

## EVENTS

### **CONGRESS ON AGROFORESTRY, ORLANDO, USA.**

*27 June – 2 July 2004*

Agroforestry professionals worldwide, from academic and government to private and voluntary, will gather for this 1<sup>st</sup> World Congress of Agroforestry in Orlando, Florida, USA. Overall objectives are to share knowledge and ideas, and to develop strategies for research, education and training in agroforestry. Significant outputs will include a state-of-the-art compendium. Visit the congress website for further details: [www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/wca](http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/wca)

### **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN AGRICULTURE, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA**

*mid-2004*

This Conference, "Urbanag 2004" will focus on Brisbane as a city that could become a globally-important example for urban agriculture.

The conference will better outline the future of urban agriculture 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](mailto:fawmpl@powerup.com.au).

### **2003 ICAST CONFERENCE**

*12 – 15 October 2003*

This conference will provide opportunities for the dissemination of scientific knowledge and diffusion of technology throughout the world.

Re-visit the fundamentals of sustainable development in light of unprecedented recent advances in science and technology. Promote the holistic co-development of economies, environments, resources, communities and cultures through science and technology to improve the quality of life for all.

Please visit <http://www.2003icast.org> for more detailed information.

### **PROJECT MANAGEMENT ON URBAN SANITATION**

*15 September – 14 December 2003*

Aide au Développement (Development Aid)

Gembloux (ADG) is an NGO linked to the University Faculty of Gembloux in Belgium.

There are still openings for a course (in French) on Urban Sanitation. Please check [www.ong-adg.be](http://www.ong-adg.be)

Or contact Ir. Alain LE ROI, Coordinateur des stages internationaux ONG AIDE AU DEVELOPPEMENT GEMBLoux (asbl) 2, Passage des déportés, B-5030 Gembloux Belgium, Tel: +32-81-62 25 74; Fax: +32-81-60 00 22.

### **THE PERI URBAN INTERFACE IN DEVELOPING AREAS: APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE NATURAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE USE. ANNUAL CONFERENCE, LONDON, UK**

*3 - 5 September 2003*

A call for papers reached us from the Developing Areas Research Group. The periurban interface in developing areas is characterised by intense pressure on natural resources in the context of increasing human activity. Short papers are welcome, that address the impacts of rapid urbanisation on livelihoods and poverty in the PUI, and will examine the pressures on livelihoods or on the natural resources base of land and water.

Presentations should focus on the implementation of sustainable solutions, the problem of reconciling human needs and pressure on resources. An abstract of not more than 200 words should be forwarded to Duncan McGregor by 10 March 2003 ([d.mcgregor@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:d.mcgregor@rhul.ac.uk)). Duncan McGregor, David Simon, Donald Thompson. CEDAR, Department of Geography, Royal Holloway, University of London, Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX, U.K.

### **10TH REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON VEGETABLE CROPS PRODUCTION AVRDC REGIONAL CENTRE FOR AFRICA, MADIIRA RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTRE (ARUSHA, TANZANIA)**

*7 July - 7 November 2003*

The Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre (AVRDC) is an international not-for-profit organisation for vegetable research and development that is committed to the world's food security. It has its headquarters in Taiwan. The AVRDC-Africa Regional Programme (AVRDC-ARP) was established in 1992 to help improve nutrition, health, employment, and income of the poor in Africa. This intensive training course on vegetable crop production is offered to African professionals and offers a blend of lectures and practically oriented laboratory and field exercises. Emphasis is placed on vegetable crop species identified by African NARES as deserving high priority. The training course emphasis will be on aspects related to the vegetable crop species identified to receive high priority in the sub-Saharan Africa Region. It is designed for research and extension personnel from national research and extension institutions, including universities, NGOs and private sector personnel involved in the vegetable industry in sub-Saharan Africa.

Applications should be received by May 20, 2003 at the latest. For more information, and a course curriculum, contact: The Director, AVRDC Regional Centre for Africa, P.O. Box 10, Duluti, Arusha, Tanzania, Tel: +255-27-2553093/2553102; Fax: +255-27-2553125; e-mail: [avrdc-arp@cybernet.co.tz](mailto:avrdc-arp@cybernet.co.tz)

### **INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM "METHODOLOGIES FOR RISK ASSESSMENT OF WASTEWATER REUSE ON GROUNDWATER QUALITY (SAPPORO, JAPAN)**

*30 June - 11 July 2003*

This symposium is part of the 33rd General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. Subjects include: threshold value of soil degradation under wastewater application, processes in the soil, crop production and quality, and human health risks.

More information can be found at [www.jamstec.go.jp/jamstec-e/iugg/index.html](http://www.jamstec.go.jp/jamstec-e/iugg/index.html) or with Mr Steenvoorden of ALTERRA, The Netherlands; e-mail:

[j.h.a.m.steenvoorden@alterra.wag-ur.nl](mailto:j.h.a.m.steenvoorden@alterra.wag-ur.nl)

### **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 resources management, appropriate technologies, social and economic aspects, environmental aspects, and the contribution of (organic) urban agriculture to sustainable urban development. The conference language will be Spanish. More information: e-mail Nilda Pérez Consuegra: [nilda@isch.edu.cu](mailto:nilda@isch.edu.cu)

### CONFERENCE AND POSTER EXHIBITION AT GFAR 2003 CONFERENCE (DAKAR, SENEGAL)

22 - 24 May 2003

The Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) will hold its 2003 conference on 22-24 May in Dakar, Senegal. The ultimate goal of GFAR 2003 is to review achievements over the last three years, identify new and emerging global issues of relevance to ARD, develop a framework of action that will consolidate ongoing and promising partnerships, and identify future partnerships to tackle priority emerging issues for ARD. The Draft Agenda as well as the registration form can be found at: [www.egfar.org/gfar2003/default.shtml](http://www.egfar.org/gfar2003/default.shtml). The GFAR is calling for proposals on successful cases of agricultural research and sustainable development partnerships. GFAR will be organising a poster session as part of the GFAR 2003 Conference in Dakar, Senegal. The organisers are interested in presenting successful stakeholder partnership experiences in ARD to reflect the mandate of GFAR. Guidelines can be requested at the GFAR secretariat at [GFAR-Secretariat@fao.org](mailto:GFAR-Secretariat@fao.org). Initial submissions should reach the GFAR Secretariat by March 31, 2003. All stakeholders are encouraged to submit successful ARD experiences, especially farmers' organisations, women's groups, agribusiness and NGOs. Contact: Olanrewaju Babatunde Smith, Executive Secretary, GFAR Secretariat by e-mail: [GFAR-Secretariat@fao.org](mailto:GFAR-Secretariat@fao.org); website: [www.egfar.org](http://www.egfar.org)

### PAVING THE WAY FORWARD: AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BEST PRACTICES IN RURAL FINANCE (WASHINGTON DC, USA)

2 - 5 June 2003

Sponsored by USAID and hosted by BASIS/CRSP and WOCCU, this conference will be organised at the International Trade Centre, Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, and will capture the lessons and best practices in rural finance - the successes and failures in agricultural finance, financial liberalisation, risk management and micro-finance. Results will feed into new thinking on sustainable financial markets and services, tailored to the specific challenges of rural economies. Examination of current institutions, programmes and ways to improve rural finance policies will lead to recommendations for policy and programmes for donors and practitioners involved in rural finance development. Please visit: [www.basis.wisc.edu/rfc](http://www.basis.wisc.edu/rfc)

### CITIES, INEQUALITY AND SUBJECTIVITY IN THE AMERICAS, GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

14 - 16 May 2003

This event which will take place at the *Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores del Occidente (ITESO)* in Guadalajara is organised with support

from the Rockefeller Foundation. The research programme "Translocal Flows: Migrations and Contested Urban Spaces in the Americas" is an initiative of the Programme on Latin America and the Caribbean at the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) designed to promote research and to strengthen mechanisms for transactional intellectual dialogue about contemporary social processes and cultural practices in the Americas. Please check: [www.translocal-flows.ssrc.org/english/conferences/](http://www.translocal-flows.ssrc.org/english/conferences/)

### URBAN VILLAGES, INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, MURDOCH, AUSTRALIA

5 - 6 May 2003

The Environmental Technology Centre of the Murdoch University in Australia is organising this conference. It will showcase international and national examples of urban villages today. It will also discuss the current different strands of thought on how to move forward and into future directions. Factors affecting sustainability in urban villages will also be a major stream. Such topics will include liveability, employment, education, construction, transport, planning, energy, water, waste and food production. For further information, contact: Dr Kuruvilla Mathew, Deputy Director, Environmental Technology Centre, Murdoch University, Murdoch 6050 Western Australia, Tel: +61 8 9360 2896, Fax: +61 8 9310 4997; e-mail: [mathew@essun1.murdoch.edu.au](mailto:mathew@essun1.murdoch.edu.au)

### FOODAFRICA IMPROVING FOOD SYSTEMS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA: RESPONDING TO A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT - INTERNET-BASED FORUM & INTERNATIONAL WORKING MEETING, YAOUNDÉ, CAMEROON

31 March - 11 April 2003

5 - 9 May 2003

The FOODAFRICA initiative will: (a) review the current research and development activities that affect food systems in sub-Saharan Africa; (b) identify gaps in current food and health research strategies; (c) recommend future research strategies; and (d) improve the links between researchers, in particular young scientists, in Africa and Europe. This will take place firstly through an Internet-based Forum [www.foodafrica.nri.org/conference/forum.html](http://www.foodafrica.nri.org/conference/forum.html) from 31 March-11 April 2003, and secondly in an International Working Meeting, [www.foodafrica.nri.org/conference/workshop.html](http://www.foodafrica.nri.org/conference/workshop.html) from 5-9 May 2003 in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Or go to the FoodAfrica website [www.foodafrica.nri.org/index.html](http://www.foodafrica.nri.org/index.html) for further details.

### ELECTRONIC CONFERENCE ON URBAN AGRICULTURE

21 - 30 April 2003

IMAGEN Educativa, A member of the Network on Urban Agriculture, AGUILA, is organising a virtual conference (in Spanish) with the theme: "Urban Agriculture and Human Development" (*Agricultura Intra Urbana y Desarrollo Humano*). Specific Topics are Food Security; Hydroponics; Niches. More information can be obtained from: [www.imageneducativa.org](http://www.imageneducativa.org)

### HENRY A. WALLACE CONFERENCE, CIAT, TURRIALBA, COSTA RICA

19 - 21 March 2003

As part of the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of CATIE, a second conference will be organised in the Inter American series of Scientific Conferences of "Henry A. Wallace", which will deal with the theme: Financing Sustainable Rural Development in Tropical America: Innovations for Food Security, Competition and Conservation. More information can be obtained from: [www.catie.ac.cr/events/conferences/Wallace\\_2/principal\\_ing.htm](http://www.catie.ac.cr/events/conferences/Wallace_2/principal_ing.htm)

### WORLD WATER FORUM (KYOTO, JAPAN)

16 - 23 March 2003

The Third World Water Forum has just ended in Japan, a paper by RUAF and IWMI on Urban Agriculture was presented there, and *UA Magazine* no. 8 was

distributed. The outcome of the sessions can be accessed at the World Water Forum website [www.world.water-forum3.com](http://www.world.water-forum3.com) or [www.worldwaterforum.org](http://www.worldwaterforum.org)

## **INTERNET CONFERENCE ON ECOCITY DEVELOPMENT**

*February – June 2003*

This Conference is a post-conference activity providing participants of the 5<sup>th</sup> Ecocity Conference with a virtual platform to further the dialogue initiated in Shenzhen, China. It enables people who were unable to travel to Shenzhen to join in the discussion of papers over the Internet, and provides them with an opportunity to present their work. An objective of the conference is to promote future networking and cooperation on ecocity development with the organisers. All abstracts and papers presented during the 5<sup>th</sup> Ecocity conference (Shenzhen, August 2002) are available on the web. Other materials for e-discussion during the Internet Conference include a new submission of papers on the same topics covered in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ecocity conference. See: [www.ias.unu.edu/proceedings/icibs/ecocity03/index.html](http://www.ias.unu.edu/proceedings/icibs/ecocity03/index.html)

## **URBAN DEVELOPMENT FOR POVERTY REDUCTION: TOWARDS A RESEARCH AGENDA WASHINGTON, USA**

*9 – 11 December 2002*

The World Bank organised this event, in which RUAF's partner TUAN participated. Unfortunately, very little attention was given to Urban Food Security and Urban Agriculture. Read about the results at: [www.worldbank.org/urban/symposium2002/index.html](http://www.worldbank.org/urban/symposium2002/index.html)

## **NEWS**

### **PARTNER SEARCH**

A European Union project is being developed on regional cooperation in the North Sea Region concerning the impact of urban agriculture, city farming and allotment gardening. Project partners are looked for: planning authorities, municipalities, public welfare and public agriculture and horticulture organisations around the North Sea. The focus of this programme is going to be better awareness with spatial planning authorities and municipalities of the impact on sustainability by urban agriculture especially in social handicapped areas, with a focus on poverty and immigration. Some of the planned activities are evaluating different approaches on their strengths and weaknesses, developing a network to transfer know-how of best practices concerning spatial planning and developing strategies of sustainability and innovation for existing activities. Contact for details, at the Chamber of Agriculture in Lower Saxony, Oldenburg, Germany: Michael Kuegler, phone +49-441-801-336; e-mail: [m.kuegler@lwk-we.de](mailto:m.kuegler@lwk-we.de); Michael Janisch, phone +49-4403-9796-37; e-mail: [m.janisch@lwk-we.de](mailto:m.janisch@lwk-we.de)

### **SOUTH AND EAST ASIAN RURAL URBAN SYNERGY**

The overall objective of this SEARUSYN project, starting in 2003, is to contribute to the synergy between urban growth and agricultural development in the urban fringe of Hanoi (Vietnam) and Nanjing (China) in order to improve the welfare of rural and urban communities. Systems research is undertaken on the design of solutions to problems arising from the interactions between urban growth and changing horticultural production systems on the city outskirts. Stakeholder platforms will be set up as a basis for scenario development for periurban land-use planning and resource management. The project partners are Hanoi Agricultural University, and the Institute of Sociology of Hanoi, Vietnam; Nanjing Agricultural University, China; New University of Lisbon (NUL), Portugal; and LEI, ALTERNIA Green World Research. For more information: [www.searusyn.org](http://www.searusyn.org)

### **VICTORY GARDEN NETWORK**

The International Victory Garden Network is currently providing grants of up to US\$10,000 to food security organisations or activists who want to initiate innovative pilot projects around issues of urban agriculture and urban food insecurity in the spirit of the World War 2 Victory Gardeners. Furthermore, grants of up to US\$500 are provided for activists who want to attend conferences, symposiums or training workshops focusing on issues of food security and/or urban agriculture. More info at [www.victorygardens.net/news.html](http://www.victorygardens.net/news.html) Or contact: Max Wallace, Co-ordinator, International Victory Garden Network, at: [zeropoverty@email.com](mailto:zeropoverty@email.com)

### **FACULTY POSITION ON URBAN HORTICULTURE**

The Humboldt University in Berlin has recognised the importance of urban agriculture/horticulture and created a new faculty position for urban horticulture. Prof. Ulrichs has accepted this call and has started working as professor for urban horticulture. One of the main research interests will be on urban vegetable production systems in the tropics.

Contact: Prof. Dr Christian Ulrichs, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Institute for Horticultural Science, Urban Horticulture, Berlin.

### **SALT LAKE CITY-BASED TREELINK**

Urban and Community Forestry continues to grow as a national movement and a discipline taught in universities from coast to coast, despite budget constraints. Since 1996, the USDA has supported Salt Lake City-based TreeLink as the national Urban Forestry communications hub. Utilities are partnering with non-profit Urban Forestry organisations in programmes to support Urban Forestry. In Chicago and Los Angeles, school districts are tearing out blacktop and planting trees to reduce energy costs, lower ozone-damage from air-conditioning, and reduce irrigation expenses beneath shade trees. For a full report on the Benefits of Trees in Urban and Community Environments, visit TreeLink at: [www.treelink.org](http://www.treelink.org) or call us at 801-359-1933; e-mail: [pepper@treelink.org](mailto:pepper@treelink.org)

### **HARVARD FOREST RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS**

Harvard forest research fellowships, of up to US\$30,000 in forest biology, ecology, management, and public policy are available. Information on your qualifications and personal datasheet, the proposal, purpose/intent of the activity can be sent to: Harvard Forest, Harvard University, PO BOX 68, Petersham MA 01366-0068, USA; e-mail: [drecos@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:drecos@fas.harvard.edu). Please check: [www.harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/education/bullard/bullard.htm](http://www.harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/education/bullard/bullard.htm)