



**SUPURBFOOD** is a research project funded by the European Commission's 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Program. It aims to contribute to the development of sustainable modes of urban and peri-urban food provisioning.

### About the project

Until recent, short food supply chains and multifunctional agriculture were considered to be part of the rural development realm. However, this project looks at these topics from the perspective of urban rather than rural development. Short food supply chains have been advocated as a means to reduce the environmental impact of the agro-food system. However, to improve the ecological performance of the agro-food system other flows (e.g. nutrient, water, and urban waste) need to be considered as well. In the current context these aspects are usually treated separately. This project will treat them in an integrated manner.

### Approach

Research will be carried out in seven European city-regions (Rotterdam (NL), Rome (IT), Ghent (BE), Vigo (ES), Bristol (UK), Zürich (CH) and Riga (LV)) in collaboration with a diverse group of SMEs to further innovate in urban and peri-urban food provisioning, nutrient, water and waste management, and multifunctional use of urban and peri-urban space. Finally the project will also establish links with researchers, policymakers and SMEs in these domains in developing countries. This will be organised through a process of dialogue, sharing of experiences, exchanging of best practices and joint learning.

### More information

[www.supurbfood.eu](http://www.supurbfood.eu)



### What is Grün Stadt Zürich about?

Grün Stadt Zürich ("Green City Zurich") is a department of the City Zurich administration responsible for planning, construction and maintenance of green spaces in the city of Zurich as parks or forests. Grün Stadt Zürich administrates 10 farms within the city region that are owned by the city. Nine farms are rented out to families, while one is run under the management of the city department. Furthermore, Grün Stadt Zürich is in charge of the administration of urban gardening activities as from recently raising initiatives to long standing allotment gardens. There are about 5500 allotment plots in the city of Zurich.

Grün Stadt Zürich actively supports multifunctional land use. There is an obligation for organic farming practices on farmed land and urban gardening plots. This was already implemented in 1989. On agricultural premises, environmental conservation measures aiming at fostering biodiversity need to be carried out, which are currently implemented on 25 % of city area. Another focus is on the communication of "green knowledge" aiming at raising ecological awareness of city dwellers. There are *farm schools* and *nature schools* installed.

### Who is involved?

Within the department of Grün Stadt Zürich, the offices for Agriculture, Planning of Open Spaces and Nature Conservation are unified and are cooperating well. There is also good cooperation between Grün Stadt Zürich and the local farmers and urban gardeners.

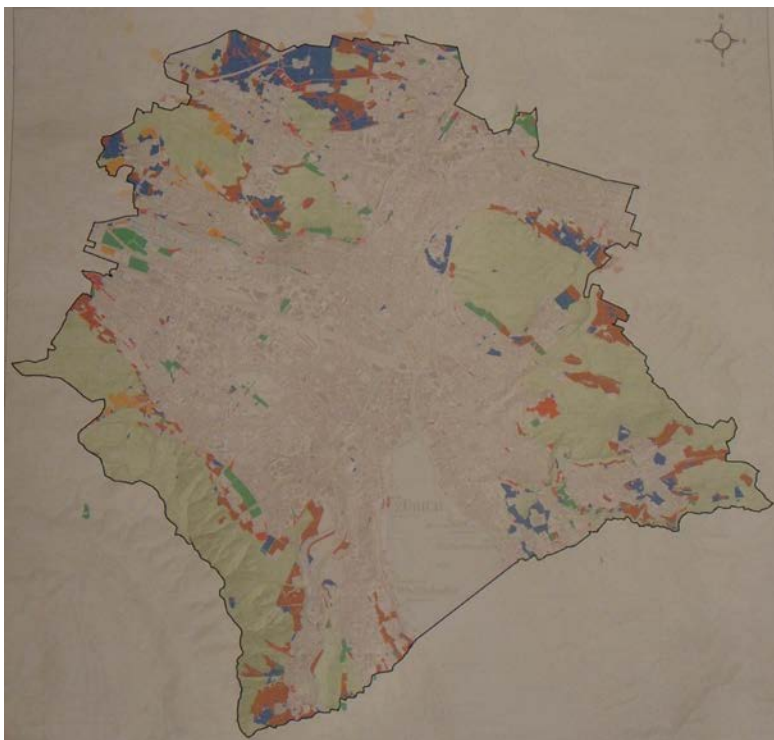
## Which activities are carried out?

Grün Stadt Zürich is eager to secure open green spaces for farming, recreation or nature protection in buying land of private or other public owners. The department supports city-owned farms in terms of investment funds for e.g. stable constructions or the installation of farm shops. Multifunctional land use activities of farmers are supported through advice and financing of e.g. fruit trees within the program "10,000 fruit trees for Zurich". The farmers are then cultivating these trees according to biodiversity measures. The new establishing urban gardening initiatives are supported by providing places for urban gardening, which are often residual fields.

More recently, the city has organised several future workshops, where potential projects on urban agriculture have been proposed and are now discussed by the town council. It is planned to support bottom up initiatives of neighbourhood groups in Zurich who want to create small local recreational farms ("Quartierbauernhöfe") or community gardens in the districts. Furthermore the town nursery (Stadtgärtnerei) considers the conversion to organic farming practises, including also the conversion of their ornamental production.

## Where is Grün Stadt Zürich located?

The following map gives an overview of the green spaces including forests, agricultural land and allotment gardens within the city region Zurich (marked in different colours).



## Lessons from Grün Stadt Zürich for SUPURBFOOD

- ✓ Grün Stadt Zürich is a good example for supporting multifunctional land use by cooperating with different actors within administration, the market and civil society.
- ✓ Grün Stadt Zürich ensures attractive green spaces and green knowledge through conversion of own farms to organic farming and an active land buying policy as well as investment support for farms.
- ✓ Grün Stadt Zürich supports bottom up initiatives as urban garden initiatives in different districts of the town (like community gardens).
- ✓ Biodiversity measures on city farms were promoted through special advice and voluntary incentives (in 2012 around 25 % ecologically diversified areas were achieved).

## Contact details of Grün Stadt Zürich

For more information on Grün Stadt Zürich contact:

Markus Wittmer,  
[markus.wittmer@zuerich.ch](mailto:markus.wittmer@zuerich.ch)  
[www.stadt-zuerich.ch/gsz](http://www.stadt-zuerich.ch/gsz)

## Contact details of SUPURBFOOD

For more information on SUPURBFOOD contact:

Otto Schmid, [otto.schmid@fibl.ch](mailto:otto.schmid@fibl.ch)  
Ingrid Jahrl, [Ingrid.jahrl@fibl.ch](mailto:Ingrid.jahrl@fibl.ch)  
<http://www.fibl.org/>

