

EFUA “NEXT” CONFERENCE

20-21 April 2023, Sofia



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 10100681

EFUA “NEXT” Conference:

Join us in Sofia for the European Forum for Urban Agriculture to co-design a vision for better, more innovative and sustainable cities! Whether you are a farmer, a community gardener, a chef stocking local produce, an environmental NGO, a teacher using a school vegetable patch to teach science, an urban planner, a researcher, or just passionate about urban communities, environment and food, we need your experience and ideas to help us define the shared social, economic and environmental goals of urban agriculture in European cities.

Our speakers include academics, practitioners, city authorities and civil society representatives. They will share their experiences and knowledge on the links between urban agriculture and improved urban environment and quality of life. Our aim is to use this frame of the debate to establish a thriving community of all types of stakeholders that are willing to engage in concerted and coordinated efforts to bring a more comprehensive vision of urban agriculture development and support in Europe.

The event is hosted by the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology at the Bulgarian Academy as part of the [EFUA project](#), funded by the EC's Horizon 2020 programme. The conference is open to the public on 20 and 21 April.

The ISSK Team, on behalf of EFUA.

EFUA “NEXT” CONFERENCE

20-21 April 2023, Sofia



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101000681

Conference Background and Main Themes:

The “NEXT” conference is one of three key milestones within the EFUA portfolio; it will build upon the themes investigated during our highly successful FACTS Conference (from Rome last year), review recent EFUA research/policy outcomes and also determine the trajectory for future work in urban agriculture. The conference will focus upon 3 specific aspects during the 2 days of the public event, which are as follows:

- Presentation of findings from EFUA, including work on urban agricultural typologies and the diverse benefits that Urban Agriculture can provide.
- Examination of the practicalities and experiences of engaging communities, businesses and NGOs to collaboratively develop a European UA future that is inclusive, sustainable and innovative.
- Challenging municipalities to collectively consider how they can deliver positive outcomes for citizens and urban environments through UA strategies, policies and support measures. This also includes the ambition to create an EU network of cities which support and develop UA initiative.

In addition to the more formal presentations, workshops and discussions, we also intend to make the conference an enjoyable experience and one which offers the chance for ample informal networking with colleagues; old and new alike. With this in mind, our local partner, the ISSK (the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), has been working tirelessly behind the scenes to develop an innovative and inspiring programme; incorporating farm visits, local cultural experiences and, of course, the finest Bulgarian cuisine on offer (featuring locally farmed produce, sourced from short supply chains).

EFUA “NEXT” CONFERENCE

20-21 April 2023, Sofia

PROGRAMME



EFUA “NEXT” Conference Day 1 – 20th April 2023

NEXT visions for UA by practitioners, researchers and supporters

8:30 – 9:30	Registration
9:30 – 9:50	Opening addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Emilia Chengelova, Director of IPS-BAS- Frank Lohrberg, Head of Institute of Landscape Architecture, RWTH-Aachen, EFUA- Guido Santini, Coordinator of „Food for the Cities“ programme, FAO- Henry Gordon-Smith, Agritecture Founder and CEO
9:50 – 10:20	Setting the scene: The EFUA project and main concepts: UA types, benefits and what is “NEXT” Jan Eelco Jansma, Wageningen University & Research, EFUA Enrico Gottero, Politecnico di Torino, EFUA
10:20 – 13:00	GOOD and NEXT practices of urban agriculture from Europe and beyond
	UA IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND FOOD POLICY Transferring good urban agriculture practices: RU:RBAN project Claudio Bordi, Risorse per Roma, City of Rome, EFUA Civil initiative for the development of urban agriculture: goals and challenges Bozhidar Emanuilov, Koren Foundation, Bulgaria Urban food policies: the importance of networks and participative approaches Giampiero Mazzocchi, Council for Agricultural Research and the Analysis of Agricultural Economics, Italy Urban agricultural heritage: Looking back to move forward Frank Lohrberg, Head of Institute of Landscape Architecture, RWTH-Aachen, EFUA Q&A
	11:30 – 11:50 Coffee break
	UA IN BUSINESS MODELS EFUA Business barometer results Nele Lauwers, Boerenbond, Belgium, EFUA Local food policies to support family farming and urban regeneration Daniele Taffon, Campagna Amica, Italy Urban agriculture policies - from social benefits to business models Denitsa Marinova, ARC Fund, Bulgaria, CityZen Interreg Europe project Commercial urban agriculture in New York City: Opportunities and challenges Yolanda Gonzalez, Cornell Cooperative Extension, New York City, USA

	<p>Boosting urban agriculture in Europe and Beyond Zsolt Keresztúri, Innoskart Digital Cluster, Hungary, SUAVE Euroclusters project</p> <p>Q&A</p>
13:10 – 14:00	Lunch at Military Academy canteen
14:00 – 15:30	NEXT urban agriculture development trajectories on local, regional and EU level
	<p>UA between public policies and planning tools. Identifying keys to success Giancarlo Cotella, Politecnico di Torino, EFUA</p> <p>Harnessing EU policies to achieve greater impact on city-level UA development Trine Agervig Carstensen, University of Copenhagen, EFUA</p> <p>EU policy dimensions Henk Renting, AERES University of Applied Sciences, EFUA</p> <p>Urban food systems in the context of European R&I activities: Food 2030 and the Sustainable Food Systems Partnership Daniela Lüth, European Commission, DG Research & Innovation (Online)</p> <p>Urban agriculture policy lessons from New York and the United States Nevin Cohen, City University of New York Urban Food Policy Institute (Online)</p> <p>FAO Urban and peri-urban Sourcebook: From production to food systems Guido Santini, „Food for the Cities“ programme, FAO</p> <p>Discussion</p>
15:30 – 15:50	Coffee break
15:50 – 17:20	NEXT inspiration
	<p>Co-creating a vision for urban agriculture in Europe: Interactive session Zoe Heuschkel, South Westphalia University of Applied Sciences, EFUA</p>
17:30 – 19:30	<p>Field trip Solidarity club and garden of “Food not Bombs”, Bulgaria</p>

EFUA “NEXT” Conference Day 2 - 21st April 2023

NEXT visions for UA in Europe: city-level policies

8:30–9:30	Registration
9:30–12:00	GOOD and NEXT practices of urban agriculture in city-level policies
	<p>Sofia's Path to Sustainability Elitsa Panayotova SofiaGreen project of Sofia Municipality, Bulgaria</p> <p>Map of the potential plots for urban agriculture in Sofia: key steps of the creation process Aleksandar Petrov and Daiana Nikolova, SofiaPlan, Sofia, Bulgaria</p> <p>The vision of food and its production in the city Olga Voutsikaki, Food Policy Council of Thessaloniki, Greece</p> <p>From a balcony to edible city Katarzyna Przyjemaska-Grzesik Krakow Municipality “Community gardens” programme, Poland</p>
	10:30-10:50 Coffee break
	<p>Troyan’s municipal organic farm for pre-school canteens Donka Mihaylova Mayor of Troyan municipality, Bulgaria</p> <p>Turin's strategy for urban food gardening Francesco Tresso Councilor for green areas and public parks of the City of Turin, Italy</p> <p>Copenhagen school garden program in the context of city and state UA policy Gorm Friborg, Copenhagen School garden program, Denmark</p> <p>Discussion on a common vision for a European network of cities, supporting UA</p>
12:00-13:15	World café concluding session and closing speeches
13:15-14:00	Lunch Lunch at Military Academy canteen
14:30–17:30	<p>Field trip The Nearby Farm, A Regenerative Family farm https://blizkataferma.com/</p>

EFUA “NEXT” CONFERENCE

20-21 April 2023, Sofia



Venue Details and Practicalities:

Join the Conference:

[Here is the link](#) to the registration form:



Venue:

Our team is happy to announce that we have secured the venue for our NEXT conference, so you can start looking into your accommodation options. Below is some practical information that might be useful to you when booking your hotel. **All mentioned locations are marked on [this map](#)**. We will hold the 3-day event at the [Military Academy "G. S. Rakovski"](#), which is located in the centre of Sofia. Please, be aware that the Academy is located in a park, which is fenced off, and the entrance is on the West side of the main building.

Contact for Further Information: dona.pickard@gmail.com



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101000681