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School: School of Global, Urban and Social Studies

Presentation: Third Milestone Review

Title: Letting Nature Speak

Abstract:

In the era of a massive biodiversity crisis, design professionals demonstrate that they are well-positioned to support global biodiversity conservation efforts. From supporting restoration, to living buildings, many built environment professionals show what we can achieve when we combine the creativity of design thinking with ecological knowledge and deep care for the local environment and the non-human species that inhabit a place. But while some designers are ahead of the curve, others are currently panicking or focusing all their efforts on addressing climate change while ignoring the profound biodiversity loss perpetuated by the separation between development and nature. This thesis parts from the idea of incorporating biodiversity's voice into the design process by considering biodiversity as the non-human stakeholders of the design process. It aims to enable design practitioners with the knowledge and tools required to design for non-human stakeholders. As a thirds milestone presentation, I will present the overarching narrative of my thesis and the tools that are emerging. These tools help translate ecological knowledge to support 'place' for both humans and non-humans to coexist.

