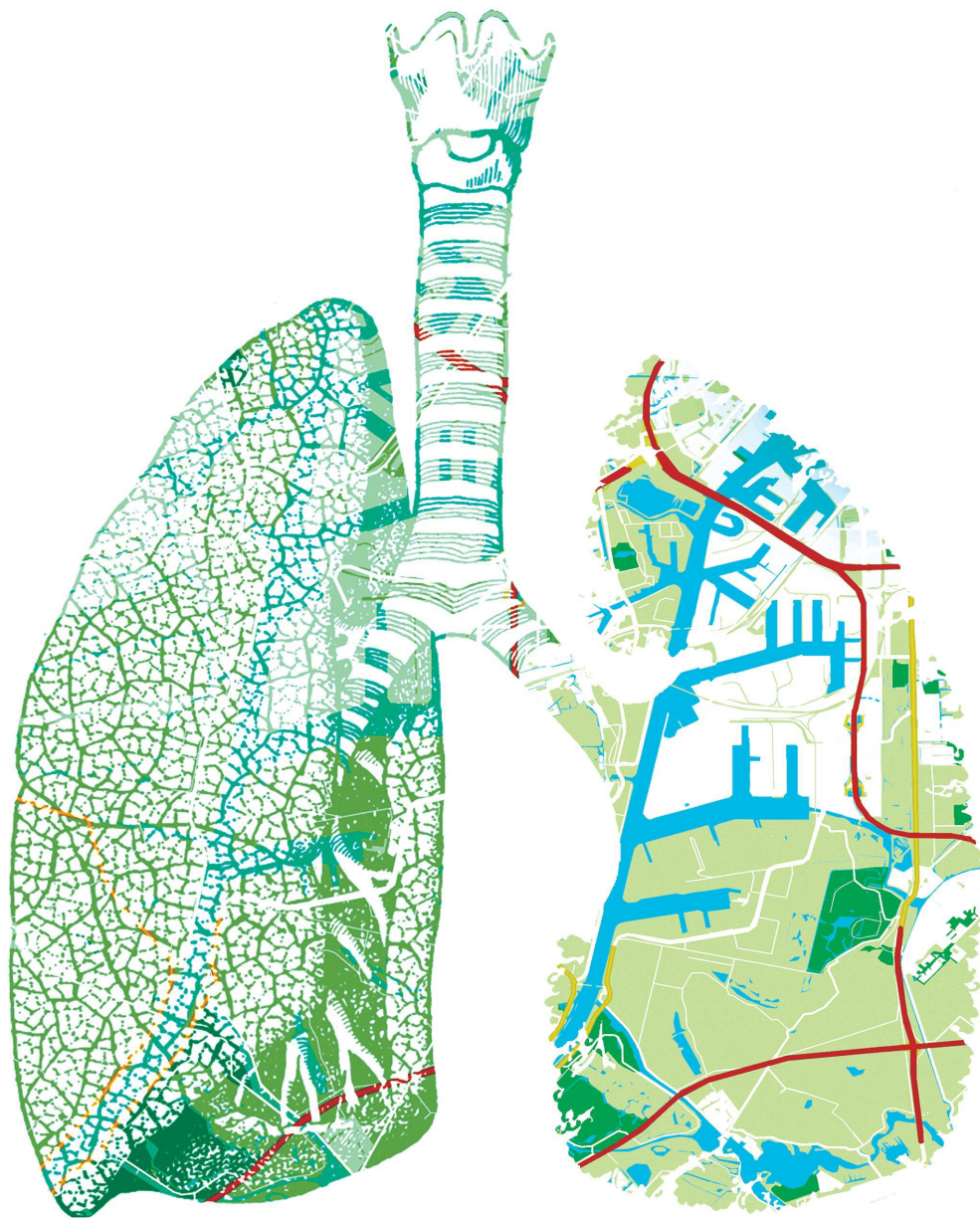
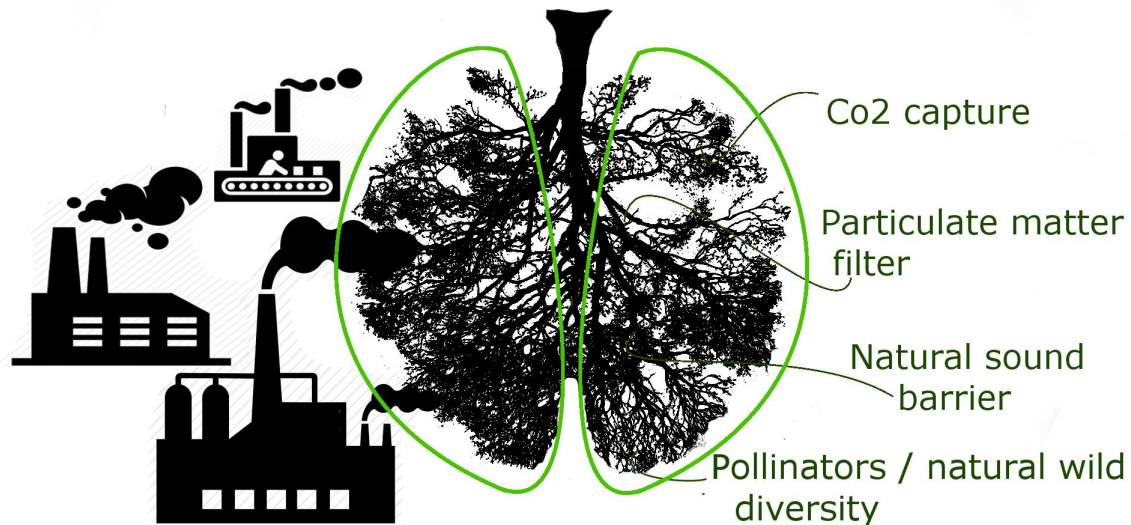


## ADM Terrain Hornweg 6 Westpoort Amsterdam 1045AR



## The Living Breathing Lungs of ADM Terrain Westpoort



On the edge of an expanding industrial area in Amsterdam called Westpoort, a very special development has taken place.

A group of people have created a forest, on the edge of the Noordzee Kanaal, a major shipping route for global import and export of industrial goods. The ADM terrain includes around 40 hectares of land and water.

The forest functions as a natural filter for emissions from the local industries. It filters particulate matter which are small particles of toxic debris and dust from the coal, concrete and petroleum industries located in the nearby area.

On the ADM terrain the trees and plants are constantly capturing these small particles and holding on to them with their leaves and branches until they are washed away naturally by the rain. This is a pollution barrier at work.

The ADM trees are also working as a sound barrier from the loading and unloading at the industrial freight and coal terminals located in the area. The trees are also capturing and storing CO<sub>2</sub> gas. This sound barrier, natural air filter and CO<sub>2</sub> storage is active and working every day.

## Oxygen Production - CO2 Capture / Storage - Particulate Matter Capture and filter - Sound Barrier



The ADM terrain right now is a direct benefit for the surrounding living area's such as Westzaan and Zaandam, but also for the environment in a much bigger sense.

ADM is a cultural free haven that established itself in 1997 in the Westpoort harbor of Amsterdam. This is a working and living environment that focuses on community, sustainability, self-sufficiency, art, culture and regeneration.

For more information on this community click or search the link bellow.

<https://adm.amsterdam/>

### **Location and Surroundings**

The ADM terrain is situated in the biggest industrial area and next to some of the biggest freight and logistics companies in Amsterdam.

Examples are:

OBA Bulk Terminal Amsterdam (coal, steel & chemical industry)

Bp Terminal (petroleum wholesale)

Waterland Terminal BV (freight logistics)

These are but a few of the companies who are well within the range of the ADM terrain (3 km or less).

There are 100s of companies operating in the Westpoort harbor area, all companies have a very strict control on how much pollution they are allowed to make in a year, one of the gasses which the City of Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau has to monitor is CO2.

These companies have to monitor all of their emissions and have to make sure they do not exceed their limits, even more so now as a new energy strategy for 2040 is in place. This strategy is an energy plan for the city and ports of Amsterdam.

The City of Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau operates within the policies that are set by the European Union who in turn set limits for: pollution, gasses, particulate matter production, the protection of nature, cleaning the water tables of rivers, lakes and seas for the whole of Europe.

Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau now boasts a new scheme to be achieved by 2040 which is in place and working now. Here are a number of quotes from their pdf from section 3. Port and Industry.

"The Port authority has committed to a target of -40% of CO2 by 2025 and this includes the inland and ocean shipping" ..... " in addition to cleaning up the energy companies transshipment in the port (coal and oil) energy use in the port must also be made more sustainable"..... "Sustainable initiative companies (recycling systems, bio fuels, transshipment and wind turbines) will set up business in the port."

We ask the Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau this:

How is it possible to clear a forest full of natural habitat (water, birds, trees, plants and shrubs) all of which are working to capture CO2 and filter emissions in an area which is constantly increasing in bio diversity with an active natural sound barrier and at the same time boast about reducing emissions?

How is it possible for a company to receive a permit for illegal work\* which was partially started with out a permit and was detrimental to the environment?

{\* clearing of a terrain full of natural habitat and not staying within the applied working area of the permit.}

Here is a video from news station AT5 of the action that was made against the protection of the ADM on the 28th of August 2015. This is an illegal action by companies chidda and koole caught on camera where a persons life was put in danger.

<https://vimeo.com/138388892>

Certainly this is a breach of the law and this is not allowed in business.

How would the Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau explain this kind of action?

It seems that there is no awareness of what has been unfolding on the ADM terrain.

The situation at ADM is in stark contrast with what is publicly being forwarded as a new innovative strategy on energy for 2040 by the Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau.

The PDF from the Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau clearly states that becoming greener is better and how companies have to be environmentally conscious if they are to develop at the port.

**ADM asks for support from the Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau to recognize the importance of the 20 year old forest and what it is actually doing. (CO2 capture, emissions filtration, water table filtration, bio diversity, sound barrier, nesting for birds, insects, pollinators and amphibians).**

Below is the link to the Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau publication on the 2040 Energy strategy

[http://www.iclei-europe.org/fileadmin/templates/iclei-europe/files/content/Membership/MUTS/Amsterdam/Energystrategy\\_2040\\_-\\_engelse\\_versie\\_Kopenhagen.pdf](http://www.iclei-europe.org/fileadmin/templates/iclei-europe/files/content/Membership/MUTS/Amsterdam/Energystrategy_2040_-_engelse_versie_Kopenhagen.pdf)

Here is a link to the **Habitats Directive** which is a major part in the EU's strategies for the protection of natural habitats. This is more commonly known as:

**Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora**

This directive is very important as it is a standard that has been legally set from 1992 and ensures protection of wild bio diverse areas such as the ADM terrain.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Habitats\\_Directive](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Habitats_Directive)

Another question for the Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau is:

How is it possible for the Amsterdam Kilimaatbureau and council to ignore **Council Directive 92/43/EEC** and grant a permit to a company which has total disregard for nature to support the destruction of a natural nesting habitat with protected and listed plants and fauna?

Birds like the King Fisher and birds of prey like the Buzzard are protected by **Birds Directive** formally known as **Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds** and listed amphibians like the Natter Jack toad all of which have been documented and certified by ecologists to have nests in the area that was cleared. Again how is this possible?

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Birds\\_Directive](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Birds_Directive)

For more information on European Environmental Policies there is a link below.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

## **The ADM forest, trees and plants**

The front part of the ADM terrain previously consisted of a mix of mature trees, young saplings, plants and shrubs essential for the wildlife and clean up of local emissions.

All the trees and plants on this part of the terrain were cut down with out the proper paper work and municipal permissions at the time of the companies action. The cutting attempted to take place during nesting season between April and May 2015. It was stopped by the residents of ADM and the police as it was illegal.

The companies should have been able to present their permits and paperwork properly to police and local residents and council, which they clearly did not do as they did not exist at the time.

There is a link below to an audio interview of the full story of what happened on the days chidda / koola decided they would take matters into there own hands and clear all the front part of the ADM terrain.

[https://soundcloud.com/adm\\_community](https://soundcloud.com/adm_community)

Around 2,000 trees were cut by koola / chidda at the front part of the ADM terrain in August 2015 without a clear permit. They also did not have any compensatory CO2 / emissions plan for the area they cut / cleared.

This means that there was no effort made to replant trees and shrubs in the local area, to help with the emissions that were previously being captured by the trees and plants that chidda / koola cut down.

The animals and birds that were nesting were not considered with enough respect and also the Natterjack yellow stripe toad which is a protected listed amphibian was not taken seriously. Proof of this toads nesting habitat was clearly made and represented in several of the news papers and media of Amsterdam.

Shockingly for the community of ADM: chidda / koola managed to receive a permit to cut 470 trees which were over 10cm in diameter and over a 1000 trees under 10cm. They managed to receive this permit after they had already illegally cut some of the trees down and also some trees which were not on the permit.



## An official permit for the past?

Below is an aerial photograph of the trees which the companies chidda / koole were allowed to cut. The companies did not stick to their permit and also cut the trees encircled within the red line illegally.



Furthermore none of the proposed building plans of chidda were executed. This is a breach of the just in time policy. This policy came into effect on 13<sup>th</sup> of May 2009. The policy was put in place to ensure companies do not get the right to cut down trees and flatten wild terrain until they have clear building plans, which then have to be fulfilled. The policy also exists for the protection of animals and wildlife. This is a council policy which is notoriously difficult to find but it does exist for the above reasons. Therefore it should be publicly accessible.

## Tree facts and info

The permit which chidda applied for was to cut 470 trees plus 1000 smaller trees for which they did not require a permit. They also cut all the plants and shrubs so now the front part of the terrain is bare.

For example :

An area with 2,000 trees, where each tree has a potential to consume 45lbs of CO2 per year should have been considered to have an adequate replanting and regeneration scheme to be applied by the company responsible for felling the trees. This is known as a carbon offset.

This is common practice by conscious companies looking after the environment.

Link: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon\\_offset](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon_offset)

If there has been 2,000 trees felled that's equal to a potential of 90,000lbs of CO2 which is equal to 45 tonnes of stored CO2 Per year.

Now a further 10,000 trees are at risk to be cut down by the companies chidda and koole on the ADM terrain.

Currently the 10,000 trees that are left on the ADM terrain have the potential to capture 450,000lbs equal to 225 tons of CO2 per year.

The above figures for trees storing CO2 have been calculated using the information provided by Arbor Environmental Alliance.

This group has a website with lots more information about why trees are so important.

Link: <http://www.arborenviroentalalliance.com/carbon-tree-facts.asp>

Thankfully the permit which chidda / koole applied for (to fell the trees on the ADM terrain within the community) was rejected by the council.

This decision was based on bad practice with no clear plan of development from the companies involved.

Until now the fear of chainsaw operators working next to residents and there homes, felling very big mature trees was a worry of the past.

But currently chidda and koole are trying new negotiations. This in turn impacts the ADM community in a very big way.

If the companies receive the permits to cut down all the trees within the community, this will clearly indicate that there is no environmental policy enforcement being up held in the Westpoort harbor of Amsterdam.

If the pollution from the surrounding industries is granted to be released freely into the atmosphere with no sound dampening, no carbon capture, and no particulate matter filtration and there are no compensatory replanting schemes for regeneration solutions or objectives to make right the loss of a 20 year old forest.

Then this will clearly indicate that CO2 emissions and particulate mater filtration, oxygen production, bio diversity and ecology is something that the city of Amsterdam is not taking seriously.

### **The ADM 20 year old forest needs to be recognized and protected.**

#### **Summery**

On the ADM terrain nature shows us how a recovery from industrial waste and destruction can be made, also when humans are living and helping it develop. This is a recovery - although not completed, but surely on its way, from the industrial desert that it was 20 years ago. Now the forest grows and the natural diversity is being generated everyday.

### **ADM is a beautiful example of symbiosis between nature and humans and unique in many ways.**

Humans are part of nature.

It's time to clean up, for our children, so they can breathe fresh air, drink clean water and grow food on a cleaner, greener and ideally unpolluted earth.

Join our fight against chiddas development and help support the cleaner greener environment that we should all live in.

For a more in-depth study of the biodiversity that exists on the ADM terrain made by **Arda** click or search the link below.

<http://www.arda-natuur.nl/Inventarisatie%20rapport%20ADM.pdf>