

Chair of
Regenerative Urbanism

Department of Architecture
Jade University of Applied Sciences

Grounding Territorial
Regeneration

Architecture and Urbanism
for the Symbiocene

CALL FOR PAPERS

International Scientific
Symposium

JADE UNIVERSITY
OF APPLIED SCIENCES
Wilhelmshaven Oldenburg Emsfleth

Call for Papers—In an era defined by intertwined biosphere crisis, technological disruptions, territorial injustices, and epistemic crises, urbanism can no longer be framed as a question of density, typology, optimization, mitigation, or resilience alone. *Grounding Territorial Regeneration* positions territory not as a passive substrate for intervention, but as a living system, as multi-scalar assemblage of human and more-than-human relations.

The symposium departs from the premise that the Anthropocene paradigm—grounded in extraction, separation, and human exceptionalism—has reached its conceptual and operational limits. Where the Anthropocene is structured by control, and externalisation, we introduce the concept of the Symbiocene, that is grounded in mutual dependence, care, and shared metabolisms. For architecture and urbanism, this entails a fundamental re-orientation: away from solution-driven, object-centred interventions toward situated, long-term, and accountable spatial practice that actively participate in the regeneration of territorial

living systems. It shifts the emphasis from dominance to co-evolution, from extraction to reciprocity, and from isolated objects to relational assemblages. Territories are understood not as reservoirs of resources or sites of intervention, but as living, more-than-human systems, constituted through entangled ecological, social, and technical relations.

Territorial Regeneration is framed a transition process of re-synchronisation between human activities and planetary boundaries. Within the Symbiocene framework, architecture and urbanism are understood as critical and design-driven operative interfaces between metabolic systems, cultural practices, and political ecologies.

We welcome theoretical, empirical and practice-based submissions on, but not limited to, the following topics:

—**CARE PROTOCOLS**—Care Protocols for Territorial Regeneration: Territorial Regeneration understood as a practice of care across temporal, ecological, and social scales. Focus on maintenance, stewardship, vulnerability, and long-term responsibility as operative design protocols, shifting from project-based intervention to continuous territorial care.

—**CIRCULAR RESOURCES**—Circularity for Territorial Systems: Territories conceived as metabolic systems structured by circular flows of water, soil, energy, and materials. Focus on regenerative resource cycles, waste-as-resource logics, and the spatialization of circular economies beyond sectoral and infrastructural silos.

—**POST-ANTHROPOCENTRIC COMMONS**—Commoning Agencies beyond the Anthropocene: Territorial Regeneration through shared agencies of humans, more-than-humans, technologies and institutions. Focus on commons as spatial, ecological, and governance practices: multi-species habitats, collective stewardship, and non-extractive modes of inhabiting and regulating territories beyond anthropocentric frameworks.

—**CRITICAL ZONES**—Designing within the Thin Skin of the Earth: Territorial Regeneration at the scale of the Critical Zone between atmosphere, biosphere, lithosphere, and hydrosphere. Focus

on design under planetary boundary conditions, deep-time processes, and fragile couplings beyond administrative and jurisdictional logics.

—**POST-CARBON IMAGINARIES**—Territories after Fossil Modernity: Territorial Regeneration beyond fossil infrastructures, narratives, and spatial orders. Focus on new aesthetic, spatial, and cultural models of post-fossil territories—not as transition, but as rupture.

—**ENTANGLED INTELLIGENCE**—AI, Territory, and Situated Computation: Artificial intelligence not as an abstract tool, but as a territorially embedded system. Themes include data ground-truthing, hybrid human-ecological-machine intelligence, and new modes of design after automation.

—**POST-IRREVERSIBILITY DESIGN**—Designing after Damage, Loss, and Irreversibility: Regeneration under conditions of irreversible ecological and social damage. Focus on repair, restitution, deconstruction, and working with loss—beyond narratives of optimization and progress.

—**CRITICAL CASES**—Case-based investigations that expose structural tensions, thresholds, and failures within socio-ecological and territorial systems. Critical cases operate as analytical devices rather than best practices, foregrounding conflict, irreversibility, and systemic breakdown to interrogate dominant planning, design, and governance paradigms and to open alternative trajectories for Territorial Regeneration.

The symposium explores how spatial practices can move beyond extractive logics and disciplinary silos toward:

- Regeneration as a long-term, open-ended process, rather than a project with fixed outcomes
- The reconstitution of territorial commons under conditions of climate stress, land commodification, and infrastructural fragility
- The role of architecture and urbanism in mediating conflict, care, and co-habitation across species and stakeholders
- New spatial imaginaries that emerge from soil, water, waste, energy, and food cycles
- Post-anthropocentric approaches to space, recognising non-human agencies as active territorial agents
- Hybrid methodologies that integrate design research, environmental data, indigenous and local knowledges, and critical theory

Positioning

Grounding Territorial Regeneration is explicitly addressed to an audience engaged in advanced academic, research-driven, and experimental practice, including scholars, doctoral researchers, and practitioners engaged

in critical urbanism, architecture, landscape, geography, history, and environmental sciences. The symposium aims to foster a shared intellectual space for deep reflection, debate, and methodological experimentation.

Through keynote lectures, paper sessions, design research presentations, and roundtable discussions, it aims to create a shared critical space for reflecting on how spatial disciplines can meaningfully contribute to regenerative futures under conditions of uncertainty, instability, and irreversible change.

Submissions are expected to demonstrate conceptual rigor, critical positioning, and relevance to Territorial Regeneration. We invite passionate and inquisitive spatial thinkers, researchers, and designers to join the symposium.

Paper Formats

We invite contributions in the following formats:

- Full paper—Critical position papers articulating emerging concepts or frameworks
- Research-based projects—Projects reflecting on regenerative processes and their contradictions or grounded in projects, studios, or territorial investigations

Important Dates

- Abstract submission:
01—03—2026
- Notification of acceptance:
15—03—2026
- Deadline for full paper:
15—06—2026
- Symposium dates:
1AND2—10—2026 in Oldenburg
- Book Publication Mid 2027

Submission Guidelines

- 1.) Abstracts 300-500 words
should clearly articulate: the research
question or position, the theoretical
and/or methodological framework, the
contribution to the symposium theme
- 2.) Short Bio 100 words

Submissions should be sent with the
'Abstract Submission Form' and the
'Bio Submission Form' to:
regenerative-urbanism@jade-hs.de

Download [Abstract Submission Form](#)

Download [Bio Submission Form](#)

Grounding Territorial Regeneration
seeks contributions that rethink the
foundations of architecture and ur-
banism as spatial practice itself, si-
tuating them as critical forces in the
co-creation of regenerative, symbiotic
territories, making them regenerative
by design.

For more info, visit:

www.jade-hs.de/regenerative-urbanism/symposium-grounding-regenerative-urbanism/

International Scientific
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GROUNDING TERRITORIAL REGENERATION

1 AND 2 — 10 — 2026

Chair of Regenerative Urbanism
Department of Architecture

Jade University of Applied Sciences
Oldenburg in Germany

JADE UNIVERSITY
OF APPLIED SCIENCES
Wilhelmshaven Oldenburg Elsfleth

The purpose of the Symposium *Grounding Territorial Regeneration* is to establish an international forum for scholars, designers, and researchers whose work engages with Territorial Regeneration under conditions of ecological crisis, technological disruption, and socio-spatial inequality. The symposium aims to create a space for presenting and critically discussing research and design practices that rethink regeneration as a grounded, relational, and long-term process.

The symposium brings together perspectives from architecture, urban design, landscape architecture, planning, geography, and related fields, with particular attention to the implications of biosphere crisis, soil, water, commons, and disrupting technologies such as artificial intelligence for the evolving role of spatial practice.

The symposium will be held in person (streamed online) on 1 – 2 October 2026 in Oldenburg, Germany. It is conceived as a platform for sustained debate, knowledge exchange, and the formation of new alliances around the urgent task of Territorial Regeneration.

The Symposium defines Territorial Regeneration broadly, referring to the spatial, ecological, social and technological systemic qualities of territories across cities, regions, agglomerations, and other landscapes in the urban rural continuum. It describes a qualitative and systemic shift in which territorial design and planning actively restore, enhance, and regenerate ecological and social capacities, making territories net-positive over time.

The symposium emphasizes territorial systems as both the subject and medium of Territorial Regeneration, situating design and urbanism within the complex forces that continuously shape and reshape territories.

The Symposium is organized by the Chair of Regenerative Urbanism at Jade UAS under direction of Prof. Dr. Radostina Radulova-Stahmer and Ass.-Prof. Dr. Stefano Tornieri.