



Enabling inclusive urban gardening in public space

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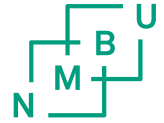
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Enabling inclusive UG in public space

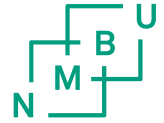
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Background: Enabling inclusive UG



Background: Enabling inclusive UG



IN PUBLIC SPACE:



Background: Enabling inclusive UG



Urban gardening:

Urban Food Gardening

Individual Production

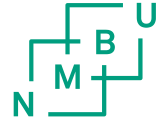


Collective Production



Diagram from: Lohrberg, F., et al. (2015). Urban Agriculture Europe, Jovis (pg 23).

Background: Enabling inclusive UG

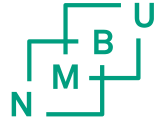


RESEARCH QUESTION:

What is inclusive urban gardening and how can municipalities enable it in public space?



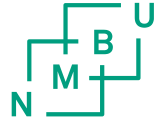
Theoretical framing



BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC SPACE

- **Who can garden?**
 - rules and practices affect who is recruited and feels welcome
- **How does the garden affect adjacent public space?**
 - openness, synergy with other activities, potential interactions

Theoretical framing

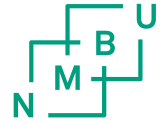


UG AS URBAN COMMONS:

- **Subtractive effects** –
how one's use of a space or resource negatively impacts others'; **divides people**
- **Network effects** –
positive effects of others' use, can be integral to making a shared resource valued; **connects people** through benefits from the common resource

Parker, P. and S. Schmidt (2017). "Enabling urban commons." Journal of Co-design 13(3): 202-213.

Three Northern European Cases

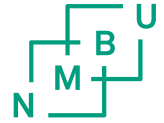


- AARHUS – **STRONG MUNICIPAL FACILITATION**
Programme for UA - Consistent approach to new citizen initiatives and projects; coordinated by a team under the technical department
- ROTTERDAM – **FRAGMENTED FACILITATION** -
Attempted UA policy; fragmented and inconsistent approach to UA initiatives by different departments; municipal policy for citizen adoption of minor public spaces
- MALMÖ – **OFFICIAL POLICY** - Municipal collaborations with NGO's, UG coordinated in green space management, accepted policy for UG in public space, but inconsistent action and practices in implementation.

Three Northern European Cases

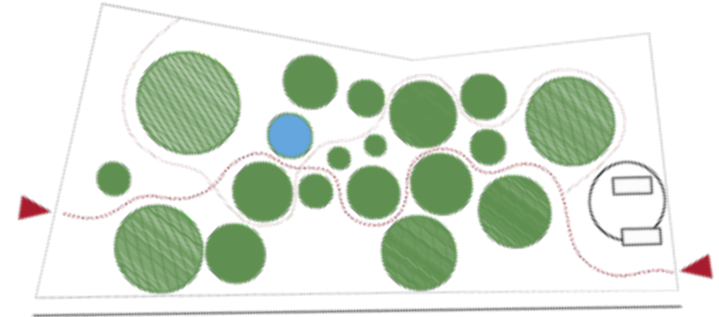


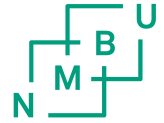
Three Northern European Cases



METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH:

- **Fieldwork** – visits to the cities, pop-up visits to initiatives, formal and informal interviews in the municipal administration and with gardeners as well as initiative leaders
- **International partners** – supplement local data, input
- **Mapping and observation** – reflecting on our own experiences in the UG spaces

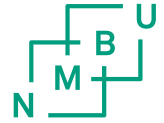




Enabling findings

MUNICIPALITIES CAN SUPPORT & REGULATE UG:

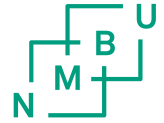
- **Funding** - providing start-up funding and sector-based project funding; financing coordinator positions or activities.
- **Land ownership and use** – assisting in finding and negotiating land use; free/subsidized leasing of public land; regulating terms of use.
- **Organization and management** - requiring and assisting in initiatives' administration, organization, recruitment;
- **Regulation of use** - stipulating how initiatives can use space, often based on ensuring public access;
- **Maintenance and operations** – facilitating, regulating, and arbitrating conflicts in the initiative and adjacent space over time, including aesthetic standards and coordination.



Enabling findings

AARHUS AFFECTS BARRIERS OF PARTICIPATION:

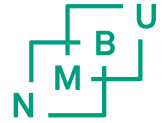
- Requires public access to UG membership
- Assists in marketing, knowledge dissemination
- Requires UG initiatives to establish administrative boards and register organizations
- Provides start-up capital for new initiatives



Enabling findings

AARHUS SUPPORTS NETWORK EFFECTS:

- Negotiates and offers free land leasing, **in short-term contracts**
- Requires that UG initiatives host two public events a year
- Hosts events and makes publications to share knowledge across initiatives



Enabling findings

AARHUS MINIMIZES SUBTRACTIVE EFFECTS:

- Requires public access to initiatives
- Requires removal of materials at end of lease
- Requires sharing harvest with the public
- Offers short-term contracts which may help keep public space available for other uses

Challenges in enabling inclusive UG

Enabling inclusive UG is complex, varies a great deal and requires:

- Arbitration of conflicts
- Long-term, consistent support



Facilitating inclusive UG may contradict long-term urban gardening, tight community building, and food production.

Thank you!



Cultivating
public
space

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<https://cultivatingpublicspace.no/>

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