

## European Forum on Urban Agriculture (EFUA)

### “ACTION” Conference - 25-26 Sept 2024 in Brussels

**“Join us” in Brussels for this unique event dedicated to advancing urban agriculture policies and practices across Europe!**

*During our conference, the focus is very much upon ‘ACTION’! We aim to provide a “full-on” participative agenda, giving everyone the chance to have their say on the future of urban agriculture (UA) in Europe and beyond. However, we’re doing things differently; we’re starting down on the farm, where the real work of UA is done! So don’t come along expecting a typical conference format, with a long list of dry presentations to make your head spin...*

*Instead, we look forward to hosting a highly interactive event featuring lively field visits/discussions, 'ready-to-implement' insights, knowledge exchange and stimulating workshops; these will explore and showcase the latest innovations in UA, whilst offering new perspectives for linking action on the ground to policies at EU, national and city level. Additionally, our conference format will ensure numerous formal and informal networking opportunities with the chance to meet other UA enthusiasts and professionals from across the EU.*

*Our presenters and hosts will include real practitioners (i.e. urban farmers and urban gardeners), EU policymakers, city representatives, community groups and NGOs.*

*We will also launch our UA Manifesto, “**Let’s Grow Together**”, at the conference and to inaugurate the first session of the wider “**European Forum on Urban Agriculture**” as a community of stakeholders from across Europe. It’s your opportunity to help guide and steer **a new and comprehensive vision for urban agriculture** – so “**join us**” in Brussels.*

*The event is hosted by Boerenbond at the Ateliers des Tanneurs in Brussels as part of the EFUA project, funded by the EU Horizon 2020 programme: [EFUA project](#)*

**The Boerenbond Team, on behalf of EFUA.**

## Conference Days - Key Themes:

### Day 1: September 25th, 2024

#### ***“From Practice to Policy” : Lessons from the field for future practice and better policies***

Discover the heartbeat of European Urban Agriculture, around Brussels, as we participate in guided site visits, stimulating discussions and take part in the European Forum on Urban Agriculture meeting. Gain firsthand insights from experts and policymakers, thereby setting the stage for future collaborations. Be part of the official launch of the EFUA Manifesto!

### Day 2: September 26th, 2024

#### ***“Just do it !” : Turning knowledge into action***

Let's turn our ideas into action! Engage in workshops, learn from EFUA experts and discuss, and collaborate with stakeholders to unlock the full potential of urban agriculture. From policy translation to practical strategies, this day is all about catalyzing change on the ground. We need your ideas and input!

We look forward to welcoming all interested stakeholders to Brussels: urban farmers, city/regional representatives, civil society groups, policy-makers, researchers, national and international associations, the scientific community, professional experts and media representatives. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of the movement shaping the future of urban agriculture in Europe. Register now and be a catalyst for positive change!

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### PROGRAMME

#### EFUA “ACTION” Conference Day 1 – 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024

##### *“From Practice to Policy”: Lessons from the field for future practice and better policies*

9:00	<b>Registration</b>
9:30	<b>Setting the Scene for ACTION</b>
	<p><b>Welcome to Belgium, farming in the heart of Europe</b> Nele Lauwers (Boerenbond, EFUA)</p> <p><b>“The Big Picture”: an overview of EFUA</b> Daniel Mnderlein (RWTH Aachen, EFUA)</p> <p><b>The EFUA Manifesto in practice: introduction to the site visits</b> Patricia Hernandez Lelli (Risorse per Roma, EFUA)</p>
10:30	<b>Urban Agriculture field visit “A hands-on Experience”</b>
	<p><b>Site Visits</b> Participants are leaving in smaller groups to visit an urban agriculture initiative in Brussels. During the farm tour, EFUA-experts will offer project findings and touch upon action points from the Manifesto. Participants should get an understanding of the diversity of urban agriculture, the provided benefits but also of the challenges, which urban farmers are facing (these insights set the scene for the interaction in the afternoon and on Day 2).</p> <p>A tasty lunch with local products completes the site visit and offers the opportunity for informal networking.</p>
14:00	<b>Coffee at the venue</b>
14:30	<p><b>The European Forum on Urban Agriculture “Taking forward a comprehensive vision on urban agriculture”</b> Join this meeting for urban agriculture in Europe! Stakeholders and policy makers discuss the needs for better policies on urban farming in Europe. What forms of urban agriculture will there be in the future? How can we explain better the benefits of urban agriculture? What will be the relationship between built space and agriculture? What do urban farmers need to thrive?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation of EFUA Vision Video</li> <li>- Inspirational insights from the field visits by EFUA experts</li> <li>- Vision panel: discussion on the Manifesto with different stakeholders and interaction with the audience and EU representatives</li> </ul>
16:30	<b>Official launch and signing of the EFUA Manifesto</b>
17:00	<b>Informal networking reception</b>
18:00	<b>Social buffet dinner at the conference venue</b>

## EFUA “ACTION” Conference Day 2 – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024

*“Just do it !”: Turning knowledge into action*

9:00	<b>Registration</b>
9:30	<b>Introduction to an ACTION day</b> After a day spent exploring the full potential of the Manifesto on Urban Agriculture, today's focus is on turning existing knowledge into action. Participants will learn how to utilize EFUA results and have the opportunity to share their own experiences and outcomes.
10:00	<b>World Café: 'EFUA results explained'</b> Learn from EFUA experts about specific project results that are supportive to understand and promote urban agriculture in your region. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EFUA typology and benefits (Jan-Eelco Jansma, Wageningen University &amp; Research)</li> <li>- Selected highlights from the RUAJF magazines (Sara Smaal, Aeres and Jess Haliday, RUAJF)</li> <li>- Better stakeholder engagement (Dona Pickard, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology)</li> <li>- Planning guidelines for policy makers (Claudia Cassatella, Politecnico di Torino)</li> </ul> Each result will be shortly introduced and offers the opportunity to interact and share your knowledge, tools and networks for urban agriculture with the group.
11:30	<b>Plenary session “NEXT practice to ACTION”</b> Now that everyone has had the opportunity to learn about and discover the EFUA results, this session offers the chance to build further upon this knowledge and share other relevant practices that support the implementation of the Manifesto. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interview with EFUA experts about the main points of discussion</li> <li>- Interaction with the audience: What would you like to add?</li> <li>- Showcase your initiative here (maximum 5 pitches)</li> </ul>
12:30	<b>Lunch and networking opportunities</b>
13:30	<b>Parallel workshop sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bringing EU policies for Urban Agriculture to Action</li> <li>- Unlock the power of communication for urban farmers</li> <li>- Collaborating for food systems change: uniting food policy councils and urban agriculture</li> <li>- Defining an action plan for urban and peri-urban agriculture (part 1)</li> </ul>
15:00	<b>Coffee break and networking opportunities</b>
15:30	<b>Parallel workshop sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Urban Agriculture Manifesto: 5 recommendations and the way forward</li> <li>- Pitch on EU Research &amp; Innovation recommendations for Urban Agriculture</li> <li>- Good Governance mechanisms of urban agriculture initiatives</li> <li>- Effective tools to collect data about Urban Agriculture</li> <li>- Defining an action plan for urban and peri-urban agriculture (part 2)</li> </ul>
17:00	<b>Closing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Final remarks</li> <li>- Statement about future of UA forum</li> </ul>

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### **Join the Conference:**

Pre-registration is required to join the conference

Here is the link to the registration form:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=bRXIzHI6RUiSfAf8Z0w-K3bf5lvckYVOIT5KweGn1OZUM01IREtWVJURzhSWVZMVURXOUTMU0hURS4u>

### **Venue:**

Ateliers des Tanneurs,  
Rue des Tanneurs 58-62  
1000 Bruxelles

<https://www.ateliersdestanneurs.be/en/event/>

The venue is located in the centre of Brussels located on this [map](#). Below is some practical information that might be useful to you when booking your hotel or finding a restaurant.

**Contact for Further Information:** [Nele.Lauwers@Boerenbond.be](mailto:Nele.Lauwers@Boerenbond.be)