Biodiversity is rapidly declining, yet urban environments have the potential to address this challenge. With limited space, we must rethink how humans and nature can coexist in urban areas. This research explored symbiotic relationships between humans and nature in Oud-Mathenesse's shared gardens.

To foster these relationships, nature must be given more space and a role in decision-making processes. An installation was created to amplify the voices of both residents and the environment. The tree, now part of the decision-making process, shares its perspective and asks questions. This installation is a small yet meaningful step toward improving local biodiversity.

## looking for

## Symbiotic human-nature encounters

A more-than-human approach

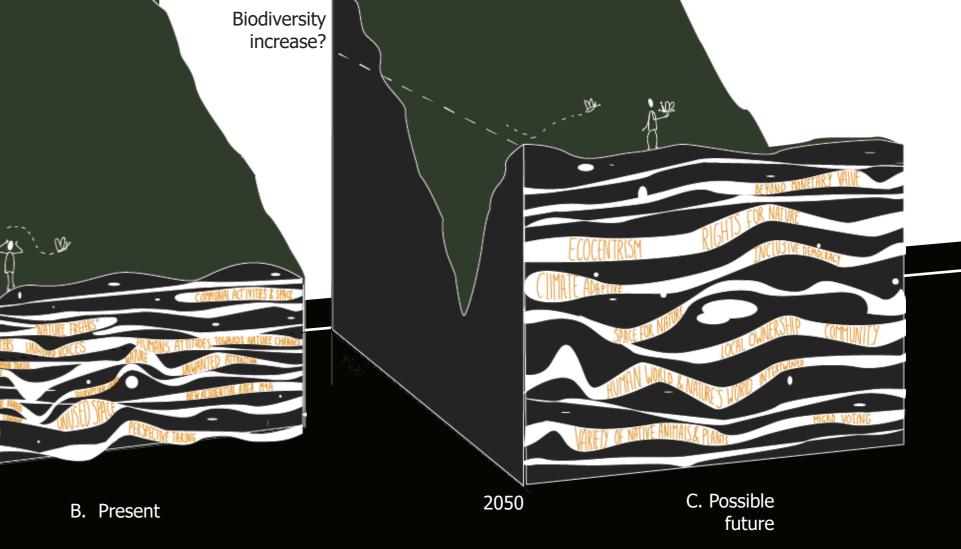
ROOTS - The tree invites residents to read its story and reply to its questions about the life in and wishes for, the future of the shared garden.





Addressing the complexity of more-than-human topics highlighted the need for layered perspectives that focus on relationships and consider past, present, and future contexts. To support this approach in designing for uban biodiversity, a set of insight cards was developed, prompting designers to include both human and non-humans in their work.

Research findings were visualized to reveal the evolving tensions and opportunities. It showed for instance, how urbanization (Figure A) had contributed to human-nature alienation (Figure B), while symbiotic futures offer a vision of more local community-focused living (Figure C).



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A. History