

# Sustainability Statement

Buildings and industrial products are local intervention with a global impact. As we have been working on the planning of space habitats we learned about the value of air, water, food and energy for the human being and the complexity of recycling all these resources. These are our real unalienable resources, which our planet is providing us on a daily basis, as long as there is some nature left. The planet is our 'mother-ship', it is our spaceship Earth, that is carrying us through space. We do not have to ask ourselves how we do buildings, which use less energy, but rather how do we do buildings, which produce energy, which clean the air and which clean the water and possible, which even produce food. Our definition of the 'Genius-Loci of the space-age' is based on the integration of future buildings not just into the geometrical arrangement of a site, but into the cycle of natural resources and energies on that site. Our societies are still much worried about non-renewable resources and their limitations, where we really should be worried about renewable resources like air, water and food.

This design philosophy and our background in space architecture, has been the incentive for several of our inventive and innovative projects like the DesertSeal Tent, the MobileVillage tents, which use wind-towers and adiabatic cooling and the AirTree, which has integrated plants to clean the air in urban environments. It is important for an architect to already be sustainable in the concept phase of a building, where the biggest potential is.

On a project level and actual construction, we are making use of our sound knowledge of materials, processes grey energy values, to develop in close collaboration with engineers and together with the client and industries details and concepts, which can be built avoiding unnecessary waste and pollution of the environment and which aim for low maintenance costs, which today equals low heating and cooling costs. For the temporary structure of FioredelCielo, for instance, only water-based acrylic paint has been used and the steel and aluminum parts are connected by screws, which allow an easy disassembly and recycling of the material. We deliberately did not work with composite materials as previous designs did, which are more critical in recycling.

With our advanced designs we also hope to inspire a new generation of architects and clients to generate an architecture, which is respectful with nature and is creating a harmony with the environment, reducing our ecological footprint and creating places with clean air, clean water and no waste, places for people to enjoy and to stay healthy on a healthy, a sustainable planet.