

EVENTS

FIFTH MEETING ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE (HAVANA, CUBA)

27-30 May 2003

Organised by the ACTAF (Cuban Association of Agricultural and Forestry Engineers), this conference will discuss new experiences related to integrated systems of natural resource management, appropriate technologies, social and economic aspects, environmental aspects, and the contribution of (organic) urban agriculture to sustainable urban development. The language is Spanish.

More information: Nilda Pérez Consuegra: nilda@isch.edu.cu

WATER, POVERTY, AND PRODUCTIVE USES OF WATER AT THE HOUSEHOLD LEVEL (JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA)

21-23 January 2003

This International symposium will discuss practical experiences, new research, and policy implications, from innovative approaches to the provision and use of household water supplies. From watering livestock to brewing beer, in rural, urban and peri-urban environments water is a crucial enabler of economic activity – particularly for women and the poor. Proposals for papers reporting on practical experiences, policy initiatives or the findings of research projects are invited. Please contact one of the symposium organisers: IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, Delft, The Netherlands (Dr PB Moriarty: moriarty@irc.nl); or the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, South Africa (B Schreiner or D Versfeld).

WASTEWATER USE IN IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE: CONFRONTING THE LIVELIHOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL REALITIES (HYDERABAD, INDIA)

11-14 November 2002

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) will be convening a meeting of minds workshop with the objective to critically review experience with the widespread use of untreated wastewater in agriculture focusing on livelihoods of the poor, and health and environmental risks. The workshop will begin to bridge the divide by setting up a focused discussion on detailed case studies including the presentation of data on water resources and quality, agricultural production, human health and ecological impacts.

GREEN CITIES, SUSTAINABLE CITIES CONGRESS (MIDRAND - JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA)

18-21 November 2002

The congress organisers, who include the City of Johannesburg, the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, and the South Africa Local Government

Association, invite leaders and stakeholders to discuss the following subjects: Sustainable Urban Greening and Sustainable Development; Social Implications; Poverty Alleviation and Economics; Technical Aspects.

For more information, contact the Green Cities Congress Secretariat: Van der Walt & Co, Randburg, South Africa: Tel: +27 11 789-1384; Fax: +27 11 789-1385; e-mail ierm@vdw.co.za; www.ierm.org.za/greencities/

GREAT MARKETS, GREAT CITIES CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK CITY (NEW YORK, USA)

November 9-11, 2002

The 5th International Public Market Conference of the Project for Public Spaces will be held this November in New York City. The conference will celebrate the role of farmers markets and indoor public markets in revitalizing towns and cities across the U.S. Three hundred and fifty participants are expected for the three day event. The conference is sponsored by the Ford Foundation. "Great Markets, Great Cities": <http://208.45.47.25/PMC.htm>

INTERNATIONAL LEARNING WORKSHOP ON FARMER FIELD SCHOOLS (FFS): EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES (YOGYAKARTA, INDONESIA)

21-25 October 2002

This international Learning Workshop aims to discuss experiences; examine institutionalisation and up-scaling and identify opportunities for the further development of the FFS approach. Please contact the organisers CIP in Manila: either by email to cip-manila@cgiar.org or by fax to +63 49 5361662.

THIRD MEETING OF THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE AGUILA NETWORK (LIMA, PERU)

23-25 September 2002

This assembly will discuss ongoing activities and plan next year's strategy for the very active network on urban agriculture. See for more information: <http://www.ipes.org/aguila>

WORKSHOP ON URBAN AGRICULTURE (LIMA, PERU)

18-20 September 2002

Also in Lima, this workshop, organised by the Cities Feeding People Programme and hosted by ITDG, Peru, will review results, impacts and lessons learned from a second generation of urban agriculture projects in Latin America and the Caribbean. The proceedings of the workshop will be published in early 2003 and copies will be available from the Cities Feeding People Program.

WORKSHOP ON POLICY BRIEFS (LIMA, PERU)

11-13 September 2002

The municipality of Villa Maria del Triunfo of Lima, Peru, together with IPES, UMP-LAC, and IDRC, will organise a workshop to validate a series of new policy briefs on urban agriculture, featuring themes such as gender, micro-credit, waste and water recycling, urban planning, food security, and commercialization. Mayors and technicians from ten Latin American municipalities will attend the event

EXCHANGE MEETING AND SEMINAR ON URBAN AGRICULTURE (ATH, BELGIUM)

23-26 September 2002

This seminar is organised by the Haute École Provinciale du Hainaut Occidental (Ath), Institut de la Vie (Bruxelles) and PRELUDE international (Bruxelles). It will bring together about 30 farmers and experts from East, Central and West Africa and from the North with the intention to share experiences in urban agriculture, discuss possibilities of promoting urban agriculture, and building and consolidating partnerships and networks. The programme foresees the presentation of papers and case studies, ending with the formulation of recommendations and conclusions and the drafting of a common charter of Urban Agriculture.

LEADERSHIP FOR TRANSFORMATION AND ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE IN AFRICAN AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME: LEADERSHIP SEMINAR (BULAWAYO, ZIMBABWE)

1-11 September 2002

The seminar seeks to determine and devise strategies for managing change leading to the transformation of African Agriculture in the rural as well as urban environments. The seminar marks the beginning of a year-long programme aimed at equipping change agents with leadership competencies that will enable them to effect change in the areas they work. African Case Studies and Thematic Issues shall be used to address some topical issues in African Agriculture. Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zimbabwe: 263 4 303211 Ext 1158; E-mail leader@africaonline.co.zw

WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (RIO EARTH SUMMIT +10) (JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA)

26 August-6 September 2002

Ten years after the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Rio, Brazil, this follow-up Summit in Johannesburg will bring together tens of thousands of participants to focus the world's attention and direct action will be focused on taking stock of the environmental situation in the results of agreements made, to be summarised in the various chapters and subsequent conventions. National and regional preparations are already in full swing. The *UA-Magazine* is preparing a special issue on Urban Agriculture for this event. More info is available at: <http://www.un.org/esa/agenda21/> or <http://www.earthsummit2002.org/> or http://www.fao.org/wssd/contr_en.htm

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN HORTICULTURE: PEOPLE, PLANTS, QUALITY OF LIFE (ZURICH, SWITZERLAND)

2-6 September 2002

The aim of the conference, organised by the University of Applied Sciences Waedenswil in cooperation with the International Society for Horticultural Science, is to present and discuss visions, innovations, research themes and solution concepts for urban green areas. Garden design and plant utilisation as well as the interactions between people and designed nature form the central themes of the conference. Specifically, the five themes are: Plants and Society; Public Green; Plant use and Landscaping; Assortment Development, Evaluation and Production; and Ecological Engineering. For more information, visit: http://www.urbanhorticulture.ch/index_en.htm or send an e-mail to: conference@hortikultur.ch.

CONFERENCE ON URBAN AGRICULTURE AND TOURISM AGRICULTURE, JOINTLY HELD BY MAINLAND CHINA AND TAIWAN PROVINCE (BEIJING, CHINA)

September 1-4, 2002

With rapid economic growth and urbanisation since the 1990s, urban agriculture, in particular tourism agriculture has increasingly drawn attention from various governmental agencies, farmers, investors and scholars in China. To exchange ideas and experiences in the development of urban agriculture and tourism agriculture between Mainland China and Taiwan, the Geographical Society of China, Taiwan Health & Management College and Taiwan University co-organise this conference, which is sponsored and managed by the Geographical Society of Beijing and the local Government of Yanqing County (Beijing Municipality). Contact: Shenghe Liu, Email: liush@igsnr.ac.cn, Tel: 86-01-64889279, or check the Website: <http://www.gsc.org.cn/china/note/jichudili.htm> (in Chinese).

IFOAM 2002 ORGANIC WORLD CONGRESS: CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES (VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA)

21-28 August 2002

The IFOAM (International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements) international congress will bring together representatives of the organic move-

ment from around the world, and is open to everyone interested in organic agriculture and sustainable development - farmers, researchers, advisors, food processors, traders, certifiers, policy-makers and consumers. More information at: <http://www.cog.ca> or www.ifoam.org.

RUAF/IWMI ELECTRONIC CONFERENCE: AGRICULTURAL USE OF UNTREATED URBAN WASTEWATER IN LOW INCOME COUNTRIES

24 June-5 July 2002

Some of the findings in the Ouagadougou workshop mentioned above concur with contributions to this electronic conference organised by IWMI and RUAF. About 330 participants discussed the issue under two topics:

- ❖ *Strategies to ensure proper management by farmers*
- ❖ *Strategies to reduce industrial contamination*

Some 140 contributions related to the first topic, and 25 to topic 2 came from researchers, NGOs and municipalities. These and the thematic and case study papers can be found on the RUAF website: www.ruaf.org

WORKSHOP ON URBAN AGRICULTURE (DAKAR, SENEGAL)

12-14 March 2002

This workshop was held in Dakar and organised by the IAGU (Institut Africain de Gestion Urbaine). A report will be made available soon.

GARDENING IN THE CITIES OF WEST AFRICA: IMPLICATION FOR INTENSIVE INTEGRATED PRODUCTION SYSTEMS (SAVANA-SALY PORTUDAL, SENEGAL)

5-8 August 2001

(Agriculture Urbaine dans les Villes Ouest-Africaines: impacts des systèmes intégrés de production intensive).

This workshop in, was organised by ISRA / ITC / CRDI and the report is presently being printed.

GREEN AND PRODUCTIVE CITIES: SEMINAR ON URBAN AND PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE (SOFIA, BULGARIA)

20-22 June 2002

Over sixty City officials and senior staff of sectoral government organisations, NGOs and research institutes from 15 countries in Central and Eastern Europe gathered in Sofia to discuss the results of a three-year project named "Soil and Water Management in Agricultural Production in Urban Areas (SWAPUA)". Project partners from Slovenia, Russia, Bucharest, Czech Republic and Rumania presented the results of an exploratory study on the presence, types and impacts of urban and periurban small-scale farming and gardening in ten cities. Representatives of FAO's regional office for Central Europe and WHO-Europe presented their experi-

ences and views on the role of urban agriculture in poverty alleviation and urban food security and nutrition. Also, the experiences gained in Randstad Holland and Hanover regarding the multiple functions of urban agriculture were presented. The participants concluded, among others, that urban agriculture is part of the socio-cultural, economic and ecological system of the city that has played and can play various important functions for the urban citizens. Finally, a large number of recommendations were formulated. Various participants announced that they would initiate discussion and actions on this subject after returning to their home country, since local authorities are largely unaware of the many potentials of urban and periurban agriculture. The proceedings will be published in August on the RUAF website and in hard copy. Also, the Policy Framework that was developed by the project will be made available on the website and in hard copy. For information on the seminar and the SWAPUA project, please contact: Henk de Zeeuw (ETC) at: h.dezeeuw@etcnl.nl; +31-33-4326039; or by post: P.O. Box 64, 3830 AB Leusden, The Netherlands

WORLD FOOD SUMMIT: FIVE YEARS LATER (ROME, ITALY)

10-13 June 2002

The World Food Summit: "Five Years Later", was held from 10-13 June 2002, in Rome, Italy. A special issue of the *UA-Magazine* has been prepared on the topic and can be downloaded in pdf format from the RUAF website (www.ruaf.org). See for more information: <http://www.fao.org/worldfoodsummit/english/index.html> or on the NGO Forum, parallel event: <http://www.forumfoodsovereignty.org/ingleseweb/inglesepage.htm>

Also food security related materials for the Summit are available on the Development Gateway: <http://www.developmentgateway.org/foodsecurity/>

STUDY VISIT/WORKSHOP: REUSE OF WASTEWATER IN URBAN AGRICULTURE, A CHALLENGE FOR MUNICIPALITIES IN WEST AFRICA (OUAGADOUGOU, BURKINA FASO)

3-7 June 2002

This study visit was organised by ETC Netherlands in conjunction with CREPA headquarters in Ouagadougou and financed by CTA Netherlands. There were 29 participants from nine West and Central African countries. Thematic and case study presentations were held alternated with field visits to urban and periurban agriculture sites. Three groups discussed health and environment related issues, socio-economic issues and legal institutional issues. Recommendations addressing municipalities, local organisations, the producers and the consumers were presented. Discussion centred on the definition of wastewater. Not all of this water is called or seen as wastewater since it is often a river, stream or lake. Further discussions covered perceptions, acknowledging that farmers (and consumers)

themselves see very little to no problem in water quality, but define quantity and regular availability of water and products as much more important. The subject of hygiene and behaviour was discussed by the participants and provoked heated debates on cause and effect or transmission routes of bacterial infections. The general conclusion was that urban agriculture as a subject on its own, is not taken sufficiently seriously by authorities, although studies are available in nearly all countries in which its importance is demonstrated and even quantified. Information will soon be available on www.ruaf.org

NYANGA DECLARATION (NYANGA, ZIMBABWE)

4-7 June 2002

The delegates to the Urban Council Association of Zimbabwe's 61st Annual Conference, comprising of the Minister of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing, the Minister of State for the Informal Sector, Executive Mayors and Chairpersons, Town Clerks, Council Committees, Councillors, Heads of Departments, and other representatives, and local and international NGOs. They underlined that urban and periurban agriculture contributes to urban food security, poverty reduction, local economic development and sustainable urban development. In their declaration, the participants urged local authorities to promote urban agriculture in their cities, to develop appropriate incentives and other policies necessary. It was further suggested to include urban agriculture in government programmes. Non-governmental organisations and donors were requested to support these efforts financially and materially, and the private sector to invest in high value intensive urban and periurban agro-industries.

URBAN POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF ENHANCING FOOD SECURITY IN AFRICAN CITIES (NAIROBI, KENYA)

27-31 May 2002

This workshop was organised by UNHCS (HABITAT) in partnership with the FAO, IDRC and SIUPA (CIP-based Strategic Initiative on UPA). Some 100 participants from the region, from municipalities, councils, NGOs, universities and international agencies discussed the issue of Urban Food Security. Emerging dynamics in sustainable urban development have given rise to new policy issues that need to be addressed by urban planners, managers and other relevant decision-makers. The participants reviewed the contribution of urban agriculture to the overall food needs of cities in Africa and to urban poverty reduction in general. Policy guidelines were developed along four main areas: Urban food security and poverty reduction; Rural-urban food flows, internal distribution infrastructure and services; Urban and Periurban agriculture related issues on land tenure, land-use conflicts, planning and development (including technical extension and environmental management); and Credit and investment in urban and periurban agriculture. Results of the workshop are under preparation, while the output of the workshop on Credit and Financing will be disseminated widely through policy briefs and the *UA-Magazine*. Contact: Urban and Regional Economy Unit, Urban Economy and Finance Branch, UNCHS (HABITAT), P.O. Box 30030, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel: +254 2 624521; Fax: +254 2 623080; e-mail: rose.muraya@unchs.org.

FEEDING CITIES IN THE HORN OF AFRICA: DECLARATION OF ADDIS ABABA (ETHIOPIA)

7-10 May 2002

'Urban poverty and hunger are reaching alarming levels in cities of the Horn of Africa. Urban populations are expected to double in the next ten years, and action by governments, local authorities and the private sector is urgently needed to improve access to food by the urban poor.' This was the message from ministers, mayors and planners from the seven Horn of Africa countries (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda), who on the 10th of May signed a declaration recognising the problems and pointing to needed action. The signing ceremony came at the end of a three day workshop on 'Feeding Cities in the Horn of Africa'. For further information, please contact: Olivio Argenti, Focal Point, Food Supply and Distribution to Cities, FAO, Rome;

Tel: 0039-06-5705-5119; e-mail: Olivio.Argenti@FAO.org; or Michael Wales, Horn of Africa Food Security Initiative, FAO Investment Centre, Rome; Tel: 0039-06-5705-5432; e-mail: Michael.Wales@FAO.org.

See also: Web story: Serious commitment to fight hunger in the Horn of Africa at: <http://www.fao.org/news/2001/010705-e.htm>

Summary report: The elimination of Food Insecurity in the Horn of Africa: <http://www.fao.org/News/2000/img/HoAsum.pdf>

FEEDING ASIAN CITIES: PROCEEDINGS OF THE FAO-CITYNET-AFMA REGIONAL SEMINAR (BANGKOK, THAILAND)

27-30 November 2000

The proceedings can be downloaded at:

<http://www.fao.org/ag/ags/agsm/sada/pages/ac/ac3701e.htm>

VIRTUAL WATER FORUM

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) is chairing a session in this forum on "Safe and sustainable reuse of urban wastewater in very low income countries". The intention of the session is to take a realistic view of this practice rather than ignore it presuming that all wastewater used is treated. Together with the output of the E-conference, this session on the Virtual Water Forum will be the subject of further in-depth discussion at the **workshop in Hyderabad** in November 2002, leading up to a broad based session at the **World Water Forum in 2003 to be held 16-23 March 2003 in Japan**.

More information: Dr Ing. Liqa Raschid-Sally. lrashid@cgiar.org, International Water Management Institute, P.O.Box 2075, Colombo, Sri Lanka, Tel +94 1 787 404; Fax +94 1 786 854, <http://www.iwmi.org>.

The session can be accessed at the World Water Forum website <http://www.worldwaterforum.org/for/en/fshow.393> You can enter this session as a guest or register as a participant, in which event the WWF will send you the necessary ID and password.

URBAN AGRICULTURE ONLINE

As from July 2002, *Urban Agriculture Online* a new magazine will be available on subscription. The new magazine will be the world's first user of innovative Cashforcontent™ Internet publishing-for-payment software, which protects copyright material and intellectual property from unauthorised use. From July 1, contributors can enjoy low-cost publishing that pays from 50% to 60% royalties on revenues for their valuable material. The editor, Geoff Wilson is soliciting a wide range of 2,500 to 5,000-word articles for the online magazine on various urban agriculture topics; Book and report reviews; Consultancy services; new products and services; and coming events.

Information: Geoff Wilson, e-mail: fawmpl@powerup.com.au, website: www.urbanag.info; Tel: 07 3349 1422; Mobile: 0417 622 779; Fax: 07 3343 8287.

GAZA URBAN AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE (GUAC)

GUAC was created by the Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC) in Gaza and after the organisation of a regional workshop in December 1998 on 'The Future of Urban Agriculture in Gaza Strip'. Actual members of the committee are: PARC, Palestinian Hydrology Group Ministry of Agriculture, Gaza Municipality, Khan-Yunis Municipality, the Palestinian Farmers' Union and Al-Azhar University-Gaza. GUAC conducts quarterly meetings which are also attended by other potential local partners like universities. The committee puts on one yearly plan of action, which includes: The improvement of the availability and efficiency of use of water resources for urban agriculture; **The promotion of the optimal use of available spaces for urban agriculture**; To enhance citizens' and urban farmers' awareness and knowledge of sustainable & organic urban agriculture; The establishment of extension and support services for urban agriculture; and Local institutional capacity development. More information: GUAC, Gaza, Palestine; Tel: 08 2805041; 08 2867178; Fax: 08 2805039; e-mail: haninahmed@hotmail.com.

NEW RUAF PARTNERS

The Resource Centre for Urban Agriculture and Forestry (RUAF) has extended its collaborative network to include the Middle East Region and China. For **China**, the regional partner is the Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resource Research (IGSNRR) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, in Beijing. The current IGSNRR was established just three years ago by combining two former institutes of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. One is the Institute of Geography established as early as 1940 and the other is the Commission of Integrated Survey of Natural Resources established in 1956. The new institute is noted for its academic capability in comprehensive researches in spatial-related economic analysis and natural resources studies in China. It consists of five centres, i.e. the Centre for Regional Studies and Natural Resources Economics, the Centre for Land-based Ecosystem and Environmental Studies, the Branch of Geo-information Sciences, the Branch of Ecosystem Research and Network, and the Centre for Agricultural Policy Researches. Regional, Urban and Rural studies, including Urban Agriculture, particularly in Tourism Agriculture, are one of the competitive research fields in the institute, which have got national-wide recognition. At present, there are 220 academic staffs and more than 100 supporting staffs in the institute with over 100 research projects from various funding sources. The institute is also famous for its post-graduate education. The IGSNRR is currently working on the translation of No.1 of the *UA-Magazine* in Chinese.

The contact person is Dr. Jianming Cai, e-mail: caijm@igsnr.ac.cn.

For the Middle and Near East Region, the regional partner is the Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) based in Cairo, Egypt. CEDARE was established in 1992 on the basis of commitment by the main sponsors, namely the Government of Egypt, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). CEDARE is working in the Arab Countries and the countries around the Mediterranean. One of CEDARE's strategic missions is to promote collaboration and partnerships among Arab countries and between them and other developing and developed countries. The Operational Programmes and Units are: Land and Water Management, Marine and Coastal Management, Urban and Human Settlement, Socio-economics of Sustainable Development; Environmental Information and Documentation; CEDARE is currently working on the translation of No.1 of the *Urban Agriculture Magazine* into Arabic. **The contact person is Prof. Dr Ismail El Bagouri; email: ibagouri@cedare.org.eg; website: www.cedare.org.**