

## . exhibitions

### Delhi Nullahs: The Fractal Metropolitan layer

Urban Habitat Summit 2009, India Habitat Centre, 2009, New Delhi

Delhi Nullahs: The Fractal Metropolitan Layer is an initiative taken up by Morphogenesis which was exhibited as a part of the Urban Habitat Summit at The India Habitat Centre, 2009 in New Delhi. This exhibit proposed to use Delhi's neglected existing 350 km long nullah network to fundamentally transform the city. The nullahs restoration project ([www.delhinullahs.org](http://www.delhinullahs.org)), a project by Morphogenesis, presents the hidden opportunity that lies within Delhi by establishing a green and sustainable network as an alternative and democratic source of engagement within the city of Delhi.

The installation exploits this hidden potential for the proposed spatial and environmental modulation that engages with the city in a non-political and democratic manner. It attempts to exploit the underutilized and unused land and recycle it to create sustainable secondary networks through the city. The 'nullahs' have always existed as secondary network that is hidden within the city. The power of this network now comes to the fore as a visual idea with the possibility of satellite imaging, which helps us to comprehend this as a contiguous layer running through.

The Delhi Nullah Project is based on the premise that Delhi's neglected wastewater system can be transformed to bring about a sustainable change, not only in Delhi's water management system, but also in its transport sector. The project aims to clean up the nullah system using decentralized in-site wastewater treatment facilities, which would allow for the reuse of treated water rather than discarding it into the Yamuna. Additionally, it proposes landscaping of the nullah's embankments with native vegetation and walking/bicycle tracks to enable ground water recharge, rainwater harvesting and give rise to an extensive pedestrian accessible urban network across the entire city, providing "last mile" connectivity to many communities of Delhi.

