

**proto
topia**

Rethinking cities through

care



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**Imagineering
caring futures**

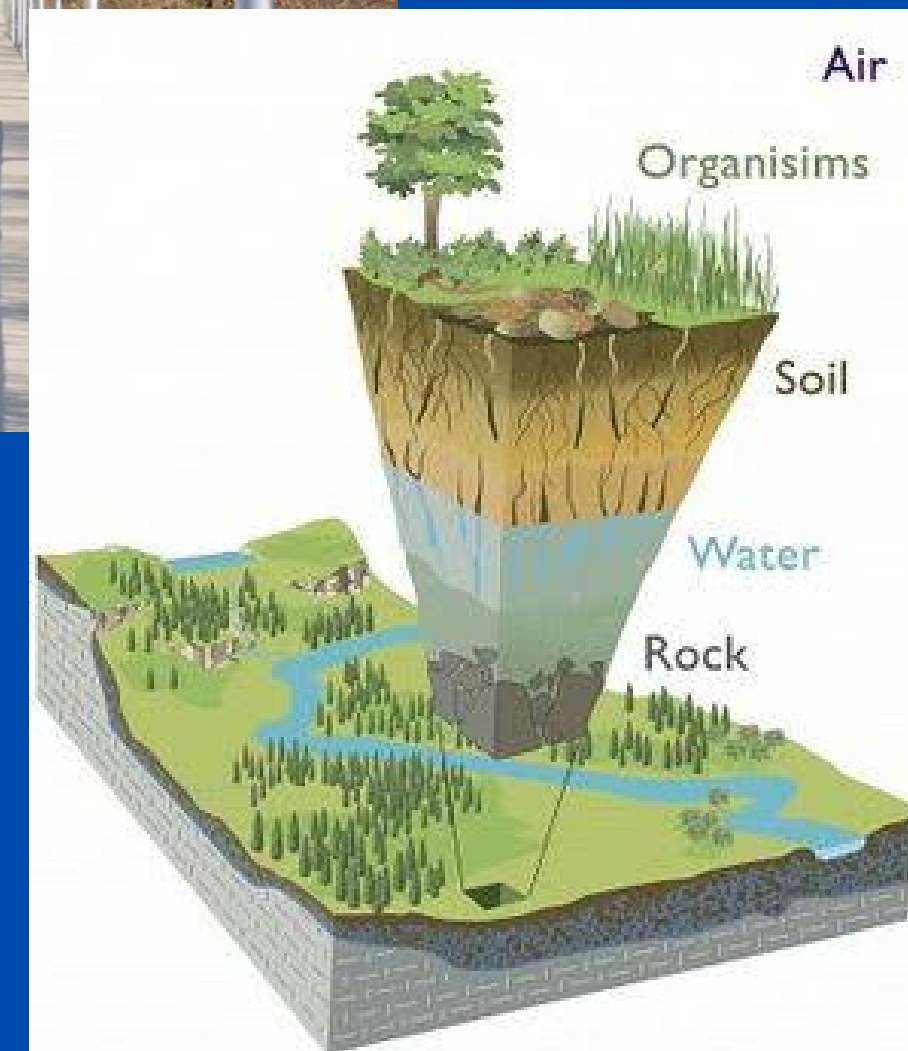
The triple crisis of care : a challenge for cities



- Manifesting itself clearly in cities (half of the world's population)
- Massive contribution to GHG (70%) & material footprint (more than 50%)
- Specific vulnerability to climate change e.g. urban islands of heat
- Omnipresent pollution (incl. light & noise)
- Intersectional inequality and unmet care needs (child care, mental & health care, loneliness, lack of access to green spaces)

Nurturing and repairing relationships to preserve inhabitability

- Conceiving cities as a **shifting web of relationships (humans/non humans/elements)**
- **Relationships as the primary unit** of analysis, design, and accountability for local public policies, institutions and governance
- Litmus test of successful **transition pathways in mobility, nutrition, housing and leisure through relationships** (self, others, living world)



The solution: green caring cities

- originated in **Latin America**
- identifying **unpaid household work** as the source of a “care crisis”
- **Montevideo and Bogota** as avant-garde labs
- now **dozens of cities** using this concept (UCLG)
- **climate-resilient and nature-positive** cities as a social and health intervention (one health)
- designing urban spaces that actively **repair social, ecological, and psychological harms**
- **using participatory, community-led processes** in defining what “caring” means and how it should be enacted in policy, design, and services.
- **time as a key lever:** transit/15 minute city, micro moments of calm or togetherness, time-use of city commons





Montpellier as a caring city : youth-led foresight at Paul Valery University

All inhabitants enjoy
greater time affluence
to care for themselves,
for others, and for the
living world



Economies of Equality and Care

Final Report of the GOLD VII
Research Process



 **UCLG**
United Cities
and Local Governments

- The recent World Congress of UCLG representing 240,000 local governments representing 5 billion people concluding that:
- Care is a need and a human right
- Care is everywhere from people to public services
- Care giving is important work
- Care is important for life now and for people in the future



Forum for caring societies
Promoting care-centered economies and societies, in which both humans and nature are thriving.
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