



# Hyphen 63

News from the Office

Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux  
association sans but lucratif | March 2018

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# Finnland: Challenges facing a little big country

Pertti Laitila

Präsident, Suomen Siirtolapuutarhaliitto ry. /  
The Finnish Federation for Allotment Gardeners



Pertti Laitila

Finland is a small country with only 5,5 million inhabitants. Finland is a big country, too, geographically almost the size of Germany and more than ten times larger than Belgium. Our population density is only 14 % of the European average, and Finland is included in that average. To top this, we speak a language nobody else understands.

Finland is a country of summer cottages. There are over half a million of them, one per every eleven Finns. On national holidays there are enormous traffic jams when Finns head to their lakeside cottages. Finland is called The Land of a Thousand Lakes but, actually the lakes number almost 190 000.

Not everybody wants sit in traffic jams and drive hundreds of kilometers to reach their own sanctuary. Many like the city, wish to stay there and grow their own local produce. That is why we also have allotment gardens, and have had them for one hundred years. Our National Federation of Allotment Gardeners turns 90 in 2020.

## Same but different

In the Finnish allotment gardens every plot has a cottage where one can stay overnight. Many gardeners move to their cottage in spring – spring taking place at different times in different regions – and return to their city home in autumn. The size of a cottage is 25 sqm on average, and they come in all shapes and colors.

## South to north, west to east

The distance between the southernmost and northernmost allotment garden is more than 800 km. It takes a 1.5 hour flight to cover the distance or, in a more ecological manner, overnight by train. The 800 km equals seven national hardiness zones. March in the south can be snowless while it may snow in May up north.

500 km separate the allotment gardens on the west coast from the ones farthest east. In the west proximity to the sea reduces the thickness of a protective snow cover, but the soil is fertile and gardening there is influenced by Sweden.

## Shapes and colors



Brunakärr Allotment Garden,  
Helsinki



Herttoniemi Allotment Garden,  
Helsinki



Herttoniemi Allotment Garden,  
Helsinki



Kantolanniemi Allotment  
Garden, Hämeenlinna



Päiväranta Allotment Garden,  
Kuopio



## Urban



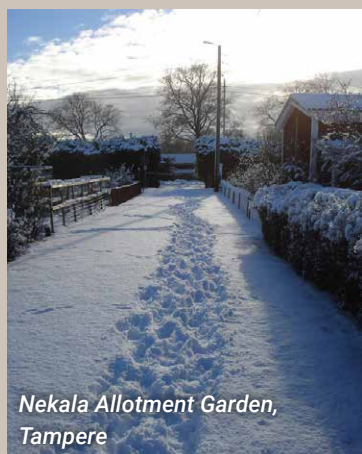
*Brunakärr Allotment Garden,  
Helsinki*



*Kumpula Allotment Garden,  
Helsinki*



*Luoto Allotment Garden,  
Pori*



*Nekala Allotment Garden,  
Tampere*

The area near the eastern border may receive ten times as much snow as the west coast, thanks to the continental climate. Winters are harsh, summers can be hot and dry. In the east the soil is often poor.

### Urban gardening also in rural areas

The first allotment gardens in our country were founded in major towns. Today's town dwellers often have no direct contact with the countryside and growing food. When a town dweller is inspired to purchase an allotment, he starts from zero. Composting, putting fire in a stove, painting a wall or repairing a cottage are totally new skills to him or her. The allotment garden sites in the towns are often large (the biggest have 320 plots) and they are close to good public transportation.

The allotment gardens in rural areas are usually smaller – our smallest member has only 12 plots. They are close to nature, often near a lake. These gardens do not have much interest or need for raising crops in a closely knit community. For those members who wish to grow vegetables the areas have separate vegetable patches. These allotment gardens are located some distance from the village or town and one needs a car to get there.

### The challenge of providing equal and fair service

Half of the country's 60 allotment garden associations are members of our national Federation. The member gardens are larger than average, meaning that our Federation covers more than half of the nation's allotment gardeners.

As the number of allotment gardens is modest on a European scale, it has not been necessary to build a network of regional societies under the national Federation. Helsinki and Tampere have their local societies which work for common interests on a city level. The Federation is on excellent working terms with them, even though they are not members of the Federation.

The new Executive Board of the Finnish Federation is superbly representative both regionally and according

to the size of the associations. This is vital to our aim to produce fair and equal services to every member association and their gardeners. Much has though been done already: in the beginning of 2017 the Federation launched a member card in co-operation with several businesses, offering the gardeners benefits. Summer 2017 saw the local pilot of a training program which in 2018 will become national.

All Finnish allotment gardeners are concerned of the future of our environment. In an effort to lessen this concern the Federation will offer the allotment gardens and gardeners assistance and tools, as noted in the national 'Society's Commitment to Sustainable Development' that the Federation has signed.

## Rural



*Riihossalmi Allotment Garden,  
Mänttä*



*Valman Allotment Garden,  
Valkeakoski*



*Riihossalmi Allotment Garden,  
Mänttä*

Digitalization offers numerous new possibilities – regardless of geographical distances. The associations and their member-gardeners can become more active participants, and the Fed-

eration can both take along everybody more easily and arrange completely new service forms. All the Finnish gardeners though are not yet digitalized to the extent to make us abandon con-

ventional methods of service, but the Federation is keeping itself informed. We have no other alternative.

# In Memoriam



*Søren Cronsioe*

We received last year the sad news that our friend and former Office President Søren Cronsioe from Sweden passed away on 18th October 2017 after a longer illness.

Søren Cronsioe was a very fervent defendant of the International Office and strongly believed in the necessity of a strong international movement. He represented the Swedish federation in our meetings for several years and organised in Stockholm in 1990 the interesting international congress with the topic: The significance of the allotment garden for the future social evolution of our society.

Even after he retired from the Swedish federation, Søren's heart continued to beat for the Swedish allotment movement so that the family at the occasion of the funeral wished a donation into the Loan Fund of the Swedish federation. The Swedish associations can borrow money from this fund for investments.

We owe Søren Cronsioe many thanks for his commitment for the national and European allotment gardeners. Our efforts to strengthen and to develop the national and international allotment movement is the best way to honour Søren's memory.

We will not forget him and his work for the allotment gardeners.



# The allotment association "Eigen Hof" in Amsterdam (NL) received the diploma for ecological gardening



On 10 September 2016 Eigen Hof received the full score of 4 DOTS of the National Quality Mark "Natural Gardening". They achieved the magnificent result in only 2 years of hard work thanks to many enthusiastic and inspired volunteers. Eigen Hof has 156 gardens partly with and partly without a garden house and they have an average size of 280 m<sup>2</sup>. The site was founded in 1937. Approximately 10 % of the site is open to the public (no gardens) and is maintained in an ecological way. The allotment site is part of the "Groene As" (Green Axis) of the city of Amsterdam.

## Maintenance

Over 20 years – since 1994 – the maintenance takes place according to an Integral Maintenance Plan, written by biologist Henk Smit, who had

a garden at Eigen Hof. From that moment on big steps were made towards a more natural layout of the site and planned mowing, supported by the ban of chemicals and encouraging gardeners to process garden waste in their own garden.

## Projects and special elements

From 2014 until 2016 many natural elements were added to the allotment site, as for example:

- an indigenous botanical garden, the pride of the allotment site, with a large ecological value
- bee hives
- an insect hotel was placed in this garden
- insect friendly seed mix was sown
- a heap for grass snakes
- re-using residual wood for several projects

- willow timbering
- dead hedges
- hedgehog stairs
- bird nests
- floating rafts for water birds
- a very attractive dry stone wall at the entrance of the allotment site
- a second dry stone wall with a shelter for hedgehogs

## Communication

To spread information Eigen Hof uses several means of communication:

- an information showcase
- the window of their shop
- their magazine
- local newspapers
- Facebook
- Information signs in their community building
- Information signs through the allotment site



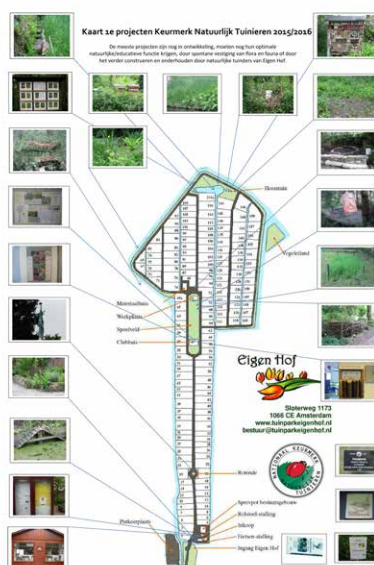
- Workshops
- Biological seedlings were added to their shop

### The future

A working group, with the support of the board, intends to take Eigen Hof even further over the next 4 years. All the working group members have their own responsibility. They work as equals and do not have a chairman. They work in a very practical and informal way and try to make other gardeners enthusiastic to participate.

### Percentage participating gardeners

The estimation is that about 70 % of the gardeners participate in natural gardening in one way or the other.





# The association “Mariahoeve” in den Haag (NL) received the diploma for ecological gardening



Mariahoeve has a “Natural Gardening” working group with 14 members of which 3 are not even member of the association. The allotment site has 80 gardens.

## Special elements:

Examples of the many special elements, that are a result of the hard work of the past 6 years by the working group, are:

- Approximately 25 bird nest boxes for sparrows, tits, starlings and a falcon
- Bat boxes, duck baskets and hedgehog shelters
- Wooded bank, dead hedges, dry stone walls, tiles as shelter
- Butterfly garden
- 2 wild flower meadows
- Hedgehog castle
- Herb garden for members and non-members
- Island with 2 snake shelters

- Several insect hotels
- An insect wall
- Information signs

## Special activities are organised:

- Flower day and picnic morning for the elderly
- Natural gardening excursion for the young people from the neighbouring gardens
- Day of the Garden
- Ecological gardening course
- Promotion of natural gardening on local fairs
- Library / exhibition of gardening related books and magazines

After 4 years of negotiations with Water Board authorities and the city council a tilting weir was placed in the ecological corridor. Now the water quality has improved and fish have returned to the waters in and around the allotment site.





# The allotment association “Zonder Werken Niets” in Haarlem received the diploma for ecological gardening



The public parts of the allotment site are kept as natural as possible. Near the entrance there is a nature garden and an indigenous botanical garden, both open to the public. Special plants and elements for animals are present as well as information signs. Many indigenous plants grow in these gardens and under the trees. A beautiful biotope for insects, amphibians and birds developed in the several dead hedges. The allotment site has a wide diversity of birds.

## The animals that can be found on the allotment site are among others:

- Fox
- Hedgehog
- *Lissotriton vulgaris*
- *Pararge aegeria*
- *Crocothemis erythraea*
- Green woodpecker (*Picus viridis*)
- Long-eared owl (*Asio otus*)
- Sparrow-hawk (*Accipiter nisus*)
- Siskin (*Spinus spinus*)

- Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*)
- Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*)
- Nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos*)
- Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)

Since 2014 the allotment site has a natural playground.

## An example of the many special elements are:

- Walls for kingfishers – birds were seen
- Floating islands with marsh plant
- Dry stone walling
- Insect hotels
- Nest for a stork
- Bee hives and a demonstration bee hive



# History of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux 1926 – 2016

6th part

Malou Weirich,

secretary general of the International Office

**From 1947 until today**

## **3) Cooperation with the international organisations and conclusion of partnerships**

The delegates of the International Office were conscious, both before and after the Second World War, that a cooperation with the international organisations was important. The aim thereof was "to gain influence on national governments" (Joseph Goemare) as well as to give a more important external visibility to the Office and to focus on allotments.

### **a) UNESCO**

So in the 80s the Office first tried to establish contacts with the UNESCO. The French federation, represented by Dr Paul Le Moal, and the Office, represented by Malou Weirich, were in charge of these negotiations.

One of the problems, possibly the greatest and which could not be solved at that time, was the name of the Office International des Jardins Ouvriers et Familiaux. This name designates in fact an international organisation i. e. a worldwide organisation. The Office, however, unified only European federations. The Office, therefore, was only considered by the UNESCO authorities as a European regional association. A membership would only have been possible as a regional union requiring a changing of the name to underline this fact.

The delegates were, however, not ready and are even less ready today to lose their international character and the possibility to open up, to become only a regional organisation.

The contacts with the UNESCO were therefore not continued.

### **b) Council of Europe**

The first contacts with the Council of Europe were established at the occasion of the international congress in Luxembourg in 1988. On September 16th, 1990 the International Office was granted the consultative status with the Council of Europe which was transformed for all INGOs (international non-governmental organisations) into a participative status following a general modification of their status in 2003.

Since 1990 the Office has developed an intense participation in the activities of the Council of Europe so that the allotment movement could be integrated into legal texts and has taken part in different campaigns.

At the occasion of the Office celebration for the first European Day of the Garden, in Vienna in 1991 Catherine Lalumière, former secretary general of the Council of Europe recognised the double function of the allotment movement and sent following message:

"The family gardens constitute an inestimable element for our towns.

They are first of all green spaces, and everybody understands their absolute necessity in our towns. As far as this aspect is concerned they deserve the attention of the local authorities.

In addition to that, they offer to our citizens a possibility of a fruitful activity. They are for many a real passion, the social function of which is here again not negligible".

A further proof of the recognition of the new public function of the allotment movement was the fact that in 1992 the allotments could be for the first time integrated into an international text i. e. into the European Urban Charter. The Office was actively supported in these negotiations by the Austrian, German and Luxembourgish federations.

The contributions of the allotments were recognised in this urban charter in the following areas: environment and nature in towns, urban planning and town development, adequate living as well as leisure time occupation.

The Council of Europe forwarded this urban charter to all the cities with more than 30,000 inhabitants and requested the towns to put the principles of this charter into practice.



In execution of its social function, the Office took part in the revision of the social charter of the Council of Europe and presented requests for also including, for example, the right to leisure time, the right to an adequate housing with a garden or nearby garden sites, as well as the right for elderly people to keep an adequate garden as long as they wish into this charter.

Additionally, the Office has presented several memoranda underlining the value of the allotments, for example, in the context of the year concerning the third age and the European week for local democracy.

In 2015 and 2016 projects realized by several national federations were presented to the Council of Europe within the European Week for Local Democracy and put online on the Council of Europe's homepage.

The Office also participated within its ecological activities for example in the year concerning nature protection and in the preparatory work for the COP 21 in order to increase the focus on the value of our allotments and to succeed in including them, as often as possible, into international position papers and texts.

The Council of Europe as well as the European Union financially supported

the Office brochure concerning a nature friendly gardening.

These listed activities do of course not represent an extensive list, but should only be considered as some examples on how the Office can represent the interests of the allotment gardeners: sensitisation for their concerns on one hand, integration of the allotments in binding treaties, texts or guidelines on the other hand.

## c) European Union

The cooperation with the European Union reveals to be more difficult and will be described separately in the next article.

## d) Europa Nostra

All over Europe the allotment garden movement has a social and a nature protection function. At the same time it constitutes a cultural element of our European society. Therefore, following the efforts of the Dutch federation, the International Office became member of Europa Nostra in 2013. The aim of this organisation is to increase the protection of the cultural and natural heritage of Europe for the present and coming generations.

The cooperation reveals to be difficult. The Office was represented by the Austrian federation at the general assembly of Europa Nostra in Vienna

in 2014. No contacts could be made. Additionally, the very high participation costs prevent the Office from taking part in the events organised by Europa Nostra.

The Office general secretariat tried together with the French federation to present the candidature of the allotment garden site "Jardins et Vergers" from Marsanne-la-Côte (France) for the European prize for cultural heritage. The set deadline did not allow us to be successful.

## e) Week without pesticides

Since 2015 the International Office has been taking part as partner organisation in this week and this campaign.

Calls are addressed in this area to the national allotment gardeners. The national federations and associations were also invited to take part.

The Office hopes by this partnership to achieve an increased visibility in society in addition to its call and sensitisation of allotment and other amateur gardeners for a nature friendly gardening and a gardening without pesticides.

To be continued

# Belgium: Services offered by Tuinhier, the Flemish allotment federation

Tuinhier is an allotment movement but also a gardening movement in general. Not all our members or local boards own an allotment. Most of our members own a private garden. To assist all as good as possible we provide a large array of services.

## Services for members

- Tuinhier offers a monthly magazine with tips, tricks and inspirations for the coming month.
- Local boards organise workshops and lectures for their members.
- Apart from the workshops there is an array of activities like visits of gardens, garden jury, company tours and exhibitions.
- We make publications about gardening.
- We provide inspiration for the garden in our magazine and other media e. g. Pinterest.
- We offer a membership card which offers bonuses and advantages.
- There is a helpdesk for all members that have questions about gardening.

## Services for local boards

- We offer insurance for all active volunteers and boards.
- We offer guidance and advice for new allotment gardens / groups and for the maintenance of existing parks.
- There are workshops for board members.
- We maintain a list of teachers and their subjects for local boards.
- We help write subsidy files.
- We offer inspirations and guidance for the local boards.
- The monthly magazine is made and distributed by Tuinhier.
- External communication.
- Sensitisation for good garden practices through the Ecological garden label.
- Help with the statutes of local boards.
- Problem solving.
- Support for exhibitions and distribution of promo-materials.

## Services for external partners / local governments / ...

- Guidance and advice for new allotment gardens / groups and for the maintenance of existing parks.
- Publications.
- Support in scientific research.
- Cooperation in our area of concern with other organisations / partners.

## Services to society

- We have a cultural value and function.
- We stimulate community building.
- We promote the education concerning hobby agriculture.
- We promote gardening as a positive leisure time.
- We work for more public green in the shape of more allotment gardens.
- We cooperate in the story about the short food chain.
- We promote healthy food.
- We promote inclusion.
- We activate people in society.

# Germany: "Integration Garden"

Culture Garden in Lüneburg receives an award from the German Environmental Relief Association

**Silke Wissel**  
Urban Teamleader

**Joachim Roemer**  
President Lower Saxony Allotment Garden Association (Registered Association)

On a midsummer day Silke Wissel, team leader at the "Deutsche Umwelthilfe" (DUH- German Environmental Relief Association) from Radolfzell on Lake Constance, traveled to Lüneburg. She met more than 100 refugees, students and visitors on the Moorfeld allotment garden site celebrating their summer festival.

Silke Wissel came with a high award to bestow. The award distinguishes the cultural garden on the allotment site as the first „integration garden“. The DUH award honors the commitment and the extensive activities of the garden initiative dedicated to the integration of refugees taken up entirely by volunteers. The award came with a prize of 500 euros.

The cultural garden was created at the beginning of the 2014 garden season on a free plot of the allotment garden site situated on the outskirts of Lüneburg. The project was initiated by a group of students. Since then, people of different nationalities, generations and cultures have come together to learn from each other everything from gardening methods and vegetables to recipes while gardening together.

The Lüneburg allotment garden district association was one of the initiators of the garden project. The Moor-



feld association quickly agreed and unanimously decided to assume the lease, water and electricity costs for the initiative.

*"In the culture garden, people from many different backgrounds meet on equal footing. Here, housing conditions and residency status take a back seat, and focuses rather on practical questions, such as when potatoes can be planted locally and how many ways there are to prepare beans. This is where environmental awareness and intercultural learning go hand in hand, and that's what makes gardening projects so interesting to us as an environmental federa-*

*tion",* says Silke Wissel, Urban Nature team leader at DUH.

*"Everyone involved in the project brings different knowledge from their home countries, which makes the collaboration so exciting and instructive. Our garden would surely not be as diverse as it is without the refugees' knowledge",* adds Eva Kern of the Cultural Garden's Organisation team.

The project and the support of allotment gardeners were also praised by politicians and administrative representatives on this occasion. Bundestag members Jutta Vierlinden (Green Party) and Hiltrud Lotze (SPD) were



enthusiastic and wanted such initiatives to be also created in other towns. Ulrich Löß Mayor of Lüneburg stressed the importance of this initiative for the working towards integration in this Hanseatic city. The Chairman of the allotment association Sascha Rhein stressed that the Lüneburg allotment gardeners could also benefit from the cultural garden concept. "People from many nations garden together on allotments, and they also do so here among the Moorfeld's allotment gardeners. This type of project so becomes quickly something normal"

Through the competition „Integration Gardens“, DUH awarded prizes to a total of five garden projects and initiatives that include refugees or that were initiated by refugees themselves. The other gardens received their awards in September and November.

The competition receives financial and technical support via a special „Environment and Refugees“ programme of the German Federal Environmental Foundation (DBU).

The competition is sponsored by partners who also form the jury. These include Ute Landwehr-von Brock from the German Order of Malta Auxiliary Service, the Gudrun Walesch from an-

stiftung, Hans-Dieter Walker from the German Red Cross, Stefan Grundei from the German allotment federation "Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde e. V." and Silke Wissel, and Robert Spreter of the German Environmental Relief Association.

**For further information see:** Regarding the competition [www.duh.de/gaerten-der-integration](http://www.duh.de/gaerten-der-integration); regarding the work of DUH in the area of urban nature [www.duh.de/zielgruppen/kommunen/stadtnatur](http://www.duh.de/zielgruppen/kommunen/stadtnatur); Regarding the Lüneburg cultural garden: [www.kulturgarten-lueneburg.de](http://www.kulturgarten-lueneburg.de) and regarding the DBU special program „Environment and Refugees“: [https://www.dbu.de/123artikel37278\\_2362.html](https://www.dbu.de/123artikel37278_2362.html).

**Additional information:** Four additional German allotment association are in 2017 among the winners of the competition: "Integration Gardens" of the German Relief association:

- Querbeet: Integration in zwei Osnabrücker Kleingärten
- Interkultureller Garten Eime (Niedersachsen)
- Dillinger Stadtgarten (Saarland)
- Interkulturelle Bielefeldt-Gärten in Lübeck (Schleswig-Holstein)

# Germany: The National Competition and its Presentation to the Public

Thomas WAGNER, BDG

## 1. Background and purpose

The national competition: "Gardens in urban planning" is carried out every four years by the German Allotment Garden Federation (BDG) in cooperation with the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), formerly BMVBS, and always has a theme relating to current urban and green development policy.

**2002** Better quality of life through allotments

**2006** For man and nature in the tense interplay of urban space

**2010** Living and encounters in green areas

**2014** Gardening together – growing together

**2018** Small gardens – colourful variety

The competition focuses on the contribution of allotment sites and allotment associations to the living together in the cities. Awards will be granted to allotment gardens for outstanding urban planning, social, ecological, urban climate and horticultural achievements.

All allotment associations can register to participate in the national competition. Applicants from all federal

states enter the final round and are appraised by a seven-member jury. The winning prize will be awarded in a festive closing event. The achievements of the associations will be recognized through awards in „Gold“, „Silver“ and „Bronze“. Since 2010, cash prizes have also been awarded to first place finishers. The results will appear in a final event brochure.

The national competition should be given the broadest media coverage possible so as to contribute to increase the public's awareness of allotment gardening.

## 2. PR strategies: 2006 and earlier

The PR strategy of former national competitions focused on the idea of competition. Against the backdrop of the Football World Cup, which always took place at the same time, the BDG presented the national competition in media coverage under the banner of „The German Allotment Gardeners' Cup“. This featured relaxed language that borrowed from sports journalism and worked with local patriotic

**GÄRTEN / M**

24. BUNDESWETTBEWERB 2018

**STÄDTEBAU**



elements. Accordingly, the national competition became a competition amongst regions for the title of „Germany's Best Allotment Garden“. This idea was taken up broadly in local and regional radio, TV and print media. Overall, the event enjoyed wide media coverage.

AN EXAMPLE: A summer under the sign of the winners ...

## 3. PR strategies from 2010 onward

In 2010, the federal competition was used much more than before to emphasize the many merits of the allotment garden associations for the general public. We concentrated on strengthening images. To achieve this we linked the successful compe-



tion approach from the 2006. ("The German allotment gardeners' cup") to a strategy that is referred to in the communications industry as a „story-telling approach“. This means that the relating of purely factual information is replaced by vivid, lifelike and captivating stories.

That the telling of such stories is possible was certain. This is because allotment gardening is today in the fortunate position of being trendy in many respects. In the first place, allotment gardening is experiencing growing esteem; (it is now celebrated as urban gardening in mediatised society). Then there are also many mega topics of public discussion that can be directly linked to allotment gardening, such as climate protection, responsibility for nature and the environment, the trend towards awareness and close-to-nature nutrition, the continuing importance of civic engagement and social responsibility or the return to traditional values such as family and community.



On the occasion of the national competition, we explain how allotment garden associations act in addressing such topics. So we don't simply impart competition-relevant information and facts, but weave them into stories that make the larger context clear and build a bridge between specified mega-topics. In doing this we achieved two different goals:

Upstream, we sparked the interest of the media with the storytelling approach. They were able to get in-depth written and visual information on the performance and merits of the finalists. This encourages media coverage.

Downstream, we were able to use the storytelling approach to enhance the final documentation for the brochure on allotment gardening. A total of 28 outstanding examples were given of how allotment garden associations manage the living together in communities. This required living representation, i. e. stories. The documentary

approach was therefore not lost: Competition-relevant data and facts were presented in summary form in tables and info boxes. They focused on the primary component – an exciting description of the projects and lifestyle in the associations.

## 4. Goals and Target Groups

The overriding goal of the PR work was to provide the broadest possible preliminary, accompanying and after-math media coverage of the competition. For this reason we focused on the following target groups:

- Selected national print publications, such as Süddeutsche, FAZ and Zeit.
- Selected general interest magazines such as Stern and Spiegel
- News agencies like DPA and DDP – each with regional offices
- Local and regional newspapers, radio and TV stations

## 5. Measures

The following measures were implemented for PR support of the national competition:

### 5.1 Micro site – The Showcase of the finalists

The better we were able to highlight the specific achievements of the finalists, the greater the interest of the media in the competition. In 2010, we first used online communication to set up a micro site for the national competition.

In the area of web design, a micro site or micro-website designates a pared-down website with few sub-pages and little navigation depth integrated into a larger website. Micro sites are visually dependent on the website they are attached to and thematically and creatively form a small, independent site.

The major advantage is that through the internet we were able to present



the projects of the finalists vividly using words and pictures. We were also able to introduce the people involved, insert quotes and give contact information. In addition, all general information about the competition, such as the background, itinerary, dates and press releases, was available on this micro site. Contact with journalists was considerably simplified through our low-threshold offer: We sent out short press releases via e-mail with the link to the micro site instead of cumbersome press kits. The micro site gave an introduction of all 28 finalists. The focus was on the respective projects, showcasing specific performance, and not on general information about the association.

**The following information was available on the site:**

- Map with the itinerary
- Dates when the jury is present on site
- Contact information of local partners and of the BDG
- Background information on the competition in general
- Press releases and photos
- Travel blog

## 5.2 Back office – The at home editorial office

We asked the support of a media service provider to do the back office press work. Beginning of 2006, the editorial office established in MediaCompany premises, took over media relations before and during the appraisal process.

**The services of the editorial office included:**

- Setting up a distribution list for national and regional media coverage
- Production and dispatch of a national press release announcing

the competition and background information

- Excerpt of text: „you are welcome to take part in the jury’s visit to „your” allotment garden association. The dates of its visit can be found at [www.kleingarten-federal-competition/schedule](http://www.kleingarten-federal-competition/schedule). We will also inform you in a separate press notice about the dates in your State (Bundesland)
- Production and dispatch of regionally adapted press releases informing on the visit of the jury
- Preparation and dispatch of a national press release announcing the results; associations get a model press release concerning the results for the local press work.
- Personal contacts with journalists: In support of the appraisal process, MediaCompany contacted regional key media by phone in advance to inform them on the visit of the jury.

## 5.3. Front office – The on-site partner

The press work on site was provided by the PR staff of the national Federation. It accompanied the jury and was also responsible for the organisation on the visited site. Front and back office coordinated journalist visits on a daily basis. A large contingent of press kits ensured the flow of information on site. We set up interviews with the local entities, thus allowing discussions with jury members and allotment gardeners. TV teams especially often make special requests and some shoots or settings are scripted. Jury members and allotment gardeners often took part as actors. It was always a great challenge to tactfully organise this because the process and seriousness of the competition procedure should not be influenced by the media work.

## 5.4. Final Event Brochure – Upgrading to the image brochure

Up until 2006, the final documentation presented the results in an overly sober manner. Information pertaining to the competition was presented in detail and in a largely schematic way. This was a good format for presenting competition requirements, but this documentation had little appeal outside of a specialised audience.

This method wasted a huge amount of potential because no other document can report the advantages of allotment gardening in such detail as the final competition document. It could become the allotment gardeners’ image brochure, updated every four years. In particular, this could be used to address distributors in new ways.

The brochure has been completely redesigned. Since then, it has included three to four reviews in the form of essays. In addition to the results of the competition, it aims to describe current movements in allotment gardening and its special achievements in several areas such as urban planning, integration, gardening culture and nature conservation.

After that, the finalists are introduced. The text focuses on the particular achievement or project that distinguishes each finalist. The presentation scheme used up to this time was reconfigured. The texts were rewritten as a journalist or reporter would do, leaving space to include nuances that bring out the emotional dimension and allow central participants to express themselves.

Information, data and facts relevant to the competition, appeared in info boxes surrounding the texts.

## 5.5. Another idea: student support

In order to bolster public relations work for the competition, it was de-

cided for the first time in 2010 to have students in communication, PR, journalism and photography follow the entire event. This cooperation action initiated by BDG resulted in the arrival in 2010 of a graduate of the Günther Dahl Zeitenspiegel Reporting School in Reutlingen, one of the main institutes for future reporters. As part of a thesis project in 2010, this graduate accompanied the jury throughout the entire appraisal tour. For BDG this initial cooperation resulted in producing interesting material to be integrated into its PR work. However, this should be considered an opportunity, not a guarantee, because, as clearly indicated in the appraisal visits' report, not everyone agreed with the very personal perspective expressed regarding the visits.

## 6. Outcome

Good public relations systems are essential to organisations and institutions if they aim at enhancing their voice in the public arena. Non-profit organisations such as organised allotment gardening must be much more creative in their image work than companies, partly because there is less money for PR and marketing and partly because public interest is naturally more attracted to the not infrequent affairs and scandals of large companies. Nevertheless, good ideas and well thought-out strategies can do a lot for the image of an organisation.

### Media impact

	2002	2006	2010	2014
Agencies	0	6	3	6
Printed media	19	504	66	195
TV	0	21	17	10
Broadcast media	0	14	14	6
Online	29	84	69	43
Total	48	629	169	290
No. of finalists	52	51	28	30

The fact that on the average, the national competition, and consequently the allotment gardening movement, was the subject of some 280 press articles and a record of 629 articles and contributions, is a result that speaks for itself. This marks a further milestone in our aim fixed in the guidelines for PR work, namely targeting opinion leaders on green issues in urban development policy, and also in the field of gardening advice and lifestyle. That's good news, but also a challenge, because the bar is constantly being set higher.

### The major media organisations at a glance

- 2002
  - LISA, SZ-Magazin,
  - Flora, Blumen & Pflanzen, Mein schöner Garten, Stadt + Grün,
  - Radio Bremen

### 2006

- Westfälische Rundschau, Berliner Morgenpost, Brandenburger Woche am Sonntag, Sächsische Zeitung Münchner Merkur, Lübecker Nachrichten, Freies Wort, BILD Düsseldorf, BILD Leipzig

- ARD, HR, SAT 1, MDR, n-tv, SWR

### 2010

- Die Welt kompakt, BILD
- Rheinpfalz, Leverkusener Anzeiger, Schweriner Volkszeitung, BILD Hamburg, BILD München Norddeutsche Rundschau, Märkische Allgemeine, Sudthüringer Zeitung, Weser-Kurier

- MDR, WDR, rbb, hr, Sat1 / Pro7

### 2014

- BILD, Die Welt, Focus, Frankfurter Neue Presse
- Berliner Morgenpost, Berliner Kurier, Leipziger Volkszeitung, Märkische Oderzeitung, Rheinische Post, Ostseezeitung, Westfälische Rundschau, Mitteldeutsche Zeitung, Schwarzwälder Bote,
- WDR, SWR, RTL-Hitradio

### Conclusions and outlook

Using the example of the federal competition „Gardens in Urban Planning“, it can be argued that good public relations work is especially important for non-profit organisations in order to make them heard amidst the cacophony of a communications society's media apparatus.

This competition, the mission of which is described in the charter of the organised allotment garden movement, stipulates that it should be preserved as a supporting element for the further development of the allotment gardening movement. It offers the opportunity to specifically emphasize the social benefits of the allotment garden community and its civic commitment.

With skilful rhetoric („the Championship of the Allotment garden Associations“), accurate work and the help of a service provider, we have succeeded, competition after competition, in making it a genuine media event.

# Switzerland: Nothing will be worth more than a garden

Simone Collet



Happy you, gardeners, who own a plot to cultivate and enjoy your favourite vegetables! Do you really appreciate this privilege according to its right value for which the whole world could soon envy you?

You, who master the art of soil cultivation, hold an enormous trump in your hands.

Thanks to this vital knowledge, mankind, which counted only five million people, could really thrive and give free rein to the extraordinary rise of civilisation, when agricultural was created ten thousand years ago.

Men and their families turned from huntsmen and berry-pickers into sedentary farmers.

A radical change, that has led to the creation of villages and during generations to the continuous selection of food crops and thus to the continuous enrichment of the knowledge concerning the different cultures.

At the beginning of the Christian era,

the world's population counted between 300 and 600 million people and reached its first billion in the 1800ies.

In the 19th century, with the beginning of the industrial revolution, the demographic curve was again blown up. Since then 130 years have been enough to double the world's population: in 1930 there were 2 billions inhabitants. The phenomenon then accelerates and becomes dizzying: 30 years later there are 3 billions! 15 years later 4 billions and barely 13 years later 5 billions!

During the 20th century alone the world's population grew from 1.65 billion to 6 billion inhabitants.

In the year 1970 – was that not yesterday? – it was only half of today's world population. In the year 2030 – it is tomorrow – it will reach ten billion. To feed tens of billions of mouths, while the majority of the population is irresistibly pushing into giant cities and has no more access to land, and the last fertile soils will become battle fields for the polluting multination-

al firms of the agricultural and food sector.

In such a context, one will have to ask where the vegetables, which human health needs, are coming from.

Innovative proposals are already emerging as solutions: urban farms, small farms, agricultural ecology, permaculture, crops on flat roofs, vertical vegetable gardens that save water, energy and space. The advanced technology announces to us kitchen cabinets with sensors installed in every kitchen between fridge and cooking station. These will enable connected people to cultivate vegetables on artificial substrate with controlled humidity and sunlight imitating sensing light.

How? Is it possible? Does it not tend you? Really not me either.

Because, nothing will be worth more than an allotment, on which the soil is worked by hand, according to the cycle of the seasons. Where one sows, plants, digs over, waters plants and then harvests the fruit of one's labour.



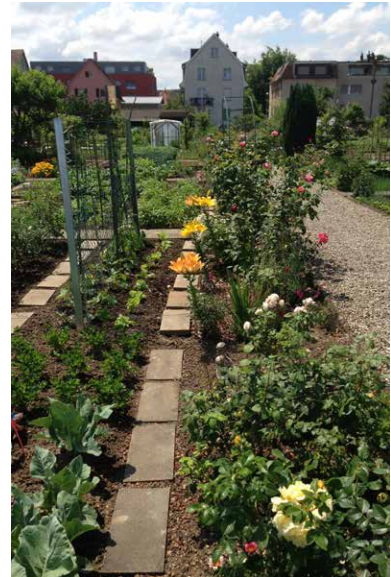
Free, outdoors, in the sun. And in addition to all this, the greetings of the neighbours, an improvised invitation to sit together in the allotment shed, exchange warmth of friendship simply between the allotment plots.



Allotment gardeners, your garden is a treasure. Be proud of it. Take good care of the ground. Take care of the small life of its micro fauna, which keeps the earth alive and generous. Vegetables from your garden will al-



ways have more value and a better taste than the tasteless tech-products.



# Germany: The community gardens in the United States of America and Canada

Werner Heidemann

Director of the national allotment federation Westphalia-Lippe



*Lectures, working groups, discussions*

## 1) ACGA – Who, how, what?

The „American Community Gardening Association“ (ACGA) is a voluntary, bi-national organisation (USA and Canada) competent for gardens taken on lease and social public green (community gardens, school gardens, farms for young people, therapy gardens). The ACGA defends the interests of the “poor people”, who care for and cultivate small gardens, taken on lease, in many different ways.

Community gardens are on principle gardens, which are administrated by a leaseholder community. These gardens are used for the cultivation of fruit and vegetables for one's own need. Socially poor citizens have so access to fresh fruit and vegetables.

Other gardening projects get small income by selling fruit and vegetables

of which the gardeners and the gardens can take advantage.

### *Aims:*

improvement of the quality of life, especially in the socially difficult urban areas; sensitisation of people of all ages, especially children and young people for nature, improvement of the communication by gardening in the urban neighbourhoods.

### *Focus on the organisation:*

The ACGA aims at creating an organisation with many members and at having a good relationship with different green and gardening groups in order to this become a strong partner and get considered in politics and by the authorities.

Considering all these facts and the new experiences gained in North

America, the German participants in this conference appreciate to its right value, the advantages of a really well organised allotment movement from the local associations up to the central national federation and a German allotment garden law with its pillars like for example a maximum rent charge and the protection against the termination of a lease.

### *More information:*

[www.communitygarden.org](http://www.communitygarden.org).

<http://www.markwinne.com/the-most-important-word-in-community-gardening-is-not-gardening/>





Groups of visitors from the AGCS, meeting in the school garden of New London High School. The harvested vegetables are prepared together in the school kitchen. The chef Tom Johnson shows how to proceed.

## II) ACGA-Meeting in Hartford, USA

Main topics: sustainability, social equity, new ways and incentives  
*The Parameters*

The external parameters of the 38th American Community Garden Assembly organised in Hartford, Connecticut from 27th until 30th July 2017 were: 200 participants from the USA, Canada, Europe and Hong Kong, more than 40 workshops, 7 different garden tours – by bus, bike or walking, a small film festival as well as formal opening and closing speeches. Different environment and gardening groups informed with pictures and text boards on their regional projects in America and Canada. Many gardening activists from different origins and educational backgrounds were present either on a voluntary or on a professional basis with many new ideas and were supported by social educators, teachers,

scientists and green experts from firms and authorities.

Guest speaker Mark Winne, expert for diet questions and global food supply, made the introductory lecture peppered with a radical political analysis of the societal situation in America and formulated concrete recommendations for the participants.

**We need the voice of the community gardeners, their hunger for more social and economic equity.**

Mark Winne: *"It is a myth, if community gardeners think that they should not need to draw the attention on them in public ...*

*and do not think that they can fight with their gardens the hunger in this world. The reasons for hunger and food insecurity are the difference in prosperity levels and the low wages".*

**His recommendations to the participants:**

- Sensitise politicians and authorities for your ideas
- Community is important, not only gardening
- Draw the attention to your good performances and create good relations with other organisations which you support
- Worry about food policy, sustainable food security and healthy diet, cooperate yourself in different bodies on political level
- Poverty is the reason for hunger; the time is ripe for more engagement against inequality as far as resources are concerned and against the existing differences in wealth.

After this critical opening, the participants engaged in the working groups. This year, the socio-political subjects, as for example, sustainability and so-

cial equity were very important subjects of the agenda.

**A short glance on the workshop topics shows the broad effects and the diversity of this meeting:**

- How do you start a gardening project?
- Participation of citizens and communal authorities while planning and creating gardening projects
- Extension of existing community gardens
- Gardens and climate change – gardens temper the consequences of climate change
- Creation of school gardens, working out of syllabi



Edible gardens in the public green zones in Boston.



The visitor learns so more about a nature friendly cultivation of vegetables and mixed cultivation. The harvest is donated to relief organisations.



- How to integrate socially poorer and homeless people into community gardens?
- Gardening with refugees, how to exchange with people of different cultural origins
- Protection of insects – without pollination no harvest
- Creation of a seed exchange
- Cultivation of rice in school and

community gardens – an example from New York City

- Health care and gardening, healthy diet, utilization of fruit and vegetables
- Composting, fertilization

The discussions in the workshops and the lectures were much broader than an isolated consideration of ecological subjects as for example renunciation to use pesticides, the use of com-

post, fresh herbs for teas and salads. In America small gardens are for the poor people in society, the homeless, the sick and the unemployed people that are outside of the social care system. They are really for them an anchor and this also from an economic point of view.

Here they can get stronger, gather strength and can with the support of the community raise their voice for more social equity and sustainable acting.

# Belgium: The first Ecologic Garden Label in Belgium

Daan Van De Vijver

On 30th September 2017 our organisation landed in Peer on the allotment garden called the Roshaag. After two years of hard work, feedback and planning we officially inaugurated the first Ecologic Garden Label. We shared local vegetables and fruit, a glass of bubbles or beer, a workshop about bees and a good talk. A quarter past three our jury presented their final findings.

## What is the Ecological Garden Label?

It is a label awarded to an exemplary allotment garden site for ecological gardening and behaviour.

It is first a way to reward active boards for the work and effort they put in an allotment garden. A second goal is to innovate and modernize older sites.

The sites can earn 4 stars, each star representing a certain topic:

1. Park design
2. Management

3. Equipment / facility
4. Awareness / sensitization

## "De Roshaag" allotment site received 4 stars

- 1) Two years ago the site existed for little more than a year. However, a lot of work had still to be done as far as its design was concerned. After a first evaluation the jury listed a couple of advices.

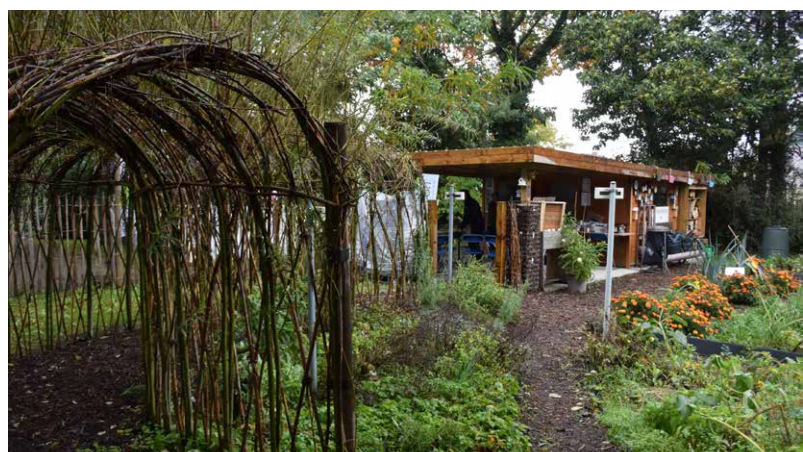
So a demo-garden, extra storage room, layers in vegetation inside and around the park were realised. In this process the allotment gardeners gave extra attention to the participation of gardeners, neighbours and partners.

- 2) For park management, the site scored with the following elements:

The paths are permeable for water; the use of green manures that hold the moisture and nutrients in the

ground is stimulated. The weeding happens manually and is kept to a minimum by using green manures and anti-rooting membranes. To control diseases and plagues the demo-garden is used to experiment with biological controls, new vegetables and old species to find stronger plants. To prevent over fertilisation a soil sample is taken in every garden every 3 years. Solar energy is used for the compost toilet and the lights inside the cabin. The garden cabin has a planted green-roof.

- 3) From the start of this project the local board and the local government chose to use durable equipment





and materials. They introduced indigenous plants and removed invasive species. To attract and sustain natural enemies and other useful animals in the garden a hedgehog and bee hotel were built. Piles of branches and leaves were spread throughout the park.

- 4) The park is open for everyone. The local board actively engages other civilians to participate and cooperates with other partners. Schools visit the project to learn about gardening and composting. The gardeners learn from each other during informal happenings and the demo-garden.

### Many thanks

Vzw Tuinhier thanks all partners in this project for their support and guidance during these two years.

Special thanks go to our local board and the local government of Peer for their unconditional input and effort in this project.

### The future

In the future we are planning to review this project and probably add social and innovative components. The aim is to reward and encourage more projects to join our garden label.



# Great-Britain: Community Composting

Lesley Greene



*3 signs telling members where to put various materials.*



*Member brings woody pruning to the bays before shredding and sorting by volunteers and part time labour.*

Allotment holders never have enough good compost! In Bisley we solved our problem by initiating a COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME.

Our experience might help you set up a community compost scheme.

It is important to do research. The support of plot holders and the community is essential. We visited other schemes, to see how to do it, we leafleted our village, and organised a "Go Compost" fun event for everyone, testing interest. Our local Wildlife Trust knows good compost is good for all wildlife, and supported us. We consulted the Parish Council. We met District and County Council recycling officers – these were brilliant with advice and support. They made available small grants to help build our infrastructure, smoothed planning permission, and helped with our waste credits assessment.

We realised there were big benefits for the whole community, not least that most green 'waste' from our parish had to be driven a polluting round trip of 20 miles to the nearest landfill site. This "waste" could be a valuable resource. Our scheme is a small, but visible model for a circular economy.

Be aware of legislation. For waste credits you require an exempt Waste Licence from the Environment Agency. This is free, is not difficult, and EA officers are helpful. Our allotment site has no nearby watercourses, so we had no problems. Most community composting schemes are membership schemes.

We began with 4 hand built waste bays home made from pallets stuffed with straw and held together by chicken wire; simple but effective for five years.

For the first 3 years 4 enthusiastic composters with additional volunteers did all the work, turning, moving, and emptying. All work then was voluntary. Smaller schemes can easily stay at this level so long as you have the volunteers.

The site is approximately 20 m × 50 m with 6 large bins, 3 separate leaf bins, 3 receiving bays, a container for the shredder, a tool shed and a dry store for sieved compost. We now have mechanised assistance. We are rigorous about layering the materials to ensure aerobic composting – lawn clippings are interspersed with brown shreds and herbaceous 'soft' greens. We monitor the temperature of the bins. A local man with a small 'Merlo' does our turning and heavy moving. We bought an excellent GreenMec shredder with grant funds. We are all trained shredder operators as are our two p/t freelance paid la-



*Bins layered but before 1st of 2 turnings - shows layering of brown shredding and green lawn mowing.*



*Jimmy Riddle and young people from Severn View Primary Academy Stroud.*

bourers. We also have our "Jimmy Riddle" for sieving the compost. We 'manage' voluntary help by putting out calls for particular tasks.

Our members bring their green materials themselves – other schemes have different collection systems. Members and allotment holders can freely take unsieved compost and leaf mould. We request donations for our bagged sieved compost. This peat free compost has been analysed and is rated "excellent". It is full of good bugs and beasts!! It has been used in many local projects, such as Stroud in Bloom.

We are an independent Community Interest Company with public liability and equipment insurance. We have c150 members. This number has stayed constant even since the Council introduced a household green waste collection scheme last year. We receive £ 56.33 per tonne of compost produced from waste credits. We produce c120 tonnes of compost per year.

We keep a high profile. Our MP opened the scheme; we had a "Rubbish Artist in Residence"; we were celebrated as Gloucestershire's 'Zero Waste Village'; we won a Calor Gas Environment Award, and the Environment Section of Gloucestershire's "Vital Villages" Award. We won a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2010. We celebrated our 10th anniversary in 2015. We commissioned a poem for the occasion (the audio recording is on our website).

We welcome visits from councils, gardening groups, schools; two of us are Garden Organic /County Council Master Composters.

Amazingly we are still hugely enthusiastic (mad as hatters), happy that our scheme not only helps keep allotment soil healthy, but also is clearly appreciated by the whole community.



*A compost bay 'in progress' with thermometer.*



*Horticultural Students from Thomas Keble Secondary School fill bags with leaf mould.*

<http://www.bisleycommunitycompostscheme.org.uk>



# News from the federations

## A. NATIONAL MEETINGS

### a) Austria

Continuation of the training courses for specialised gardening advisers

### b) Finland

The traditional one week tailored course for allotment gardeners, arranged in cooperation with Häme University of Applied Sciences (HAMK), will be organised in April.

A course in communication and fund-raising for member associations will be organised in April 2018.

Through the summer regional courses for allotment gardeners will take place

Selective participation in Gardening Fairs all over Finland (selectively)

### c) Germany

23rd – 25th March, 2018 Hamburg

#### Management

**Subject:** Financial supports for organisations

20th – 22nd April, 2018 Regensburg

#### Public relation work

**Subject:** Proper focus on events

1st – 3rd June 2018 Göttingen

#### Gardening Advice I

**Subject:** The use of natural resources – water on the allotment

09th June 2018

#### Day of the garden Munich

16th – 28th June 2018

#### Visiting of sites for the 24th Federal competition

24th – 26th August 2018 Dessau

#### Legal matters I

**Subject:** The correct adoption of decisions – the general assembly in allotment garden associations / federations

07th– 09th September, 2018 Heidelberg

#### Environment

**Subject:** Gardening in a sustainable way

12th – 14th October, 2018 Jena

#### Legal matters II

**Subject:** Allotment gardening, a public utility as basis for the application of a more favourable tax

26th – 28th October, 2018 Frankfurt an der Oder

#### Gardening advice

**Subject:** The use of natural resources. The soil in the allotment garden

1st December 2018 Berlin

#### Closing event of the 24th federal competition

For more information: on seminars under:

[www.kleingarten-bund.de/veranstaltungen/bdg\\_seminare/uebersicht\\_2016\\_](http://www.kleingarten-bund.de/veranstaltungen/bdg_seminare/uebersicht_2016_)

on events under:

[www.kleingarten-bund.de/der\\_bdg\\_informiert\\_news](http://www.kleingarten-bund.de/der_bdg_informiert_news)

### d) Luxembourg

25th March 2018:

#### National congress in Crauthem

### e) Netherlands

**Workshop:** how to value a garden house and garden

**Workshop:** Garden associations and the new Privacy law

**Workshop:** Introduction “managing an association” for new board members of garden associations

### f) Sweden

22nd – 25th March

Nordic Garden, Älvsjö Stockholm,

8th – 9th September

#### Stockholm Urban Garden Show

## B. DOCUMENTS

### a) Finland

The magazine Siirtolapuutarha-lehti published by the Federation is available on-line (with a one-issue delay) – <https://issuu.com/siirtolapuutarha-lehti>

### b) Germany

DER FACHBERATER, Fachzeitschrift für das Kleingartenwesen, für Grünpolitik und Umweltschutz (Magazine for the allotments, green policy and the environment protection)

“Grüne Schriftenreihe” documents of the seminars organised by the German federation, 6 issues per year

Subjects to be downloaded under: [www.kleingarten-bund.de/service/publikationen](http://www.kleingarten-bund.de/service/publikationen)

Weekly plant portrait on Internet under: [www.kleingarten-bund.de/praxis/gartenpraxis/zettelkasten](http://www.kleingarten-bund.de/praxis/gartenpraxis/zettelkasten)

Monthly tip for the garden on Internet under: [www.kleingarten-bund.de/praxis/gartenpraxis/gartentipp](http://www.kleingarten-bund.de/praxis/gartenpraxis/gartentipp)

### c) Luxembourg

Review: Garden & Home: 6 issues per year for all the members

Pocket booklet: Gaart & Heem (Garden & Home) Subject: “Quality of life in urban areas”.

## C. USEFUL INFORMATION

### a) Finland

The Finnish Federation has made a Society's Commitment to Sustainable Development (<https://commitment2050.fi/>). According to this Commitment two extensive surveys will be carried out in 2018.



### *b) Germany*

The BDG has the possibility to organise in 2018 the 24th federal competition: "Gardens in the urban planning" together with the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation Building and Nuclear safety (BMUB). The subject of the competition is: "Small gardens – colourful diversity". The BMUB financially supports this

event. The closing ceremony will be held in Berlin in the "Palais am Funkturm" on December 1st 2018.

### *c) Netherlands*

We are in a transition process. Together with our members we are preparing the AVVN for the next 100 years. It is a very intense and far-reaching process but with a lot of perspective for the fu-

ture. Many new ideas are studied by several working groups.

The AVVN is short to reaching an agreement with the city of Rotterdam to become the tenant of all 5.000 gardens (127 hectare) in Rotterdam. A foundation, which acts on behalf of the AVVN will also do part of the maintenance of the 40 garden sites.

COUNTRY	FEDERATION	ADDRESS	TEL / FAX / EMAIL
<b>Austria</b>	Zentralverband der Kleingärtner und Siedler Österreichs	Simon-Wiesenthal-Gasse 2 A - 1020 WIEN	Tel.: 0043/1-587 07 85 Fax: 0043/1-587 07 85 30 email: zvwien@kleingaertner.at Internet: www.kleingaertner.at
<b>Belgium</b>	National Verbond van Volkstuinen vzw/Ligue Nationale du Coin de Terre et du Foyer - Jardins Populaires	Tuinhier VWZ PAC Het Zuid Woodrow Wilsonplein 2 B - 9000 GENT	Tel.: 0032/9 267 87 31 email: info@tuinhier.be Internet: www.tuinhier.be
<b>Denmark</b>	Kolonihaveforbundet	Smedeholm 13 C, 2. th DK - 2730 HERLEV	Tel.: 0045/3 828 8750 Fax: 0045/3 828 8350 email: info@kolonihave.dk Internet: www.kolonihave.dk
<b>Finland</b>	Suomen Siirtolapuutarhaliitto ry	Pengerkatu 9 B 39 SF - 00530 HELSINKI	Tel.: 00358/ 103213540 email: info@siirtolapuutarhaliitto.fi Internet: www.siirtolapuutarhaliitto.fi
<b>France</b>	Fédération Nationale des Jardins Familiaux et Collectifs	12, rue Félix Faure F - 75015 PARIS	Tel.: 0033/ 1-45 40 40 45 Fax: 0033/ 1-45 40 78 90 directeur@jardins-familiaux.asso.fr Internet: www.jardins-familiaux.asso.fr
<b>Germany</b>	Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde e.V.	Platanenallee 37 D - 14050 BERLIN	Tel.: 0049/30-30 20 71-40/41 Fax: 0049/30-30 20 71 39 email: bdg@kleingarten-bund.de Internet: www.kleingarten-bund.de
<b>Great-Britain</b>	The National Allotment Society	O'Dell House/Hunters Road GB - CORBY Northamptonshire NN17 5JE	Tel.: 0044/ 1536 266 576 Fax: 0044/1536 264 509 email: natsoc@nsalg.org.uk Internet: www.nsalg.org.uk
<b>Japan</b>	Association for Japan Allotment Garden	4-27-20 Honcho-higashi, Chuo-ku Saitama.shi Saitama Prefecture 338 -0003 Japan	Tel.: 0081 904754 2136 Fax: 003 3266 0667 email: ick05142@nifty.com http://homepage3.nifty.com/ikg-kem/Japan
<b>Luxemburg</b>	Ligue Luxembourgeoise du Coin de Terre et du Foyer	97, rue de Bonnevoie L - 1260 LUXEMBOURG	Tel.: 00 352/ 48 01 99 Fax: 00 352/40 97 98 email: liguctf@pt.lu Internet: www.ctf.lu
<b>Norway</b>	Norsk Kolonihageforbund	Auens vei 16 B N - 3040 DRAMMEN	Tel.: 0047/94080090 email: styret@kolonihager.no Internet: www.kolonihager.no
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# Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux association sans but lucratif



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