

Doce_SSA

Pollinating Urban Meliponary Network in the city of Salvador

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Abstract

In a vital and sometimes hidden role, bees maintain terrestrial ecosystems through pollination, enabling the recovery of native flora and accounting for about 75% of food crops in the world. Motivated by anthropic action, their decline is a global issue. Taking advantage of a strong local context for urban resilience, the activism of several agents and the expansion of rational keeping of Brazilian stingless bees, named Meliponiculture, the *Studio 360arquitetura* proposes the *Doce_Ssa* as an “unsolicited” architecture, in an intense participatory transdisciplinary process, also evolving towards Municipality’s interest. As a pilot action of coordinated design, a network of pollinating urban meliponaries is proposed for the city of Salvador, in order to house and promote the multiplication of native bees. The basic architectural project, supported by a

principle of urban acupuncture, comprises microarchitectures strategically linked to local programs – urban parks, school and community vegetable-gardens and orchards, and Candomblé “Terreiros” (afro-Brazilian worship terrain) – becoming centers of pollination and environmental education. Urban green spaces and areas for social engagement are articulated for this new mission, enhancing the project and the range of action and flight of the main bee species adopted for it, the *Melipona Scutellaris*, which is up to 3-4km. In a provocative inversion of the city – architecture – object relationship, *Doce_SSA* inspires a promising low-cost, high-impact design strategy, based on nature, to mitigate the climate emergency and the need for cities to adapt, while bringing people closer to these extraordinary social insects.



Figure 1. Microarchitecture 01 prototype for urban meliponiculture in public spaces.360arquitetura



Figure 2. Temporary pavilion's interactive panel detail, for the project exhibition to the general public.360arquitectura



Figure 3. Microarchitecture 02 rendering, proposed to house bees in urban vegetable-gardens in Salvador.360arquitectura