



BIOTOPIA

NATURKUNDEMUSEUM BAYERN

BIOTOPIA

A VISION FOR A NEW
MUSEUM FOR BAVARIA

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Introduction

BIOTOPIA TAKES A BOLD NEW APPROACH
TO ENGAGING PEOPLE WITH SOME OF THE
MOST CRITICAL ISSUES OF OUR TIME.

A NEW MUSEUM AND NETWORK

The reinvention of the Museum Man and Nature as a 21st-century museum of life sciences and the environment is a one in a lifetime opportunity. Over the next six years a major life sciences destination and visitor attraction will be developed at the spectacular site of the Nymphenburg Palace, expanding on and replacing the much loved Museum Man and Nature.

Under the leadership of its Founding Director, Professor Michael John Gorman, [BIOTOPIA](#) – Naturkundemuseum Bayern is redefining its vision and mission to appeal to today's and tomorrow's audiences. [BIOTOPIA](#) will take a bold new approach to engaging people with some of the most critical issues of our time. It aims to become a world-class destination for the understanding and appreciation of nature, the promotion of science communication and the dialogue between art and science. The museum will support and coordinate a new Bavarian natural history network, with a focus on the biosciences and geosciences.

[BIOTOPIA](#) will be an important destination for Munich and Bavaria. It will support visitors in forging a deeper and more caring connection to the place they call home and the species they share it with. It will foster understanding of Bavarian and global biodiversity and encourage environmental stewardship.



Alexandra Daisy Ginsberg, "Rewilding with Synthetic Biology" from "Designing For the Sixth Extinction", 2013-2015

Masterplan

MUNICH IS ONE OF THE
TOP THREE BIOTECHNOLOGY
CENTRES IN EUROPE.



Munich cityscape

This book sets out the strategic vision for the new museum to create a stunning, inspiring destination for future generations of visitors. It summarizes the masterplan for [BIOTOPIA](#) – Naturkundemuseum Bayern developed by Founding Director Professor Michael John Gorman, with the consultants Lord-culture and Ralph Appelbaum Associates.

The planning process was undertaken in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders and institutions: the Museum Man and Nature, the Bavarian Natural History Collections, the Förderkreis BIOTOPIA, the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, the Max-Planck-Institute for Ornithology, the Technical University of Munich, the Deutsches Museum and many others.

Greetings



Greetings

DR. MARKUS SÖDER, MINISTER-PRESIDENT OF
BAVARIA

"With BIOTOPIA - Naturkundemuseum Bayern, Bavaria gains a shining beacon in terms of innovative museum work and interdisciplinary communication knowledge. Nationwide, the BIOTOPIA-Network will spark interest and boost education in the natural sciences."

ADJACENT TO THE MUSEUM, THE PALACE
GARDENS ARE A PLACE OF GREAT BIODIVERSITY
WITH ALMOST 200 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF BIRD.

PROF. DR. MARION KIECHLE, BAVARIAN STATE
MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND THE ARTS

"Nothing is more valuable for the education of young people than a place like BIOTOPIA, which appeals to all senses and opens up new perspectives on life. BIOTOPIA - Naturkundemuseum Bayern will enrich Bavaria as a location for science with an exceptional educational and research institution and a highlight for visitors."



Nymphenburg Palace and the Palace Gardens

Greetings

THE BAVARIAN STATE COLLECTION FOR ZOOLOGY CONTAINS THE WORLD'S LARGEST COLLECTION OF BUTTERFLIES, WITH OVER 11 MILLION SPECIMENS.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL JOHN GORMAN,
FOUNDING DIRECTOR BIOTOPIA

"Craig Venter has described the 21st century as the biological century. Many of the most significant challenges we now face as a species on this planet, from climate change to loss of biodiversity, are due in large part to an imbalance in the relationship between humans and other living species. Drawing on the extremely rich scientific ecosystem of Munich and Bavaria, BIOTOPIA will be a place to inspire millions of young people to engage with the most exciting developments in the life sciences through dynamic and changing exhibitions and events."

DR. AUGUSTE VON BAYERN,
PRINZESSIN ZUR LIPPE, CHAIR FÖRDERKREIS
BIOTOPIA – NATURKUNDEMUSEUM BAYERN

"Being a biologist and a dedicated behavioural scientist, nature, environment and species protection are near and dear to me. In my eyes, BIOTOPIA – a modern life sciences companion to the Deutsches Museum – presents an immense opportunity to familiarize the Bavarian (and European) population with nature and natural sciences and drum up enthusiasm for these highly fascinating subjects. I personally consider children and adolescents to be particularly important. I hope BIOTOPIA spurs on their natural curiosity and shows them how to understand research as an exciting adventure."



OUR VISION: A MORE
UNDERSTANDING,
BALANCED
AND SUSTAINABLE
RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN HUMANS
AND OTHER SPECIES



OUR MISSION: TO
EXPLORE, QUESTION
AND RECONFIGURE
THE RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN HUMANS
AND OTHER LIVING
BEINGS.



Core Values:

CURIOSITY »WONDER«

We harness the natural curiosity
of our visitors about themselves
and the world they live in.



EMPATHY »FEEL«

We facilitate experiences that provoke an illuminating shift of perspectives between humans and other species, and to allow us to look in the mirror at the animal nature of humans.



AGENCY

»ACT«

We support and enable our community's personal agency.

- > In learning and investigating in relation to life sciences and the environment.
- > In understanding and changing their own behaviour.
- > In designing and creating solutions to key environmental challenges provoked by collective human behaviour.



Opportunity



Architectural design for the new building by Staab Architects, competition entry

A NEW BUILDING

The expansion of the Museum Man and Nature has long been in planning. Having successfully attracted a diverse audience to its permanent and temporary exhibitions, Museum Man and Nature now seeks to build on the 200,000 visitors it has had each year. The new facilities will increase the exhibition and event space from 2,300 sqm to 6,000 sqm. The Berlin firm Staab Architects have been selected to design the building. Its expansion gives [BIOTOPIA](#) a unique opportunity to reinvent and reposition itself in Munich, Bavaria and the world.



- 1** BIOTOPIA – NATURKUNDEMUSEUM BAYERN
- 2** NYMPHENBURG PALACE
- 3** NYMPHENBURG PALACE GARDENS
- 4** BOTANICAL GARDENS

Opportunity

NATURE-CULTURE QUARTER

The building is sited within the larger context of the historical Nymphenburg Palace, the Nymphenburg Palace Gardens and the Botanical Gardens. The architecture will be integrated seamlessly into the historical ensemble.

One of the project's goals is to unite these diverse institutions in a unique Nature-Culture Quarter. They could be promoted as complementary attractions and connected by a new wayfinding system. The Nature-Culture Quarter will bring a greater number of visitors to the area, supporting deeper engagement for more diverse visitors.



From top to bottom: Nymphenburg Palace, the Palace Gardens and the Botanical Gardens

Opportunity

PROF. DR. CLAUS HIPPE, CEO HIPPE

"A museum which centres attention on environmental issues is the best way to sensitize people to their future responsibilities."



RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS

The primary focus of **BIOTOPIA** will be on the important environmental issues of our time, both in Bavaria and globally, in order to prepare people for the challenges of the 21st century and to inspire them to become responsible citizens of the world.



Opportunity

23.3 % OF BAVARIAN EMPLOYEES WORK IN STEM PROFESSIONS.

DEMAND FOR QUALIFIED PERSONNEL IN THE STEM SECTOR CONTINUES TO BE STRONG.

LIFE SCIENCES FOR THE FUTURE

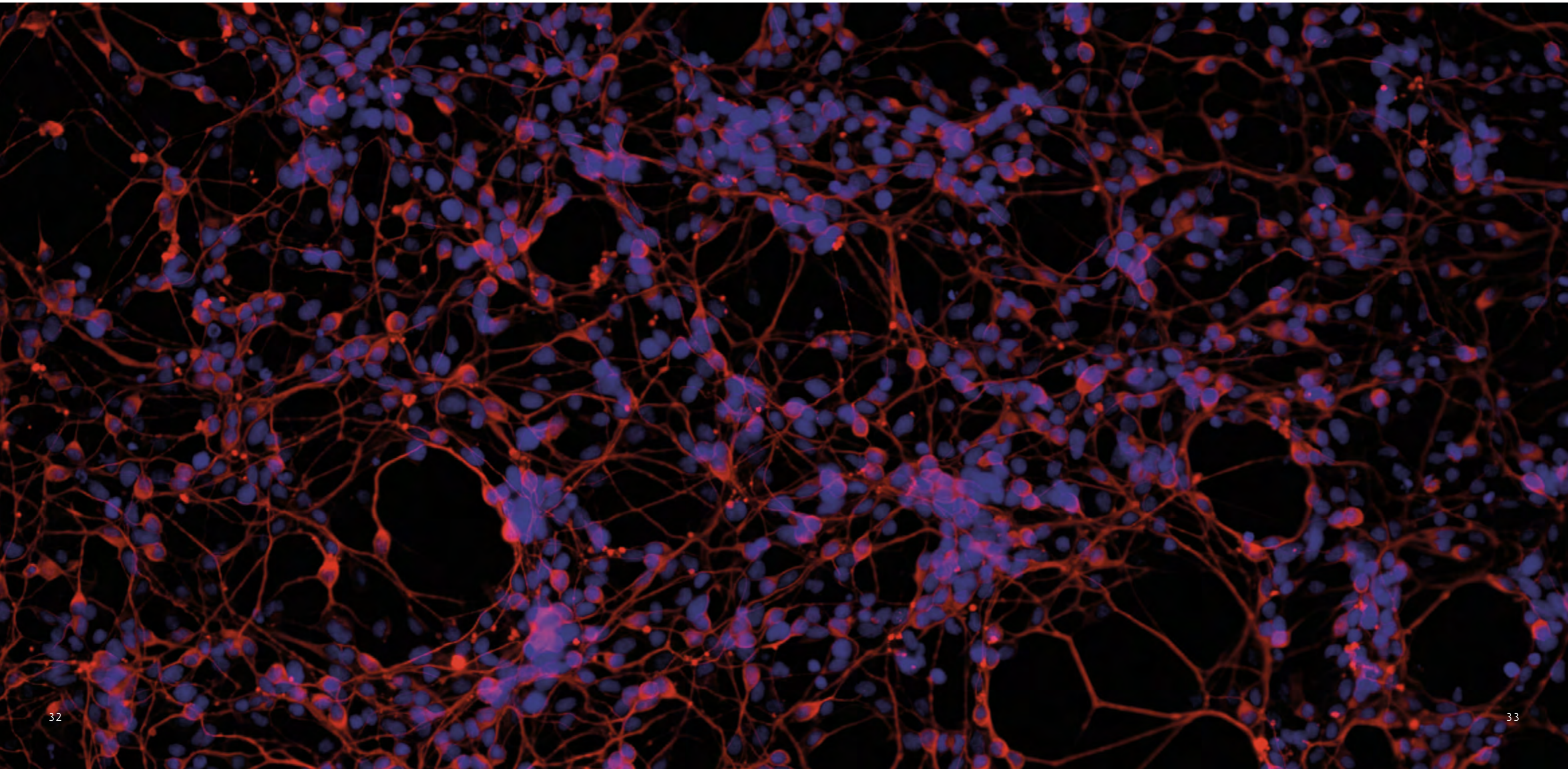
The Free State of Bavaria has invested heavily in life sciences research and infrastructure. This has made Bavaria Germany's hub for life sciences – with excellent and globally recognized research being carried out by public institutions like the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, the Max-Planck-Institutes, the Technical University of Munich and by numerous branches of industry.

Bavaria's flourishing STEM sector requires new qualified personnel at every turn. Engaging young people in the STEM sector and its research, reaching new audiences and building skills in the life sciences is a key factor in shaping Bavaria's future. The museum will therefore put a strong focus on life sciences to encourage future generations to consider courses and careers in the life sciences.



Brandon Ballengée, DFA 186: Hades, 2012

Nature-Network Bavaria



Nature-Network Bavaria

Museums

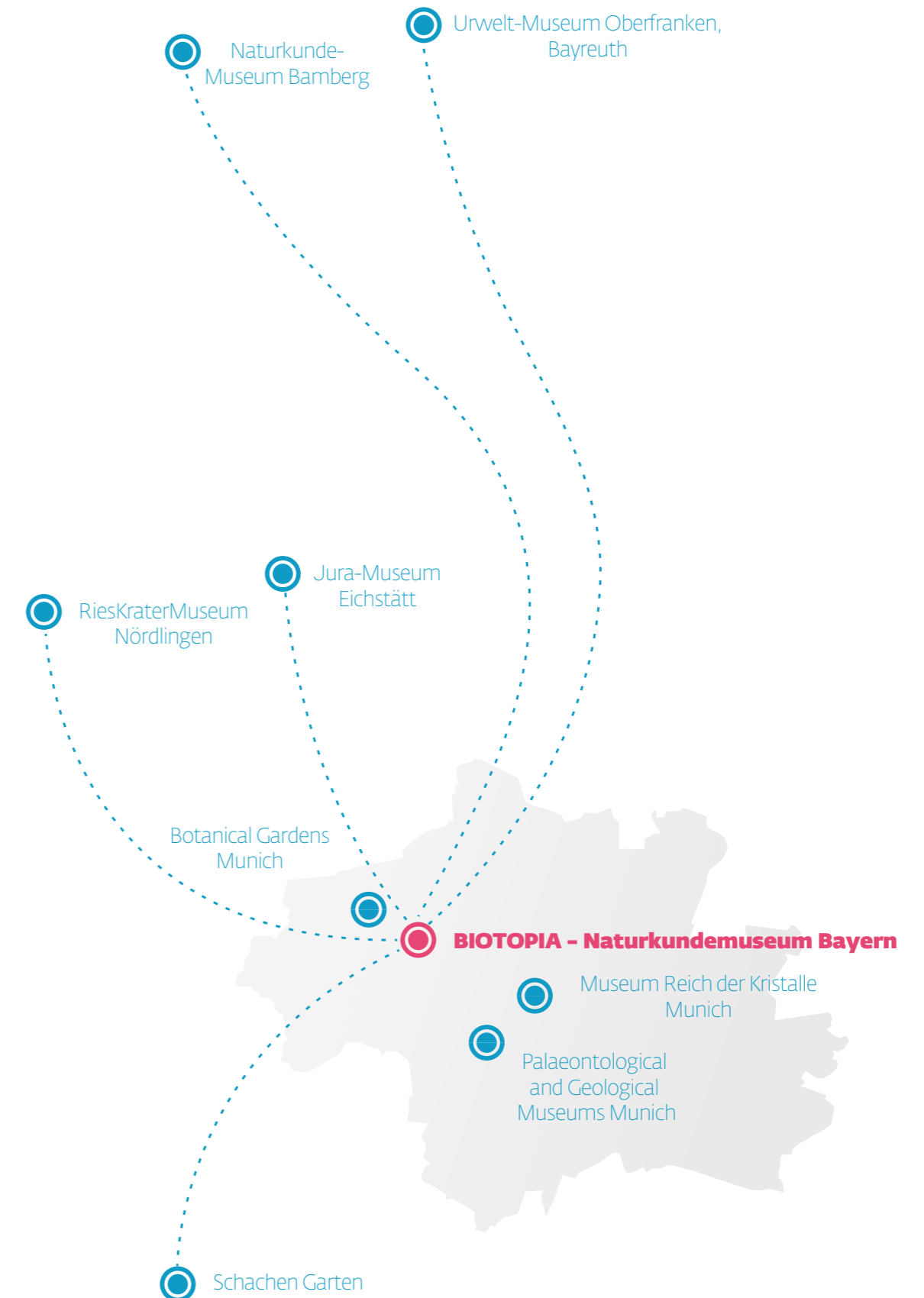
BIOTOPIA will support and coordinate a Bavarian-wide network that will promote environmental stewardship of the natural resources of Bavaria. It will connect museums, schools, research institutions as well as private and public organizations that are committed to the exploration and protection of the environment.

MUSEUMS

Each member of the network will have a strategic area of focus, and will be supported to develop as a unique destination within Bavaria with specific collections and themes. Each member will tell its own story designed to connect visitors to the natural history of Bavaria as a place where groundbreaking research is underway and important discoveries are made.

Initial museum members of the network will include:

- > BIOTOPIA – Naturkundemuseum Bayern
- > RiesKraterMuseum Nördlingen
- > Palaeontological Museum Munich
- > Geological Museum Munich
- > Jura-Museum Eichstätt
- > Museum Reich der Kristalle, Munich
- > Umwelt-Museum Oberfranken, Bayreuth
- > Botanical Gardens Munich-Nymphenburg and the Schachen Garten
- > Naturkunde-Museum Bamberg



Nature-Network Bavaria Schools

6,138 BAVARIAN SCHOOLS WILL BENEFIT
FROM »NATURE-NETWORK BAVARIA«
AND BIOTOPIA'S PROGRAMMES.

In Nature-Network Bavaria schools will play a key role. New ways of teaching and learning natural sciences will be developed to meet Bavaria's educational goals at school level. The network will focus on:

- > Collaborative inter-school projects and connected learning initiatives, bringing together web-based resources, informal learning in science centres and museums, and formal learning in schools.
- > Developing and exchanging new learning methodologies.
- > Continued professional development for teachers.

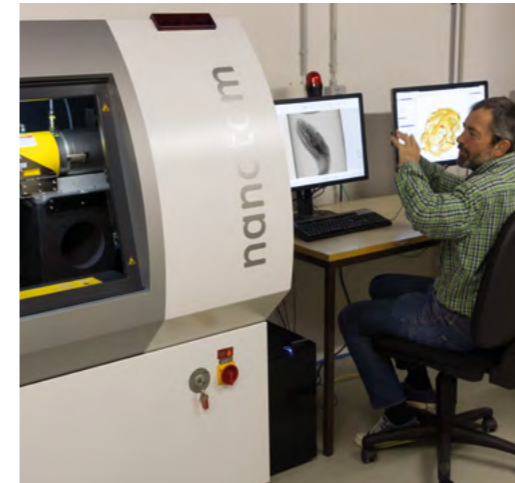


Nature-Network Bavaria Research Institutions

The Nature-Network Bavaria will offer research institutions a platform to communicate new research. Visitors will participate in research projects as subjects and as researchers. **BIOTOPIA** will work with research partners on specific projects.

Universities and other research institutions will be part of Nature-Network Bavaria. Important research partners will include:

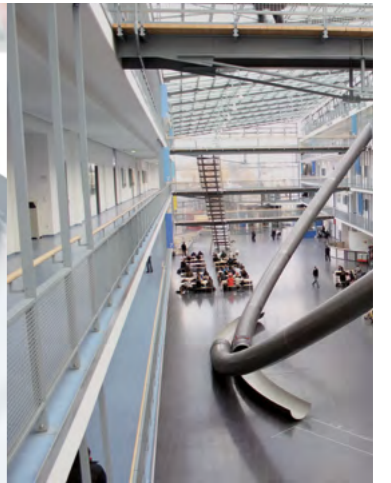
- > Bavarian Natural History Collections
- > Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich
- > Technical University of Munich
- > University of Applied Sciences Munich
- > Other Bavarian universities relating to Biotopia's focus areas
- > Max-Planck-Institutes
- > Fraunhofer-Institutes
- > Helmholtz Centres
- > Academy of Fine Arts, Munich
- > Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society



Bavarian Natural History Collections



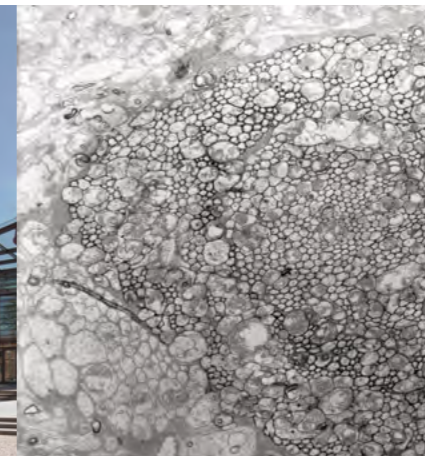
Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich



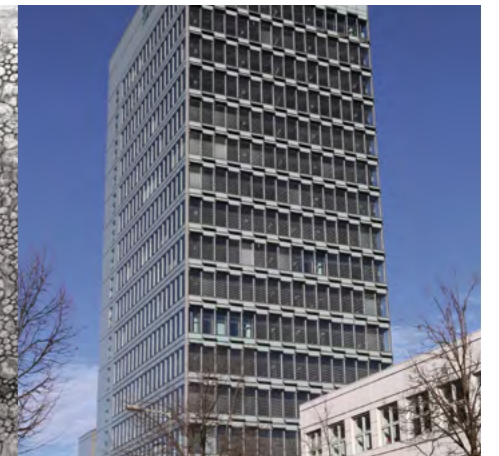
Technical University of Munich



University of Applied Sciences Munich



Max-Planck-Institutes



Fraunhofer-Institutes



Helmholtz Centres



Academy of Fine Arts, Munich



Rachel Carson Center

Exhibitions

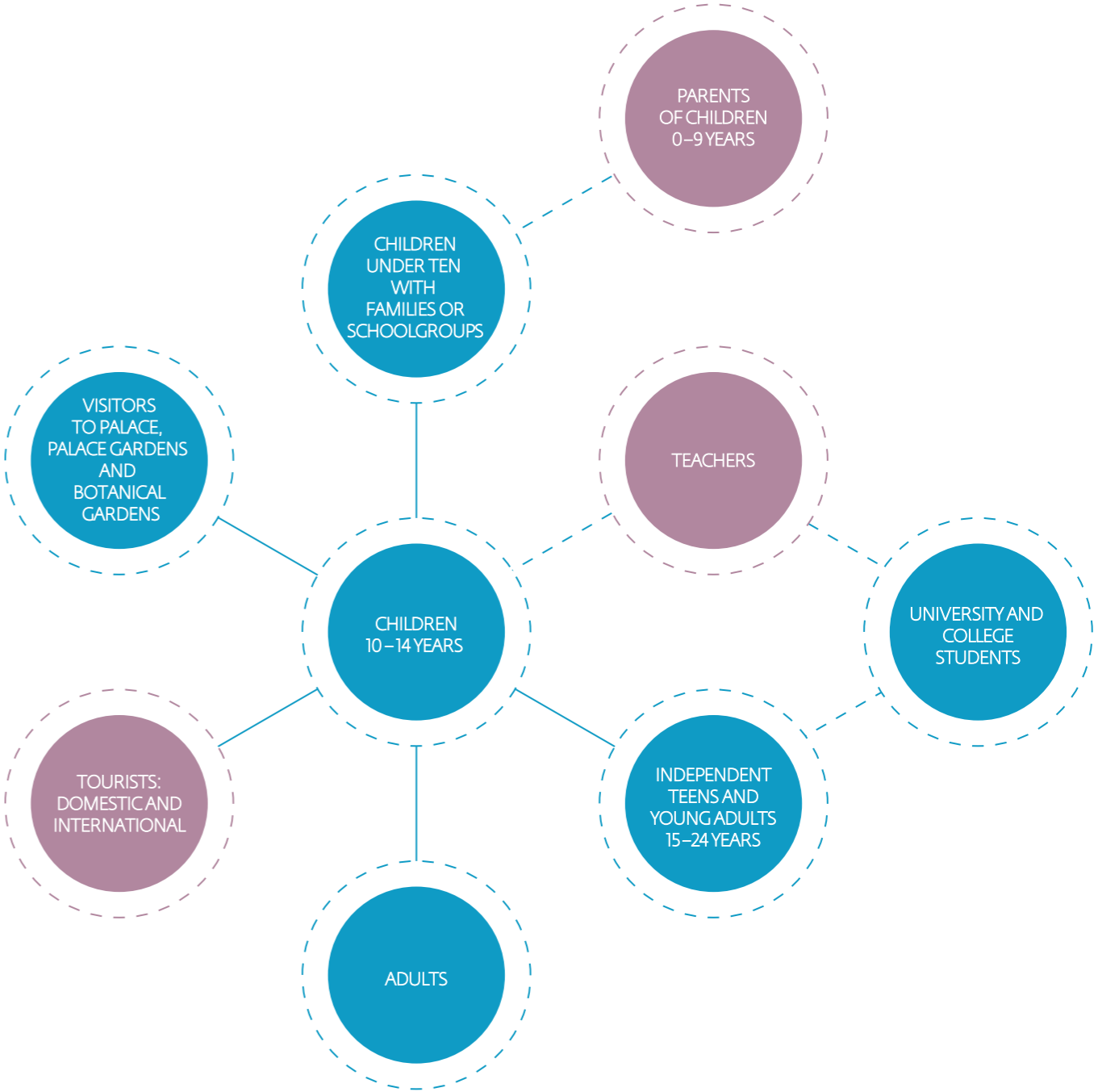


Museum Community



The new museum is conceived as an experience for everyone, but the Museum’s core target audience will be ‘tweens’ and teenagers aged ten to fourteen in families and school groups, and, at the upper end of the age range, as independent visitors.

Other important visitors will include students and youth, families, adults and domestic and international tourists. Efforts will be made to ensure that people with a migration background are welcomed by specialized programs and by ensuring that all aspects of the museum support visitors who have German as a second language. Furthermore, the museum offers a variety of programmes for visitors with disabilities.



Approach

BEHAVIOURS, ACTIVITIES AND PROCESSES

Unlike the natural history museums of the past, which were usually structured according to taxonomy or geography, **BIOTOPIA**'s permanent exhibition will focus on behaviours, activities and processes. These 'Behaviour Exhibits' will be at the heart of the visitor experience. Each one will explore a specific behaviour and its surprising manifestations in different species – including humans. **BIOTOPIA** will highlight the interactions and relationships between humans and other species and foster ecosystem thinking.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

The environmental consequences of human activities, such as climate change and the loss of biodiversity, will form the second distinct exhibition experience.

OPEN LABS

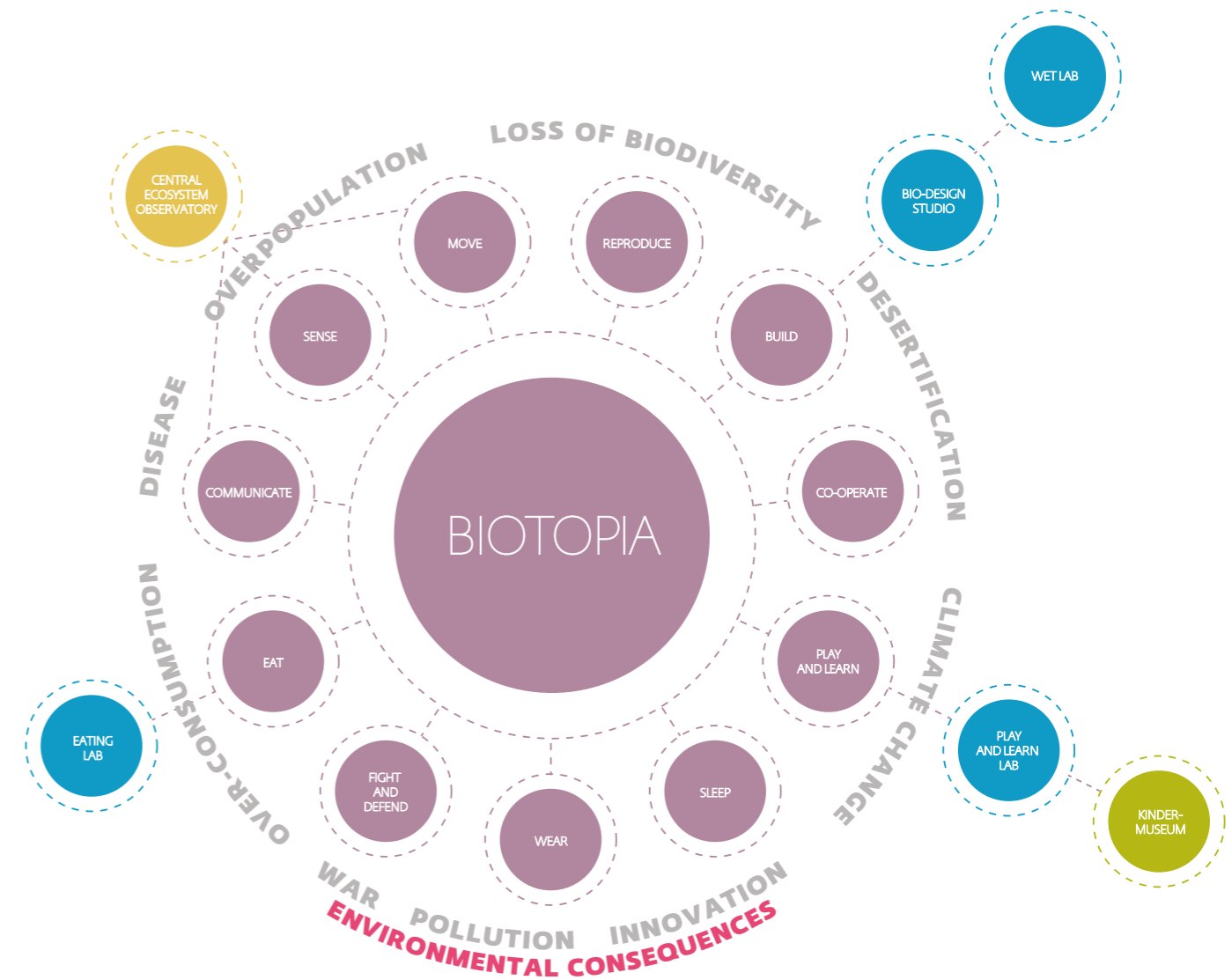
Four 'Open Labs', where visitors can participate in research and experiments, will be connected to the "Behaviour Exhibits".

ECOSYSTEM OBSERVATORIES

At the 'Central Ecosystem Observatory', visitors will be able to explore life sciences research and local and global ecosystems through live media and virtual reality experiences. Other observatories will be distributed throughout the exhibits.

KINDERMUSEUM

The Kindermuseum will be a special experience for children under six. They will be able to explore the habitats of different animals from diverse perspectives.



Approach



Collections



Links To Live Research

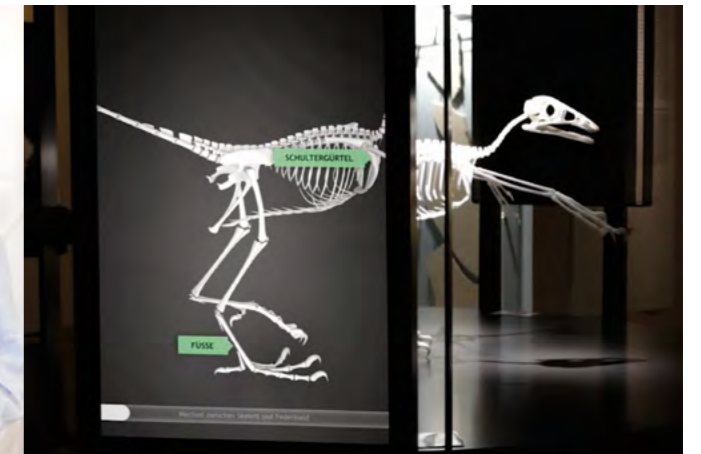
INTERDISCIPLINARY

BIOTOPIA will take a unique, interdisciplinary approach.

The exhibits will be strongly grounded in the life sciences as well as the environmental sciences. They will also interface with the geosciences, humanities, social sciences, and art and design.



Participatory Experiments



Multimedia

MULTIFACETED

The permanent exhibition will use a range of communication tools to explore each theme: collections (including artefacts from the Bavarian Natural History Collections), participatory experiments, works of bio-art and design, multimedia, live demonstrations and some living collections.

FLEXIBLE

The exhibition will include flexible elements which can be updated and changed to reflect new scientific findings and to make sure that repeat visitors always find something new.



Live Animators



Bio-Art

Permanent Exhibition

Who Am I?

The visitor experience will start in the foyer with the "Who Am I" exhibit. Large scale interactives will introduce the idea that human animals are a species like others. Visitors will be positioned as researchers, firstly observing their own bodies and behaviour and then, in the exhibits that follow, those of other living things.

KEY GOALS

- > To position visitors immediately as one species among many.
- > To place visitors in the role of the active observer and participant in all that is happening in the museum.



Participative media table at the exhibition "Ting. Technology and Democracy", Norsk Teknisk Museum, Oslo 2014

Permanent Exhibition

What is Life?

The 'What Is Life' exhibit will explore the threads that link all living beings. Evolution will be presented as a primary concept that underpins everything we know and are still learning about behaviour. The exhibition will also introduce basic processes and topics such as genetics, photosynthesis, the geological contexts of life and the concept of ecosystems.

Through collections, art, media and interactives, visitors will be helped to understand the connection between evolution, genes and behaviour, and consider the role of human agency and genetic engineering in the future of all species.

KEY GOALS

- > To help visitors understand the fundamental mechanisms that link all living beings.
- > To introduce the key scientific concepts, including evolution and genetics.



Ear on Arm. London, Los Angeles, Melbourne
2006. Photographer: Nina Sellars. Stelarc

Permanent Exhibition

Behaviours, Activities, Processes



Permanent Exhibition

Behaviours, Activities, Processes

BEHAVIOUR EXHIBITS

Eleven distinct exhibits, each relating to a specific behaviour, process or activity, will constitute the core element of the permanent exhibition. In each 'Behaviour Exhibit', visitors will be able to explore how selected species (including humans) manifest this behaviour, activity or process.

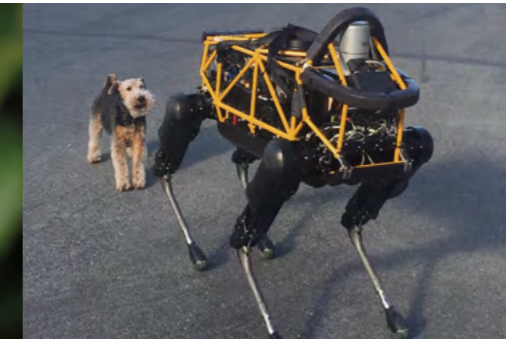
By juxtaposing familiar human behaviour with that of other species, visitors understand the value of both our inter-connectedness and our differences.

KEY GOALS

- > To understand the common behaviours, activities and processes linking humans and other species.
- > To empathize with and connect to other species.



Sense



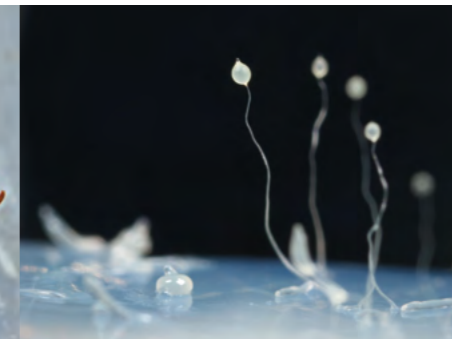
Move



Reproduce



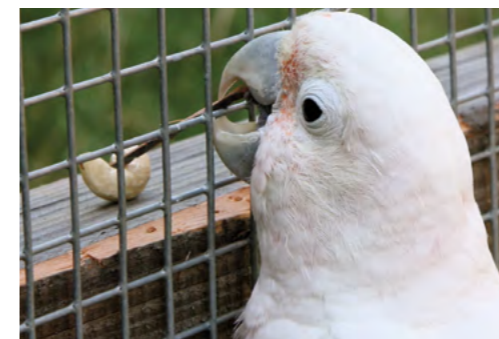
Build



Co-operate



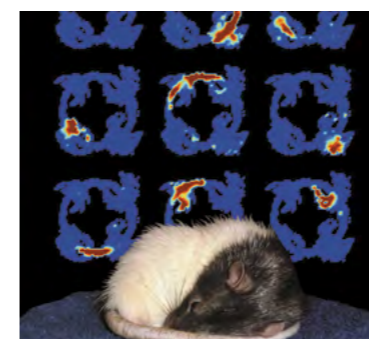
Communicate



Play and Learn



Wear



Sleep



Fight and Defend



Eat

55

Permanent Exhibition

»Eat«

Eating or foraging is a behaviour shared by all animals. In this exhibit we will explore differences and commonalities of anatomy, diet, habitat and behaviour when it comes to 'eating' and all its remarkable variations across different species.

The exhibit will draw on collections, such as the State Collection for Zoology, the State Collection for Palaeontology and Geology and the State Collection for Anthropology and Palaeoanatomy, for example to compare jaws and teeth of diverse species, or to understand early farming methods and domestication of species in Bavaria. Within the context of 'eating' among many species, human eating behaviours will also be explored – like eating habits in different cultures, eating disorders, the relationship between food and health and the future of food.

KEY GOALS

- > To explore the mechanisms and patterns of eating and digestion across different species.
- > To empathize with species that are part of the human food system and consider the ethical, ecological and health related implications of eating habits.
- > To consider how humans are straining the balance within ecosystems through agriculture and today's eating habits.



Permanent Exhibition

»Move«

This exhibit will explore how different species move – through flight, swimming, walking and other modes – and looks at collective behaviours such as swarming and migration. These behaviours and activities are only possible because of very specialized anatomies and different biomechanics of movement. The exhibit will introduce visitors to the similarities and differences between fins, arms, wings and legs as evolutionary adaptations to habitats. It will also highlight Bavaria as the location of a famous Archaeopteryx find.

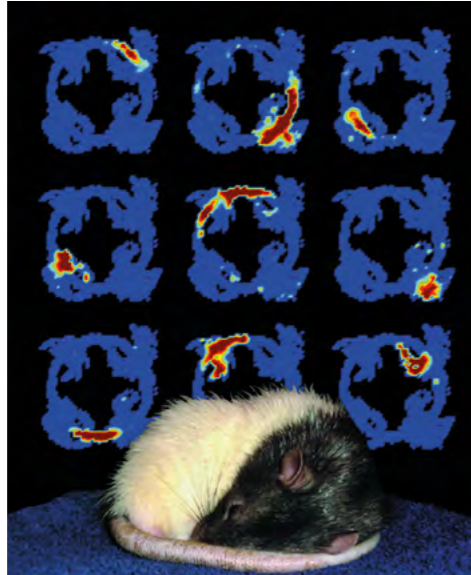
KEY GOALS

- > To understand the physiology, anatomy and biomechanics of movement.
- > To understand the migratory behaviours of animals.
- > To learn about the many reasons for movement.



Permanent Exhibition

»Sleep«



If a species has a brain, it needs to sleep. Sleeping saves energy and functions as a 'software update' in the brain. Memories and events are consolidated, making learning possible. Sleeping is also important for the immune system, as antibodies protecting against infection are mainly produced during sleep. This exhibit will explore the sleep patterns of different species, will ask if animals dream and will give visitors advice about how to improve their sleep.

KEY GOALS

- > To explore the way different species sleep, dream or hibernate.
- > To understand the importance of sleep for learning, health and wellbeing.



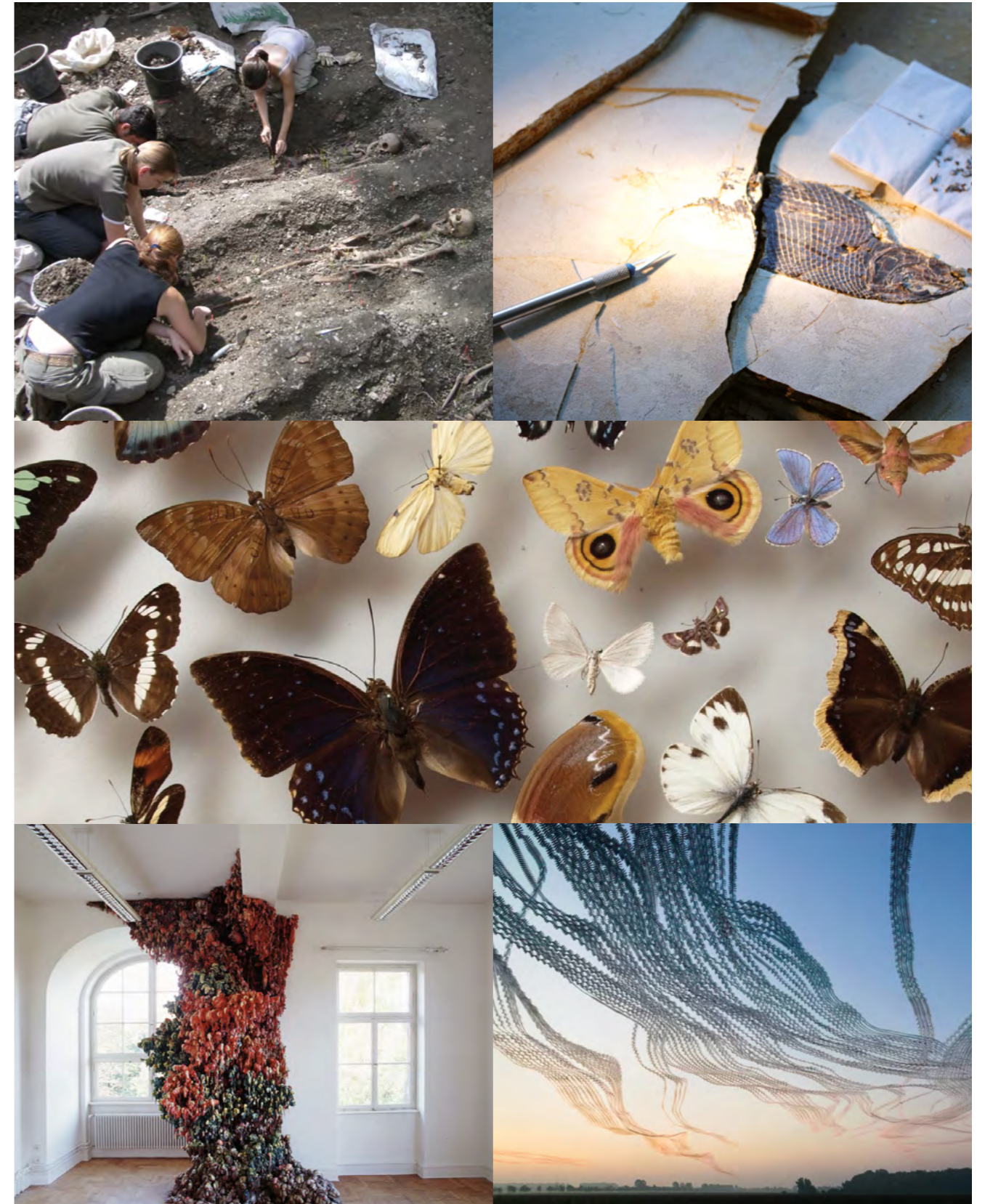
Permanent Exhibition »Pocket Exhibitions«

To keep abreast of new scientific research and to incorporate the latest ideas, interpretations and perspectives, small, easily exchangeable 'pocket exhibitions' will be integrated within the permanent exhibition.

'Pocket exhibitions' may present a new bio-art exhibit, show a film of a scientist explaining a new discovery, enable visitors to experiment with a new technology, or challenge visitors with questions of bioethics or science studies. Links to the partner museums in Bavaria will be possible.

KEY GOALS

- > To offer new perspectives and to reflect on science as part of our culture.
- > To connect with other museums and institutions.
- > To turn the permanent exhibition into an ever changing experience.



Angelika Arendt, 150 Jahre, 2005, PU-Schaum, Acrylfarbe, Courtesy C&K GALERIE, Berlin

Lothar Schiffler, AIRLINES XV-25. Vogelspuren in der Luft. Kraniche, Kinnbackenhagen, Ostsee, 2015

Permanent Exhibition
»Environmental Consequences«



Permanent Exhibition

»Environmental Consequences«

As the 'Behaviour Exhibits' will demonstrate, humans are by no means unique among species. However, we have entered a period where our collective behaviour has become the main force shaping the future of the planet.

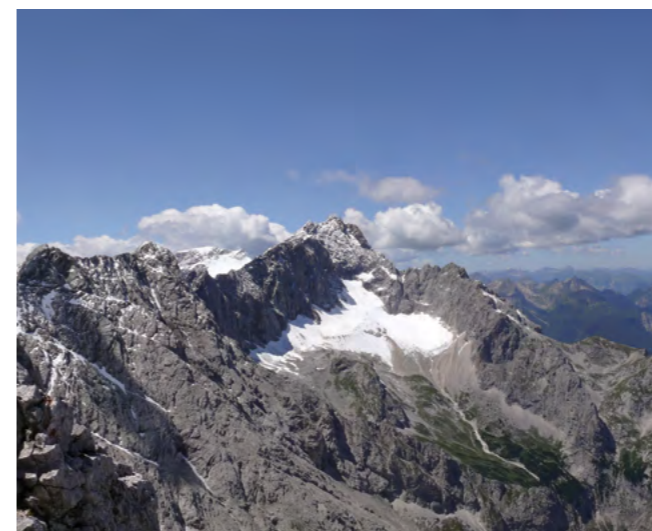
In the 'Environmental Consequences' exhibition, visitors will be invited to reflect on how the biological and cultural evolution of humans – new technologies, the transmission of knowledge, the spread of culture and immense population growth – has changed human behaviour, with many impacts on the planet. Exhibit themes will include overpopulation, consumption, lack of resources, war, pollution, disease, loss of biodiversity, climate change, desertification and the potential that innovation and new behaviour hold to master these challenges.

KEY GOALS

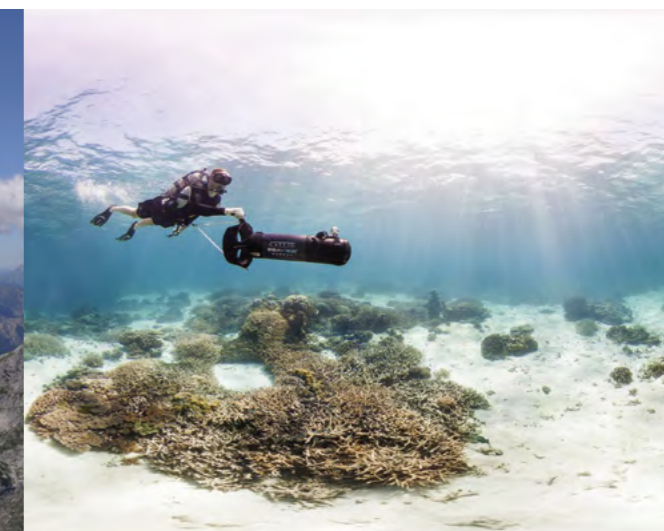
- > To understand the consequences that collective human behaviour can have for the biosphere.
- > To inspire visitors to take action, locally and globally.



Desertification



Climate Change



Loss of Biodiversity



Unsustainable Consumption

Permanent Exhibition

»Environmental Consequences«

The 'Environmental Consequences' exhibits are a call to action. They invite visitors to acknowledge their own agency when it comes to the choices they make in their daily lives. Visitors will reflect on and possibly change their own ideas, actions and attitudes as they recognize the connections between their own behaviour and global environmental challenges and political decisions.

The exhibit aims to change attitudes and behaviours:

- > By creating empathy for other living things that are hurt or threatened by the impact of humans on the planet.
- > By explaining the connections between (individual and collective) human behaviour and global environmental challenges.
- > By motivating and informing individual behaviour change.
- > By encouraging visitors to take the "driver's seat" in global political decisions regarding different relevant questions – everyone can make a difference!



Permanent Exhibition »Ecosystem Observatories«

BIOTOPIA WILL INTEGRATE RESEARCH
AS IT HAPPENS.

Observation is an important scientific skill and the key to appreciating the world around us. At the "Ecosystem Observatories", visitors will have the opportunity to gain new insights into their own environment, such as the urban ecosystem of Munich, the Alpine ecosystem of Bavaria and the many interconnected ecosystems of the world. The observatories will include live media, virtual reality, microscopes, real-time animal tracking and mediated programming on-site and out in nature. The observatories will connect the visitors to local, global, and past ecosystems as well as to diverse research laboratories allowing visitors to dive into live research.

KEY GOALS

- > To understand the importance of research for the future of global ecosystems and the solving of environmental problems.
- > To win visitors over to being citizen scientists that are more closely connected to researchers through active communication.



Adriano Olivetti: Le quattro stagioni. Installation at the Venice Biennale, 2012



Prof. Dr. Martin Wikelski from the MPI for Ornithology attaches a transmitter to a stork.

Musée d'Histoire Naturelle, Neuchâtel

Kindermuseum



INDOOR KINDERMUSEUM

Pre-schoolers will have their own dedicated play-and-learn space at the new museum. The Kindermuseum will be especially created for children aged 1–6 who are visiting with their kindergarten class or their families.

ANIMAL HOMES

In the Kindermuseum, children will playfully explore the habitats of different animals from their point of view. They will be able to crawl on an enormous spider's web, curl up with their parents to read a book in a bear's den or become a microbe and explore a cow's rumen. Those accompanying them will be able to observe and learn the importance of play to learning and development.

OUTDOOR PLAYSCAPES

Children will be able to continue to play and learn outside in a dedicated playscape. A separate playscape for their older brothers and sisters (ages 7–12 years) will be nearby.



Temporary Exhibitions



Invasive Species in Bavaria

BIOTOPIA's unique and exciting perspectives will be shared with other regional, national and international museums through temporary exhibitions that are generated in-house or co-developed with partners.

Visitors to the new museum will also be able to enjoy cutting-edge traveling exhibitions from other institutions worldwide. There will be space to show up to two temporary exhibitions at BIOTOPIA at one time.



From Slow Food to Slow Fashion: 21st-century Consumption
Image: Recycled fashion project by Fresh Youth Initiatives



Swarms: You'll never walk alone

Programmes



Programmes Overview



Excursions



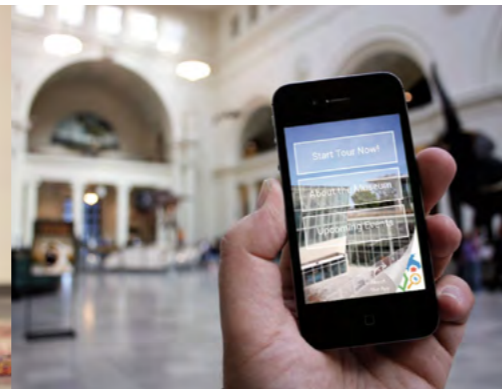
Artists in Residence



Facilitators, Interns, Volunteers



Learning Language through Science



Tours and Digital Programmes



Schools Programme



Festivals, Conferences, Events



Research



Open Labs and Workshops

Public programmes at [BIOTOPIA](#) will engage visitors through creative participation. Visitors – young and old – will be able to choose from an exciting, relevant and ever-changing selection of one-off or repeat events – whether to support second language learning, to experiment and create alongside top scientists, designers and artists or to be part of a global citizen science project. Public programmes will be designed to support visitors to develop and practice the skills of 21st-century science: observation, critical and creative thinking, curiosity, experimentation, collaboration and communication. Interns and volunteers will ensure that [BIOTOPIA](#) maintains a strong connection with its various communities.

Programmes

»The Open Labs«



Eating Lab
Image: Chloé Rutzerveld, Edible Growth, 2014

BIOTOPIA's four open labs will offer visitors and scientists a unique space to communicate, interact and experiment. Here visitors will be able to build skills through 'doing'. Each lab will have its own focus area connected to the 'Behaviour Exhibits'.

EATING LAB

In the Eating Lab people will experience the science of cooking and eating. Mindful Dining will bring people (and other species) together to consider how and what they eat.

BIO-ART AND DESIGN STUDIO

In the Bio-Art and Design Studio people will take part in bio-art projects as well as research into bio-inspired robotics, living materials, biomimicry and biologically produced architecture and design.



Bio-Art and Design Studio
Image: Tomás Saraceno, 32SW Stay Green/Flying Garden/Air-Port-City, 2007–2009
Installation view, Lyon Biennale

Programmes

»The Open Labs«

PLAY AND LEARN LAB

At the 'Play and Learn Lab', visitors and researchers will explore how different species play and learn. Visitors will be able to participate in activities demonstrating evolution, human and animal intelligence, and interaction among humans, computers and animals.

WET LAB

The 'Wet Lab' will be used for experiments related to biologically produced materials, such as fungi and bacteria. School learners will be able to assemble here for hands-on, curriculum related work, and explore the experiments and concepts from the exhibitions in greater depth.



Play and Learn Lab

Image: Aaron Sherwood, Firewall, 2013



Wet Lab

Image: Officina Corpuscoli, Maurizio Montalti, System Synthetics, 2011

Programmes

Schools Programme

PROF. RANDOLF RODENSTOCK, EXECUTIVE PARTNER
OPTISCHE WERKE G. RODENSTOCK GMBH & CO. KG
*"A large museum for the life sciences will in the medium term support
the reduction of the serious shortage of talented professionals in
science-oriented disciplines in Bavarian enterprises."*

School groups are a significant visitor segment to Museum Man and Nature and it is anticipated that they will be equally important to the new [BIOTOPIA](#). Schools are often the first point of contact between young people and the museum, who may then initiate a subsequent visit with an adult.

The schools programme at [BIOTOPIA](#) aims to support the learning objectives of the Bavarian school curriculum whilst providing learners and teachers with new ways to stimulate their curiosity about and empathy for the natural world.



Pupils at the Museum Man and Nature, Munich

Programmes

Facilitators, Interns and Volunteers

Positive encounters with museum staff members are an important component of every museum visit. They ensure that people remember their visit, learn, are more satisfied and are more likely to return. At [BIOTOPIA](#), university students and researchers act as facilitators, volunteers or interns throughout the exhibition – engaging people face to face with the ideas and explorations of each exhibit.

The new museum will attract these students and researchers by offering a unique training programme in science communication. While they are gaining valuable skills for their future careers, the museum's community will benefit from being directly connected with the latest research.

Prior to opening, a youth council will work closely with museum staff to inform the exhibition development process and to ensure its relevance to this important community.



School programme at the Museum Man and Nature, Munich

Programmes

Festivals, Conferences and Events

Festivals, conferences and events will bring people together, attract new audiences, generate new exhibition and programme ideas and help to position **BIOTOPIA** as a leader in science communication. Late-night salons at the museum, music performances and museum sleepovers will be just some of the events that will thrill young and old alike.

A SIGNATURE FESTIVAL

A signature, family-friendly festival of ideas relating to the future of life sciences and the environment, and connecting with the arts and design will be launched in the period before the opening – an exciting 'teaser' of things to come.



Pipilotti Rist, Kiasma, 1998

Programmes

Inclusion, Integration and Language Learning

An estimated forty percent of all potential visitors to the museum are either foreign born or have a migration background. For many people, learning German is key to integration. For others, learning English is an important gateway to international science.

The new museum will be a bilingual, German-English institution. It is the ideal space to practice and learn a new language, while at the same time supporting participation in social activities around common and interesting themes.

Integration and inclusion will further be fostered by [BIOTOPIA's](#) approach which will focus on differences and similarities between humans and other species – and not on differences among humans – paving the way for a visitor experience that emphasizes our common future.



Implementation



Karoline H. Larsen, *Collective Strings*, ongoing participatory performance installation, 2014

The Museum Man and Nature will remain open to the public until construction commences. During the construction phase, programming and events, including the signature festival, will play a key role in transitioning visitors, partners and staff from the current museum to [BIOTOPIA](#). Alternative venues, for example a pop-up pavilion, will offer many exciting glimpses into the future museum to ensure that the museum's community stays connected during the period of closure.



Research pavilion at the University of Stuttgart, 2011

Supporters

BERND SIBLER, BAVARIAN STATE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND THE ARTS

*"The overarching concept of the museum will lead to a great
visibility - not just in Bavaria but also internationally."*

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THE
PROJECT, PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE
OF THE FÖRDERKREIS BIOTOPIA AT
WWW.BIOTOPIA.NET.

FÖRDERKREIS BIOTOPIA –
NATURKUNDEMUSEUM BAYERN

The Förderkreis was founded in 2012 to gain support for the
expansion of the Museum Man and Nature from
stakeholders in economy, science, society and politics. Since
then, it has also been able to raise significant private funding
for the project.



David Liittschwager, Marine microfauna, 2007

Supporters

PROF. DR. BERND HUBER, PRESIDENT OF THE LUDWIG
MAXIMILIAN UNIVERSITY OF MUNICH

*"To find answers to the great challenges of our time we need not only
top level research but also a place where treasures of natural history are
made available to our children, young people and adults and where their
relevance can be convincingly conveyed."*

LUDWIG MAXIMILIAN UNIVERSITY OF MUNICH

The internationally recognized research of the LMU informs
the exhibition development at the new museum and will give
visitors many opportunities to connect to current research in
the life and environmental sciences.

PROF. DR. GERHARD HASZPRUNAR, DIRECTOR GENERAL,
BAVARIAN NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS

*"We want a museum with a unique approach (with humans at the
centre) for the whole of Bavaria: to marvel, to experience and to learn."*

BAVARIAN NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS

With one of the most important natural history collections
of the world and highly dedicated staff, the Bavarian
Natural History Collections provide excellent resources
for the realization of this project.



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Responsibility: Founding Director Professor Michael John Gorman.

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