

How to Turn a City Green

DISCUSSION DOCUMENT

Healthy
Sustainable
Scalable

Please read and provide
constructive feedback
(See contact below)



OBJECTIVE: Devise strategies to turn cities green – one balcony, one roof, one building at a time.

THE CHALLENGE: How to:

- Grow fruit, vegetables, flowers, and herbs in, on, and around houses, buildings, and carparks
- Develop and deploy urban farming Consultants to lead greenification projects
- Establish a distribution network for seeds, compost, tools, soil, etc.
- Foster and encourage the sharing of methods, ideas, experiences, and skills.



→ How this could work in one building....

Suggested steps

- An urban farming Consultant discusses with the building manager ways to grow food inside, outside, or on the rooftop of their building and evaluates safety concerns. → Create a Green Building Strategy
- Selected individuals are equipped and trained as Consultants to help residents and building management to grow food and maintain green spaces
- Training programs & events are made available to interested residents/staff
- Green spaces and gardens are installed in appropriate locations
 - See [Tokyo Gardens Portfolio](#)
- Urban farming consultants manage food production, training, and food donations.

Upscale the above to town → city-wide.

SUGGESTIONS

Training

- To identify potential urban farming Consultants, survey residents and neighbors to find people with gardening experience and/or a desire to help.
- Training can occur on-site through urban farming [workshops](#), [beginners](#) and [advanced](#) programs, as well as [online instruction](#).
- Apply for government grants and corporate sponsorship to pay for Consultants, training programs, and setup.
- Maintain a website portal for sharing of progress, problems, questions, etc.

Garden setup

- Invite residents and staff to participate in local garden building programs.
- Utilize walls, [fences](#), balconies, [decks](#), [patios](#), [rooftops](#), gates, even in [thin air](#). See [Tokyo Gardens Portfolio](#).
- Sponsor garden building and design idea competitions to inspire creativity.
- Make the initial setup experience FUN! and have frequent follow-up events, especially around harvest time.

Do more!

- If rooftop is safe and accessible, consider installing rooftop gardens → See [Rooftop Garden Strategy](#)
- Consider adding simple [greenhouses](#) suitable for balconies, walls, and rooftops
- Hydroponic towers can maximize space and is ideal for indoor gardening. → [More](#)

OUTCOMES

TRAINING

Urban farming Consultants organize resources and provide training to help building residents/staff grow food.



FOOD

Production of fresh, tasty urban produce grown in, on, and around buildings with no added chemicals is maximized



DONATIONS

Surplus food is donated to food banks, community support organizations, etc.
[Food Havens strategy](#)
[Food donations.](#)



Contact

[Jon Walsh](#), urban farming consultant/instructor

e: info@businessgrow.net → [Vision](#) → [Business Dashboard](#)

Drafted with support from urban farmer **Richard Mayus**