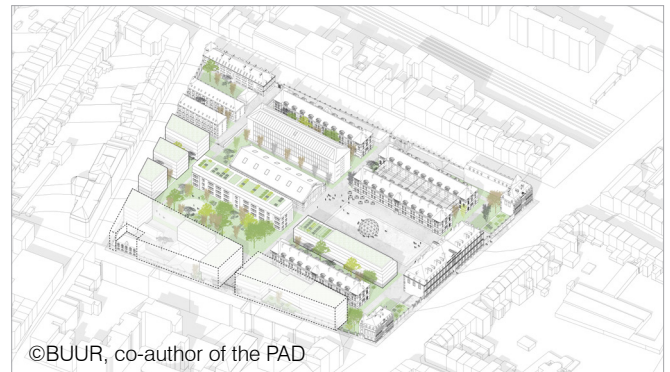


USquare, Brussels — The reconversion of the Ancient School of Gendarmerie in a resilient, mixed and socially integrated neighbourhood

The Usquare project aims to create a new urban dynamic based on knowledge, innovation, inclusion and accessibility, healthy and resilient environment. It leverages on the architectural existing quality to preserve heritage and scale-up refurbishment of circular building solutions for current and future transformation, using both circular design and reuse of local materials.

Summary

In the context of rapid demographic growth, Brussels Region has initiated an ambitious agenda to address the green transition and urbanisation, through different strategic urban (re)development and renovation projects. These projects aim to respond to the urgent need for affordable housing, bring an integrated socio-economic response to environmental and climate challenges, and notably, the lack of resources and growing waste creation. Usquare project entails the reconversion of the Brussels' Ancient School of Gendarmerie in a new neighbourhood that combines innovative ways of living, learning and creating. Co-promoted by Brussels Region and leading Brussels universities VUB and ULB, the project is an ambitious circular economy and construction laboratory gathering a multitude of stakeholders. The project combines a four-track vision that aims to deliver: **a unique neighbourhood, an academic and entrepreneurship hub, a dynamic social environment, a model for urban heritage preservation.**



1. In the framework of 2020 CoR Call for Green Deal Best Practices Project, Usquare was Awarded by [Green Deal Going Local Initiative of European Committee of the Regions](#)
2. The project was selected as reference on different International platforms, e.g.: [citiescollaboratory](#), [metropolis](#)