

INSTRUCTIONS

Approach & Strategy

European 12
Budapest

01

MANUAL TOWARDS A CLUMSY CITY

Free to imagine your own tomorrow.

CRITICAL REPORT

STRATEGY

METHODS

CONCLUSION

INDICATORS & INTENTIONS

This page provides the conceptual framework for the project. It includes a critical report, a strategy section with a hexagonal diagram, a methods section with a flowchart, and a conclusion. A list of indicators and intentions is also present. The bottom of the page features a colorful illustration of a park-like urban environment.

Manual : rules & toolkit

European 12
Budapest

TOOLKIT

02

This page is a toolkit of 40 small, numbered diagrams illustrating various urban interventions. Each diagram includes a brief description of the intervention, such as 'REPAIRING EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE', 'IMPROVING PUBLIC SPACE', and 'CREATING NEW PUBLIC SPACE'. The diagrams are arranged in a grid format.

Demonstration

European 12
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IMPLEMENTATION

03

This page features a large, detailed 3D architectural rendering of an urban development project. The rendering shows a complex of buildings, streets, and public spaces. It is divided into three horizontal sections, each labeled 'Zone in W12 1'. The bottom of the page includes a smaller illustration of a park area with people.

CRITICAL REPORT

BUDAPEST, FROM THE FACADISM TO THE DYNAMISM?

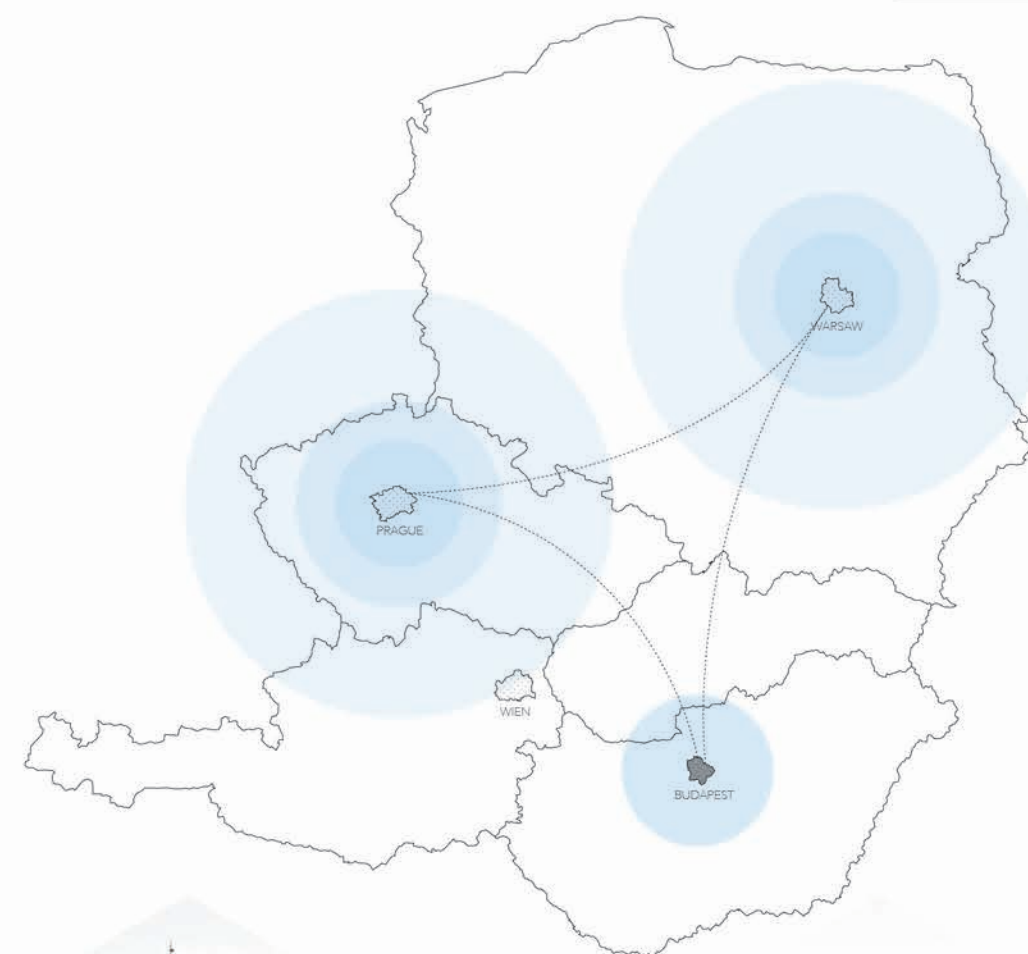
In the 1920s, the extraordinary artistic production and the intellectual blooming which characterized Budapest, Prague and Vienna, made them envoys of the MittelEuropa, a model of civilization defined by a certain mildness. Today Budapest doesn't try to compete with the big metropolises, it takes its time to build its future. Still marked by its nationalist past, it is in permanent rivalry with its neighbors, Prague and Warsaw, and it doesn't really succeed in standing out on the international cultural scene. And yet, the city is endowed with a unique real estate property and with an influential cultural heritage that certainly makes Budapest a city of welcome but not a «bridge-city» (*Krisztina Keresztély*), able to make the link between different institutions and to stand out as the actor of a revolution. Isn't it in fact congealed in a history impossible to overtake in order to reconstruct itself culturally? After the events of 1956 and 1989, Budapest lost its singular attractiveness and turned to a traditional tourism, while the moose of artistic creativity that previously made it, was neglected.

What is at stake in a project there is to open the international city by setting up strategies of coordination between the institutions, and to valorize existing sites by audacious operations. This with the aim of revitalizing the cultural life, passing on a poetic breath in places, giving back its ambition to a city that some people see disappearing behind facades.

ZUGLO'S AWAKENING

Formerly theater of a cultural avant-garde, the residential district of Zuglo is a sensible place to commit into the revalorization of the city. A renewal of the district is planned for five years with the Rakós.

The intention then is to create events along the river by giving a visibility to the awakening of Zuglo. At first these located interventions will have to occur rather quickly, in order to change the look on the district by inhabitants and visitors. We need to open the space to the city around, to adapt the global planning to the uncertainties, while integrating time of breath and transition, time to make nothing, places where to stay.



STAKES

TO MAKE AN ADAPTABLE CITY

In 2003 during an interview speaking on the entrance of the country to the European Union, the Prime Minister Peter Medgyessy said about the Hungarian character «that he distinguishes himself by his flexibility and his adaptability, whatever the situation is» and that «it was the dowry given to Europe.»

An adaptable and sustainable city is a city that understands the mutations of its uses. We have to begin with an analysis of the urban, seasonal, daily, generational rhythms, in relationship with definite spaces. «The urban rhythms are as the music of the City, a picture we listen to, image in the present of an intermittent sum» (*Henri Lefebvre*). The city gets organized according to strong and weak times which sometimes distinguish slow cities and cities in transition. It is thus necessary to design the city according to these temporal harmonies : we speak of *chronotopia*, «a rythmanalysis conjugated to a topoanalysis that gives the real measure of our appropriation to the world». Thierry Paquot prescribes a temporalized and rationalized approach of the territories. Because the day is not the night, Monday is not Wednesday, winter is not summer. The question is not only the design of new urban spaces but also the reprogramming of public places in touch with needs in continuous evolution. Today trend goes for the consumption of space to save time. On the contrary, should not we consume the time - at least understand and exhaust the time in its entirety - to save space?

«The interesting novelty of this matrix of identity not only lies in its stability but also in the freedom given to the individual so as to change compartment when it wants, modifying its lifestyle according to the hour of the day, circumstances, inspiration, age.» (*Andrea Branzi*)

To make an adaptable city is to take into account the possible reversibility of spaces in time. In order to start the dynamic and permanent renewal of the city. To reinvent the spirit of the City, every time new needs are expressed. The diversion of functions, the multiplication of uses, the reconversion of spaces, attest a need for expression by the inhabitants, a necessity for them to suit momentarily their city, and a bigger capacity of initiative. But also a know-how which accepts that the investment of space is short-lived, that it doesn't last, that it isn't embedded. We make it rather the axiom of stability.

POSTULATE : THE INTRINSIC VULNERABILITY OF THE CITY

The design of an adaptable and consequently sustainable project requires at the same time to accept and to produce the vulnerability of urban space and its functions, with the aim of facing the unforeseen and apprehending at best its mutations. The vulnerable indicates what is threatened, fragile, and perishable. Our strength is to make vulnerability a criterion of sustainability.

«The autonomy is a possibility because the vulnerability is an anthropological feature. Because the man is an essentially fragile being so dependent on the others and on conditions in which he lives, because the development and the actuation of its capacities can be prevented.» (*Paul Ricoeur*)

The ability of being depends on the acceptance of its own vulnerability. Like city is able to be ceaselessly renewed, because it produces its own changes in an autonomous way and because we make it so vulnerable.

«The autonomy is a fundamental value of the democracy and the sustainable development.» (*Jean-Louis Maupu*)

How can we make a city with an autonomous production that drives its inhabitants responsible? By splitting up elements composing the projects and by emancipating the inhabitants participating in the process.



STRATEGY

TERRITORIAL AND TEMPORAL FRAGMENTATION

In the optics to generate this vulnerable city, and to make each of its components autonomous, we decide to split up the functions, the equipments and the urban places. This with the aim of avoiding a «Calder's mobile» effect where every fragment depends on one another and where every action on an element affects the whole.

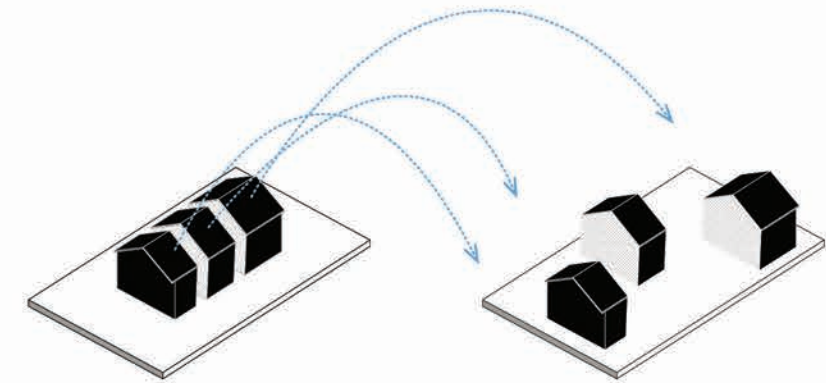
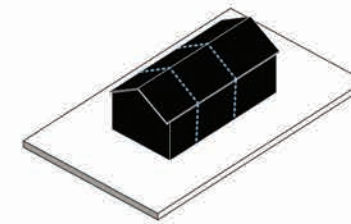
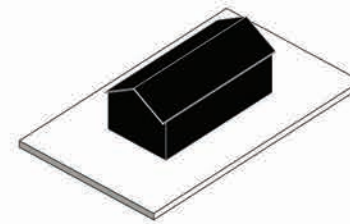
Territorial fragmentation firstly. The system is fragmented on all the territory to establish diverse reference points, independent from each other. Concretely, we do not want to design megastructures or monofunctional centralities, on the model of the Olympic villages for example. On the contrary, every function of sport, leisure, housing, consumption, exchange must be distributed in the diffuse space.

The fragmentation generates small elements. These are more easily exchangeable and adaptable than a big infrastructure.

Temporal fragmentation secondly. We need to mutualize spaces and to imagine multi-purpose centers. To think the sharing as a new key in the city factory. Every temporality confers on every place various uses. For instance a football stadium becomes room of projection or meeting and fair hall. The planning is vulnerable but it is cyclic. «The city is a living body, subject to continual transformations» (Walter Gropius), a body which accepts the unit of every organ for life of the whole, and life in the whole. Every fragment of the project is a fragment of world, an autonomous «monad» that opens the possible. Then we have to appropriate these worlds and these patterns to create new ones and to favor the permanent renewal..

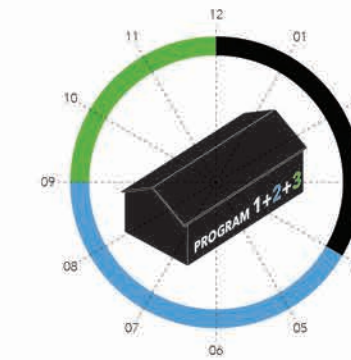
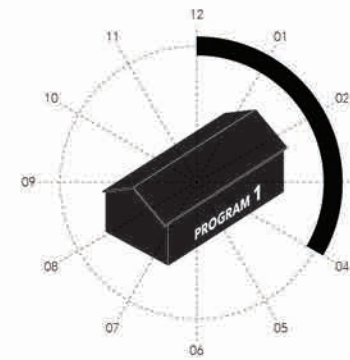
PARTICIPATIVE PROCESS AND PLANNING OF EMPOWERMENT

The empowerment of inhabitants confirms the vulnerability of the city. They must be involved in a planning of emancipation and participative processes of design. «The spirit of the City results above all from the commitment of the inhabitants in the public affairs. The ordinary participation of the inhabitants in the daily decisions conditions the city life. Without, the city loses its soul» (Henri Lefebvre). We want to create an architecture of the welcoming that favors the in-common. The anarchistic foundation of this theory reveals societal stakes that go well beyond the simple planning. For we need to produce the equality between the inhabitants in their apprehension of the city and to submit solutions much more immediate than public authorities could not suggest. Because they are often weighed down by a bureaucracy and exclusive standards.



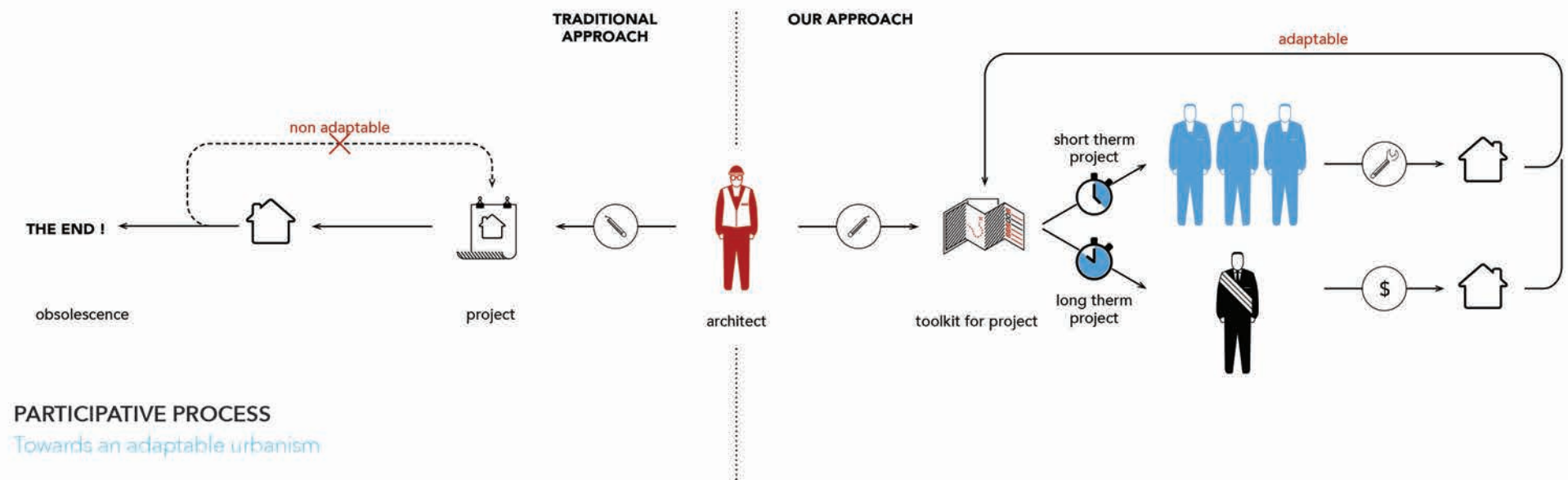
TERRITORIAL FRAGMENTATION

To split similar program on different scale territories



TEMPORAL FRAGMENTATION

To share the space according the needs for each



PARTICIPATIVE PROCESS

Towards an adaptable urbanism

METHOD

MANUEL OF PLANNING

The adaptability is a posture. We must be able to adapt ourselves to urban mutations, to direct them, even to expect them in order to plan the unpredictable. Hence we set up tools that recommend without congealing (Anne Durand). The promotion of an urban adaptability supposes to create a common imaginary between populations and experts; to allow the decisions to be reorientated during the project; to recommend actions without blocking them in statutory data; to favour temporary use of places; to encourage plurifunctionality of sites by combining programs and proposals of planning in a joint and dynamic process resulting from a short-term programming. This could first change the perception of place and modifies the relationship of the inhabitants with the space. It is necessary to make the structure, the tough, while favoring the lung, the event. A spontaneous and rationalized planning on different temporalities represents the release of a future change and a long-term evolutionary planning. The adaptability is «future for time being». Formulation of this methodology inspired us the creation of a manual to design an urbanism of mimicry. Hence an urbanism that can be regenerated according to the evolution of needs on one hand and be reproduced on the other hand. The stake here is to propose concrete, immediate, reproducible answers in diverse places of the city.

As introduction the manual puts forward different level of analysis:

- 4 scales : metropolitan / environmental / territorial / local.
- 9 domains of studies : health & sports / events & leisure / amenities & solidarity / agriculture / transports & mobility / facilities & landscape / nature / energy / housing & accommodation.
- For every domain of study, tools and rules of the game.
- Finally, every rules of the game suppose a particular temporality : short (immediate effect), medium and long term (effect to come). These various temporalities also correspond to various levels of costs, to various degrees of participation with inhabitants and institutions.

These various levels mingle and overlap to finally create a planning «à la carte», totally moldable and reversible. Numerous solutions are proposed, the equations are multiple, if we want to favor sometimes the landscaped, cultural or real estate aspect, and if we want to act immediately either in the longer term. The time to think determined by the needs of the inhabitants. We create rhythm, we revitalize places. We provoke exchange and we produce coexistence.

APPLICATION OF TOOLS :
MALLEABILITY, PARTICIPATION, CITIZENSHIP

Implementation of tools requires a representation of a city- archipelago defined by its multipolarity, by the importance of networks. It shows an urban space that must be dense in elements of substance; and not only in the appearances. Urban space is strengthened, rich by the incubation of set up tools, put on the three sites as events varying of uses and features. Tools adapt according to a context with common characteristics but different every time. They hybridize, they deform and they assemble.

At last these small-scale interventions allow thinking more globally by promotion of architecture with different scales, temporal and spatial, against a destructive, arbitrary and definitive macro-planning. What is at stake in the architecture of 21st century is to cultivate the sense of moderation, to work on an art of the installation rather than on a competition of the feats. To value what is rather than what is not.

EXAMPLE

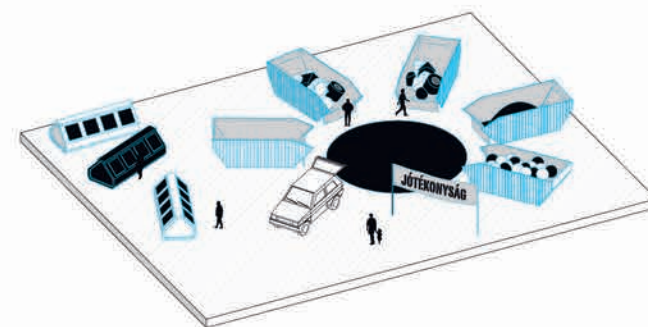
TOOLS ACCORDING TO THE THEME OF «AMENITIES & SOLIDARITY»



MOVABLE SERVICES

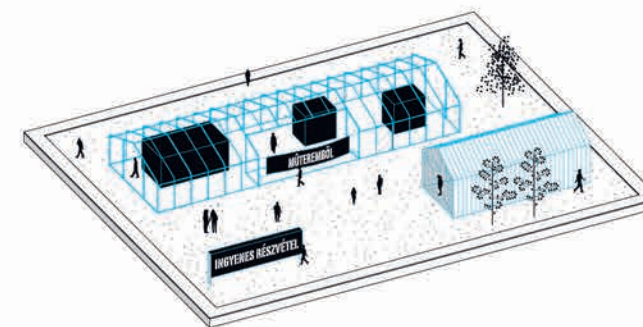
TOOL Daily mobile services (library, doctor's practice...)

AIM To insure a continuity of affinities between the inhabitants



A SECOND-HAND USE

TOOL Collection and exchange fair
To bring exchange concept and to provoke the meeting, to favour the re-use of private objects in order to favour the re-use of the urban object



TEMPORARY ACTIVITIES

TOOL Light structures able to welcome new professional activities, small shops or local services

AIM To launch the doing-together



AMENITIES AND SERVICES

TOOL Shops, services, administrations or associative shared spaces

AIM To encourage a sort of centrality

From **SHORT (IMMEDIATE EFFECT)**,
without modification of the site

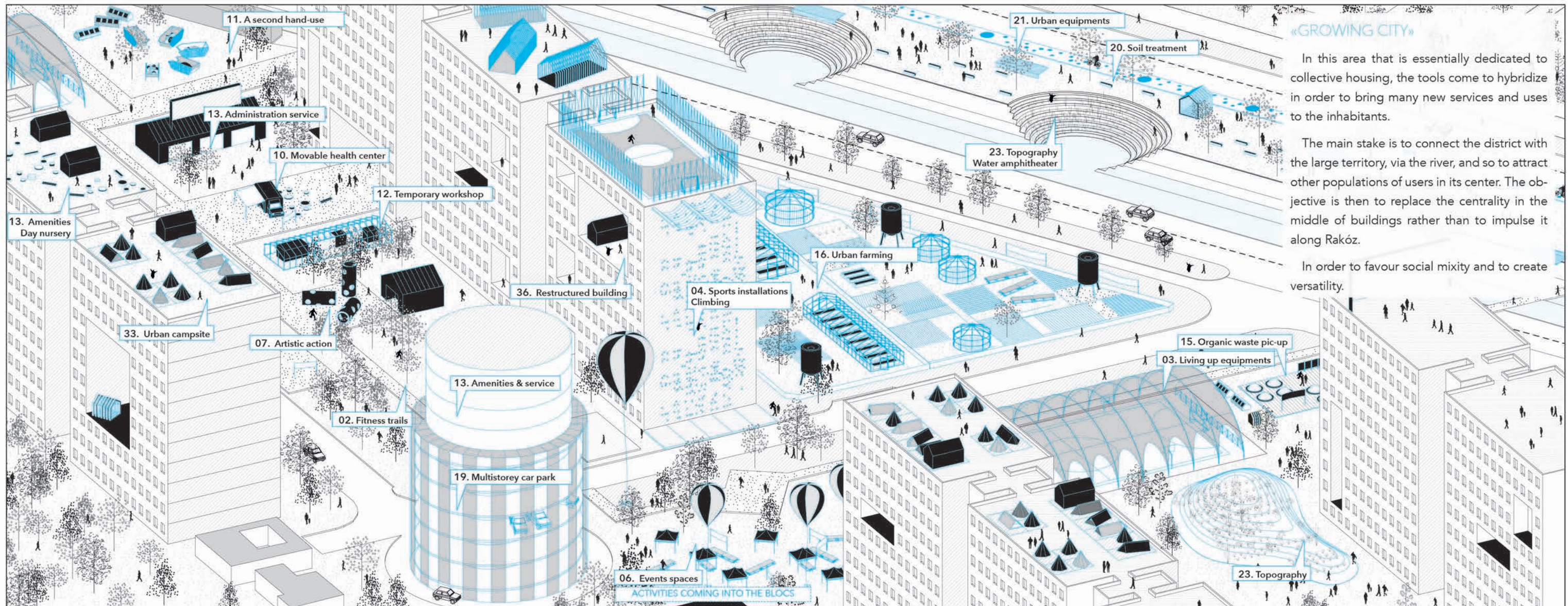
To **MEDIUM AND LONG TERM (EFFECT TO COME)**

PROJECT

EXTRACT OF ONE OF THE MULTIPLE POSSIBLE PROPOSAL

ZOOM ON SITE 2 - Linking to the new civic axis

Here it is **one solution** of the infinite different and possible collections of tools. It must be seen as a demonstration of an urbanism 'à la carte'. It's not the image of a final project, better the illustration of a process.



«GROWING CITY»

In this area that is essentially dedicated to collective housing, the tools come to hybridize in order to bring many new services and uses to the inhabitants.

The main stake is to connect the district with the large territory, via the river, and so to attract other populations of users in its center. The objective is then to replace the centrality in the middle of buildings rather than to impulse it along Rakóz.

In order to favour social mixity and to create versatility.

CONCLUSION

THE POSSIBILITY OF A CITY

By the elaboration of a complex and split up system of sustainable city, we wanted to care spirits before fitting out spaces. Always in the concern to produce vulnerable things, the concept leans on refusal of a total intention, on an enlightened pragmatism, and no more on an aesthetic representation of the city. If Budapest takes its time to build its future, it also wants to see the immediate effects of a participative and open design. What characterizes then this manual is that it multiplies the possible while refusing the utopias. It is the creation of a free choice urbanism, realistic and tolerant. It is the justification of a development process and not a project.

This empirical approach within the depths of the daily realities reveals the premises of a humble and manifesto architecture. **We defend the idea of a city which may be clumsy but powerful due to its experimentation.** We want to fabricate, without imposing unique plans, to let things enter in relation each other, to let it be. To make fragile the elements of a whole, it is to make the whole stronger. To make possible the mutations, it is to plan certain obsolescence; it is to fabricate the adaptability.

Unlike René Char, who defines the poetry by its invulnerability, we make of the vulnerability the genesis of a poetic city.

**INDEPENDENCE
VULNERABILITY
FRAGMENTATION**