En marge... Landscape, ecology and urbanization along infrastructure in the Eurometropolis Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai

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The first part of the research, executed by the biologists in the team, visualizes the biological diversity of the margins along infrastructure and their possibility to function as ecological corridors. In particular, the hypothesis of considering the infrastructure also as a green and blue network structuring the Eurometropolis is tested.

The map above gives an indication of the potential ecological value of the margins, ranging from a very low biological value (red) to a very high one (solid green line).

The second part of the research regards the relationship between these corridors and urbanisation. Using conventional architectural tools such as plans, schemes and sections, the spatial condition as well as the appropriation of some case studies are investigated.

Confronting biological and urbanistic research method on these sites raises questions for further research on this subject: Which landscape qualities do these corridors offer? How are they used? Can they be made accessible and absorb urban functions? How do they relate towards the neighbouring urban tissue and how can they be a structuring element for the urbanised region of the Eurometropolis?