
Farmways Hanoi

RENEE CHOW

University of California, Berkeley

There's an area next to Hanoi's outermost ring road that epitomizes many of the challenges facing the developing world, including competing needs for housing, sustainable food, water, energy, jobs, transportation and infrastructure. How does a rapidly growing Asian city facing issues of sustainability and quality of life also address the region's food production needs?

Everyone harvests zeroes in on the urban-agricultural tensions specifically facing Hanoi, a city of 6.5 million people and growing, as well as other developing regions worldwide. Experts project that by the year 2050, 80% of the world's population of 9 billion will reside in urban centers. Food production must increase by about 70% globally and by nearly 100% in developing countries in order to feed the planet's inhabitants. The research and design challenge was to develop a community of 100,000 in one square kilometer where people can live, work and still maintain food production at a variety of scales.

Farmways explores how to intensify food production on the development site, producing nearly 12 times the food of the original site, while also housing 100,000 people -- all by erecting a three-dimensional framework of vertical farm parkways. The project explores ways to integrate the urban and agricultural landscape with a closed-loop model of green market arcades, air purifiers, food forestry research labs, aquaponics and clean energy co-generation.

Students involved: Rebecca Sunter, Minjae Ahn, Gabriel Kaprielian, Max Edwards, Luis Jaggy, Daniel Prostack and Niknaz Aftahi

