



## Urban Gardens in Vienna and Istanbul: A Review

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*The vegetable garden of Michelle Obama in The White House, as well as the 'community gardens', 'city farms' or 'hobby gardens' owned by city-dwellers all around the world, herald a new urban lifestyle in the pursuit of healthy food cultivated in personal gardens. Repercussions of this current, seen primarily in New York, London and Berlin among others, also began in Vienna and Istanbul and grabbed public attention. This tendency should be considered not as a temporary trend, but a desire of inhabitants to establish a connection with their environment, even if it is only for economic purposes, to have a say in urban design or to raise ecologic awareness. The objective of this study was to analyze common, similar or different aspects of community gardens in Vienna, the Austrian capital and Istanbul, the most important city in Turkey, with respect to formation and implementation; these gardens are called 'common gardens' or 'hobby gardens' as an aspect of urban agriculture needed by people with common grounds despite certain differences in realization with regard to social dynamics of relevant place. Istanbul is known for dense housing, while Vienna is famous for its wide green spaces; nevertheless, productive landscaping, gardens and balcony gardening are gradually becoming more popular among inhabitants in both cities, especially in central areas. Fertile, historical landscaping keeps diminishing in Istanbul where green-less housing dominates; therefore, these applications bring the historical identity and cultural richness into our day; besides, they inspire new productive spaces and remind the importance of present ones.*

**Keywords:** Hobby gardens, Istanbul urban gardens, Viennese urban gardens, Local government, Urban Farming



## Viyana ve İstanbul'daki Kent Bostanları: Bir Değerlendirme

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### Abstract

*Gerek Michelle Obama'nın Beyaz Saray'daki sebze bahçesi, gerek dünyanın bir çok kentinde sade vatandaşların "Community Gardens", "City Farms" veya "hobi bahçeleri" adı altında birer kent bostanına sahip olup, kendi bahçelerinin bahçıvanı olarak "sağlıklı" üretilmiş gıdalarını garanti altına almak istemeleri, kentte farklı bir yaşam biçiminin habercisidirler. New York, Londra ve Berlin gibi bir çok kentte görülen bu akımın uzantıları "ortak bahçeler" veya "kent bostanları" tanımlamalarıyla Viyana ve İstanbul'da da başlatılmış ve kamu oyunun ilgisini kazanmıştır. Bu eğilim geçici bir moda olarak algılanmaması, ister ekonomik amaçla ister kentsel tasarımda söz sahibi olmak, isterse de ekolojik farkındalığın artışı için olsun, kent sakinlerinin çevreleriyle bağlantı kurma isteği olarak görülmesi gerekir. Bu çalışmada hayata geçirilişi buldukları yerin toplumsal dinamiklerine bağlı olarak, farklılıklar gösterse de, ortak paydaları insanların ortak ihtiyacı olan ve aynı zamanda kent tarımcılığının bir boyutu olan, "ortak bahçe" veya "hobi bahçesi" olarak adlandırılan "kent bostanları"nın Avusturya'nın başkenti Viyana'da ve Türkiye'nin en büyük kenti İstanbul'daki oluşumları ile uygulamalarındaki ortak, benzer veya farklı boyutları araştırılmıştır. Hem yapılaşmanın çok yoğun olduğu İstanbul'da, hem de yeşil alanları azınsanmayacak ölçeklere sahip Viyana'da, özellikle şehir içinde, üretken peyzajlar, bostanlar, balkon bahçeleri yapmak giderek daha çok insanın ilgisini çekmektedir. Yeşilsiz yapılaşmanın hakim olduğu İstanbul coğrafyasında giderek azalan üretken, tarihi peyzajları bir yandan tarihsel kimliği ve kültürel birikimi günümüze taşıırken, diğer yandan yeni üretken alanlara ilham kaynağı olmakta ve halihazırda sahip olunanların önemini yeniden hatırlatmaktadırlar.*

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Hobi bahçeleri, İstanbul kent bostanları, Viyana kent bostanları, Yerel yönetimler, Kentsel tarım

## Introduction

Nowadays, cities cannot respond to the versatile requirements of their inhabitants anymore. Citizens seek alternative solutions in order to survive and to regain the lost nature and human relationships; consequently, city-dwellers have created a new type of urban agriculture, by means of creating gardens such as 'Nachbarschaftsgarten', 'Gemeinschaftsgarten' and 'hobby gardens'. The objective is that everyone has a piece of green space around him/her and meets with people around; nevertheless, people, who come together for this purpose, have a higher awareness on regional issues and this fact serves as a ground of active participation (von der Haide, 2014, p.81, von der Haide et al., 2011, p.266).

Urban gardens emerged in Europe upon agricultural and economic crises during the 20<sup>th</sup> century under various names and functions, since the food requirement of ever-growing population could no more be met. Their difference from other collective gardens is that they are worked by individuals and families by dividing a single piece of land into smaller parts. They are called "allotment gardens" in English (BK-This and that [BK], 2015) (Acton, 2015, p.16). "Kleingarten" in German (Tschuppik, 2001,p.23) and "ouvriers" in French (Society of allotments of Montbrison [SAM], 2016). They were first established following the industrial revolution by the new, poor citizens, who migrated from rural to urban areas as workers, in order to meet their vegetable and fruit requirement (Cabedoce and Pierson, 1996, p.46). Collective gardens appeared initially in Russia during the 1930's upon rural and urban collectivism becoming even more developed during the 1950s and 70s (Northern Forests Defense [NFD], 2015).

According to current official data, 2/3 of the global populations live in cities (Statista, 2015) on food produced by the rural. According to Des Jardins, the richest 1 billion people consume 80% of resources, while 5 billion humans live on the remaining 20% (Des Jardins, 2006,p.32). These facts point out the imbalance and grounds for attempts towards "urban gardening": For Müller (2002) and Meyer-Renschhausen (2004), the new garden movement is a global act started against neoliberal globalisation trends which lead to gradually greater difference between the poor and the rich. Ziegler (2010) and Schoas (2013) consider tendencies towards agriculture, such as urban gardening or hobby gardening, as a kind of 'urban

agriculture'. In this context, the new urbanism approach is seen as regional diversity, rediscovery of common life and renaissance for the ability to individually produce oneself (Müller, 2011, p.54).

## 1. Material and methods

The content of this study especially focuses on 'urban gardens' and 'hobby gardens' that have recently been formed in Vienna and Istanbul with repercussions among the media and public seeking a 'common', 'intercultural', 'neighborhood' approach 'that is far from individuality' (Fig. 1). The existing literature has been covered for the purpose of this study. The objective of this study was to investigate the circumstances of urban gardening on the basis of theoretical research and the analysis of gardening projects in Vienna and Istanbul while clarifying relevant concepts and pointing out regional differences. The relationships between the city governments and the users or initiatives of the gardens in both cities and the current role of the city governments in this process have been analyzed.

### 1.1. Viennese urban gardens and their characteristics

Vienna reportedly follows New York in establishing its 'new urban gardens' (Gartenpolylog, 2015). Nevertheless, the city already has a historical experience similar to 'guerrilla gardening' (Jahnke, 2010,p.38; Reynolds, 2010,p.63) of today: During the hard times in interwar period, the poorest communities in the city realized the first 'social housing project with gardens' and created a peerless model in Europe: Families without shelter illegally destroyed the forests around the city and established the first settlements (Weihsman, 2002, p.78; Stüber, 2010, p.39; Six, 2011, p.83). In 1919, these 'new residents' held an indignation meeting against the Vienna Municipality in order to ensure that the occupied areas are granted legal status; thereupon, the settlements became legitimate through tenancy agreements between the municipality and Ministry of Forestry which owned the majority of these lands. The government supported building of modest shelters by means of cheap construction materials (Weihsman, 2002, p.78). This historical 'Kleingarten' was an early example of urban farming and continued to serve as seasonal dwelling until 1992; nowadays, these habitations have been transformed into "small houses with gardens" used throughout the year (Tschuppik, 2001, p.23). Nowadays, these settlements constitute a notable part of urbanization in terms of green space and organic diversity.

Despite this long tradition of 'small gardens' (Kleingärten), the local government was somewhat late in supporting the recent international urban gardening. Nevertheless, the authorities finally produced an encouraging and inclusive approach. Since 2010, Vienna Municipality grants every neighborhood with financial support for a relevant project (€ 3.600,-) under the motto "gardening together connects (gemeinsam garteln verbindet)", and effectively encourages the "common gardens" project (Vienna Municipality, 2015). The Gartenpolylog Association, founded in 2007, provides support for establishment and self-operation of "common gardens", as well as active contribution to enhance relationship between various garden organizations (Nebrensky, 2008, p.53). The application centre, founded within parks and green spaces unit under municipality (MA 42), informs hobby gardeners in practical terms. In addition, municipal unit on refuse and road cleaning (MA 48) provides organic soil (Vienna Municipality, 2015). Vienna is on an area of 414.87 km<sup>2</sup>, with a population of 1.741 millions. The gardening areas constitute 117.76 km<sup>2</sup>, namely, 28.4% of the city. Special attention is given in order to ensure that green space per capita attains 16.5 m<sup>2</sup> and that it is maximum 250 m away from living space (Austria National Channel [ORF], 2015).

Viennese examples consist of 27 gardens supported by the Municipality (Table 1), 35 established by private entrepreneurs (Table 2), and 7 with self-harvest function (Table 3). We also analyzed 2 historical and 9 new gardens in Istanbul (Table 5). Gardens, which are introduced in websites of respective municipalities or independent gardening associations, are classified with respect to their size of area, date of establishment and rental fee.

**Fig. 1.** Vienna urban gardens

**Table 1**

Urban gardens supported by the Vienna Municipality

**Table 2**

Urban gardens not supported by the Vienna Municipality

**Table 3**

Offered by private entrepreneurs 'selbsternte' self-harvest parcels in Vienna

**Table 4**

Urban gardens for different issues in Vienna

These 17 Viennese gardens bear their functions in their names (Table 4). Accordingly, they are called common gardens (Gemeinschaftsgarten) or neighborhood gardens (Nachbarschaftsgarten). These concepts are

used equally often and mostly in the same sense both in literature and daily use. According to Rosol (2006) and Schoas (2013), the concept “Gemeinschaftsgärten” is based on North American “community gardens” and signifies both “togetherness” and “common” (Gemeinschaft) as well as neighborhood (Nachbarschaft) in terms of location. For Schützenberger, however, the concept “common garden” is problematic, since; actually, there is no common cultivation on the same parcel. By means of these gardens, city-dwellers reveal their longings through various organizations or concepts that define their special functions: If the inhabitants of the city use a land together with others after coming to an agreement with its (public or private) possessor, it is called “Gemeinschaftsgarten” or “Nachbarschaftsgarten” (Schützenberger, 2014, P.63). Those among common gardens that point out the differences of users, or that seek specific purposes or groups such as migrants and refugees are known as intercultural gardens (Müller, 2011, P.54). Such gardens comprise areas for the migrants to cultivate their traditional vegetables as well as common spaces. Participation to such gardens can be obtained via very low fees. Moreover, the gardens host language courses, conferences and manual training so as to ensure intercultural exchange, sharing and mutual learning. According to some scholars, intercultural gardens are not the exclusive example for diversity; therefore, such researchers also point out “neighborhood gardens” as a similar model (Appel et al., 2011, p.47). The areas, on which neighborhood gardens and common gardens are established, have essential common features. For example, their possession belongs to municipality, church, foundation or community. The usage of such an area by a group is regulated through legal agreement. These gardens usually include areas for rent, private parcels and common spaces (Fig. 2).

**Fig. 2.** NB Zaunkönig 18<sup>th</sup> district Vienna (foto by the authors)

In Vienna, the users of gardens consist of bottom-up, namely, the entire public or they are employed in accordance with “from top to bottom” manner, where the infrastructure is prepared by social and cultural associations seeking a suitable space and hand the land over to a garden group. One of the rules in gardens (Gemeinschaftsgärten) is social, cultural and ecologic diversity. Some gardens are always open, some are locked and open only for certain hours or access is possible only if the participant is at place. Usually, the municipality or organizing groups undertake the costs of water, insurance, garbage and other expenses; sometimes, participants share these costs. In case the garden is located within a public park,

the neighborhood garden is transformed into a kind of garden laboratory. The visitors of the park can watch the gardening works, communicate with the participants, come to know new vegetable and fruit species, attend various activities by gardening groups or can obtain information about cultivated vegetables, fruits and spices thanks to information signs even if they do not directly participate in the project (Karls garden, 2015).

The method in which a private company hires the parcels seasonally for plantation is called self-harvest (Selbsternte). The self-harvest was applied for the first time in Austria; while another example of the project was founded in Germany in 1999 under the name “pick your vegetable” (GemüseSelbsternte) and became widespread in several German cities (Vogl et al., 2003, p.12; Schallmayer, 2006, p.38; Appel et al., 2011, p.47). In this method, the same crop is cultivated on each parcel; annual plants are cultivated since the usage is for just one season (May to October). Self-harvest parcels do not possess common spaces (such as resting places, playground etc.) that are typical for “common gardens” (Gemeinschaftsgärten). Generally, such plantations are not organized by a community and the interaction between users is limited. According to researchers, there is an irregular and rare social relation between self-harvest parcel users in gardening environment (Schallmayer, 2006, p.38). An important criterion for Selbsterntenin is the obligation to abide by biological (organic) agriculture rules (Hess & Vogl, 1999, p.137). Apart from seasonal usage, self-harvest parcels can include operations such as preparation of soil, cultivation of vegetables and fruits, and annual renting on the condition not to leave them abandoned. In addition, there are SOLA [solidarische Landwirtschaft = community supported agriculture] cooperatives that determine the supply-demand amounts, encourage biological cultivation and ensure participation of consumers by regulating relations between cultivators and consumers through agreements. The SOLA are also known as International Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and offer a strong alternative for “urban nutrition” (2015).

Creativity of Viennese people in efforts to bring together their city with nature is not restricted with these gardens. Other greening activities include the following: Vertical gardening of façades, singular tree planting (Baumscheiben), window gardening for greening balconies or windows (Müller, 2011, p.54), variety (Vielfalt) for combination of multifunctional gardening, and “guerrilla gardening” which carries out greening without permission.

## 1.2. *Urban gardens in Istanbul and their characteristics*

The history of urban gardens in Istanbul dates back to 1500 years ago: Yedikule Gardens are situated around Theodosius Land Walls on historical peninsula since Byzantine days; besides, Kuzguncuk Gardens along the Bosphorus on Anatolian side fight for existence against neoliberal policies. Architectural remains within Yedikule Gardens, such as wooden annexes from 19<sup>th</sup> century, cisterns of 5 meters in diameter, stables and terracing systems, are now structures of historical and archaeological importance (Historical Yedikule Gardens [HYG], 2015), and proofs that they were conceived together with the city walls within urban planning of Istanbul throughout the history. In 1939, the Theodosian walls were first designated as a conservation area, and in 1985 the entire 6650 meter wall complex was added to the UNESCO World Heritage Site (WHS) List as a Historic Area of Istanbul (Ahunbay and Ahunbay, 2000, p.227; Çorakbas et al. 2014). The Association of Istanbul Archaeologists continues to advocate for UNESCO protection of the Theodosian walls and gardens (White et.al, 2015, p.86).

Yedikule Gardens survived the Ottoman era as well and reached our day; now, thanks to the Yedikule Protection Initiative, it is protected as a productive public space. During the summer of 2013, Yedikule Gardens was once again faced with the danger of destruction, but was protected by the locals. The gardens host the garden school, as well as soil-related seminars, trainings and workshops on generative insemination, flower planting and irrigation for children and adults; in addition to theatre performances organized by the civil initiative so as to preserve Yedikule Gardens and keep them alive as they are (HYG, 2015).

Kuzguncuk Garden, formerly known as İlya Garden, dates back 700 years to the Byzantine era. Today, it is protected by the 'Association of People of Kuzguncuk' and 'the locals'. The area, which serves agricultural cultivation purposes, is also used as a social gathering place. The garden still hosts certain festivals and traditional days of Noah's pudding (ashure). Back in the Ottoman period, the gardens constituted an important part of the neighborhood organization, which was the core urban structure in Istanbul as well as in other cities. These functional and fertile gardens did not only provide edible crops or market places, but they were also a notable part of social and cultural lifestyle. Nevertheless, as Istanbul continued to grow immensely by way of migration during the second half of the Republic era, such agricultural areas were considered as unnecessary and ugly and were used as potential public work and construction



zones; consequently, cultivated areas were pushed out of the city (Başer and Tunçay, 2010, p.106).

That certainly was the case in Istanbul, where food grown within the city helped residents survive an eight year siege at the end of the 14th century. Today, 800 million people around the globe are engaged in urban agriculture, which can produce up to 15 times more food than a rural plot of the same size, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. In addition, the FAO notes, urban farming generates employment, recycles urban wastes, creates greenbelts, and strengthens cities' resilience to climate change (Hattam, 2016). According to official data, the area and current population of Istanbul are 5.313 km<sup>2</sup> and 14.160.467 persons, respectively; the city is comprised of 39 districts within the Metropolitan Municipality, in addition to 936 neighborhoods. According to the report by World Cities Culture Forum in 2013, the rate of public green space in Istanbul is at a desperate level in comparison with other metropolises all around the globe: 18.23% of Turkey population lives in Istanbul. Public green spaces, parks and gardens constitute merely 2.20% of the total urban area. The green space per capita in Istanbul is much less not only than Paris, New York and London, but also than other cities such as Bogota and Seoul (World Cities Culture Forum [WCCF], 2015). The figures provided by the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (IBB) on public green areas in urban settlements in Istanbul also reveal similar results: only 77.5 million m<sup>2</sup> of total 5.313 km<sup>2</sup> consists of public green spaces. This means a 6% green space per capita (Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality [IBB], 2015). However, the minimum rate recommended by World Health Organization and accepted by United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization is 9% (Kuchelmeister, 1998, p.96). Moreover, there is no exemplary urban garden application in the areas under governance of IBB. Nevertheless, several districts in Istanbul comprise urban gardens, mostly in form of hobby gardens.

The first hobby garden established in Turkey was 'Küçük Bahçe Tesisleri' (Little Garden Facilities) in Bursa in 1985 (Ozkan et al., 1996, p.18; Bursa Municipality, 2015; Nilüfer Municipality, 2015). These facilities are colloquially known as gardens of the retired. As the first example attracted great public attention, other cities followed. In Turkey, the practice is rather known as hobby gardening; as Ozkan et al indicate (2003), these spaces are mostly planned, designed and governed by local administration. Nowadays, there are district municipal hobby gardens in the districts

of Arnavutköy, Esenler, Küçükçekmece, Sultangazi and Beykoz in Istanbul. Pendik and Tuzla Municipalities are currently planning hobby gardens (Table 5). Beylikdüzü Municipality serves the students with hobby gardens in 5 schools in the district (IBB, 2016)(Beylikdüzü Municipality, 2015)

**Table 5**

Municipal urban gardens in Istanbul

Areas, in Istanbul prepared in parcels are annually hired to inhabitants (Fig. 3). Lease terms, government support etc. can vary depending on municipality. The hired parcel often includes log cabins of 6-10 m<sup>2</sup>. Hobby gardens enable city-dwellers to carry out many activities they miss; in addition to creating a hobby for leisure time as well as minor economic gain. Thus, city-dwellers leave their high-rise blocks, work with the soil, grow plants, look after their garden and get crops; therefore, attaining both psychological and economic advantages. Thus, recreation for inhabitants becomes possible through sitting among the green, watching them, resting, or picnic (Yılmaz et al, 2006, p.98). According to the hobby gardening offices of the municipalities of Istanbul, there is such a high demand from the people, so that the participants have to draw lots in order to use the gardens. The usage although is limited to a certain period of time, subsequently the tenants change every season so as to provide service for more people and the municipalities often receive requests for increasing the number of parcels due to.

**Fig. 3.** Municipal urban gardens in Istanbul

Applications in hobby gardens vary per municipality. For example, Arnavutköy Municipality demands additional fees for services in gardens such as irrigation, hoeing and gardening. The area includes car park, coffeehouse, playgrounds, cafeterias and toilets for public use (Arnavutköy Municipality, 2015). Sultangazi Municipality offers a total of 56 gardens, 12 with greenhouse (Figs. 4 and 5). The citizens can cultivate and harvest various vegetables in the garden; and each garden has a log cabin (Sultangazi Municipality, 2015). On the other hand, in its hobby gardens, Küçükçekmece Municipality provides citizens with wooden material chests with shade, in addition to the opportunity to cultivate and consume their own food. In Küçükçekmece, the inhabitants can have a garden through a three-year contract with the municipality (Kucukcekmece Municipality, 2015) Esenler Municipality gave hobby gardening service in collaboration with Yıldız University between 2011 and 2014. Nevertheless,

the municipality has now suspended the project (Sabah, 2015) Beykoz Municipality established hobby gardens in order to encourage natural agriculture and offer them to those who want to cultivate their own fruits and vegetables; accordingly, the municipality made use of inactive lands in the district and the gardens cover an area of 20.000 m<sup>2</sup>. Each parcel has a log cabin and irrigation system; besides, the complex includes a parking area for 50 vehicles, playground, and common areas such as headquarters and security centre (Fig. 6). The beginners can make use of free consultancy services, while the district dwellers have priority above others. The citizens can benefit from their crops by selling them at the sales point within the area. Directorate of Parks and Gardens provide free information on soil and agriculture for the beginners (Beykoz Municipality, 2015)

**Figs. 4 and 5.** Arnavutköy Municipality urban gardens

**Fig. 6.** Beykoz Municipality urban gardens

## **2. Results and discussion**

Although urban gardens have different stories in the beginning; their common feature is to assist city-dwellers in adaptation to urban life without abandoning their relationship with nature and to enhance the quality of their lives. The areas of such gardens encourage common life and better life quality among the locals; the projects thus ensure social, economic and ecologic advantages.

Differences between 'urban garden' projects are hardly due to geographical position; rather, the variations arise from the running and mentality of the organization behind the project or the relation between participants. 'New gardens' adopt traditional elements and adapt them to present conditions.

Variety of themes in common gardens makes them even more attractive. The diversity is also reflected in relevant scientific works. Many relevant academic studies are being conducted in recent years at universities with regard to environment and urban planning, ecology and environmental production, agriculture, ethnography, philosophy, pedagogy, biology, management, economy and marketing. Many of these studies directly examine certain gardens. According to scholars, common gardens with social, cultural and ecologic functions (habitat for birds, butterflies and insects in the cities thanks to wider green spaces), provide city-dwellers with social skills (common life, neighbor relations), self-confidence, respect, tolerance and empathy; they contribute to better relation between

inhabitants, as well as to self-sufficiency, and self-perception and environmental perception. Common gardens enhance and enrich the life quality of not only their users, but all local inhabitants. Social communication brings together different people and ensures adaptation to urban life; indeed, urban gardens provide much more than its apparent crops.

There is an essential difference between urban gardens in Vienna and Istanbul: In one, the policy goes from the bottom to the top; while it is the contrary in the other. In Vienna, gardens are mostly requested and organized by the public; in Istanbul, however, they are rather a service provided by municipalities and appreciated by the public. In both cases, “urban gardens” are much appreciated by the public. Vienna comprises more urban gardens in number than Istanbul.

Urban gardens seem to have the potential to cultivate democracy, since, beyond the fertile and constructive power of Mother Nature; they also provide good human relations and experiences on distribution, sharing and mutual life, including parcel draws and attitude of local administrations.

In Istanbul, a city of dense housing and in constant change, these rare opportunities should be seized and the gardens, just like historical city walls, should be preserved. These gardens comprise a part of the fight against globalization and are much more egalitarian and local, as they seek an economy based on voluntary and collective time and labor instead of money-based shopping. This quest became even more apparent in Istanbul during the Gezi Park protests and collaborative gardens have been established in many cities. The gardens are given different names. They are sometimes called ‘neighborhood gardens’, whereas some are known as ‘urban gardens’, ‘solidarity gardens’ or ‘collective gardens’. However, they all have a common feature: Manual plantation, cultivation, harvest and individual or communal consumption of crops that are planted within parks, vacant lands and areas within or outside the city centers.

The gardens provide neighborhood residents with fresh vegetables and fruits; moreover, they enhance the local flora and fauna. In addition, they are, in a sense, a part of the economic and social support mechanism and offer one of the most effective fighting methods against unhealthy convenience food. As people make their own crops a part of their dish, they herald a kind of questioning against the industrial food system since they move away from the consumer market approach of shopping centers. Common grounds also enable individuals to involve in physical activities

and integrate with nature, which brings along individual freedom, autonomy and creativity outside the indoor areas. Moreover, people learn from one another, whereupon the learning culture develops and participative processes are supported. Common requirements of the garden necessitate participation; but in addition, the common labor creates a new type of social life, political attitude and collectivist culture; thus, it can provide horizontal contribution to all processes of decision-making in daily life.

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#### Table 1

Urban gardens supported by the Vienna Municipality

(Prepared by the authors, source: <https://www.wien.gv.at/umwelt-klimaschutz/gemeinsam-garteln.html>; <https://gartenpolylog.org/gardens>).



name or function of plots	location of plots	starting year of activity	total area (m <sup>2</sup> )	number of subplots	bed size (m <sup>2</sup> )	renting prize (€)	membership fee (€)	use of schools	waiting list
Mintzgarten	2 <sup>nd</sup> district	2013	220	15					
Max Winter Platz	2 <sup>nd</sup> district	2010	300	16	1				
NG Arenbergpark	3 <sup>rd</sup> district	2012	1.200	30	4			6	67
RMP-Karlsgarten	4 <sup>th</sup> district	2014	2.000						
Kontaktgarten / Einsiedlerpark	5 <sup>th</sup> district								
GG Kirchengasse	7 <sup>th</sup> district	2013	300	10			30		
Tiebergarten	8 <sup>th</sup> district	2014	120	4	14				
Grätzelgarten Alsergrund	9 <sup>th</sup> district	2012	15	4					
NG Sensengasse	9 <sup>th</sup> district	2011	55	11	4				
GG Monte Laa	10 <sup>th</sup> district	2011	200	16	6				
GG Matzleinsdorf	10 <sup>th</sup> district	2014	1	1					
NG Macondo	11 <sup>th</sup> district	2010	800	20	5			50	
11er Garten	11 <sup>th</sup> district	2013	1.700	30	5				
Steinhagegarten	12 <sup>th</sup> district								
Grimmgasse	15 <sup>th</sup> district	2012	377	18	4	120	20		
Else Federn (Heigerlein)*	16 <sup>th</sup> district	2008	1.000	35	6				
Neulerchenfelder StraÙe	16 <sup>th</sup> district	2012	1	1					
GG Hernals	17 <sup>th</sup> district								
NB Zaunkönig	18 <sup>th</sup> district	2014	150	20	4				
Garten Löwenzahn	20 <sup>th</sup> district	2013	300	30	3	100	30		
intk-NG Roda Gasse	21 <sup>st</sup> district	2009	800	25	4				
NG Brossmannplatz	21 <sup>st</sup> district	2013	1300	24	10				
NG Kaiserm./Donaucity	22 <sup>nd</sup> district	2011	5000	70	20				
Norwegerviertel	22 <sup>nd</sup> district	2011	1.400	20	20				
Seestadt von Aspern	22 <sup>nd</sup> district	2011	1.200	17	50	0	35		
Ökoparzellen -Wien	22 <sup>nd</sup> district								
GG Zaubergarten	23 <sup>rd</sup> district	2011	1	1					

**Table 2.** Urban gardens not supported by the Vienna Municipality (Prepared by the authors, source: <https://www.wien.gv.at/umwelt-klimaschutz/gemeinsam-garteln.html>; <https://gartenpolylog.org/gardens>).

name or function of plots	location of plots	starting year of activity	total area (m <sup>2</sup> ) of subplot	number of subplots (80 m <sup>2</sup> per subplot)	bed size (m <sup>2</sup> )	particular topic of gardens
GG Augarten	2 <sup>nd</sup> district					150-200
Novagarten	2 <sup>nd</sup> district	2013	1	15		scholar&teacher
Garten SAMBA	2 <sup>nd</sup> district	2013	200	24		
Gärtnerwienochne	2 <sup>nd</sup> district	2010	2.000			
Blumenspitz am tabor	2 <sup>nd</sup> district	2011	1	1		anderegarteninsiative
GG Donaukanal	2 <sup>nd</sup> district	2013	1	20		garten ohne zaun
Hängender Kräutergarten im Arsenal	3 <sup>rd</sup> district	2013				anderegarteninsiative
NG auf Zeit - Eurogate	3 <sup>rd</sup> district	2014	812	26	4	
NG Juchgasse	3 <sup>rd</sup> district			in planning		
Neu Max Garten	3 <sup>rd</sup> district	2015	1.000	in planning		
Krongarten	5 <sup>th</sup> district	2015				anderegarteninsiative
GG Pfeilgasse	8 <sup>th</sup> district	2013	400	10		
Mädchengarten	11 <sup>th</sup> district	1998				mädchengarten
NG Hetzendorf	12 <sup>th</sup> district	2012	7.500	70	25	
Gärtnern und "büffel"	12 <sup>th</sup> district	2011	200	8		
Längenfeld-Garten	12 <sup>th</sup> district	2010	1.000	15	5	guerillagärten
Garten Wolfganggasse	12 <sup>th</sup> district	2009	28	4		
Cityfarm Schönbrunn	13 <sup>rd</sup> district	2011	4.000			childrengardens
Garten der Vielfalt	15 <sup>th</sup> district	2011	80	5		vielfalt
Garteln ums Eck	15 <sup>th</sup> district					Garteln ums Eck
Grundstück PEPH	16 <sup>th</sup> district					
Garteln ums Eck	16 <sup>th</sup> district					Garteln ums Eck
NG am Heuberg	17 <sup>th</sup> district	2009	30	5	6	
GG Rosenberg	17 <sup>th</sup> district	2011/2012	1.500	35	4	
Garten Unser-Döbling	19 <sup>th</sup> district					
Zucchini-Brüderinnen	19 <sup>th</sup> district	2012	200	7	5	
GG Krottenbach	19 <sup>th</sup> district	2015	120	0	0	ein mobilergarten
NG Adolf Loos Gasse	21 <sup>th</sup> district					
Das Feld in Floridsdorf	21 <sup>th</sup> district	2006	2.500	50	40	
Solidar und GG- BOKU	21 <sup>th</sup> district	2009	4.000	1		Solidar
PermaBluehGemueseGarten	22 <sup>nd</sup> district	2001	1500	1	50	
Grünstern Lobauerinnen	22 <sup>nd</sup> district	2012	4.900+500m <sup>2</sup>			
Paradiesgarten "grüner Daumen"	22 <sup>nd</sup> district		1 hectare	50	75	
SoliLa	22 <sup>nd</sup> district	2012				Solila
GG an der Liesing	23 <sup>rd</sup> district		170m <sup>2</sup>	3 beds (15 possibel)		

**Table 3.** Urban gardens for different issues in Vienna (Prepared by the authors, source: <https://www.wien.gv.at/umwelt-klimaschutz/gemeinsam-garteln.html>; <https://gartenpolylog.org/gardens>).

name or function of plots	location of plots	starting year of activity	total area (m <sup>2</sup> ) of subplot	number of subplots (80 m <sup>2</sup> per subplot)	particular topic of gardens
<b>gärtnerwienochne</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> district	2010	2.000		gärtnerwienochne
<b>blumenspitz am tabor</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> district	2011	1	1	anderegarteninsiative
<b>GG Donaukanal</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> district	2013	1	20	garten ohne zaun
<b>Hängender Kräutergarten im Arsenal</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> district	2013			anderegarteninsiative
<b>Krongarten</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> district	2015			anderegarteninsiative
<b>Mädchengarten</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> district	1998			mädchengarten
<b>Längenfeld-Garten</b>	12 <sup>nd</sup> district	2010	1.000	15	guerillagärten
<b>Cityfarm Schönbrunn</b>	13 <sup>rd</sup> district	2011	4.000		childrengardens
<b>Garten der Vielfalt</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> district	2011	80	5	Vielfalt
<b>Garteln ums Eck</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> district				Garteln ums Eck
<b>Garteln ums Eck</b>	16 <sup>nd</sup> district				Garteln ums Eck
<b>GG Krottenbach</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> district	2015	120	0	ein Mobilargarten
<b>Solidar und GG BOKU</b>	21 <sup>th</sup> district	2009	4.000	1	Solidar
<b>SoliLa</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> district	2012			SoliLa
<b>NG Macondo / Asyl</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> district	2010	800	20	intercultural garden
<b>Bruno Kreisky Haus</b>	21 <sup>th</sup> district	2009			intercultural garden
<b>GG Flüchtlingsnotunterkunft Winkeläckerweg</b>	21 <sup>th</sup> district	2010	500	25	intercultural garden

**Table 4.** Offered by private entrepreneurs 'selbsternte' self-harvest parcels in Vienna (Prepared by the authors, source: <http://www.selbsternte.at/>).

name or function of plots "Selbsternteflächen"/ location of plots	starting year of activity	total area (m <sup>2</sup> )	number of subplots (80 m <sup>2</sup> per subplot)	bed size (m <sup>2</sup> )	range of fees to be paid for subplots of different size	renting prize (€)	membership fee (€)	using period
Rothneusiedl	1987	3.2000	400	23	109/55			
Erlaa	1995	4.800	60	19	73/124	115	40	
Siebenhirten/Ketzergrasse	1996	6.400	80	19	73/124	135/195	40/80	
Hietzing Roter Berg	1999	1.880	24	22	100/182	192/242	40/60m <sup>2</sup>	
Hirschstetten	2000	8.000	100	20	87/145	145	40	
Hietzing Angemeyer	2015	in planning				180/238	31/45	
Untertal-Kirchemacker	2015	in planning				109/149/198	6,5/10,4/14,3	may-oct

**Table 5.** Municipal urban gardens in Istanbul (prepared by the authors)

location of plots	starting year of activity	total area (m <sup>2</sup> )	parcel size	the number of parcel	the annual rental price (€)	rental period (years)
<b>Arnavutköy Municipality</b>	2012	68.000	50	200	220	2
<b>Sultangazi Municipality</b>	2012	3.600	70	56	333	1
<b>Esenler Municipality*</b>	2011	3.500	50			2
<b>Beykoz Municipality</b>	2010	20.000	50	100	300	1
<b>Küçükçekmece Municipality</b>	2012	42.000	40	266	160	3

\*Esenler Municipality has decided to end this service

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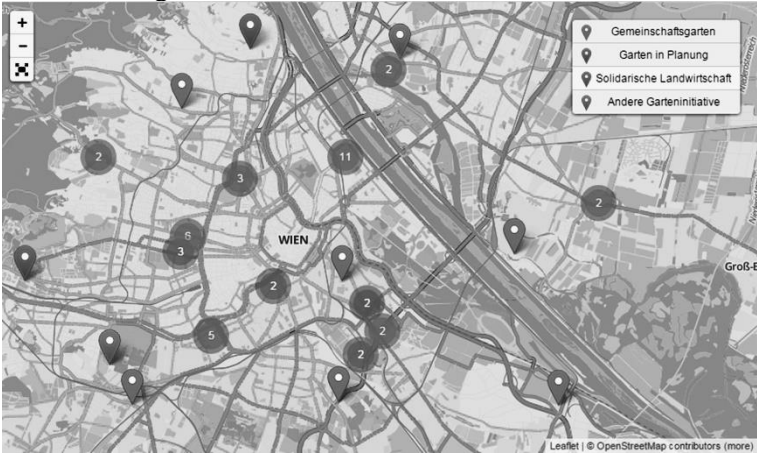


Fig. 1. Vienna urban gardens (<https://gartenpolylog.org/gardens>)



Fig. 2. NB Zaunkönig 18<sup>th</sup> district Vienna (foto by the authors)

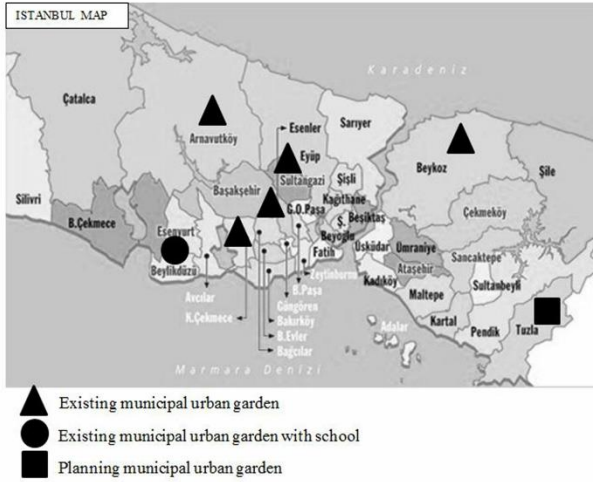
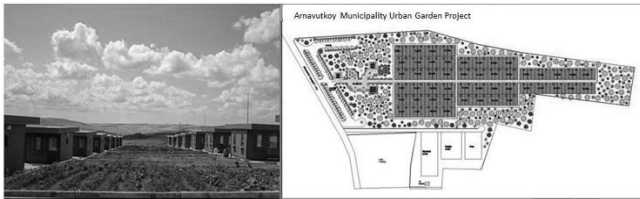


Fig. 3. Municipal urban gardens in Istanbul (prepared by the authors)



Figs. 4 and 5. Arnavutköy Municipality urban gardens (<http://www.listemis.com/istanbul-hobi-bahcesi/>)



Fig. 6. Beykoz Municipality urban gardens (<http://www.beykoz.bel.tr/proje/bag-bahce-tutkunlarına-hobi-bahceleri>)

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