

Carolina Svetlana Novillo Bravo - Ecuador

Regreening project that inspires me

Leshan Pocket Park, in the Xuhui District of Shanghai.

<https://www.urbanagendaplatform.org/best-practice/practice-leshan-pocket-park-collaborative-and-participatory-approach-adopted-xuhui>



What I learned from this project:

- Community participation: Residents, visitors, and young people were all part of the design process, which created a strong sense of belonging and shared ownership.
- Ecological solutions: The park uses permeable soil, rain gardens, and rainwater collection systems to improve drainage and reduce flooding in the city.
- Inclusive design: It includes shaded areas, comfortable seating, accessibility for elderly people, and flexible spaces for relaxing, walking, and socializing.
- Urban resilience: The park improves air quality, reduces the urban heat island effect, and provides a calm, green space that supports mental health.

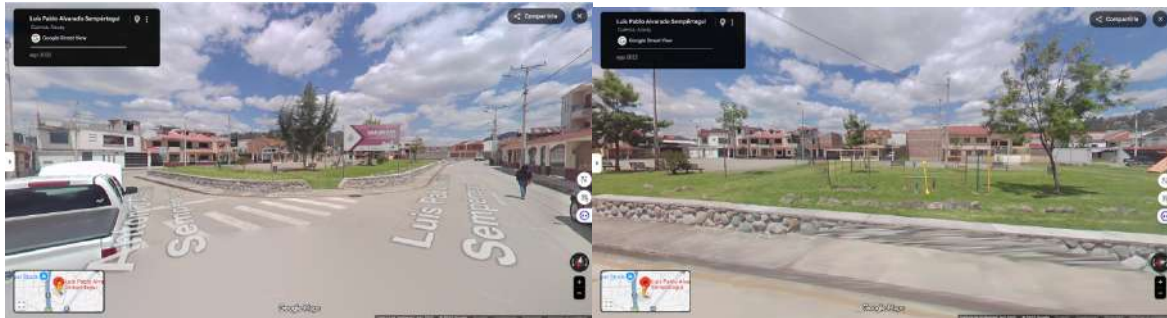
Location in my community that could benefit

A park in a little-known area

Why it's important:

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- Many people in the neighborhood don't go to this park to relax and connect with nature.
- Because it's a desolate area, it's dangerous for children and the neighborhood.
- Transforming this space would create a healthier, safer, and more attractive environment for children, families, and seniors.



My vision for transforming the space

- Rain gardens to collect and filter rainwater, helping prevent floods and keeping the ground healthy.
- Native plants: local flowers, shrubs, and trees that support pollinators and adapt well to the local climate.
- Permeable walkways made of gravel or eco-paving to allow water infiltration and easy access for everyone.
- Shade and seating areas with benches and pergolas for rest and community gatherings.
- Multi-use area for children's play, community gardening, or small outdoor classes.
- Community involvement: Workshops where residents can share ideas and help design and maintain the park.
- Climate resilience: Shady trees, rainwater collection, and recycled materials for benches or pathways.



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How This Project Would Improve My Community

- Health and well-being: Cleaner air, natural shade, and calm spaces reduce stress and improve quality of life.
- Equity: Access to green spaces for everyone, not just wealthier areas. Elderly people and children can enjoy nature nearby.
- Climate resilience: Better drainage, lower heat levels, and support for local biodiversity.
- Social connection: A shared project that strengthens community ties, pride, and collaboration.

Link from the post on my Instagram account

<https://www.instagram.com/p/DPuhKuRjLiK/?igsh=YWcyOXNhGcGI0ZDg=>

Photo from the post on my Instagram account



Caption

Day 12 - PGC

Outdoors

Even small areas can make a big difference. I designed this vision to transform a local park into a living, green space: with rain gardens, native plants, and community areas where everyone can connect with nature.

Because greener neighborhoods mean healthier, happier people