

De-concreting as Development

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What is it all about?

De-concreting as Development focuses on de-concreting, de-tangling and clearing up space in the most built-up region of Central Europe. Thanks to a new development logic, we can simultaneously densify and make space for water buffering, energy, food production and social interaction.

More

A sustainable living environment does not consume even more open space, but is focused on the densification of the already built-up area. In addition, there is also a need for de-concreting: scrapping, clearing, de-tangling and breaking down in places where development is not desirable, but where water buffering, energy or food production take place. However, de-concreting implies another development logic. There is a clear business model for densification, but there is no clear financial framework or policy vision for 'removal'. It requires new economic, legal and fiscal logics. We can only develop these by testing, by learning while doing.

We are launching a call to local actors to outline this new framework together and to map the diversity of

potential profits. We involve local authorities - who are the ultimate target group - in the call from the beginning. After the summer, we launch a second call for concrete proposals, addressed to cities and municipalities, but also to landowners, associations and citizens. Together with experts and designers, we will focus on the ambitions of the selected proposals in the autumn, so that the first impulse projects can start in 2019.

The expertise we will gain in the process can also flow back efficiently to policy through 'learning by doing', so that a framework is created for meaningful de-concreting at various locations in Flanders and beyond.

You Are Here

De-concreting as Development (Impulsprojecten Ontharding) is an initiative of the Departement Omgeving supported by the expert pool consisting of Michiel Dehaene (UGhent), Freek Persyn (51N4E) and Joachim Declerck (Architecture Workroom Brussels).