

# Greenmood

Biophilic Design

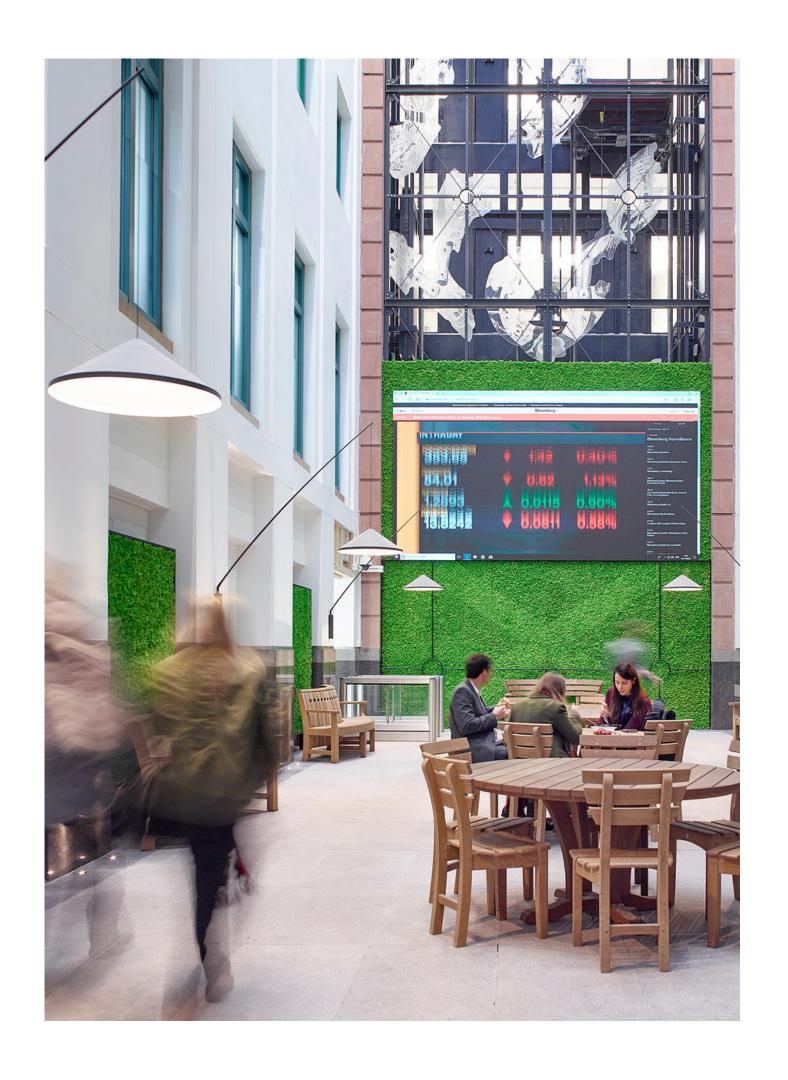
#### **About Us**

Founded in 2014 by Sadig Alakbarov, in Belgium, at Greenmood we manufacture green walls and other 100% natural indoor acoustic solutions to meet the needs of modern workplaces. Using specially preserved greenery, the products reduce noise pollution, add beauty, and boost productivity – all while promoting respect for the natural environment and encouraging sustainability.

Our concerns extend to the emotional and physical impact workspaces have on the people working in them when there's no nature to be seen.

The brand's founding was catalyzed by this idea: how to bring nature indoors and create more comfortable and productive workspaces with minimum impact on the environment. Therefore, we select carefully our suppliers and expeditors, always looking for the greenest solution.

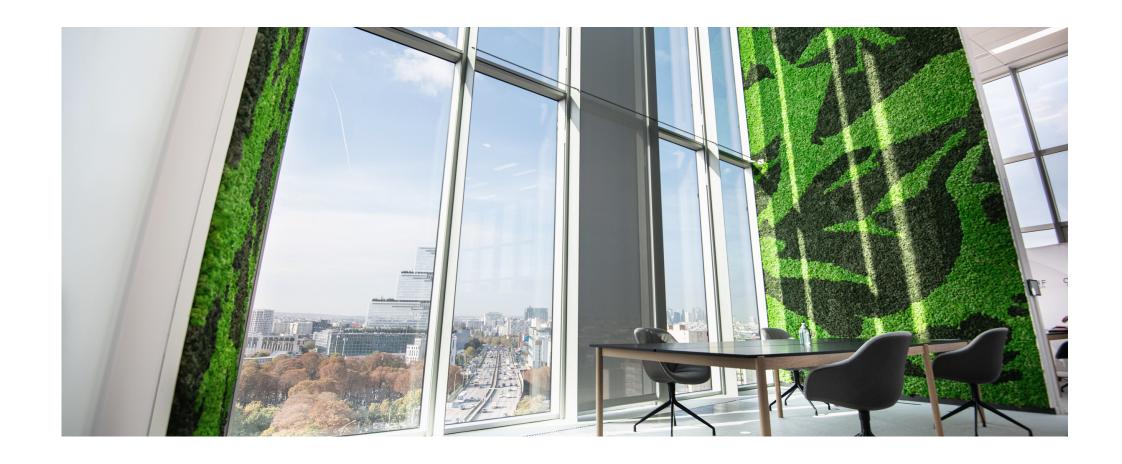




# Biophilic Design

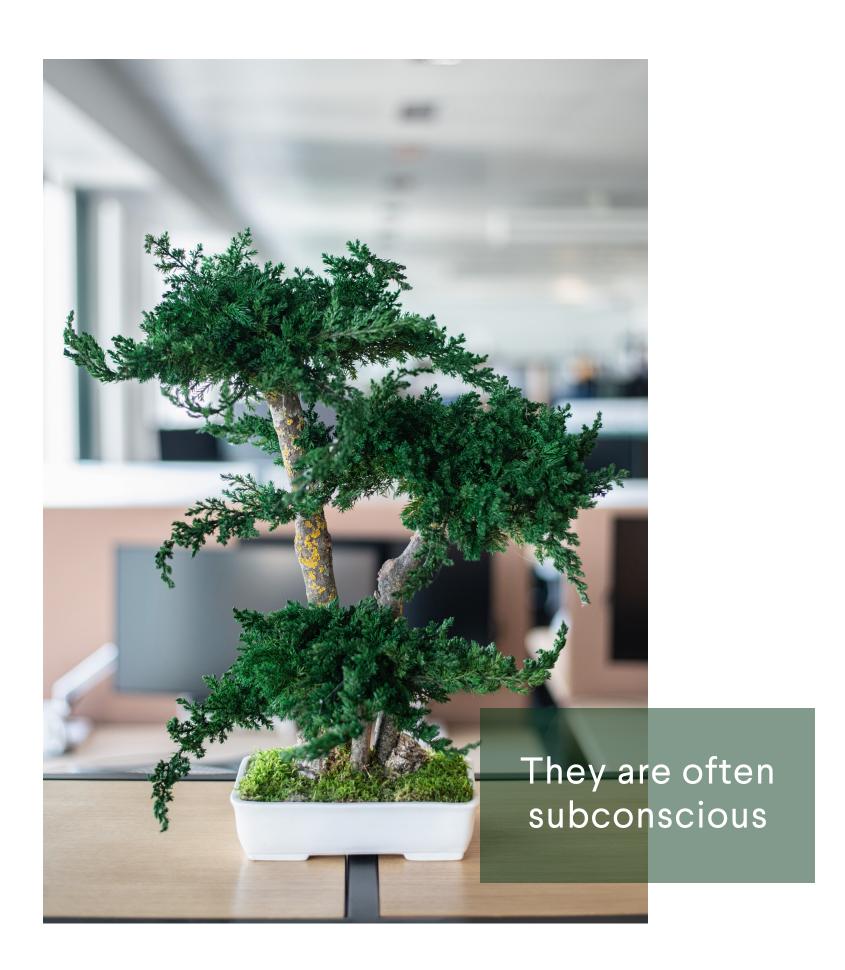
What does it mean?
Reasons to invite nature indoors
Our mission
Sustainability
Spread the word

# What does Biophilic Design mean?



Biologist Edward O. Wilson first described the concept of biophilic design in his book Biophilia. However, the term biophilia was coined by philosopher, sociologist and psychoanalyst Eric Fromm to describe "a passionate love of life and all that is alive."

Thus the purpose of Biophilic Design is to reconnect people to nature by integrating natural elements into their spaces at the same time keeping high aesthetic values.



# Ways in which we seek contact with nature

Fromm hypothesized the idea that human beings possess an innate tendency to seek connections with nature. These connections may take the form of cultivating indoor plants and outdoor gardens, taking nature walks, raising pets or just enjoying natural colors and large picture windows with outdoor views. All are attempts to create a sense of balance in our lives by getting closer to nature.

## **Biophilic Elements**

In the process of designing a biophile interior it is crucial to source carefully the materials that will be used. To create a truly Biophilic Design it is necessary not only to make it appear natural, but to actually use natural materials that are not harmful to the environment.

Materials such as cork, wood, recycled metal, ethically harvested plants and other ecological solutions are referred to as Biophilic Elements.





# GREENERY IMPROVES OUR HEALTH

Spaces filled with greenery have a tremendous impact on our physical and mental health.

Multiple studies have shown that they reduce the level of stress and anxiety, which are directly linked to our health and general well-being.



#### **ABSENTEEISM**

Habit of absent oneself from a task, job or obligation without just cause.

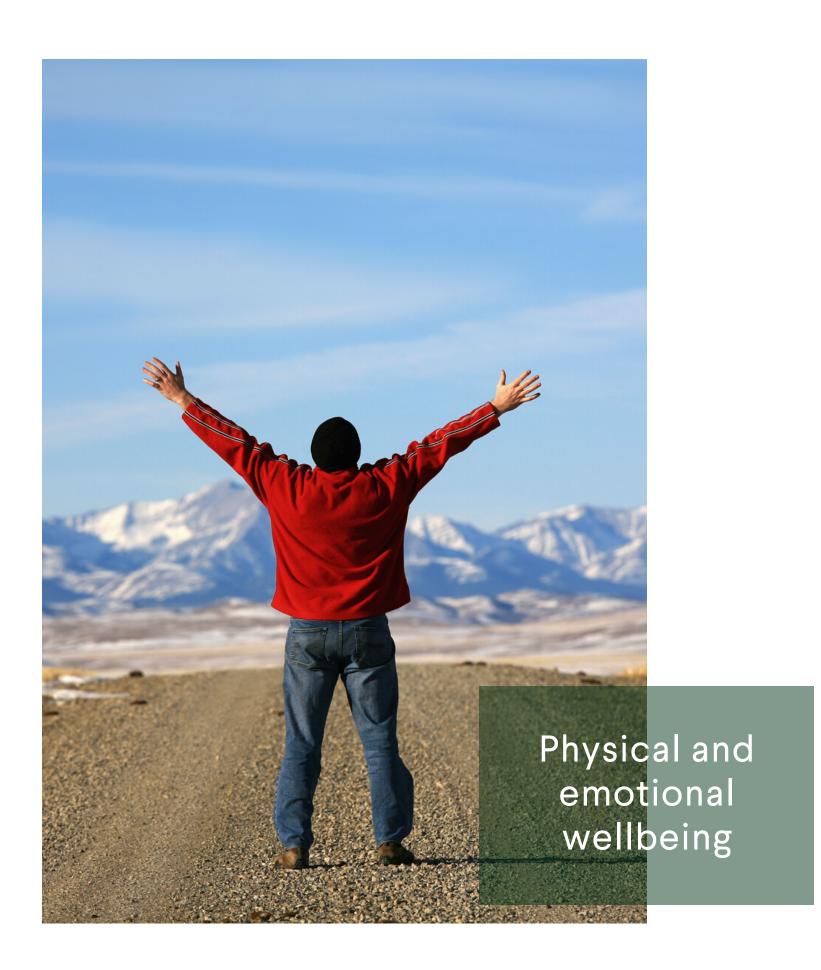




#### A TOUCH OF NATURE

Turns out that adding greenery to the workplace is the perfect cure for absenteeism.

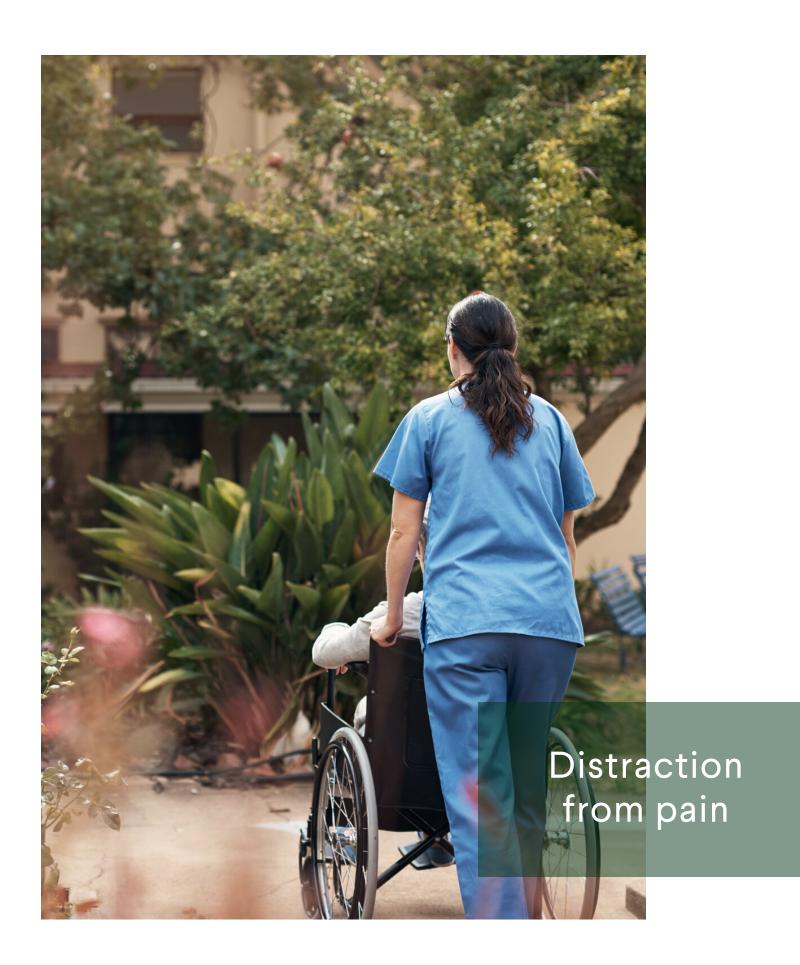
- Thermal comfort
- Increase of humidity by 5%
- Increase of attractiveness up to 26%
- Positive mood
- Decrease between 16-36% of calls in sick
- 1.6 fewer sick days per employee per year



#### NATURE HEALS

Being in nature, or even viewing scenes of nature, reduces anger, fear, and stress and increases pleasant feelings. Exposure to nature, not only makes you feel better emotionally, it contributes to your physical wellbeing, reducing blood pressure, heart rate, muscle tension, and the production of stress hormones.

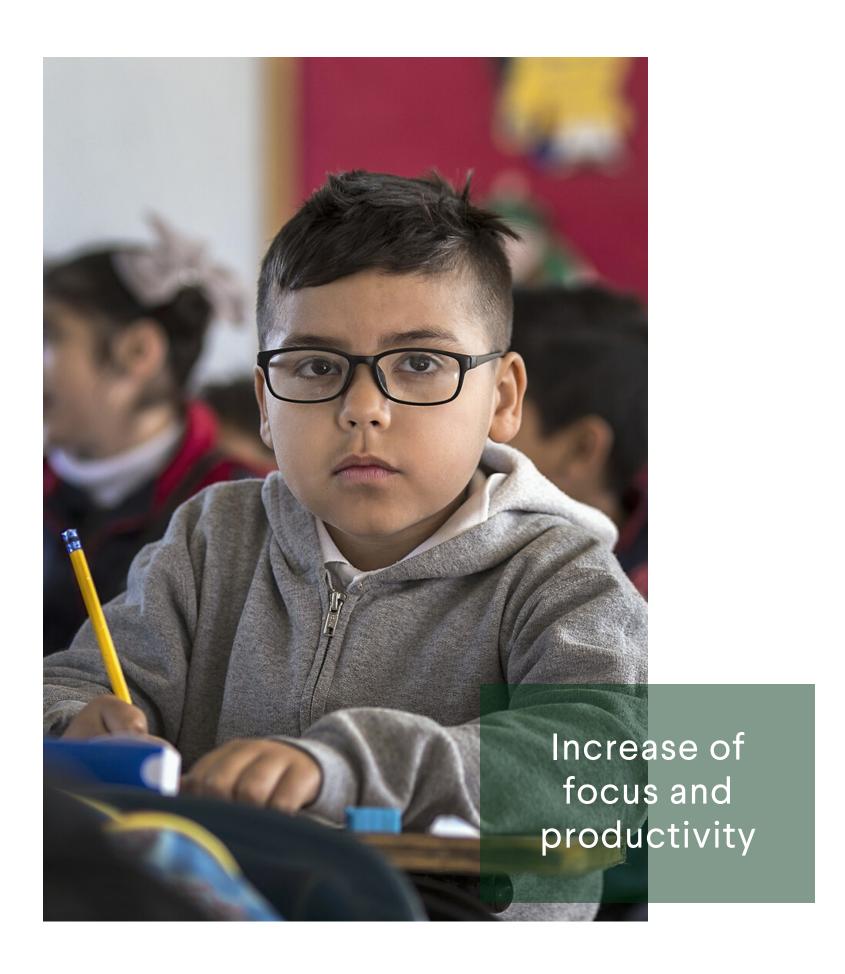
Research done in hospitals, offices, and schools has found that even a simple plant in a room can have a significant impact on stress and anxiety.



#### NATURE SOOTHES

Because we are genetically programmed to find it engrossing, we are absorbed by nature scenes and distracted from our pain and discomfort.

This is nicely demonstrated in a now classic study of patients who underwent gallbladder surgery; half had a view of trees and half had a view of a wall. According to the physician who conducted the study, Robert Ulrich, the patients with the view of trees tolerated pain better, appeared to nurses to have fewer negative effects, and spent less time in a hospital.



#### NATURE RESTORES

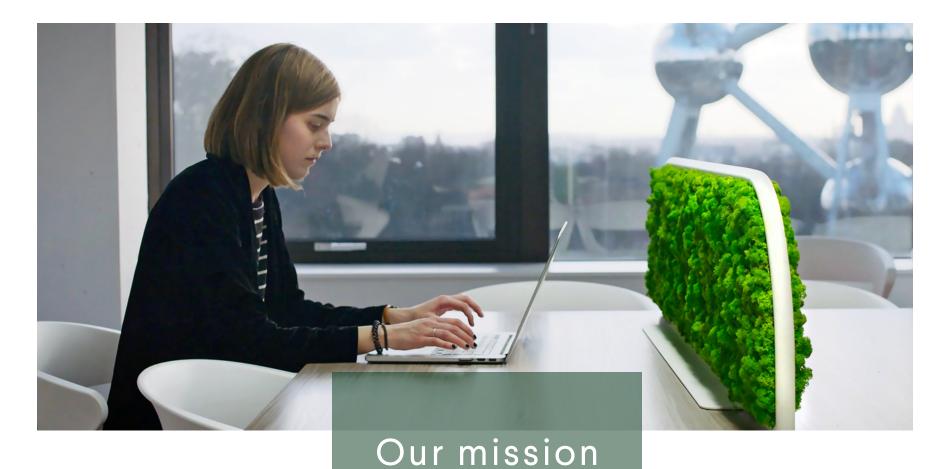
Time spent in nature or viewing nature scenes increases our ability to pay attention. Because humans find nature inherently interesting, we can naturally focus on what we are experiencing out in nature. This also provides a respite for our overactive minds, refreshing us for new tasks. In another interesting area, Andrea Taylor's research on children with ADHD shows that time spent in nature increases their attention span later.



#### NATURE CONNECTS

According to a study at the University of Illinois, residents surrounded by green spaces have a greater sense of community, reduced risk of street crime, and lower levels of violence and aggression between domestic partners.

This experience of connection may be explained by studies that used fMRI to measure brain activity. When participants viewed nature scenes, the parts of the brain associated with empathy and love lit up, but when they viewed urban scenes, the parts of the brain associated with fear and anxiety were activated. It appears as though nature inspires feelings that connect us to each other and our environment.



The global pandemic brought tremendous changes to our everyday life and work routines. Therefore, we are more committed to bringing the benefits of the natural world into professional and residential spaces, connecting our clients with the beauty of nature wherever they live and work.

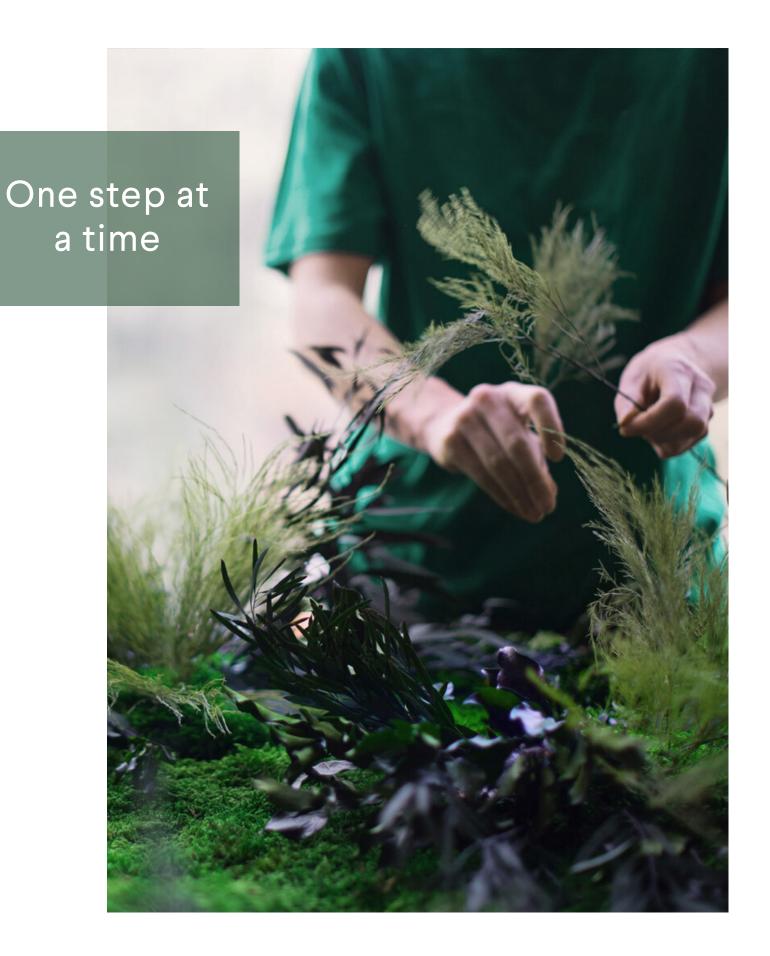
In addition, inspired by the sustainability guidelines of ISO26000, we are now seeking better ways to support a greener environment, not only in our offices and our factories, but also in our dealings with employees, vendors and the community.

# Sustainability

Most people think about sustainability in terms of the environment outside four walls. But at Greenmood we take a broader, biophilic view. To us, concerns about the environment extends to the emotional and physical impact work spaces have on the people employed there.

We aim to make a positive impact on the environment by educating our society on the importance of treating it with respect and care, so the future generations can enjoy its intact beauty and benefits that come with a clean, natural environment.

To find out more about our steps towards becoming a responsible company, read our <u>Sustainability Report</u>.





We only use all natural materials











# Outside In-The Biophilic Workplace

In order to promote a sustainable lifestyle, we have decided to take action and not only become an example for others, but also educate people about the importance of nature in our lives by participating in the CEU program, where we speak about biophilic design with architects and interior designers.

Moreover, we support various local sport centers, including youth football clubs, where we actively promote a healthy lifestyle and connection to nature.

If interested, you can request your CEU <u>here</u>.

#### Welcome to

### Greenmood

www.greenmood.be











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