PRE-ASSIGNMENT 2 – CONCEPTS, NO NET LOSS CITY - ECOLOGICAL COMPENSATION
GRØNLIKAIA, OSLO, ongoing project

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The Earth's carrying capacity is under stress, and we are overusing and polluting more than the planet can handle. This applies not only to CO2 emissions but also to other factors such as biodiversity on land and in water, freshwater resources, overconsumption of Earth's resources, land transformation, pollution, acidification, waste, and chemical contamination.

Grønlikaia in Oslo is planning to become a model project and a global exemplar of how a new waterfront district with a modern urban lifestyle can be nearly 100% renewable and profitable at the same time.

At Grønlikaia, it will be possible to live with low emissions and sustainable consumption, aligned with the principles of a circular economy. Building on the sea and the fjord must have a strong regenerative perspective that counteracts the ecological collapse in the Oslo Fjord and the loss of biodiversity in the ocean. Here, Grønlikaia must establish a model for environmentally friendly, innovative, and regenerative construction on the sea and the use of marine resources.

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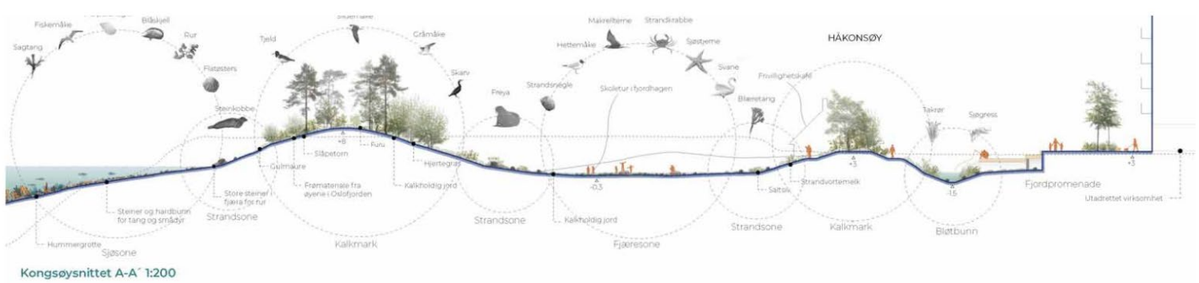
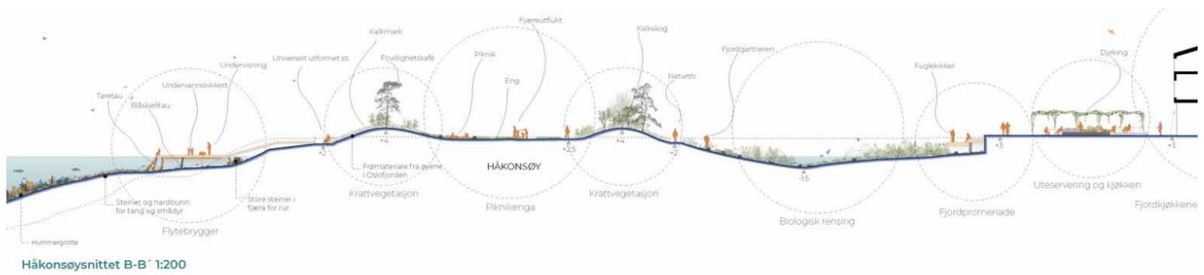
The project is developed based on Doughnut Economics, which is founded on Kate Raworth's theory of a method for creating a city portrait.

Doughnut Economics, or the donut model, provides us with a visual explanation of the challenges, where the hole in the donut represents society's unmet social needs. This includes people lacking life's basic necessities such as food, education, and shelter. The outer edge of the donut represents the ecological ceiling for overconsumption of Earth's resources, climate change, ocean acidification, and chemical pollution. Between this social foundation and the ecological ceiling lies the "good society" where we should be able to live and thrive.

This approach is applied in Grønlikaia as an integrated part of the urban planning process. Through interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration, researchers and experts work on various sustainability perspectives, including local social, local ecological, global ecological, and global social aspects. The main themes discussed and weighted concerning these four lenses are: 1. Housing quality/housing diversity, 2. Business and Employment, 3. Culture and Services, 4. Health and Recreation, 5. Biodiversity on land and in water, and 6. Resource utilization (materials, water, energy, sewage, waste).