

Hidrograma - Beyond Infrastructure, Into Waterscapes

School of Architecture, Engineering, and Design

Hydro-Heritage: A Visual Guide to Water Points in Villaviciosa de Odón and El Bosque











Spanish Drought

Fuente de la plaza de la

Awareness

Campaigns

Constitución



New Water

Covid-19



PROJECTION

Fuente Caliza



Fuente Italiana

Evolution and Projection

of Water Consumption in

The graph illustrates a steady

rise in water consumption in

population growth and climate

Despite temporary reductions

due to awareness campaigns and the COVID-19 pandemic,

growth, highlighting the need for

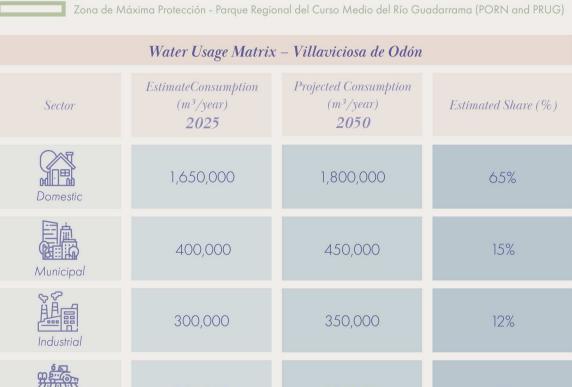
sustainable water management

Villaviciosa de Odón

(2000-2050)







Fuente de los Tubos

Assumptions and Sources Used

- Estimated Population: Approximately

- Average Domestic Consumption: 129 liters/person/day, based on INE data for the

- Municipal Consumption: Around 15% of

the total, including green spaces and public

buildings, following national data (ine.es).

- Industrial Consumption: Estimated at 12%,

reflecting moderate industrial activity in the area.

Community of Madrid in 2020 (ine.es).

Fuente Av. Concordia Pl. de la Concordia

2075 Circularity Achieved

Villaviciosa Castel -

Fuente de Leda y el

Villaviciosa Castel - Duck

Fuente de las Hadas

200,000 250,000 8% Agricultural TOTAL 2,850,000 2,550,000 100% (Estimated)



Adolfo Suarez

Key Information

- Length: 131.8 km

Guadarrama

(1,900m elevation)

- Mouth: Tagus River - Basin Size: 1,708 km²

Historical Use

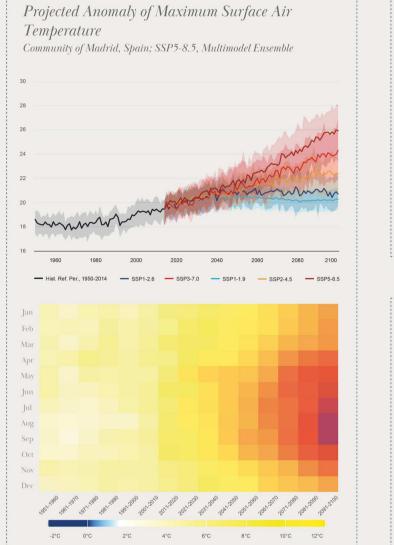
The Río Guadarrama

- Source: Siete Picos, Sierra de

- Main Tributary: Aulencia River

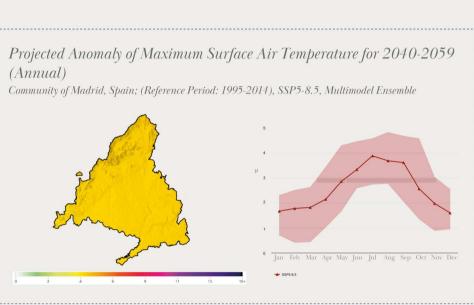
Fuente de los Caños

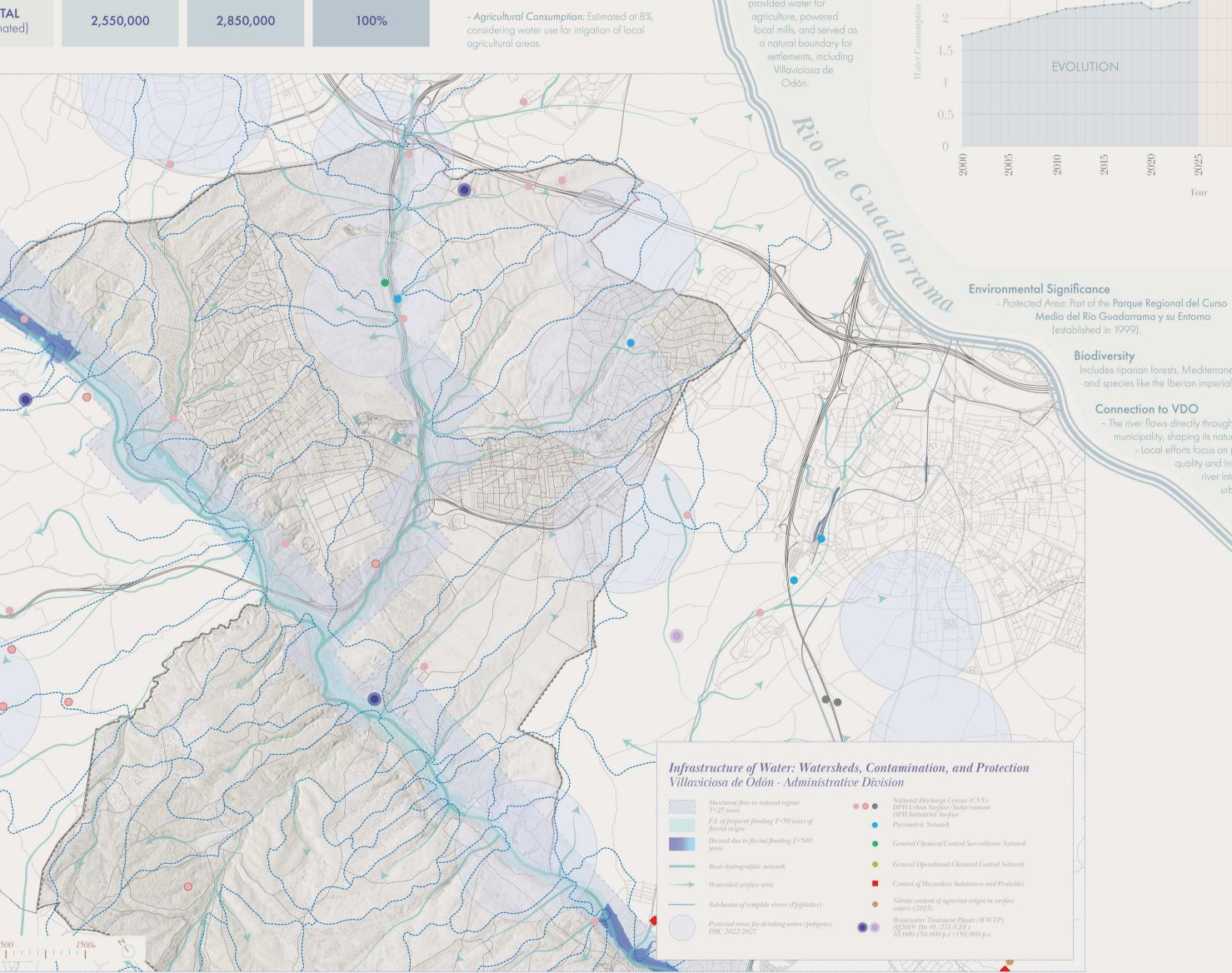
Fuente de Calatalifa Fuente de la avenida Príncipe de Asturias



Projected Anomaly of Maximum Surface Air Temperature for 2020-2039 Community of Madrid, Spain; (Reference Period: 1995-2014), SSP5-8.5, Multimodel Ensemble Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

Villaviciosa Castel -





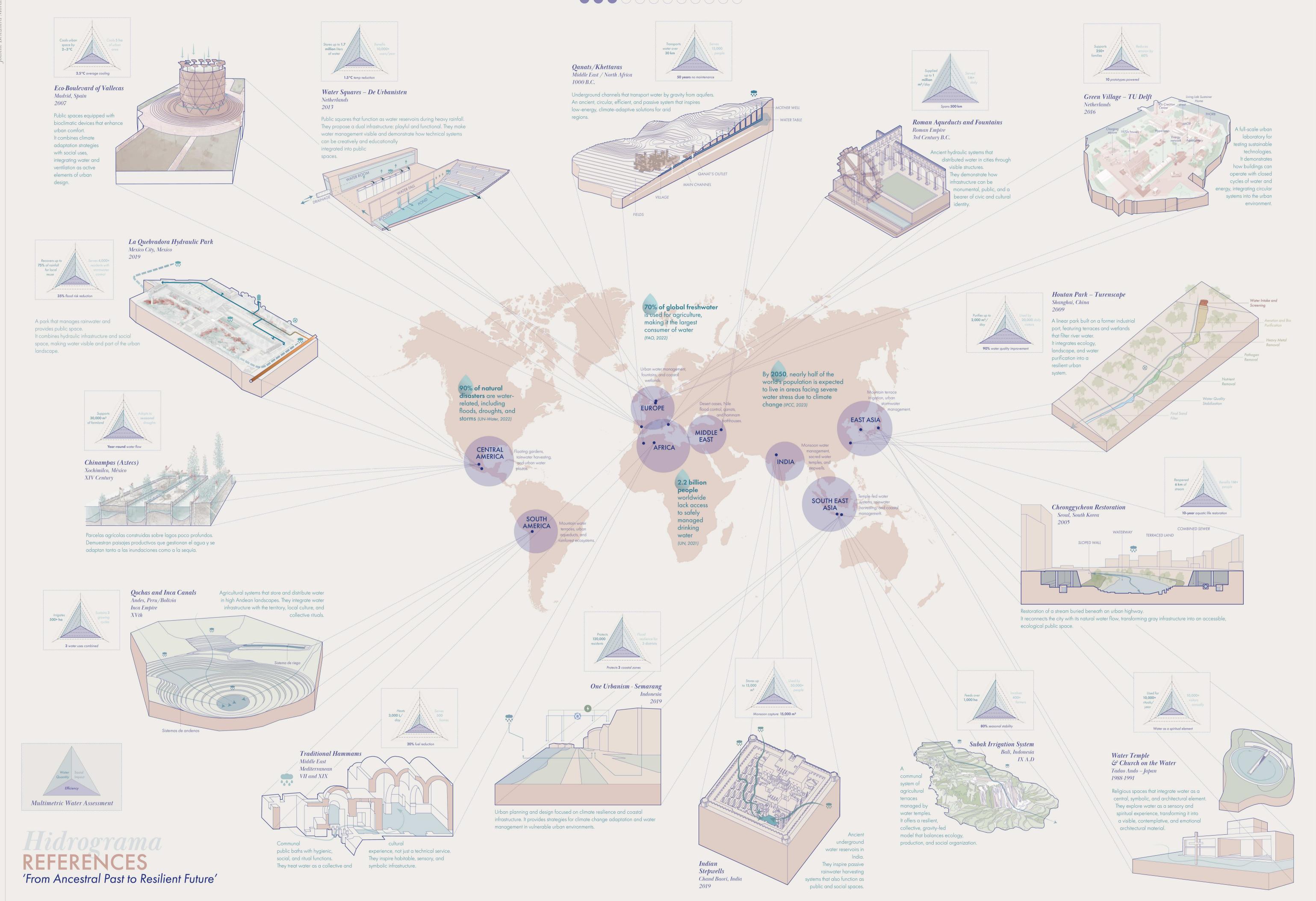
This Hypothesis explores the complex relationship between water infrastructure, climate, and urban development in Villaviciosa de Odón. Through a combination of historical analysis, current water usage data, and future projections, it visualizes the intricate hydrological network of the region. The map highlights natural watercourses, urban catchments, and key infrastructure points, providing a clear understanding of how water flows through the landscape. The accompanying timeline and consumption graph illustrate the evolution of water management strategies, from traditional sources to advanced projections for 2050.

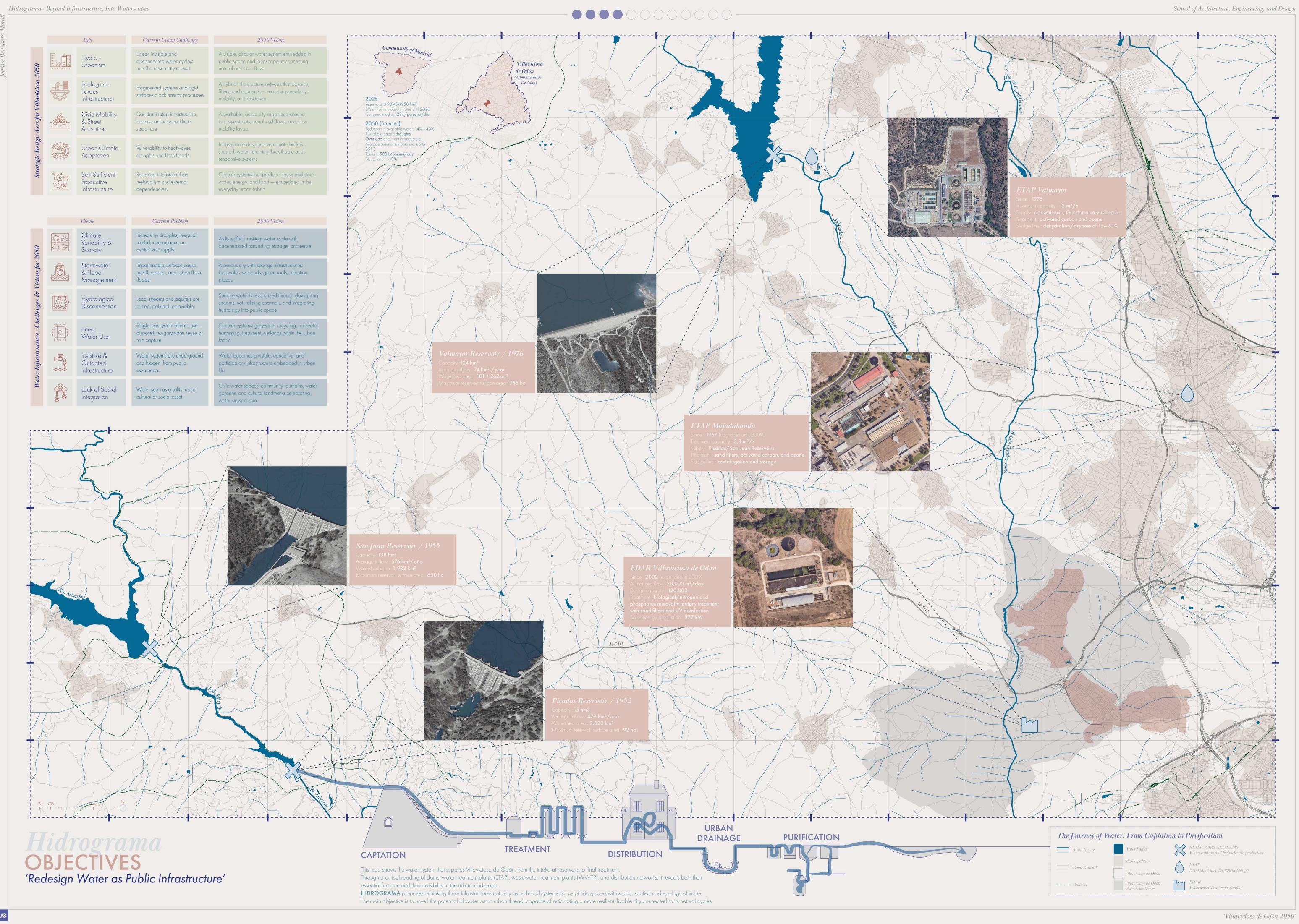
By making water visible—both as a resource and a challenge—this study emphasizes the need for resilient and sustainable water management strategies to ensure a balanced future for Villaviciosa de Odón.

- Length: Approximately 3.5 km Elevation: 578 m above sea level - Source and Flow: Receives water from Arroyo de la Madre, flows into the Guadarrama River - Protected Area: Part of the Middle Guadarrama Regional Park (since pathways, native vegetation, and community spaces Includes riparian forests, Mediterranean woodlands, - Environmental Challenges: and species like the Iberian imperial eagle. leading to restoration Connection to VDO - The river flows directly through the municipality, shaping its natural landscape. - Local efforts focus on preserving water quality and integrating the river into sustainable **Projected Anomaly** of Maximum Surface Air Temperature for 0 250 750m 2 2040-2059 (Annual) 2030

Hidrograma HYPOTHESIS

'Making Water visible transforms the city'





Hidrograma - 2050 Water, Infrastructure, and Urban Porosity

Through a progressive intervention, Villaviciosa de Odón could become, by 2050, a model of a porous city, where water is no longer managed as a fragmented resource but is integrated as an essential, resilient, and adaptive infrastructure.

Architecture and urban planning will act as mediating agents, articulating systems of retention, filtration, and redistribution that enable a holistic management of the water cycle.

This transformation will not only respond to the climate crisis and water scarcity but will also redefine the relationship between the built environment and the natural world, promoting a more permeable, habitable, and resilient city.

An urbanism based on porosity will help restore ecological balance, enhance biodiversity, and ensure equitable access to water as a fundamental right.

By 2050, Villaviciosa de Odón will be a benchmark in the symbiosis between infrastructure and nature, where water management will drive new ways of living, producing, and coexisting, ensuring water sustainability and urban adaptation to an uncertain future.

2. TREATMENT

ETAP

Drinking Water Treatment Plant (DWTP) Regulating Storage Tanks Before reaching homes, the water travels more than

250 km through canals and pipelines to one of the 14 Water Treatment Plants (ETAP) managed by Canal de The most important is the Colmenar ETAP,

There, the water undergoes processes such as preoxidation, coagulation, decantation, filtration, neutralization, and disinfection, removing tastes, odors,

4. URBAN DRAINAGE

Sewers and Outfalls

Canal de Isabel II manages more than 850 km of sewers and outfalls, integrated into an urban sewer industrial, and runoff wastewater and transport it to wastewater treatment plants (WWTP), ensuring the first step of

5. PURIFICATION

EBAR

Wastewater Pumping Stations When the terrain does not allow gravity-based

transport, more than 130 pumping stations They are essential to ensure the continuous flow toward the treatment plants, especially in low-lying or steep

EDAR

With more than 157 wastewater treatment plants (WWTP), Canal treats the wastewater of almost the entire Community of Madrid.

Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)

Through a series of processes — pretreatment, primary,

secondary, and tertiary treatment — the water is returned with European and national environmental quality

Pumping stations

Canal de Isabel II manages more than

30 large regulating storage tanks, with

water, acting as the system's buffer and regulating

the system has more than 20 large pumping and raise it to sufficient levels to maintain adequate pressure, ensuring it reaches every corner of the Community of Madrid,

3. DISTRIBUTION

Water Supply Pipelines

Once treated, the water travels over

the main conduits: primary channels

Connected in a ring-shaped system, these

conduits link the systems originating from

the Lozoya and Jarama rivers with those of

the Guadarrama and Alberche, ensuring a

that ensure efficient distribution.



A River Forgotten Waterways lose their presence in the landscape, fading from collective memory and urban space.



In Search of Water Amid growing shortages, everyday life reveals the urgent need to reuse and recycle water.



The networks managed by the

of more than 17,700 kilometers. This is equivalent to the straight-line

company extend over a length

Heat in the Concrete Urban streets trap heat, exposing residents to rising



Overflow Below Extreme rains overwhelm stormwater systems, flooding the underground network.



Stormwater Tanks

The network includes more than 60

These infrastructures store the initial

overloading the WWTPs (Wastewater

rainwater can be properly treated before being returned to the natural environment.

Fields under Pressure A growing city demands more food and water, while the land cracks under the weight of climate.

Baño de Poseidón

Reveal the depths of the cycle as an urban monument

San Juan Reservoir

Reservoirs

90% of the water consumed in Madrid comes from 13 reservoirs managed by Canal de

64.26% of this water is concentrated in the

During drought periods, 78 underground

Additionally, there are transfers from the Alberche

reservoirs and occasional extractions from the

Guadarrama, Sorbe, and Tagus (Tajo) rivers.

Disconnected from the Stream

Without formal infrastructure, people seek contact

with natural water to cope with rising heat.

1. CAPTATION

Venecia de Odón

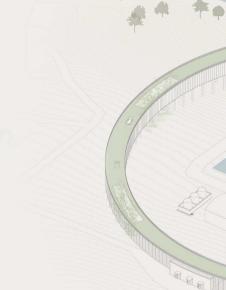
Transform the street into a pedestrian canal and urban

Camino al Trat-Arte Revived Stream: water that heals and connects

Las Antipiscinas

Transform the plazas into porous and climate-active surfaces

Villaviciosa de Odón



Agua de Ida y Huerta

Closing the water cycle by connecting the city to the productive territory

Embálséate

Activate the Reservoir as a civic and ecological space

Hidrograma PROPOSAL

'A Porous City Where Water Takes Its Place'

Eco-Boulevard, Vallecas

Green Village - TU Delft

Cheonggycheon Restoration

Church on the Water - Ando

On the banks of the San Juan Reservoir, on the right side where the water that will supply Villaviciosa de Odón architectural gesture that celebrates the beginning of the water cycle of the future city.

Located at a strategic point where hydraulic infrastructure exists but remains invisible, Embálséate proposes a profound transformation: making water a visible,

A pavilion suspended on metal profiles hovers over a new water landscape, where an outflow channel from the hydroelectric plant becomes a living, accessible natural

This pool, filtered through aquatic vegetation, not only fulfills an ecological function by improving water quality: it offers a direct sensory experience with the resource.

The intervention is inspired by ancient hammams and public baths, where the act of immersing oneself or simply getting wet is part of a collective ritual connecting body

The pavilion acts as an observatory and public terrace, offering new perspectives on the reservoir, the channels, and the technical landscape that It is a new civic stage, a place for pause, contemplation, and social gathering.

Access to Embálséate is organized through a series of constructed steps, directly inspired by the traditional Indian

As in those ancestral systems, the steps and platforms do not deny the natural topography but rather structure it architecturally, following its slope to create a sequence of

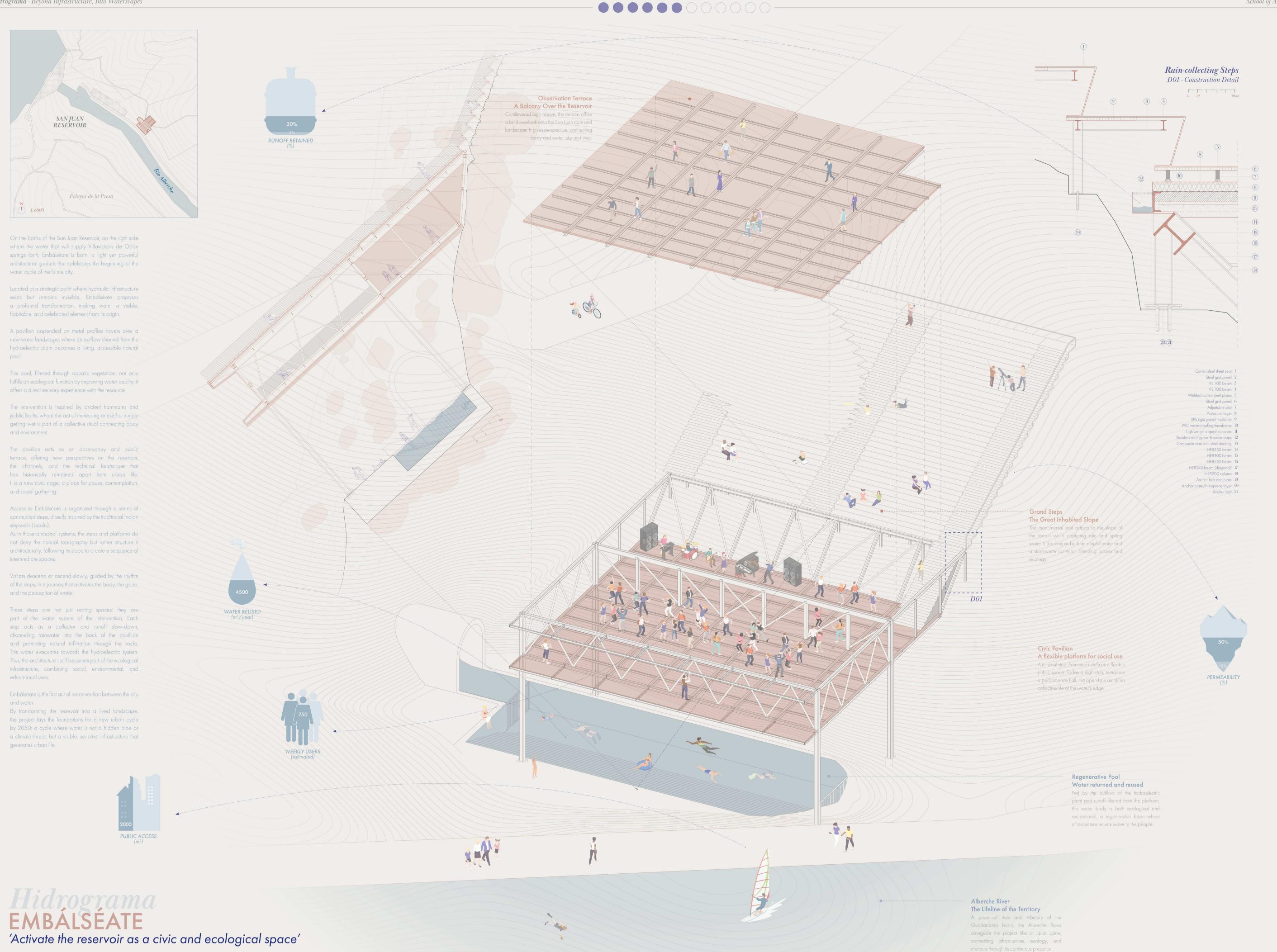
Visitors descend or ascend slowly, guided by the rhythm of the steps, in a journey that activates the body, the gaze,

These steps are not just resting spaces: they are part of the water system of the intervention. Each channeling rainwater into the back of the pavillion and promoting natural infiltration through the rocks. This water evacuates towards the hydroelectric system. Thus, the architecture itself becomes part of the ecological infrastructure, combining social, environmental, and educational uses.

Embálséate is the first act of reconnection between the city and water.

By transforming the reservoir into a lived landscape, the project lays the foundations for a new urban cycle by 2050: a cycle where water is not a hidden pipe or a climate threat, but a visible, sensitive infrastructure that generates urban life.

PUBLIC ACCESS (m²)



Qochas and Inca Canals

Hydraulic Park - Quebradora

Along the forgotten Arroyo de la Vega, a former branch of the Guadarrama River, nestled between the M-501 highway and the outskirts of Villaviciosa de Odón: Camino al TratArt.

It proposes a new path: ecological, educational, and vital. It transforms a marginal void into a regenerative urban experience.

The project is born from a dual intention: to recover a neglected fringe space, long overshadowed by infrastructure, and to reconnect the town center with the Universidad Europea through a greener, slower, and safer pedestrian route.

The existing footbridge remains, but the proposed intervention invites a different rhythm, one that is immersive and attuned to the landscape.

Drawing inspiration from projects like Houtan Park in Shanghai, the stream becomes a living infrastructure: a visible system of terraces, wetlands, and vegetated banks that purify runoff water naturally and in real time.

Visitors witness this transformation as they walk. Water filters through sand, gravel, and aquatic plants; microturbines under footbridges harvest energy; mist diffuses from shaded canopies suspended above. These architectural "nests" collect humidity, offer seating, and attract birds and pollinators, turning the linear path into a biodiverse corridor of rest and awareness.

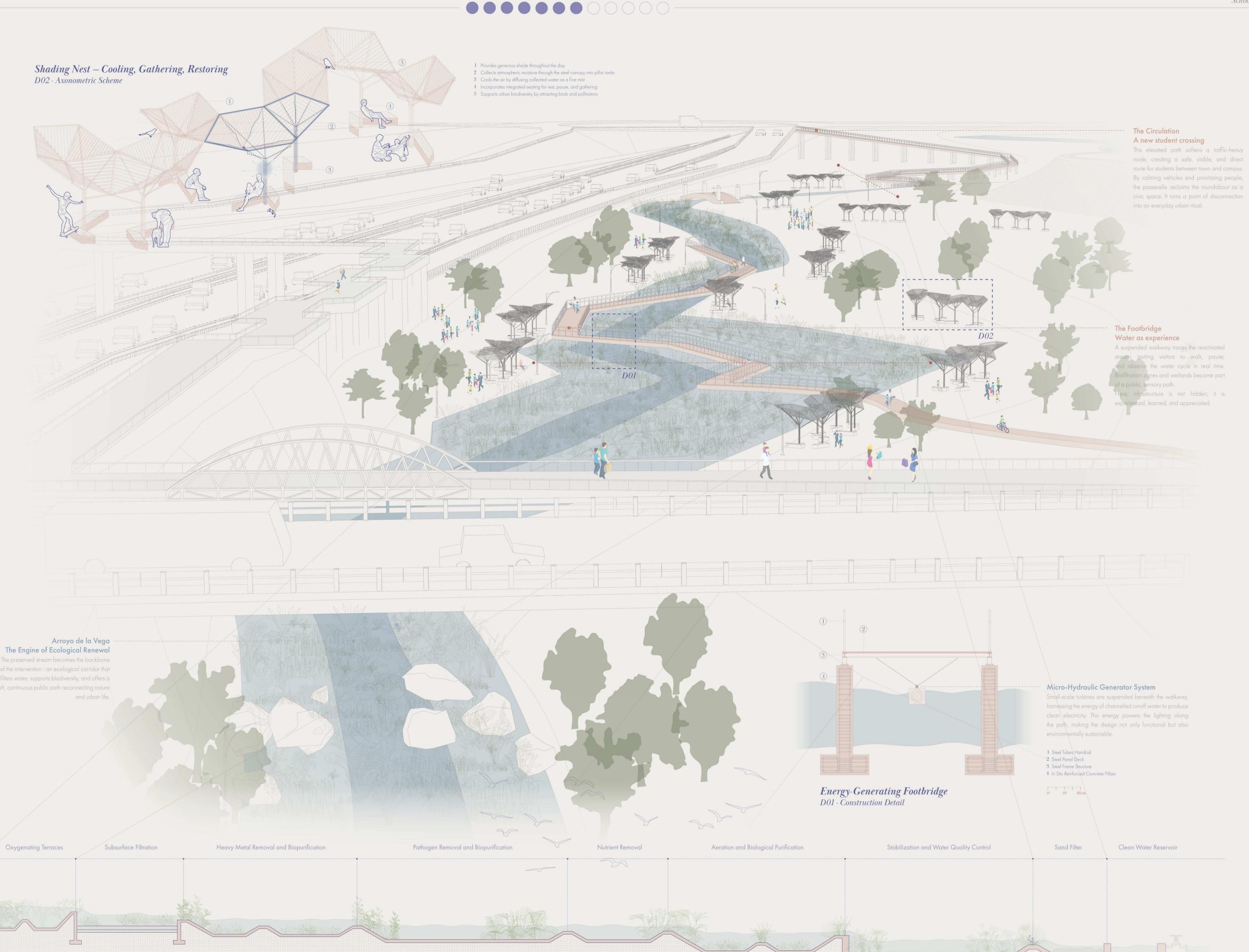
At certain points, the route opens into contemplative thresholds: benches, decks, or shallow crossings where water, people, and terrain meet.

without compromising hydrological function.

The channel's primary role is to clean runoff water before it enters the municipal potable system.

This segment of the Hidrograma reveals a phase usually hidden; a choreography of ecological treatment between water's collection and its reprocessing.

More than a path, Camino al TratArte becomes a restorative gesture: blending land, infrastructure, and urban life into one resilient and poetic system. A green spine that redefines the way we move, relate, and care.











Natural Purification Channel
Engineered Wetland System with Phytoremediation and Sand Filtration Modules

Through staged filtration and oxygenation, the stream becomes a functional pre-treatment









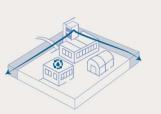
Eco-Boulevard, Vallecas





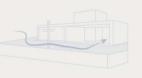


Roman Aqueducts

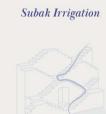


Green Village - TU Delft











One Urbanism - Semarang





Qochas and Inca Canals





In the heart of Plaza de las Margaritas, Las Antipiscinas emerges as a bold reinterpretation of the urban square, not as an inert, paved surface, but as a dynamic, porous system that actively participates in the water cycle. In an era marked by climate extremes, the project responds to the need for public spaces that are not only social but also resilient, ecological, and didactic.

Where water was once evacuated as quickly as possible, it is now welcomed, retained, and made visible. The plaza is no longer a backdrop for circulation but a hydrological landscape, designed to collect, slow, and filter rainwater through a network of permeable surfaces, slopes, and drainage corridors.

The project draws inspiration from Dutch urban water strategies, where plazas, parks, and playgrounds double as stormwater infrastructure. Following this logic, Las Antipiscinas reclaims the hidden potential of urban voids, creating a hybrid civic-hydraulic space where every square meter contributes to climate adaptation.

The intervention is structured around three main components. First, a basketball court with permeable paving doubles as a recreational platform and infiltration surface. Second, a sunken skatepark serves as a leisure space and secondary basin, capable of retaining excess water during intense rain. Its geometry is calibrated for temporary storage and controlled release.

Third, and most critically, the plaza's hydrological structure is anchored by a stormwater tank (tanque de tormentas) at its lowest point. Water flows into it through a system of sloped surfaces, subsurface pipes, and open channels, new Venecia de Odón canal street.

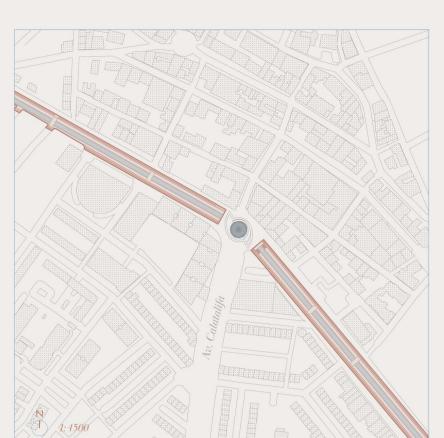
Every surface participates in this logic. Pavements alternate between hard, porous, and planted zones. Subtle level changes and grates guide runoff toward collection points. Native vegetation enhances infiltration, biodiversity, and cooling.

The transformation is both functional and symbolic. It positions water not as a threat to be hidden, but as a civic protagonist; present, visible, and celebrated. Las Antipiscinas reclaims the social and environmental potential of plazas as multi-layered infrastructures: spaces that gather people while responding to drought, storms, and heat.

Beyond its ecological mission, the project revitalizes the plaza's social life. Sports, leisure, and shaded areas activate the space daily, encouraging intergenerational use and supporting local commerce. A once-underused square becomes a vibrant and meaningful place.

Las Antipiscinas is not an isolated gesture but part of a broader urban vision : a prototype for Villaviciosa de Odón 2050. It proposes a new kind of public space: one shaped by rain, open to uncertainty, and guided by the intelligence of the ground.





Along Avenida Príncipe de Asturias, the main axis of Villaviciosa de Odón, stormwater and treated wastewater flow just beneath the surface, hidden in pipes, out of sight and out of mind. What was once a vital hydrological line has been paved over, compressed into infrastructure without presence, disconnected from both the city's natural processes and its public life.

Venecia de Odón proposes to resurface this flow, not metaphorically, but literally. It introduces a narrow, continuous urban canal into the existing street, reclaiming the buried logics of water management and transforming them into spatial, social, and environmental value.

The canal collects, filters, and transports a mix of rainwater and treated effluents, acting simultaneously as a visible drainage line, a cooling ribbon, and a passive reservoir in times of excess.

Rather than erasing the street's existing function, the intervention operates within it, not against it. The canal weaves through the center and edges of the avenue, adapting to available space, leaving room for vehicles but shifting the balance.

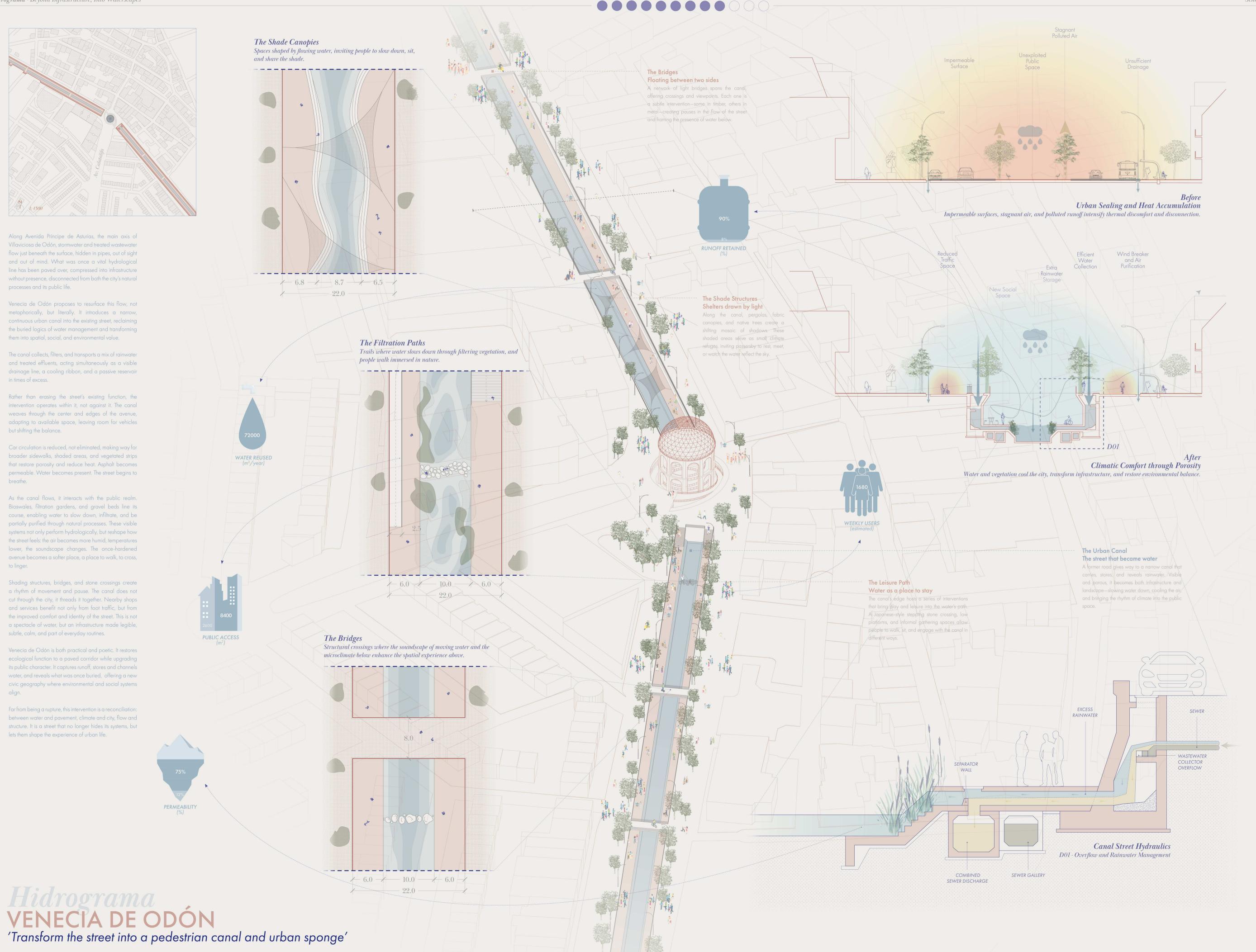
Car circulation is reduced, not eliminated, making way for broader sidewalks, shaded areas, and vegetated strips that restore porosity and reduce heat. Asphalt becomes permeable. Water becomes present. The street begins to breathe.

As the canal flows, it interacts with the public realm. Bioswales, filtration gardens, and gravel beds line its course, enabling water to slow down, infiltrate, and be systems not only perform hydrologically, but reshape how the street feels: the air becomes more humid, temperatures lower, the soundscape changes. The once-hardened avenue becomes a softer place, a place to walk, to cross,

Shading structures, bridges, and stone crossings create a rhythm of movement and pause. The canal does not cut through the city, it threads it together. Nearby shops and services benefit not only from foot traffic, but from the improved comfort and identity of the street. This is not a spectacle of water, but an infrastructure made legible, subtle, calm, and part of everyday routines.

Venecia de Odón is both practical and poetic. It restores ecological function to a paved corridor while upgrading its public character. It captures runoff, stores and channels water, and reveals what was once buried, offering a new civic geography where environmental and social systems

Far from being a rupture, this intervention is a reconciliation: between water and pavement, climate and city, flow and structure. It is a street that no longer hides its systems, but lets them shape the experience of urban life.



Qochas y Canales Incas

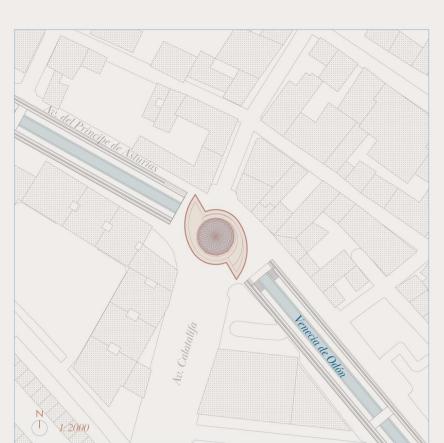
Hydraulic Park - Quebradora

Eco-Boulevard, Vallecas

Green Village - TU Delft

Cheonggycheon Restoration

Hidrograma - Beyond Infrastructure, Into Waterscapes School of Architecture, Engineering, and Design



Beneath the surface of Villaviciosa de Odón, massive stormwater tanks quietly hold the rain that falls over the city, protecting it from floods and regulating its hydrological

Normally hidden, these technical infrastructures take center stage in Baño de Poseidón: a transformative intervention that reveals one of these reservoirs as a civic and symbolic monument to water.

The project is part of the Venecia de Odón sequence, continuing its logic of purifying mixed rainwater and wastewater through visible, architectural means.

Where the canal-street makes flows legible on the surface, Baño de Poseidón invites the public into the depths of the system, uncovering the hidden core of urban water management.

From the main axis, a discreet entry appears as a fracture in the ground, a modern grotto carved into the city. This subtle gesture invites visitors to descend into the unseen: a vast cylindrical space where water gathers, suspended between sky and earth.

The intervention preserves the tank's function but transforms its meaning.

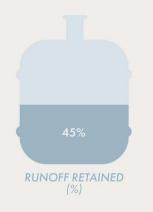
An elevated circular balcony allows visitors to observe the reservoir in real time. As storms pass, the water level fluctuates, echoing through the chamber. Sound, atmosphere, and light shift, turning this once-invisible infrastructure into a living, responsive space.

At the top, a transparent EFTE dome crowns the structure, a symbolic device that makes the volume of stored water visible from above. The dome acts as a hydrological balance between scarcity and abundance.

The architectural language is quiet, monumental, and emotional. It is inspired by historical water deposits like Santa Engracia in Chamberí, Madrid. Light enters softly, reflecting on the water surface like in a sacred space. The experience is designed to be introspective, almost ritualistic; a place not just to look at water, but to feel its presence and meaning.

This descent is not only a spatial journey but a civic one. By opening access to the hidden system beneath their feet, Baño de Poseidón gives citizens the opportunity to recognize water as a collective heritage, not a threat or residue, but a living element that sustains and unites.

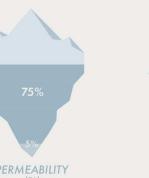
Within the Hidrograma project, this intervention marks a moment of transition: where technical resilience becomes public culture, and utility becomes memory. It is a pause in the journey of Venecia de Odón, a monumental threshold that celebrates the new relationship between the city and its water: reflective, infrastructural, and deeply human.













Green Village - TU Delft

Cheonggycheon Restoration

Church on the Water - Ando

Traditional Hammams

Qochas and Inca Canals

Hydraulic Park - Quebradoro

Main Floor Plan Agua de Ida y Huerta

Entrance

Hidrograma
AGUA DE IDA Y HUERTA
'Closing the water cycle by connecting the city to the productive territory'

Hydraulic Park - Quebradora

Camino al TratArte converts a forgotten fringe into a green corridor where water care becomes a shared and visible act. As pedestrians walk along terraces and wetlands that naturally clean runoff, they witness environmental processes in real time. This path slows movement and opens awareness, offering spaces of pause and reflection. It reconnects the town and university not only physically but emotionally, fostering a new kind of belonging where nature, infrastructure, and

community learning are intertwined.

Las Antipiscinas turns a dry, underused square into a lively and porous urban stage. Here, people gather not only to play or rest, but to coexist with water and climate processes. Every surface performs a function—soaking, retaining, inviting. Sports courts, skate bowls, and shaded paths double as flood infrastructure, allowing children and elders alike to inhabit the plaza through different rhythms. The project strengthens community resilience by creating shared ground where life and weather meet meaningfully.

Camino al Trat-Arte

Revived Stream : water that heals and connects

Las Antipiscinas

Transform the plazas into porous and climate-active surfaces

Venecia de Odón restores water's presence in the city by embedding a canal into the main avenue, creating a space where people walk alongside ecological processes. This integration of mobility, climate adaptation, and social life makes the street more than a route—it becomes a place of gathering, learning, and comfort. By moderating car traffic and encouraging lingering, it gives the public a sense of agency in how their city adapts to change. The intervention transforms a functional corridor into a space of civic identity.

School of Architecture, Engineering, and Design

Embálséate redefines the San Juan Reservoir as more than a water source: it becomes a civic space where the public reconnects with the origins of their water. By transforming hydraulic infrastructure into a lived and accessible landscape, it invites people to contemplate and engage with water as a cultural and sensory experience. The architecture, inspired by hammams and stepwells, evokes a slow and ritual descent toward awareness, strengthening the emotional and ecological bond between humans and their resources.

Embálséate

Activate the Reservoir as a † civic and ecological space

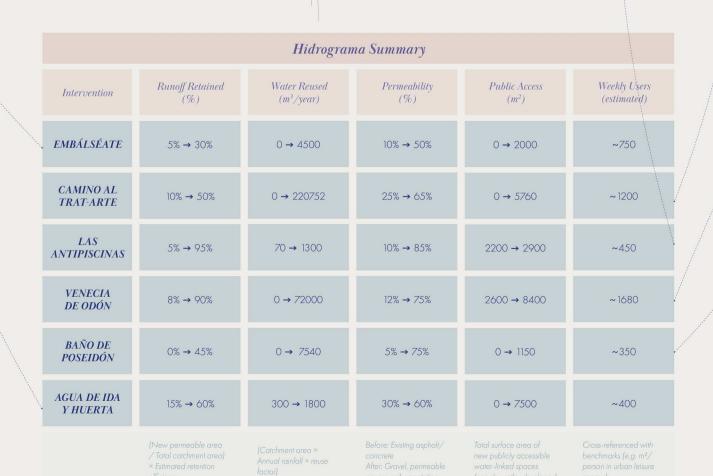
HIDROGRAMA 'Beyond Infrastructure, Into Waterscapes'

Venecia de Odón

Transform the street into a pedestrian canal and urban sponge



Agua de Ida y Huerta celebrates the potential of water's afterlife by transforming the wastewater treatment plant into a productive civic loop. Visitors interact with aquaponic systems, green roofs, and educational spaces that demonstrate circularity in action. It is a place where infrastructure becomes a catalyst for knowledge, food, and community. People gather not only to learn but to participate in a landscape of regeneration, turning waste into resource and closing the cycle with purpose and visibility.



Baño de Poseidón

Reveal the depths of the cycle as an urban monument

