

INSUAH - Integrated Study on Urban Agriculture as Heritage

Initiative: Globale Herausforderungen – Integration unterschiedlicher Perspektiven

Ausschreibung: Integrating Different Perspectives on Heritage and Change

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Laufzeit: 4 Jahre

Given global challenges such as urbanisation, limited resources and food security, urban agriculture has turned from a phenomenon considered to be peripheral to a globally acknowledged instrument for sustainable development. Usually, urban agriculture initiatives focus around creating new systems; the qualities of inherited and vernacular systems of urban agricultural production and its associated benefits - for food supply, income generation, social and biodiversity, and the urban metabolism - have not been subject yet to research activities, despite the fact that considering urban development and heritage together is strongly suggested in the UN agenda for sustainable development. To address this gap, the team will share case study based experiences from different urban regions: Sao Paulo (Brazil), Havana (Cuba), Bandung (Indonesia), Tokyo (Japan) and Nuremberg (Germany). The project combines historical investigations, spatial analysis and living lab methods to detect, map and define the heritage and its associated values and threats, and to raise awareness of the heritage and elaborate targeted planning and policy agendas. The case study findings will be integrated in a parallel metalevel process by focussing upon a living heritage approach taking into account ecosystematic, contextual and participatory perspectives. As a final product, the project will formulate an Agenda on Urban Agricultural Heritage together with the FAO and the UN Habitat programme.

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