

DON'T PANIC

Vitanje space call

participants:

Moritz Oliver Benatzky

Tina Cerpnjak

Asena Colak

Florian Hummer

Gabriele Pitacco

mentors:

Aljoša Dekleva / dekleva gregoric architects

Michael Obrist / feld72

co-mentors:

Jakob Travnik

Blaž Šef



Architectural Association School of Architecture, London
AA Visiting School Slovenia, Vitanje 2015, nanotourism
programme director Aljoša Dekleva / assistant Jakob Travnik



DON'T PANIC

Vitanje space call

Together with the community of Vitanje, we create a unique artistic installation to demonstrate the potential of space technology beyond its purely technical aspects.

It is a social art project, starting from a simple participatory event, similar to a flash mob, to show the world how a community can communicate with the whole planet and the outer space.

On Wednesday, July the 15th, 2015, local and foreign people created a land art sign filling the letter “O” of the phrase “DON'T PANIC” on the hills right above Vitanje.

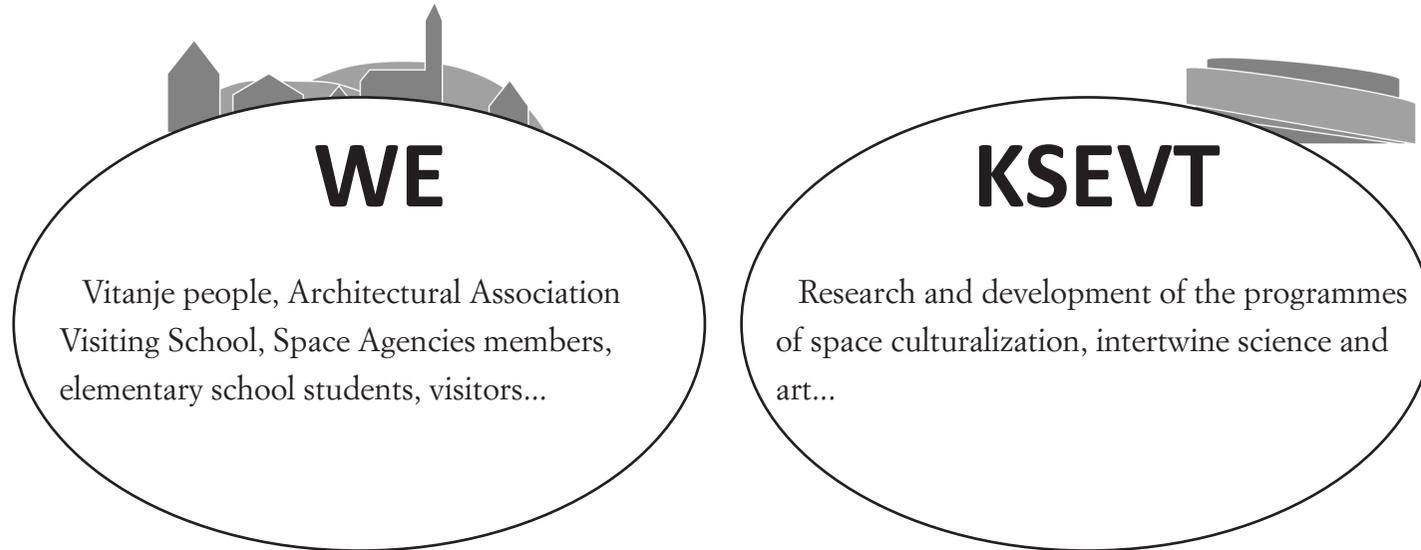
The formation has been documented on several layers, a drone, a small plane plus, perhaps, a satellite.

Why “*DON'T PANIC*”?

Today's society is facing a condition where crisis has become more the norm than the exception. Whether this is directed towards global issues of inequality, climate change, peace and dialogue – *to only name a few* – or the more individual everyday struggle all of us are facing – sometimes a simple generous phrase is enough to remind each of us that, like everything else, we can face it.

The phrase refers to Douglas Adams radio novel from 1978 “The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy”, that became first a series of (unfinished) books and than movie. It is a reference to Herman Potocnik Noordung and the cultural space programme currently developed at KSEVT.

identity **SHIFT**

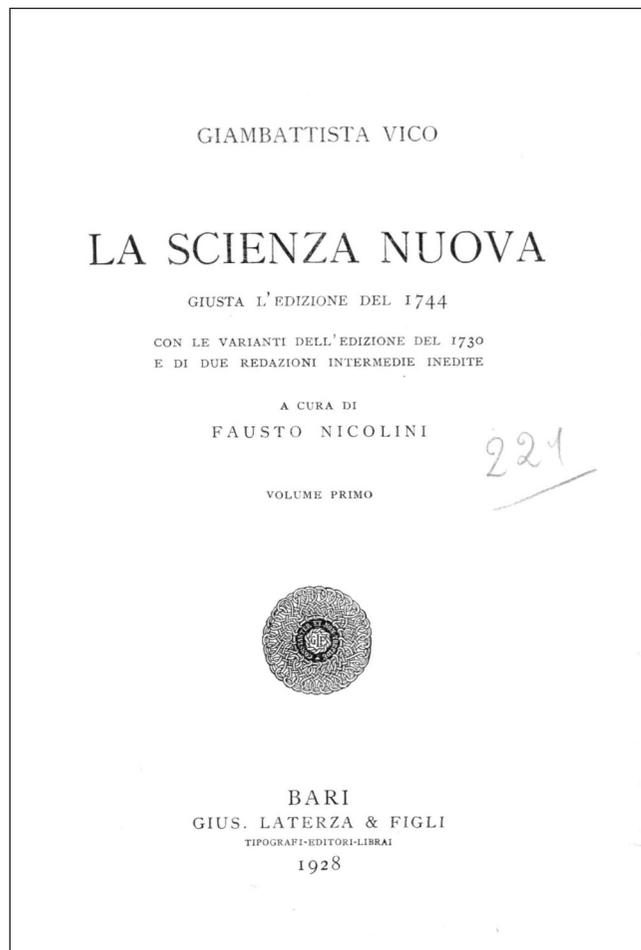


we **ARE** ksevt

MATERIAL

*Eloquence without knowledge is **hollow and empty**;
but knowledge without eloquence is **mute and powerless***

Gianbattista VICO, *La Scienza Nuova*, 1744



The first choice made for this project is the “material” choice, but in an abstract sense.

We chose to work with the most precious and fragile material of all: human beings.

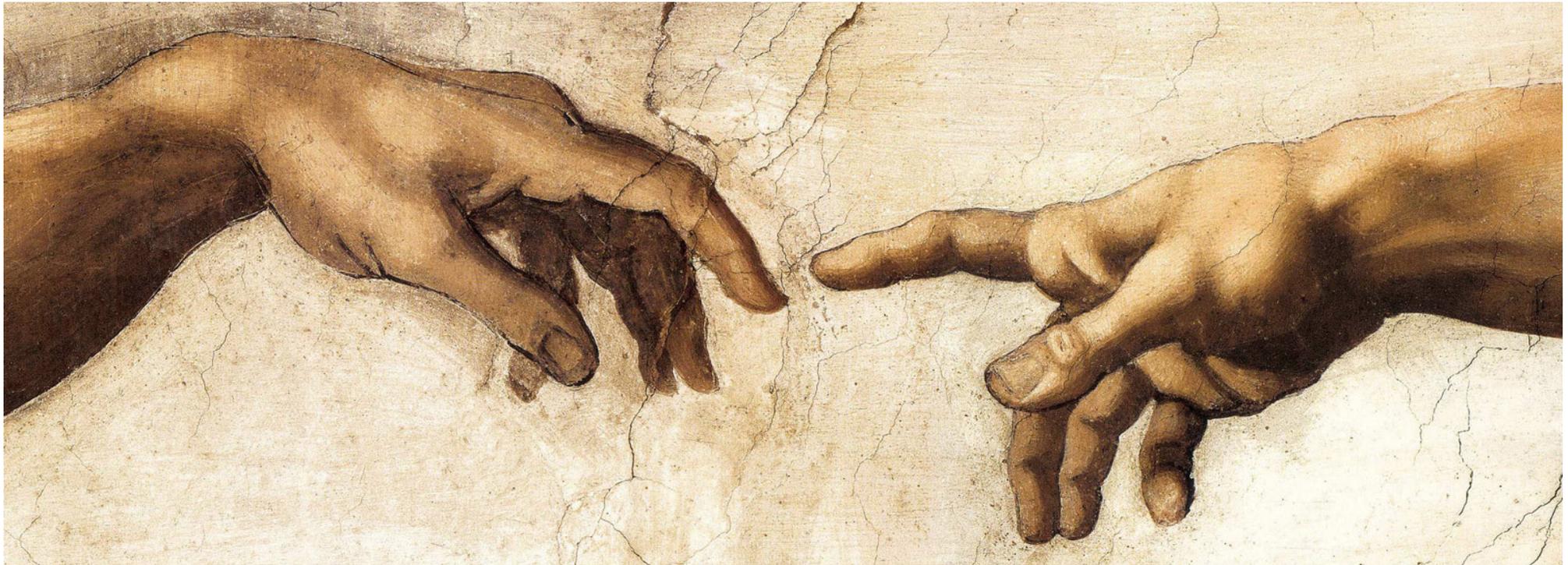
Like every material requires a specific technical knowledge and precise tools, dealing with human beings require specific abstract and intangible tools.

Being human means communicate with each other, relate and find a common field based on shared values, cultural capital, knowledge and desires.

It is an artistic profession, meaning that the result is mainly based not on a set of rules, but on the actors involved in it.

MATERIAL

Michelangelo Buonarroti, The creation of Adam,
Sistine Chapel's ceiling, Rome, 1511-12



The local community really likes the KSEVT building.

They perceive its architectural quality. At the same time, nevertheless they do not completely relate to it. It is felt like an amazingly beautiful spaceship just landed between the hills and the *gostilna*.

The KSEVT program is a *mistura fina* of research and education aiming to promote space culturalization, through exhibitions, conferences, symposia, lectures, and other events. But it does not attract the local community.

Therefore this project wants to trigger a bi-direction process. It aims to make *hands* meet.

Pulling metaphorically Vitanje inside the building, but also pushing KSEVT towards local people, towards their concrete actual desires, ambitions and needs.

PRIDE SHARING DESIRE

In order to make hands meet, we have not only to be, but also to feel, involved in the KSEVT activities. We have to feel not only its our own building, but moreover that we can relate to its program.

The strongest tools we have to achieve these goals are values. Sharing intangible values,

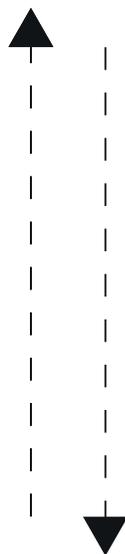
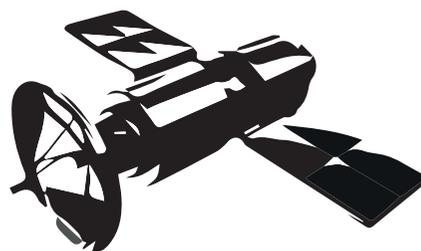
meeting each other needs, building a shared idea of future, these are our weapons.

It is a strongly political intervention, because it acts as to build a path, a perspective and common goals. It is a potentially deeply dangerous intervention. It works on the identity of a community like a social sculpture.

It is a gift and at the same time it is a violent action. Like a gift it never comes for free, it always calls for a reaction.

Once it has a structure, a technique, it's content can be manipulated or distorted. That is when the message becomes crucial.

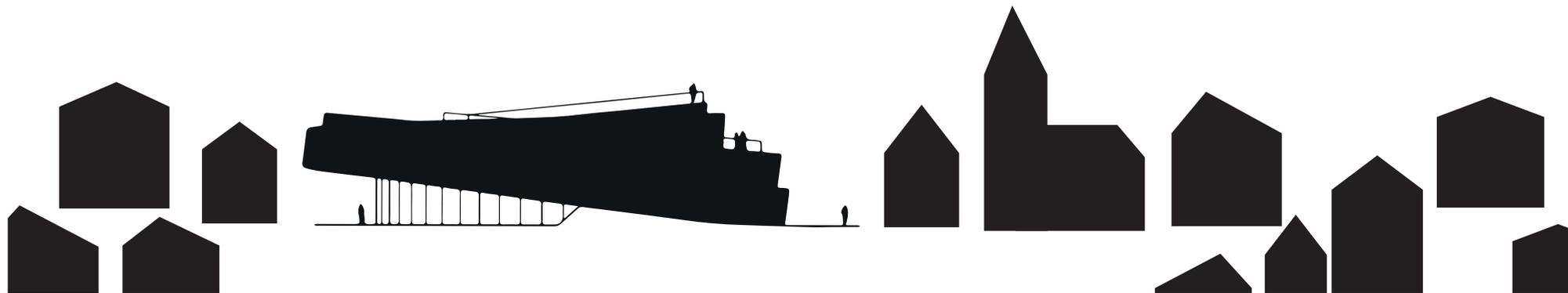
CONCEPT: local meets planetary



KSEVT deals with space in a peculiar way. Space programs can survive by themselves, but are not able to understand themselves; human being that live within those programs are aware of their existence. Introducing culture into space is therefore crucial.

But how can we relate to such an ambition program while we are in small town like Vitanje?

The very first step is to start a conversation, to send a message, to make a call, a space call.



SNAPSHOT

The community of Vitanje participates in creating a unique sign depicting the context and heritage of its local KSEVT cultural centre.

The sign is photographed by a drone, an airplane and, perhaps, a satellite from space, commemorating and immortalizing the event as a single moment in time while simultaneously creating an emotional link between the identities of the people and the center.

LAND ART

The community of Vitanje takes part in creating a land art installation, again conveying the cultural heritage of the KSEVT research center. The installation then remains in place until it is photographed from above by a passing satellite.

Both the art piece which content is only apparent from above and the photograph serve as means for the people to identify with the context of the center.

PERFORMANCE

The community of Vitanje takes part in the participatory performance being part of flash mob, a white pic-nic, simply enjoying their time and getting to know each other.

They fill one of the letters of the message, as a metaphor for filling the communications gaps. Being there means they are aware of the message, they are aware of the project and what it conveys.

REFERENCES

Snapshot

scale

Federico Winer, *Ultradistancia*, 2008-2014



Unknown, *White Horse*, Uffington, ???



REFERENCES

Land Art

medium

Robert Smithson, *Jetee spirale*, 1970



Richard Long, *Land Art*, 1980



Zander Olsen, *Tree line*, 2008



Performance

participatory



SNAPSHOT LAYERS

617km

satellite

res.: 31cm/pixel
area: ?
DigitalGlobe
European Space Imaging



400-2000m

ultralight aircraft

res.: var.
area: var.
Aero klub Sentvid



1000m

motorized paraglider

res.: ?
area: ?

250m

drone

res.: 10cm/pixel
area: 4 * 500m/200m
Geofoto Slovenska Bistrica



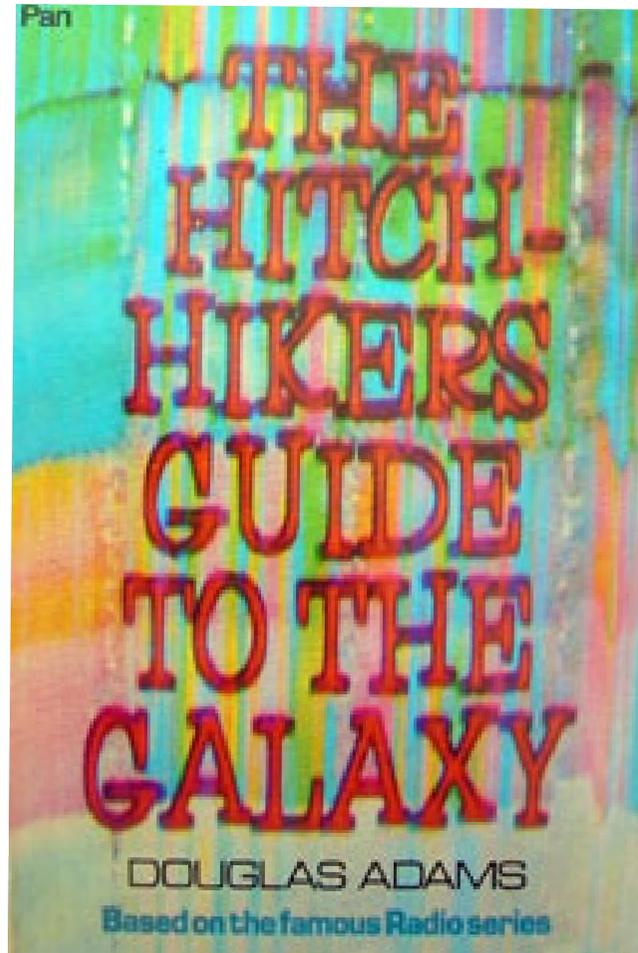
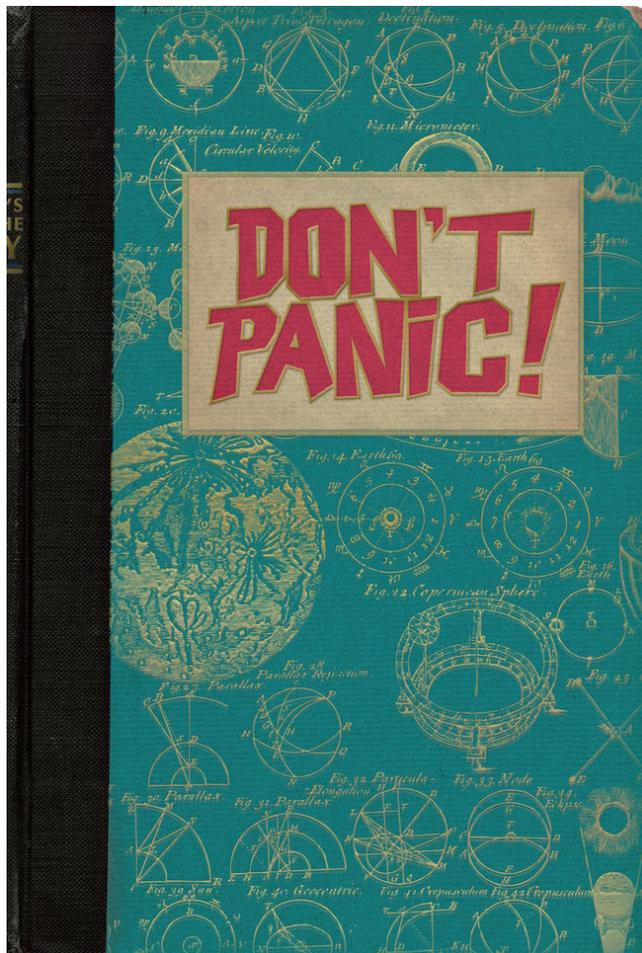
Documenting this performance through images opens to a dialogue with the concepts of complexity and self-referentiality. In order to create a conceptual connection with the space, the images of the process of taking images has been engineered involving snapshot taken at different height and images that are potentially passing through images.





THE BOOK WITHIN THE BOOK

“First, it is slightly cheaper; and secondly it has the words **Don't Panic** inscribed in large friendly letters on its cover”



The phrase “DON'T PANIC” refers to the fictional book featured in the popular comedy science fiction series Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy created by Douglas Adams.

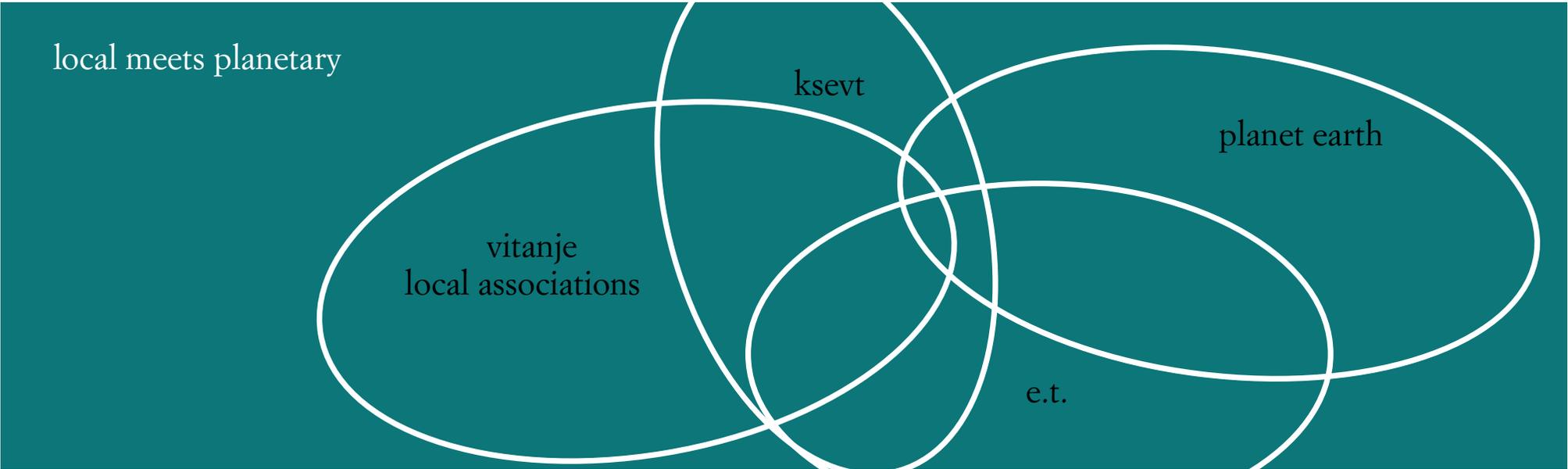
Originally a radio comedy broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1978, it was later adapted to other formats, and over several years it gradually became an international multi-media phenomenon.

Adaptations have included stage shows, a “trilogy” of five books published between 1979 and 1992, a sixth novel penned by Eoin Colfer in 2009, a 1981 TV series, a 1984 computer game, and three series of three-part comic book adaptations of the first three novels published by DC Comics between 1993 and 1996.

There were also two series of towels, produced by Beer-Davies, that are considered by some fans to be an “official version” of The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy, as they include text from the first novel.

A Hollywood-funded film version, produced and filmed in the UK, was released in April 2005, and radio adaptations of the third, fourth, and fifth novels were broadcast from 2004 to 2005.

USERS



USERS: social involvement



Intevju with Radio RTV - SLO

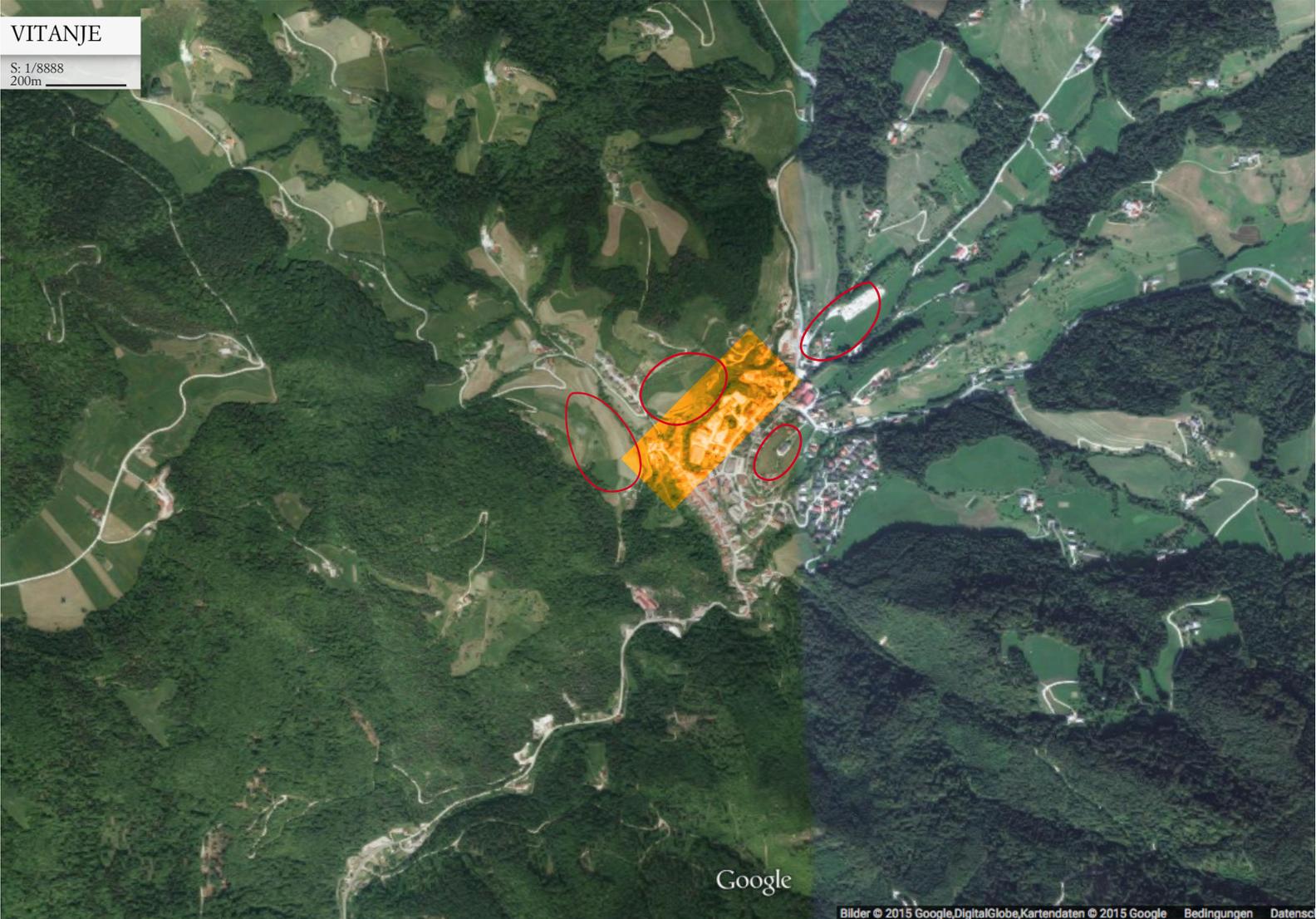
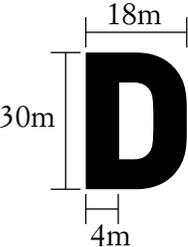


PLACE, VISIBILITY, SCALE AND FONT

drone dimension sample
(200m/500m)



possible areas



PLACE, VISIBILITY, SCALE AND FONT



PLACE, VISIBILITY, SCALE AND FONT

DON'T PANIC

DON'T PANIC DON'T PANIC DON'T PANIC

DON'T PANIC DON'T PANIC DON'T PANIC

DON'T PANIC DON'T PANIC DON'T PANIC DON'T PANIC

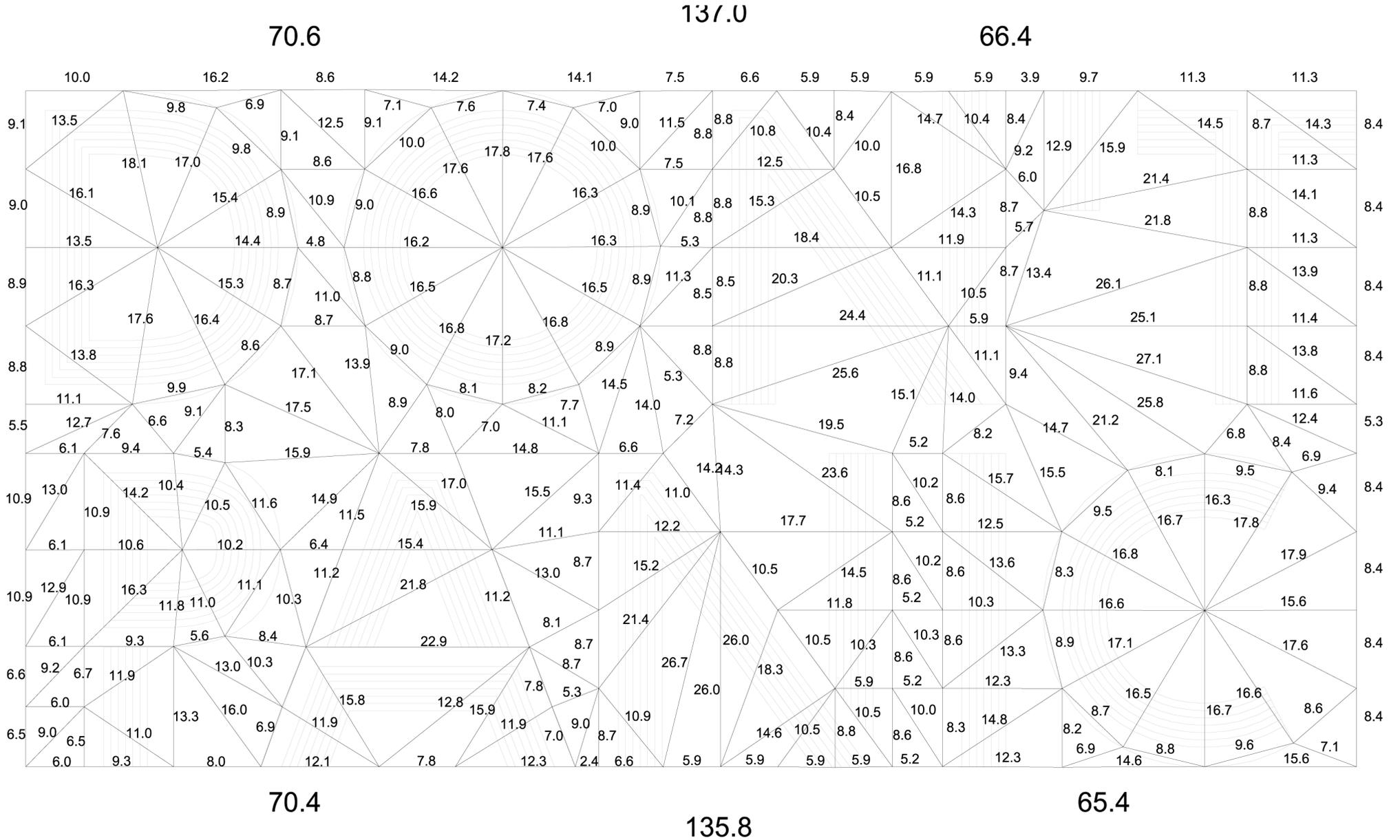
PANIC

MATERIALS: agrifilm, agricultural foils

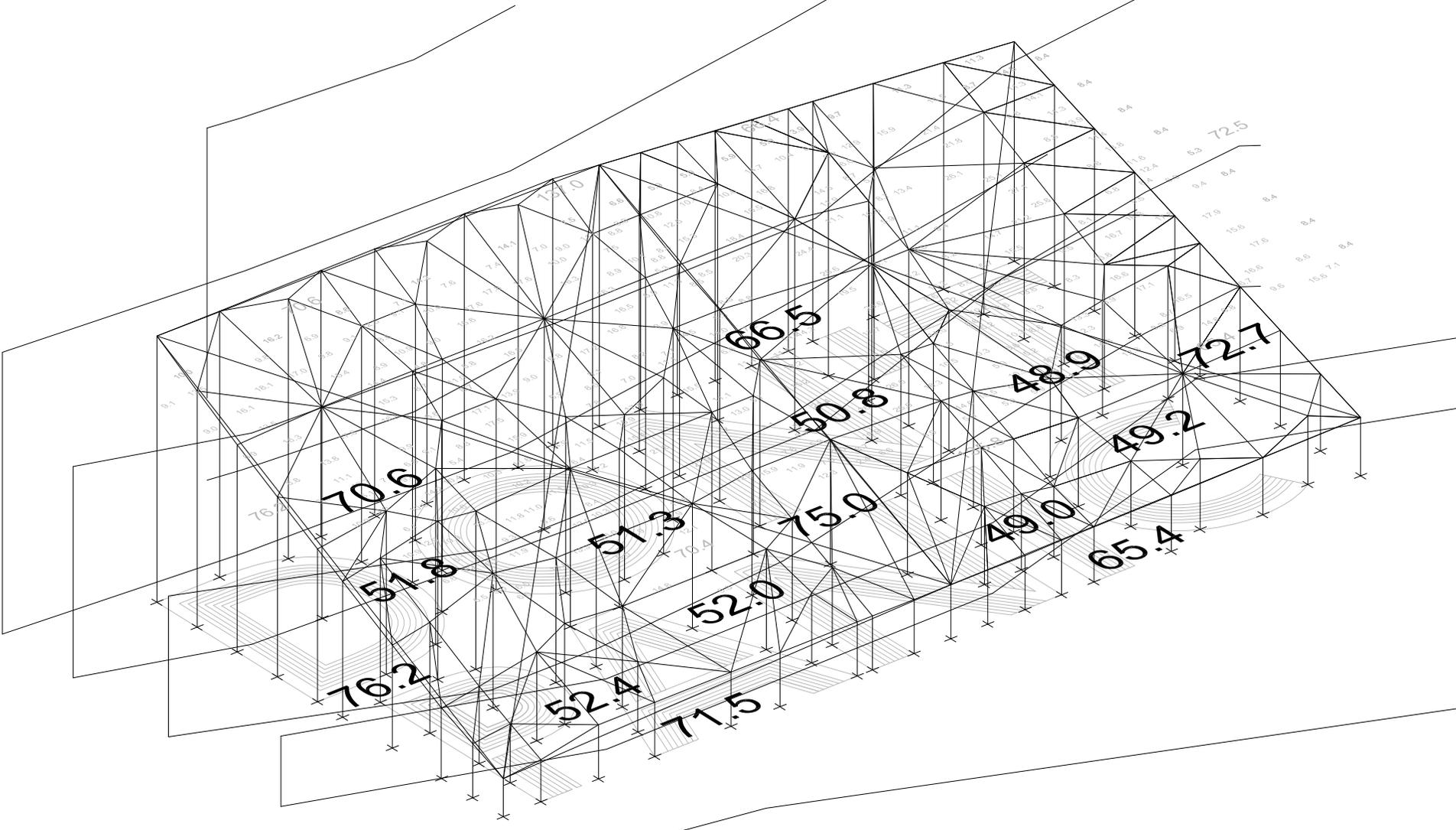
biodegradable and soil degradable
mulch film for agriculture



MATERIALIZATION PROCESS: trigonometric triangulation



MATERIALIZATION PROCESS: landscape triangulation



MATERIALIZATION PROCESS: dawn on the field



MATERIALIZATION PROCESS: people gathering



MATERIALIZATION PROCESS: people gathering



MATERIALIZATION PROCESS: participatory event





SPACECALL: the message in relation to the local



SPACECALL: the message in the context of Vitanje and the KSEVT



SPACECALL: the snapshot



SPACECALL: detail of the snapshot



THE REPLY

Geofoto Slovenska
Bistrica, Jaka Kotnik,
*aerial picture of
Vitanje and its
surroundings* (detail),
2015.07.15

Kids replying with
their own message...



So Long,
and Thanks
for All the Fish

FACTS /

TITLE:

WHAT: the name of the nanotourism EXPERIENCE

WHERE: location

WHO: initiator: identification of the author

provider: (if different from author)

WHEN: start: year of first activation / conception

type of duration: temporary / permanent / recurrent / single event /...

FOR WHOM: children / adults / nature lover / ...

DESCRIPTION:

- what is the NT EXPERIENCE?
- what is it CHALLENGING?
- Describe POTENTIALS for the future

PHOTOGRAFIC / GRAPHIC REFERENCES

CHARACTERISTICS / evaluate the intensity of each characteristic and briefly explain it

PARTICIPATORY

why? how? (EXCHANGE / CO-CREATIVE / ...)

BOTTOM UP

why? how?

SOCIAL

why? how? (COMMUNITY ORIENTED / ...)

CRITICAL

why? how?

RESPONSIBLE

why? how?

LOCAL

why? how? (CONSCIOUS / ...)

SITE-SPECIFIC

why? how? (LOCAL SUPPORT<->SUPPORTING LOCALS /...)

INVENTIVE

why? how?

EDUCATIVE

why? how?

intensity/ extreme higly medium low none

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