nicolas Gustin (BE), architect, Przemyslaw Witkowski (PL), architect, Miguel Serrano (ES), architect

Team location: Paris , France

The project showcases a mixed-use program strategically distributed throughout the block, fostering diversity and functionality. Central to its vision is a commitment to striking and innovative design, incorporating elements that push the boundaries of conventional architecture. Two contrasting plazas flank the building, with the east side harmonizing seamlessly with Tilburg's blue-green axis. The ground floor serves as an inviting and dynamic space, a testament to the creativity and productivity of its occupants. Despite potential challenges, the deep floor plates present unique opportunities for combining varied programs within the structure. The design places a significant emphasis on expanding shared spaces, underscoring the importance of community engagement and collaboration.



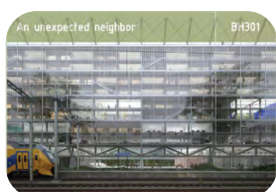
Runner-up

Density: Mode d'emploi (FE896)

Authors: Davide Casaletto (IT), architect, Antonino Caridi (IT), architect

Team location: Potenza, Italy

Celebrated for its captivating and optimistic composition, the project adopts an engaging and lighthearted approach to urban development. The Super Block is strategically organized around a picturesque lake, establishing connections with urban pathways and shaping an urban layout that revolves harmoniously around the water feature. At the heart of this design is the podium, functioning as a central hub where multiple streets intersect, hosting public activities and serving as an open gallery accessible to the entire city. There's potential for the concept to expand, enveloping the entire water body and creating a comprehensive, interconnected urban space.



Special mention

An Unexpected Neighbor (BH301)

Authors: Italo de Vroom (NL), architect, Martijn Dahrs (NL), architect, Nick Boer (NL), architect

Team location: Schiedam, Netherlands

The "Unexpected Neighbor" project stands out with its detailed design approach, addressing noise issues and promoting a multifunctional urban environment through a mix of working and living spaces. Positioned as a catalyst for West Tilburg, it prioritizes functionality and connectivity despite less playful side facades. Serving as a community hub, features like a swimming pool foster resident interaction, encapsulating the essence of being a true "neighbor."



Special mention

Wonen is een recht (XW990)

Authors: Matthijs la Roi (NL), architect, Simone Tchonova (BG), architect

Team location: London, United Kingdom

"Wonen is een recht" aligns with the principles outlined in Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, underscoring the fundamental right to housing. It distinguishes itself as more than a definitive solution to the housing crisis; rather, it stands as an architectural exploration committed to innovative housing solutions. At its core, the architectural approach is grounded in principles of biodiversity and rewilding, with these concepts serving as foundational cornerstones for the project's development.