

[www.developmentgateway.org](http://www.developmentgateway.org)

Enter “urban” in the search engine on this site for a wide range of materials on urban agriculture. Every entry is supported by an abstract which summarises the contents and significance of the document or web site presented. Visitors can sign up for updates on new content, access a database containing thousands of projects, peruse a directory of food security practitioners and post resources of your own. The site is run by the not-for-profit Development Gateway Foundation in collaboration with a variety of cooperating organisations, including RUAF.

[www.gdnet.org/online\\_services/toolkits/proposal\\_writing/](http://www.gdnet.org/online_services/toolkits/proposal_writing/)

The Global Development Network has developed a toolkit that offers practical tips and suggestions, based on interviews with experienced research fund-raisers from around the world. The reader is offered a checklist of things to consider when writing a proposal, such as style, structure and clarity, putting together a budget to justify the funds, donors to approach and how best to approach them.

[www.plos.org/index.html](http://www.plos.org/index.html)

The Public Library of Science (PLoS) is a non-profit organisation of scientists and physicians committed to making the world’s scientific and medical literature a freely-available public resource. PLoS is working with scientists, their societies, funding agencies, and other publishers to pursue the broader goal of ensuring an open-access home for every published article and to develop tools to make the literature useful to scientists and the public.

[www.cbnrm.net/](http://www.cbnrm.net/)

People working on Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) throughout the world - as practitioners, managers and researchers - are talking about an urgent need for capabilities that enable direct communication between them. Such CBNRM networking capabilities would make it possible for people to exchange experiences, manage relevant knowledge, and support learning across countries, sectors, cultures, and languages, and in this way achieve better results. *CBNRM Net* is a response to this call. *CBNRM Net’s* web site provides a powerful set of broad, robust and useful networking tools aimed at linking stakeholders.

[attra.ncat.org/](http://attra.ncat.org/)

ATTRA (Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas), funded by the US Department of Agriculture, is a national sustainable agriculture information service managed by the National Center for Appropriate Technology. It provides information and technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, extension agents, educators, and others involved in sustainable agriculture in the United States. ATTRA services are also available to farmers, market gardeners, extension agents, researchers, educators, farm organisations, and others, especially those who are economically disadvantaged or belong to traditionally deprived communities.

[www.xaia.ca/cityfarmer/](http://www.xaia.ca/cityfarmer/)

A forum for dynamic discussion on urban agriculture and related issues. Take a look at the urban agriculture forum put on-line a few months ago. Fifty members have already signed up. RUAF members are welcome to set up a discussion area for topics that interest them.

[www.aginternetwork.org/en/about.php](http://www.aginternetwork.org/en/about.php)

Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA) is an initiative to provide free or low-cost access to major scientific journals in agriculture and related biological, environmental and social sciences to public institutions in developing countries. Launched in October 2003, AGORA will provide access to over 400 journals from the world’s leading academic publishers. Led by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the goal of AGORA is to increase the quality and effectiveness of agricultural research, education and training in low-income countries, and in turn, to improve food security.

[www.new-agri.co.uk/03-5/focuson.html](http://www.new-agri.co.uk/03-5/focuson.html)

This month’s issue of the “New Agriculturalist on-line - reporting agriculture for the 21st century” has a series of articles on urban agriculture from around the world. The full articles can be read on-line.

[www.sygw.org/](http://www.sygw.org/)

Seattle Youth Garden Works in the USA empowers underserved youth through garden-based education and employment. It is a market gardening programme for homeless and low-income youth ages 14-22 in the University District and South Park neighbourhoods. Our goals are to connect youth to housing, health care, education, jobs and community. Seattle Youth Garden Works is a programme of the Church Council of Greater Seattle.

[www.foodaidmanagement.org/agriculture.htm](http://www.foodaidmanagement.org/agriculture.htm)

Food Aid Management (FAM) was created in 1989 by five U.S. private voluntary organisations (PVOs) to “promote the efficient and effective use of food aid resources to help alleviate hunger and contribute to food security”. Under headings such as agriculture, environment, gender and HIV/Aids, the visitor is guided to links that lead to journals, articles, on-line libraries, information networks, etc. The site has a training calendar and events section. Under the heading agriculture, there are sections on nutrition, biotechnology, monitoring and urban Agriculture. Also in Spanish and French.

[www.state.fl.us/fdi/fsc/news/state/9902/rt-tm.htm](http://www.state.fl.us/fdi/fsc/news/state/9902/rt-tm.htm)

“Green industry” is the most profitable and least-subsidised sector of US agriculture and is a key to overall community sustainability. The Florida Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture and the Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association have formally asked the Florida Department of Community Affairs how their groups can work more closely with the Florida Sustainable Communities Network programme as part of their effort to advise public officials on how the “green industry” can help them achieve true sustainability.

A phytoremediation consulting company, Phytotech, has studied soil lead removal using Indian mustard (*Brassica juncea*) plants, which are even better at accumulating it than others in the Brassica family. They found that cropping with successive plantings (which were harvested and thrown away) lowered soil lead, with decreasing effectiveness as the lead levels in the soil decreased. This and other work can be found at these sites:

[www.epa.gov/region01/leadsafe/](http://www.epa.gov/region01/leadsafe/)

[www.bumc.bu.edu/Departments](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/Departments)

[www.jurban.oupjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/78/1/199](http://www.jurban.oupjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/78/1/199)