

FIRST GLOBAL WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH) FORUM (DAKAR, SENEGAL)

November / December 2004

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) is organising this event to draw lessons on how successful water, sanitation and hygiene programmes, sector reforms and development partnerships are leading to the eradication of poverty. It also aims at strengthening regional and national partnership initiatives pursuing the goals of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. Web address: http://www.wsscc.org/load.cfm?edit_id=332 Or contact: the forum Manager, at wsscc@who.int

ROLE OF MULTI-PURPOSE AGRICULTURE IN SUSTAINING THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT AGRO ENVIRON 2004 (UDINE, ITALY)

October 20-24, 2004

The first Agro-Environ symposium was organised in Faisalabad, Pakistan in 1998. This is the fourth in a series of workshops that aims to be a platform for idea sharing and networking between organisations involved in agro-environmental issues. The theme of the forthcoming Agro Environ is "Sustainable Global Environment and Multi-purpose Agriculture", a theme in which urban agriculture definitely has its place. More information: www.dpvta.uniud.it/~agroenv

UNLOCKING HUMAN POTENTIAL, LINKING THE INFORMAL AND FORMAL SECTORS (HELSINKI, FINLAND)

September 17-18, 2004

The World Institute for Development Economics Research, WIDER, in Helsinki is a research and training centre of the United Nations University. The Expert Group on Development Issues, EGDI, is a policy advisory body linked to the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The EGDI-WIDER conference on Unlocking Human Potential welcomes submissions of papers or abstracts (of 2-3 pages) on the interaction between government legislation and policies with the "informal" efforts and livelihoods of people. The submission deadline is Feb. 1, 2004. For more: www.wider.unu.edu or www.egdi.gov.se, To submit or for further information: unlocking@wider.unu.edu.

WORLD URBAN FORUM 2004 (BARCELONA, SPAIN)

13-17 September 2004

Barcelona is preparing to receive some 2,000 delegates representing governments, local authorities, non-governmental organisations and other experts on urban issues from around the world for the second gathering of UN-HABITAT's World Urban Forum. This forum is held every two years and is a key global event to address and keep abreast of the main challenge of the new Millennium – our planet's transition to an urban world. The issue of urban agriculture, notably the financing of urban agriculture, will be presented here. For more information: <http://www.unhabitat.org/wuf/2004/default.asp>

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CONGRESS ON AGROFORESTRY (ORLANDO, USA)

27 June – 2 July 2004

Agroforestry professionals world-wide, from academic institutions and government organisations, the private sector and voluntary groups, will gather for this 1st World Congress of Agroforestry in Orlando, Florida, USA. The main objective is to share knowledge and develop strategies for research, education and training in agroforestry. Visit the congress web site for further details: <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/wca>

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN AGRICULTURE, URBANAG 2004 (BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA)

Mid-2004

Urbanag 2004 will focus on the city of Brisbane, and its role as global leader in urban agricultural practices, as well as emerging urban agricultural trends in the Western Pacific region. More information: Geoff Wilson. Phone +61 7 3349 1422; fax 61 7 3343 8287; e-mail: fawmpl@powerup.com.au. www.urbanag.info

URBAN WOODS FOR PEOPLE AND THE 7TH IUFRO European Forum on Urban Forestry (Stockholm, Sweden)

May 23 – 27, 2004,

This is the concluding conference for the Life Environment Project "Urban Woods for People", as an integrated part of the annual meetings organised by the International Union of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO) since 1998, to act as meeting places for urban forestry policymakers, practitioners and scientists. The six previous meetings have provided urban foresters with the opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences on actual topics such as funding, education and partnerships. This 7th meeting is being convened under the title "Working with Woods – developing tools for sound urban forestry". Updated information can also be found at: www.svo.se/urbanwoods and www.efuf.org

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT: THE ASSET-BASED APPROACH (ANTIGONISH, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA)

May 17-June 4, 2004

The Coady International Institute is organising this 3-week certificate programme that offers senior development workers and policy makers exposure to several practical asset-based tools designed to help community leaders build (or rebuild) a community-driven development process. The course also explores the appropriate role for intermediary organisations in promoting and supporting community development from the inside out. For detailed information, go to the Coady International Institute's website www.stfx.ca/institutes/coady

TRAINING COURSE FOR ANGLOPHONE AFRICA ON URBAN AGRICULTURE (NAIROBI, KENYA)

8 - 26 March, 2004

The Cities Feeding People programme of IDRC, the Urban Management Programme of UN-Habitat, the Municipal Development Partnership (MDP) of Zimbabwe, the Ministry of Planning of the Government of Kenya, the Resource Centre on Urban Agriculture and Food Security (RUAF), the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), and the CGIAR Urban Harvest Programme will hold this three-week regional training course. The course is based on a participatory learning model pioneered in Francophone Africa in 1998 and in Latin America in 2001. Seven training modules on different aspects of urban agriculture will address the contents of proposals developed by teams from different cities or towns in the region. The team members have already been selected, and consist of three members - a researcher, a municipal officer concerned with a locally important aspect of urban agriculture, and an implementer of projects. More information on this course will be published at www.ruaf.org or the partner sites.

CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS: THE FUTURE FOR DEVELOPMENT (PARIS, FRANCE)

May 2-5, 2004

This Founding Congress of United Cities and Local Government is an opportunity to bring together city and local government leaders from across the globe with key stakeholders from the international community. It will explore the role of local government in development, exchange experiences and develop strategies for the future. The congress will focus on the following sub-themes: local sustainable development in a globalising world; decentralisation and local democracy; cooperation, partnership and solidarity between local governments for peace and development. Over 2,500 participants are expected to attend the congress. More information can be found through the website of IULA:

<http://www.iula-int.org/iula/web/template.asp?L=EN&ID=13>

ASSURING FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IN AFRICA BY 2020 (KAMPALA, UGANDA)

1-3 April 2004

Food and nutrition security remain Africa's most fundamental challenge. However, Africa has climbed back on the agenda. There are new political initiatives gaining momentum both inside and outside the continent. This all-Africa conference will bring together the traditional and new actors and stakeholders to deliberate on how to bring about change and action to assure food and nutrition security. The International Food Policy Research Institute, under the auspices of its 2020 Vision Initiative, will facilitate an international conference in Kampala, Uganda, in partnership with the Government of Uganda. For more info:

<http://www.ifpri.org/2020AfricaConference/sponsors.asp>

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGIES FOR MEDICINAL PLANTS AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE (PINAR DEL RÍO, CUBA)

February, 11 - 13, 2004

This workshop aims to facilitate the exchange of new insights on different aspects on the subject of medicinal plants. The workshop language is Spanish, but contributions in English and Portuguese are accepted. More information can be obtained from Juan Francisco Valdés: valdes@af.upr.edu.cu or valdesjfc@yahoo.es

APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR THE AGROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS IN URBAN AGRICULTURE.

January 31, 2004

Information and application forms can be obtained from the Cities Feeding People website in English:

<http://network.idrc.ca/en.php?id=4714>, French:

<http://network.idrc.ca/fr.php?id=4714> and

Spanish: <http://network.idrc.ca/es.php?id=4714>

URBAN RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM (WASHINGTON, USA)

15-17 December 2003

In December 2002, individual researchers, representatives of public and private organisations and members of research networks from around the world joined World Bank specialists to review recent and ongoing research on urban poverty. This conference marked the Bank's renewed interest in urban research. The Bank wanted this Symposium to become an annual forum. The second Urban Research Symposium took place at the World Bank Headquarters in Washington, DC and is titled "Urban Development for Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction". Contact:

urbansymposium@worldbank.org; telephone: 202-473-0539; fax: 202-522-3232.

<http://www.worldbank.org/urban/symposium2003/>

AGUILA NETWORK CONVENTION (MEXICO CITY, MEXICO)

November 20 - 22, 2003

The Mexican "Aguila" Network on Urban Agriculture - a sub-division of the Latin American "Aguila" Network on Urban Agriculture - held its Second National Convention. The central theme was "Urban Agriculture as an Organizational Strategy for Food Security, Family/Community Survival, and Environmental Sustainability". More information:

gabaher@prodigy.net.mx or

bcanabal@cueyatl.com.mx

ICLEI WORLD CONGRESS 2003, ATHENS, GREECE

November 3-7, 2003

Local governments from around the world gathered for this ICLEI World

Congress, which focused on Local Action 2: Local Governments Implementing Sustainable Development. Over 500 representatives from local governments, international agencies, national governments, and donor agencies came together to exchange ideas and identify opportunities to strengthen and advance the achievements of local governments in the area of sustainable development. Information is available at: www.iclei.org/worldcongress

RECTIFICATION

Our readers have notified us of two wrong e-mail addresses that appeared in UA Magazine no. 10 (July 2003). The first is of Cesar Marulanda, the author of the article on Hydroponics on page 8, given wrongly as: delfin@lamolina.edu.pe; the correct address is cesarmarulanda51@hotmail.com.

The second contact e-mail wrongly published is of Preeti Patil (article on India on page 19). It should be preeti_sunil@hotmail.com, and not sunhil@hotmail.com.

LIVESTOCK IN MYSORE

During the recent electronic conference, Er.V.Jagannatha, coordinator of the People's Science Forum (PSF) in Mysore India, called the attention of the participants to a voluntary initiative of the PSF - a survey of urban livestock to facilitate promotion of the Ecocity concept. This mapping is being undertaken under a state Government Programme for the local authority called "Nirmala Nagara" which runs in 31 towns and cities of Karnataka State, in South India. More info at <http://www.psf.4t.com>, or contact: "Sahana" 437 A & B Block, Double Road, Kuvempu Nagar, Mysore 570 023 India, Mobile: 9448050595, Fax: +91-821-2544918(pp); e-mail: jags_environs57@yahoo.com

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE ON URBAN AND PERIURBAN AGRICULTURE:

Under the title, "Prospects for Food Security and Growth in Eastern and Southern Africa", a Ministers' Conference was held from 28 and 29 August 2003, in Harare, Zimbabwe. A total of 55 delegates from five countries, namely Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Swaziland and Zimbabwe, attended. Among them were the Ministers of Local Government from Swaziland and Zimbabwe and the Deputy Ministers of Local Government from Malawi and Tanzania. The Conference was co-organised by RUAFA-MDP and the Municipal Development Partnership for Eastern and Southern Africa, in partnership with The Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN), and supported by FAO, UNICEF, UNDP and IDRC. The principal objective of the conference was to enable ministers responsible for urban development in eastern and southern Africa to share ideas and experiences on the emerging important sector of urban and periurban agriculture, and to develop a policy agenda for action. The Conference recognised the significant contribution of urban and periurban agriculture to food security of urban households, generation of jobs and income, self-esteem and environmental improvement. The Harare Declaration on Urban Agriculture was a key outcome of this conference. In this declaration, governments of the participating countries commit themselves to integrate urban agriculture into their urban economies and to provide an enabling environment for the sector to grow.

The declaration, a full report of the conference, and the list of participants can be found on the website of RUAFA.

URBAN HARVEST

As many of you may already be aware, the Steering Committee of the CGIAR Strategic Initiative on Urban and Periurban Agriculture (SIUPA) recently took a decision to change the name of this system-wide initiative to "Urban Harvest". RUAFA in turn has taken the necessary steps to incorporate the change of name into its information material (flyers, brochures, website, and

email). Although you can still reach our website through www.cipotato.org/siupa the email contact address has now changed:

urbanharvest@cgiar.org An Urban Harvest-Listserv is being developed.

Cities Feeding People has posted a series of nine urban agriculture policy briefs on both their web site as well as that of RUAFA. The policy briefs have been validated by mayors and urban planners from approximately 20 cities for content and use. The briefs have been translated into Spanish and French (with a Portuguese version soon to be complete) and tackle issues related to urban agriculture, including land-use planning, wastewater use and gender equity. The policy briefs are available on <http://www.idrc.ca/cfp>. You may also wish to refer to our partner in Latin America, the Urban Management Programme (<http://www.pgualc.org/>), for more information.

CITY FARMER 25 YEARS

Our partners in Canada celebrate 25 years of City Farmer, the largest information and education centre for urban agriculture in Canada. Twenty-five years ago, City Farmer executive director Michael Levenston and fellow environmentalist Bob Woodworth were asked by the then Ministry of Energy and Mining to study ways for city dwellers to conserve energy. Now City Farmer is internationally appreciated for its great website; is the largest information and education centre for urban agriculture in Canada; offers workshops and maintains a demonstration garden, showing urban gardeners how to grow vegetables and fruit organically on a small city lot; and even has a street renamed after it in Vancouver. See www.cityfarmer.org

WWW.WASTE.NL

The APUGEDU project in Bamako, Mali has just been finalised. The International cooperation from the European Union asked WASTE together with other partners to analyse the potentials of development of urban and periurban agriculture with the usage of recycled urban waste. This coincided with a programme issued by the World Bank to develop a waste management plan for the city Bamako. WASTE started with compiling a literature review focussing on experiences in southern countries. At the same time, WASTE analysed the solid waste management system in view of recycling in Bamako. Stakeholders, vegetable gardeners and cereal crop owners were identified. With all this acquired information WASTE prepared a workshop on the composting techniques based on the existing waste streams and assisted in the decision-making process to select the compost techniques to be executed in Bamako. During the implementation period WASTE was active as back stopper. The project has allowed to promote composting activity, compost application and management of natural resources. As a result composting is being developed as a waste treatment activity at transfer sites in several collection zones in Bamako. The scenario that APUGEDU has developed will contribute to the overall World Bank plan for waste management in Bamako.