

## **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NATURE CONSERVATION IN BIG CITIES**

*Prague, Czech Republic, 27 August to 1 September 2000*  
For more information contact the Conference Organisation:  
Tel.: + 420 2 8306 9291,  
Fax: + 420 2 2251 7144,  
e-mail: [nemec@nature.cz](mailto:nemec@nature.cz)

Organised by the Czech Union for Nature Conservation in cooperation with the Municipality of Prague, the Ministry of the Environment and the IUCN this conference was held in framework of the "Europe: a Common Heritage" campaign organised by the Council of Europe. Sessions at the conference were on: Plant and Animal World in Towns; Nature Management; Cultural Landscapes; Education and Public Participation  
A wide spectrum of conference materials was presented, including the book 'Protected areas of Prague' (in Czech) and a CD ROM with descriptions of nature trails, natural parks and other natural phenomena of Prague (in English). The conference proceedings will be published on CD ROM.

## **SIUPA, URBAN HARVESTS**

*Workshops in Nairobi, Kenya, October 31 - 4 November*  
More Information: Gordon Prain, SIUPA Co-ordinator.  
Tel: +51 1 349 6017,  
Fax: +51 1 317 5326,  
Email: [g.prain@cgiar.org](mailto:g.prain@cgiar.org)

The Strategic Initiative on Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture (SIUPA) was launched in 1999 by the CGIAR group (see no. 1 of the UA Magazine). In collaboration with national and international efforts, SIUPA is establishing regional sites, a set of research activities collectively known as Urban Harvest.  
A first stakeholder meeting linked to the Action Plan

Development Workshop, was held in Hanoi, Vietnam in June 2000. A similar workshop is held early November in Nairobi, Kenya. In addition to the exchange of information, the establishment of a pilot site in East or Central Africa was discussed.

## **MAKING CITIES LIVABLE CONFERENCE**

*San Francisco, USA, December 13-17, 2000*  
*Savannah, USA, March 4-8, 2001*

The International Making Cities Livable Conferences were founded in 1985, and are held biannually in the United States and Europe. They are unique in enabling city officials, architects, planners, developers, community leaders, behavioural scientists, artists and others responsible for the liveability of their cities to exchange experiences, ideas and expertise. Discussions at the IMCL Conferences, therefore, range from architecture appropriate to maintaining a city's identity, to urban design features conducive to public life, to the description of festivals that energise and unite communities.

For more information see: <http://www.livablecities.org/conferences.htm>

## **FOOD SECURITY OF URBAN AND PERI-URBAN SYSTEMS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

*Vienna, Austria, November 15 - 18, 2000*  
More information: Conference Secretariat, Gregor Mendel Strasse 33, A - 1180 Vienna, AUSTRIA,  
Tel.: +43 1 47654 3103,  
Fax: +43 1 478 9110  
E-mail: [foodsec@edv1.boku.ac.at](mailto:foodsec@edv1.boku.ac.at), or <http://www.boku.ac.at/foodsec/introduc.htm>

This international conference is a follow-up of an international conference on 'Food

Security' held during the General Assembly of the International Council for Science (ICSU) in Cairo/Egypt in September 1999. Results will be discussed of scientific and technological research on food security of urban and peri-urban systems in developing countries. Research results of case studies in Cairo, Egypt, Chennai, India and Kathmandu, Nepal, and further results from other scientists projects will be presented. Four topics will be discussed:

- ◆ Sustainable food production;
- ◆ Food technology;
- ◆ Food markets and economy;
- ◆ Food safety.

## **FIRST REGIONAL COURSE ON FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IN URBAN AREAS**

*Harare, December 4-16, 2000*

This course will be organised by the Institute for Food, Nutrition and Family Sciences (IFNFS), University of Zimbabwe in Harare in collaboration with the International Agricultural Centre (IAC), Wageningen, The Netherlands. The course objective is to provide participants with current insights into the nature and extent of urban food and nutrition problems, ways to assess and analyse, and examples of interventions, specifically focusing on the situation in Sub-Saharan Africa. A case study / field work in collaboration with Harare City Council will be included in the course, and course facilitators will be regional with an emphasis on the region. The course language is English. Participants are mid-career professionals, preferably working in the urban environment, in the field of food security and nutrition or a related field. They should have an academic degree (at least BSc), be proficient in the English language, and have a minimum of 2 years of profes-

sional experience.

For further information, contact the IAC at [iac@iac.agro.nl](mailto:iac@iac.agro.nl) or the project co-ordinator in Zimbabwe. Strengthening Food and Nutrition Training in Southern Africa Institute of Food, Nutrition and Family Sciences, University of Zimbabwe, PO Box MP 167, Mount Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe Phone: +263 4 303 211 ext. 1413/1993 Fax: +263 4 333 407/ 335 429, Email: [root@foodsci.uz.zw](mailto:root@foodsci.uz.zw)

## **INTERNATIONAL COURSE ON FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN URBAN AREAS**

*Wageningen, the Netherlands April 1-14, 2001*

This course will be organised by the International Agricultural Centre (IAC), Wageningen, in co-operation with Wageningen Agricultural University.

The course objective is to provide participants with current insights into the nature and extent of urban food and nutrition problems, ways to assess and analyse, and examples of interventions. The course language is English. Participants are mid-career professionals from developing countries, preferably working in the urban environment, in the field of food security and nutrition or a related field. For more information (also for application): Email: [training@iac.agro.nl](mailto:training@iac.agro.nl) or Internet: <http://www.iac-agro.nl> [raquelrp@sfsu.edu](mailto:raquelrp@sfsu.edu).

## **SUB-REGIONAL EXPERT CONSULTATION 'URBAN AND PERI-URBAN HORTICULTURE IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUNTRIES'**

*Stellenbosch, South Africa, January 16-17, 2001*

In January 2001, the University of Stellenbosch, Cape Town, South Africa under the auspice-

es of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations will be hosting a Southern African Sub-Regional Expert Consultation Meeting on Urban and Peri-urban Horticulture. This consultation will bring together Southern African scientists and researchers to review and analyse opportunities and constraints related to urban and peri-urban horticulture. The participants at the expert consultation meeting will include representatives from South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Swaziland, Tanzania, Mozambique and Malawi. They are expected to prepare and deliver country background papers detailing the status of urban agriculture in their respective countries. All participants are expected to submit a CV and a short résumé of their presentations to the address below as soon as possible.

For further information please contact Ms Lizl Hobson: Email: lhob@akad.sun.ac.za, Phone: +27 21 808 4753, Fax: +27 21 808 5670

**REGIONAL SEMINAR  
'FEEDING ASIAN CITIES'  
Bangkok, 27 to 30 November  
2000**

This Seminar is organised by FAO, the Association of Food Marketing Agencies (AFMA), and CITYNET, in collaboration with the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA). The organisation of this Seminar is part of the information and sensitisation effort carried out by FAO and other partners, on the consequences of the rapid growth of Asian cities and the associated increase in the number of urban households living in poverty. The objectives of this seminar are:

- ❖ Identify major food security challenges in feeding Asian cit-

ies and the role that City and Local Authorities can play;

- ❖ Prepare a plan of action for the next ten years;
- ❖ Facilitate South-South and North-South collaboration and technical assistance partnerships.

This seminar is especially aimed at mayors, city executives and senior staff of municipalities and local authorities as well as for central government institutions which are directly or indirectly concerned with urban food security.

Details of this event can be found on the website: <http://www.fao.org/waicent/faoinfo/agricult/ags/-agsm/sada/asia/index.htm>

**REQUEST FOR PAPERS  
ON URBAN AGRICULTURE**

The Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association will be organised by the San Francisco State University and will be held in Anaheim, California, August 18-22, 2001. One session is

entitled "Urban Agriculture in Cities of the Future", and will be chaired by Raquel Rivera-Pinderhughes. Papers on the theme "Urban Agriculture in Cities of the Future" are requested for review for presentation at the meetings, and can be sent before January 10th, 2001 to [raquelrp@sfsu.edu](mailto:raquelrp@sfsu.edu)

**WORKSHOP ON URBAN  
AND PERI-URBAN  
AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH-  
EAST ASIA  
Planned for May 2001**

The International Board for Soil Research and Management (IBSRAM) would like to get in touch with potential participants from S-E Asia who are interested in participating in the planned 'state-of-the-art-workshop', and anticipated Consortium on Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture (UPA) in S-E Asia. The focus of the workshop/consortium will be 'Restoring the Rural-Urban Nutrient Cycle through Peri-

Urban Agriculture'. It is intended to bring together major stakeholders involved in related Research and Development. The workshop will review and analyse country reports on the status quo of UPA and organic waste recycling and identify bottlenecks concerning research/education/awareness and interdisciplinary collaboration in these areas from different national perspectives.

Concerned participants are kindly requested to send (short) information on their institutions and subject related activities (please no attachments larger than 500 Kb.) to: Pay Drechsel, Research Coordinator, International Board for Soil Research and Management (IBSRAM), Africa Office c/o KN-UST, Kumasi, Ghana  
Tel/Fax: +233 51 60206, email: [ibsrाम@africaonline.com.gh](mailto:ibsrाम@africaonline.com.gh) This announcement is also posted at: [www.ibsrाम.org](http://www.ibsrाम.org); [www.cityfarmer.org/-ibsrाम.html](http://www.cityfarmer.org/-ibsrाम.html)

**ELECTRONIC CONFERENCE AND INFORMATION MARKET:  
URBAN AND PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE ON THE POLICY AGENDA**

*Moderator reports will be posted at the end of November 2000.  
Please check <http://www.ruaf.org>*

This conference was organised by the interdepartmental Working Group on Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture of FAO, Food for the Cities (FFC) and the Resource Centre for Urban Agriculture and Forestry (RUAF), ETC, and focused on three themes:

- ❖ Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture, Food Security and nutrition
- ❖ UPA, Health and the Urban Environment
- ❖ UPA and Urban Planning

On the RUAF-website you will find the Information Market where all contributions of the participants and other articles of interest are posted.

**OPEN DISCUSSION ON TRAINING NEEDS  
NRI, August - September 2000**

The discussion on 'Training Needs in Urban Agriculture' is hosted by the Natural Resources Institute (NRI) as a contribution to the Electronic Conference 'Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture on the Policy Agenda' referred to in this section. The purpose of this forum is to enable participants to share information about their ongoing training activities, and contribute their assessment of needs for training in issues related to urban agriculture. A discussion paper 'Urban Agriculture and Training Needs', by Sabine Gündel and John Butterworth is available on the RUAF website as well as that of NRI: <http://www.nri.org/E-Conf/> The recommendations will be published soon on this site.

## PARTNERS

### AMENDMENT: FAO PROGRAMME ON URBAN AGRICULTURE

We received clarification on earlier news on FAO activities related to Urban Agriculture from Mr. O. Argenti, Co-Secretary of the Interdepartmental Working Group 'Food for the Cities'. The term Food for the Cities Programme, used throughout the magazine, is actually the title of the Interdepartmental Working Group. There is no programme in FAO with that title. The possible confusion may be due to the fact there are a number of similar titles around at FAO. These are: Meeting Urban food Needs, Food Supply and Distribution to Cities; and Food into Cities.

Meeting Urban Food Needs is a project of the Agriculture Support Systems Division of FAO. Information can be obtained from the project manager: E-mail: richard.roberts@fao.org The FAO initiative for Food Supply and Distribution to Cities started in 1995, and was referred to in the past as the 'Interregional Programme Food Supply and Distribution to Cities'. Under this initiative FAO provides assistance to city and local authorities in developing countries and countries in transition to alleviate urban food insecurity through institutional strengthening to enable city and local authorities to formulate urban policies and programmes for the development of food supply and distribution systems at urban, metropolitan and regional levels. It now forms part of the 'Meeting Urban Food Needs' Project. The Focal Point of this initiative can be reached at e-mail: sada@fao.org or you may visit: [www.fao.org/AG/SADA.htm](http://www.fao.org/AG/SADA.htm)

### FONSAG MAGAZINE ON URBAN AGRICULTURE

The FONSAG Magazine is a quarterly publication of the network 'Forum on Sustainable Agriculture, FONSAG', based in Gaborone, Botswana. FONSAG, Volume 3, Number 3 will focus on Urban Agriculture. The editor requests articles for this issue, due in December 2000. You can send your comments and articles to: Kevin George, Information Officer, Forum on Sustainable Agriculture, P/Bag Bo 136. Gaborone. Tel: +267 307 506, e-mail: [fonsag@global.bw](mailto:fonsag@global.bw).

### REGIONAL NETWORK IN WESTERN AFRICA

The African Urban Management Institute (IAGU) is an international NGO based in Dakar (Senegal) specialised in training, action research and technical support to African municipalities in urban planning and management. IAGU is currently coordinating an African regional network on urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) and is presently conducting a joint research project in seven countries (Ivory Coast, Senegal, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Mali and Benin). The network was created with the support of IDRC (International Development Research Centre) during the second semester of 1999. Its main objective is to promote durability of urban and peri-urban agriculture in sub-Saharan Africa. This project is supported by IDRC and UMP and scheduled for three years: from July 2000 to June 2003. The expected results of this research/consultation project are:

- ❖ Evaluation of UPA contributions to sustainable urban development;
  - ❖ Identification of constraints through the profiles and case studies;
  - ❖ Reinforcement of the dialogue, exchange and partnership between stakeholders;
  - ❖ Municipal Actions Plans to raise institutional constraints that face UPA.
- IAGU has agreed to become the Regional Focal Point on Urban Agriculture in Western Africa for the RUAF Programme. More information: Ndèye Fatou Diop Gueye, African Urban Management Institute (IAGU), Tel : +221 824 44 24, Fax : +221 825 08 26, e-mail : [iagurtps@enda.sn](mailto:iagurtps@enda.sn) (or: [iagu@cyg.sn](mailto:iagu@cyg.sn))

### MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Municipal Development Programme for Eastern and Southern Africa (MDP-ESA), has operated since 1991. The Programme is currently in its third phase, and aims to enable and support decentralisation, strengthen the capacity of local governments to deliver services and ensure development at local level as a vehicle for improving the quality of life of local communities. The Programme is currently in its 3rd phase 1998-2000. MDP has activities on policy research and governance, training and capacity building,

information exchange and networking and gives direct support to municipalities. It is cooperating with IDRC in urban agriculture related research and governance activities, and coordinates the programme on Strengthening Civic participation in Municipal Governance in ESA.

MDP has agreed to become the Regional Focal Point on Urban Agriculture in Eastern and Southern Africa for the RUAF Programme. MDP will, among other activities, provide information services to inform city authorities, urban planners, farmers, consumers and NGOs, technical support organizations and other stakeholders on urban agriculture. More information can be obtained with: Mr. Shingirayi Mushamba, Municipal Development Programme for Eastern and Southern Africa, Tel: +263.4.724356/774385, Fax: +263.4.774387, Email: [region@mdpesa.co.zw](mailto:region@mdpesa.co.zw), Website: <http://www.mdpesa.co.zw>

### THE URBAN AGRICULTURE NETWORK, WESTERN PACIFIC NETWORK

The TUAN (the Urban Agriculture Network) has an office in Australia for the Western Pacific Network. The news from this network will be published in Practical Hydroponics & Greenhouses Magazine, a six-times-a-year magazine, starting early 2001. Practical Hydroponics & Greenhouses Magazine has a global circulation of about 12,500, of which half of the subscribers are in Australia, New Zealand, Pacific Islands and S-E Asia. More information on the Network and the Magazine can be obtained from Geoff Wilson, 359 Broadwater Rd, Mansfield Queensland 4122, Australia. Tel: +61 7 3349 1422 Fax: +61 7 3343 8287

### AGUILA-MEXICANA

Mexican National Network on Urban Agriculture has started. As part of the Latin American Network on Urban Agriculture AGUILA, the Mexican National Network has been officially launched under the name "Red mexicana de agricultura urbana" General Co-ordinator is Francisco Arroyo. For further information, please contact [farroyo@laneta.apc.org](mailto:farroyo@laneta.apc.org)