

PROJECT

# AJOLOTARIO AMPHIBIAN SANCTUARY

LOCATION

Toluca,  
Mexico

## ACCEPTANCE OF SOLID WOOD GROWS IN MEXIKO

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The restoration of the 47-hectare Parque de la Ciencia Sierra Morelos in Toluca under the direction of Riparia, a multidisciplinary architecture firm, presents the AJOLOTARIO. Made of KLH® – CLT and concrete, the circular observation platform is built directly into the marshy surroundings and connected to the shore via a footbridge. As the lower level is partially submerged, the concrete basement of the ring-shaped structure had to be completed before the start of the rainy season. The ajolotario is shaded by a green canopy made of KLH® – CLT. A ramp constructed around a central garden leads to the lower level where native amphibians can be observed. The offcuts were also used for customised

pieces of furniture. The roof, supported by glulam columns, is the first building in Mexico to be constructed using KLH® elements. To further emphasise the beauty of the wood, a Montezuma cypress stands in a garden open to the sky at the heart of the building. The structure is reminiscent of a boat floating on the water.

### PROJECT INFO

Volume of KLH® – CLT: 578 m<sup>2</sup> / 116 m<sup>3</sup>  
 Stored Carbon: 88 tonnes  
 Regrowth time in Austria: 2 minutes







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**ARCHITECTURE**

Riparia MX | Laurent Herbiet &  
 Giordana Rojas  
<https://riparia.mx>

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**3D/CAD/CAM DESIGN**

Rubén Esparza

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**CLIENT**

CEPANAF, Gobierno del Estado  
 de México

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**PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS**

Rubén Esparza  
 Onnis Luque | Zaickz Moz

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**STRUCTURES**

Óscar Trejo