



URBAN GRreen Education for ENTteRprising Agricultural INnovation

Urban Green Train Modules and Resources (IO2)

Module 1:

Introduction into urban
agriculture concept and types



Erasmus+

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MODULE 1 “Introduction to urban agriculture concept and types”

Coordination: E. Geoffriau (Agrocampus Ouest Angers / Agreenium, FR)

AUTHORS

Chapter 1.1	J. Kuhns (Toronto Urban Growers, CA), H. Renting (RUAF, NL)
Chapter 1.2	E. Geoffriau, L. Vidal-Beaudet, G. Galopin (Agrocampus Ouest Angers / Agreenium, FR)
Chapter 1.3	F. Orsini, E. Sanyè-Mengual, G. Gianquinto (University of Bologna, IT)
Chapter 1.4	J. Kuhns (Toronto Urban Growers, CA), H. Renting (RUAF, NL)
Chapter 1.5	W. Lorleberg, B. Pölling (South-Westphalia University of Applied Sciences; DE)
Chapter 1.6	E. Geoffriau, V. Bouvier (Agrocampus Ouest Angers / Agreenium, FR)

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INTRODUCTION

This module and the related educational resources have been developed within URBAN GREEN TRAIN (URBAN GR^{ee}n Education for ENTteRprising Agricultural INnovation) a project funded by the European Union and the Italian National Agency for the ERASMUS+ Programme. The aim of URBAN GREEN TRAIN ERASMUS+ project (2014-1-IT02-KA200-003689) is to encourage pioneering business oriented initiatives in urban agriculture based on knowledge exchange and mutual cooperation among different actors, as to meet the global demand for urban green innovation.

One of the main outcomes of Urban Green Train is a set of modules and resources (IO2) especially designed to be a useful toolbox for anybody looking to operate, directly or indirectly, in the world of urban agriculture.

The set includes **5 modules suitable for at presence and at distance learning, for a total duration of 150h**. The modules structure and content have been defined on the basis of an accurate analysis of the training needs of relevant key actors in urban agriculture, carried out by project partners in the their respective countries and illustrated in the publication "[URBAN AGRICULTURE INITIATIVES TOWARD A MINDSET CHANGE](#)" (IO1). URBAN GREEN TRAIN modules are the following:

Module 1: Introduction into urban agriculture concept and types

Module 2: Resource use from a challenge perspective

Module 3: Urban agriculture types/production systems and short food chains

Module 4: Networking and governance

Module 5: The world of business and urban demands

The URBAN GREEN TRAIN Modules and Resources (IO2) have been tested within a pilot international course offered from August 2016 to January 2017, both fully online and in a blended modality, to a wide range of participants from different European countries and professional backgrounds, through the e-Learning platform of the University of Bologna. Thanks to the feedbacks of pilot course participants and tutors, the modules and resources have been improved and finalised and made available in the present format to Higher Education Institutions and other private and public adult learning providers with the purpose of offering a complete and structured training pathway tackling all aspects relevant to new ways of doing business in agriculture.

URBAN GREEN TRAIN project is coordinated by the University of Bologna, Alma Mater Studiorum – Department of Agricultural Sciences (www.scienzeagrarie.unibo.it) and developed in cooperation with the following partners:

- Agreenium / Agrocampus Ouest, Paris, France <https://agreenium.fr>
- Vegepolys, Angers, France www.vegepolys.eu
- South-Westphalia University of Applied Sciences, Department of Agriculture, Soest, Germany <http://www4.fh-swf.de>.
- Hei-tro GmbH, Dortmund, Germany www.hei-tro.com/
- Horticity srl, Bologna, Italy www.horticity.it
- STePS srl, Bologna, Italy www.stepesurope.it
- Mammut Film srl, Bologna, Italy www.mammutfilm.it
- Grow the Planet, Italy www.growtheplanet.com
- RUAF Foundation, The Netherlands www.ruaf.org

More info at: www.urbangreentrain.eu

MODULE 1 “Introduction to urban agriculture concept and types”

Aims

The main concepts and challenges related to urban agriculture will be presented, as well as their evolution depending on the historical or worldwide geographical context. Participants will acquire knowledge on cities features, society and professional trends shaping urban agriculture environment. The urban agriculture functions and services will be addressed as a basis for activities development. Types of urban agriculture will be analysed based on case studies. This module will provide a framework for analysing urban agriculture situations.

Structure

Module 1 contents have been organised as follows:

- **1.1 Urban agriculture concept and environment**
 - 1.1.1 Defining Urban Agriculture
 - 1.1.2 Trend in food and non-food consumption
 - 1.1.3 Trends in city development and urban planning
 - 1.1.4 Professional trends in relation with UA
 - 1.1.5 Territorial analysis and governance
 - 1.1.6 Challenges for UA
 - 1.1.7 Diversity and roles of actors/stakeholders in UA
- **1.2 From multifunctionality to ecosystem services of urban agriculture**
 - 1.2.1 Concepts of multifunctionality and ecosystem services
 - 1.2.2 Services from UA
 - 1.2.3 Sustainable development of UA
 - 1.2.4 A framework for urban agriculture analysis
- **1.3 Evolution of urban agriculture depending on the context**
 - 1.3.1 Evolution of UA in Europe, North America and Oceania
 - 1.3.2 Evolution of UA in Africa
 - 1.3.3 Evolution of U A in Asia
 - 1.3.4 Evolution of UA in Latin America and Caribbean
- **1.4 Evolution of urban agriculture activity**
 - 1.4.1 Criteria for types of UA analysis
 - 1.4.2 Diversity and typology of production system in UA
 - 1.4.3 Case studies exercise
- **1.5 Bullet points: remember the economic dimension**
- **1.6 Practical work**

Learning objectives

Main learning objectives of Module 1 are the following:

TOPIC TITLE	TIME	LEARNING OBJECTIVES	LEARNING OUTCOMES
1.1 Urban agriculture concept and environment	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To compare the basis of the various definitions of UA To provide consumption and urbanization context of UA To present the current professional context To provide knowledge about territory diagnostic and governance based on urban or peri-urban context To identify the main challenges regarding UA activities To characterize actors and stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants are able to Identify an adapted definition of UA depending on the objective and context Identify opportunities and constraints for UA Understand professional support for UA Use tools and methods for a territorial analysis Map actors and stakeholders
1.2 From multifunctionality to ecosystem services of urban agriculture	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explain the evolution between multifunctionality and ecosystem services concepts To present the diversity of functions and services of UA To set the basis for an analysis of UA in regards with economical, environmental and social pillars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants are able to: Argue about UA advantages besides production Identify functions and services from UA Evaluate factors of UA sustainability
1.3 Evolution of urban agriculture depending on the context	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explain the historical evolution of UA in response to economical or political crises and to urban development To present the various forms of UA over time and the technical, economical or political reasons To set the current status of UA worldwide, with a comparison between developed and developing countries situations To analyze the UA evolution in various parts of the world 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants are able to Identify constant or specific evolution factors Identify constant or specific forms of UA Picture of UA depending on development level Understand UA status in Europe, Africa and Asia
1.4 Evolution of urban agriculture activity	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify and organize characteristics for a typology analysis of UA activities To show the high level of possibilities for UA production systems To illustrate one type of UA with a documented case study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants are able to Realize a typology of UA activities depending on the objective and context Propose typology of UA production systems Analyse in detail one type of UA
1.5 Bullet points: remember the economic dimension	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify possible innovations for main module's subtopics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants are able to: Identify main economic factors for UA business Identify economic oriented innovations
1.6 Practical work	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To acquire knowledge about the evolution of the urban landscape and how urban agriculture might have impacted the urban landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of the urban agriculture characteristics which have impacted significantly the urban landscapes and its evolution in several countries/cities

MAIN CONTENT AND RESOURCES

1.1 - Urban agriculture concept and environment

Introduction

How we can define what urban agriculture is and what are the driving factors behind the growing attention for (peri-) urban agriculture? And how do trends in food consumption, urban planning and professional trends influence the development of urban agriculture?

This chapter examines how we can define the practice of urban agriculture and identify the main stakeholders and professions. As well, the chapter will discuss trends in food consumption and professionalism associated with urban agriculture. Learning objectives include:

- To identify an adapted definition of UA depending on the objective and context
- To identify opportunities for UA products and trends in food consumption
- To identify opportunities and constraints for urban agriculture projects
- To understand professional trends that support urban agriculture
- To identify methods for a territorial analysis
- To be able to identify and map actors and stakeholders