

# FARMING THE CITY

## First year review - Project reports

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The following document list projects that have been uploaded to FarmingtheCity.net during its first year in existence. The data is collected from an online questionnaire which a person completes to add their project to the map.

### **Hotel Amstelkwartier (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)** Contact: xanderbueno@gmail.com

The project has been initiated by a private organization. The project "Hotel Amstelkwartier" is developed by Xander Bueno de Mesquita with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers. The hotel will be extremely environmentally sustainable. The latest water and energy saving technologies will be employed in our hotel. For example, we will be collecting rain water to sustain our rooftop garden.

The project is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, alternative communities, skilled professionals. In particular, we concentrate on education for children, education for adults, growing food using aquaponic as growing technique(s).

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as never having been done before in Holland. In order to cope with the problem, we tried to conduct comparative research about best practices, working with an established organization. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly not sustainable. In particular, we benefit from private funds, such as personal finance. In order to develop, we will need people/resources, policy support, new technologies, and improved visibility.

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## Huerto Urbano Ciudad Sandino (Sandino, Nicaragua)

Contact: granados.sara@gmail.com

The project has been initiated by UN-FAO (United Nations- Food and Agriculture Organization). In brief, I work as an urban agriculture consultant for UN-FAO, Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. I am a specialist in sustainable agriculture, innovation and capacity building. With FAO I had been involved in several urban agriculture projects in Latin American countries such as Bolivia, Argentina, Peru, Colombia, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Chile, Mexico, Ecuador, etc. The project "Huerto urbano Ciudad Sandino" is developed by Sara Granados with more than 50 people

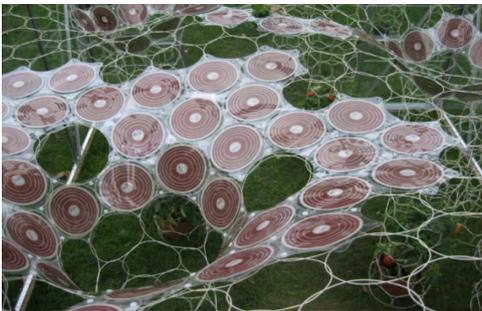
The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as allotment gardens, balcony gardens, façades, public spaces, backyards. The project focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues.

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of support/cooperation from local authorities. Unfortunately, we are still coping with the problem. We did not secure political support. While setting up and developing the project, with regard to regulatory barriers, we found that the public policy did not support the activities. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly not sustainable. In particular, we benefit from international cooperation: FAO. In order to develop, we will need policy support, improved visibility.

## Metabolicity (London, England)

Contact: info@loop.ph

<http://www.MetaboliCity.com>



The project has been initiated by an independent group. In brief, I am co-founder and creative director of Loop.pH, which produces intervention based work at an urban scale.

The studio was founded to form a new creative practice that fosters collaboration between specialist disciplines, mediating between digital & biological media and facilitating participatory environments and

urban crafts. I started the project MetaboliCity in 2009 as a network of Grow-Labs experimenting with creative solutions to bring vegetation and food production back into the city. We run workshops with a variety of urban growers and work with schools to develop Learning Landscapes. Urban experiments so far include hydroponic, solar powered window farms, vertical green cladding retrofit to facades and organically grown vegetables climbing up street lamps in housing estates. We invite people to join the network and share our tools that are based on ecological principles, from community workshops to urban food grow-kits and an online collaborative network. The project "MetaboliCity" is developed by Rachel Wingfield with less than 10 people, all of whom are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as balcony gardens, empty buildings or spaces, façades, public spaces, window gardens. The project focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related

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issues. In particular, attention is paid to re-adaptation of the urban environment to grow food, new learning environments

### **Integrating Urban agriculture and open space (Havana, Cuba)**

Contact: jorpediaz@yahoo.com

The project has been initiated by a public organization In brief, Prof. Dr. Arch. Jorge Penna Diaz has worked for more than ten years on research projects dealing with the integration of urban agriculture into planning policies and sustainable landscape strategies in Havana. This effort started when he linked himself to a project conducted by the Humboldt University in Berlin, continued with his Master thesis at KTH(Stockholm), and his PhD in Havana. An important milestone was the participation with Bohn&Viljoen in a project in London and in the publication CPULS (Viljoen et al 2005), competitions, artistic projects and exhibitions. Currently an active group has been nucleated at the Faculty of Architecture at CUJAE leading several initiatives in this topic which emphasize the understanding of food systems and their impact on sustainable landscape strategies and planning policies. Havana is an excellent laboratory for this work due to the relevant development of UA in the city. It is at the same time a relevant case of urban development, an aspect to be considered with special attention. It is our interest to have a more direct impact in the development at the neighborhood level with the support of a structured approach. The project "Integrating Urban agriculture and open space" is developed by Jorge Penna Diaz with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as city green space, public spaces. The project focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues. In particular, attention is paid to re-adaptation of the urban environment to grow food, new research methods to track food patterns, sustainable landscape strategies for urban design. In order to fully function, the project should work in the city

### **Seeds at City Urban Farm (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: jdashe@mac.com

www.seedsatcity.com

The project has been initiated by San Diego City College. In brief, I teach urban agriculture and am traveling to visit various urban and rural agriculture projects, to work on farms and to learn about various growing strategies. The project "Seeds at City Urban Farm, San Diego City College" was developed by Julia Dashe with more than 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as city green space and the college campus. The project focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues. In particular, attention is paid to new learning environments. In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of money. Unfortunately, we are still coping with the problem. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from public funds at the regional level and private funds, such as an endowment. In order to develop, we will need funding.

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### Zuidas (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

Contact: [stg@zuidas.nl](mailto:stg@zuidas.nl)

[www.zuidas.nl](http://www.zuidas.nl)

The project has been initiated by a public organization, projectmanager of Lead Design Team Zuidas. Food is one of our strategies (as part of Zuidas Integrated Placemaking Strategy) to implement in upstarting or ongoing (temporary) projects to achieve a sustainable place. Sandra Thesing is developing the project "Zuidas Amsterdam" with more than 50 people.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as roof gardens, allotment gardens, balcony gardens, empty buildings or spaces, offices/commercial spaces, city green space, side street green, pavement green, public spaces. The project focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues.

### BotanoAdopt (Frankfurt/Main, Germany)

Contact: [contact@botanoadopt.org](mailto:contact@botanoadopt.org)

<http://www.botanoadopt.org>



The project has been initiated by 431art as an art project based in Frankfurt/M (D). In brief, botanoadopt, a participatory interdisciplinary art project at the interface of art, science and social commitment, defines plants as independent beings and offers them for adoption on the internet. A hatch is available for the anonymous local handover of plants. The adoption contract requires adopters

to send botanoadopt photos of their fosterlings. The photos are then published at [botanoadopt.org](http://botanoadopt.org), where they offer insight into the socio-cultural environments of the plants. The humorous contextual displacement makes it possible to question one's own definition of nature, and the adoption process establishes links with the theme of responsibility. botanoadopt draws on alternative economic models of exchange and donation; questions raised regarding ecological actions are investigated via models surpassing the boundaries of art. The project "botanoadopt" is developed by Torsten Grosch and Haike Rausch with less than 10 people, of which all of them are volunteers.

The project takes shape at plantadoption via internet + a plant hatch.

### Greenhouse Light Sculpture (St. Petersburg, Russia)

Contact: [jurishevnnin@gmail.com](mailto:jurishevnnin@gmail.com)

<http://meshart.blogspot.com>

An independent group has initiated the project. The project "Greenhouse light sculpture" is developed by Yuri with in between 10 and 50 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers. The project focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues. In particular, attention is paid to new technology/methods for food transportation, new packaging technique.

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The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as roof gardens, allotment gardens, balcony gardens, empty buildings or spaces, offices/commercial spaces, city green space, side street green, pavement green, railway green, façades, public spaces, backyards, window gardens, all art can be a living green packaging. In conclusion, the system has a high elasticity and flexibility. It does not use hazardous materials and technology. Such a mini and maxi greenhouse ensure high yields and reduce energy consumption. The potential impact of this project is huge!

### **Foodscape Schilderswijk (Den Haag, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [debra@urbaniahoeve.nl](mailto:debra@urbaniahoeve.nl)

[http://www.urbaniahoeve.nl/?page\\_id=54](http://www.urbaniahoeve.nl/?page_id=54)



The project has been initiated by Urbaniahoeve in collaboration with Stroom Den Haag. In brief, originally commissioned by Stroom Den Haag, Centre for Art and Architecture, URBANIAHOEVE is working on the development of a real edible city. Foodscape Schilderswijk is a design for a phased implementation of project locations that together describe an urban agriculture (UA) foodscape

scenario within the context of Den Haag's Schilderswijk. The project presupposes local commitment to knitting UA and adjacent infrastructures into a coherent infrastructure. Specifically, this means implementing a spatially contiguous planting scenario in which facilities, (educational) activities, and platforms for (food-related) cultural content are connected to a diversity of edible landscape architecture. When implemented, Foodscape Schilderswijk's components will connect and grow in the public space supported by locals and community initiatives. In September 2010 the project participants have planted more than 30 fruit trees, herbs, and berries in formerly inaccessible green spaces. The project "Foodscape Schilderswijk" is developed by URBANIAHOEVE with in between 10 and 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project takes shape at the neighborhood level. The project focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues. In particular, attention is paid to re-adaptation of the urban environment to grow food, new learning environments, and a foodscape. In order to fully function, the project should work at the neighbourhood level.

### **Vertical Greenhouse (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [amberbeemink@gmail.com](mailto:amberbeemink@gmail.com)

An independent group has initiated the project. In brief, as a thesis for her graduation at the Amsterdam Academy of Architecture, Amber Beemink minimized the distance between modern food production and urban food consumption. This was her reaction to the abusive situation of the global food industry and the unhealthy diet of many youngsters in Amsterdam. The project "Vertical Greenhouse" is developed by Amber Beemink with in between 10 and 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers. The project is supported by Wageningen University.

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The project takes shape on a public space. The pragmatic and multidisciplinary design research resulted in a high density prototypical vertical greenhouse. High-tech fresh food production under the eye of the urban citizen, embedded in the urban lifestyle and the urban energy system. All building components together form the backbone for a passive energy system. The lowered plaza gives entry to the greenhouse, with shops in the base and restaurants in the top. During events the traffic zone in the ,belly' of the greenhouse can be opened to the public. During harvest festivities the cultivation zones of this, machine' for alternative food production are opened for the public. The plaza transforms into a harvest carpet.

In conclusion, the prototype may be applied to other urban settings, adapted for multifunctional buildings or to give new life to vacant offices.

### **Dolly, you say you want a revolution (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [info@kunstfort.nl](mailto:info@kunstfort.nl)

<http://www.kunstfort.nl>



In brief, the project “Dolly” revolves around a group exhibition with artists that are engaged in creating a better living environment, and three “urban growth” projects that take place on the premises of Kunstfort bij Vijfhuizen. Questions about Nature & Agriculture in relation to the urbanization of the Haarlemmermeer polder were the starting-point for this exhibition. How is the transformation of the landscape

affecting us: From its original natural character to land for recreational use, and the vanishing of agricultural fields as a food provider? Will it become essential in the near future to be self-sufficient in an urbanized area? And how could “green” art-projects contribute to our living environment? Through the broad scope of the exhibition project “Dolly” we would like to demonstrate that contemporary artist, -particularly in times of economical crises and cultural debates-, connect with artistic traditions that focus on social involvement. And with its distinctive ambiance, Kunstfort offers an excellent location for this purpose. Other Activities: Encounters with artists, theme movies evening programs, workshops, tours and other activities. Guests are: Stroom – Centre for Art and Architecture, from The Hague; the Department of Nature & Environment of the Municipality of Haarlemmermeer; and the participating artists

The project takes shape on the premises of Fort bij Vijfhuizen and focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues.

### **Eethuis (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [marijke@destuurlui.nl](mailto:marijke@destuurlui.nl)

[www.destuurlui.nl](http://www.destuurlui.nl)

In brief, De Stuurlui stedenbouw has build, in cooperation with Atelier Gras, the project EETHUIS (Eathouse). EATHOUSE has won the first prize in the GardenFestival 2010 of Appeltern. With EATHOUSE we want to show that growing your own crops is possible for everyone, everywhere. A house and garden to eat, that

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you are able to touch, smell, taste, seed, weed, and harvest! EATHOUSE is a house in a garden that attracts visitors with delicious vegetables, fruit, herbs and flowers. We want to seduce people and make them taste the edible garden and the edible house. EATHOUSE has a temporary character; it lasts a summer season. This is why all the materials used in EATHOUSE can be re-used for a new season of EATHOUSE at a different spot. EATHOUSE consists of a modular system of plain plastic crates, in combination with a scaffold structure. These crates are used in the agricultural industry to harvest, transport and exhibit fruit and vegetables in combination with a scaffold system. With this system vertical green becomes accessible for everyone; you can make your own vegetable garden on the wall of your balcony or on the roof of your garden shed! The project "EETHUIS" is developed by Marijke Bruinsma with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers.

The project was part of the GardenFestival 2010 and focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues. In particular, attention is paid to re-adaptation of the urban environment to grow food, system that allows edible green to grow vertically. In order to fully function, the project should work at the neighbourhood level.

### **Groenten uit Amsterdam (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [info@greenlung.nl](mailto:info@greenlung.nl)

[www.degroentenuitamsterdam.nl](http://www.degroentenuitamsterdam.nl)

The project has been initiated by an independent group. In brief, "Groenten uit Amsterdam" is a concept exploring completely new ways of growing vegetables and fruit in empty buildings in the city. Technology developed by PlantLab allows plants to grow without natural light. Instead, plants are exposed to a specific combination of red and blue light, which enables the growing process to take place in any type of building. The project "Groenten uit Amsterdam" is developed by Philip van Traa with less than 10 people, of which all of them being volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as empty buildings or spaces and focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues. In particular, attention is paid to implement new tech to grow food in empty buildings. In order to fully function, the project should work in the city.

We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. In order to develop, we will need premises/land, funding, policy support, new technologies and committed partners.

### **Urbaniahoeve-Social Design Lab for Urban Agriculture (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [urbaniahoeve@list.urbaniahoeve.nl](mailto:urbaniahoeve@list.urbaniahoeve.nl)

[www.urbaniahoeve.nl](http://www.urbaniahoeve.nl)

The project has been initiated by a private organization. In brief, Urbaniahoeve evolved from the Food Schilderswijk project which identified opportunities for urban agriculture in Schilderswijk, a neighborhood in Den Haag commissioned by Stroom Den Haag, centre for art and architecture. Urbaniahoeve aims to create an experimental phase of urban agriculture across northern European cities. The project aims to go beyond traditional views of urban agriculture as city vegetable gardens or

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large 'lettuce flats', developing new models for urban food production and creating a visual language that integrates 'foodscapes' into public space. Working with local participants, the project will create new green spaces and re-animate neglected places. The project "Urbaniahoeve-Social Design Lab for Urban Agriculture" is developed by Debra Solomon with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as public spaces and focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues. In particular, attention is paid to re-adaptation of the urban environment to grow food and new learning environments.

In conclusion, Debra, when interviewed added: "Just one thing, one very important thing you need for urban agriculture to succeed, and what we as Urbaniahoeve really desperately need, is considerably easier access to local governments, and increased transparency. It costs us so much time to find out who you must have in order to get permission to do something, these are real organizations you have to deal with. Especially if you – say you're a residents' group, we are not a residents' group, but we're really working on this, but if you would be residents' group it is quite difficult. And it should be much easier to quickly do these things, and gain access to the right person. Not at the counter, but a real person who can give consent."

### **Boskoi (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [theun@fo.am](mailto:theun@fo.am)

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



The project has been initiated by a private organization. In brief, Boskoi is a mobile phone application that sources and identifies where edible plants can be found in Amsterdam. The app provides a list of locations where 'wild food' and edible plants can be found across the city, and enables users to add new locations and information. The project "BOSKOI" is developed by Theun Karelse with

less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers. The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city and focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues. In particular, attention is paid to new software to influence food consumption. This technology has the ability to transform our imagination of the city, so we can begin to see it as part of and in harmony with nature.

We encountered implementation problems, such as internationally applicable plant names. In order to cope with the problem, we tried to use the English language, with translations in Dutch. In conclusion, we are trying to use what we learned from this application in a broader context: the Institute for Augmented Ecology.

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## Jan Zwanenburghof (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

Contact: michel.kegels@gmail.com

The project has been initiated by a public-private coalition. In brief, we started the project as a group of volunteers connected through the project "Groene Ruimte Maken". This project focuses on creating edible gardens in the West of Amsterdam by cooperating with city districts and public housing corporations. The project takes shape at the neighborhood level, especially in/on playgrounds. The idea is to start with one communal garden that will be run by volunteers from the neighborhood with some financial backing from above mentioned institutions.

The project "Jan Zwanenburghof" is developed by Michel with less than 10 people, all of them are volunteers. The project is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, socially disadvantaged groups.

In particular, we concentrate on education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighbourhood activities, growing food using permaculture and organic growing technique(s).

We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support.

In order to develop, we will need people! For those who are looking to get involved in the urban agricultural revolution, here is a great place to start!

## The site of the future garden – Fertile Underground (Providence, RI, USA)

Contact: fertileunderground@gmail.com

www.fertileunderground.com



The project has been initiated by an independent group. This portion of our project is a grocery store, which is supplied by our urban gardens in Providence. Our grocery store has undertaken the work of bringing fresh foods to our neighbors in the West Side. We have had great success sharing harvest among our garden members, friends & family. Now we are rallying for the cause of better health

and quality foods for all hopeful residents. To manifest this reality, we have formed a Worker-Cooperative, which is a business owned and controlled by workers. Everyone is welcome in our store; it is not a food co-op with special membership. The project "Fertile Underground" is developed by Michael with between 10 and 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project takes shape at the neighborhood level, especially in/on allotment gardens, backyards, façades, window gardens, empty buildings or spaces, grocery store. The project is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, alternative communities In particular, we concentrate on community gardens and neighbourhood activities such as growing food.

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In the development of the project, we had no specific implementation problems. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from private funds, such as sponsorship, charity. In order to develop, we will need premises/land, funding, maintenance, and new technologies.

### **Sanford Market Gardens (Barrie, Ontario, Canada)**

Contact: magz@hotmail.com

sanfordmarketgarden.blogspot.com

The project has been initiated by Private residents. In brief, we are a for-profit market garden currently operating on a land base of 0.25 acres with almost 6000 square feet in production with another 1000-2000 to come in the next year. The goal is to create a business that will provide a living wage to 1 person or part-time wage to 2 people. There are plans to increase the land base in order to make it possible to fulfill the income requirements for two adults. The project "Sanford Market Garden" is developed by SanfordMarketGarden with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers

The project takes shape in multiple locations throughout the city such as backyards and vacant lots. The project is already commercially established, focusing on the production of vegetables, beans and fruit, edible plants and herbs. We usually use organic as growing technique(s) and we distribute our products through a local distributor.

In the development of the project, we had no specific implementation problems. We did not secure political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers.

From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from private funds, such as personal finance. In order to develop, we will need premises/land and more labor as we continue to expand.

### **Urban Edibles (Rotterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: marten@urbanedibles.eu

www.urbanedibles.eu

The project has been initiated by an independent group. In brief, We, Eefje Ernst, Sophia van Ruth and Marten Witkamp, started early 2010 at The Hub Rotterdam after a random conversation about how hard it is for the uninitiated urban inhabitant to start growing fruit and vegetables at home. Since then, we have been developing and testing our services. Our ultimate goal is to have edible plants growing on every city balcony, behind all sunny windows and on all rooftops, in all cities, worldwide. . The project "Urban Edibles" is developed by Marten Witkamp with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations in the city such as roof gardens, balcony gardens, offices/commercial spaces, backyards, window gardens. The project focuses on the development of innovative approaches to urban food/farming related issues. In particular, attention is paid to re-adaptation of the urban environment to grow food, we match people to appropriate plants and products In

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order to fully function, the project should work in the country

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of time, lack of money. Unfortunately, we are still coping with the problem. We did not secure political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. We benefit from no funding at the moment. In order to develop, we will need funding.

### **Freelance (Colombo, Sri Lanka)**

Contact: [sumithharendra@yahoo.com](mailto:sumithharendra@yahoo.com)

The project has been initiated by a private organization. In brief, I am an agriculture graduate. Five years working in agriculture fields, including hydroponics, green house cultivation of strawberries and vegetables. We cultivate vegetables and distribute to urban supermarkets, then I console people on green house cultivation projects at the home garden level. The project "freelance" is developed by Sumith Harendra with between 10 and 50 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in farmlands of Sri Lanka. The project is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work locally.

In particular, we concentrate on processing, distribution, education for adults, community gardens and neighbourhood activities, growing food using hydroponic and soil-based green house cultivation as growing technique(s).

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of money. In order to cope with the problem, we tried comparative research about best practices.

We did not secure political support. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from private funds, such as personal finance.

In order to develop, we will need funding.

In conclusion, I have knowledge of urban agriculture and green house cultivation, mainly strawberry and vegetables. I am also an agriculture graduate, but I have problems with money. If you can support with funding for my project it will benefit my life as well as the community. I appreciate any help you can give. Thank you so much!

### **Productive Urban Landscapes (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [croroadpark@gmail.com](mailto:croroadpark@gmail.com)

<http://productive-urban-landscapes.blogspot.com/>

The project has been initiated by Wageningen University, DRO Amsterdam. In brief, Landscapes Architects started a research into the implementation of urban agriculture in post-industrial cities, with a design executed in Amsterdam Zuidoost, on top of motorway A9. Claire Oude Aaminkhof and Minke Mulder developed the project "Productive Urban Landscapes" with less than 10 people

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The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as roof gardens, city green space, façades, public spaces, and backyards. The project is already commercially established, focusing on the production of vegetables, beans and fruit, edible plants and herbs. We usually use organic, hydroponic as growing technique(s) and we distribute our products by a local distributor, consumers buy the product in local stores.

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as complex bureaucratic procedures. In order to develop, we will need policy support.

### **City Plot (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [robbert.bouman@cityplot.org](mailto:robbert.bouman@cityplot.org)

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



The project has been initiated by an independent group. In brief, Cityplot aims to heighten human awareness of nature's cycles across urban areas. The Cityplot team develops private and public gardens, advising on design, the choice of plants and the development process. The project "CityPlot" is developed by Robbert Bouman with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers. The project takes

shape in multiple locations of the city such as roof gardens, balcony gardens, public spaces and backyards. The project is already commercially established, focusing on the production of grow kits, seeds, design & advice. We usually use grow kits as growing technique(s) and we distribute our products via the internet.

In the development of the project, we had no specific implementation problems. We did not secure political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers.

From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from private funds, such as personal finance. In order to develop, we will need funding, people/resources, improved visibility and commissioned work.

### **De Hartstocht (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [info@hartstocht.net](mailto:info@hartstocht.net)

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

The project has been initiated by an independent group. In brief, De Hartstocht is an organic dairy farm, located on the Gein in Abcoude. The farm hosts 120 dairy cows and around 160/170 young stock. The project "De Hartstocht" is developed by Wilma den Hartog with less than 10 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in farmlands from between 10 and 30 km from the city centre. The project is already commercially established, focusing on the production of meat/poultry/dairy. We usually use grow kits as growing technique(s) and we distribute our products by a logistic company, consumers buy the product in stores.

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In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of money. In order to cope with the problem, we tried to diversification of activities. We did not secure political support. While setting up and developing the project, with regard to regulatory barriers, we found the regulations on farming and selling raw milk strict. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from private funds, such as loans. In order to develop, we will need people/resources, and policy support.

#### **Urban Green (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [info@urban-green.nl](mailto:info@urban-green.nl)  
[www.urban-green.nl](http://www.urban-green.nl)

The project has been initiated by an independent group. In brief, Urban Green is the first urban garden centre to focus specifically on urban dwellers willing to work with food in and around their home. Urban Green sells products and provides a practical hub for knowledge-sharing and problem solving relating to city growing: window boxes, roof gardens, hanging plants, vertical gardens and even finding a suitable location for growing. The project "Urban Green" is developed by Mark van der Geest with in between 10 and 50 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as a garden centre. The project is already commercially established, focusing on the production of grow kits, edible plants and herbs, seeds, information and knowledge. We distribute our products, and consumers buy the product in local stores.

In the development of the project, we had no specific implementation problems. We did not secure political support. While setting up and developing the project, with regard to regulatory barriers, we found that we had problems adapting to building regulations. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from private funds, such as personal finance. In order to develop, we will need policy support and improved visibility.

In conclusion, I would love it if we could become a platform for all interested parties about things that have to do with greening the city and that a lot of initiatives find a space to express themselves. Suppliers, growers and parties find it very interesting to have direct contact with consumers. But I can imagine that a lot of other initiatives are also interested in finding a stage for their ideas as well.

#### **Thijl (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [thijl@thijl.nl](mailto:thijl@thijl.nl)  
[www.thijl.nl](http://www.thijl.nl)

The project has been initiated by an independent group. In brief, Thijl is a delivery service for organic products created by a young entrepreneur. Customers order online and Thijl delivers the groceries by bike directly to their doorstep. The project "Thijl" is developed by Thijl Klerkx with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as transport from organic food shops to residents. The project is already commercially established, focusing on the production of sustainable transport. We distribute our products by bike.

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In the development of the project, we had no specific implementation problems. We did not secure political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers.

From the economic point of view, the project is totally sustainable. In particular, we benefit from private funds, such as an endowment, personal finance.

### **The Learning Garden on Randall's Island (New York, USA)**

Contact: [phyllis.odessey@parks.nyc.gov](mailto:phyllis.odessey@parks.nyc.gov)  
[gardensrandalls.wordpress.com](http://gardensrandalls.wordpress.com) and [ricepadyrandalls.com](http://ricepadyrandalls.com)

The project has been initiated by a private organization. The project "The Learning Garden on Randall's Island" is developed by Phyllis Odessey with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as unused, city green space. In order to develop, we will need improved visibility, such as access to media outlets. The success of the garden is very important to the health of the public schoolchildren, because of the low quality of the provided lunch.

In conclusion, The Learning Garden is 12,500 sq. ft. Edible Education is a program for the public school children of NYC. The garden is organic and features two rice paddies. We grow vegetables found in the Northeastern US, as well as vegetables that relate to the diverse population of our students as a strategy for fostering community.

### **C-Change Amsterdam (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [T.vankoeverden@dro.amsterdam.nl](mailto:T.vankoeverden@dro.amsterdam.nl)  
<http://www.cchangeproject.org>



The project has been initiated by a public organization, The Physical Planning Department of Amsterdam. The project "C-Change Amsterdam" is developed by Truke van Koeverden with more than 50 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers

The project takes shape at the neighborhood level, especially in/on playgrounds and is focused on

the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local and international groups. In particular, we concentrate on community gardens and neighbourhood activities.

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems. In order to cope with the problem, we tried to describe the solution. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is sustainable. In particular, we benefit from public funds from the district level, national level and European level. In order to develop, we will need funding.

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## StadsOase (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

Contact: wickedpony@gmail.com , StadsOase@NDSM  
www.inrichting.nu

The project has been initiated by an independent group. In brief, StadsOase& ndsm Stadslandbouw oftewel urban farming is HOT. Maar is er daadwerkelijk behoefte aan in een stad als Amsterdam? Worden op een openbaar terrein als de NDSM straks de tomaten van de planten gestolen, de wortels uit de grond gerukt en de kwetsbare slapplantjes door baldadige jeugd of verdwaalde feestgangers vertrapt? Moet er uiteindelijk toch een fors hek omheen? Of is er inderdaad behoefte aan groen, aan tuinieren in de stad en komen de buurtbewoners en andere liefhebbers daadwerkelijk mee in de aarde wroeten en ontstaat er zo een nieuwe stadsoase? Naar Berlijns voorbeeld worden deze zomer op de NDSM de mogelijkheden onderzocht om een openbare moestuin te beginnen. Niet door eindeloos onderzoek te doen naar inspirerende voorbeelden wereldwijd, maar door daadwerkelijk de handen vuil te maken en in de aarde te gaan wroeten. De NDSM valt onder industrieel/cultureel erfgoed en ontwikkelt zich in rap tempo als nieuwe achtertuin van Amsterdam waar naast feesten ook nog steeds ruimte is voor spontaan experiment. Learning by doing. Ism met NDSM Treehouse, een tijdelijke containeropstelling die fungeert als artist in residency, is reeds een kleine start gemaakt. Veel is er niet voor nodig: wat gevonden kratten, potten en bakken, een hoop tuinaarde, wat zaadjes en stekjes. Water, zon en liefdevolle aandacht moet de rest gaan doen. In Berlijn is de stadsmoestuin een groot succes. Volgt nu Amsterdam? We zullen het gaan zien. Omdat NDSM stadsoase slechts succesvol kan zijn als het gedragen wordt door het publiek, lijkt het een uitgelezen project om ondersteund te worden door crowdfunding. Ook dat zullen we gaan zien. .

The project "StadsOase@NDSM" is developed by StadsOase with less than 10 people, all of whom are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as empty buildings or spaces, public spaces and is focused on the development of community-based programs and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, socially disadvantaged groups, skilled professionals, etc. In particular, we concentrate on processing, distribution, community kitchen, education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighbourhood activities, growing food using organic growing techniques.

## Urban gardens in Copenhagen and School Gardens (Copenhagen, Denmark)

Contact: mie@kbhmadhus.dk

The project has been initiated by a public-private coalition. In brief, I'm a design and innovation engineer from Denmark and I'm pushing to start up urban agriculture projects that involve both public and private parties. I have a blog urbanagriculture.dk, where I've started to map Copenhagen urban agriculture initiatives. The project "Urban gardens in Copenhagen and School gardens" is developed by Mie Kongstad Sogaard with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as public spaces and schools and is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. In particular, we concentrate on education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighborhood activities, growing food using traditional and organic technique(s).

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In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of money, lack of facilities, lack of support/cooperation from local authorities, challenges of sharing a common vision and complex bureaucratic procedures. Unfortunately, we are still coping with the problem. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. While setting up and developing the project, with regard to regulatory barriers, we found that the public policy did not support the activities. From the economic point of view, the project is not sustainable. In order to develop, we will need funding, people/resources, policy support, management, maintenance and improved visibility.

### **By Bali ProefTuin (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: david@immergrun.nl  
www.bybali.nl

The project has been initiated by an independent group. Met ons beperkte areaal zullen de kleinste schakel van stadslandbouw proberen te realiseren; eigenlijk gewoon een moestuin. We hebben onze ateliertuin hiervoor opengesteld. Afgelopen week zijn we, onder bezielende leiding van Jan Maas, met de eerste fase begonnen: Slak-/ kattenpoepvrij maken, en het onkruid wieden. Er is stevig aangeplant en uitgezaaid met spinazie, hop, tomaat, broccoli, prei en rode biet. Sinds enige tijd komen er dagelijks spinazieplantjes met hun koppie boven de grond. Komende weken hopen dat andere de groenten flink opkomen en de nodige zon-uurtjes zullen krijgen. The project "By Bali ProefTuin" is developed by David Kloet with less than 10 people, all of whom being volunteers.

The project takes shape at the neighborhood level, especially in/on backyards and is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. In particular, we concentrate on processing, growing food using traditional and organic growing technique(s).

In conclusion, Atelier by Bali opende in de zomer van 2009 haar deuren en is een samenwerkingsverband tussen vijf vrienden: drie architecten en twee landschapsarchitecten. Ze leerden elkaar kennen op de Academie van Bouwkunst in Amsterdam en besloten samen hun eigen atelier op te richten en zo hun krachten te bundelen. Drie van de vijf leden hebben hun eigen bureau en werken hier full time aan eigen werk, onderzoek en afstuderen. Twee van hen werken in dienstverband van Amsterdamse ontwerp bureaus en schuiven vooral in de avonden en in de weekenden aan. Naast werkatelier is By Bali een ontmoetingsplek voor collega's en vrienden uit het vakgebied die regelmatig langskomen voor discussie, een biertje of zomaar. In Atelier by Bali brandt het licht dus eigenlijk altijd.

### **Folkodlarna (Stockholm, Sweden)**

Contact: olof@folkodlarna.se  
<http://folkodlarna.se>

An independent group has initiated the project. In brief, two biodynamic gardeners from the neighborhood initiated this project. They have been and are at the moment working 100% voluntary. The project "Folkodlarna" is developed by Olof with in between 10 and 50 people, of which all of them are volunteers.

The project takes shape at the neighborhood level, especially in/on allotment gardens and parks. We are currently focused on the development of community-

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based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with locals. In particular, we concentrate on education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighborhood activities, growing food using organic growing technique(s).

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of time, lack of money. In order to cope with the problem, we tried to adapt and be flexible. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is totally sustainable. In particular, we benefit from participants that donate and pay an optional yearly fee. In order to develop, we will need premises/land, funding and management.

We are a small but fast growing community garden with some big ambitions!

### **Stratford Urban Farming Experiment (Stratford, Ontario, Canada)**

Contact: [stratford.urban.farms@gmail.com](mailto:stratford.urban.farms@gmail.com)

<http://stratfordurbanfarms.blogspot.com/>

An independent group has initiated the project. In brief, we are a group of passionate volunteers wanting to experiment in urban agriculture to help create a more sustainable Stratford. The project "Stratford Urban Farming Experiment" is developed by Heather Walker with more than 50 people, of which all of them are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as allotment gardens and backyards, and is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with locals. In particular, we concentrate on education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighborhood activities, growing food using traditional, permaculture and organic growing technique(s).

From the economic point of view, the project is totally sustainable. In particular, we sell bread and buns, which volunteer bakers bake at a slow food farmers market to raise money for the project. In order to develop, all we will need is a few more volunteers.

### **Groene Ruimte Maken (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [annet@groeneruimtemaken.nl](mailto:annet@groeneruimtemaken.nl)

[janine@groeneruimtemaken.nl](mailto:janine@groeneruimtemaken.nl)

The project was initiated by two self-employed sustainable development professionals, Annet van Hoorn of Ahorn Projecten and Janine Vermeulen of Atelj de Kim.

Groene Ruimte Maken is a project aiming to make Amsterdam neighbourhoods better places to live, and give a boost to their resilience – socially and economically – by co-creating community gardens.

In 2011, we worked to get the project going in six locations in Amsterdam Nieuw West. One by invitation from the art project ...PUNT in Osdorp, two commissioned by the stadsdeel and a housing corporation and two others by resident initiatives. The sixth will be the grounds around the former ACTA building in Slotervaart, which

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from the spring of 2012 is to be rented out to students and artists for 10 years by Alliantie housing corporation.

In 2012, we are working hard to make these community gardens into resounding successes, together with our volunteers, the urban farming generation to come. Everything we learn we pass on to the growing urban farming community in the form of workshops and training programmes – about community development, soil management, recruitment of resident groups, health education to residents and children, Permaculture etc etc.

In all we do, we like to cooperate and learn together. With residents, city boroughs, housing corporations and urban farmers – for a healthier and more resilient city! The “Groene Ruimte Maken” project is developed by Annet van Hoorn with between 10 and 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

### **FOOD from the SKY (London, England)**

Contact: [Thomeazul@foodfromthesky.org.uk](mailto:Thomeazul@foodfromthesky.org.uk)  
[www.foodfromthesky.org.uk](http://www.foodfromthesky.org.uk)



An independent group has initiated the project. In brief, ‘FOOD from the SKY’ is a pioneering food growing and educational initiative on the roof top of Thornton’s Budgens supermarket, Crouch End, North London. It is a new template for our future.

‘To grow Life, Food and Community in our most cemented places’ and ‘to plant seeds in people’s heart’. FOOD

from the SKY is about inspiring and growing a healthy and sustainable relationship with food in cities and with our supermarkets. We are doing this through food growing on roofs and running educational programmes for individuals, schools, supermarket’s team members and organizations.

By establishing an alternative approach to food production and consumption, we intend to build an organizational template that can be easily used by other supermarkets and organizations. The project “FOOD from the SKY” is developed by Azul Thome with in between 10 and 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project takes shape on the roof of a supermarket! Currently, we are ocused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with locals. In particular, we concentrate on processing, distribution, education for children, education for adults, growing food using permaculture, organic and biodynamic growing technique(s).

### **MoTuin (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [ttt@tugela85.nl](mailto:ttt@tugela85.nl)  
[http://www.tugela85.nl/?page\\_id=101](http://www.tugela85.nl/?page_id=101)

An independent group has initiated the project. In brief, the project focuses on using the potential of social cohesion in and around 9 (semi)public gardens in the

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Transvaalbuurt in Amsterdam. Creating a "Mobile Garden" that drives in between them, exchanging harvest, plants, recipes and knowledge. Sometimes it stops on a local square to cook together and dance on the beat of MoTown Music. Sometimes kids will gather around the MoTuin to start some Guerilla Gardening. The name refers to: MobieleTuin, MoesTuin, MooieTuin, MohammedsTuin and MoTown. Janine Toussaint is developing the project "MoTuin" with less than 10 people, of which less than 50% are volunteers.

The project is especially able to take shape in multiple locations of the city such as city green space, side-street greens, pavement green, railway green, façades, public spaces and backyards.

At the moment, we work with local, socially disadvantaged groups, alternative communities. In particular, we concentrate on processing, distribution, community kitchen, and education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighborhood activities, growing food, using permaculture growing technique(s).

### **Brooklyn Grange Rooftop Farm (Brooklyn, New York, USA)**

Contact: [chaseemmons@yahoo.com](mailto:chaseemmons@yahoo.com)  
[www.brooklyngrangefarm.com](http://www.brooklyngrangefarm.com)



The project has been initiated by a private organization. In brief, Brooklyn Grange is currently the world's largest rooftop farm. Over 40,000 square feet (1 acre) of produce is grown on the roof of a 7-story office building in New York City. Privately owned and funded. Products include over 70 different vegetables, honey from beehives, and eggs from chickens. Community involvement includes our separate

non-profit for educational programs and outreach. The project "Brooklyn Grange Rooftop Farm" is developed by Chase Emmons with in between 10 and 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as roof gardens and is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, socially disadvantaged groups. In particular, we concentrate on education for children and adults.

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as complex bureaucratic procedures. In order to cope with the problem, we tried to adapt and be flexible. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. While setting up and developing the project, with regard to regulatory barriers, we found that we had problems adapting to building regulations.

From the economic point of view, the project is totally sustainable. In particular, we benefit from private funds, such as private investors and equity owners. In fact, we are currently screening candidates for a second, larger location.

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### **Tugela Tuin Team (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [j.toussaint@finearchitecturequestions.nl](mailto:j.toussaint@finearchitecturequestions.nl)

[http://www.tugela85.nl/?page\\_id=101](http://www.tugela85.nl/?page_id=101)

The project has been initiated by a public-private coalition. In brief, The Tugela85 Tuin is one of the nine public city gardens in de Transvaalbuurt Amsterdam. The infrastructure has been constructed and financed by the local municipality. After this process the "Tugela Tuin Team" has managed the garden. This team consists of users of the "art and culture building, Tugela85" and local inhabitants. The project "Tugela Tuin Team" is developed by Janine Toussaint with in between 10 and 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project takes shape at the neighborhood level, especially in backyards and is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, socially disadvantaged groups, skilled professionals. In particular, we concentrate on community kitchen, education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighborhood activities and growing food using permaculture as our preferred growing technique.

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of money, lack of facilities, lack of knowledge. In order to cope with the problem, we tried to adapt and be flexible. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from public funds from the district level. In order to develop, we will need funding and knowledge.

### **Garden for the Environment (San Francisco, USA)**

Contact: [blair@gardenfortheenvironment.org](mailto:blair@gardenfortheenvironment.org)

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

The project has been initiated by a public organization. In brief, Garden for the Environment is an urban, organic teaching garden in San Francisco, California, USA. Each year we teach 3,000 youth and adults the practical skills of urban agriculture, organic gardening and sustainable landscaping. Garden for the Environment is a non-profit organization and we work closely with the City and County of San Francisco to help them meet their goals of public environmental and agricultural education. Blair Randall manages the project "Garden for the Environment" with more than 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project takes shape in multiple locations of the city such as city green space and is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, socially disadvantaged groups, alternative communities, and skilled professionals. In particular, we concentrate on education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighborhood activities, growing food using organic growing techniques.

From the economic point of view, the project is sustainable. In particular, we benefit from public funds from the regional level. In order to get started, we will need funding.

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## Waterpod Project (New York, USA)

Contact: [mary.mattingly@gmail.com](mailto:mary.mattingly@gmail.com)

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



Artist Mary Mattingly has initiated the project. In brief, artist Mary Mattingly is the founder of the Waterpod Project. The Waterpod is a mobile, sculptural living system built atop an industrial flat-deck barge. It is designed as an artistic and scientific habitat and as a public space to illustrate a future of coping with shifting global climates and ecologies, to research and develop sustainable living systems, and to

foster global community-based gathering spaces. Built atop a 99'x31' flat-deck barge from recycled materials, the Waterpod repurposes the use and meaning of underused spaces, and creates engaging closed food and water ecosystems as well as additional public space for community events and educational purposes. The Waterpod provides space for: (I) community and artistic activity; (II) eco-initiatives including food grown with filtered rainwater; and (III) living space. It provides a model for mobile vessels that can provide relief to cities and countries struck by environmental and political disasters, as well as a model for reshaping suburban landscapes to be a self-sustaining living system. The methods that make up the Waterpod provide people with necessary systems for rotational food supply, seasonal seed collection and soil-renewing compost, portable water, and mobile shelter with minimal upkeep.

At the moment, we work internationally. In particular, we concentrate on education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighbourhood activities, growing food using permaculture, organic, hydroponic, aquaponic as growing techniques.

In conclusion, open to the public, it visited all five NYC boroughs at ten different piers for two weeks at a time during the summer of 2009, with over 200,000 people visiting the Waterpod from around the world; including school groups, camp groups, and the general public. Through word-of-mouth and no formal advertising, the Waterpod generated media coverage in more than 300 leading global newspapers and magazines, and 12 television networks in the USA and abroad. Our focus is to redesign the Waterpod as a permanent, mobile space that travels to coastal cities and towns around the United States and abroad, beginning in 2011. Our team, including a network of engineers, scientists, ecologists, and roboticists will interpret the collected data from the Waterpod's test run in the New York harbor and augment the systems previously tried to include algae systems, heating and cooling spaces through stored and circulating potable water, new materials that add to the approachability and, in turn, successful outreach of the project.

## EETBAAR GROEN IN DE STAD (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

Contact: [catherina@tierrafino.com](mailto:catherina@tierrafino.com)

[www.beginduurzaam.nl](http://www.beginduurzaam.nl)

The project has been initiated by buurtbewoners postjesbuurt. In brief, we started last autumn with seeding out the seeds of the little box of Cityplot. In the winter 3

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vegetables of 6 survived the 10 minus celsius, veldsla, winterpostelein and kervel. They are growing seeds now. 4th of March we started the course of cityplot, 15th of April was second time. We learned about the soil, seeds and seeding, and putting the seeds in a bigger pot. Next teaching is the 24th of June and beginning of September. 13th of May we come together with people from the neighborhood to share what we learned and to exchange little plants.

Developed by Catherina Giskes with less than 10 people, all of whom are volunteers, the project takes place at the neighborhood level and is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, international, socially disadvantaged groups, alternative communities, and skilled professionals. In particular, we concentrate on processing, community kitchen, and education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighbourhood activities, growing food using permaculture as growing technique(s).

In conclusion, this year I would like to see how far we get in our street with balcony, backyard and roof gardens and make plans for having city gardening in our 'plantsoenen.'

### **Amsterdam University College Student Garden (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [aucgarden@gmail.com](mailto:aucgarden@gmail.com)  
[www.myauc.nl/category/committees/garden/](http://www.myauc.nl/category/committees/garden/)

The Amsterdam University College Student Garden has been initiated by a group of students of the Amsterdam University College (AUC). The garden is located in the courtyard of the students' housing. The area was left unused and soil was mostly sand. We brought in dark soil to make garden beds, in which we grow vegetables and herbs. We also have chickens that provide fertilizer for the garden. Our aims are to grow local food, learn about how our food grows, learn about gardening techniques, and provide a space for community building among students on campus. There is a core group of 5 students, and in total about 15 students help regularly with watering, building recycled material greenhouses, weeding, feeding chickens, or sowing seeds. In the end of the year we are organizing a vegetable BBQ for the students of the university college to raise awareness about problems in food production and celebrate the garden. All the students participating in the project are volunteers.

The project takes shape in the courtyard of the student housing of the Amsterdam University College in Science Park, in the east of Amsterdam where we produce vegetables, beans, edible plants, herbs and eggs. We use organic growing techniques and we distribute our products to students who help in the garden.

### **SertaoBras(NGO), 3WheeledCheese (Sao Paolo, Brazil)**

Contact: [rajatnayyar44@gmail.com](mailto:rajatnayyar44@gmail.com)  
[www.3wheeledcheese.com](http://www.3wheeledcheese.com) (Eng), [www.sertaobras.org.br](http://www.sertaobras.org.br)

In brief, SerTãoBras is a nonprofit society, based in the town of Arcos (MG), maintained by donations from corporations and individuals, who have commitments to improve the livelihoods of small farmers in Brazil. The organisation's goal is to fight against the forms of social exclusion, which affect the vast proportion of the

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population. Their actions are designed to support, in all circles, small property, particularly through advocacy, technical assistance, micro-credit associations to the promotion and representation in forums where they discuss issues of interest. SerTãoBras develops at present three projects. One focused on the enhancement of artisanal cheese from raw milk, and another for the dissemination of forms of transport more consistent with modern life hinterland, and finally a project financing tanks in the northern region of Minas Gerais. Thus contributing to the promotion of family labor, improving their income and increase its expression in the whole economy and society. Battling these constraints, we reinforce the line of fair trade. SerTãoBras believes that increasing social awareness about the problems of raw milk cheese is an important factor, driving changes in favor of small farmers, investing in the production and dissemination of information to the general public. This blog has been created to provide the information globally in English about information on Tuk Tuk and Raw Milk Cheese in Brasil as well as around the world.

The project takes shape in farmlands more than 30 km from the city centre and works on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with both locals and internationals. In particular, we concentrate on distribution, education for adults and legalizing raw milk cheese.

In conclusion, 3wheeledcheese.com is a brainchild of the NGO Sertaoabras with three main objectives; to provide global news about Raw Milk Cheese, to build a global community and to legalize/promote famous Brazilian Raw Milk Cheese.

#### **Postzegelpark Indische Buurt (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [bcadat@gmail.com](mailto:bcadat@gmail.com)

<http://postzegelpark.wordpress.com/>

The project has been initiated by a private organization. In brief, it is a neighborhood initiative, which will involve some agriculture activities. The project "Postzegelpark Indische Buurt" is developed by Mellouki Cadat with in between 10 and 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project takes shape at the neighborhood level; especially on a pocket park that will be a beautiful and robust replacement for a shabby green space. At the moment we are focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with locals. In particular, we concentrate on community gardens and neighbourhood activities.

Fortunate for us we have managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. While setting up and developing the project, with regard to regulatory barriers, we found that we had problems adapting to building regulations. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from public funds from both district level and national level. In order to develop, we will need people/resources, policy support and improved visibility.

#### **Pikes Peak Community Cupboard, local retail store (Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA)**

Contact: [wendymcarson@gmail.com](mailto:wendymcarson@gmail.com)

[www.barelyescape.com](http://www.barelyescape.com)

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In brief, I'm Wendy Carson, founder of [www.BarelyEscape.com](http://www.BarelyEscape.com) and the new non profit organization, the Colorado Springs Community Foundation. Barely Escape is currently promoting backyard gardening/container gardening in the city, growing an edible garden with an online journal, co-organizing the Pikes Peak Community Cupboard (a bimonthly, cash-free swap of food and crafts), organizing and fundraising for a Colorado Springs only local retail store (only products made in the city), hosting and sponsoring locavore dinners, looking to start foraging classes and other local food related projects.

I have developed "Pikes Peak Community Cupboard, local retail store" with less than 10 people, all of whom are volunteers.

We work with locals in their very own backyards on the co-creation of food. In particular, we concentrate on community kitchen, community gardens and neighbourhood activities, growing food using traditional, permaculture, organic methods, companion/biointensive gardening as growing technique(s). We love working together!

The project is totally sustainable, so we look forward to many years to come working on community gardens and expanding our store!

#### **SWOMP (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [depjip@transitiontowns.nl](mailto:depjip@transitiontowns.nl)  
<http://swomp.wordpress.com/>

In brief, Free State 'SWOMP' was squatted in July 2008 by squatting group De Pijp and Groenfront! Amsterdam. With ecological garden experiment, SWOMP has demonstrated that it is possible to grow food in abandoned areas of our cities with or without the help of the public authorities. The project "SWOMP" is developed by Alex with in between 10 and 50 people, of all whom are volunteers.

We take advantage of empty and unused buildings and spaces to focus on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, international, socially disadvantaged groups, alternative communities and skilled professionals. In particular, we concentrate on community gardens and neighborhood activities, growing food using permaculture as growing technique(s).

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of support/cooperation from private landowners. In order to cope with the problem, we tried to squat the land. We did not secure political support. While setting up and developing the project, with regard to regulatory barriers, we found that the public policy did not support the activities.

#### **Schoffeltuintjes Transvaal (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [s.weijer@oost.amsterdam.nl](mailto:s.weijer@oost.amsterdam.nl)

The project has been initiated by a public-private coalition. In brief, 'Schoffeltuintjes' are small gardens – vegetable gardens, ornamental gardens or herb gardens – created in existing green spaces. To date, such gardens have been developed in nine spots in the Transvaal neighbourhood of Amsterdam, initiated by a collaboration between local residents and the municipality. The project "Schoffeltuintjes Transvaal"

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is developed by Sebastiaan Weijer with in between 10 and 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

Using 9 areas in the public space in the Transvaalbuurt, we are focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local people. In particular, we concentrate on community gardens and neighbourhood activities, growing food using traditional growing techniques.

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of time and challenge of sharing a common vision. In order to cope with the problem, we tried to restrict all the steps to the absolute minimum. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from public funds from the district level, national level.

### **De Kok en de Kweker (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: henriettewaal@gmail.com



The project has been initiated by a public-private coalition. In brief, De Kok en de Kweker is a collaborative project in the Nieuw West neighborhood of Amsterdam; initiated by the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, it was designed and organized by Marjetica Potrč and Wilde Westen, a group of architects, artists, designers and cultural producers. The project consists of a

community vegetable garden and a community kitchen, which are used by residents of the neighbourhood. A previously unused site at Lodewijk van Deyssestraat 61 was acquired on a temporary basis from the Far West construction company; the building that houses the community kitchen also serves as a meeting place, and the vegetable garden is located behind the kitchen. The project “De Kok en de Kweker” is developed by Henriëtte Waal with in between 10 and 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

Focusing on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities, we work at the neighborhood level, in backyards and with local, skilled professionals.

We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. While setting up and developing the project, with regard to regulatory barriers, we had problems to define an appropriate agreement with the land owner, we had problems securing access to space, and navigating HACCP regulations. In order to develop, we will need premises/land, funding, policy support, management, knowledge on growing techniques and infrastructure.

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### **Stichting Boerenstadswens (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [info@boerenstadswens.nl](mailto:info@boerenstadswens.nl)

[www.boerenstadswens.nl](http://www.boerenstadswens.nl)

An independent group founded Stichting Boerenstadswens. In brief, Boerenstadswens is a network of Amsterdam initiatives in the field of urban agriculture, sustainable food production, health, farm-education and rural development. Projects include an association of Amsterdam city farms (also called Community Supported Agriculture or CSA), Amsterdam food co-ops, kitchen garden design and Innovation Gardens West. The project "Stichting Boerenstadswens" is developed by Tim Doornwaard with more than 50 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with skilled professionals. In particular, we concentrate on community kitchen, providing a platform for different activities.

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of time, lack of money, challenge of sharing a common vision. In order to cope with the problem, we tried adaptation and flexibility. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from public funds from the district level, regional level and national level. In order to develop, we will need people/resources and new ways of cooperating.

### **De Brede Moestuyn (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [ellenmookhoek@xs4all.nl](mailto:ellenmookhoek@xs4all.nl)

[http://web.me.com/ellenmookhoek/De\\_Brede\\_Moestuyn/](http://web.me.com/ellenmookhoek/De_Brede_Moestuyn/)

In cooperation with a playground association in the city centre of Amsterdam, De Brede Moestuyn created in 2010 a vegetable garden along the edges of the playground. Sowing and planting was done by the children and the harvest shared in a communal meal. The project "De Brede Moestuyn" is developed by Ellen Mookhoek with less than 10 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

By taking advantage of many locations throughout the city, such as playgrounds, we are able to focus on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, international, socially disadvantaged groups, alternative communities and skilled professionals. In particular, we concentrate on education for children, education for adults, community gardens and neighbourhood activities, growing food using organic as growing technique(s).

In conclusion, The importance of allotment gardens for the city of Amsterdam. Allotment gardens are often in a difficult position. since local governments also see that they are located in interesting places (for development), and their existence is threatened, while these places are actually very important for Amsterdammers to connect to green around the city and also to grow their won vegetables.

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## Doetank/Doetuinen (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

Contact: [jair@doetank.org](mailto:jair@doetank.org)

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

A private organization has been the main initiator of the project. In brief, Doetuinen are vegetable gardens in residents' backyards looked after by schoolchildren during school hours. Children are given space of one square meter to use as a kind of school garden, but one that just happens to be located in someone's backyard. The activity will benefit both the garden owner and the kids – the project begins in spring 2011, and an initial group of residents and schoolchildren are already signed up. .

The project "Doetank/Doetuinen" is developed by Jair Schalkwijk with less than 10 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

The project is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. We are mainly located in backyards, as we function at the neighborhood level. At the moment, we work with schoolchildren. In particular, we concentrate on education for children, growing food using organic methods as growing technique(s).

We did not secure political support, which helped during implementation, as we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly not sustainable. In particular, we benefit from public funds from the district level and national level. In order to develop, we will need people/resources, improved visibility, knowledge on growing techniques and cultivation plan. In conclusion, we really want to think about ways to design Doetuinen also in the future in sustainable way, by letting it develop into an urban tradition.

## Buurtmoestuin Trompenburg (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

Contact: [bakker.auke@gmail.com](mailto:bakker.auke@gmail.com)

[www.buurtmoestuin.nl](http://www.buurtmoestuin.nl)



In brief, a group of twelve residents have come together to create a neighborhood garden, set around a children's playground, where organic vegetables are grown in small plots and meals are shared several times a year. The project "Buurtmoestuin Trompenburg" is developed by Auke Bakker with in between 10 and 50 people, all of whom are volunteers.

The project is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with locals, internationals, socially disadvantaged groups, alternative communities and killed professionals. In particular, we concentrate on community gardens and neighborhood activities, growing food using organic growing techniques

In the development of the project, we had no specific implementation problems. We managed to establish a good relationship with the institutions, securing political support.

From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we

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benefit from private funds, such as personal finance and charity. In order to develop, we will need premises/land, funding, policy support, improved visibility, and a conference for all community gardens.

In conclusion, I am planning to create a network for Amsterdam Community Gardens, with different local partners. At the moment there are ten community gardens in Amsterdam, and three or four more are being set up. With 10 to 15 people per garden, it means that there would be at least 300 people that know how to grow their own food. That's what you call in English an 'asset', something that really adds value.

### **Wiek de Keijser (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [wdekeijser@tiscali.nl](mailto:wdekeijser@tiscali.nl)



In brief, reactivating neglected public spaces with the creation of edible greens and social meeting places is the aim of Wiek de Keijser. To date, vegetable gardens are being created on a courtyard of almost 1700m<sup>2</sup>, with the produce used by growers and shared with neighbors. The project is partly educational, but not commercial: nothing is sold. The space is managed by an adjacent school – hopefully a

future partner in the creation of school gardens. The project is developed by Wiek de Keijser with less than 10 people, all of whom are volunteers.

The project is focused on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with local, schoolchildren. In particular, we concentrate on education for children, community gardens and neighborhood activities, growing food using organic growing techniques. In conclusion, we would like to see an umbrella organization to help coordinate efforts and knowledge amongst local, organic and urban farms. We see great potential if we can organize all of the disparate efforts to create a real community that would improve the lives of all the city's residents.

### **Stichting Postzegelparken (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)**

Contact: [info@postzegelparken.nl](mailto:info@postzegelparken.nl)

<http://www.postzegelparken.nl/>

Stichting Postzegelparken transforms neglected neighborhood spaces into active, social, people-friendly places. The focus of the transformation is on creating places that add to the quality of life in the neighborhood: outdoor 'meeting rooms', places for playing with kids, for sitting with your laptop in the sun or for sharing a community picnic.

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### VersVoko (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

Contact: [didi@aseed.net](mailto:didi@aseed.net)

[www.versvoko.nl](http://www.versvoko.nl)

In brief, 'VersVoko' is a group of consumers – a kind of cooperative – that buys food and fresh produce directly from local farmers without going through a wholesaler. Not all produce comes from certified organic farmers, but the food sourced is as sustainable as possible. A VersVoko is being set up in Amsterdam, modelled on successful experiences across Belgium.

The project "VersVoko" is developed by Didi van Dijk with less than 10 people, of which around 70% are volunteers.

We utilize office and commercial space to focus on the development of community-based programmes and the co-creation of food activities. At the moment, we work with locals. In particular, we concentrate on distribution.

In the development of the project, we encountered implementation problems, such as lack of time, lack of money, difficulty in finding members. We did not secure political support. During the implementation, we did not face any regulatory barriers. From the economic point of view, the project is mostly sustainable. In particular, we benefit from public funds from the national level. In order to develop, we will need people/resources, improved visibility, and online platform for local food initiatives. Some sort of route to sharing information about events and techniques would be key.

### De Groene Vaart (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

Contact: [annet@ahom.nl](mailto:annet@ahom.nl)



De Groene Vaart has transformed a tiled terrace at the women's centre Vrouw & Vaart into a gorgeous edible garden. Following a series of sessions on health, food, permaculture and empowerment at the centre, a group of women put their knowledge into practice and created the garden in the spring of 2010. Knowledge-sharing is an important part of the project, and all women are invited to visit the centre

and make use of the garden, attend lectures and discussions and go on excursions related to city farming. Free weekly sessions focus on growing food, cooking and workshops.

"It's very important that we work on a vision of a completely different kind of city. And also that we have a network of people who, like us, work on urban agriculture projects in different cities. Everywhere things are happening and you can get inspiring tips from situations that are a little different. To hear what works there, things you might not have thought about, but that you can try out to see how it works."

*Annet Van Hoom, interview by Anke de Vrieze (Nov. 2010)*