AUROVILLE – A WAY FORWARD

January Sessions, 7 – 13 January 2019
The Auroville Retreat

The ‘elephants in the room’

The Retreat

The starting point was during the 2019 Retreat held in Auroville. The Retreat began with the initial discussions and the collective discussion of the Retreat agenda. The participants were made aware of the current situation in the Retreat and how the Retreat was to be conducted. The Retreat concluded with the final reflections and discussions. The Retreat was a great opportunity to create a sense of community and to discuss the current situation in Auroville.

The ‘elephants in the room’

The Retreat was held on the 20th of January 2019 and was attended by more than 100 participants. The Retreat was held at the Auroville Retreat Center. The Retreat was divided into three main sessions: the Retreat, the Retreat, and the Retreat. The Retreat was a great opportunity to discuss the current situation in Auroville and to create a sense of community. The Retreat was a great opportunity to discuss the current situation in Auroville and to create a sense of community. The Retreat was a great opportunity to discuss the current situation in Auroville and to create a sense of community.

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Auroville Retreat 2015 >>> WayForward 2018

The Auroville Retreat took place on 12th and 13th March, 2015.

It brought together members of the International Advisory Council, the Governing Board and around 160 Aurovilians to examine the present state of Auroville and to draft an action plan for the near future.
Auroville - A Way Forward

Collaborative Planning Workshop

Bringing the Purpose of Auroville into our life, built environment & organisation

OPEN PARTICIPATORY SESSIONS

Jan 8 & 10
3 PM to 6 PM

Jan 12
Final Presentation
5 PM Onwards

@ Unity Pavillion

The January sessions will be facilitated by an international team of specialists in sustainable town planning and community processes. This is an offering from Auroville International, L'avenir d'Auroville and members of the community.

Auroville - A Way Forward

Collaborative Planning Workshop

Schedule

MONDAY, JANUARY 7
5 PM Introduction to Visiting Team

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8
9 AM - 1 PM Hands-on Planning Charrette
3 PM - 6 PM Presentations & Open Participatory Sessions
Healthy Placemaking – Eco City Principles by Fred London
Dimensions of Water by Prof. Herbert Dreiseitl

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9
9 AM - 1 PM Hands-on Planning Charrette

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10
9 AM - 1 PM Hands-on Planning Charrette
3 PM - 6 PM Presentations & Open Participatory Sessions
Livable Cities - Spiritual Designs by Joachim Eble
Community Planning Strategies by Clare SanMartin

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12
5 PM Final presentation
Process of January Sessions and Way Forward Recommendations
„AUROVILLE – A WAY FORWARD“
January Sessions, 7 – 13 January 2019
(at the Unity Pavilion)

**PARTICIPANTS**
- Visiting Team
- L’Avenir
- Working Committee
- AV-Council, FAMC, BCC, ...
- Key initiators & influencers
- Water Group, Green Group
- IZ Team, Crown-Team
- Village Action Group
- Mobility Team
- Urban & Regional Planning

**AV Residents**
- Charrette Participants +
- „If you care, be there!“
- AV residents
- Initiators
- Anyone interested
- Planners (e.g. Puduchery)

**DAY 1**
Monday 7th
- Matri-mandir
- Problem, Dreams, Solutions
- Hands on Planning

**DAY 2**
Tuesday 8th
- Pre-meetings
- Fishbowl
- Holistic Town-planning

**DAY 3**
Wednesday 9th
- Working structure
- Water & Beauty
- 5 Way Forward Groups

**DAY 4**
Thursday 10th
- Problem, Dreams, Solutions
- Fishbowl
- Holistic Town-planning

**DAY 5**
Friday 11th
- Team Work out continued
- Way Forward Groups continued

**DAY 6**
Saturday 12th
- Monday 14th
- Team Work out continued
- Final Presentation

**MORNING SESSIONS**
- Get together
- Presentation: Healthy Placemaking
- Presentation: Community Planning

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS**
- Water & Life Experiment
- Holistic Town-planning
- Team Work out Results

**WORKING TEAM DINNERS**
- Fishbowl
- 5 Way Forward Groups
- Team Work out continued
- Final Presentation

**VON ZADOW INTERNATIONAL**
**EBLE MESSERSCHMITT PARTNER**
**DREISEITLconsulting.com**

January 2019
DAY 1
„For decades we are having discussions about planned or organic growth. I hope your team will contribute to building bridges between the two.“ (Frederick)
„Darkali is a wildlife park of more than 50 acres connecting the International with the Industrial Zone“ (Gopal)
“Money is never a problem. I sold my guitar to finance planting the first trees here!” (Gopal)
„As AV Foundation we represent the government as landowners. But we are taking the backseat and only act when we receive workable plans with community consensus!“ (Mohan Chunkath)
„Auroville is heavily pressurised from outside and the Tamil reality has to be integrated in future planning!“
(Secr. Mohan Chunkath)
“Townplanning is very sensitive and needs to include intangible factors. Therefore we need to act carefully as midwifes!” (Sauro, Working Committee)
„Since 2005 we are running l‘Avenir /TDC in different structures. But each time the system implodes because some are dropping out.“ (Suhasini)
“Nothing has worked so far and at the end of the day no one is happy.“ (Suhasini)
„Architects are driving the townplanning as AV doesn’t have townplanners! This new structure has been worked out with great care, but has not been fully implemented yet. “ (Suhasini)
Problems

• Plans get made but not implemented

• Inability to get approval for detailed development plan (DDP) based on masterplan & galaxy model

• Lack of properly organized comprehensive data

• Capabilities not matching the roles in working groups

• Lack of awareness about roles and responsibilities of different working groups

• Lack of accountability in working groups

‘A few people blocking the development despite the agreement of large number of people in the community’

‘There should be more meetings where Aurovilians present what they do – not just meetings about problems’
Problems

- Lack of consensus about the overall vision
- Egoistic attitudes and rigid opinions with resistance to change
- Lack of listening - poor communication
- NIMBYism
- Lack of community approved common goals to work for the way forward
- Misunderstanding and disharmony

‘We are aspiring to a new consciousness but carrying the albatross of an old language’

‘Differing opinions are paralysing us’
Problems

• Lack of cultural and social integration

• Exclusion of children from the community planning

• Exclusion of villages from the Auroville planning process

• Not enough youth involved in working groups (only 10% are involved)

“We must consider our impact on the surrounding area”

‘Tamil villages are within Auroville but not aligned with Aurovilian ideas – we need to find a way to work together’

‘Mother wanted full integration between Aurovilians and villages’
Problems

- Dangerous roads
- Lack of proper mobility plan
- Traffic in the city area

‘Cycling takes time – our lives are so hectic we need to slow down’

‘Our population needs to increase to make us a walkable neighbourhood with enough mixed uses’

‘Urban planning is too focused on roads and buildings rather than spaces’

‘We are losing touch with humanity’
Dreams

• A unified society with everyone working to achieve collective wellbeing

• Genuine alignment with goals of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother’s Yoga

• New thinking free from prejudice, old patterns and emotions based on inner peace

• A society that is conscious, honest, collaborative, child centred, open- hearted, open minded and joyful

‘Auroville can be a garden – our inner work is to do the composting’

‘My hope is that the January Sessions will lead to some actionable plans that have community consensus’

‘Villager’s dreams are different from Aurovilians – we need to find a way we can both fulfil our dreams’
Dreams

- A warm welcoming vibrant city
- Education is a priority
- Living in harmony with nature
- A true incubator of innovative and sustainable living
- Sharing resources responsibly with the bioregion
- Integrating villages into all community processes
- Model living for the outside world as it is supposed to be

“Everywhere you go – smiles”

“I have faith in Auroville”
Solutions

• Being possessive about the dream of Auroville as a whole and not about individual personal needs

• Keeping accountability of main focus instead of personal opinions

• Studying and understanding the ideals of Auroville as defined by the Mother in her texts

• Participatory informed community

‘If we want to move forward don’t keep going back to what Mother said – decide for ourselves what is best’

‘Build friendship with the plan we have been given’
Solutions

- Decentralized organization while keeping the whole in the mind
- Create platforms to share and discuss openly
- Addiction therapy for dysfunctional digital communication media
- Educate the upcoming generation of Aurovilians and engage them in the governance

‘Planners should facilitate Aurovilians to express their Vision for Auroville’

‘We should make a supraurban (not suburban) dense city to keep nature’
Hands-on-Planning
Search for:

**Small** things which make a **BIG** difference

Find Game Changers
Spiritually Energised Activity Field

- Spiritually Energised Activity Field
- Autonomous Economy in Practice
- Leap Towards Shared billing (UTS) Transition
- Agroforestry - Organic Farming
- Water Catchments
- Dams
- No sandstorm - Topsoil intact
- Erosion controlled growing
- Pioneering in solar energy use
- Self sustenance - Electricity & exporting power
- Wind power
- CSR - Nexus - AVConsulting
- Sound wizard - Svaram - Probiotics
- Earth Institute - Awake - Upasana - Spirulina Farm
- Creating employment benefiting Avins & surrounding villagers
- Collective Services
- Collaborative - Cooperative - Food supply
- Pioneers of organic farming
- Permaculture - Sahyadri Dharma Foundation
1 Forest development – EDU environmental education

2 Organic farming

3 Permaculture centre

4 Water catchment area

5 Nexus: start of IT in India, Aureka: metal workshop, Sound Wizard: Sound-proofing

6 Solar Kitchen and Probiotic House – Auroville’s focus for healthy food

7 Auroville Consulting: education and research, SWARAM: musical instruments, Spirulina: green algae, Sunlight Future: solar R & D
„Matrimandir is our spiritual centre whatever we do!“ (Uma)
Focus on Skills
Focus on Skills

"We are functioning like animals."
- Domination
- Instinct-driven

Selection Process by end March '18
- Working Committee (external)
- Part 9: Privilège Conseil (internal)
- Part 4: FTHC Financial
- Part 8: l'Atelier d'Amorville

RA residents assembly
- Allow for higher "maintainers" in governing groups
- Let groups choose their successors

Define clear expectations

Do not allow "We don't have the time to talk..."

STOP Dublin Democracy is the best way...
- "Rôle of the wards" RA

"Stop inviting everybody"
FTHC: use specialists

Selection Process
- Use co-ordinators
- Set aside time for working groups
- Use situation to focus on the groups' needs
- Allow people to join regular meetings needed

Strong administrative secretary

Have regular time for liaisons with RA, collaboration
"Set aside time in every team to deepen the Auroville commitment. You don‘t have time for it? You don‘t have time to NOT do it!“ (Martin)
Unending Education

1. Kindergarten close to home and workplaces

2. Schools and Sport clustered

3. Vocational training and research

4. University with multi-use pavilions

5. Community as living laboratory
„Auroville is a learning Matrix, a learning society of all ages!“ (Divya)
1. Past: Rainwater system
   Future: rainwater, ground water, recycling

**Challenges**

2. Growing demand of water: agriculture (70%) shifting to urbanization, saline ground water
3. Policymaking on large scale
4. Governance: top down approach, lack of local understanding, problems of maintainance and operation, no cooperation

**Solutions**

5. Find and establish the common goal with a holistic new branding
6. Need for experiments and learning: New aesthetics without water (self sustaining), stable ecosystem cylon-proofed > prototype model, Pioneer to expand wisdom
„We have a lot of know-how, but we don’t have a culture to share it. We constantly reinvent the wheel…“ (Gilles)
1. Watercourses and lakes

2. Villages occupy land within Auroville boundaries

3. Foreign nationals not picking up on Tamil cultures

4. Tamils feel marginalised in decision-making; e.g. Needing to protest about proposed highway

5. Tamils are likely to be influenced and interested in actions rather than words

6. Tamils relationship to land misunderstood by outside world

7. Family values – spirituality starts at home

8. Need to find better ways for Aurovilians and Tamils to exchange skills and ideas
„We are developing a spiritual place. Why do we need conflict? What we are sharing with the villagers is land and water! (Elene)
1 POTENTIALS of YOUTH: fresh ideas, no frustration, blockages, fights; need space and preferences

2 PROBLEMS: place to stay, food, depend on savings, need work, youth not engaged, children are not welcome

3 POSITIVE: good education, funding for external education, spread word, volunteers

4 20% < 18 years

5 Youth is attracted by deep connection, scope for growth, opportunities

6 Old people: How can we? Youth: WHY NOT?

7 Youth needs good soil for seeds, the will grow fruits
„Young people should become the innovators. Then the rest will automatically fall into place (Anita)
Humour and Fun
Humour and Fun

„Working groups and townhallers have stopped having fun at work. That needs to change!“ (Mandakini)
Humour and Fun

1. Respond not react. Talk not give speeches. *Silence is golden.*

2. Walk in everybody’s shoes; everybody should be part of the organization.

3. We need a new simple form of self-governance!

4. Very classic way of administration

5. Organizational structure is too big for this small city – dissolve groups

6. There is change in the working committee – very productive!

7. Rekindle the adventure spirit

8. Foster self-consciousness, do not judge others!
Lively connecting neighbourhoods through **public spaces**

**Cycle, cycle, cycle!**

Invest in paths and roads with priority for cyclists, **pedestrians and shared transport**

Commit to a **non-motorized, non-polluting City Center**

Do we really want the city?

**Incredible / Edible** – an impulse to community building

Increase **mixed used areas**

**Movement Networks** – show people’s work in flow patterns

**Adaptation or add-on** to the Galaxy Plan?
PARTICIPANT’S FEEDBACK

- **Learn from water to be fluid**, to have beauty as direction and a structure, which is penetrative, gentle and playfull
- Joy, creativity, respect
- Water has no blockage, **always finds its way**
- We need to understand the **essential meaning of resources**
- A „**Water-Masterplan“** as basis guided by spirituality, social aspects leading to new dynamic galaxy
- **Beauty of dynamic galaxy** – fluid form of town and social interaction
- Integrate the **bioregion**
- Create a library of solutions for **water harvesting** and treatment for all new building projects
- **Let us focus this year on the magic and sacredness of water in every possible way** – artists, schools, communities, planners to come together in events celebrating water.
Bringing nature to downtown Singapore
Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park
Normal conditions vs. Monsoon rain.
2008
Before

2013
After (View from bridge 5)
Singapore – Multifunctional Building Block
Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park
DAY 3
FISHBOWL – WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM US?
FISHBOWL – VISITING TEAM

• We have seen hope, dreams, disappointment and frustration.
• Town-planning is approached at a very high level of aspiration, Aurovilians are afraid of making mistakes.
• High aspirations are not matched at the most practical level. A healing process, balance and respect are required.
• Auroville aspires to become a town but today it is like an archipelago: many beautiful little islands in a sea of trees.
• We can only help to dissolve barriers and blockages.
FISHBOWL – AV PARTICIPANTS

• Too much confrontation! **Concentrate on real, practical issues** -- other opinions are not contradictory but complementary.
• The Galaxy is not an architectural but a spiritual concept, it is **not about building the city, it is about a new consciousness**.
• Zeitgeist of 50 years ago is different from **today’s Zeitgeist**, with global developments like climate and water crisis.
• **Balance between density of habitation and greenery is needed. We could become the first real Garden City!**
• Idea is inspiring to develop new forms of urbanism and **focus on the urban-rural balance**, which is needed worldwide.
• **We should set an example of healthy placemaking!**
• A plan is needed to follow up on the workshop, **stay in touch over the next months.**
WAY FORWARD ACTION POINTS

- Exercises to overcome polarity into a synthesis. Develop our capacity to see the other persons.

- Third way: Best of urban, Best of nature, a new thing.

- Use qualities of water to create new strength, new energy to go forward, break through, rethink.

- Follow up steps to be defined, timeline, characters.

- Greater Auroville to go for a bigger project.

- Auroville to become a garden no place.

- We need an organisation flexible to meet different projects.

- Exemplary project of Kam River: How to do.

- Orientation to growth, water feasibility.

- Feasibility, mobility.

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Holistic Townplanning
“Town-planners: there is no other profession on earth, which deals with so many different levels, like technical, physical, economic, social, functional, sustainability, aesthetical and even spiritual levels!” (Joachim)
LEARNINGS

- Terra Preta
- Include all forces (Dragon)
- Urban planet has to be multidimensional
- Wisdom of Earth and Heaven have to meet
- Using most mystical for physical
- „We“ not „I“
- Put agricultural land within city
- Right angle is not right angle
- Serious attempt to holistic approach
Visit Auroville Water Group

Water Vortex and Flow Forms to clean the water
Visit Auroville Water Group

- Geomantics: we need **more actual data and its interpretation** for a proper water management, and inputs from professionals to empower us (e.g. cooling).
- We **lack of institutional knowledge**!
- Need to respect the geology (underground storage of water)
- Combine beauty, technology, and function!
- **Younger generation** is interested!
- **Zeitgeist** of actual governance?
- Who is responsible? Common **vision of water** and behaviour to find a **governmental structure**
- We need to **upscale capacity** – structural, cultural, education
„Auroville started without rules. People think they can do what they want. They do not document, don’t share information, are not willing to collaborate.“ (Giulio)
Water Meditation
Water Meditation
1. Good Governance
2. Widening Participation
3. Fusion not confusion
4. Water & Green
5. Holistic Townplanning
Community Planning
„The participatory process got development moving in an area, where the community previously blocked it!“ (Clare)
Community Planning in Auroville?

Participants collected issues which could be addressed with Community Planning:

- Develop a ‘Vaster Plan’ for the bioregion
- Create a tourism strategy
- Prepare a sustainable mobility strategy including the bioregion
- Design a sustainable greenspace strategy
- Re-Vision the plan for the city
- Create places for integration
- Agree strategies for minimising water usage
- Resolve challenging issues like
  - Green network of Auroville
  - Line of Goodwill
  - Interpretation and implementation of masterplan

A community platform can be created to facilitate communication and build consensus as projects develop from the early stages through implementation.
Holistic Townplanning (2)
Team Dinner Visitor Center
Youth Center
Another Peace Table in Auroville
Key Themes

1. Declining Unity

- Aurovilians have achieved great things in the last 50 years by working as a community to realise the Mother’s vision.

- Like building the Matrimandir, replanting the forest and developing an eco-friendly community with a strong spiritual life, but there is now less unity and common purpose which is slowing the process of developing the city.
Key Themes

2. Relationship with Bioregion

• There is pressure on land from Tamil villages with rapidly growing populations and although Auroville is growing more slowly it strives to protect land from encroachment to allow for future growth.

• All communities in the bioregion share a scarce water source.

• There is an urgent need to cooperate with villagers to develop a water conservation and storage strategy as well as protecting against pollution, conserving nature and resolving conflicts over land. No water – no Auroville.
3. Growth Target

- The community is divided over the need for, and viability of a city of, 50,000 people.

- While some are strongly committed to this aim, others are concerned about the impact on the limited water resources and natural environment and would like to re-evaluate the target to reflect current and predicted physical, social and economic conditions.
Key Themes

4. Fixed or Evolving Galaxy

- There is tension between people who believe Auroville should be built out exactly as represented in Roger’s 3d Galaxy model and others who think the masterplan should evolve to reflect what we have learned about urbanism and eco-friendly design over the past few decades.

- Ideas about integrating the forest and small-scale agriculture into the city, using vegetation to conserve water and achieving natural cooling of buildings and spaces were explored at the Charrette.
Key Themes

5. Economy

- The vision is to develop an internal economy, but Aurovilians are still heavily dependent on aspects of the external economy.

- A new economic model is needed in the medium term.

- There is potential for education to make a major contribution on the future based in Auroville’s unique offering.
Key Themes

6. Youth issues

• Young people have great respect and affection for the pioneer generation but feel disengaged from the decision-making process.

• They have their own issues such as a lack of affordable accommodation but also feel they could bring a new perspective on issues facing the whole community and help resolve potential conflict by reaching out to youth in the bioregion.

• They would like to be better equipped for their role as future custodians of Auroville and have constructive ideas for how this could be achieved.
7. Skills shortage

• There are not enough active community members with the expertise needed to build the city and develop the society.

• This places an excessive burden on a few people who are active and have the expertise.

• People with skills in holistic town planning and joined up strategic thinking at a city scale are particularly needed and lack of funding prevents bringing in paid expertise from outside.
8. Mobility

- The vision is for a walkable city with people getting about by walking, cycling and public transport powered by green energy.

- Today motorcycles and petrol powered vehicles are making roads dangerous and as the city grows this will get worse.

- Sustainable public transport is needed linking settlements within the bioregion with Pondicherry and each other.
9. Community Participation

• There is a desire for more active participation in the planning process and interest in continuing the focus groups that emerged from the Charrette and enabling them to influence the evolving Galaxy plans.

• Involving stakeholders in planning a pilot project using the charrette methodology was proposed to demonstrate a new way forward.
WAY FORWARD
GOOD GOVERNANCE
Definition of Government

Legal structure enacted by parliament & court.

Structure has been given to us! Aurora model foundation act. More difficult to be changed.

DECISION MAKING

How development is undertaken?

Aurora Council AC

Resident’s Assembly Direct Democracy certain lobbys

Empowerment

Control

Definition of Governance

Social capital to empower people to allow them to participate in tel governance
TDC
- everyone fears to make a decision,
- have different agendas
40 different groups to agree geneses
- marks of functioning
- too much work, 300 units a day
TDC has to have a longer term commitment, capacity, competence, cooperation, team
74 constitution amendment, allow urban planning and management.
TDC: two groups fighting
Orig. Masterplan/New Thing

ASD Association for Social Development
Example of how the key management group works

KEY MANAGEMENT TEAM
- personal mandate - fight - avoiding structure

KEY MANAGEMENT TEAM
- 4
- 2x/2M

ALL MEMBERS
- 180
- 2x report

cooperation, competence, capacity, briefed,
commitment, learning organization

Outputs
WAY FORWARD
WIDENING PARTICIPATION
Widening Participation

Outreach to include people not engaging in planning process

• Volunteers and newcomers

• Aurovilian workers

• Villagers from bioregion

• Young Aurovilians

• Children
Widening Participation

Make participation inclusive and fun
• Use different venues

• Food

• Outdoor movies

• Minecraft computer game

• Building sand castles

• Hands on planning

• Festivals
Widening Participation

Create a Youth Forum
• Tackle challenges of collective living
• Bring new perspectives to serious issues
• How to work with the villages
• Integrated mobility in the bioregion
• How to care for elderly and support independence
• Affordable housing for youth – type, aspirations and co-housing
Widening Participation

Educate and mentor
• Teach citizenship in schools
• Use role play
• Working groups to present to the youth forum
• Young people to attend Working Groups as observers
• Every working group to take 4-5 young people on
• Youth group to run a Residents’ Assembly
Widening Participation

1st Planning Meeting

Do you wanna be one?

Drop in @ Uma's place...... Sunday, 9.30am

With yummy Dosa's
Widening Participation

Reachin' Out

Support Group

Planning

Dude try this....
So much fun
Looking at things
Other way round

This is
Fun!

Oh yeah! They are
Getting serious, well
With lot of fun

Hey am coming
But how did u
Get in there...!!

They seemed
Missing in
The parties for
A while

Dude....
Help...
Widening Participation

The UnFestival

Issues

YouthLink

Tree House Community

Youth Centre

Oh man! What is that big army?

They are the youth of Auroville, indeed an army!!!
Widening Participation

Pilot Project

- Consult key stakeholders
- Charrette – Hands on Planning
- Explore options
- Consult stakeholders
- Develop detailed design
- Exhibition and drop in
- Finalise design
WAY FORWARD
HEALTHY PLACEMAKING
PILOT PROJECT
Extending the village overlooking common green-blue space with new development along new traffic-calmed road to Visitors Centre
Further plan development with new Village Frontage incorporating technical infrastructure for water and sewage management and second car park at eastern end.
Further plan development with new Village Frontage incorporating technical infrastructure for water and sewage management and second car park at eastern end
1. Green-blue canyon
2. New Coach Park to limit heavy traffic on quiet route
3. Existing Visitors Centre car park reduced
4. Quiet movement system from new coach park to Visitors Centre and Matrimandir
5. Enhanced footpath from Edayanchavadi to Auroville
6. Meandering route lined with shops and kiosks through mixed-use neighbourhood.
7. New shared blue-green space incorporating Terra Preta
8. New built frontage for village incorporating sanitation facilities to serve Edayanchavadi
9. New urban square at crossing of footpath and traffic-calmed street
Three new dwellings

Cistern built using construction waste from Matrimandir

Ox-driven lime grinder

Sacred Groves
Kottakarai
Kottakarai – foundations blocking surface-water drainage. Boundary wall separating communities
Edayanchavadi – Temple Square
Edayanchavadi – Busy road between Temple and Visitors Centre
Edayanchavadi – private house
Edyanchavadi
Edayanchavadi
Souvenir stalls
Visitor Centre car park
WAY FORWARD
WATER & GREEN
The Bioregion

**Groundwater**
- Rate of depletion of groundwater
  - Kaluvelly marshland
  - 6000 bore wells

**Agriculture**
- Extreme over irrigation (-20 times more than)
- Significant over irrigation
- Moderate over irrigation
- Rice and casuarina
- Sugarcane
- Coconut
- Rice

**Pollution**
- SHRIMP FARM HORMONES & ANTIBIOTICS
- Granite quarry
- Industries along coast
- Sewage
- Industrial estates pondy

**Salt water intrusion**
- Over extraction of ground water
  - 6000 bore wells

**Significant over irrigation**
- Extreme over irrigation
- Use of pesticides in non Auroville land

**Moderate over irrigation**
- Overuse of pesticides and fertilizers like DDT
The Bioregion

Existing development

Proposed development

Airport

Proposed railway line

Create green corridor

Practice ecological agriculture

Restore backwaters

ECOLOGICAL VISION
The Bioregion

- Direction of water flow
- Tank
- Overflow direction

- Tanks and overflow
- Canal for infiltration
- Infiltration
- Extraction and water supply
The Bioregion

- Tanks and overflow
- Canal for infiltration
- Infiltration
- Extraction and water supply
THE BIG PICTURE
Auroville Bioregion

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD
Residential Zone

THE HEART
Matrimandir

THE INHABITANTS
Education and Awareness
Residential Zone
Principles

Collection and Retention

Collection in bioswale

Collection and Conveyance

Conveyance in bioswale

Rooftop Collection

Overflow
Collection Integrated in landscape

Humanscapes
Bioswale

Kalpana

hard engineering

soft engineering
Stormwater crossing

IN PIPES – BELOW THE STREET

OPEN – ABOVE THE STREET
Conveyance along streets

Crownways
Rooftop Collection

Rainwater
- Catchment
- Storage
- Cleansing
- Infiltration

Other features include:
- Collector Pipes
- Cistern
- External Pond
- Internal Pond
- Cleansing Biotope
- Water Filter
- Overflow
- Infiltration

Prisma Nürnberg
Residential Zone - Integration of water system
Afsanah Guest House
How to bring healthy vibrant water systems to Matrimandir that can work?
Awareness and Incentive
Education

- Inverse Education Targeting Youth – Children teaching their parents
- Professional Education / Awareness for Auroville architects, contractors, etc.
Awareness and Incentive

- Develop a common vision/view
- To incentivize Conscious Water Usage
- Water Experience

Vibrant High-Visibility Public Spaces with blue/green infrastructure

Tips
- Install a thimble at the kitchen/basin taps and showerheads

Water Efficient Community Award 2018
Funding

- Subsidizing Blue/Green Infrastructure
- Water Contribution for guests (e.g. to be informed and added to guesthouse bills as an awareness incentive)
- Maintenance of Blue/Green Infrastructure
WAY FORWARD
HOLISTIC TOWN-PLANNING
EXERCISE ON HOLISTIC TOWN-PLANNING
EXERCISE ON HOLISTIC TOWN-PLANNING

COOLING LAKE
at Matrimandir
EXERCISE ON HOLISTIC TOWN-PLANNING
EXERCISE ON HOLISTIC TOWN-PLANNING

WATERSCAPE GALAXY

FOREST BUFFER ZONES

COOLING LAKE at Matrimandir
EXERCISE ON HOLISTIC TOWN-PLANNING
EXERCISE ON HOLISTIC TOWN-PLANNING

WATERSCAPE GALAXY

FOREST BUFFER ZONES

ADMINISTRATIVE ZONE
Mixed Use
City Centre

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COOLING THE CITY
South-East Ocean Winds
EXERCISE ON HOLISTIC TOWN-PLANNING

COOLING THE CITY
South-East Ocean Winds

ECONOMIC ZONE
Water Harvesting
Green Infrastructure
Mixed Use Campus

CULTURAL ZONE
Campus Park
Campus City

INTERNATIONAL ZONE
Global Garden
Mixed Use Campus

BHARATIPURAM
Co-operation Buffer

WATERSCAPE GALAXY

ADMINISTRATIVE ZONE
Mixed Use
City Centre

FOREST BUFFER ZONES

RESIDENTIAL ZONE
Blue Green Infrastructure
Urban Gardening
Terra Preta Soil Improvement

COOLING LAKE
at Matrimandir

EXERCISE ON HOLISTIC TOWN-PLANNING
EXERCISE ON HOLISTIC TOWN-PLANNING

COOLING THE CITY
South-East Ocean Winds

FIELD OF FORCE
Mixed Use City
Bioclimatic Galaxy

ECONOMIC ZONE
- Water Harvesting
- Green Infrastructure
- Mixed Use Campus

CULTURAL ZONE
- Campus Park
- Campus City

BHARATIPURAM
- Co-operation Buffer

WATERSCAPE GALAXY

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WATERSCAPE GALAXY

CITY ARRIVAL
Welcoming Reception

CULTURAL ZONE
Campus Park
Campus City

ECONOMIC ZONE
Water Harvesting
Green Infrastructure
Mixed Use Campus

VON ZADOW INTERNATIONAL

January 2019
VISITING TEAM
Andreas von Zadow (Chair), VON ZADOW INTERNATIONAL
Anushree Agarwal, Dreiseitl Consulting
Bettina Dreiseitl-Wanschura, Dreiseitl Consulting
Christoph Mühlhans, AVI
Clare SanMartin, JTP

Fred London, JTP
Friederike Mühlhans, AVI
Herbert Dreiseitl, Dreiseitl Consulting
Joachim Eble, EBLE MESSERSCHMIDT PARTNER
Theresia von Zadow, VON ZADOW INTERNATIONAL

LOCAL TEAM
L’Avenir d’Auroville, Ankita, Garima, Helgard, Manu, Mita, Laxman, Tapas, Tineke

PHOTOS TAKEN BY
Andreas, Anita, Anushree, Christoph, Fred, Mohit, Theresia