



# UrbanLAB: Arrecife 2.0

## ARRECIFE. BiosphereCITY Defining urban parameters

The UrbanLab:Arrecife1.0 defined the position of the city in the context of a biosphere reserve and transferred the strong identity of the ecosystem characterizing the island to the city in the form of a spatially functional master plan. Arrecife is turned into the "Biosphere City."

**What exactly is a "Biosphere City"? Which urban parameters define this urban model?**

Is the Biosphere City a viable urban model similar to the Sustainable City, the Eco City, the Green City, the Smart City, the Digital City, the Productive City, the Arrival City, the Social City, or the Future City, or just an urban marketing office's creative and innovative neologism in the insecure process of finding an identity? Is it a communicable result of the search for a unique feature of an active and future-conscious "city for people?"

But maybe, it is a vision and necessary utopia. The legitimate wish of a city to turn its unclear future into a colorful image with a variety of options.

All urban models above wish to find a solution for the city of the future. The city in the "Century of cities," in a world in which global acting of man is omnipresent and obvious as the most important factor influencing biological and atmospheric processes. In the "Urban age" in which more than 50 percent of the people already are living in cities and constantly growing megacities. In the "Digital age," a parallel world of networks, dark nets, clouds, and information explosion. In the age of cultures and alternative cultures, of genetic engineers and generations, in a heterogeneous, complex, politically unpredictable world, in a socially unjust world, in an ecologically uncertain world, we know today that the

global population totaling more than eight billion lives at the expense of our blue planet, the factor being 1.5.

**What is the "ideal city" of the 21<sup>st</sup> century? The new utopia that can react in the best possible way to all these external, constantly modifying, and unsharp parameters?**

The advantage of the "Biosphere City" in the long list of creative urban models is its integration into the Man and Biosphere Program (MaB). The "Biosphere City" is part of an area declared as a biosphere reserve by UNESCO and defined as model region, a test field. The program that explicitly integrates all actors and inhabitants and asks for their active participation in the process focuses on the further development and investigation of the relationship between man and the environment also in the urban region, because urban zones have increasingly been declared biosphere reserves since 1993.

The biosphere reserve of Lanzarote presents its capital as such a test field. In cooperation with the UNESCO Oficina de la Reserva de Biosfera, the Landscape Architecture Group studies the question of whether the Biosphere City is an ideal city.

Within the topic "Future models of the city," the UrbanLab:Arrecife2.0 will validate and prioritize the urban parameters of a city in the 2017/18 winter semester. Criteria will be structured in hierarchies, combined, and scenarios will be developed for Arrecife: The Biosphere City. In a second step, the scenario will be transferred to the real context and an applicable strategy will be developed.

**Join the City Game - Scenarios for the "Biosphere City!"**

## DIVERS IDENTITIES & ATRACTORS

