

RUAF UPDATE - 2

May 2004

E-mail bulletin with news of the **Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture and Forestry (RUAF)**. For an overview of the partners in the RUAF network look at the end of this bulletin.

A PDF version of this bulletin is available on the RUAF website at: (www.ruaf.org/ruafpublications_fr.html)

In this bulletin you will find information on:

1. Recent events (co-)organised by the RUAF partners
 - * First Regional Ministers Conference on Urban Agriculture
 - * Electronic Conference: Access to land for agriculture
 - * Regional Workshop on Urban Livestock
 - * Regional Training Course on urban agriculture
 - * Course on designing urban agriculture projects
 - * Seminar "Integration of urban agriculture in Municipal sustainable development"
2. Ongoing support to policy and project formulation on urban agriculture
3. Recent publications by RUAF partners
4. Upcoming events
5. Preparation of the next phase of the RUAF programme

1. RECENT EVENTS (CO-)ORGANISED BY RUAF PARTNERS

a. First Regional Ministers Conference on Urban Agriculture

RUAF partner MDP, in cooperation with the Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing of Zimbabwe, the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN), and FAO - Regional Office for Southern Africa [FAO-SAFR], organised the first Ministers' Conference on Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture; Prospects for Food Security and Growth in Eastern and Southern Africa" that was successfully held on 28-29 August 2003 in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Fifty-five delegates attended the Conference including the Secretary General of the Africa Union of Local Authorities. The conference culminated in the signing of the **Harare Declaration on Urban Agriculture**, in which the Ministers appreciate the contribution of urban agriculture and commit themselves to support its integration in to the urban economy. The report is available on the RUAF website at www.ruaf.org/ruafpublications_fr.html.

b. Electronic Conference: Access to land for agriculture

From 3 - 26 of November 2003, ETC-RUAF and the Urban Management Programme (UNDP / UN-Habitat) jointly organised an electronic conference on the optimisation of access of the urban poor to land for agricultural activities. The objectives of the Electronic Conference were to share and discuss local experiences with: 1.) alternative strategies to enhance and secure access of the urban poor to land within the City boundaries for food production; 2.) the development and application of Municipal bylaws, norms and regulations regarding (access to land for) urban agriculture.

In total, 400 participants from 82 countries registered and many more followed the discussions by visiting the RUAF website on the Internet. More than 450 contributions to the discussions were received and some 30 papers were added to the "Background papers"

section of the conference website. These are encouraging numbers, indicating a strong interest to share experiences on this topic of relevance for local policy development, urban planning and future projects on urban agriculture.

For a summary of the results of this conference, visit www.ruaf.org/conferences_fr.html.

c. Regional Workshop on Urban Livestock

ETC organized jointly with Mazingira Institute, NRInternational and FAO-Livestock Department, and with financial support of DFID and CTA, a Regional Workshop on Urban Livestock in Nairobi on 3-5 of March 2003. City teams of Nairobi, Kisumu, Kampala, Addis Ababa and Dar es Salaam participated in the workshop. Sixty four participants from Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania participated in the workshop, consisting of a well selected group of senior Governmental and Municipal officers, researchers and representatives of NGO's and farmer organisations. The participants reviewed the results of the NRI scoping study on urban agriculture, exchanged experiences on urban agriculture in Addis Ababa, Nairobi, Dar es Salaam and Kampala and developed action plans on urban livestock for each of the four cities.

Proceedings were produced by Mazingira Institute and printed/distributed by NRI. The report is available at www.ruaf.org/ruafpublications_fr.html.

d. Regional Training Course on urban agriculture

Several RUAF-partners (ETC, MDP, UMP-LAC and IMWI-Ghana) contributed to the preparation and implementation of the three week Regional Training Course on urban agriculture organised by CGIAR- Urban Harvest, that was conducted in Nairobi from 8-26 of March, 2004.

Seven city teams from SS-Africa, each consisting of three persons (from respectively a Municipal Department, a research institute and an NGO), took part in the course. The course was based on a participatory learning model pioneered in Francophone Africa in 1998 and in Latin America in 2001. The course consisted of seven training modules on different aspects of urban agriculture and action-research proposals were developed by the city teams during the course.

More information on this course will be published at the site of Urban Harvest (www.cipotato.org/urbanharvest/home.htm) and RUAF (www.ruaf.org).

e. Course on designing urban agriculture projects

IAGU, in cooperation with the national network partner in Cotonou, prepared a **pilot "training of trainers" course** on "Design and Implementation of Urban Agriculture Projects for Local Leaders of NGO's, Farmer Organisations", CBO's, as a follow up to the consultations implemented in the (ended) IDRC project and as a basis for similar training activities by network partners in other countries.

More information on this training can be obtained from IAGU (iagu@iagu.org).

f. Seminar "Integration of urban agriculture in Municipal sustainable development"

IPES/UMP-LAC, in cooperation CGIAR-Urban Harvest, organized the **Seminar "Integration of urban agriculture in Municipal sustainable development"** for local authorities of the Southern and Eastern Cone of Lima (9 Municipalities) on the role of urban agriculture as an engine for economic and social municipal development, 23-26 de December 2003. The seminar facilitated the inclusion of urban agriculture in municipal policies and networking between these municipalities regarding urban agriculture. As a result of the event the

participating local authorities signed a **Declaration** of Local Authorities of Southern and Eastern Cone of Metropolitan Lima - Peru that expresses their political commitment to include urban agriculture in the municipal policies.

The Declaration (in Spanish) can be obtained from the Urban Harvest website, via:

<http://www.cipotato.org/urbanharvest/documents/Declaracion%20del%20Cono%20Sur%20y%20Este.doc>.

2. ONGOING SUPPORT TO POLICY AND PROJECT FORMULATION

* MDP (Zimbabwe) is assisting the **Botswana Task Force on Urban Agriculture** in the process leading to a concept paper for the national policy on urban agriculture for Botswana. In two policy workshops with over 50 stakeholders key issues have been identified that have to be addressed by the policy on urban agriculture and it was agreed to implement selected pilot projects while the policy is being developed.

Also the **Lilongwe City Assembly** in Malawi requested MDP, following the Ministers conference on Urban Agriculture, to assist in the development of a Municipal policy on urban agriculture.

* IWMI-Ghana actively supports **Kumasi Municipal Authority** in the preparation of urban agriculture projects and the **Accra Municipal Authority** and the Municipal Food and agriculture Directorate in the integration of urban agriculture as protected green zones in urban development planning.

* IWMI-India is facilitating policy discussions on urban agriculture and reuse of waste water in the **Hyderabad Urban Development Authority** and the Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board

* IPES/UMP-LAC assists Municipalities in **Lima, Peru** (Villa Maria del Triunfo, Suan Juan de Miraflores, Villa El Salvador) to develop a policy on urban agriculture and to prepare urban agriculture projects and supports various Municipalities in Brazil (Sao Paulo, Belo Horizonte, Porto Alegre) to disseminate their experiences regarding urban agriculture policy and projects to other Municipalities taking part in the national **Zero Hunger Policy of Brazil**.

* IAGU facilitated formulation of urban agriculture policies and projects in Cotonou (Benin) and Pikine (Dakar, Senegal)

3. RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY RUAF PARTNERS

a. Working papers on Gender and Urban Agriculture

ETC prepared two working papers on Gender:

- Gender in Urban Agriculture
- Engendered PRA-tools

The papers are available on the RUAF website at www.ruaf.org/ruafpublications_fr.html.

b. Paper on Reuse of wastewater in urban agriculture

ETC and IWMI-Ghana office jointly prepared a paper on the reuse of (untreated) waste water in urban agriculture based on the results of the regional workshops on this subject organised last year in Ouagadougou and Hyderabad. The paper was presented and distributed during the World Water Forum in Kyoto, Japan. IWMI-Ghana produced the Key

Fact Sheet on Reuse of waste water in Urban Agriculture. Paper and sheet are available on the RUAF website at www.ruaf.org/ruafpublications_fr.html.

c. UA Magazine on "Availability, Access and Usability of land for Urban Agriculture"

Those subscribing to the English version of the UA-Magazine have received no. 11 on Availability, Access and Usability of land for Urban Agriculture (December 2003). The issues in Spanish, French and Chinese will soon follow.

Access to suitable and adequate land within a conducive legislative framework is a prerequisite for sustainable urban agriculture. The 16 articles in this issue discuss whether suitable land is available and how it is accessed for urban agriculture, especially by the urban resource-poor. Several experiences presented in the e-conference were also included, including a report on the Electronic Conference.

For the web edition of the UA-Magazine please visit www.ruaf.org/news/gen_fr.html.

d. First publications on Urban Agriculture in Chinese

IGSNRR published the proceedings of the 2002 Conference on Peri-Urban and Rural Agrotourism in mainland China and Taiwan and bundled in another publication the experiences on urban agriculture from Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Xi'an and several other cities in China.

e. Video "Making a Living along the Musi River"

IWMI-India produced a video on the use of waste water in the city of Hyderabad, with the title: "Making a Living along the Musi River: Wastewater Users in and around Hyderabad City, India" (directed by: Stephanie Buechler, Gayathri Devi and Rama Devi). The video is supported DFID.

The city of Hyderabad, with its surrounding nine municipalities is one of the fastest growing Indian cities. The Musi river, which runs through Hyderabad, is dry upstream of the city (except during the monsoons), but domestic, hospital and industrial wastewater released from the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad converts it into a perennial river. In the urban and periurban areas, drainage water from both domestic and industrial sources, is channelled to several contiguous plots of land. Wastewater agriculture all along the Musi river provides livelihoods to a diverse group of women, men and children from different caste groups and represents a broad spectrum of social classes.

Copies can be requested via ruaf@etcnl.nl.

f. CD-ROM "Urban Agriculture Today"

In order to reach out to people in the South that do not have access to Internet and for use in resource centres, libraries, universities, etcetera, ETC produced the CD-ROM "Urban Agriculture Today !", containing the searchable RUAF bibliographic database, partly annotated, a key sheet on Urban Agriculture, the publication "Growing Cities Growing Food", proceedings of E-conferences and regional workshops and 8 complete issues of the Urban Agriculture Magazine.

A similar CD-ROM containing a Spanish bibliography and RUAF materials in Spanish has been produced by IPES/UMP-LAC in cooperation with ETC (Quito).

The CD-ROMs have been distributed to the subscribers of the UA-Magazine, together with an issue of the Magazine. The publication of these CD-ROMs was financially supported by Sida. Copies can be requested via ruaf@etcnl.nl.

g. The video "Urban Agriculture" on CD-ROM

The video "Urban Agriculture", which was produced and distributed on tape in 2002, has been put on CD-ROM in various language versions. This, in order to satisfy the high demand for this video in a cost effective way. The video has distributed together with the various versions of the UA-Magazine. Copies can be requested via ruaf@etcnl.nl.

h. Now also a Portuguese version of the UA-Magazine available

All back issues of the UA-Magazine have been translated in Portuguese by Mr. Joaquim Moura of Brazil supported by RUAf in collaboration with UMP-LAC. The articles are published on the website www.agriculturaurbana.org.br/RAU

i. Urban Agriculture on the Development Gateway

The site www.developmentgateway.org is run by the not-for-profit Development Gateway Foundation in collaboration with a variety of cooperating organizations. Since December 2003, this includes RUAf. ETC agreed with the Development Gateway to add short thematic information and links to events, websites and books to the thematic sections of Urban Development and Food Security. This submission of information is coordinated three times a year by the UA-Magazine Editor.

Upon entering the development gateway you enter "urban" in the search engine on this site to view a wide range of materials amongst others on urban agriculture. You can also sign up for updates on new content, access a database containing many projects, or practitioners on urban development and food security, and post resources of your own.

4. UPCOMING EVENTS

* In September 2004 a **Workshop on Gender and Urban Agriculture** "Women Feeding Cities" will be organised in Accra, Ghana in cooperation with CGIAR-Urban Harvest and IWMI and with financial support of CTA.

* ETC, together with the International Agricultural Centre, is organising a **two week international course on urban agriculture**, named "Design, Analysis and Management of Urban Agriculture for Resilient Communities". The course aims at people involved in policy formulation and action planning in the South and the North. The course will be held December 6-17, 2004, in Wageningen, The Netherlands.

More information: www.iac.wur.nl/iac/index2.htm?courses/urbag_courses.htm.

* ETC will support IDRC and UN-Habitat in the organisation of a **panel on Credit and financing Urban Agriculture at the World Urban Forum 2004**; 13-17 September, 2004, Barcelona, Spain.

More information on the Forum at www.unhabitat.org/wuf/2004/default.asp

For more events, please visit the RUAf website at www.ruaf.org.

5. PREPARATION OF THE NEXT PHASE OF THE RUAf PROGRAMME

The RUAf Partners met in Hyderabad in February to realise their yearly planning meeting, which was hosted by IWMI-India in an excellent way.

The progress made in 2003 was reviewed and the priorities and strategies for 2004 were discussed, including the efforts made to enhance the integration of gender in the various activities of RUAF and to improve our impact monitoring system.

Since 2004 will be the last year of the actual phase of the programme, the partners dedicated substantial time to elaborate a draft proposal for the second phase of the programme, based on the information and support needs that were identified by the regional partners in their contacts with local stakeholders and the recommendations of the Mid Term Review Mission. In the coming months this draft proposal will be further developed and regionalised and presented to the donors that expressed interest to continue their support to the RUAF programme.

A third element of the workshop was an exchange of experiences regarding two important elements of the work of the RUAF partners: 1. training in / facilitation of participatory and multi-stakeholder processes of policy development and action planning on urban agriculture, and b. training and assisting in the formulation of project proposals and the acquisition of funding support at national and international levels.

The RUAF programme is funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS, the Netherlands) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC, Canada)

The partners in the RUAF programme are:

- *Programme coordination*: ETC Foundation, Leusden, Netherlands. E-mail: ruaf@etcnl.nl.
- *Latin America and the Caribbean*: IPES - Promocion del Desarrollo Sostenible (Lima) and Urban Management Programme (UMP-LAC, Quito). E-mail: gunther@pgu-ecu.org
- *East and Southern Africa*: Municipal Development Partnership (MDP, Harare). E-mail: smushamba@mdpafrika.org.zw.
- *West and Central Africa (Anglophone)*: International Water Management Institute- Ghana Office (IWMI, Accra). E-mail: o.cofie@cgiar.org.
- *West and Central Africa (Francophone)*: Institut Africain de Gestion Urbaine (IAGU, Dakar). E-mail: moussa@iagu.org.
- *South and South East Asia*: International Water Management Institute-India Office (IWMI, Hyderabad). E-mail: s.buechler@cgiar.org.
- *China*: Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resource Research of the National Academy of Sciences (IGSNRR, Beijing). E-mail: caijm@igsnrr.ac.cn.
- *North America*: TUAN (Washington), e-mail: urbanag2@cs.com and City Farmer (Toronto) website: www.cityfarmer.org.

Please, feel free to forward this bulletin. Back issues of RUAF Update will be made available on the RUAF website (www.ruaf.org). You are very welcome to send us your comments regarding this e-mail bulletin.

Unsubscribe

If you wish to unsubscribe to the RUAF Update e-mail bulletin, please send an email to ruaf@etcnl.nl with the subject 'unsubscribe'.

Subscribe

If this message was forwarded to you and you wish to subscribe to the RUAF Update e-mail service, you can do this by sending an e-mail to ruaf@etcnl.nl with the subject 'subscribe'.