

# GARDENS OF THE FUTURE

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



GARDENS OF  
THE FUTURE

## // DISCLAIMER

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## \*FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## INTRODUCTION

# GOF MODEL

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Now more than ever, the rapid and often unpredictable changes we face as humanity pose the profound challenge on how cities of tomorrow may become resilient? This document wishes to celebrate the Gardens of the Future, as a network of modular spaces that can scale up within cities. In this context we have considered how the digital collaboration technologies became tangible and re-inform the traditional form of gardens agenda. Therefore, based on a redefined philosophy around the way we cultivate and grow gardens, we aim to explore and celebrate the notion of 'sharing economy', that is capable of generating additional contributions to society relating to how we produce and how we connect as human beings. Initiated in central Nicosia, our current city, where the first pilot testing is currently taking place, we have formulated an all-inclusive implementation strategy where our aspirations of a 'gardens' relate to:

**#RESILIENCE:** The current proposal wishes to celebrate customization that may occur in 3 different but interconnected scales, i.e. the individual, the collective and the urban. Therefore, the 'garden' can be seen as a collective organization constantly evolving within the city, where the actual city is conceived as a network of resources (exploiting human assets, collaborating with local organizations and enterprises, re-using existing/ abandoned buildings, processing waste or upcycle materials).

**#TECHNOLOGY:** Rationale for this change is based on the democratization of technology and the 'open source' accessibility that transformed individuals from passive citizens into digital nomads and active creators of their own cosmos. All types, i.e. portable interventions,

permanent collective urban spaces, ephemeral initiatives, and even online community happenings, aim to enhance our understanding and become a guiding tool for additional future initiations.

**#COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Since one of the strongest competences of the co-working philosophy is about building communities, this proposal follows this direction applying a more sustainable approach, and built upon the foundations of everyone's right to be part of inclusive cities: the unemployed to learn new skills, seniors to utilize youth groups, nomads to access resources, homeless to build gardens and refugees to feel part of the local community in order to support everyone on the open path for economic freedom.

Gardens of the Future, is a collective initiative to create a role-model to community gardens, which will be accessible to the public so that people gather, co-create, and engage in a diverse range of activities (cultivation, education, experimentation, celebration, well-being). The location of the first pilot is based in the heart of old Nicosia surrounded by strong heritage elements and buildings. The very first garden wishes to serve as an experimental platform aiming to 'grow' up in 300 gardens and transform other spaces island wide (private balconies, home gardens, school yards, municipal unutilized urban spaces and roof tops). We intend to showcase the space as a 'role model' for tradition (preserve knowledge for diverse garden techniques), sustainability (renewable energy, clean water etc.), circular economy (testing materials out of waste), innovation (utilize affordable technologies).

## INTRODUCTION

# ADJUSTING TO COVID 19 REALM

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The COVID-19 pandemic took its course during the implementation phase of Gardens of the Future, disturbing businesses, communities, and peoples' personal lives. The pandemic crisis, while it created many challenges for Gardens of the Future and our team, made it clear that now, more than ever, sustainable efforts such as ours are critical to creating sustainable economies and communities that can withstand any form of crisis.

The Gardens of the Future team remained patient and dedicated throughout the ongoing crisis, continuously monitoring the situation closely and to navigate with minimum disruption in order to keep the project flowing. While risks were largely assessed based on guidance and the government response measures, community engagement was the most challenging considering travel/gathering restrictions in Cyprus, and this is where the Gardens of the Future team focused its efforts in order to preserve our community and engagement. Most notably, the closure of the checkpoints in response to the pandemic limited inter-communal activities and dampened the political atmosphere around the Cyprus issue.

These sets of challenges meant that the Gardens of the Future team had to quickly embrace and harness the power of digital, and we focused on growing an online community to reach interested people across communities and borders. We used various diverse strategies to engage, scale our impact, grow our initiatives, and share our vision of Gardens of the Future. Digital channels for strategic communication ensured that, despite lockdowns and border

closings amidst an ongoing pandemic, we could effectively reach individuals from all communities, both north and south. This included email newsletters, Facebook live events, virtual conference talks and webinars, Clubhouse audio rooms (100+ attendees island-wide, inter-communal reach with Gardens of the Future members on the panel), and more.

As we welcome Spring, Gardens of the Future will continue its commitment to digital events (open to all communities) and begin to open up to in-person events as allowed by the restrictions and in-line with COVID-19 health measures. Many more online events are in our plans. We are also discussing and planning physical gatherings should the epidemiological situation and weather permit. These physical gatherings are not just limited to our gardens but are being discussed also for the Buffer Zone where it may be easier for members from both communities to access, and can be held as informational sessions, stakeholder roundtables, or networking sessions at either the Home for Cooperation or at our partner and first satellite garden The Base by CyprusInno. Last spring and summer, after the first wave of the pandemic, the Gardens of the Future team was able to successful host restricted events (clean ups, build ups, etc) with the proper safety protocols, and looks forward to building upon those learnings and experiences to replicate the same safe in-person experiences during this season.



## CHAPTER 1: GARDEN DESIGN

# IMPLEMENTATION DESIGN

Design Approach: The spatial elements of the garden will be developed in collaboration of experts (i.e. designers, local makers and researchers) and the community (end-users, students, other volunteers, etc.) We welcome any type of experimental testing you would like to integrate and showcase in the gardens' space (new outdoor floor, water system, smart bench, and more). We will serve as ambassadors of sustainable solutions that aim to shape the future. In this report, the design and further development of the project is showcased in the following manner:

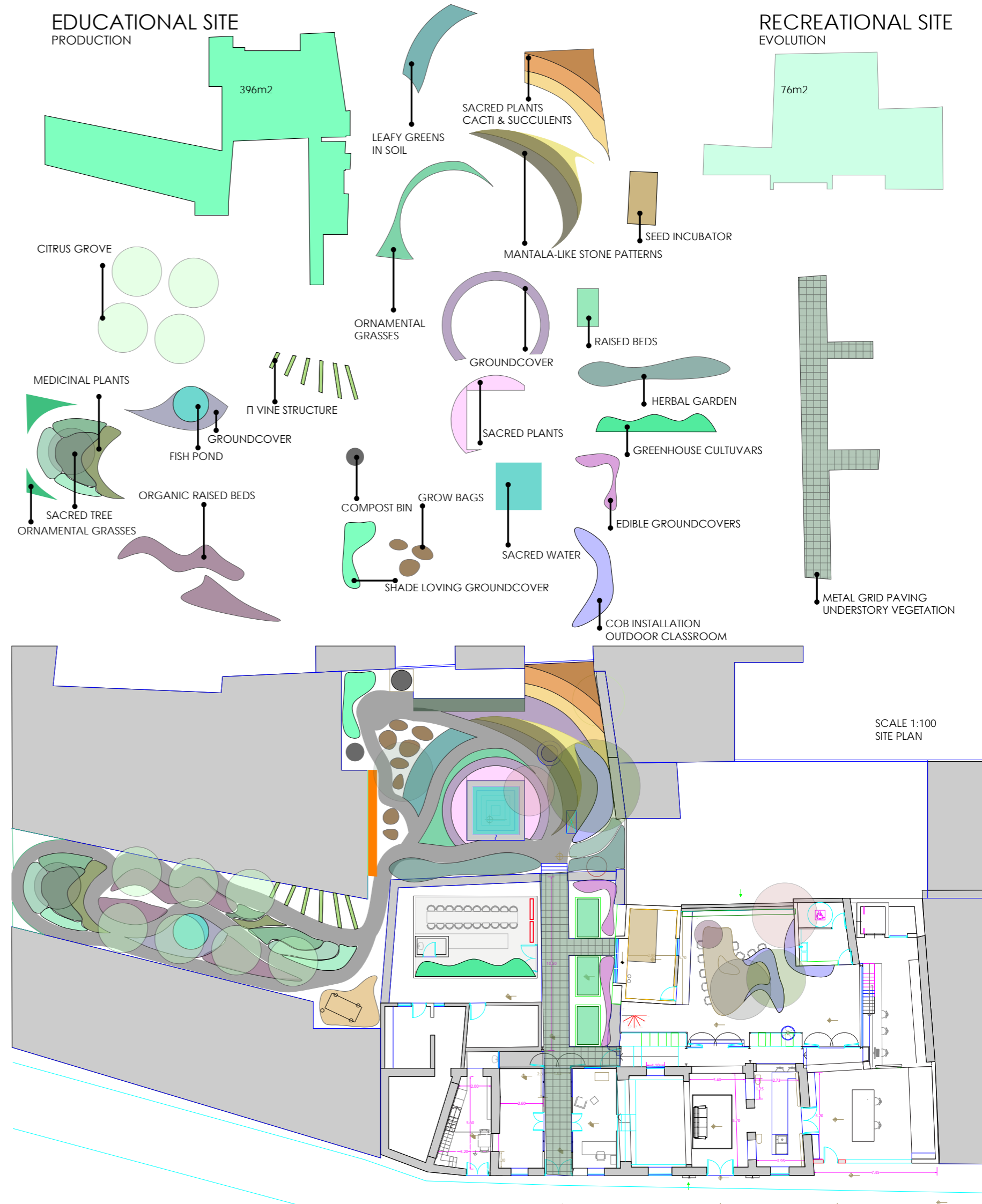
1. Overall layout planning of the space including all its technical requirements.

2. Enrichment and finalization of the agronomy, including a cultivation database for responsible farming. The garden production will be used for cooking-healing-educating purposes

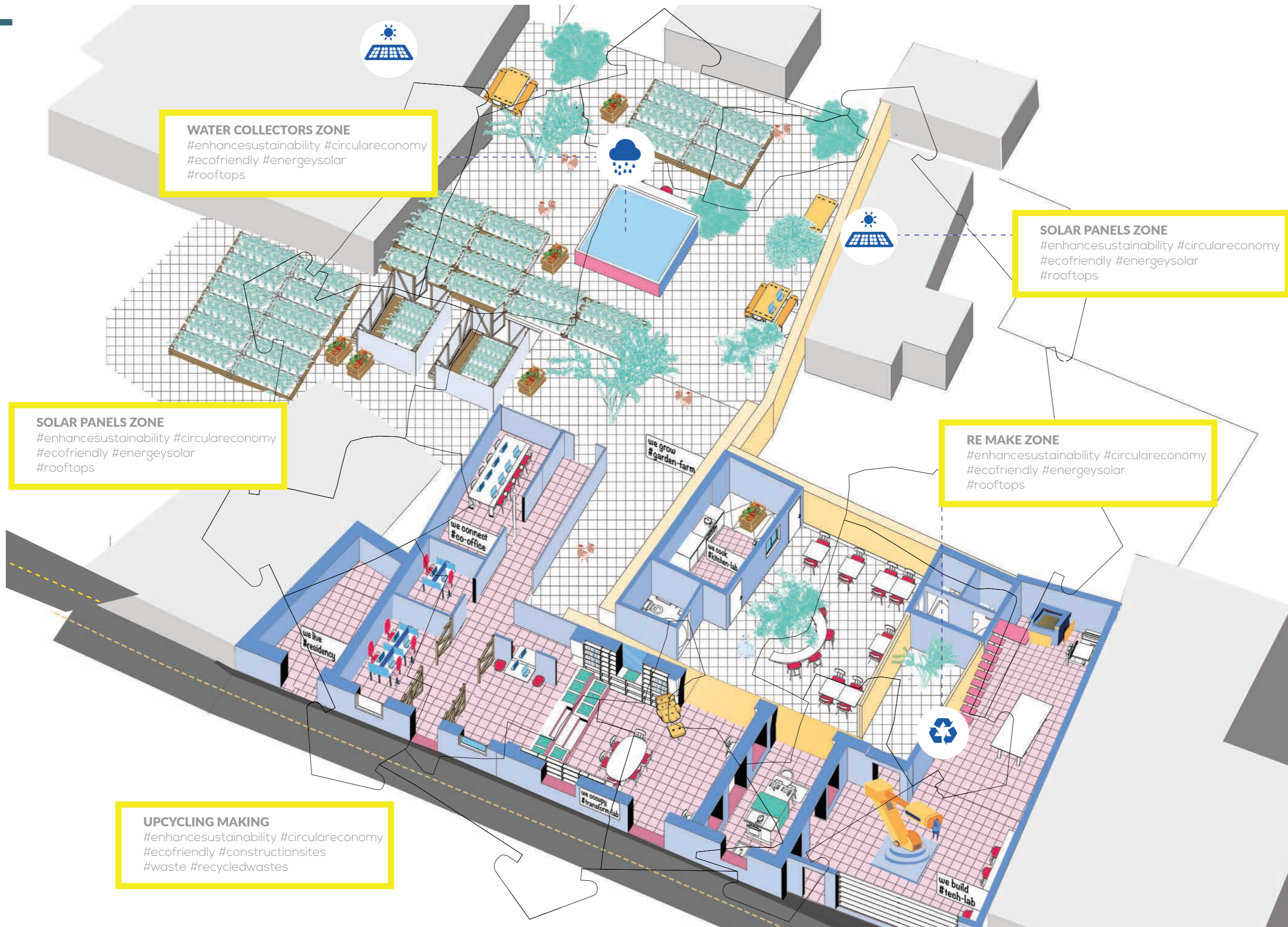
3. Design demonstration of the garden modules in an open-source manner and indication of their position in the overall planning. Suggestions for plant quantities and materials are adjusted based on the sun position, and covering area of the space.

4. Development of a strategic plan in relation to the engagement of relevant stakeholders and team operations.

5. Design and preparation Opening ceremony of the space (COVID-19 measures permitting).



# IMPLEMENTATION DESIGN



## CHAPTER 2: GARDEN MODULES

# MODULE DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

Future Design employs participatory tactics, which enhance the notion on how communities may be invited to join the design and build up process (Do It Together or Do It Yourself Approach). For this project, collaboration appears to be a treacherous foundation for the urban planning process, yielding a spectrum of results from activism and citizens engagement.

The garden design development is defined in a modular manner and it has been prepared for collective action propelled by physical and social space. The design elements are based on a different understanding of community, education, experimentation and making. Some of these modules adjust in local particularities, and are built by locally found materials and re-constructed materials from different types of waste. Other modules are designed in open-source logic, taking advantage of digital fabrication technologies, such as 3D-printers, in order to give the message that people from anywhere, can access the information and the knowledge to locally produce the modules.

Therefore, scalability becomes an important factor of the design, and in that way celebrates open-sourced design that enables individuals to re-modify and 'grow' their own personal green environments. But at the same time come together and co-create as one community:

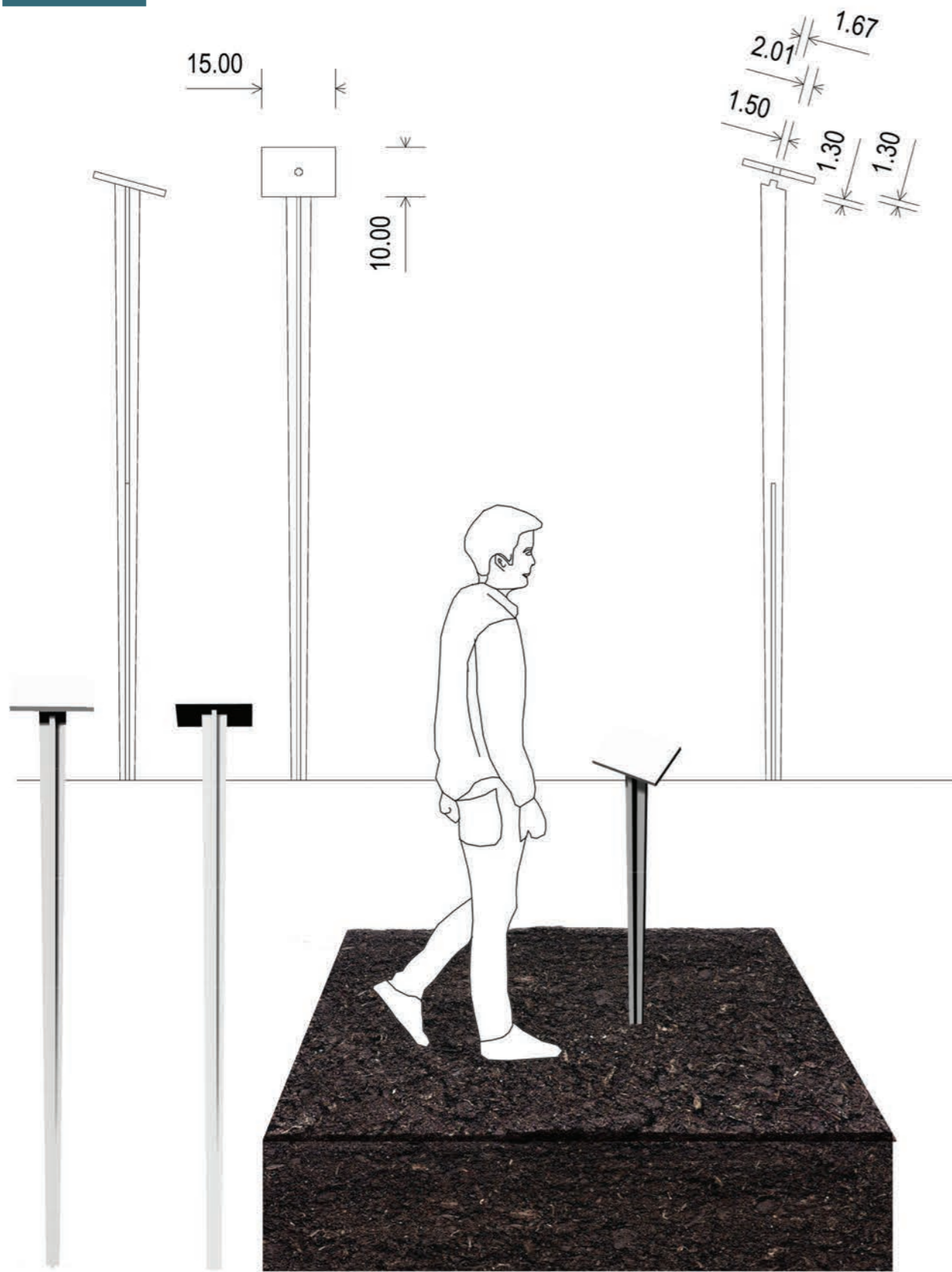
### Garden Modules

1. Farmers Market Modules to grow food
2. Compost Box
3. Water Pond (circular water system)
4. Cooking Station (outdoor oven, BBQ etc.)
5. Sitting Modular Prototypes
6. Chill Out zone
7. Chicken House
8. Net house (for controlled production)
9. Vertical Garden Wall Modules
10. Hydroponic Module
11. Seed Incubator system
12. Garden House
13. Botanic Area
14. Wind mill
15. Outdoor fire station

The modules which are defined within this Plan are conceptual and are subject to amendments, changes and/or justifications. The pilot project in the center of Nicosia will allow the first application of the designs in order to reflect the performance. The parameters taken into consideration include: a) timeframe, b) budget availability, and c) covid-19 restrictions. There will be a prioritisation on which modules will be implemented first.



# SIGNAGE



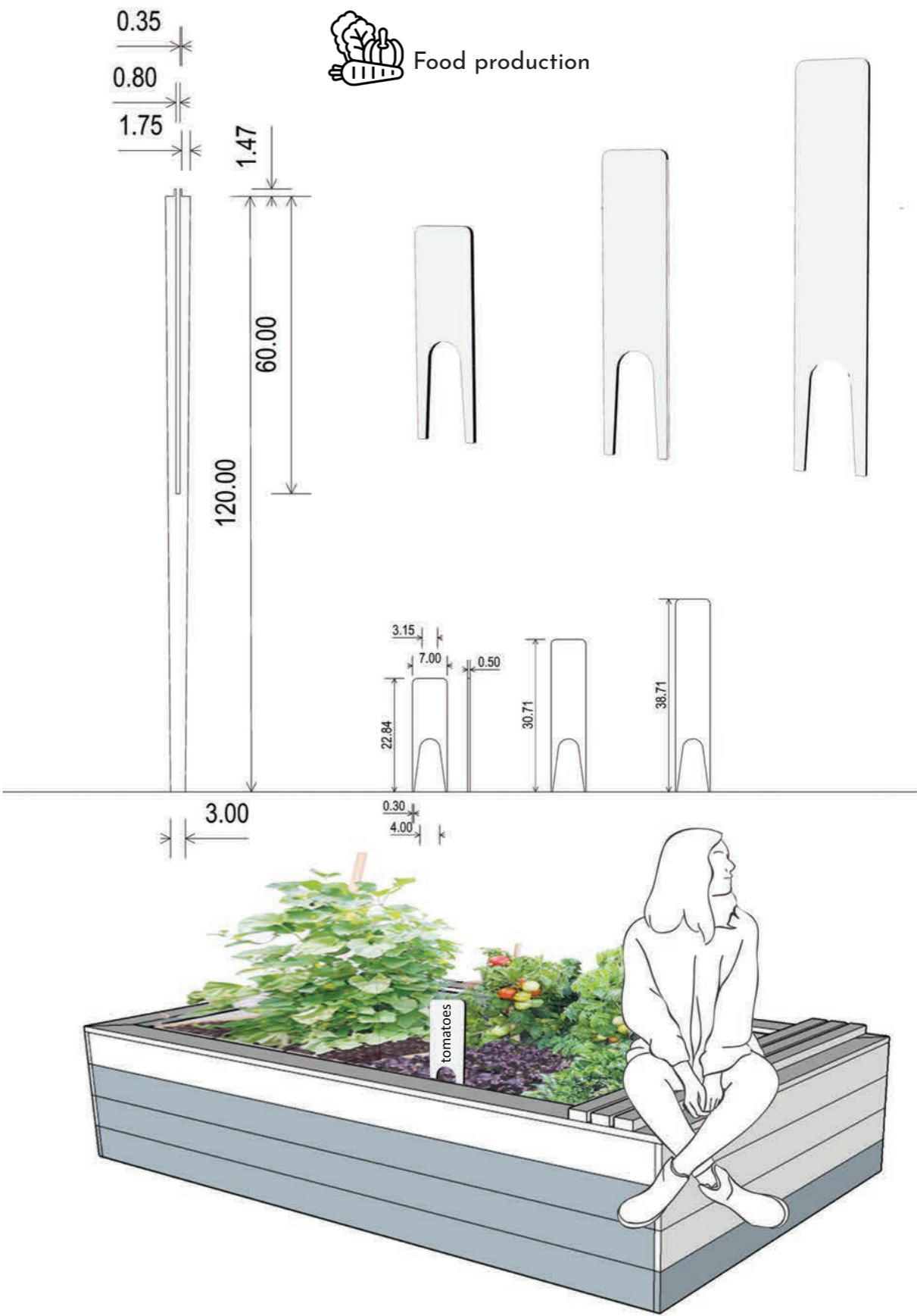
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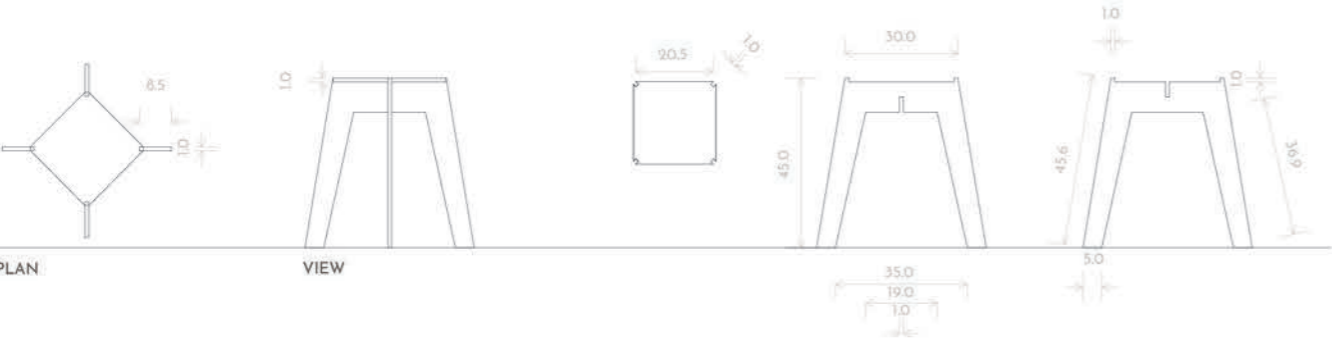
SDGs (9&13)



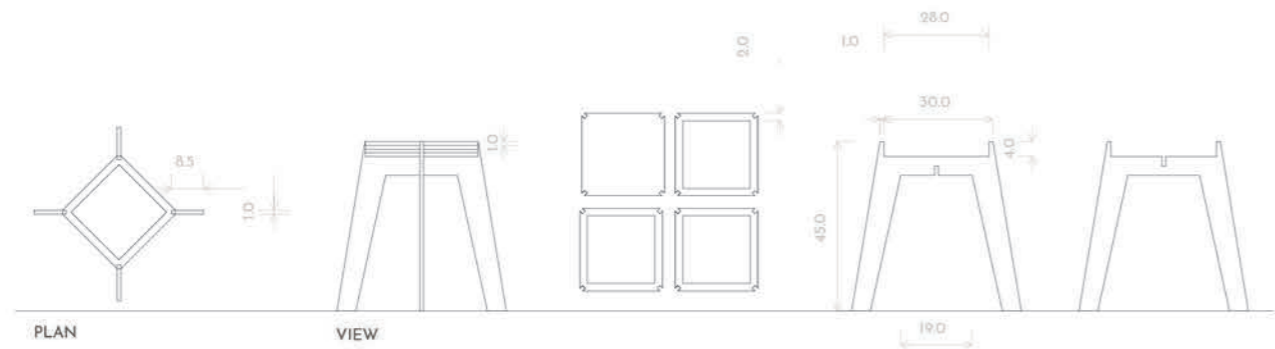
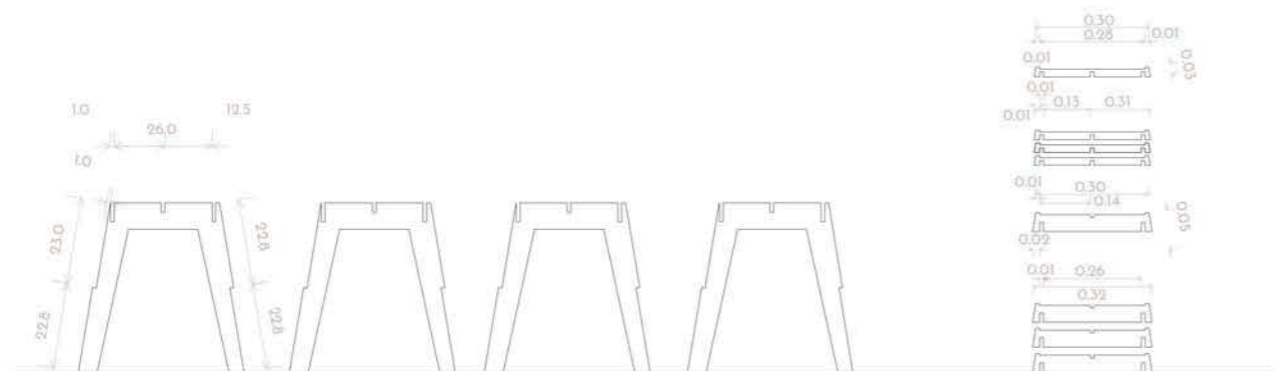
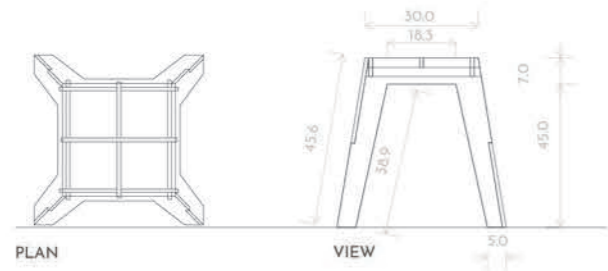
Food production



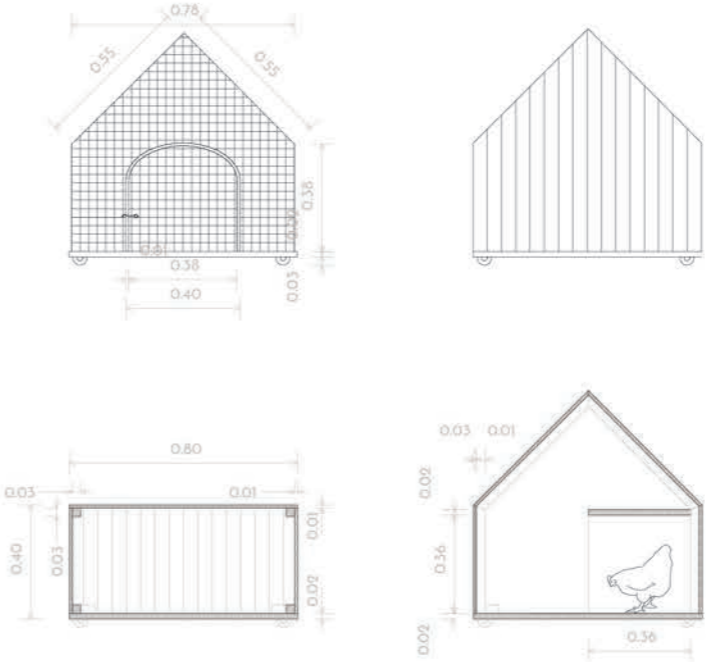
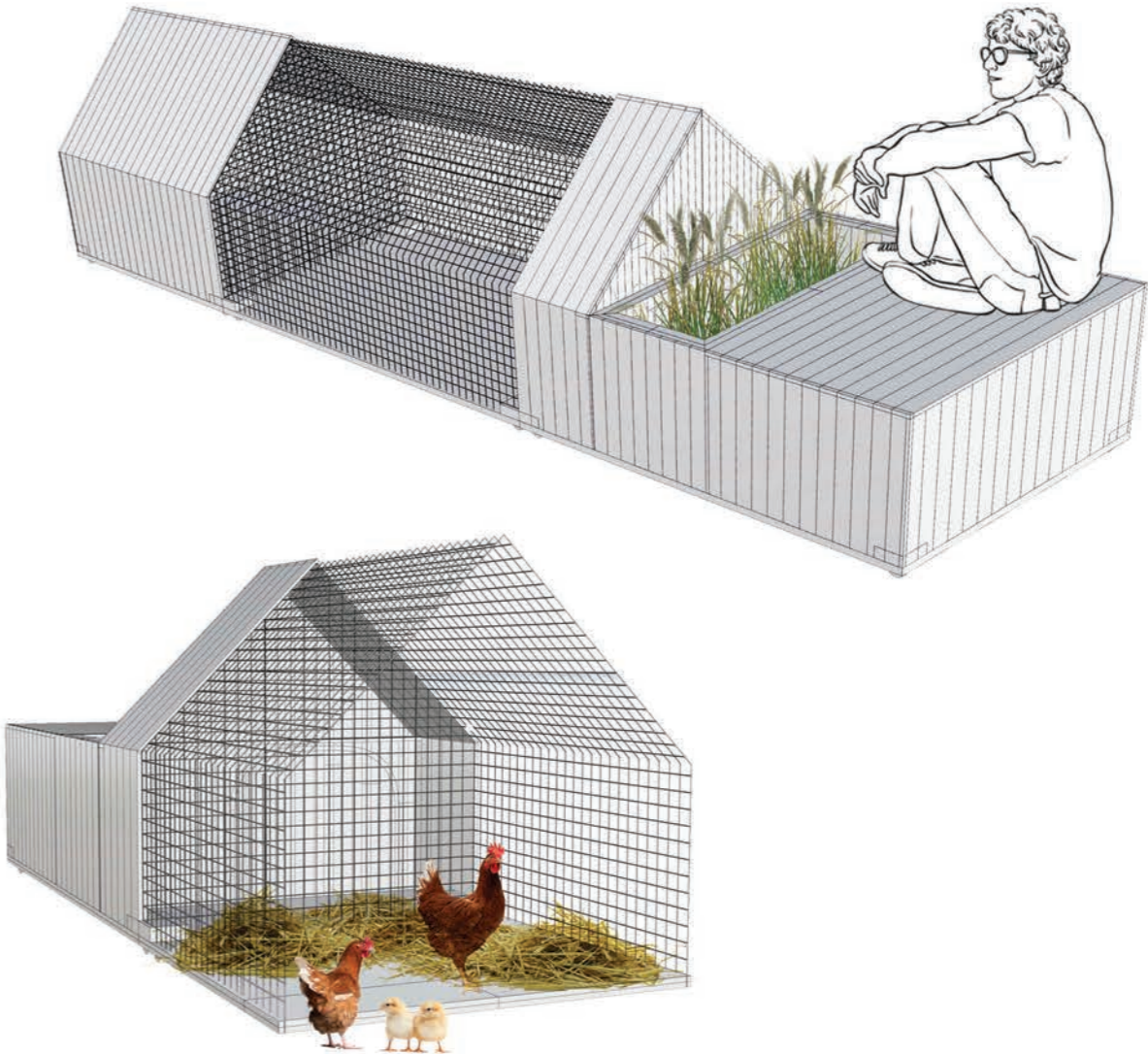
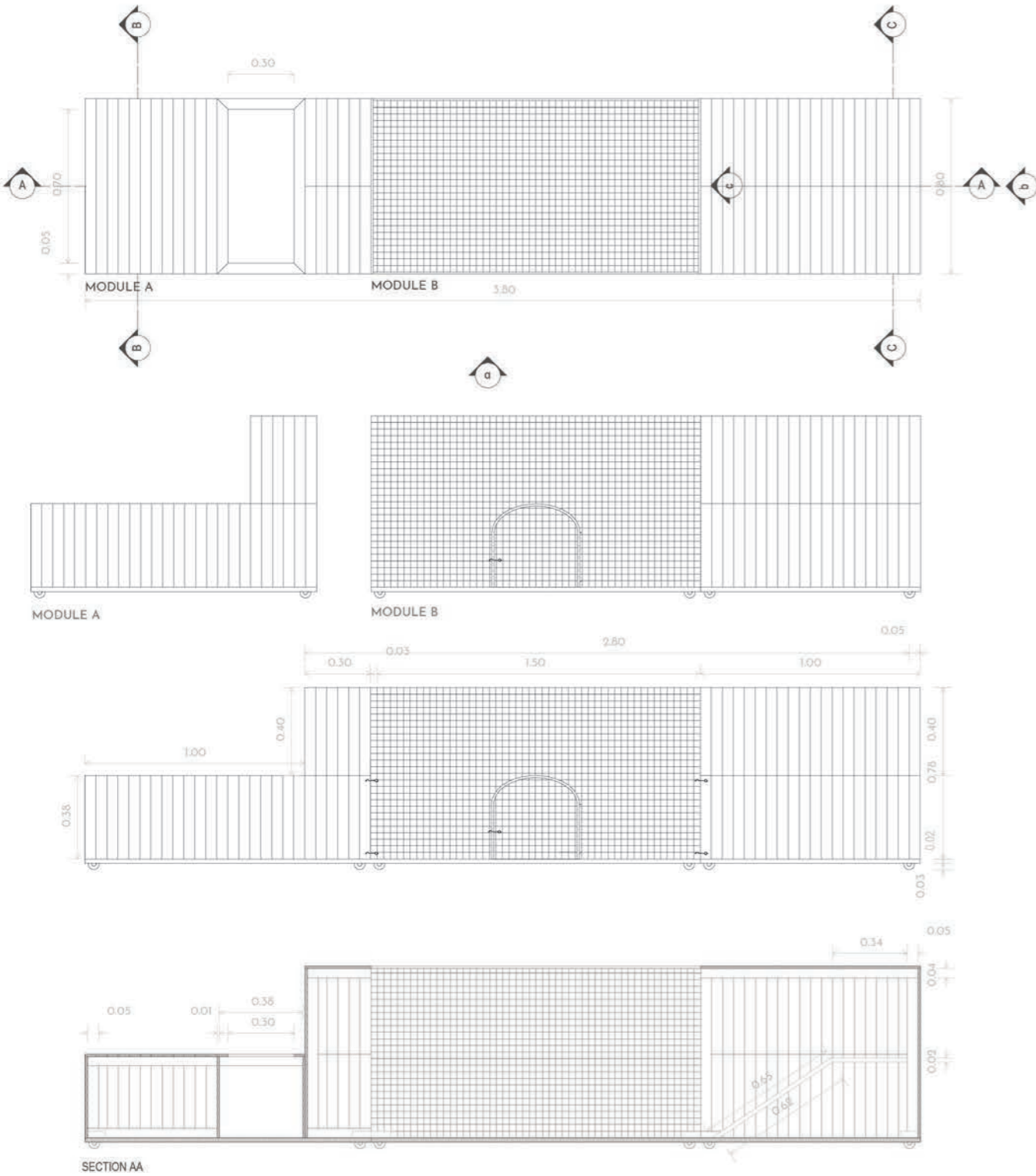
# STOOL



GOALS:



# CHICKEN HOUSE



- GOALS:**
- SDGs (1&2)
  - Food production
  - Leisure
  - accelerated composting

## CHAPTER 2: GARDEN MODULES

# SERVING POINT

### GOALS:



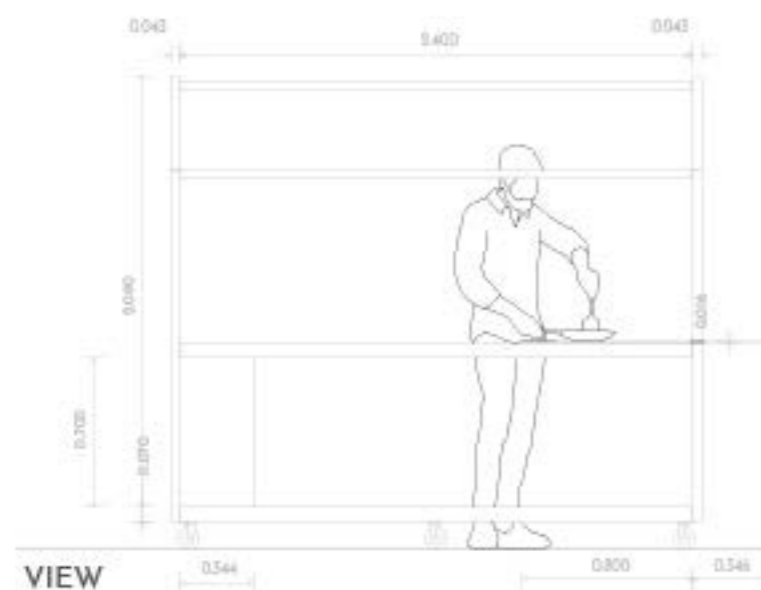
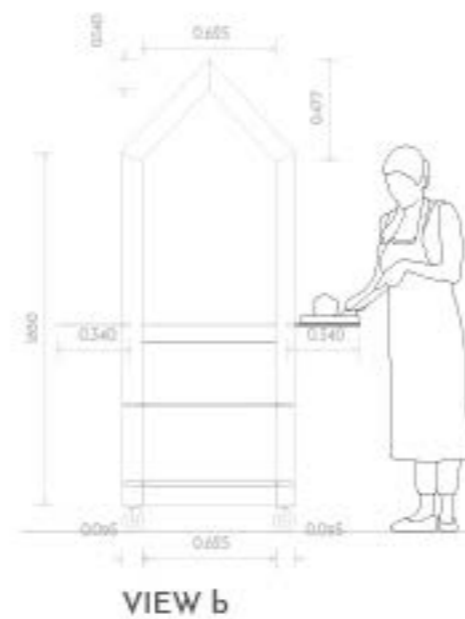
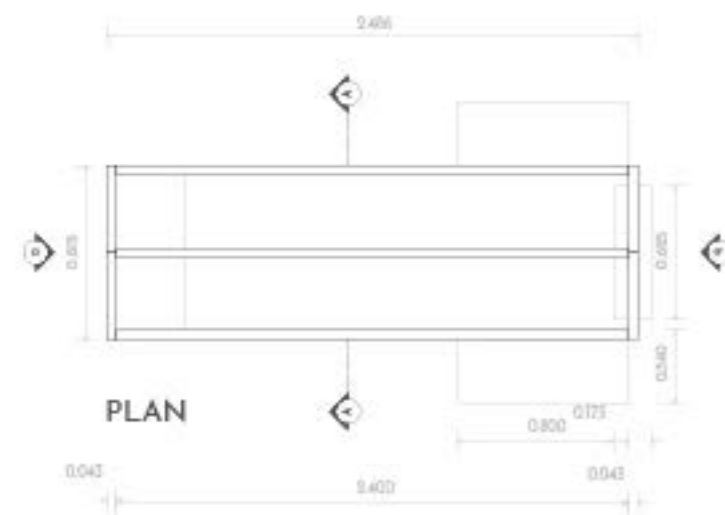
Food production



Socialising



Leisure



## CHAPTER 2: GARDEN MODULES

# SITTING WITH FISHNET

### GOALS:



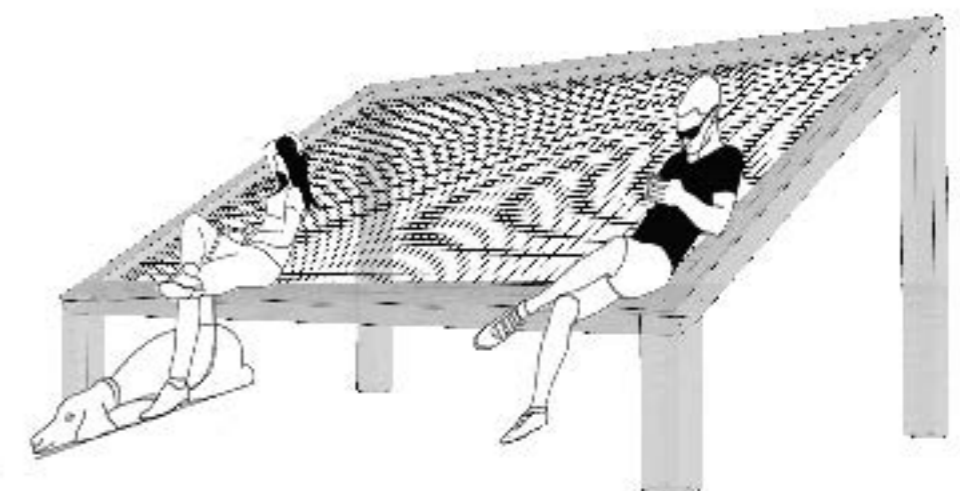
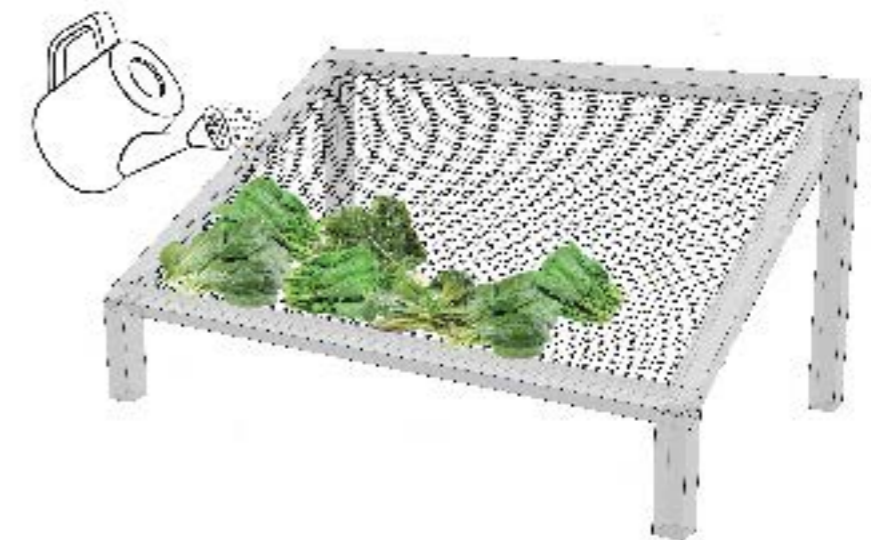
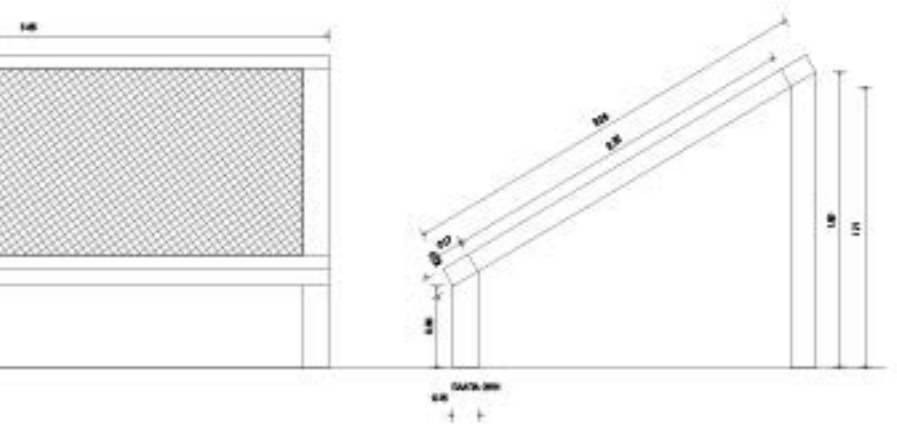
Food production



Leisure



Socialising



CHAPTER 2: GARDEN MODULES

# LOUNGE AREA

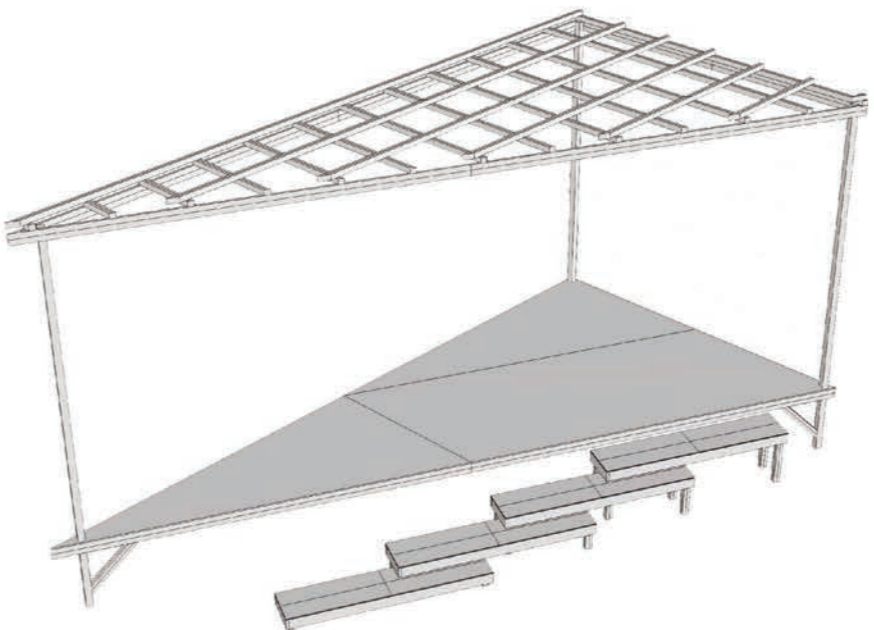
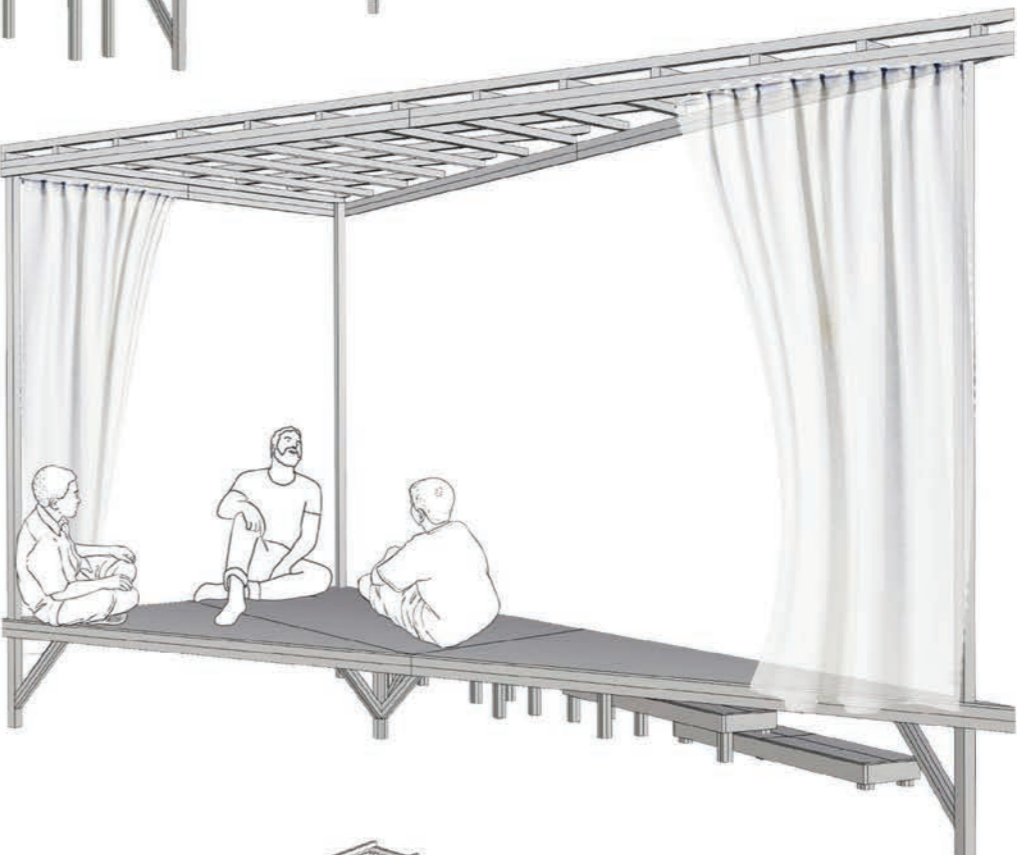
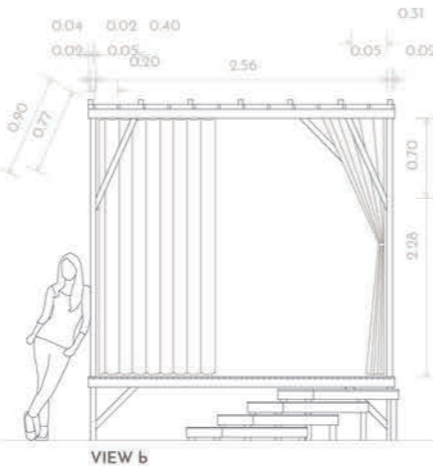
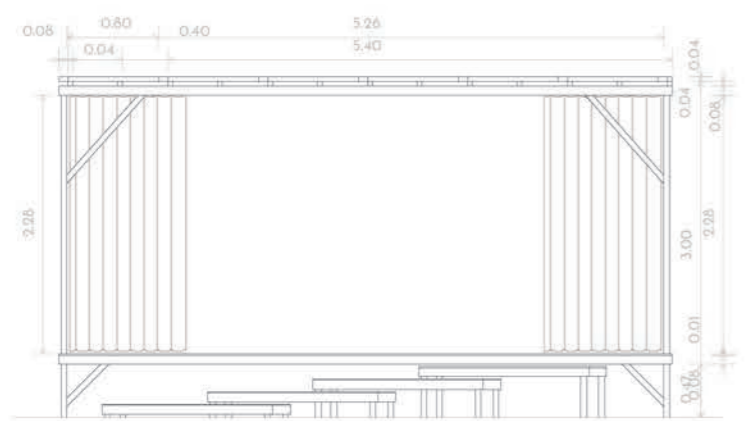
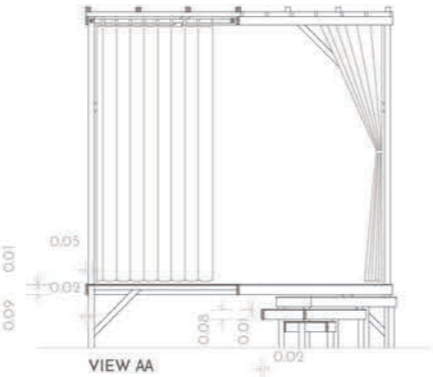
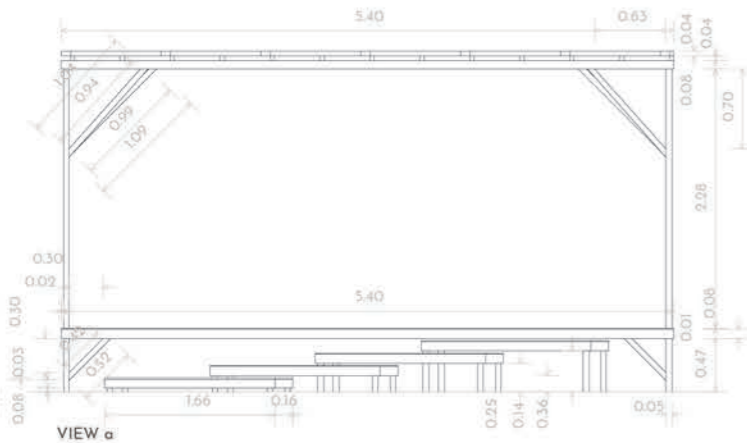
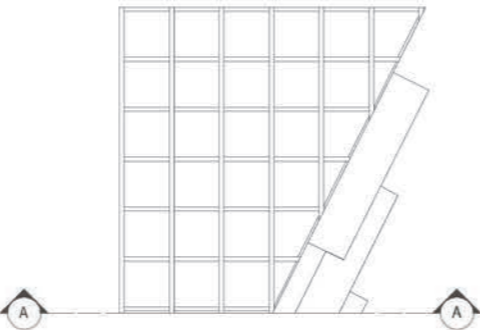
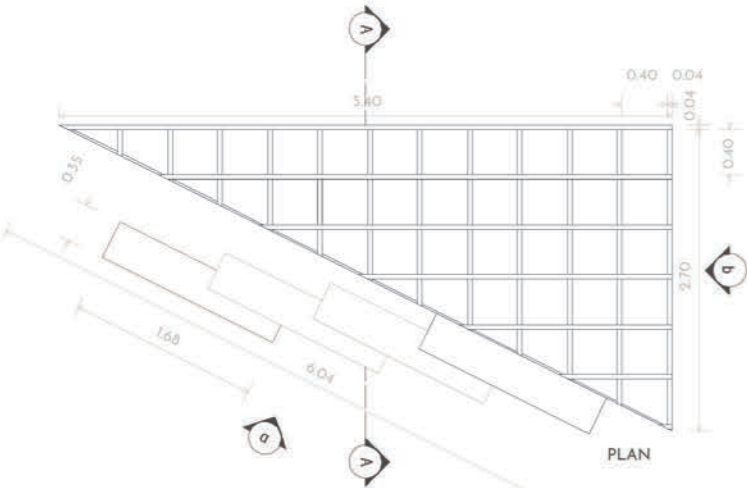
GOALS:



Leisure



Socialising



## CHAPTER 2: GARDEN MODULES

# FARMER'S MARKET BEDS

### GOALS:



SDGs (8)



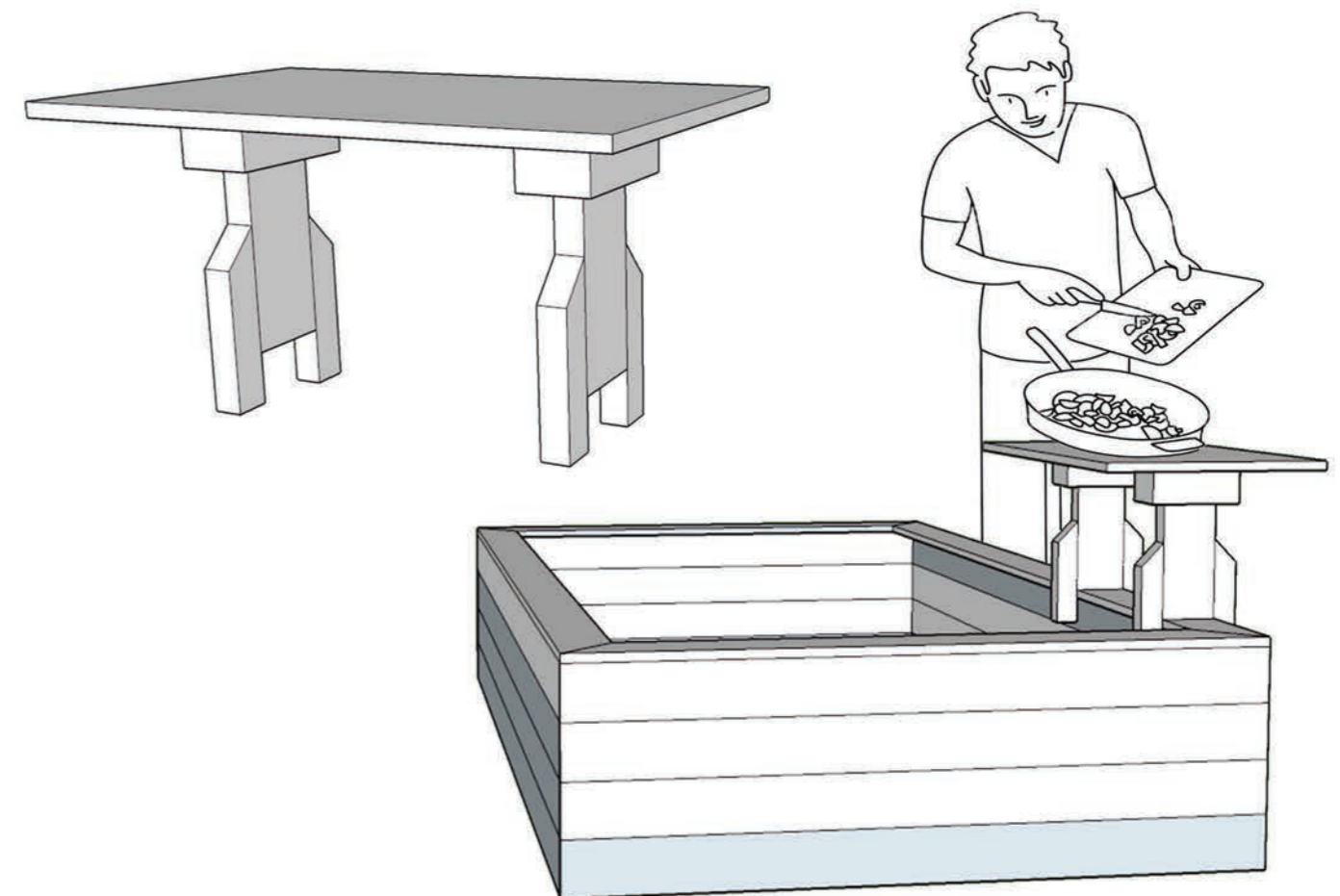
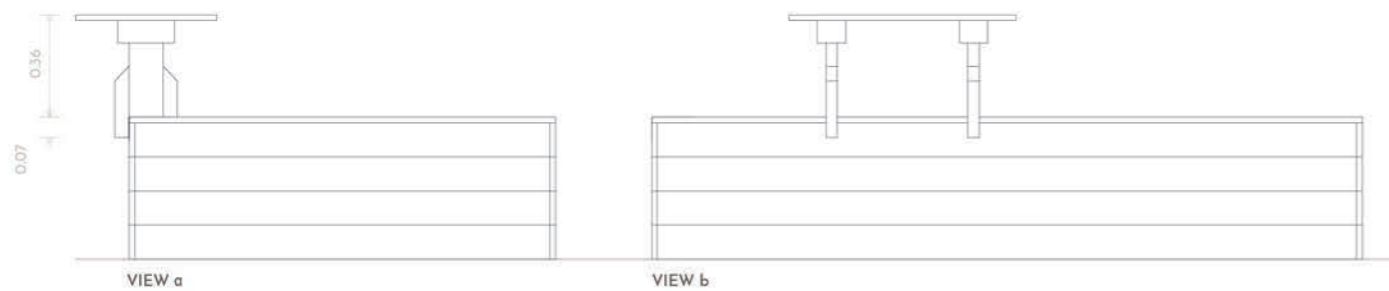
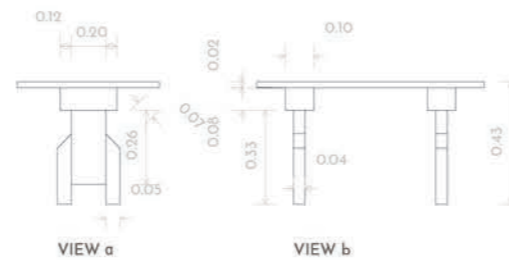
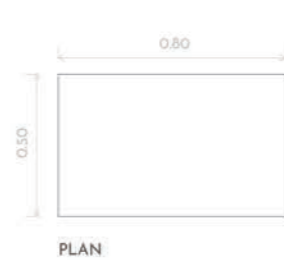
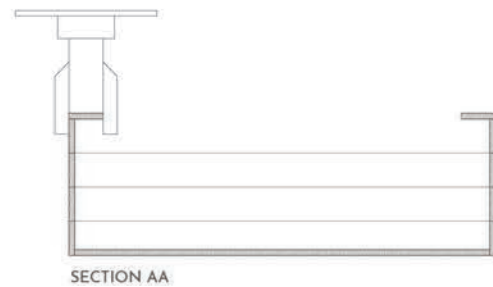
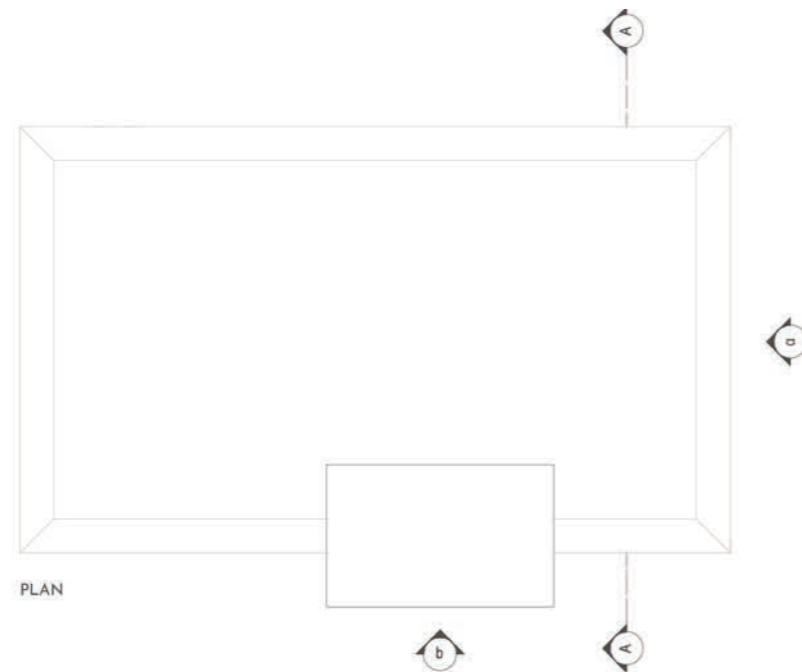
Food production



Accessibility



Financial benefits



# FARMER'S MARKET SEATING

GOALS:



SDGs (8)



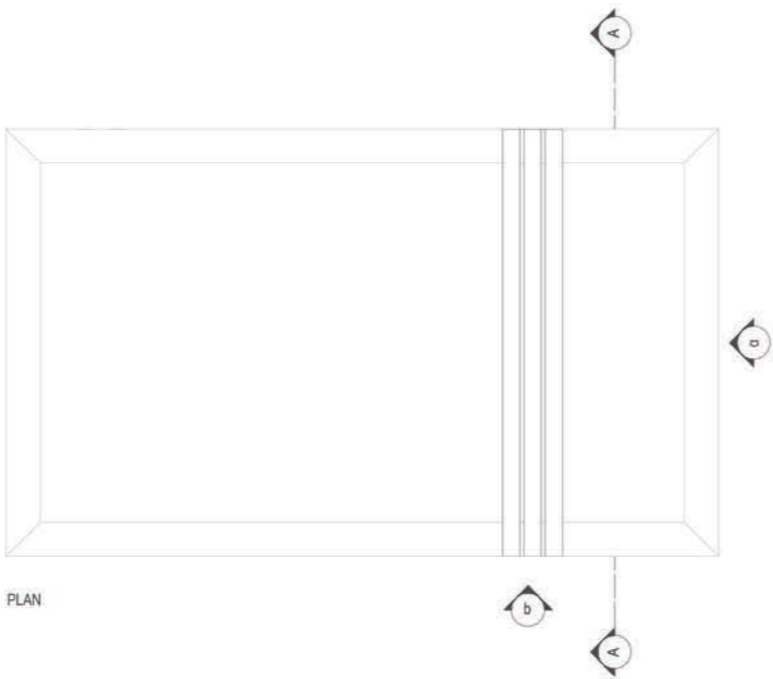
Food production



Accessibility



Financial benefits



PLAN



VIEW a

OVH b



SECTION AA



PLAN



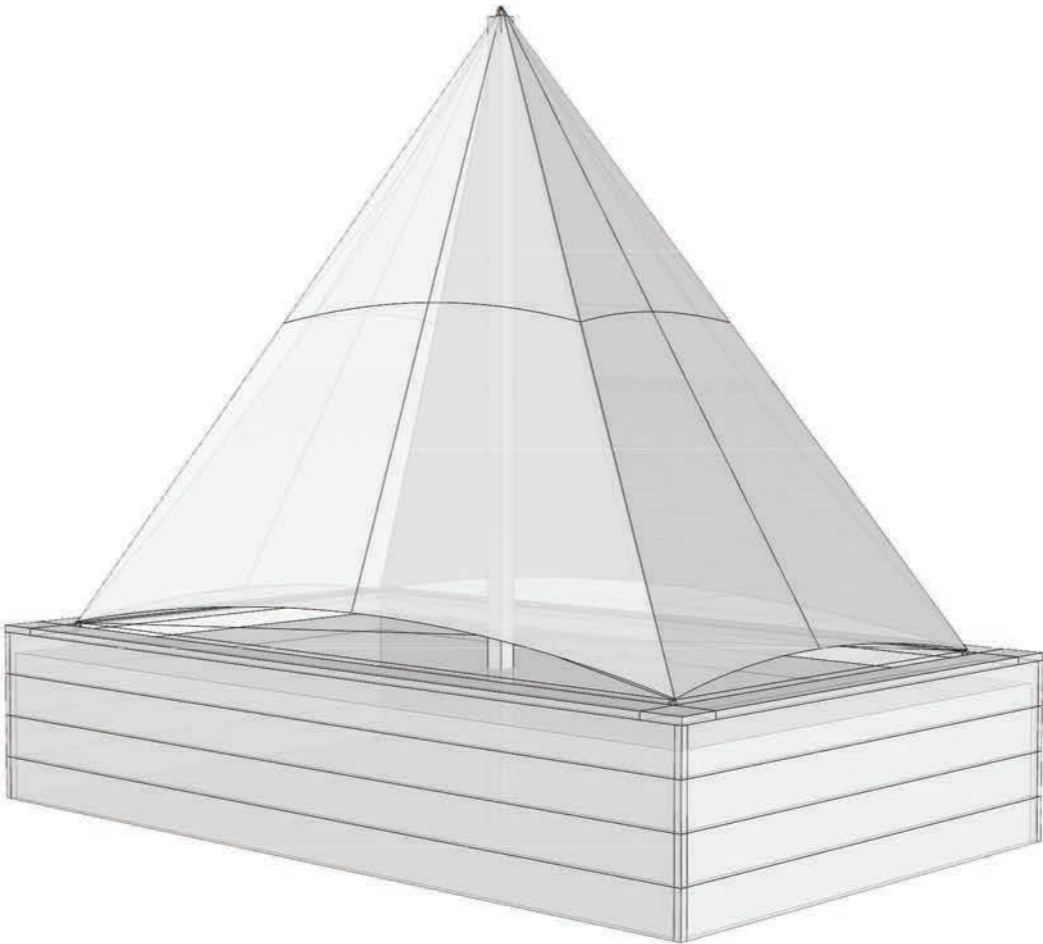
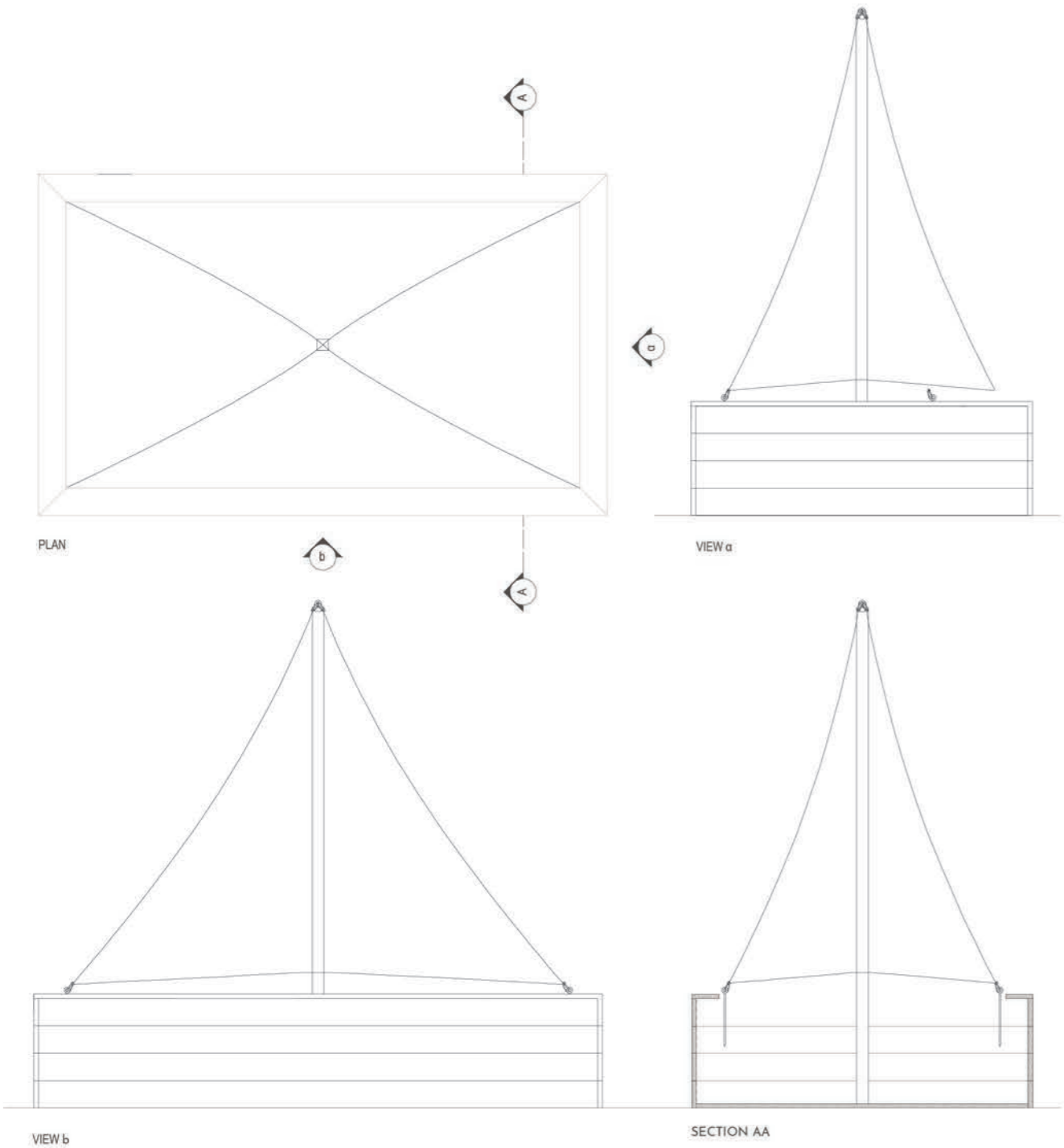
VIEW a



VIEW b



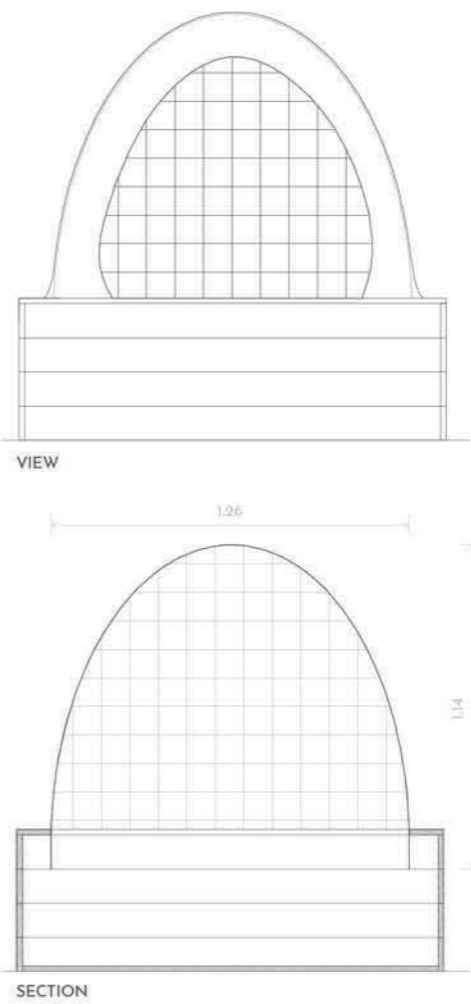
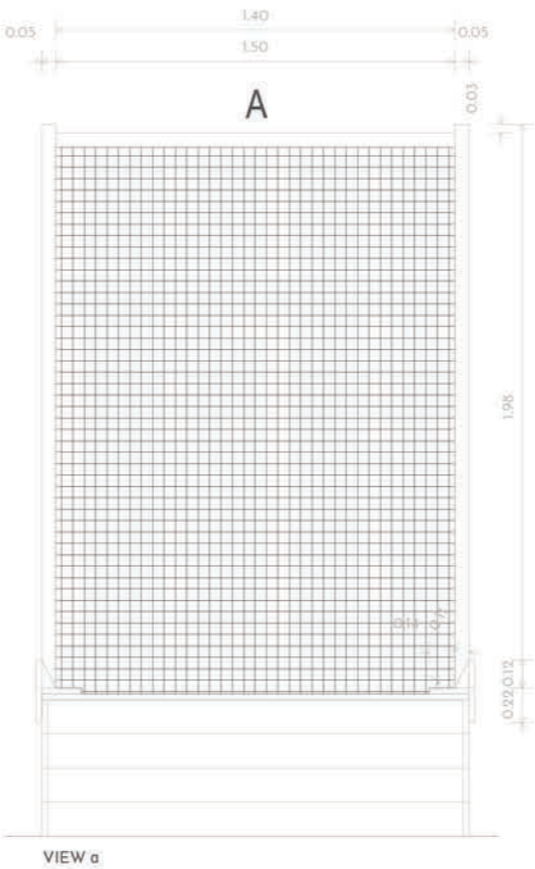
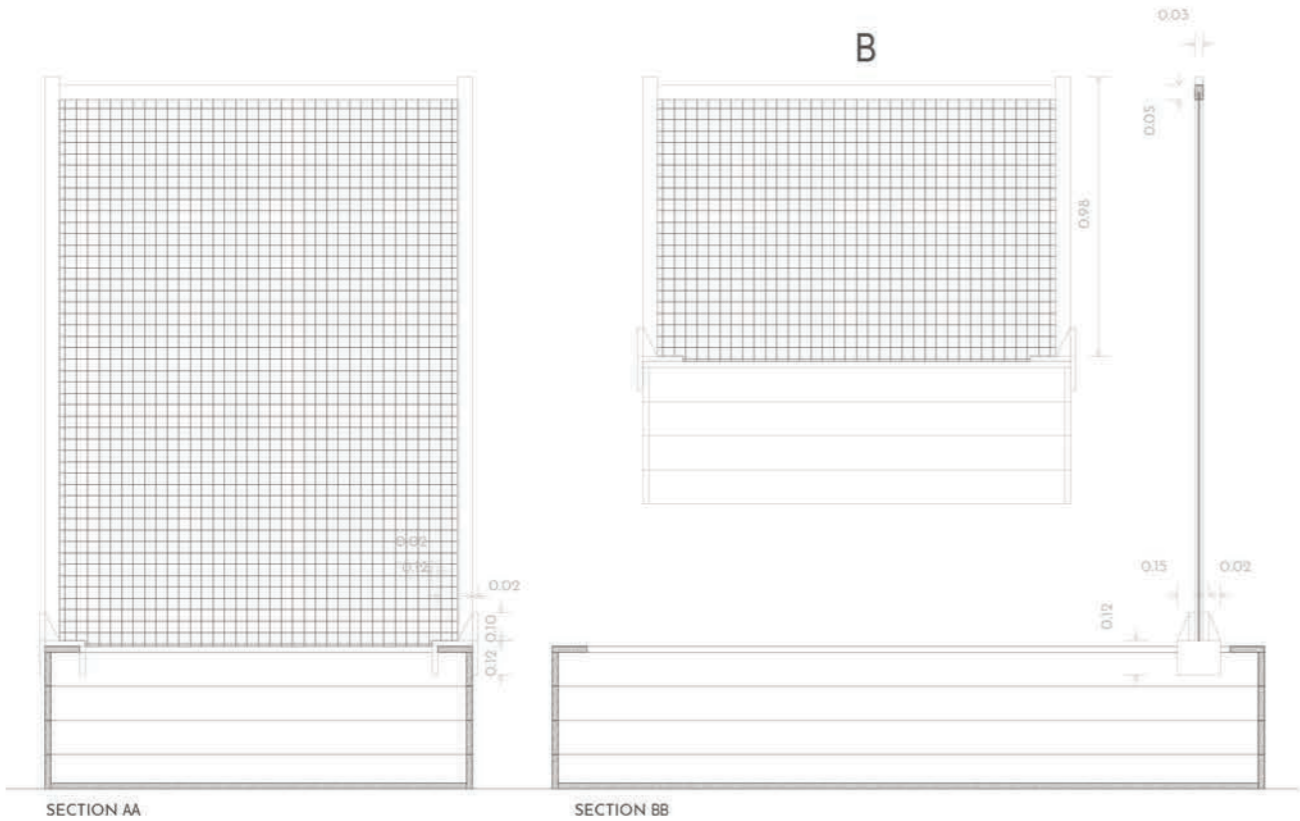
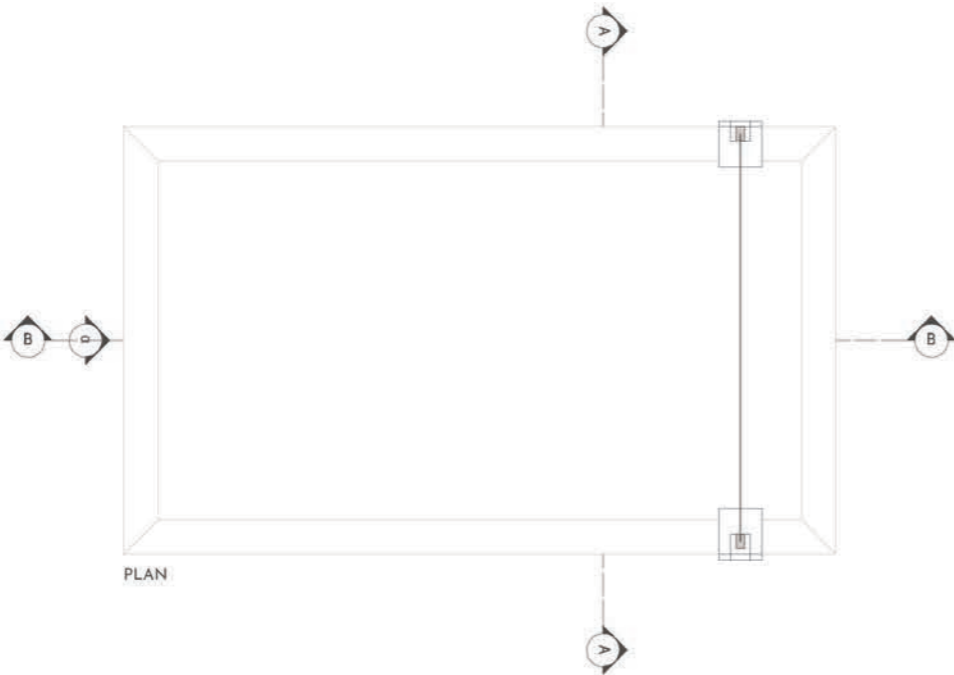
# FARMER'S MARKET COVERING



- GOALS:**
-  SDGs (8)
  -  Food production
  -  Financial benefits

# FARMER'S MARKET- DIVIDER

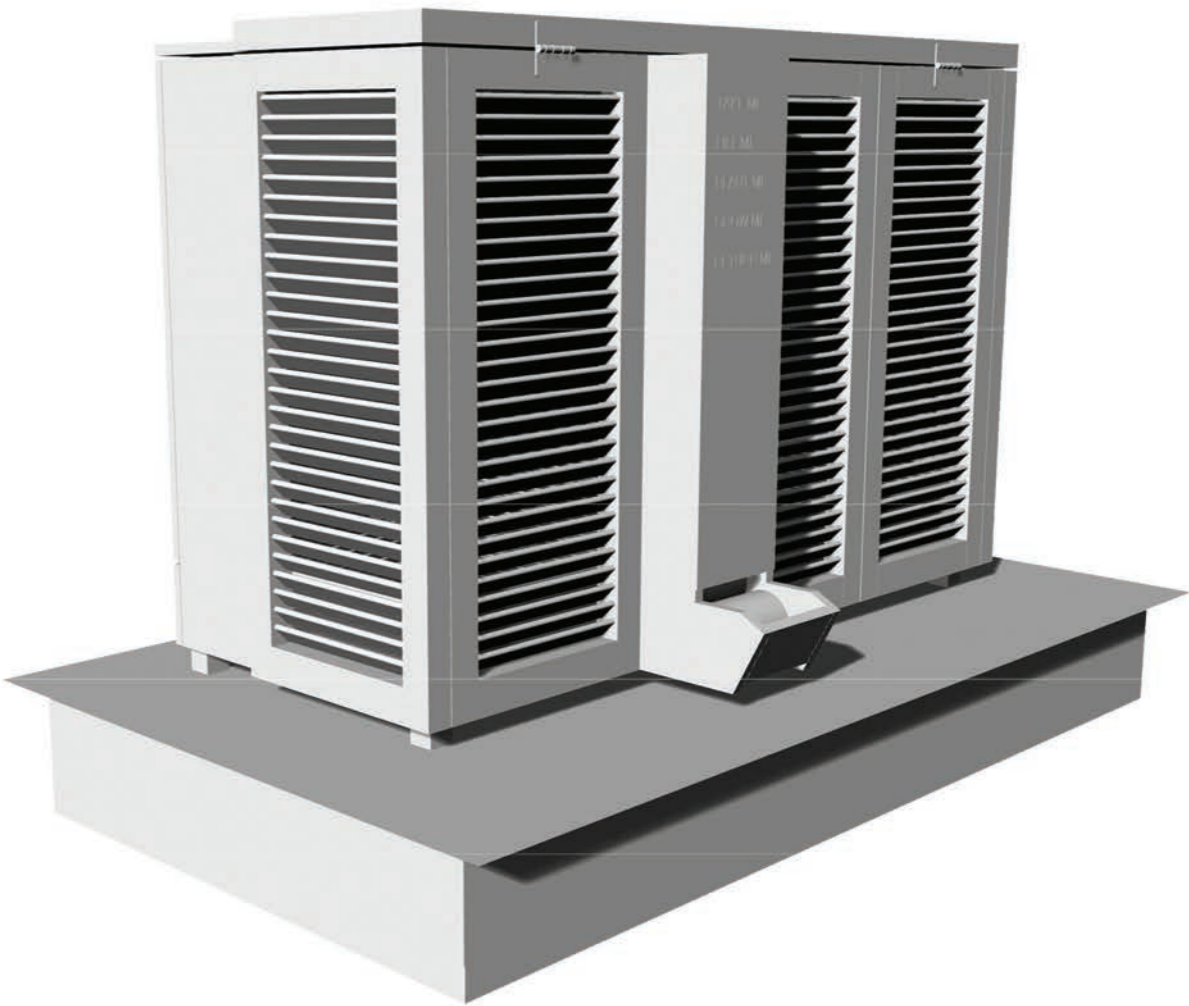
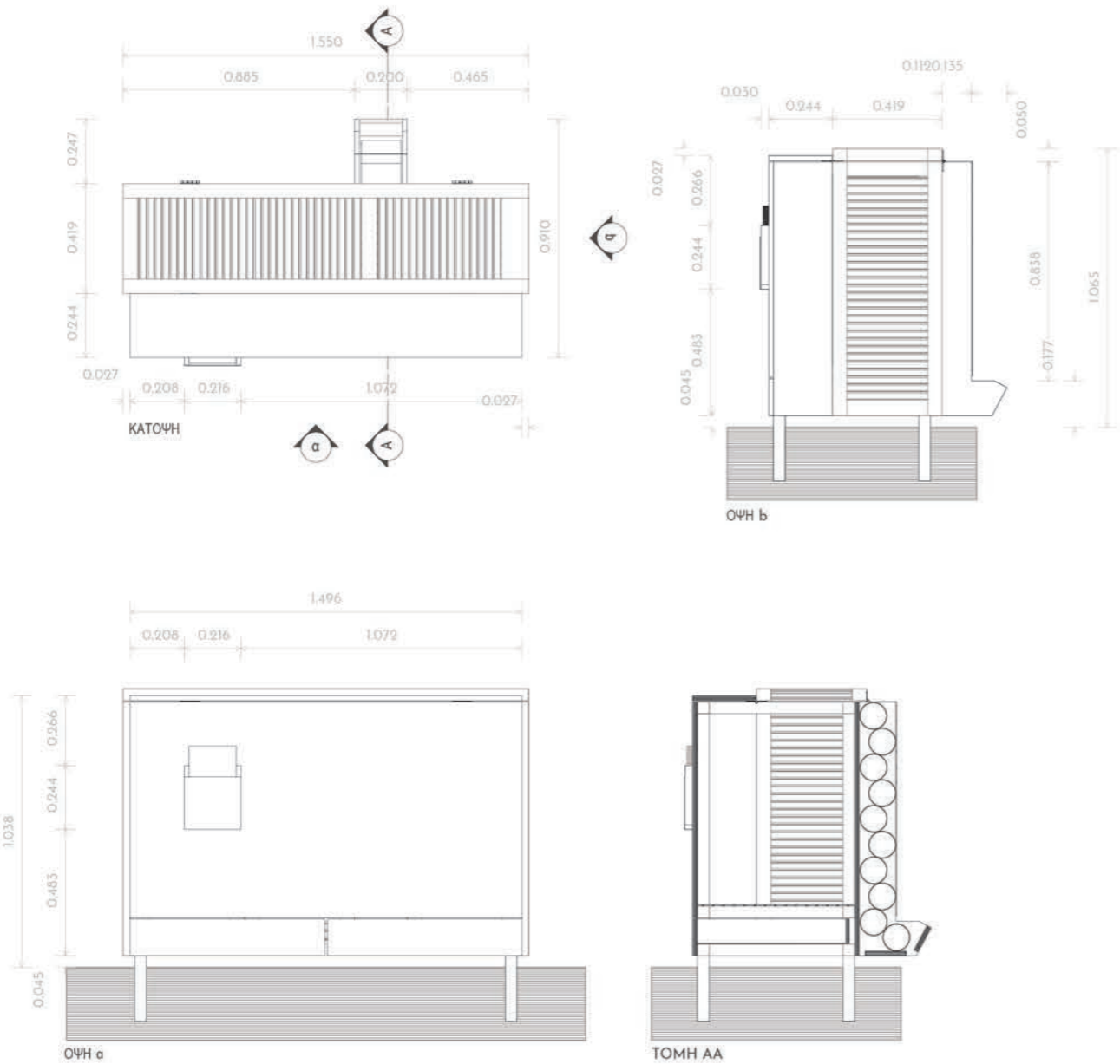
GOALS:



CHAPTER 2: GARDEN MODULES

# COMPOSTING BOX

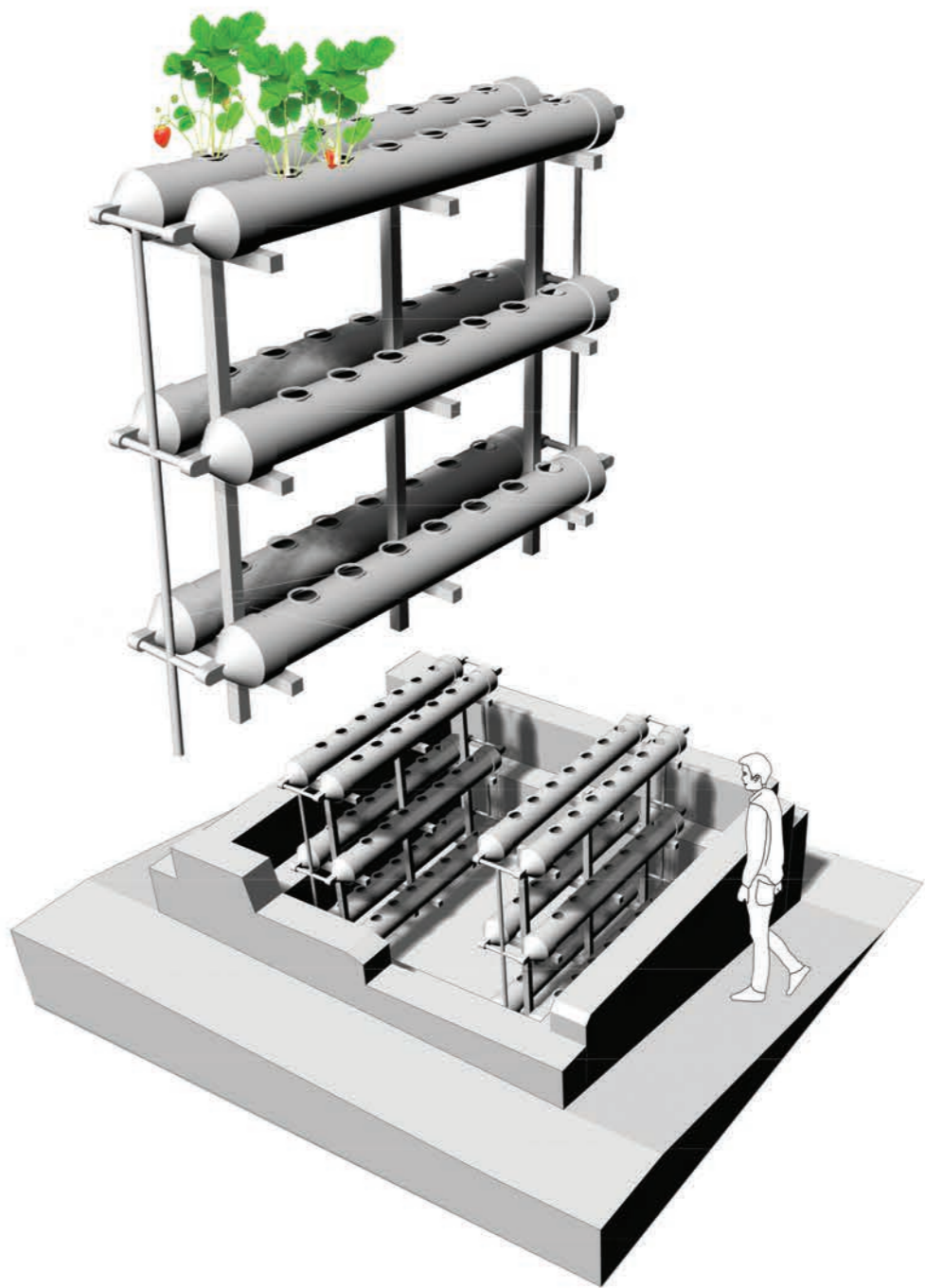
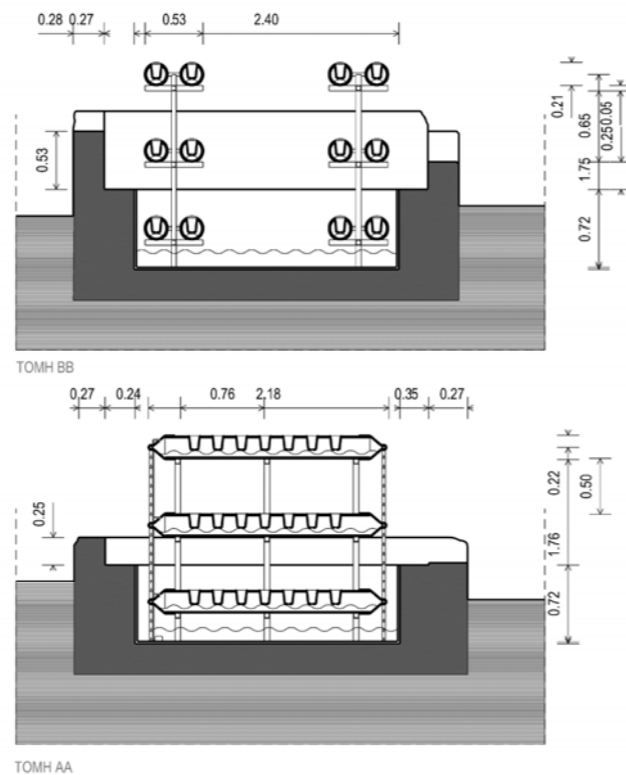
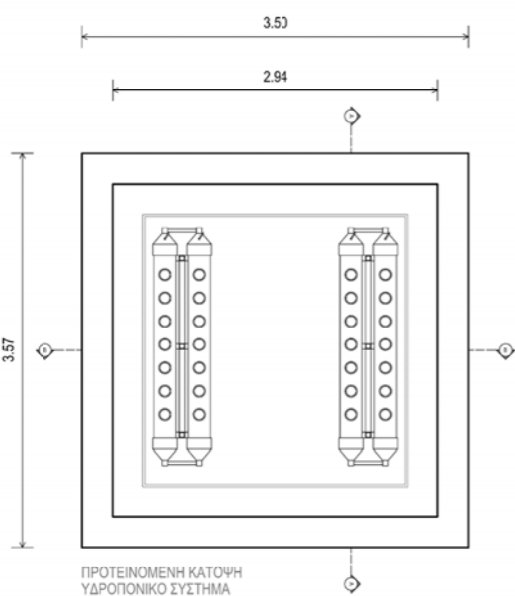
GOALS:



CHAPTER 2: GARDEN MODULES

# HYDROPONIC SYSTEM

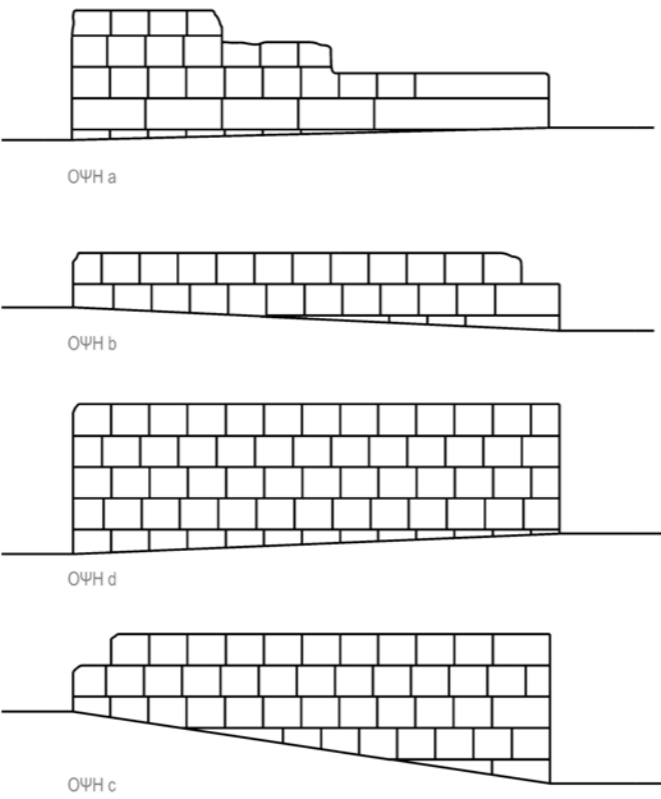
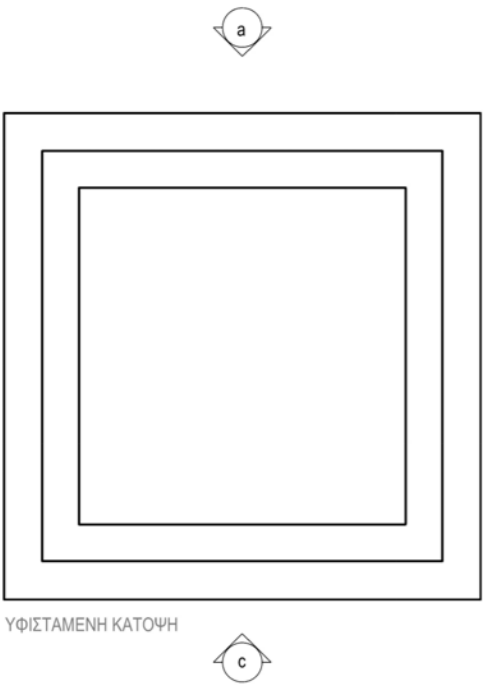
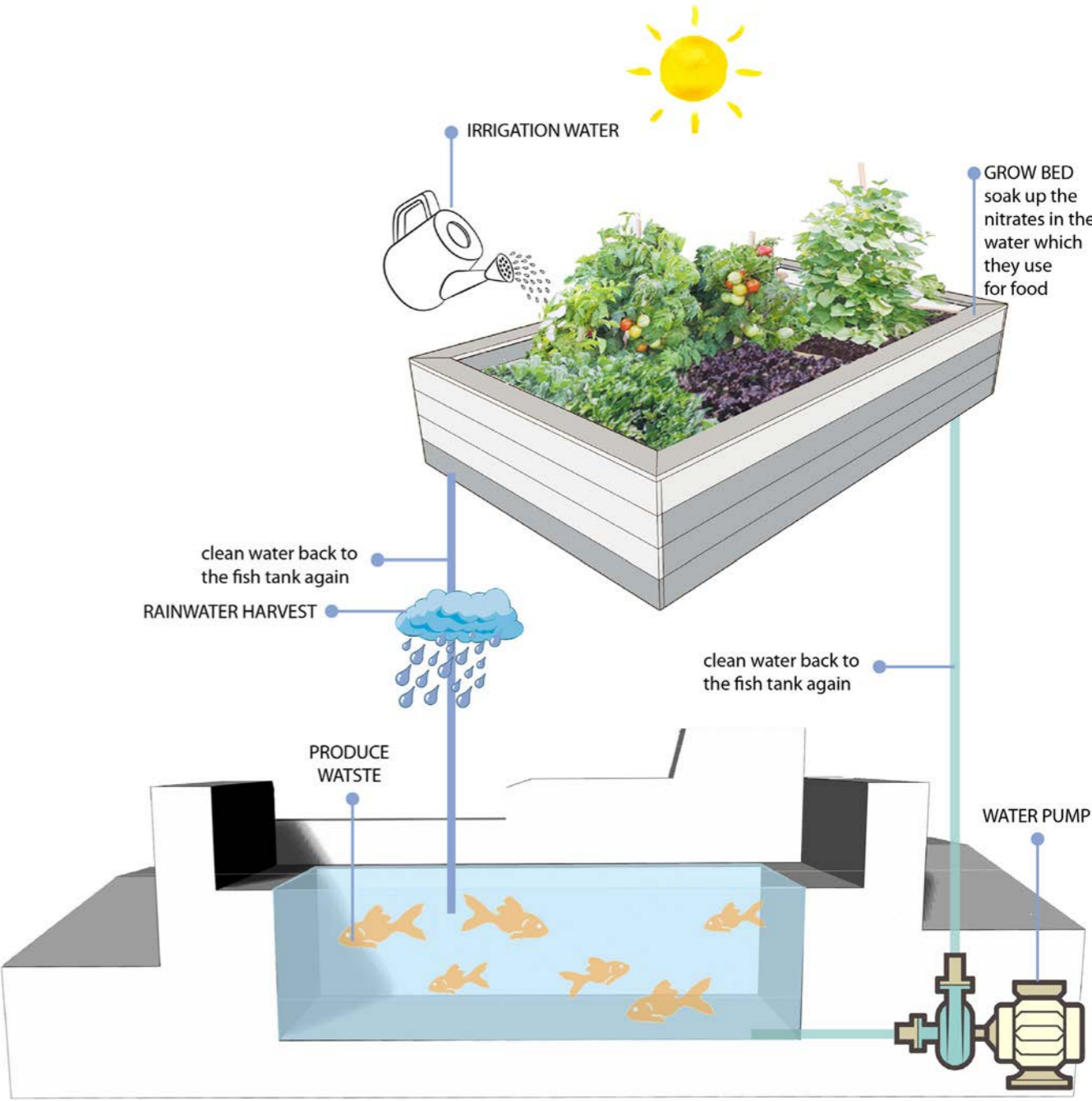
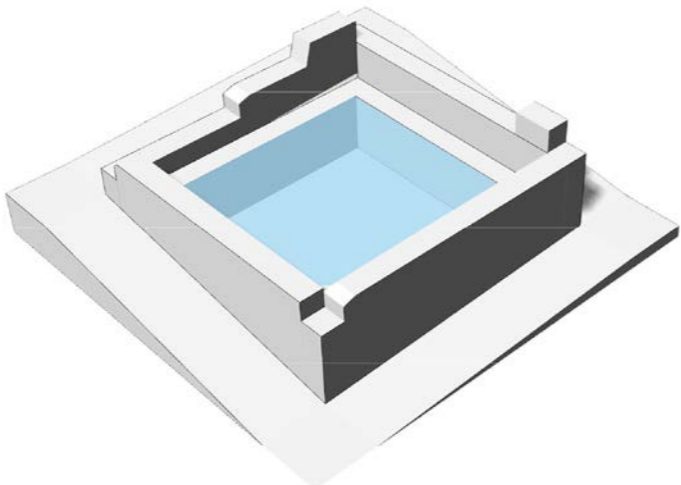
GOALS:



CHAPTER 2: GARDEN MODULES

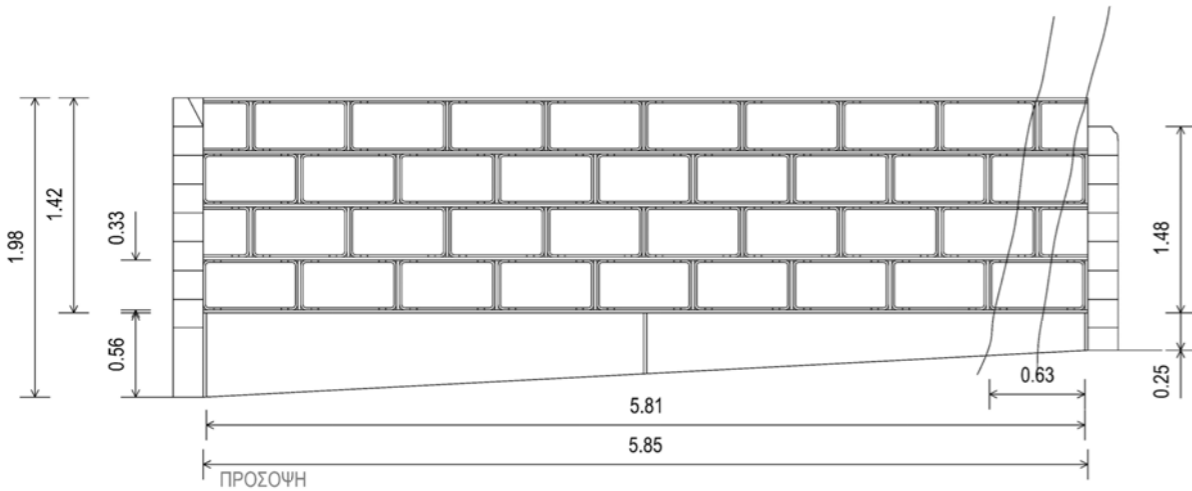
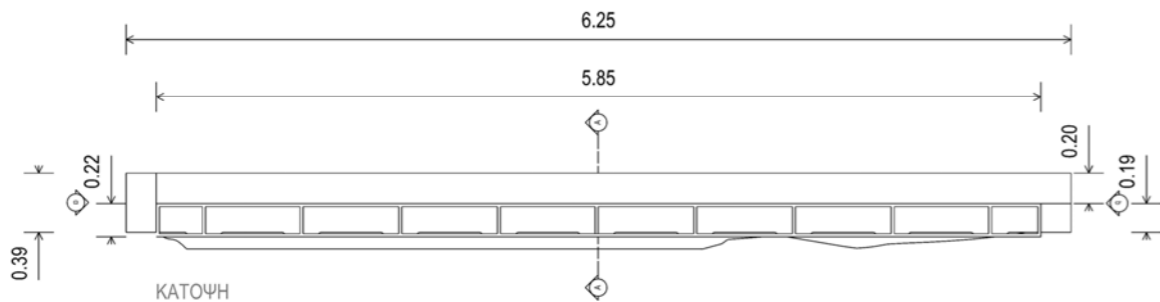
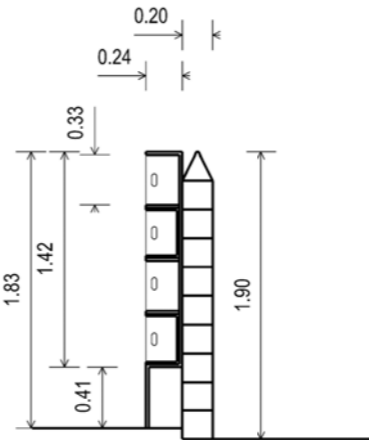
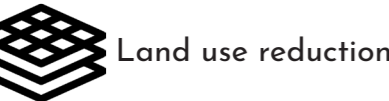
# AQUAPONIC SYSTEM

GOALS:



# VERTICAL GARDEN

GOALS:



## CHAPTER 2: GARDEN MODULES

# NET HOUSE

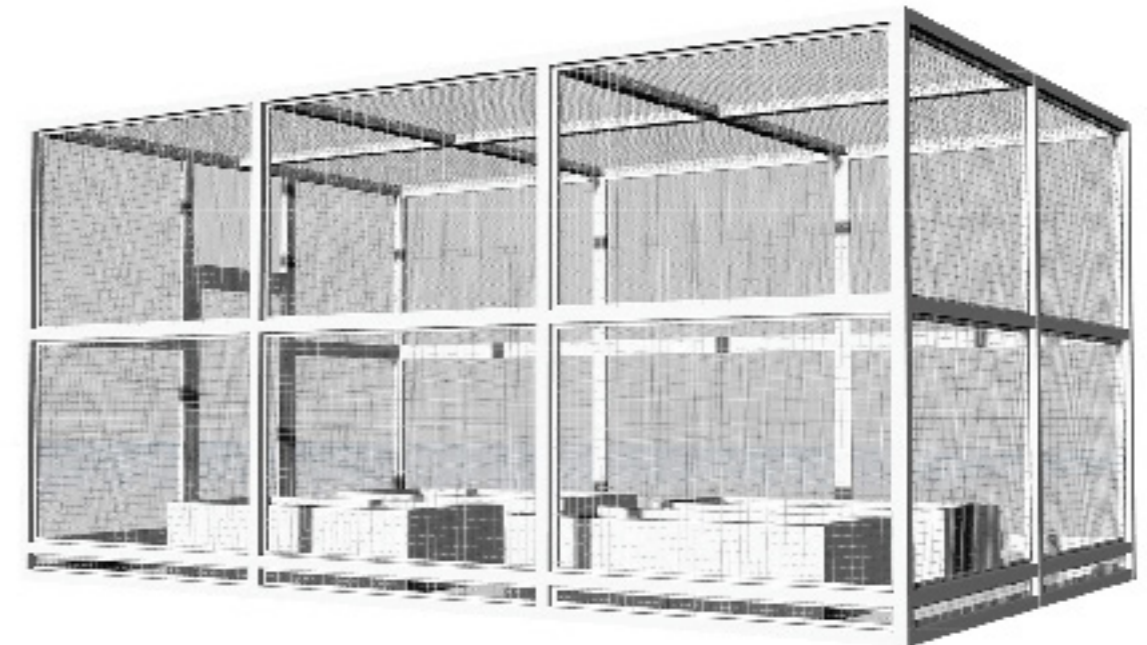
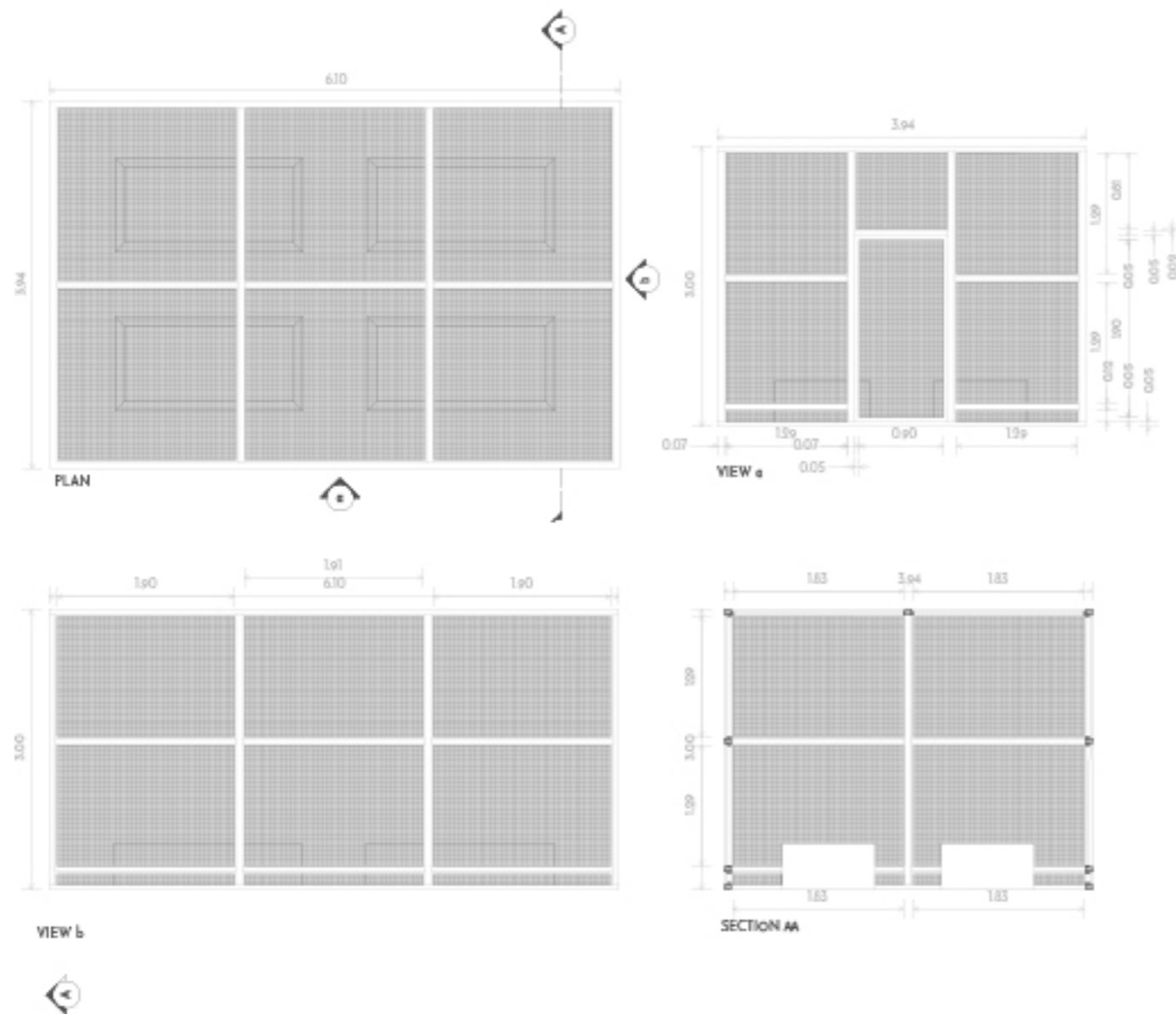
### GOALS:



SDGs (9&13)



Food production



# LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS



Photo credit | © Tree Desk Garden / Da landscape

Landscape elements (also referred to as 'modules') can help the overall environment of the garden in different ways. One way is by helping sensitive plants such vegetables to grow in a healthy manner. Another way is to create an environment which is calm and peaceful for people to use it in different ways by awaking all the human senses (the varied smells and colours, the sound of water, the textures from all kinds of plants, shading and cooling ways to feel comfortable, and all the herbs and vegetables that can be used in cooking or drinking recipes).

1. Grow bags

2. Organic raised beds

3. Raised beds

4. Medicinal plants

5. Ornamental grasses
6. Leafy greens in soil

7. Citrus grove

8. Sacred plants

9. Sacred plants cacti & succulents

10. Herbal garden

11. || vine structure

12. Greenhouse cultivars

13. Edible ground covers

14. Sacred water

15. Tiny water Feature

16. Fish pond

17. Groundcover

18. Shade loving groundcover

19. Cob installation outdoor classroom

20. Groundcover chill out

21. Compost bin

22. Seed incubator

23. Mandala like stone patterns

24. Metal grid paving understory vegetation

Application Categories	Modules/ Elements
A.Responsible food growth	Grow bags Organic raised beds Raised beds Citrus grove    vine structure Greenhouse cultivars Compost bin Seed incubator
B.Sacred area	Medicinal plants Sacred plants Sacred plants cacti & succulents Herbal garden
C.Social area	Sacred water Tiny water Feature Fish pond Cob installation outdoor classroom Mandala like Stone patterns
D.Walking paths	Ornamental grasses Leafy greens in soil Edible ground covers Groundcover Share loving groundcover Groundcover chill out Metal grid paving understory vegetation

CHAPTER 1: GARDEN DESIGN

RESPONSIBLE FOOD GROWTH

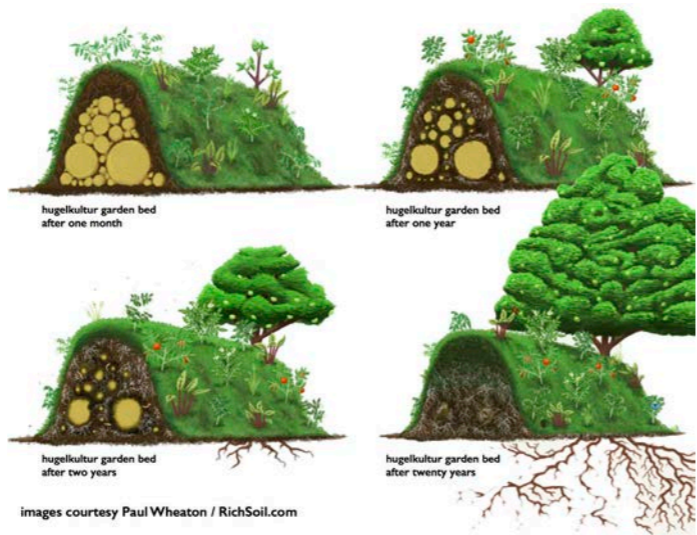
A method to create accessible pathways without removing plants. It uses metal thin stripes as the main element to create pathways and space is left for small grass-like plants to grow beneath.



**Grow bags**  
Is in other way to create raised beds by using bags made out of plastic or fabric.

Organic raised beds

Is in other way to create raised beds but with your leftover organic waste.  
Process of



|| vine structure

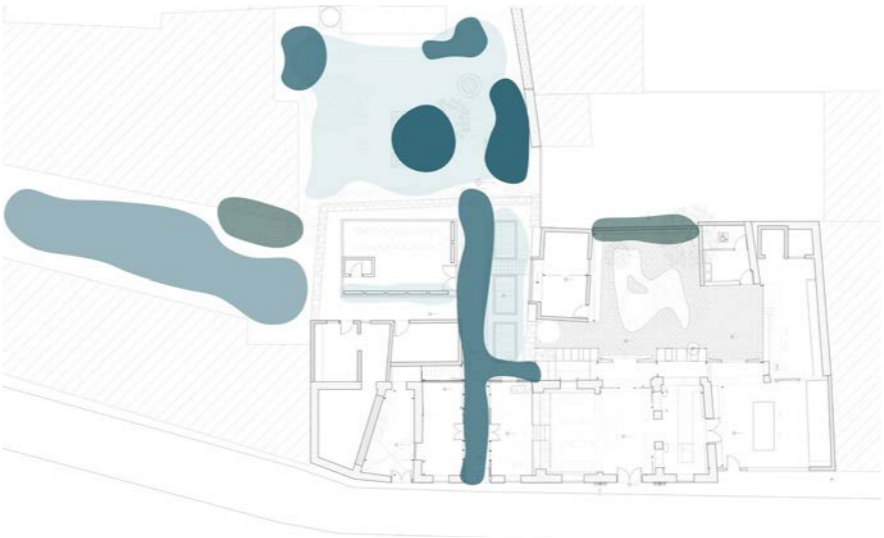
An upside down U-shape structure that can be made of different kinds of woods, metal, or bamboo and can be used for climbing plants to grow. It can also shape an entranceway or a pathway thanks to its ornamental structure and features.



**Citrus grove**  
These fruits that belong in the citrus family. Examples include oranges, tangerines, grapefruits, lemons, and more.

Seed incubator

In order to incubate seeds swiftly and provide the appropriate temperature so that the seeds that germinate can then be planted and grown in soil accordingly.



- ZONE A: farmers market
- ZONE B: wall growing buffer
- ZONE C: herbalism
- ZONE D: shading
- JOCKERS

## CHAPTER 1: GARDEN DESIGN

# SACRED AREA

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### Medicinal plants

These plants are usually in the category of herbs and have been used since prehistoric time. Their synthesis has hundreds of chemical compounds and can be used to defence diseases and other illnesses.

### Sacred plants cacti & succulents

Are plants that are used for sacred and ceremonial purposes. This type of plants can store water in their leaves, stems or roots to be able to survive in a period of drought.



### Herbal garden

This is a garden that includes only herbal plants. It can be any size and it can include one or more types of plants. It usually refers to a calm space with different fragrances and colours

## CHAPTER 1: GARDEN DESIGN

# SOCIAL AREA

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### Water Features

These are used to add water elements to a garden. Examples are a fish pond, a pool, a garden pond, a small lake, etc.



### Fish pond

Usually a small lake or pond type element with fish. This element can be made with natural materials such as soil, pebbles, stones or concrete.

## CHAPTER 1: GARDEN DESIGN

# WALKING PATHS



### Ornamental grasses

These are plants that are grown for decorative purposes. Usually they are small size plants that might have flowers or not.

### Cob Social Area

A seating space made of mud that can have a U-shape and provides the feeling of a classroom area.

### Leafy greens in soil

These leafy vegetables can also be referred to as 'salad greens', 'pot herbs', etc. These leaves can usually be eaten as vegetables and can grow directly in the soil.



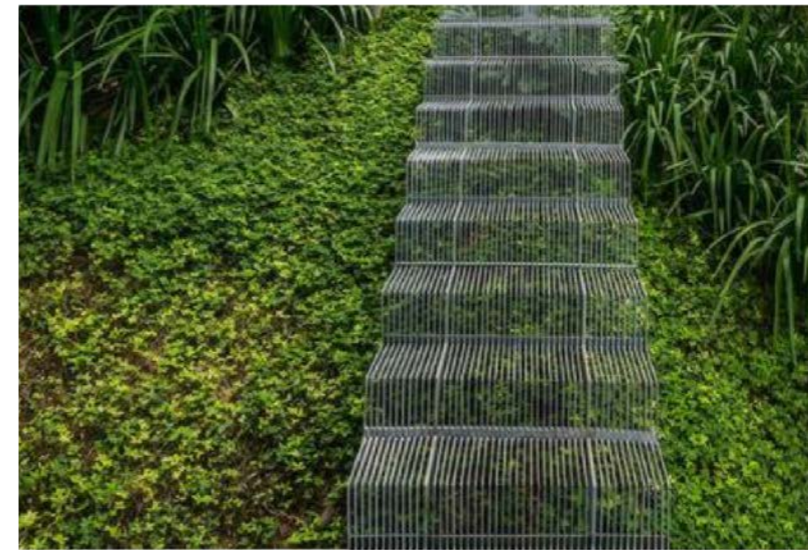
### Greenhouse cultivars

In a different type of greenhouse, plants can be grown in a covered facility with controlled temperature according to the needs of the plant(s).



### Edible ground covers

Plants can be used to help boost fertility, prevent soil erosion, smooth weeds, repel pests and feed the pollinators. Plants used in this module are considered great elements in spaces where vegetables are grown.



### Groundcover

Ground cover plants are small and cover the grounds, such as grasses size. Some examples are moss, dwarf mondo grass, ajuga, vinca minor etc.

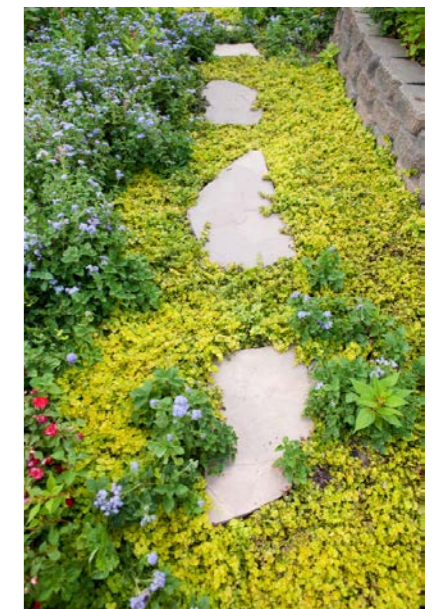
### Mantala like stone patterns:



These patterns can be utilised for pavement and pathways. They can be used to create various shapes, based on the applicable and available space and can add colour depending on the type of stone(s) used.

### Metal grid paving understory vegetation:

A method to create accessible pathways without removing plants. It uses metal thin stripes as the main element to create pathways and space is left for small grass-like plants to grow beneath.



### Shade loving groundcover

Similar to the groundcover plants, the difference is that these plants can be used as shade. Some examples are hosta, sweet woodruff, bunchberry, etc.

### Groundcover chill out

A seating space that is covered with plants that give shade.

CHAPTER 1: GARDEN DESIGN

AGRONOMY

Schientific Name	Family	Cultivation Season
Philodendron sp.	Araceae	Any season
Asparagus aethiopicus	Asparagaceae	Any season
Asparagus meyeri	Asparagaceae	Any season
Monstera delicioca	Araceae	Any season
Plectranthus scutellarioides	Lamiaceae	Any season
Phyllostachys aurea	Poaceae	Any season
Epipremnum aureum	Araceae	Any season
Hosta plantaginea	Liliaceae	Any season
Strelitzia reginae	Bromeliaceae	Any season
Opuntia ficus indica	Cactaceae	Spring
Fuschia sp.	Onagraceae	
Origanum vulgare	Lamiaceae	Spring
Rosmarinus officinalis	Lamiaceae	October-November / March-April
Pelargonium graveolens	Geraniaceae	Spring
Lavandula angustifolia	Lamiaceae	Autumn or Spring
Lavandula officinalis	Lamiaceae	Autumn or Spring
Santolina chamaecyparissus	Asteraceae	Spring
Helichrysum italicum	Asteraceae	Spring
Laurus nobilis	Lauraceae	Autumn or Spring
Foeniculum vulgare	Apiaceae	February or March
Mentha piperita	Lamiaceae	February or March
Mentha x spicata	Lamiaceae	Any season / October- November (Optimal)
Salvia officinalis	Lamiaceae	November-April
Anethum graveolens	Apiaceae	End of August / per month
Ocimumu basilicum	Lamiaceae	Spring
Coriandrum sativum	Apiaceae	Spring Summer
Thymus vulgaris	Lamiaceae	Autumn or Spring
Origanum majorana	Lamiaceae	Autumn or Spring
Petroselinum crispum	Apiaceae	July-August
Allium schoenoprasum	Amaryllidaceae	Autumn, Spring & Winter
Lathyrus ochrus	Fabaceae	August-January
Artemisia vulgaris	Asteraceae	Seeds (Spring), Autumn (Branch-Branch)

Tropaeolum majus	Tropaeolaceae	Spring, Summer, Autumn
Matricaria chamomila	Asteraceae	Seeds in Autumn
Pastinaca sativa	Apiaceae	Spring
Eruca sativa	Brassicaceae	July-March
Viola tricolor	Violaceae	October-November / May- June
Beta vulgaris	Amaranthaceae	July-August
Vigna unguiculata	Fabaceae	April
Brassica oleracea var. italica	Brassicaceae	August-November
Brassica oleracea var. Gemmifera	Brassicaceae	September-February
Daucus carota subsp. sativus	Apiaceae	Any season based on variety
Brassica oleracea var. capitata	Brassicaceae	Autumn, Spring
Calendula officinalis L.	Asteraceae	Spring
Allium sativum	Amaryllidaceae	Autumn or Spring
Allium sepa	Amaryllidaceae	February-March
Lactuca sativa	Asteraceae	Any season
Lippia citriodora	Lamiaceae	Spring
Phaseolus vulgaris	Fabaceae	Spring, Summer
Fragaria x ananassa	Rosaceae	mid-September-late October
Solanum lycopersicum	Solanaceae	April-August
Cucumis sativus	Cucurbitaceae	It depends on the variety
Spinacia oleracea	Amaranthaceae	September-February
Zingiber officinale	Zingiberaceae	Autumn or Spring
Hyssopus officinalis	Lamiaceae	Autumn or Spring
Lens culinaris	Fabaceae	November-April
Capsicum annum	Solanaceae	Spring Summer
		Spring Summer
Abelmoschus esculentus	Malvaceae	March-May
Apium graveolens	Apiaceae	August-March
Brassica oleracea var. Botrytis	Brassicaceae	August-November
Brassica oleracea var. acephala	Brassicaceae	
Cucurbita pepo	Cucurbitaceae	March-September
Cicer arietinum	Fabaceae	
Persea americana	Lauraceae	
Citrullus lanatus	Cucurbitaceae	November-January, March- May
Cucumis melo	Cucurbitaceae	March-May

Solanum melongena	Solanaceae	February-April, July-August
Bignonia ungis-cati	Bignoniaceae	
Passiflora caerulea	Passifloraceae	
Jasminum sp.	Oleaceae	
Plumbago capensis	Plumbaginaceae	
Trachelospermum jasminoides	Apocynaceae	
Wisteria sinensis	Fabaceae	
Rosa sp.	Rosaceae	
Cucurbita maxima	Cucurbitaceae	
Stephanotis floribunda	Apocynaceae	
Viburnum fragrans	Adoxaceae	Autumn or Spring
Ligustrum japonicum	Oleaceae	Autumn or Spring
Teucrium fruticans	Lamiaceae	Autumn or Spring
Pistacia terebenthifolius	Anacardiaceae	Autumn or Spring
Ilex aquafolium	Aquifoliaceae.	Autumn or Spring
Aloe vera	Aloaceae	Any season
Kalanchoe blossfeldiana	Crassulaceae	Any season
Sedum sp.	Crassulaceae	Any season
Mesembryanthemum crystallinum	Aizoaceae	May-August
Euphorbia splendens	Euphorbiaceae	Any season
Musa sp.	Musaceae	April-May
Prunus armeniaca	Rosaceae	Autumn-Spring
Vitis vinifera	Vitaceae	March
Citrus x limon	Rutaceae	Autumn-Spring
Malus domestica	Rosaceae	Autumn-Spring
Crataegus azarolus	Rosaceae	Autumn-Spring
Punica granatum	Punicaceae	Autumn-Spring
Ficus carica	Moraceae	Winter-Autumn
Prunus domestica	Rosaceae	Autumn-Spring
Cydonia oblonga	Rosaceae	Autumn-Spring
Cirtus sinensis	Rutaceae	Winter-Autumn
Passiflora edulis	Passifloraceae	October-March
Carica papaya	Caricaceae	Any season
Fortunella japonica	Rutaceae	Any season
Cirtus aurantifolia	Rutaceae	Autumn-Spring
Eriobotrya japonica	Rosaceae	Autumn-Spring
Cannabis sativa	Cannabaceae	Summer-Autumn
Crataegus monogyra	Rosaceae	
Capparis spinosa	Capparaceae	February
Urtica dioica	Urticaceae	

Alchemilla vulgaris	Rosaceae	
Taraxacum officinale	Asteraceae	March-April
Stipa tenuissima	Poaceae	Spring
Calamogrostis acutiflora	Poaceae	
Achillea millefolium	Asteraceae	Spring
Liriope muscari	Asparagaceae	
Helianthus annus	Asteraceae	February-May



## CHAPTER 3: PROCUREMENT

# SCHEDULE OF OPERATIONS

The project is organized in 3 major phases.

During the pilot programme three key phases have been defined (COVID-19 measures permitting):

### Phase 1: Clean-Up:

Focus on preparing the space for the transformation. There are two components to this. First, choosing the location using urban analytics research, to ensure that it is in a vibrant busy neighbourhood with a good mix of commercial and residential uses. Then, the clean-up of the site also signifies the preparation stages, beyond cleaning the garden site. A 'clean-up action' day is a powerful tool to get the community together, to start a movement, and to start educating the local residents about looking after their environment. It is a way of raising awareness about active citizenship and empowering people to get involved and make a difference.

### Phase 2: Build-Up:

Implementation of the Design and Construction stage. This is where we mobilise the community of volunteers and experts to help the garden project come to life. We develop the pilot project as a showcase of what is possible. This also further builds the community of active citizens and a wide range of experts, such as architects, planners, designers, makers who are keen to make a change.

### Phase 3: Scale up:

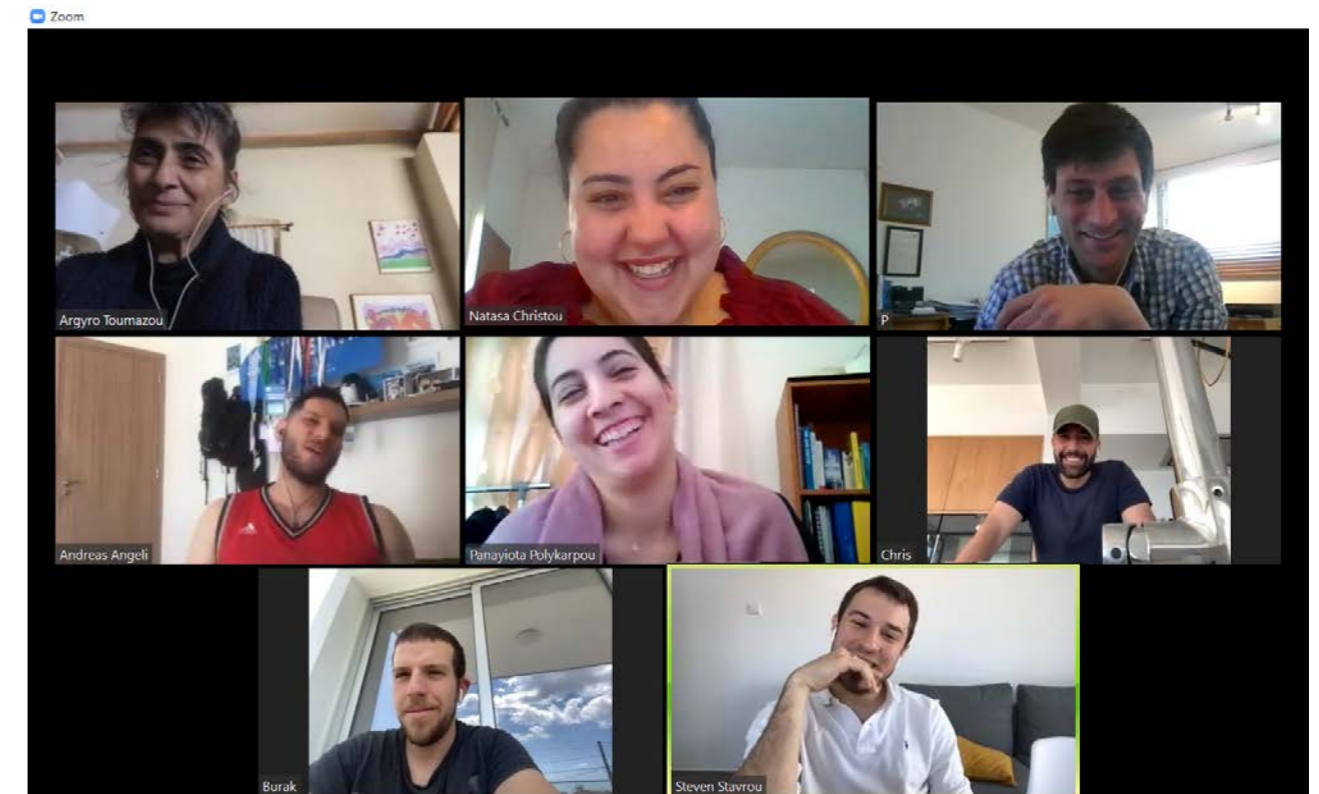
Educate others how to grow their own 'garden' / 'garden module(s)'. This can be a little prototype box, a balcony, an allocated area within building premises, a public park, or a farm. This is where the project gets big and grows into a movement of engaged citizens and organisations to address the social and environmental challenges across Cyprus, as represented by the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Our vision is to develop an active network, where bottom-up initiatives thrive and where ideas and support are exchanged to make it happen. The aim is to lead to a network of modules and gardens reaching 300.

Parameters that affect the implementation process

The stages of implementation are not statute-bound to be implemented in a linear sequence but rather can be flexible, adjusting to any unforeseen positive or negative factors affecting the process. Below we delve into the factors that could accelerate or hinder progress.

### Seasonality

The garden's implementation is affected by the weather conditions and appropriate seasons for cultivation and growth. Planting calendars are essential to successful gardening. A planting calendar is a tool that tells a farmer or gardener the specific dates or a time window that is



best for planting various crops. Therefore the implementation of the garden will be split in two phases i.e. autumn/spring. Summer and winter seasons will be utilized for other operations such as construction of non-living elements, care-maintenance of the living elements, additional planning, dissemination, and community engagement.

### Strategic location

A lot of thought has gone into selecting the site for the pilot GOTF project in the old Nicosia center. It is important to get the location right because it can greatly contribute to the success of the garden. It is key that the garden is in a high density, mixed-use neighbourhood close to a variety of commercial uses and key attractions such as the Omerye mosque. In such a place it can gather a lot of attention from those that pass by, and local residents can get involved with volunteering. A garden should be accessible, providing a much needed green space and be utilised for activities to gather the community members.

### Stakeholder participation

Our stakeholders are an important force for making this idea happen. From universities to commercial partners we have carried out a detailed analysis of our stakeholders. In order to ensure a successful partnership, we are focusing on reciprocal benefits. For example, cutting-edge research is being carried out in universities on biotechnologies and sustainable solutions. The Garden could provide a space for the academics to test their research in practice, acting as an innovation lab. Commercial organisations can also benefit from partnering with the Gardens of the Future, as GOTF provides a solution to achieve their sustainability commitments as set out in their Corporate Social Responsibility strategies. The community of volunteers is the largest group of stakeholders providing a precious human resource; from extra hands helping out with gardening to contributing ideas and sharing expertise in management. The involvement of stakeholders is key to success.

## CHAPTER 3: PROCUREMENT

# SCHEDULE OF OPERATIONS

### Management

The scale-up of the Gardens into an island-wide movement will not happen without the help of local community leaders. Currently we have an operation team of 10 managing the pilot Garden project. Once it scales up, the aim is to decentralise and empower local community leaders to take action in their neighbourhoods, making a change together as a community. The Gardens of the Future are strong advocates of participatory planning methods, which is a different method of procurement to the usual top-down approach. From the urban planning point of view, we aim to first and foremost engage our community, discuss the best approach and adapt our strategy as it is tested out in practice.

### Unforeseen Circumstances

The Covid pandemic is something that puts a lot of plans and great ideas on hold. As a community-building initiative GOTF requires hands-on physical contact to run the operations. It is important to act flexibly and responsibly to mitigate the risks of the covid pandemic. The situation has caused delays on the physical side of the operation in constructing the pilot garden. However, over the lockdown period there was more focus on the organisational and strategic parts of the project, which could be carried out working from the home office. It is clearly understood that the pandemic remains a risk, and the plan of action is accordingly adaptable.



CHAPTER 3: PROCUREMENT

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

LEADERSHIP TEAM

In order to achieve the project’s successful implementation, an organizational structure is proposed for project management, which defines how groups can be divided, coordinated and directed. Additional factors that influence the implementation management process relate to:

- Degree of alignment with organizational objectives:
- a. Degree of alignment with organizational objectives
  - b. Accountability assignment
  - c. Delegation of Capabilities
  - d. Scalability of Design
  - e. Physical locations

The approach to Gardens of the Future aims to be organic and to follow a flexible manner that is able to adapt well to possible future changes. The structure is characterized by having the main leadership team (8) who define

few rules, regulations and management layers and a decentralized decision making strategy in order to achieve an open-source implementation model. The core leadership team is in the position to identify a series of relevant stakeholders the project has the potential to engage with. To manage the load of operations for the first pilot garden, an operational team composed of an additional group of people will form the operations team (group of volunteers with expertise, other relevant experts, etc.). This way, people work side-by-side to communicate quickly and often solve unforeseen problems, issues and requirements. For the scalability plan, community managers may have a designated role assigned per neighborhood/per garden/per city, who will be responsible to employ the Gardens of the Future methodology, integrate the modules and elements of GOTF, as well as activate the community and other relevant stakeholders.



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# PROJECT MANANGEMENT

OPERATION TEAM



**Mohammad Bashir**  
Imigrant  
Garden Caretaker



**Constantina Polydorou**  
Agronomist



**Vejuna Žalalyte**  
Urban Planner



**Sara Boraei**  
Junior Architect



**Christina Galanou**  
Junior Architect



**Stefanos Panteli**  
Junior Architect



**Giulia Pochini**  
Social Media Editor



**Constantina Polydorou**  
Agronomist



**Christiana Constandinidou**  
Interior Architect



**Rasha Zeneddin**  
Junior Architect



**Andia Georgiou**  
Landscape Architect



**Margarita Koka**  
Social Media Consultant

CHAPTER 4: STAKEHOLDERS MANAGEMENT

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

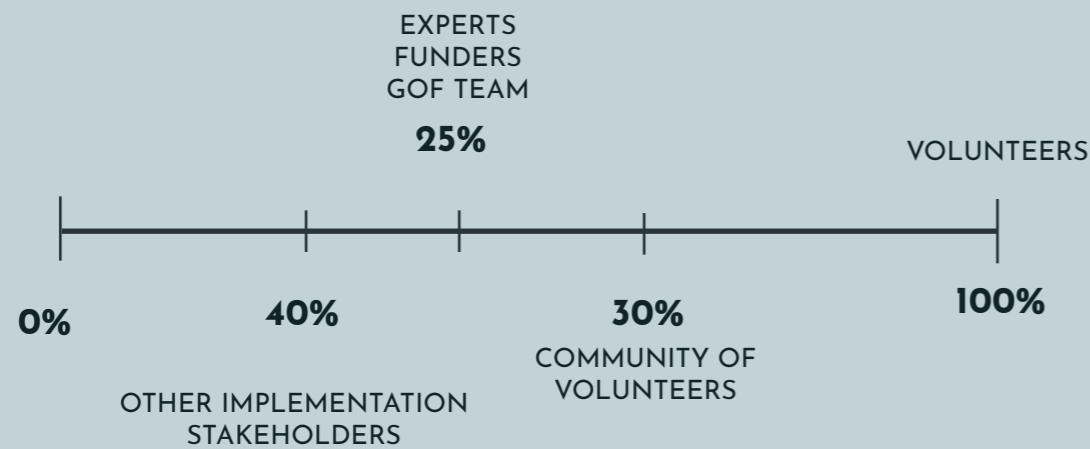
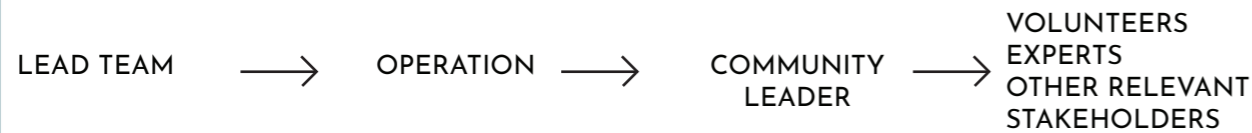
A core part of the mission of Gardens of the Future is to work collectively with others to empower and implement scalable and effective solutions which contribute to the achievement of the 2030 SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals).

In the prospect to maximize financial and social/environmental returns of the mission, a range of different Stakeholders have been Identified among 5 different target groups at a national and regional level. The following table represents a number of communication messages, which vary depending on the archetypes of presented within the target groups:



Target Group	Stakeholders	What's in it for us	What's in it for them
Academia and research	Local universities Regional universities Colleges Research centres	Solutions Expertise	GOTF can be used as a case study for research and be a place to experiment ideas
Industry	Factories Corporates SMEs	Resources Sponsorship Finances	Reputation Your company's image Public relations A reliable partner to reach your CSR goals
	Innovation centres NGO eg Energy Agency	Resources Sponsorship Knowledge Expertise Access to technology	A reliable partner for collaboration to make an impact, for reaching your organisation's KPIs
	The Media	Promotion	Material for the news, a successful local Cypriot initiative, an active community making a positive impac
Community	Volunteers Visitors Local residents General public	Human resource Doers Implementers Expertise	Impact Value Opportunity to make a positive impact in your local community Meet other like minded people Help a good cause
Government	Municipalities Commissioners Ministries Embassies	Reputation Resources Ethical support Land ownershi	Reliable partner to create sustainable cities, grow green spaces, achieve the green agenda
International Organizations	EU UN World bank	Visibility	Sustainable develop-ment goals (SDGs) Use as best practice example

# WHO ARE THE STAKEHOLDERS?



CHAPTER 4: STAKEHOLDERS MANAGEMENT

# ENGAGEMENT STAGES

Communication Process:

- 1. Identify the stakeholder
- 2. Contact to arrange introduction meeting
- 3. In progress:
  - a. Complete first meeting
  - b. Follow up
  - c. Agree on action plan
  - d. Complete second meeting
- 4. Engagement - Operation
- 5. Renewal and impact measurement

The suggested procedure of approaching is first, the universities and the government to gain support and raise reputation. Similarly, international competitions can help attract attention to the project. Then the private sector can be approached to raise funds. In this way it is more convincing as the project can demonstrate credibility and show that it is widely supported. The media helps to promote the project and gain further support.

The ‘community’ is a key feature stakeholder that requires a completely different approach of engagement. For that reason a series of community activation initiatives, online/ or on site will be held. A finalization of the Firsts Year Agenda for Gardens Activities will be elaborated to include:

Building Together:	Organized GoF activities to implement the Pilot Garden. Highly technical aspects excluded
Coming Together:	A series of community activities in collaboration with strategic partners or external experts to educate people on matters of sustainable development or any other relevant topic. (1-2/ semester)
Having fun Together:	A series of events/campaigns organized on behalf of GoF or other supporting organizations to raise additional finance and awareness (BBQs- Festivals etc) (1-2/month)

A participation form has been create to welcome interested individuals to join the cause:  
<https://gardensofthefuture.com/>

Impact of stakeholders:

- a. Funders through the organizations
- b. Contributors through their organization’s resources/ assets
- c. Contributors through their know-how and expertise
- d. Contributors as through their network sets
- e. Participants who would like to get involved in the project
- f. Learners who want to get educated through the project
- g. Visitors who want to be inspired



## Learning About You!

Thank you so much expressing interest in building this together with us! We would love for you to play an active role in our journey by contributing in a way that aligns with your passions, expertise, resources, and availability. As we begin on-site operations, we are interested to learn a little more about you :).

Kindly fill out the form below.

We will begin reaching out to you personally when the time comes!

Gardens of the Future Team

\* Required

Email address \*

Your email

First Name \*

Your answer

Last Name \*

Your answer

Contact Number \*

Your answer

Occupation/ Expertise \*

Your answer

Age \*



# MAJOR COSTS CATEGORIES

Taking into consideration that gardens can be defined as a ‘living organism’, the Gardens of the Future pilot Nicosia project - and thereafter any future installation in other locations - should be deemed as an ongoing project and not a one-off product creation.

Set Up	Clean Up,Demolitions,Construction Costs, Equipment Supplies and Labour work, external experts, company expenses, Utilities Set Up
Running Costs (Year 1)	Garden Maintenance, nurturing, replacement of seasonal plants through time,additional units,utility costs, operational labour ( community manager - garden caretaker- outsourcing personnel, external consultants, company expenses ( accounting-legal), website platform development
Scaling up	TBA
Event Planning	Annual Event

# INCOME ACTIVITIES

Type	Prioritization (2021)	Details
Donations	10%	In kind, Individual cash-in. Unpredictable
Funding	50%	CSR- corporation agreements (annual), funding proposals (national-other), grants to pilot Impact Investing Green Accelerator Fund (to support start-ups)
Community Activities	% later	Seasonal activities organized in the space on behalf of the gardens or other organizations (NGO etc)
Selling of Goods	% later	Garden Products, Others sustainable brands Sustainable Food Products
Sustainable Consulting Services	40%	Relating to CSR or other strategic partnerships A matchmaker between the demand and brands who can provide solutions via their products and services Gardens- Waste management - sustainability campaigns

# STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT OPTIONS

Supporter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Gain visibility in our 2-month promotional campaign (social media, website, posters, etc) and be promoted as a pioneer of National Innovation engaging to proactive social responsibility</li><li>•Receive targeted exposure throughout selected number of garden activities, and access an influential audience of government officials, influential figures from Cyprus and abroad, as well as the general public.</li></ul>
Silver Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Logo and link on the Gardens of the Future website</li><li>•A select number of invitations for your representatives at the venue</li><li>•Sponsor name and logo listed in all promotional campaign materials (social media, registration page, posters, PR, etc.)</li><li>•Company banner or sign throughout selected number of garden activities</li><li>•Thank you recognition badge at the gardens space</li></ul>
Gold Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•All the above, plus:</li><li>•Promotion at the main opening (booth)</li><li>•Opportunity to distribute materials and swag through Gardens Network</li><li>•Company banner or sign throughout selected number of garden activities</li><li>•Thank you recognition badge at the gardens space</li></ul>
Strategic Partner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•All the above benefits plus:</li><li>•Enjoy the benefits Corporate Social Responsibility Strategic Partnership</li><li>•Remain a permanent signage as an official donor at the Garden, which will remain open to the public after the event, so that locals and tourists may continually visit (est. only from Nicosia's Historic Centre visitors, your brand will be exposed to more than 20,000 people just within the next following months)</li><li>•Since our team has diverse professional expertise and network around the matters of sustainable development, entrepreneurship and innovation, we welcome the opportunity to offer in return consultation on how your organization may solve some of its cooperative challenges</li><li>•Create a garden of the future module (*)</li></ul>



# METHODOLOGY

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Growing Community Gardens

# METHODOLOGY

Gardens of the Future focuses on the foundations of a co-city approach and aims to 'grow' gardens as a network around cities utilizing its main assets (the collective power of people, unutilised spaces, and institutional support) in order to celebrate the city itself to: 1. Promote the culture of collaboration, 2. Promote the unique value of each city, 3. Nurture self-reliance.

### Methodology

The scale-up from 1 to 300 gardens island-wide requires careful planning. The first Garden of the Future site demonstrates the full-range of possibilities related to how different design modules can be combined into one garden space. However, there are also other possibilities of what other gardens could be, which are identified and showcased in an online network. The following note the differentiation into 5 categories:

### The Garden-in-a-Box

This is based on the idea that anyone can build their own garden. Gardens of the Future facilitates people in crafting their own garden by providing them with a box where they have the necessary tools and a 'how-to manual'. Similar to the DIY concept of flat packed furniture, Gardens of the Future aims to create 160 such gardens for immediate impact.

### Municipal gardens

Gardens of the Future aims to work with the municipalities in Cyprus to help them achieve their green development goals

and create gardens using the Gardens of the Future expertise. Often municipalities have KPIs to create public green spaces and they also have the municipal land available. Gardens of the Future is keen to assist municipalities to meet their sustainability agenda. It is estimated that 80 such gardens can be created, where Gardens of the Future will be able to provide know-how and module designs for implementation. Simultaneously, Gardens of the Future can operate visiting times and tours of the pilot project for the specific case of Municipalities.

### Private or commercial green space

Any business with land on their premises can improve their immediate environment by creating a garden with the help and expertise of Gardens of the Future. Factories would be able to transform their concrete pavements into lively gardens through the use of the GOTF garden modules. Corporate office rooftops can green up with a garden for their staff to enjoy. Universities can set up public gardens for the staff and student community to enjoy. Derelict spaces, balconies, shopfronts and cafe spaces can benefit from the GOTF modular concept. Organisational sustainability goals can be met. GOTF is open to partner with corporations to assist with the consultation of creating these types of garden spaces.

### Farming of the outskirts towns/cities

Farming is deeply ingrained into our lives, with elder family members carrying first hand experience of farming. The Gardens of the Future aims to support farming

practices in the outskirts of towns/cities, which would improve sustainable food production sources and access to locally sourced food.

### Existing good practice

All around Cyprus people are already growing beautiful gardens. Gardens of the Future aims to mobilise these communities and celebrate their best practices. The existing gardening practices can be assisted and a formula can be discussed for joining the Gardens of the Future network.

*“I have found  
only two  
types of non-  
pharmaceutical  
‘therapy’ to be  
vitally important  
for patients...:  
music and  
gardens.”*

OLIVER SACKS

