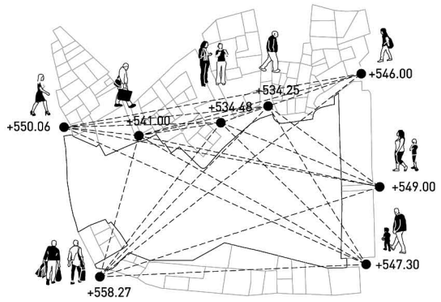
J170

La misteriosa historia del jardín que produce agua

The mysterious story of the garden that makes water / public space 2016

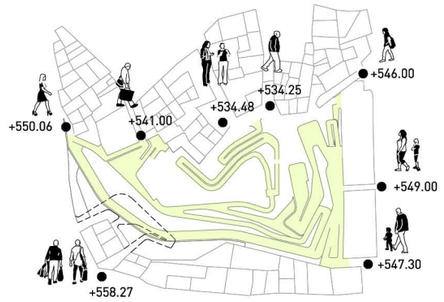
1

Initial problem nº1: Steep slopes and disconnected streets. The neighbours want to walk through to the other side and they trace their "desire paths"



Solution nº1:

We study the **"desire paths" to trace** comfortable paths.



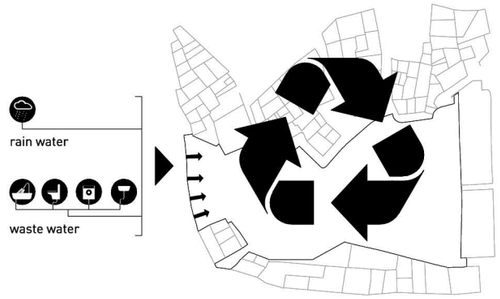
Known as "El Coso", **the place was a great void at the back of the old part of the town**, called **Cehegín (in the Region of Murcia, Spain)**. Formerly it was a neighborhood with dwellings adapted to the slopes of the hill. After a big snow storm in the 1950s, many of these houses collapsed or were damaged, leaving that big, sloped empty space. **With beautiful views on the landscape of crop fields and orchard**, this place was the home of several families. It was still attached to the memories of the people but it was deteriorating in the physical plane. **It was a great mess of disconnected streets with height differences**, uninhabitable for its steep slopes. Besides this, the old part of Cehegín seemed to **lack inhabitable gardens**, and the city needs to breathe through them. Achieving this seemed a dificult task. That operation would require large amounts of water, and **the Region of Murcia has very limited water resources**. **How can we optimize the use of water** in order to achieve the growth of all the plants in a park?

2

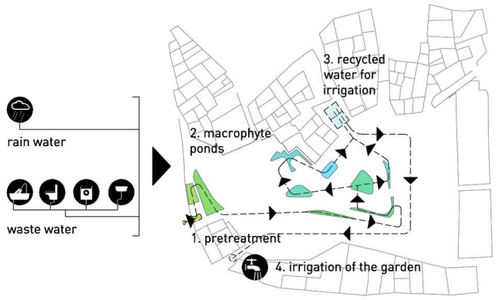
Initial problem nº2: Drought and lack of inhabitable gardens in this part of the city

Solution nº2:

We **re-use** rain and waste **water**.



We have to clean it using a natural system based on macrophytes, like naturally occur in the rivers. We use the recycled water to irrigate a garden.



We collect the **rain water and the waste water** from the sewing network in the high part of the site. **The waste water goes along the pond network with riparian plants with the purpose of producing clean water. This water will be used to irrigate the rest of the plants in the garden**. The **water falls** from a pond to the next one **by gravity**. Riparian plants (aeneas in flotation) filter and clean the waste water. They feed on the organic matter in suspension. At the end of the network, water is poured into a underground tank where it is analyzed. If the water is suitable for irrigation, it is used. Otherwise it is pumped into the first pond again and starts another cycle of purification on the network. **We obtain recycled water for irrigating an inhabitable garden, a jungle with its own micro-climate. This situation attracts local fauna.**

1+2

Result nº1 + nº2:

A walk garden that produces water for irrigating an evolving aromatic floral symphony.