

# Foodmapping for Change

making future resilient potentials for urban environments visible

## FOOD IS INEXTRICABLY LINKED TO EVERY PART AND SPACE OF HUMAN LIFE

**Food, as the fundamental basis of human existence**, is a major cross-cutting issue and combines social, economic, environmental and political aspects due to its enormous complexity. Diet is responsible for a large part of greenhouse gas emissions and environmental damage. In parallel, cities are the nodes of production, distribution and consumption of material goods in the global material flow system. It is surprising that cities and city governments have completely ignored and dismissed this issue in the course of globalisation and technologisation. Food travels through different spaces in its various stages, from production to distribution and consumption to disposal. This project addresses precisely this gap - it aims to provide a fundamental reflection on how food metabolism has the power to shape settled space, and it questions urban typologies in terms of their contribution to climate-resilient design. The city of Vienna serves as an experimental space; the scale of the city is used as a level of action to investigate food-related spaces and typologies, and furthermore to address social and economic change for a future resilient environment. The project offers the opportunity to understand and experience food in the context of space with its global and local characteristics from an urban planning perspective.

## DIVERSITY & RESILIENCE BY URBAN ORIENTED AGRICULTURE

Integrating agricultural or horticultural land into the city not only enhances the cityscape and residents' recreational space, it also has a positive impact on biodiversity and climate resilience of urban areas. **Climate resilient urban development in combination with food production** has the great potential to save costs for climate change adaptations, which are necessary in cities worldwide, in the long term (ERW, 2020). Spatial implications like **urban heat islands, green and blue infrastructure** could be addressed at same time as local food production, short logistic and surface sealing. Vienna has a strong potential due to a large area with agricultural land use and a variety of food producers inside the city boundaries.

## INSTRUMENTS OF FUTURE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Developer competitions and urban development contracts are one of the city's instruments to guide future construction projects. But these instruments often relate to the real estate market and are not used in the sense of biodiversity and the protection of food-bearing land. From this perspective, **urban agriculture is still a much weaker factor than housing, industry or commerce** (Jansma et al.). In Vienna, we are confronted with selective preservation and even activation of certain types of urban agriculture and gardens, while others are disappearing (Kumrig, 2017). In areas designated for future urban development, the weaker functions such as agriculture are displaced in favor of the stronger economic function. **What can a contemporary urban development tool that includes urban agriculture look like?**

## THERE IS A LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

Food has a significant impact on a person's ecological footprint. Furthermore **food is a major driver in case of social quality** - how people treat themselves and how they treat their environment. Today in western urban areas, there is a lack of knowledge in terms of food production, consumption and waste. Many people are not aware of global food cycles correspond with local regional cycles and what it causes in case of environments and Co2 emissions. So a big potential lies in the knowledge of the citizens, who are at the same time consumers and thus also have a significant influence in the area of demand and supply. Therefore **food production should be reintegrated into the urban fabric to reconnect people, space and food**. So city planners and architects are confronted with questions how to integrate food oriented design in the urban system; how to build in harmony with nature and ecological cycles; how to build a city for all.

