

HANDS-OFF ARCHITECTURE



While bacteria can now be used to produce smart materials, they can also be used on a large scale to create entire landscapes and topologies. In addition to being inexpensive to produce and able to facilitate large-scale growth, bacteria also produce great structural strength.

Magnus Larsson's Dune project explores the large-scale deployment of bacteria to combat the progressive desertification of Nigeria by growing a 6,000km wall using the bacterium, *bacillus pasteurii*, a microorganism readily available in marshes and wetlands, which rapidly binds loose sand into firm sandstone structures. Larsson's significant re-imagining of architectural construction methods using a renewable approach to a longstanding problem depicts how the practice of the built environment may approach sustainable practices in new ways.