

**Nordplus Adult**  
**Urban Garden Specialist**  
**NPAD-2021/10161**



**Theme:**

**The Urban Garden Concepts**

**Location and Scale of Urban Garden**

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# Location and Scale of Urban Garden

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- Introduction
- Scales of urban gardens
- Location
- Challenges related to location of urban garden
- Lessons learned
- Work in groups





# Scales and Forms of Urban Gardens

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- Urban farming
  - Allotment garden
  - Community garden
  - Private garden
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- Gardening on site
  - Green roofs
  - Terrace garden
  - Vertical garden
  - Balcony garden

Photos by Alisa Korolova ©





Allotment garden in Birmingham. Photos by Alisa Korolova ©

**Urban farming** assumes a level of commerce, the growing of product to be sold as opposed to being grown for personal consumption or sharing.

**Allotment garden** is any privately or publicly owned garden area which has been divided into plots for assignment to individuals for their use. With an average size of 170–400 square meters (depending on local peculiarities plot sizes may differ), allotment gardens are often located on the outskirts of the city, or as a temporary use on the territories with a certain burden.

**Community garden** plots are smaller and can take variety of forms (gardens on site, raised beds, vertical structures, etc.) depending on the purpose and location.





# Location of Urban Garden

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- Urban allotment gardens are often located on temporary sites on residual or unused areas, or as buffer zones between noisy infrastructure (e.g., railways, highways) and residential areas.
- Community garden often appear as a temporary solution to regenerate unused plots in the centre of the city or to promote effective use of derelict brownfield sites.



Allotment garden in Riga and community garden in Vienna. Photos by Alisa Korolova ©



Roof top garden in Dublin. Photo by Alisa Korolova ©



Roof top farming on top of Blågård School in Copenhagen. Photo credits: Scandinavian Standard available from <https://www.scandinaviastandard.com/a-shrub-grows-in-copenhagen-a-look-at-urban-farming/>

# Location of Urban Garden

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- Some European cities are adopting a green roof policy, so urban gardens located on the roof top are gaining popularity. For example, Copenhagen has adopted a green roof strategy (Green Roofs Copenhagen, The City of Copenhagen) as a part of city's overall strategy to become a carbon neutral city by 2025.
- Urban gardens on roof can provide various ecosystem services like cultural (e.g., recreation), regulating (e.g., pollination, climate regulation), or provisioning (e.g., herbs).





Community garden in Tallinn. Photos by Alisa Korolova ©

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There are multiple advantages of urban gardening, including increased confidence about the source and quality of food produce, enhanced urban health and sustainability, social inclusion, etc. (Taylor et al. 2021).

Despite of the many advantages offered by urban gardens, they can face certain challenges, related to metal contamination from building, industry, transport and waste practices, flood risk, vandalism, etc. And often those challenges depend on location of a garden.

# Edible Eastside (Birmingham, UK)



- “Garden situated on a derelict canal side space behind Fazeley Street, a former propane gas filling depot. The site has been transformed into a 'Pop-Up Park' for the purposes of growing food and making art. The garden is open to the public, it has a cafe, garden, studio and a picturesque waterside space” (EOP Eastside Projects).

Community garden in Birmingham. Photos by Alisa Korolova ©







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Garden located in a dense urban environment, with high share of industrial territories and within a close proximity to the railway.





Community garden in Birmingham. Photos by Alisa Korolova ©



# The ÖBB Allotment Garden (Salzburg, Austria)

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- The ÖBB Allotment Garden is unique in its land use history with ÖBB Company. With association of ÖBB-Agriculture founded for active and retired employees of the Austrian Federal Railways and their family members (Voight & Breuste, 2014).

Allotment garden in Salzburg. Photo by Alisa Korolova ©





ArcGIS satellite view of the OBB allotment garden in Salzburg.

Allotment garden plots are located along the railway, creating a buffer zone between railway and residential buildings.



# Lucavsala Allotment Garden (Riga, Latvia)

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- Allotment gardens in Lucavsala have their origins back to 1907, when the territory was divided into allotment plots. Lucavsala is a unique location characterised with a proximity of Riga city centre, good public transport connection, accessible waterfront and rich ecosystem. Currently there are about 1529 allotment garden plots on Lucavsala (2021).

Allotment garden in Riga. Photo by Alisa Korolova ©





ArcGIS satellite view of the Lucavsala allotment garden in Riga.

Allotment garden plots are located on an island in the close proximity to Riga City center (about 20 min by a public transport or less than 10 minutes by a private car).

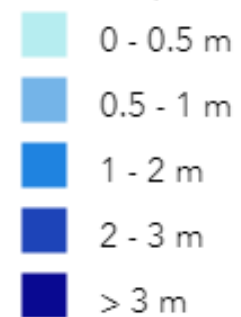




Allotment garden in Riga. Photo by Alisa Korolova ©



Water depth, flood risk 10%



Source: <https://videscentr.lv/iebuve/vets/pludu-riska-un-pludu-draudu-kartes>





Photos by Alisa Korolova ©

# Lessons Learned

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- Where else can I grow?
- Ways to control the soil quality
- Types of grown vegetables and fruits



# Work in groups

- Work in small groups (2-5 people) and choose a location from the proposed ones.
- Analyse the location of the garden.
- Identify possible threats/ challenges related to the specific location.
- Discuss with your teammates how to address these challenges.
- Present your findings and suggestions to other groups.

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# THANKYOU!

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