

La Clairière

Planning

Fundraising

Crowdfunding, alternative financing

Onsite workshop

Reunion to collectively decide on the location of The Station.

Contextualized design phase

Material testing, technical drawings, layout drawings

Prototype preparation phase

Meeting craftsmen, lime cement testing, collection of materials in Dilbeek, pruning of local trees

Sourcing of materials

Listing, ordering or picking up materials from Rotor and Brico with one of the volunteers' vehicle

Construction

Two weeks of construction to build the prototype, with a turnover of volunteers on the construction site

Inauguration of The Station

Ceremony and toast on the field with the municipality, the volunteers and locals

First workshops at The Station

Series of six workshops over three months to test the system and start the ownership process

Call for projects for La Clairière

Tender for seasonal workshops at The Station and review of the project with the team

03.
2024

04.
2024

05.
2024

06.
2024

07.
2024

08.
2024

09.
2024

10.
2024

12.
2024

Co-designing in Spring

The group of volunteers already taking care of the space will follow the co-design process by deciding collectively where The Station will be located in the field and what parts of the station are necessary. As a designer, Anna Luz will support the co-design process by producing technical drawings to adjust the original design and designing a tent for rainy days. The group will list and source the different components, in preparation for the construction days. This will ensure that the installation is well suited to its context.

Building in Summer

The building process will be conducted together with lime cement artisans such as Artibat Staff & Stuc s.p.r.l. The group will identify local materials on site that can be supplied and work with craftsmen to try out different lime mixes. The bricks will be sourced from the Brussel-based second-hand shop Rotor, using the vehicle of a volunteer. Bolts, grids and zinc sheets will be sourced from the local hardware store. The construction site will involve the full involvement of a group of people for two weeks, but participants will be able to take turns, and Anna Luz will ensure continuity.

Activating in Autumn

A protocol involving local stakeholders goes along with this activation phase. Stakeholders include the municipality of Dilbeek (with our close contact Björn Verhofstede, expert in spatial planning & economy), local gardening associations that could also make use of the workshops (KorteKeten, Boerenmarkt Dilbeek and Boeren & Buren) and schools (such as the closeby primary school Speelplein Begijnborre). Those will be invited to the inauguration of The Station and the upcoming events. A first series of six workshops will be animated by the group of volunteers in the first three months, and people can start proposing more.

Envisaged results and benefits from the concept for direct and indirect beneficiaries



The volunteers

will spend more time at *La prairie d'Hedwidge* because they can now process the harvest together. They will weave tighter links together and this will ***strengthen their community***. Members of the community that are building a professional project around plants will benefit from ***a free workshop space all year round***.

La Prairie d'Hedwidge

will benefit from this activation because ***more plants with different uses will be grown***. The slow regularity of the workshops will mean that ***more people will be caring for the plants*** there, with a regulated human presence on the field to respect the fauna.



Locals from Dilbeek

will have access to activities to ***gain knowledge about their local flora*** and they will enjoy ***a new social space*** in their surroundings. Locals in need of food or work reintegration will ***enjoy a free space to learn and to restore themselves***.



Speelplein Begijnenborre

The primary school around the corner will have the opportunity to ***teach children how to work with nature***, and the young generation will grow a capacity to ***envision their own self-sufficiency***.

Local gardening associations

For some events, local gardening associations will have the opportunity ***to come and transform their harvest*** at The Station, making it a joyful, social place.



Brussels citizens

Through the activities at The Station, Bruxellois will discover a new place ***to learn about plants*** and ***to disconnect from the polluted environment of the city***.

The city of Dilbeek

will use this initiative for ***their reputation***

The international community

Through communications on the project, citizens from other European countries can ***be inspired and decide to reproduce this system***.

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