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HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN



# Urban Climate-Gardens: an educational initiative in Berlin

**Eva Foos**

[www.agrarberatung.huberlin.de/forschung/klimagaerten](http://www.agrarberatung.huberlin.de/forschung/klimagaerten)

Nature-Based Solutions to Climate Change in Urban Areas and their rural Surroundings, Bonn, 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> of November 2015

# Project

## ***Urban Climate-Gardens: an educational initiative in the model region of Berlin***

- Program: Promotion of measures for climate change adaptation
- Focus: Development of educational measures on climate change and adaptation
- Funded by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety
- Duration: 04/ 2015 – 03/ 2017



# Structure

- Objectives
- Approach
- First results of the situation analysis
- Consequences for the implementation



# What are “Urban Climate-Gardens“?

- Gardens which demonstrate aspects of climate adaptation and mitigation in the way of cultivation (e. g. ground cover, efficient irrigation)
- Urban gardens in general because they are measures of adaptation and mitigation for cities

# Objectives: Purposes

- Sensitize allotment holders and community gardeners as well as multipliers for the climate impacts, adaptation and mitigation
- Promote awareness for “climate-gardening” and for the value of gardens in Berlin
- Capacity building for educators/ multipliers
- Contribute to existing education measures
- Networking: Linking science with praxis (education, city council etc.) and promote discourses

# Objectives: Outputs

- Situation and knowledge demand analysis
- “Education Forums“: series of events for gardeners and multipliers
- Educational gardens and respective material
- Multimedia learning platform

# Approach

Build upon

- existing processes, structures and measures
- state-of-the-art (science, education, gardening practice)

Instruments:

- Participation and cooperation such as:
- Consultation with experts in the project advisory board
- Exchange with science and praxis
- Survey of gardeners in Berlin
- Feedback from participants of forums and visitors of gardens

# Partners

Project advisory board:

Regional associations of allotment gardeners, community gardeners, environmental organizations, scientists, educators and the Senate Department for Urban Development and the Environment

Education forums: “Forum Stadtgärtnern“, Regional Association of allotment gardeners, individual gardens (so far)

Educational gardens: Community and allotment gardeners

Multimedia platform: [Stadtacker.net](http://Stadtacker.net)



# Situation analysis

## Objectives:

- Overview on “existing knowledge“
- and of present educational activities
- Assessment of the need for expertise
- Starting points for the project implementation

# Situation analysis

## Procedure:

- Literature analysis
- Individual and group discussions with experts
- Exchange in the Project Advisory Board
- Online survey 08 - 10/2015: feedback from 82 gardeners

# Situation analysis

## Climate Gardening:

- Climate Gardening = mostly organic gardening

## Education:

- Existing relevant educational material on gardening
- Linkage to climate change mostly missing

## Gardening Praxis:

- Some adaptive practice is realized (e.g. organic fertilizers)
- Left potentials: crop rotation, use of rain water, efficient irrigation, ground cover
- Knowledge from learning “by exchange“ and „by doing“
- Big interest on learning more about relevant measures

# Consequences

## Focus on core topics:

- Climate impacts on gardening
- Species and varieties: Selection, crop rotations, intercropping
- Soil: conservation and improvement
- Water: Dealing with lack and excess of water
- Gardens in Berlin: importance / efforts on behalf of the city councils / funding opportunities

# Consequences

## Focusing of the Approach I:

### Workshops:

- Bringing together people from gardening practice, science, education and the city council
- Alternating formats, locations and core topics
- Input by science and praxis
- Time for informal exchange and networking

### Material:

- Recommendations for gardening and education (multipliers)
- Information material for gardeners

# Consequences

## Focusing the Approach II:

### “Climate Gardens“:

- Designing new educational gardens (in the city centre)
- Complementing existing educational gardens
- Overview on educational gardens in Berlin
- plus respective education material

### Online-Plattform:

- Documentation of educational gardens in Berlin
- Documentation of workshops and forums
- Overview of educational material and funding opportunities

# Outlook

- Kick-off Forum of the educational and networking series: 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2015
- Report on situation analysis in February 2016



# Thank you very much for your attention!

## Contact:

**Eva Foos**

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Faculty of Life Sciences

Albrecht Daniel Thaer-Institute of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences

Extension and Communication Group

E-Mail: [eva.foos@agrار.hu-berlin.de](mailto:eva.foos@agrار.hu-berlin.de)

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