

Cultivating a Utopian Urban Future

HASS DTP III

By Alicia, Xiao Tong, Hui Ying, Guinness

Overview

01 What is a better world

02 Our goal

03 Our Product

04 Our vision

05 Target Group

06 Existing practices to address food security & mental health

07 Human relationship we hope to foster

08 Possible harm to the community

09 Plans to mitigate that harm

10 Conclusion

??

**What makes a
better world?**

??

For us

01

A sustainable,
equitable future
where
communities
thrive together.



02

A world where all
basic necessities are
met.



03

A place where
citizens live
without emotional
burden



Our goal

To design a vertical community garden to address food security challenges and to contribute to mitigating mental health problems in Singapore.



Celestine Canopy





Our vision

Celestine Canopy aims to be a modular vertical garden system designed to transformed unused HDB spaces into a welcoming, vibrant community vertical garden.

By providing a safe space for people to connect to nature, Celestine Canopy allows communities to nurture both plants and relationships, creating a **Utopia** that we hope for.





**How did we come
up with this idea?**



Firstly,



For who?

Young families



WHY?

1 **Societal context**

2 **Human behavior**

3 **Consequences**

Fast-paced society causing
diminishing Kampong Spirit



WHY?

1 **Societal context**

2 **Human behavior**

3 **Consequences**

Many youths are more engaged with highly accessible digital devices



WHY?

1 **Societal context**

2 **Human behavior**

3 **Consequences**

Decrease in quality family time
and a growing emotional distance
among family members



WHY?

1 **Societal context**

2 **Human behavior**

3 **Consequences**

Poorer physical and emotional health

- (eg. myopia, feelings of isolation and stress are increasing in society)



AIM

01

to revive the
kampong spirit in
Singapore

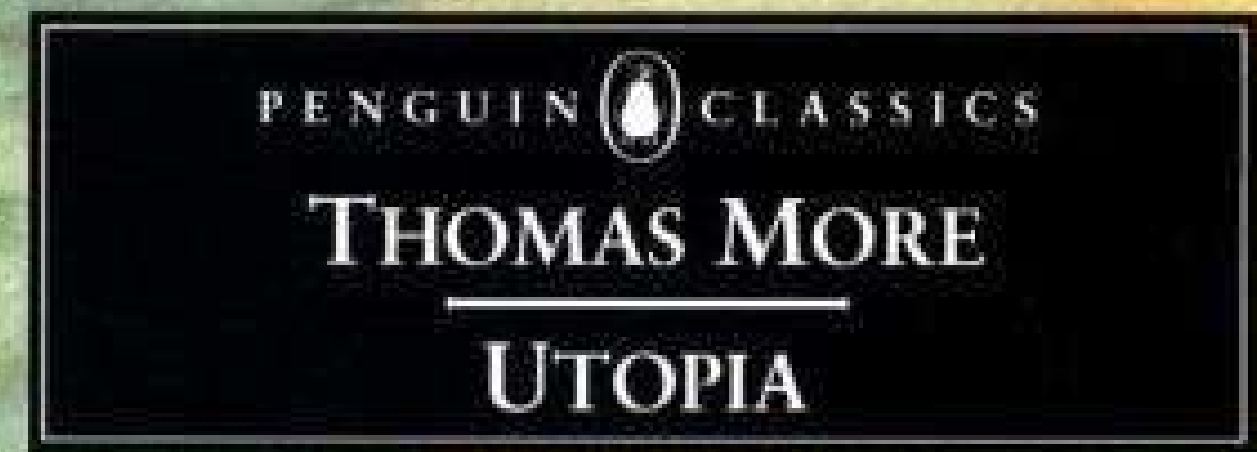


02

to pass down the tradition of
Singapore's kampong spirit to
future generations



Relation to Thomas More





CONTEXT



Hoped for a society where social engagement is essential

- encouraging families to actively participate in community life



Promote mutual reliance among families, fostering a network for sharing childcare, resources, and knowledge

OUR GARDEN

01



Serve as a space for collaboration and connection

- young families can cultivate both plants and relationship

03



Incorporate elements to provide a haven away from the fast-paced society

- allowing young families to de-stress as well.

02



Strengthen bonds between young families and enrich the community as a whole

- Engaging in shared activities, exchanging knowledge, and supporting one another



Secondly



Existing practices to address food security & mental health issue





Addressing Food Security

01

Community Gardens under NParks

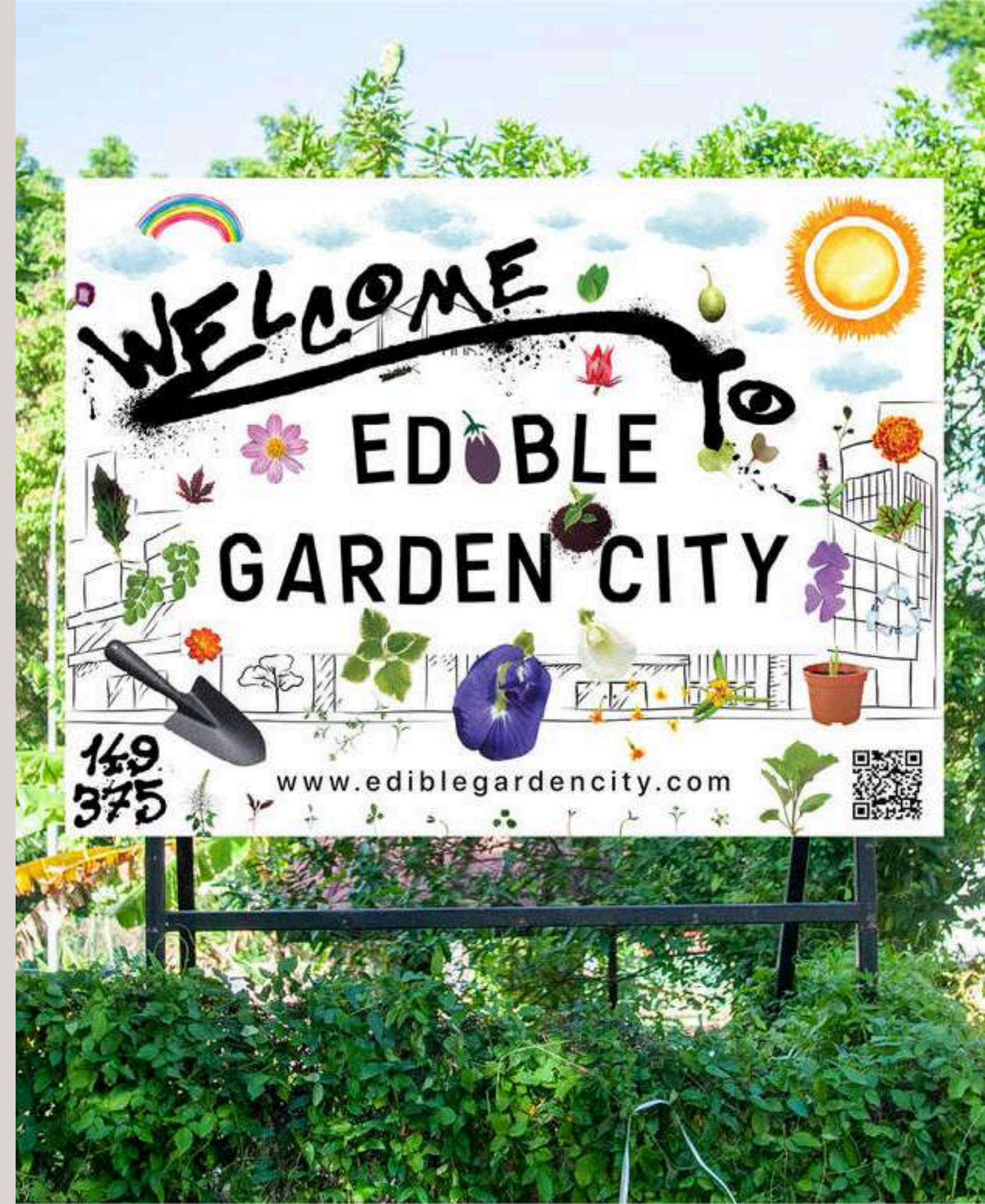
- Encourages neighborhoods, schools and organization to set up community gardens.
- Residents can grow their own vegetables, herbs and fruits = foster self-sufficiency and strengthening community bonds.
- However, space is a limitation in Singapore, which means that not all community would get to enjoy this community garden.



02

Edible Garden City

- An urban farming startup that promote local, sustainable food production by transforming unused spaces into urban farms.
- A great way to allow Singaporeans to reconnect with food source and learn about sustainable practices.





03

Singapore's 30 by 30 goal to produce 30% of the nation's nutritional needs locally by 2030



Addressing Mental Health

01. Therapeutic Garden by NParks

Therapeutic gardens are designed based on scientific research to facilitate interactions with nature and improve the well-being of its visitors.



02. Community Mental Health Initiatives

- TOUCH Community (They provide personalized therapy and counselling programs)
- Sliver Ribbon Singapore



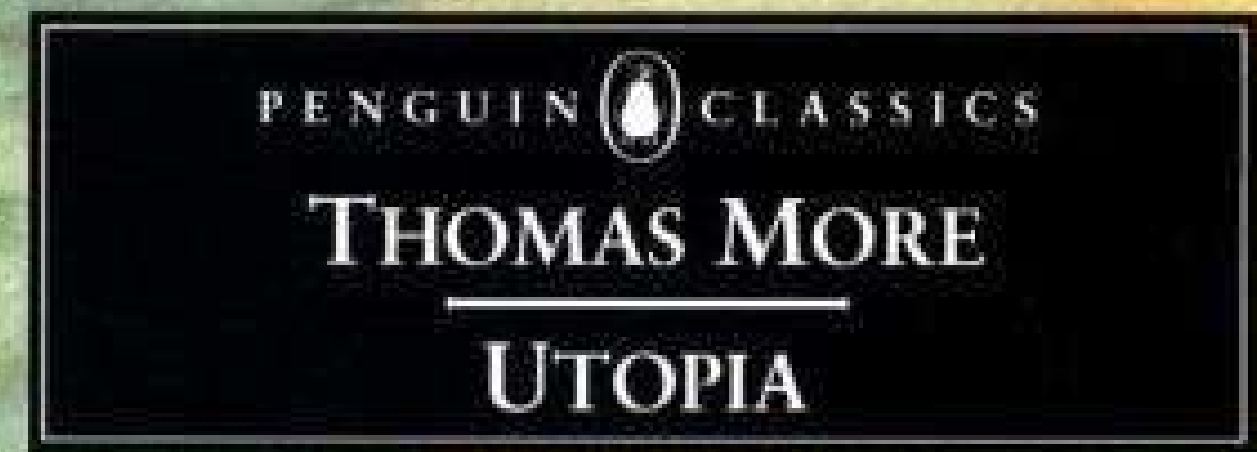
03.

Integrating greenary in residential and commercial space (Biophilic design)

- Examples like Funan mall roof garden, Jewel Changi, Oasia Hotel Downtown
- As nature can help to reduce stress and anxiety, and to promote well-being.



Relation to Thomas More



Relation between Utopia and existing practices

01

Equality

Like in Utopia, where shared gardens meet the needs of all, current existing gardens provide accessible green spaces for all users



02

Community Identity

The existing practices foster a sense of belonging and cooperation, mirroring More's vision of collective well-being



03

Sustainability

The integration of greenery supports Utopia's ethos of living harmoniously with the environment while addressing food security and urban challenges





Insights from existing practices

01 Sustainable and socially engaging garden

Designing a vertical garden that is versatile and adaptable would combine the benefits of food security and mental health support

03 Impact of vertical garden

Our vertical garden would be used to help the nation work on the 30 by 30 goal as more members of the public gets involved in growing their own vegetables and herbs.

02 Maximizing growing capacity

Our vertical garden must be able to make use of the limited/unused space in Singapore by expanding upwards which is ideal for Singapore's weather.



OVERALL

01

Celestine Canopy would serve as a bridge between generations, bringing people of all ages, from young children to elderly, to come together and enjoy the space

02

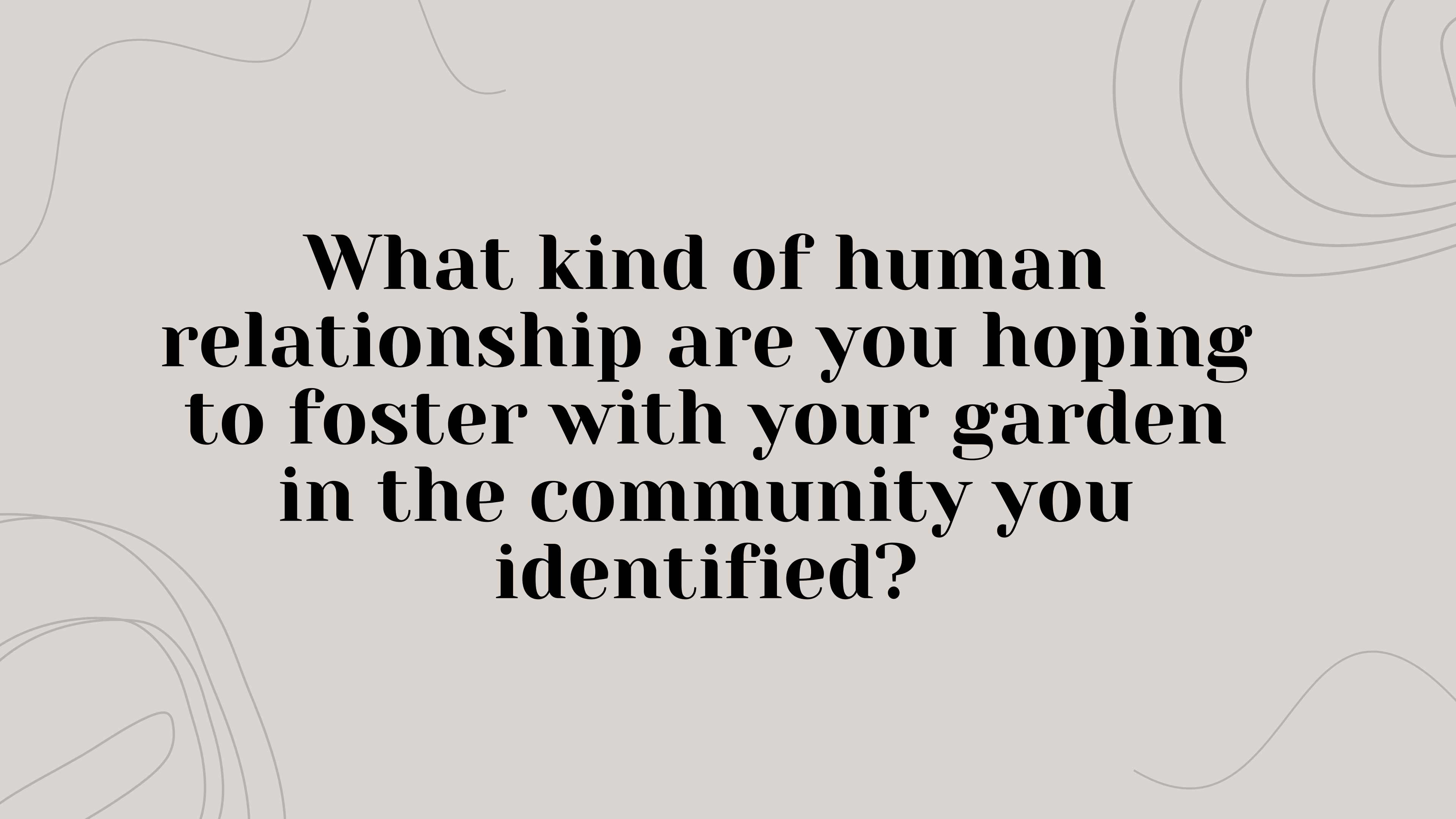
Celestine Canopy would create opportunities for knowledge sharing, intergeneration bonding and a stronger sense of community identity

This links back to our goal of strengthen the bonds between young families and enrich the community as a whole and to be able to bring the kampung spirit back into the neighbourhood








Thirdly,



**What kind of human
relationship are you hoping
to foster with your garden
in the community you
identified?**

HUMAN RELATIONS

- 01 **Family bonds** 
- 02 **Neighborhoodly Ties** 
- 03 **Mentorship** 

01. Family bonds

By engaging in gardening activities together, parents and children can strengthen their familial connections. These shared experiences—planting, tending, and harvesting—create opportunities for quality time and meaningful interaction, helping to counter the isolation caused by digital distractions.



02. Neighborly Ties

Inspired by the traditional kampong spirit, the garden encourages young families to engage with their neighbors, building trust and cooperation. Activities like resource-sharing, co-hosting workshops, or joint harvesting sessions can foster a sense of community belonging.

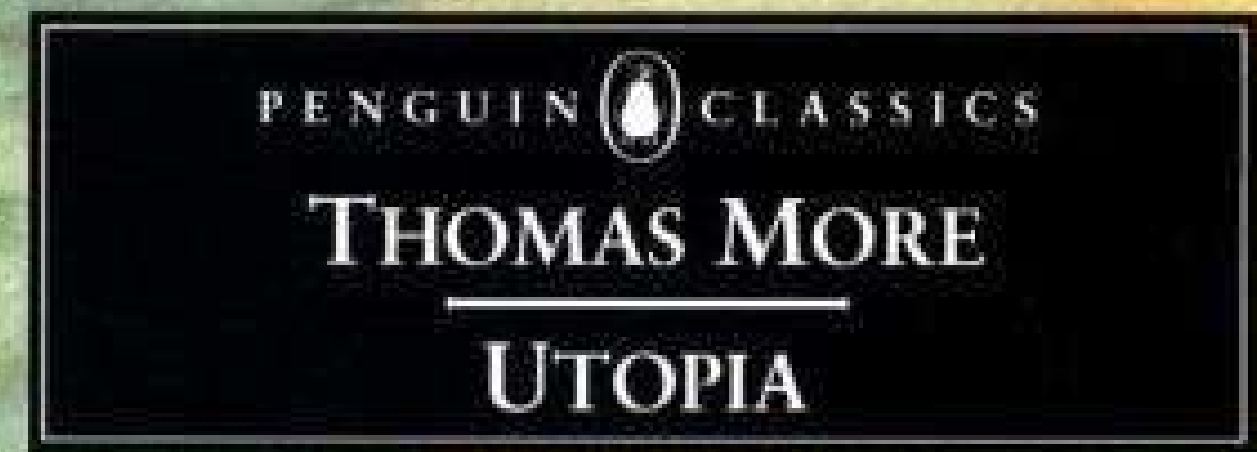


03. Mentorship

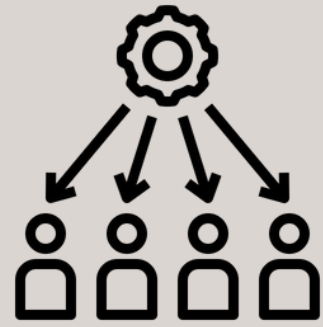
The garden could serve as a platform for intergenerational learning, where experienced members of the community share tips, cultural practices, and sustainable living knowledge with younger families. This interaction bridges the gap between generations while preserving heritage.



Relation to Thomas More



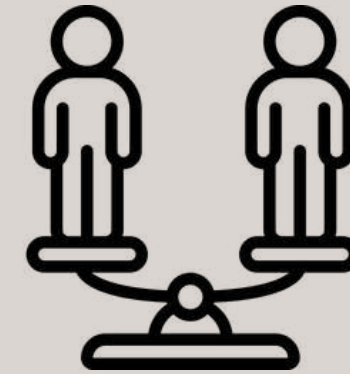
CONCEPTS



01
Shared
Labor and
Purpose



02
Strengthening
Communal
Ties



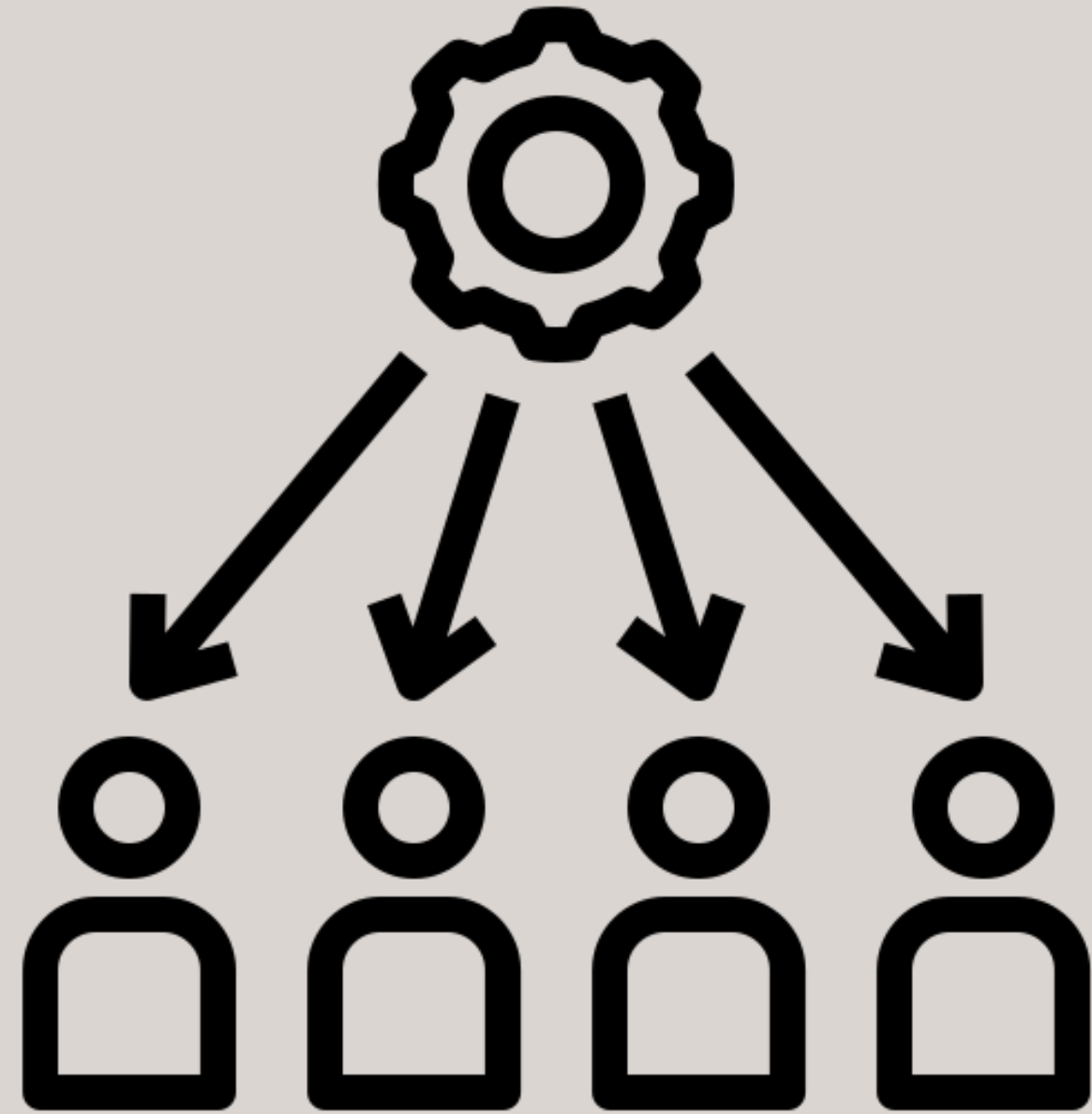
03
Promoting
Equity and
Accessibility



04
Prioritizing Well-
being Over
Materialism:



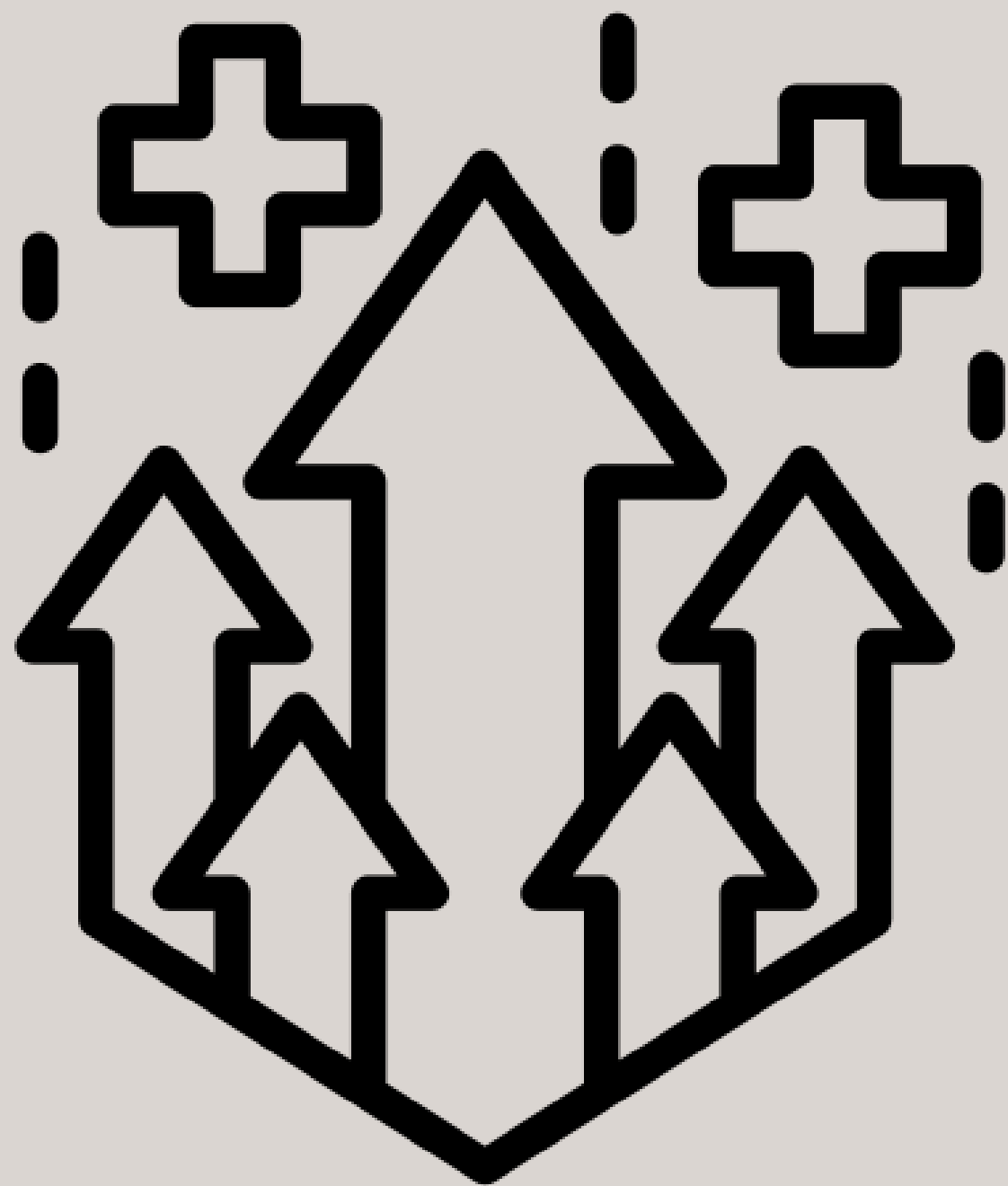
05
Teaching and
Intergenerational
Learning:



01

Shared Labor and Purpose

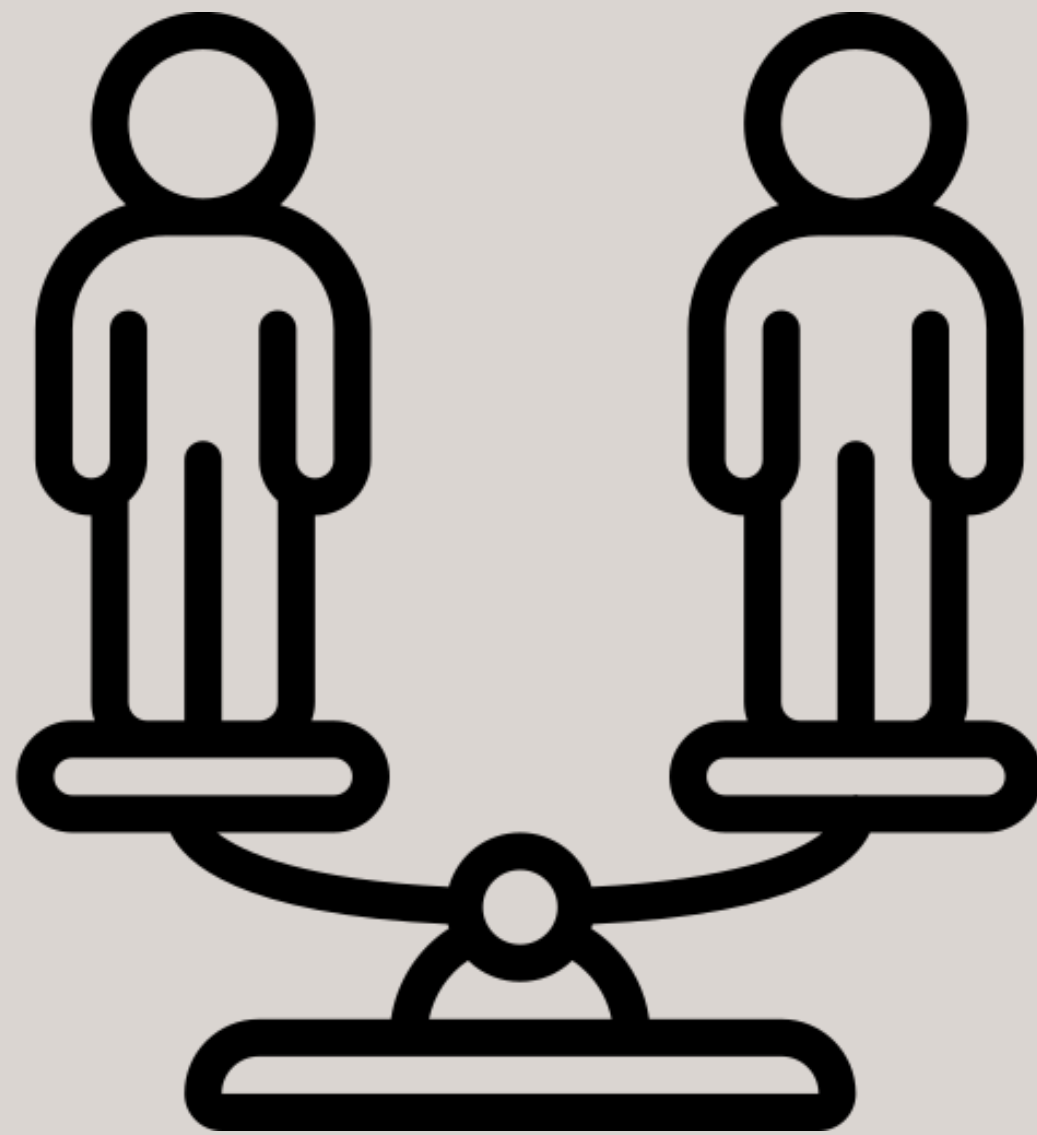
Like in Utopia, where shared gardens meet the needs of all, the gardens provide accessible green spaces for all users



02

Strengthening Communal Ties

The gardens foster a sense of belonging and cooperation, mirroring More's vision of collective well-being



03

Promoting Equity and Accessibility

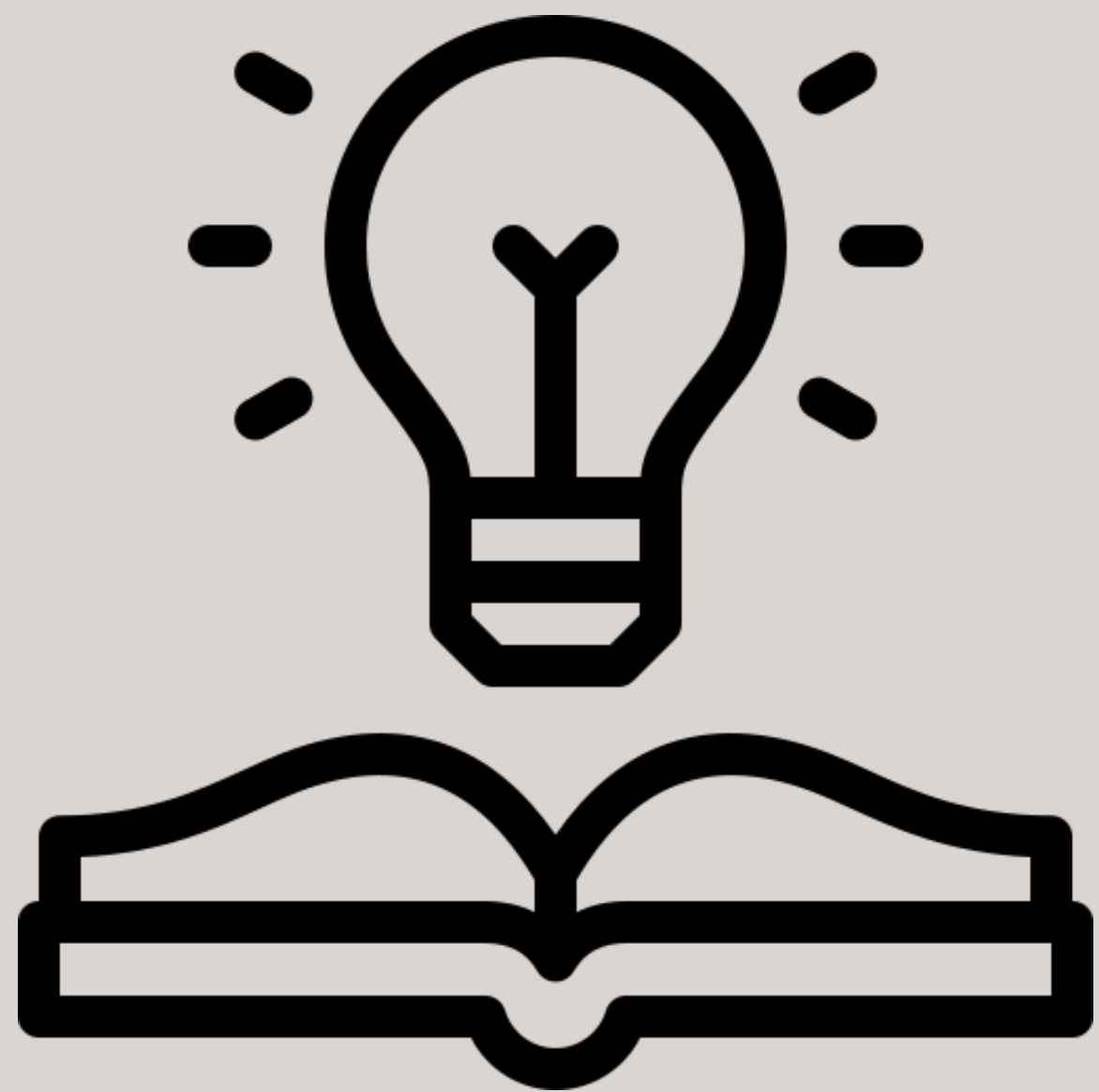
In Utopia, every individual has access to the resources they need, ensuring that no one is excluded. Similarly, our garden is designed to be an inclusive space, where families of diverse backgrounds can participate equally, reflecting the Utopian ideal of egalitarianism and shared prosperity.



04

Prioritizing Well-being Over Materialism:

The integration of greenery supports Utopia's ethos of living harmoniously with the environment while addressing food security and urban challenges



05

Teaching and Intergenerational Learning:

In Utopia, the transmission of knowledge—both practical and moral—is central to maintaining the community’s ideals. Our garden, too, becomes a platform for educational exchange, where older members pass on gardening expertise to younger families, fostering a culture of learning and respect for tradition.



Lastly,



**How could our garden cause
possible harm to the
community we've identified?**

POTENTIAL HARM

- 01** **Unequal Access and Exclusivity**
- 02** **Conflicts Among Participants**
- 03** **Environmental Mismanagement**

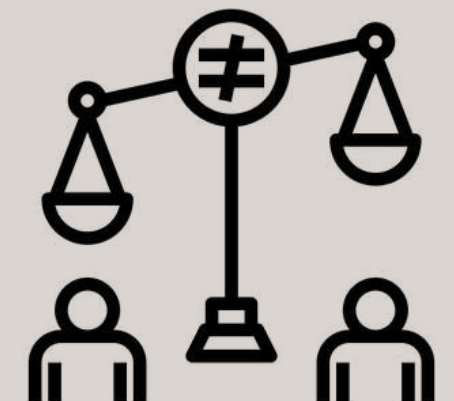
POTENTIAL HARM

1 Unequal Access and Exclusivity

2 Conflicts Among Participants

3 Environmental Mismanagement

- Limited access to the garden due to physical space constraints could create feelings of exclusion among families who are unable to participate.
- Certain families might monopolize common resources or benefits, leading to social inequities within the community.



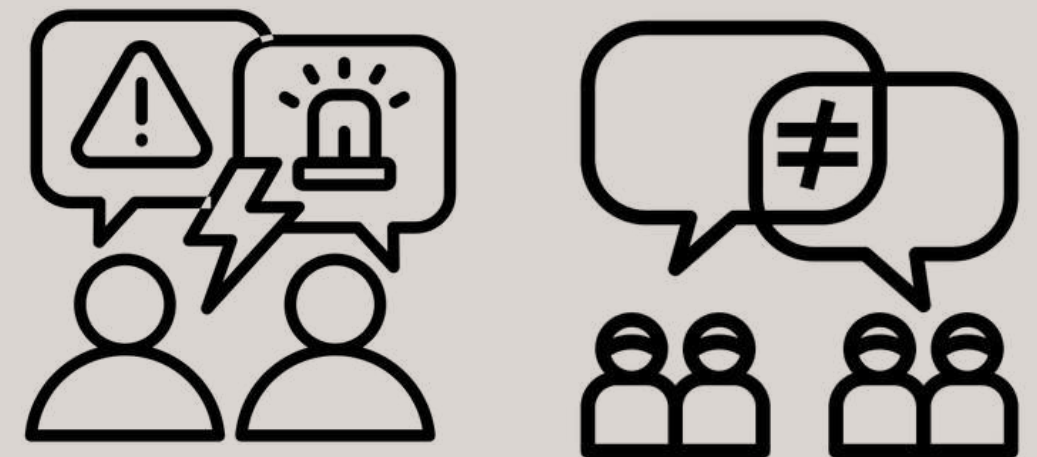
POTENTIAL HARM

1 Unequal Access and Exclusivity

2 Conflicts Among Participants

3 Environmental Mismanagement

Disagreements over shared responsibilities, use of space, or differing opinions on gardening methods could lead to interpersonal conflicts, undermining the spirit of cooperation.



POTENTIAL HARM

- 1 **Unequal Access and Exclusivity**
- 2 **Conflicts Among Participants**
- 3 **Environmental Mismanagement**

- Poor maintenance or overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides could harm the environment and contradict the garden's sustainability goals.
- Neglected spaces could attract pests or become unsightly, diminishing community morale.





**What are our plans to
mitigate these harm?**

MITIGATION PLAN

1 Unequal Access and Exclusivity

2 Conflicts Among Participants

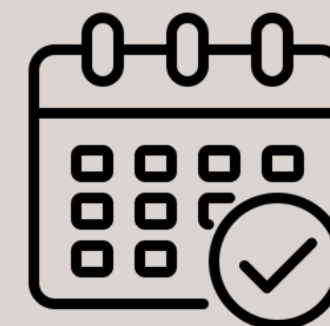
3 Environmental Mismanagement

Fair Participation Model:

- Implement a rotating schedule for garden use, ensuring that all families have equal opportunities to engage.

Accessible Design:

- Make the garden inclusive, with barrier-free pathways and designated spaces for children and individuals with disabilities.



MITIGATION PLAN

1 Unequal Access and Exclusivity

2 Conflicts Among Participants

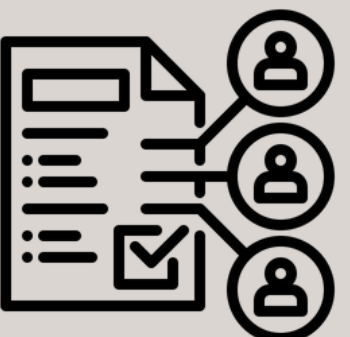
3 Environmental Mismanagement

Education Programs

- Organize workshops on collaboration and teamwork to foster empathy and mutual respect among participants.

Role Assignments:

- Assign specific tasks or areas to families on a rotational basis to minimize overlaps and disagreements.



MITIGATION PLAN

- 1 **Unequal Access
and Exclusivity**
- 2 **Conflicts Among
Participants**
- 3 **Environmental
Mismanagement**

Eco-Friendly Practices

- Educate participants on organic gardening methods and sustainable waste management. Provide training on composting and natural pest control.

Regular Maintenance Schedule

- Appoint a rotating team of volunteers or hire a professional gardener to oversee maintenance and prevent neglect.





Conclusion



THE ANALYSIS OF THE COMMUNITY:



Through our vertical community garden, we aim to address key social and environmental challenges faced by young families in Singapore. By fostering **shared experiences**, we are **reviving the kampong spirit**, where families **collaborate and build strong relationships within their neighborhood**.



Social needs

The garden bridges the gaps caused by **digital distractions**, providing a **platform** for families to **engage in meaningful activities** together. It also **fosters intergenerational learning**, preserving cultural practices while teaching **sustainability**.



Environmental Contribution

By promoting local food production, the garden contributes to Singapore's 30 by 30 goal, **enhancing food security** and **reducing reliance on imports**.

THE EVALUATION IN TERMS OF THE IDEALS OF EQUITY, EQUALITY, AND JUSTICE:

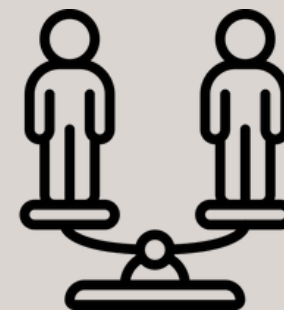
Equity

We recognize the varying needs of community members and have designed the garden to be inclusive. Ensuring that families with diverse abilities and circumstances can benefit equally.



Equality


Our garden operates on principles of shared access and responsibility. Every family, regardless of socioeconomic status, has equal opportunities to participate and benefit from the garden's resources and activities.



Justice

The garden is designed to prevent monopolization of resources and ensure equitable distribution of space, tools, and harvests. Families take turns using designated areas, avoiding overuse or exclusion of any group.





Our vertical community garden is more than just a green space; it's a platform for fostering social connection, environmental stewardship, and equitable community participation. By upholding the ideals of equity, equality, and justice, we strive to build a better world—one that is inclusive, sustainable, and united in spirit.



**Thank
You**