

Blue-green walls of Quedlinburg

How principles of the sponge city can be implemented in a stone medieval urban structure

Everything is in interlinkage, - every plant, animal, and micro-organism has an integrated relationship within its ecosystem.

The «Blue-green walls of Quedlinburg» is a complex of soft engineering solutions for managing rainfall by means of the vegetated treatment network. This network will strengthen the biodiversity and green infrastructure of Quedlinburg through creating new functional green areas, retention, filtration, infiltration, and treatment of stormwater. This complex of soft engineering solutions will have a great impact on the atmosphere, climate, and water circulation.

My focus has been pointed on Wallstraße since this street is a potential barrier for harvesting of stormwater which flows down from the upper streets. Green Street is also a reference to the city's history. There were city walls, under which lush vegetation grew.

Throughout the area was created multifunctional spaces for people: a parking house with a café and gardens for local residents on the roof; a park with a meandering stream to enhance biodiversity and create a natural meeting place for people (in winter the south part of the park can be used as an ice rink); rain gardens with seating next to the church in the centre of the old town to capture excess rainwater from the roofs of the surrounding buildings. Wherever possible, green roofs have been proposed. The individual interventions add up to a whole that makes it easier for the sewerage system to process rainwater.