Urban Renaissance
Integrated redevelopment system for cities and neighborhoods

Urban Renaissance is a comprehensive system to redevelop neighborhoods, cities, and regions, into strong, self-sufficient, flourishing, and beautiful areas. It offers a full trajectory from initiative to design and realization, including all stakeholders in the process.

There are cities in which people go hungry living on soil that could feed many. Cities people leave because they can’t make a living while everything they need is right there to be used. New insights show that these cities can flourish and turn into exciting neighborhoods. Urban Renaissance realizes this using innovative strategies that support economic, ecological, and social improvement at the same time. This way, we realize flourishing and beautiful places to live around the world, step by step.
Combining community insights with strategic expertise

Smart neighborhood redevelopment builds on its strongest asset: its people. Redeveloping communities while ensuring inhabitants can share in the process is energetic, fast, and effective. By combining this with life-cycle science, bespoke design, and blue economy principles, we create neighborhoods that are self-sufficient in energy, water, waste, and food, while providing jobs to the community, safe and healthy living environments and a thriving economy. This way, we make inspiring environments to live and work in, and realize resilient long term investments.

Urban renaissance is what you get when you combine partners in innovative design, engineering, planning, strategy and environmental research. With a team of 30 experts, we travel the globe to realize these future-proof neighborhoods, communities and institutions using our SiD sustainability redevelopment method.

Except Integrated Sustainability offers over a decade of experience in self-sustaining design and development, on four continents. Want to find out how to start Urban Renaissance in your neighborhood? Contact us at info@except.nl, we’ll be happy to talk to you.

Opportunities for self-sufficiency in...

- Energy (neutral, positive, or autonomous)
- Water & waste processing
- Fresh food (basic or full sufficiency)
- Construction & operational materials
- Economic program
- Social and cultural program
- Communications (internet, data storage)
- Ecological resources

Step by step, from small to big

Urban Renaissance starts small, with cost-effective analysis that detects low-hanging fruit, and easy to implement projects. It then leads the way, step by step, to complete urban renewal.

In-depth SiD analysis finds effective strategies for transport, energy, ecology, economy and socially.

Inspiration books and visions provide starting points for step by step redevelopment.

Community participation and urban agriculture for local job creation, and closed-loop neighborhoods.

Complete urban restructuring and redesign resulting in self-sufficient, resilient neighborhoods.
Projects we are proud of:

San Francisco Transbay Terminal
Except realized the concept for the world’s largest rooftop park, while restructuring the existing transport hub in the city center. It features increased biodiversity, water purification, air filtration, quality public space and an exhilarating new green space in the center of the city.

Rotterdam Schiebroek-Zuid
A flexible and exemplary roadmap for converting a post-war social housing neighborhood into a self-sufficient and sustainable area, resulting in self-sufficiency in water, energy, waste, 80% of food, new jobs and businesses.

Shanghai Sustainable Master Plan
This project combines cutting edge sustainable design with exciting urban places. It features closed loop metabolism, urban agriculture and vertical farms, entrepreneurial opportunities and tight integration with social layers of the city.

Except’s SiD process guides urban renaissance projects using its systems sustainability method. It has been successfully applied to over 200 projects worldwide.
Some of our clients:

![Images of clients logos]

What they say about us:

“Except’s people storm the gates of heaven, work extremely hard and invest unbelievable amounts of energy into solving your problem, making it their own and getting to the bottom of it.”

Bart Verhagen, Development Manager,
Estrade / Vestia Housing Corporation

“Working with Except was inspiring and effective. They quickly delivered beyond our expectations. We look forward to future projects.”

Justin Elicker,
Yale University Office of Sustainability

“Except is a couple of years ahead of other organizations... they are one of the pioneers in this area.”

Paul van de Sande,
Sustainability Program Manager, City Government of Roosendaal

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» provides full sustainability consulting, design and development services
» applies the Symbiosis in Development (SiD) systems methodology offering the highest standard of sustainability and integrated development available globally
» brings together over 12 disciplines including consulting, design, research, ecology, engineering, finance, production, sociology, and development
» is a Dutch / American firm founded in 1999 consisting of 30 experts with experience in Europe, USA, Asia, and Australia

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