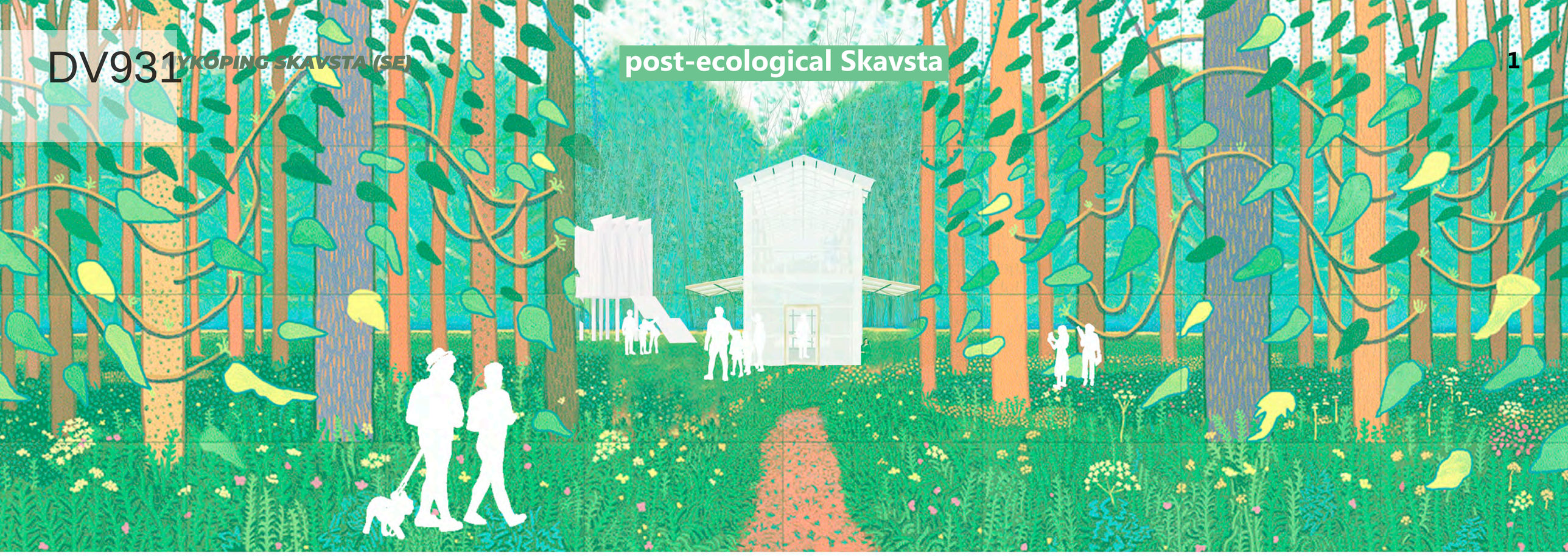
post-ecological Skavsta



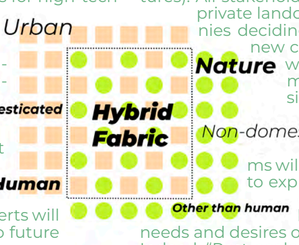
The current operating area currently houses a timber production forest for the construction sector, a forest that is both “natural” and “artificial,” where the wild meets the domesticated. Skavsta, therefore, offers an exceptional opportunity to create a new and hybrid urban fabric that uniquely merges the essence of nature and the urban environment.

“***Post-ecological Skavsta***” capitalizes on this distinctive quality of the pre-existing forest to shape an innovative self-building system that configures an exceptional public space, rather than starting from scratch. This “self-configuration” system aligns with a post-ecological paradigm that proposes new ways of city-making and new ways of relating to the territory.

A cyclical felling system is established, deploying a “generating grid” based on a 40-meter by 40-meter checkerboard pattern across the site. Within this grid, a cyclical interplay of “voids” - cleared spaces - and “full” spaces - forested areas - will configure the public space of the entire operating area. This grid provides the foundational structure from which the hybrid urban fabric will be molded. In each felling cycle, the generation of empty spaces and renewable construction materials will allow the expansion of the new neighborhood. As a result, the “domesticated” nature will coexist harmoniously with emerging urban structures, creating a sustainable balance respectful of the environment while fostering a dynamic and ever-changing neighborhood. The resulting urban fabric will be characterized by a series of “soft,” flexible, and adaptable architectures that readily accept changes and evolutions that may arise over time. This flexibility will ensure that Skavsta’s new neighborhood maintains its vitality and relevance in the future, as the community’s needs and demands evolve.

The urban development program will be focused on accommodating working buildings adapted to the challenges of the 21st century. Spaces for co-working will be encouraged, designed to facilitate collaboration and innovation among professionals from diverse disciplines. Special attention will be given to emerging professions such as streamers, content creators and other new virtual profesions, providing them with well-equipped studios and inspiring environments where they can develop their creative work. These spaces can easily adapt to meet the changing needs of the entertainment and communication industry.

Furthermore, the promotion of technological entrepreneurship will be encouraged, with the creation of accelerators and spaces for high-tech startups. These spaces will be designed to foster innovation and knowledge exchange, attracting bright minds and pioneering companies in fields such as artificial intelligence, virtual reality, renewable energies, and more.

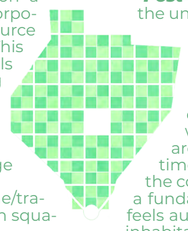


Additionally, areas dedicated to research and development of sustainable and ecological solutions will be integrated. Collaboration between scientists, engineers, and environmental experts will be encouraged to find solutions to future environmental challenges.

A key aspect of the proposal is promoting citizen participation in the self-building process. As mentioned before, the whole project is based on a self-construction principle, clearing alternate areas of the logging forest, which will periodically supply the neighborhood with construction materials, both for building/maintaining the “hard” architectures (buildings) and “soft” architectures (ephemeral, mobile, small-scale structures). All stakeholders involved in Skavsta, from private landowners to technology companies deciding to have a presence on the new campus, will form a horizontal working group for the design, modification, and other decision-making processes that affect the neighborhood. Collaboration and co-creation platforms will be established to allow users to express their ideas and opinions, ensuring that the hybrid urban fabric truly reflects the needs and desires of the community.

Indeed, “Post-ecological Skavsta” has been created around a strong idea of self-sufficiency. Not only does it involve the self-construction managed by a participatory horizontal committee, but it also proposes a food production system sourced from the surrounding fields, which could be directly integrated into daily consumption without intermediaries. This approach is complemented by greenhouses located on the roofs of the “hard” architectures and urban gardens scattered throughout the project.

Furthermore, the proposal is based on a strong integration of facilities that incorporate renewable energies as the main source of power in the new neighborhood. This includes the installation of solar panels and air-source heat pumps on building roofs, as well as wind turbines and the use of geothermal energy.



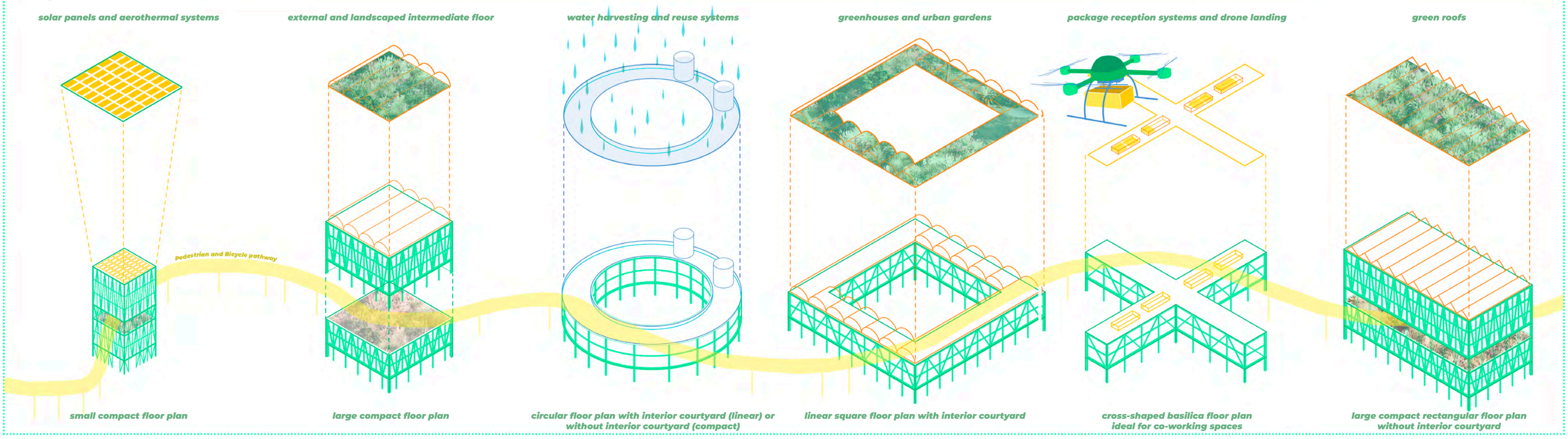
The proposal’s design has meticulously taken into account the different modes of mobility. There are three interchange hubs in the project:

1. The interchange hub between airplane/train and bike/walking, located in the main square to the north of the project area.
2. The interchange hub between public transportation and bike/walking, situated at the stop in the center of the project area, related to the recreational space generated around the rocks.
3. The interchange hub between private vehicles and bike/walking, located around the south roundabout, where parking areas would be situated.

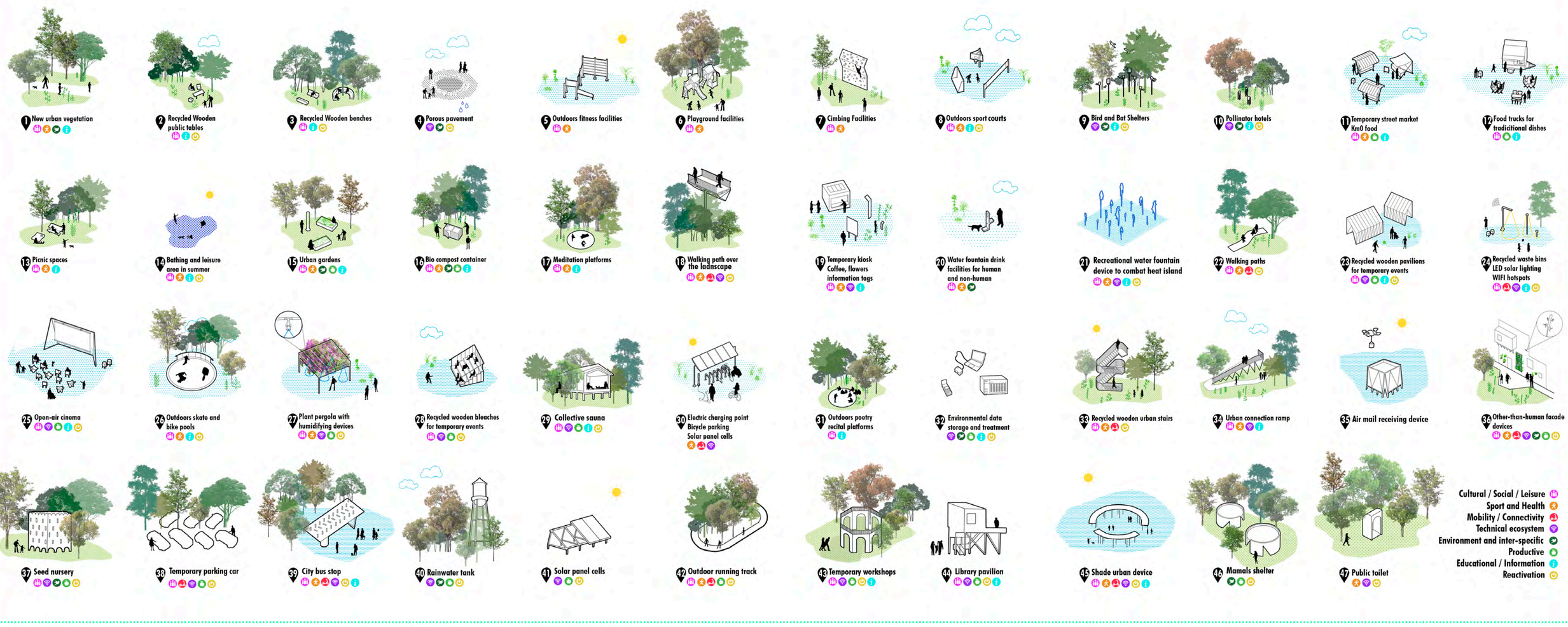
All three interchange hubs are interconnected by the boulevard, creating a cohesive and accessible transportation network within the project.

“***Post-ecological Skavsta***” aims to leverage the uniqueness of its “natural” and “artificial” forest to generate a sustainable and hybrid urban fabric. With a foundational grid and a self-building approach based on programmed felling cycles, a unique and dynamic public space will be created. The neighborhood will be enriched with “soft” and flexible architectures, allowing it to evolve over time and adapt to the changing needs of the community. Citizen participation will be a fundamental pillar in building a place that feels authentic and rooted in the hearts of its inhabitants. With this proposal, Skavsta will become an inspiring example of how the urban and natural can coexist harmoniously, preserving and celebrating the richness of the natural environment while building a vibrant and sustainable future.

Catalog of “hard” architectures



Catalog of “soft” architectures



Skavsta’s timeline construction