

RUAF Board

Bram Huijsman acts as the Chairman of the RUAF Board. Bram Huijsman has gained extensive experience in managing professional organisations, and in shaping and facilitating institutional and organisational change processes both as a manager and as an advisor to research and development institutions.

His key fields of interest are management and organisation of applied agricultural R&D and rural development. He has a keen interest in and experience with team building efforts and stimulating creative and innovative processes within interdisciplinary professionals groups.

Throughout his career, he maintained his interest in agricultural economics. He is actively involved in research projects and studies as well as short-term advisory missions for international funding agencies. Specific interests are in agricultural studies, rural livelihood system appraisals, agricultural risk analysis, and poverty reduction strategies.

Bram Huijsman has built up a broad network of professional contacts in international and national R&D institutions, governmental and non-governmental development organisations and funding agencies. Countries of work experience include Anglophone and Francophone Africa and Asia.



Yves Cabannes, Secretary of the Board, is a planner and urban specialist, currently Professor and Chair of Development Planning at Bartlett Development Planning Unit (DPU), University College London.

From 2004 to 2006 he was lecturer in Urban Planning at Harvard University Graduate School of Design, while from 1997 until December 2003, he was the regional Coordinator of the UN Habitat/UNDP Urban Management Program for Latin America and the Caribbean.

He has particular experience and interest in urban agriculture & food sovereignty, collective and communal forms of land tenure, local currencies, participatory planning, municipal public policies, low cost housing, participatory budgeting, community-based micro credit systems and appropriate technologies for local development.

He is an advocate on development and rights issues and was the convener for the UN Advisory Group on Forced Evictions (2004 -2010) and the senior advisor to the Municipality of Porto Alegre, Brazil, for the international network on participatory budgeting. Yves is also a current Board member of The World Fund for City Development (Metropolis), HuiZhi (Participation Centre, Chengdu China) and the Participatory Budgeting Project (USA).



Luc J.A. Mougeot acts as the third RUAF Board member. Luc Mougeot joined Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in late 1989, directing the Urban Environment Management programme from 1992 till 1995. In 1996, he founded IDRC's Cities Feeding People (CFP) programme, and from 1996 to 2004 this programme supported over 90 projects on urban agriculture in 40 countries in the global South.

Luc created and led a donor agencies `Support Group on Urban Agriculture`, a graduate field research fellowship program AGROPOLIS and a research report series on urban agriculture. Luc also helped design and managed three regional training courses on urban agriculture in West Africa, East Africa and Latin America, as well as several projects and collaborations with UN Habitat and FAO programs.

Since 2004, Luc is currently a senior program specialist with IDRC's Special Initiatives Division. Luc has sat on various international steering, advisory, editorial, and selection committees on urban agriculture. A permanent reviewer for the International Science Foundation he has served on international advisory boards for UN-HABITAT's State of the World Cities Report 2006 and for the Worldwatch Institute's State of the World Report 2011.

Luc has authored or edited over 60 publications, including For Hunger-Proof Cities: Sustainable Urban Food Systems (1999), AGROPOLIS: the Social, Environmental, and Political Dimensions of Urban Agriculture (Earthscan/IDRC 2005), Growing Better Cities (IDRC, 2006), and African Urban Harvest: Agriculture in and around African cities, 2002-2006 (fall 2010). He is a contributor to two upcoming books: Integrated Urban Agriculture: Precedents, Practices, Prospects (Robert France ed., UBC Press) and Food and the City (eds. John Beardsley and Dorothee Imbert, Harvard University Press).

