

RESEARCH ETHICS PROTOCOL

Project Title: Moving Out of Anthropocentrism: Practices for Eco-Decolonial Regeneration

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1. Aims and Purpose

The research aims to:

- 1.1. Create methods (also known as “practices” or “exercises”) to stimulate humans’ perception of (or “connection” to) the natural environment around them; and
- 1.2. Evaluate the usability of these methods through participatory methodological processes (also called “communities of practice” or “journeys”).

The purpose of the research is to contribute to the body of knowledge and practices in the field of Regenerative Design.

The research project started in November 2025 and ends in November 2027. Two methodological processes will be conducted: one online with participants from São Paulo, Brazil, and one in-person with participants from Växjö, Sweden. They will take place from October to December 2026.

2. Participant Rights, Eligibility, and Wellbeing

Eligibility: Participation is open exclusively to adults aged 18 years or older. By participating, you confirm that you meet this age requirement.

Voluntary Participation and Right to Withdraw: Participation in this research is entirely voluntary. You have the right to withdraw from the study at any time, without penalty or need to provide a justification. If you choose to withdraw before the final analysis phase, your data will be permanently deleted and not used in any publications.

Safety and Comfort: The practices involved in this Community of Practice may evoke emotions, including ecological grief or personal reflection.

- You have the right to skip any practice or exercise at any time without consequence.
- You are encouraged to communicate any discomfort or distress to the researcher.

3. Personal data:

- 3.1. Name
- 3.2. Nationality (name of the country of origin)
- 3.3. Age
- 3.4. Designer or non-designer (current occupation)
- 3.5. Gender identity (female/male/non-binary/other)
- 3.6. Email address

Confidentiality: While participation in the sessions is conducted in a way that protects privacy, the researcher retains knowledge of participant identities for administrative and analytical purposes. Therefore, we guarantee strict confidentiality. Your identity will never be disclosed to

third parties. The demographic data listed above (items 1–5) will be linked to your participation only for analytical purposes and will be stored securely on a Sunet Drive.

Usage in Publications:

- Item 1 (Name) is used only for administrative purposes (in the term of consent)
- Items 2–5 (Nationality, Age, Occupation, Gender Identity) may be published anonymously in appendices or reports to contextualize findings.
- Item 6 (Email) will never be published or shared. It is used solely for administrative communication regarding the study.

4. Voice Recordings and Transcriptions

Voice recordings will be made solely of the feedback participants give on the use of the proposed methods during the weekly encounters of each community of practice.

- **Processing:** These recordings will not be stored as permanent audio files. They will be transcribed into text for the purpose of analyzing and evaluating the methods.
- **Storage:** Audio files will be deleted immediately after transcription. Only the anonymized transcripts will be retained.
- **Publication:** Transcripts will be used as anonymous citations in future publications where necessary for reflecting on the usability of the artistic practices. Identifying details will be removed or altered to ensure confidentiality.
- **Right to Review:** Participants may request to review their anonymized transcript contributions for accuracy or to request removal of specific comments. Such requests must be made in writing by the end of February 2027 (two months after the end of the Communities of Practice). The researcher will accommodate reasonable requests within this timeframe.

5. Photography

Photographs will be taken of:

- 5.1. Hands using materials during in-person encounters
- 5.2. Materials being handled
- 5.3. Any outcomes of the practices and exercises (online or in-person)
- 5.4. Physical spaces after practices have been used

To preserve the confidentiality of participants, no pictures of faces or full bodies will be taken. In the event that a face appears inadvertently in the background of photos of the situations mentioned above, it will be digitally blurred or erased before any storage or publication. Photos will be used only for internal documentation and potentially in anonymized academic publications.

6. Data Retention and Security

All personal and research data will be stored securely in compliance with GDPR and Swedish/Brazilian data protection laws.

- 6.1. **During the Study:** Data will be accessible only to the Principal Investigator.

- 6.2. **Post-Study Archival:** To ensure scientific integrity and allow for future verification or meta-analysis, anonymized data (transcripts, aggregated demographic statistics, and anonymized images) will be retained for a period of 10 years after the conclusion of the project (until November 2037). During this time, all links between data and participant identities will be severed.
- 6.3. **Destruction:** After this 10-year period, all remaining data will be securely and permanently destroyed.

This research ethic protocol is connected to the research term of consent, to be signed by each participant.