



Project INTERACTIVE GARDENS meeting
Resumé

12st-14nd June 2024

Location: Aarhus University, Agro Food Park 48, 8200 Aarhus N

Participants (physically present):

Aarhus Municipality - Dan Kristensen;
Elonkierron Ystävät ry - Miia Kuhanen;
Bauska Municipality - Allija Dzidruma
Rakvere municipality - Kärt-Mari Paju; Dobeles county - Taiga Gribuste; Liene Paukšte – Uzula;
Tukuma municipality – Inga Helmane; Maija Fogeļe; Estonia University of Life Science- Leila Mainla; LUKE – Marja Uusitalo, Tuomas Kari; Latvia Institute of Horticulture - Inese Ebele, Agnija Berķe, Līga Lepse, Edgars Rubauskis; Vidzeme University - Linda Velivorrena; Klaipėda PPS - Loreta Staškūnienė; Mindaugas Radušis; Jēkabpils novads Attīstības Pārvalde – Madara Lasmane;
Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences – Vineta Silkane; Aukštaitija Regional Park - Danutė Kondrotienė; Kristina Potechina; Biržų county - Renata Gražiniene; Jurgita Bruniuvienė; Aarhus University - Nikki Alexi, Hanne Lakkenborg Kristensen, Thayna Mendanha; Katariina Kääpä;
Zemgale Planning Region - Sigita Šilvjane, Elīna Brese, Inga Romašjonoka; Jordbrugets Uddannelsescenter Beder (Agricultural Educational Center) – Annette Helbo Sørensen; Myrrhis Agroforestry and Permaculture - Karoline Nolsø Aaen; The Green Museum – Anne Bjerrekær, Maria Berg Briese; Botanical Gardens of Aarhus – a professional guide.

Agenda

Date: 12. June 2024.

Time: 12:00 – 17:00 (CET)

Meeting at Dept. Food Science, Aarhus University

Project meeting at Dept. Food Science, Aarhus University

Meeting place: Agro Food Park 48, 8200 Aarhus N, Denmark

12:00 – 14:00	Welcome, registration and lunch – more details to come
14:00 – 17:00	Tour at the Greenhouse facilities of AUFOOD Project meeting update
18:30	Dinner (Downtown Aarhus)

Date: 13. June 2024.

Time: 8:30 – 17:00 (CET)

Excursions to different gardens, Aarhus University

Meeting place: Agro Food Park 48, 8200 Aarhus N, Denmark

8:30 – 10:30	Visit to Jordbrugets Uddannelsescenter Damgårds Alle 5, 8330 Beder
10:30 – 12:30	Visit to Myrrhis PermakulturHaven Friland 30, 8410 Rønde
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-17:00	Visit to the Green Museum and AUAUNING Randersvej 8H, Gl. Estrup 8963
19.00	Free night or Dinner at the Food Market (optional) Nicoline Kochs Plads 4, 8000 Aarhus C

Date: 14. June 2024.

Time: 8:00 – 11:00 (CET)

Excursions to gardens starting at Dept. Food Science, Aarhus University

Meeting place: Agro Food Park 48, 8200 Aarhus N, Denmark

9:00 – 10:30	Aarhus Botanical Garden Møllevæjen, Peter Holms Vej 10A, 8000 Aarhus
11:00	Farewells. Participants leaving for airports etc.

Hanne L. Kristensen Aarhus University (taking resume)

Day 1, 12. June 2024 Project meeting and Educational Tour at Aarhus University, Agro Food Park

Project meeting with presentations

Dan Kristensen Aarhus Municipality talks about the FOODCLICK Living Lab: Linking food production and consumers in the value chain. Trying to influence/dialog, new interactions and business models also through practical actions of the municipality e.g. through procurement. Mapping, identifying, intervention, food policy design... in real-life. Intervention now with school gardens and cooking.

Questions about the links to the highly effective, animal based exporting agriculture of Denmark, about roof top gardens and how climate effect is changed.

Tour of the educational greenhouse and climate chamber activities of AU FOOD by Thayna Mendanha: Peat replacement, climate chamber research

Project meeting continued

Mentimeter investigation by Thayna to map how the group envisages the concept of demonstration gardens in Interactive Gardens: The investigation reveals that no one present have Healing as a main topic compared to Well being and Education. A lot of input is given from the persons present in the room. We decide to repeat the investigation at every inspirational tour from now on.

Leaving for the joint dinner at Restaurant Klokken.

Day 2, 13. June 2024 Full day Tour to educational and inspirational gardens

First stop at the Agricultural Educational Center in Beder Annette Helbo Sørensen gave a guided tour at the Center premisses focusing on garden elements of the school, the educations and the student living. Focus was on plants and landscape elements outside and on green plants and walls inside: Green transition and biodiversity as well as well-being (very relevant to many of their students).

Second stop was at the Myrrhis Agroforestry and Permaculture site at Friland, Feldballe, where Karoline Nolsø Aaen (the owner) gave us a guided tour through her permaculture garden and the agroforestry area, where she challenged the current dominating methods and thinking of food production in society with these new more nature based solutions focussing on self-sufficiency, recycling, soil fertility, biodiversity, well-being and education of citizens.

Third stop was at the Green Museum (Associate Partner in Interactive Gardens), the national agricultural, hunting and fishing museum of Denmark, where Director Anne Bjerrekær and Lead of exhibition Maria Berg Briese took us through the background and current exhibitions of the historical garden and selected in-house activities (cooking and kitchens, plant breeding history and dissemination). Focus was on garden's and plant's history, importance for lives and society development.

The fourth stop was at the Aarhus University, Dept. Food Science new field research station AU Auning, where Thayna Mendanha and Hanne L. Kristensen gave a tour in the field trials of vegetables, legumes and orchard. Focus was on research topics of peas and faba bean cultivars for production of plant-based proteins and sustainable vegetable production based on nutrient recycling, reducing nitrate leaching and greenhouse gas emissions, e.g. in current trials of maize, onions and lettuces in conventional and organic management.

During the bus trip between stops Hanne L.K. guided to elements we passed by in the countryside and Aarhus city concerning Danish geology, agriculture, gardens, architecture, culture, education and citizens living and well-being.

Day 3, 14. June 2024 at Botanical Garden, Aarhus University, Guided Tour

The Interactive Garden group was taken through the greenhouses of the Botanical Garden of Aarhus focussing on the mediterranean, subtropical and tropical vegetation zones of Earth by the guide. Exchange of ideas and questions during the tour and coffee. Clear thread back to the visit of the Botanical Gardens of Riga at the first inspirational tour.