Urban Agriculture as an Integrative Factor of Climate-Optimised Urban Development, Casablanca / Morocco

Capacity Building in a Periurban Area of Casablanca

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Urban Agriculture as an Integrative Factor of Climate-Optimised Urban Development, Casablanca / Morocco
Structure of work: horizontal and vertical
Location of the four pilot projects
Goal in Ouled Ahmed

Transformation of a semi-informal settlement to a more climate-adapted settlement with integrated Urban Agriculture

Problems

- No efficient social network
- people in Ouled Ahmed have no knowledge about agriculture
- poverty
- Speculation (the construction contractor offering large sums for the land so that landowners do not produce. They wait for higher prices)

Solutions

Capacity building
generate an economically competitive urban agriculture
Measures taken

Community farm

Task

Training of women in Agriculture
Healthy nutrition

School garden

Task

awareness raising of school children to the subjects of climate and agriculture
Training of Women

- Beginn April 2011
- Moroccan partners have selected 12 women from the Douar (village)
- organized visits to the various activities we have in Casablanca
- educating women about the project and discussions with the various partners

Goal:
to take part in the thoughts of women and try to expand their horizon
Results after 4 months of training

- acquired knowledge in ecological agriculture and healthy nutrition
- processed farming
- First harvest
- The women pay attention to nutrition and healthy cooking
- more women will participate in the training
- as appreciation, we gave certificates to the women
- growing self-confidence of women reinforcement of the social network
Results after 8 months

- the women can use the farm independently
- they are familiar with various vegetable and herb growing cycles
- They recognize many plant diseases and pests and they can control it biologically
- Compost prepared independently and used efficient
- seed collecting and storing
unexpected results and side effects

- the women have begun to separate waste in order to get the bio waste compost
- They also ask their neighbours to separate waste
- they get to know their neighbors and help them to install micro home gardens for herbs
- they take part in other trainings
  for example:
  .3 women began to learn reading and writing
  .4 women take French lessons, although two of them are illiterate
  .3 other women take part an the training “seed essential”
  .5 women take a marketing training
- On their constant demand, a training center is built in Ouled Ahmed

- The women report that they are happy because they can do more. Some have now a schedule for the day.

- Landowners ask about opportunities of cooperation with the women
Training center building
1- installing of a constructed wetland (purification of Hammam waste water with plants for irrigation)

sustainable water re-use for irrigation

The women and other inhabitants are involved in the planning and building

2- organize a workshop in Ouled Ahmed to discuss the future of urban agriculture in the village and income oriented agriculture (snail farming, plant breeding, etc…)
Thank you