Appendix 9. Introduction to RUAF

**Introduction**

- Lucy Browne
- Resource manager of the Resource Centre for Urban Agriculture and Forestry (RUAF)
- ETC Foundation, the Netherlands

**RUAF**

- International Partnership Programme.
- Programme funding by IDRC (Canada) and DGIS (the Netherlands)
- Co-funding for specific activities by GTZ, DSE, SIDA, ACIAR, CGIAR, FAO, CTA, IWMI, CORDAID, MISERIOR, OXFAM-NL, a/o
- 1999-2004

**RUAF Objectives**

- To create awareness regarding the potentials and risks of urban agriculture
- To improve access of local stakeholders to information (research data, project experiences, policy evaluations)
- To facilitate identification and analysis of critical issues regarding urban agriculture
- To support local capacity development and networking

**Objectives (cont.)**

- To facilitate the integration of urban agriculture in the policies and action plans of national and local stakeholders
- To secure embedding of functions of RUAF in the regular programmes of regional and international organisations in order to ensure continuity

**Project organisation**

- **Context:** SGUA-action plan 1996
- **Project coordination:** ETC, Netherlands
- **Regional partners:**
  - Latin America and the Caribbean: UMP-LAC, Quito
  - Francophone West Africa: IAGU, Dakar
  - Anglophone West Africa: IMWI-Ghana, Accra
  - East and Southern Africa: MDP, Harare
  - S-E-Asia: IWMI-India, Hyderabad
  - Middle East and Northern Africa: CEDARE, Cairo
  - China: IGSNRR, Beijing
  - Liaison North America: TUAN, Washington
  - Liaison Europe: ETC, Leusden

**Activities**

- RUAF Website www.ruaf.org
- Urban Agriculture Magazine
- Electronic Conferences
- International Workshops
- Bibliographic database and Annotated bibliography
- Contacts and expertise database
- Publication "Growing Cities, Growing Food" (5 languages)
- Regional Needs Analysis
- Video on Urban Agriculture (4 languages)
- CD-Rom with bibliography and other RUAF materials
- Development of Training Materials (also for Internet)
- Assistance to policy development and action planning
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**RUAF: E-Conferences and international workshops**
- 1999 International workshop “Urban agriculture on the policy agenda” in Havana, Cuba with DSE, CTA, GTZ and Sida
- 2000 Electronic Conference with FAO on “UPA, Food Security and Health”
- 2001 International workshop in Nairobi and Electronic E-conference with CGIAR-SIUPA, CTA and ACIAR on “Appropriate Methodologies for Urban Agriculture”
- 2002 Regional workshop in Ouagadougou with CREPA and CTA on “Use of Wastewater in Urban Agriculture”; E-conference with IWMI on the same issue
- Planned: E-conference with UN-Habitat on “Access to Land”

**UA-Magazine**
- In 5 language versions; 5000 subscribers
- Thematic issues (3 per year):
  # 1 Maiden issue: urban agriculture
  # 2 Urban livestock
  # 3 Health aspects of urban agriculture
  # 4 Integration of agriculture in urban planning
  # 5 Appropriate Methodologies for urban agriculture research, planning, implementation and evaluation
  # 6 Transition to ecological farming
  # 7 The economics of urban agriculture
  # 8 Use of wastewater in urban agriculture
- Planned:
  # 9 Financing urban agriculture
  # 10 Micro-technologies for urban agriculture
  # 11 Access to land and water

**Urban Aquaculture**
- RUAF wants to give the topic more attention
- Critical issues:
  - link with urban poverty alleviation and enhancing urban food security
  - recycling of wastewater and organic wastes
  - management of public health and environmental risks
  - micro-enterprise development for processing and marketing

**Role of RUAF in PAPUSSA**
- Planned:
  - Aquaculture discussion platform and Papussa homepage on the RUAF website
  - Production of CD-rom with materials produced by the Papussa-partners
- Proposed (if funds allow):
  - an UA-Magazine on Aquaculture
  - an Email-conference on Aquaculture
  - a Policy brief on aquaculture

Questions?