Urban Agriculture in Tanzania, Issues of Sustainability

The issue of urban agriculture has gained momentum in recent years in terms of research and policy, as well as in practical terms. The paradox of accelerated urbanisation and the increase in urban agriculture in developing countries is widely recognised. More than ever, urban residents all over the developing world cultivate urban plots and/or keep some animals in order to sustain their living. This book describes the results of a comprehensive study conducted in two middle-sized Tanzanian towns – Morogoro and Mbeya. It contains a wide body of data and information describing and analysing crop cultivation and livestock-keeping activities and examines the factors promoting different modes of urban agriculture by different socio-economic groups. The book focuses on various issues that are thought to influence the sustainability of urban agriculture, in particular food supply, income generation, employment creation, environmental aspects, and the legal setting.


Periurban interfaces – the places where urban and rural areas meet – suffer from large problems caused by rapid urbanisation. This includes intense pressures on resources, slum formation, lack of adequate services such as water and sanitation, poor planning and agriculture land degradation. These areas, home to hundreds of millions of people, face unique problems and need unique and innovative approaches and solutions. This book gives a comprehensive overview of periurban (rural–urban) areas of the developing world, with extensive case material from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. It lays out strategies for research and overcoming these problems and promoting truly sustainable natural and human resource development.

A Hidden Harvest – Growing Aquatic Plants in Four SE Asian Cities
This DVD is produced by the Papussa project. It describes the considerable impact, value and importance of growing edible aquatic plants in the four Papussa study cities and shows the production cycle from pond/field, through harvesting, processing and marketing to the growing numbers of urban consumers. It highlights the benefits in employment and income generation future constraints and increasing pressures from urbanisation are also discussed in relation to the many periurban dwellers whose livelihoods are dependent on aquatic plant cultivation. Copies of the DVD can be obtained by contacting Papussa through the forum page of its website (www.papussa.org), stating your background and interest in aquatic plants and periurban aquaculture.


Amidst city concrete and suburban sprawl, Americans are discovering new ways to reconnect with the natural world. From community gardens in New York’s Lower East Side to homeless shelters in California, the search for a more sustainable future has led grassroots groups to a profound reconnection to place and to the natural world. This volume brings together research from anthropology, sociology, public health, psychology, and landscape design.

Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture in Hanoi: Opportunities and Constraints for Safe and Sustainable Food Production
The study provides a complete summary of the demography, climate, institutions, and physical resources available to produce and market food in Hanoi, Vietnam. This publication includes an evaluation of the impacts of urban and peri-urban agriculture on food supply, income generation, job creation and environmental pollution. The full study can be downloaded from: http://www.avrdc.org/pdf/TCB32.pdf

At the end of the pipe
Report of public debate “Are we connected?” conducted by WASTE (2005). Gouda, The Netherlands, WASTE. Proceedings of the four expert meetings held from January – March 2005 to discuss the relationship between sustainable sanitation and integrated urban planning. The participants’ observations led to a critical evaluation of the sustainability of current sanitation systems and to a series of recommendations to ensure the implementation of sustainable and efficient approaches now and in the future. The recommendations were shared with the 13th session of the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) in New York. Download from: http://www.ecosan.nl/page/423

Agriculture in Hanoi-A Model for Success, SUSPER 2005
The development of most megacities in Asia is accompanied by an extensive loss of farmland and a high dependence on rural areas for food supplies - but this is not true for Hanoi. The SUSPER project recently published this report that shows that farmers in periurban and urban areas of Hanoi supply nearly half (44%) of the city’s food requirements. See http://www.avrdc.org/susper/news3.htm#agriinhanoi

Scoping Study on Interactions between Gender Relations and Livestock Keeping in Kisumu
Zarina Ishani and P. Kuria Gathuru, 2005
The focus of the study is the improvement of gender-based division of labour, inequality between males and females in power and resources, gender biases in rights and entitlements to increased productivity and remuneration, and development of women livestock keepers in Kisumu. The study was carried out in five slum areas of Kisumu. See: http://www.mazinst.org/kisumustudy.htm