

CREATING SUSTAINABLE URBAN ENVIRONMENTS -FUTURE FORMS FOR CITY LIVING

23 – 26 September, 2002, Oxford, UK.

The fifth symposium of the International Urban Planning and Environment Association - Creating Sustainable Urban Environments -Future Forms for City Living. Papers related to one of the conference themes; Environment, Society, Transport, Land use and re-use, Economics, Future sustainable city forms. Abstracts of no more than 700 words electronic version compatible with Word 97, Arial font 9, can be submitted to upe5@brookes.ac.uk putting 'Abstract Submission' as subject title or by post to Sarah Taylor, The Oxford Centre for Sustainable Development, School of Architecture, Oxford Brookes University, Gipsy Lane, Headington, Oxford, UK, OX3 0BP.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN HORTICULTURE

2 – 6 September, 2002, Zurich, Switzerland

The aim of the Conference of Urban Horticulture is to present and discuss visions, innovations, research themes and solution concepts for urban green areas. Garden design and plant utilization as well as the interactions between man and designed nature form the central themes of the conference. The five themes are Plants and Society; Public Green; Plant use and Landscaping; Assortment development, evaluation and production; and Ecological Engineering. Visit <http://www.urbanhorticulture.ch/> or send an email to: conference@hortikultur.ch

IFOAM 2002 ORGANIC WORLD CONGRESS: CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES

21 – 28 August, 2002, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

We already reported in the last issue on this Congress, but would like to remind you again. For more information about Canadian Organic Growers, visit: www.cog.ca. For more information about IFOAM, visit: www.ifoam.org.

WORLD FOOD SUMMIT: FIVE YEARS LATER

10 – 13 June 2002

The World Food Summit: "Five Years Later", originally scheduled from 5-9 November 2001 as part of the FAO biennial Conference, has been rescheduled for 10-13 June, 2002, in Rome, Italy, in the

wake of the September 11 attacks in the United States. The World Food Summit: five years later was called for by the FAO Council last year when it became clear that the original Summit goal of cutting the number of hungry in half by the year 2015 would not be met without renewed effort. For further information see www.fao.org, or contact: the Media Relations Branch: +39 06 5705 3625. A special issue of the UA-Magazine has been prepared for the summit.

THIRD BI-ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL HUMAN DIMENSIONS WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG DEVELOPING COUNTRY SCIENTISTS

3 – 14 June, 2002, Bonn, Germany

HDP and START have announced a call for applications for this workshop. The theme for the workshop will be "Human Dimensions of Urbanisation and the Transition to Sustainability". The deadline date for applications was November 10, 2001, but for further information you could contact Ms. Maarit Thiem (International Project Co-ordinator) IHDP, International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change, Bonn, Germany. Email: thiem.ihdp@uni-bonn.de; <http://www.uni-bonn.de/IHDP>

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON RURAL EXTENSION

21 – 22 March, 2002, Bayamo, Cuba

The Innovative Reference Centre on Agricultural Biodiversity, of the Alejandro Humboldt Institute, of the Universidad de Granma (CRIBA AH), is organising this workshop. It will focus on urban agriculture and biodiversity conservation of indigenous races. The co-ordinators of the event can be contacted through paco@udg.co.cu, edy@udg.co.cu, wilson@udg.co.cu, milanes@udg.co.cu or barrerah@udg.co.cu

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING ON PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

4 – 22 March, 2002, Lima, Peru

The CIP-UPWARD program would like to announce its forthcoming course to be held in The Philippines. Information about the course and application forms for those who are interested to attend, can be send upon request. Please don't hesitate to contact: Ms. Cherry Leah P. Bagalanan, Course Secretariat (www.cipotato.org/SIUPA).

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

12 – 15 February, 2002 Cienfuegos, Cuba

The aim of this conference is to establish an exchange between institutions that work on sustainable agriculture on recent experiences. The conference is organised along four workshops, of which one is on Urban Agriculture. Each workshop will have exposures, discussions and field visits. Although the main language will be Spanish, Posters in English will be accepted.

For more information, please check: www.geocities.com/agronat2002/ Or contact Alejandro R. Socorro Castro, agropec@ucfinfo.ucf.edu.cu

THE ROAD TO JOHANNESBURG 2002 AFTER SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

19 – 24 November, 2001 Online debate

During these six days the Heinrich-Boell Foundation and UNED-Forum held an online forum to discuss the implications of September 11, 2001 on the Johannesburg process. The Earth Summit 2002 will be held ten years after the Rio Conference on Environment and Development. The Heinrich-Boell Foundation and UNED-Forum, both organisations active in the Johannesburg process, joined forces to create a space for a global debate on questions arising after the September 11 for the Johannesburg process.

Follow the link under Earth Summit Updates at www.earthsummit2002.org Also available under this same page of Earth Summit Updates are the summary reports from the debate series on: Sustainable Cities; Marginalisation; HIV/AIDS; and on Corporate Citizenship.

INTERNATIONAL POLICY RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM ON 'THE CHANGING ROLE OF FORESTRY IN EUROPE; BETWEEN URBANISATION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

11 – 14 November, 2001

Wageningen, The Netherlands.

The overall objective of this symposium was to provide innovative perspectives on the role of forestry within the context of changing rural conditions and increasing urbanisation. The symposium offered the participants a good opportunity to become acquainted with the results of some major cross-European research programmes in these fields, such as the FAIR Multifor project and COST Action E12 on Urban forests and trees. Benefiting from

the setting in the Netherlands, it could show the participants, the effects of new types of urbanisation and rural development on forest management. The Symposium focused on three major themes:

- ❖ The diverse nature of rural change under different European realities and its effects on the role of forestry in rural development
- ❖ Recent developments concerning urban forestry and urban greening
- ❖ The implications of these developments in formulating European forest policy as well as national forest policies. More information is available through <http://www.alterra.nl/forestrysymposium.htm>

RURAL-URBAN ENCOUNTERS: MANAGING THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE PERI-URBAN INTERFACE

9 – 10 November 2001, London, UK

This one-and-a-half-day conference was organised by the Development Planning Unit, University College London. Key notes and four workshops elaborated on the integration of local environmental management, which has been traditionally separated into “urban” and “rural”. For more information about the conference and the research project visit: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/pui/index.htm>

LAC REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON URBAN AGRICULTURE

5 – 23 November, 2001, Quito, Ecuador

The first LAC Regional Training Course on Management of and Action-Research on Urban Agriculture has been held. The training course was co-ordinated by the Urban Management Programme - Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (UMP-LAC/HABITAT), IPES and IDRC and counted with the collaboration of course-moderators from Argentina (CEPAR and Pro-Huerta), Peru (CEPIS- WHO), Mexico (CEDICAR), Brazil (University of Brasilia), the Netherlands (ETC-RUAF) and Ecuador (IPES/UMP-LAC). The course counted with the participation of 24 representatives (municipal staff and NGO or University staff) from 11 countries in the Region. A variety of topics were dealt with, through lectures, working groups and field-visits: concept and characteristics, urban agriculture and urban land use planning, food security, participatory research methodologies, waste water and solid waste recycling and processing and

commercialisation of urban agriculture. The training material is available in Spanish and a training guide will be produced shortly. The course will be replicated in the coming years on sub-regional level, for cities of the Southern Cone of Latin America (Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay) and for Brazilian cities. The course co-ordinators are interested in sharing experiences with other regional or national initiatives and aim, in the context of the RUAF Programme, to elaborate these experiences in the future into a training-package to facilitate distance learning. For further information please contact Marielle Dubbeling, IPES/UMP-LAC (marid@pgu-ecu.org).

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON URBAN POVERTY

16 – 19 October, 2001, Marrakech, Morocco

The Third International Conference of International Forum on Urban Poverty (IFUP) on Social Integration and Security of the Urban Poor is organised by IFUP as a follow up on the Habitat Conference. The IFUP was created in subsequent meetings in Recife, Istanbul and Florence, and as a follow up to the Recife Declaration in 1996, on the issue of urban poverty and the necessary policies to reduce it. <http://www.unchs.org/ifup>

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE“ ONE WORLD: RESEARCH FOR A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE

9 – 11 October, Bonn, Germany

This event, better known as the yearly organised “Deutsche Tropentag” was a two-day conference on tropical and sub-tropical agriculture and forestry, organised jointly by the Universities of Bonn, Berlin, Göttingen, Hohenheim and Kassel-Witzenhausen, as well as by the Council for Tropical and Subtropical Agricultural Research (ATSAF e.V.), in cooperation with BEAF/GTZ. One symposium of this conference dealt specifically with urban and peri-urban production systems, but the paper and poster presentations on the other topics are definitely also worthwhile, and are available on CD-rom. More information is available at: http://www.uni-bonn.de/akci/dtt_1.htm

SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY FOR ALL BY 2020: FROM DIALOGUE TO ACTION

4 – 6 September, Bonn, Germany

International Congress Centre of the Federal Parliament, Bonn, Germany

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in close collaboration with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) organised this event. The conference had as main aim to take stock of the current situation, to review progress in achieving sustainable food security since the first 2020 Vision conference in 1995, and to elaborate state-of-the-art projections for scenarios in 2020. The meeting focused on the emerging issues that most likely will affect the global goal of achieving sustainable food security for all by the year 2020. For more information go to www.ifpri.org/2020conference.

WORKSHOP ON INFORMAL PERI-URBAN IRRIGATION

7 – 9 March, 2001, Kumasi, Ghana

Whilst much of the urban and peri-urban agriculture taking place in the cities of sub-Saharan Africa relies to some extent on irrigation, there is little published information or on-going research which deals specifically with the irrigation practices that support this growing sector. Although water is often acknowledged as an essential input it is usually only considered in detail with regard to water quality and health. To address this knowledge gap the British Government’s Department for International Development (DFID) funded a three-year research project to obtain quantitative and qualitative information on the productivity and constraints of irrigated peri-urban agriculture. The studies were carried in Kumasi, Ghana, and Nairobi, Kenya, between July 1988 and March 2001. The research included the following four key components and associated activities: Literature reviews, scoping and farmer questionnaire surveys; Detailed farm budget and wealth ranking surveys; Water quality studies; and Workshops. The final project workshop provided a forum to review and disseminate the findings of the research amongst farmers, government agency staff and policy makers. The findings and other quantitative information relating to irrigation practice, irrigated crop budgets, water quality issues and farmers’ rankings of production constraints are presented in the workshop proceedings and the series of research reports generated during the project. Further information can be obtained from Gez Cornish at G.cornish@hrwallingford.co.uk

FROM OUR PARTNERS

CITY CONSULTATION ON URBAN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY IN QUITO, ECUADOR ON CD-ROM

IPES, the Urban Management Programme - Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (UMP-LAC/HABITAT) and IDRC have produced a multi-media CD-ROM on the participatory process of dialogue, action planning and municipal intervention on urban agriculture in the city of Quito, Ecuador (from September 99 until September 2001). The CD-Rom gives activities, actors, results, and the major lessons. It contains over 50 photo's on urban agriculture taken in various cities in Latin America, three video-clips and an interview with the Mayor of Quito. The CD-Rom is only available in Spanish and can be ordered for 15 US\$ (excluding mailing costs). Please contact Marielle Dubbeling at the Urban Management Programme in Quito (email: marid@pgu-ecu.org or Fax at +.593.2.2282361 - ext 110-)

URBAN AGRICULTURE POLICY ADVISORY TOOLS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

As part of its "closing the loop" activities, the Cities Feeding People Programme Initiative of IDRC will collaborate with UMP-LAC/UNCHS-HABITAT/UNDP, and its anchoring institute IPES to produce a set of seven Policy Briefs. These briefs will be known in Spanish as "Directrices o lineamientos de Política", and are intended for local governments in the LAC Region. The general content will include: arguments for better municipal policies on UA, examples of good municipal practice, practical planning and management guidelines, and resources. The purpose of the Policy Briefs is to raise awareness, mobilise support for, strengthen capacities, and provide ways to municipal governments for implementation of urban agriculture programmes and policies. The Briefs will discuss and scope strategic approaches for disseminating new knowledge and an agenda for change. For more information: Please contact Marielle Dubbeling at the Urban Management Programme in Quito (email: marid@pgu-ecu.org or Fax at +.593.2.2282361 - ext 110-)

UNDP INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS GRANTS

The "Public-Private Partnerships for the Urban Environment Initiative" (PPPUE) is part of UNDP's strategy to decentralise policy functions and create advisory and operational capacities closer to clients. It is a global initiative, operated from the PPPUE Management Unit in Pretoria, South Africa, and through UNDP's Subregional Resource Facilities (SURF) around the world. At the core of the newly designed programme is a new grant facility, the Innovative Partnership Grant (IPG).

UNDP has invited project proposals for this initiative. The IPG offers an opportunity to National and Local Governments, CBOs, Municipal Associations, Chambers of Commerce, NGOs etc. to propose innovative projects related to public-private partnership development at the local level. The first deadline for proposals was in November 30, 2001, but more will follow. For more information on the PPPUE services i.e. Innovative Partnerships Grant and Global Learning Network please visit the PPPUE website at www.undp.org/pppue or write to pppue@undp.org. Peter Grohmann, Global Task Manager, UNDP/BDP/PPPUE

PERI URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

The Institute for Agricultural Policy and Market Research at the University of Giessen will be responsible to establish a thematic network for those colleagues doing research on this subject. The DAAD (German Academic exchange service) is funding this project. The aim is to improve the exchange of information between researchers and to maintain and to strengthen the personal and professional ties between Universities via direct and periodical information. This thematic network is open to all researchers. An electronic newsletter will inform you regularly. For further information contact: Christina Zurek, Giessen, Tel.: +49-(0)641-99-37033, Fax: +49-(0)641-99-37029, e-mail: Periurban.group@agr.uni-giessen.de

URBAN AGRICULTURE IN ZIMBABWE GAINING MOMENTUM

Urban Agriculture is gaining significant recognition in Zimbabwe. The RUAF Partner for Eastern and Southern Africa, the Municipal Development Programme (MDP) had a meeting with the Minister of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing and Chairman of the Land Reform Committee, who advised that Harare City will be allocated 60 000 hectares of land for urban agriculture. All farms within a 15km radius around the City of Gweru have also been targeted for urban and peri-urban agriculture. The Minister has invited MDP to put together a programme, which can be discussed with him on strengthening urban and peri-urban agriculture. <http://www.mdp>

ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE IN PERI-URBAN AREAS

PUECH (Peri-Urban Environmental Change) is a project initiated by SCOPE. SCOPE is the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment is an international, non-governmental, non-profit and interdisciplinary body of natural science expertise. The project PUECH examines the scientific understanding of periurban areas; the transition zone, of the interaction zone, where urban and rural activities and land covers are juxtaposed. In the preparation of PUECH, the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the project has met in Rosario Argentina to discuss Latin American experiences, in October 2001 and in Lusaka, Zambia in January 2002 for African experiences. The Asian meeting will take place in the wings of the Ecocities conference in Shenzhen, China in August 2002.

PROJECTS APPROVED IN ASIA

Three urban agriculture programmes, in the Philippines, Laos and Cambodia, have been approved for funding by the European Union Commission. The first project is the "GIS-based Urban Environmental Resources Management and Food Security Project" in the Philippines, jointly submitted by the city government of Cagayan de Oro (CENRO-LEPM) and Xavier University College of Agriculture together with four counterparts from Europe. The second is "Improving the Living Conditions of Poor Farmers on the Outskirts of Vientiane, Laos through the Development of a Network to Supply the Town Centre with Quality Agricultural Products". The third project is "Improving the Living Conditions of Poor Farmers on the Outskirts of Kampong Speu by Diversifying Agricultural Production" in Cambodia. More information can be found under <http://www.asia-urbs.com/dati/ASI-6.pdf>, or issue 6 of the Asia Urbs magazine: <http://www.asia-urbs.com/magazine.htm>