Group O – Urban farming and walking

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Points of interest:
- (Artist) community based / community development
- Biodiversity
- Sustainability
- Living quality
- Food as a primary access point for behaviour change

Obstacles for greening urban space:
- scepticism
- conservative housing industry
- a strong vision on urban development by policy makers is absent
- time (is also money)
- means to train competence among people
- fear from new things
- no ‘out of the box’-thinking causes people to persevere common practices
- feeling of insecurity
- fear causes suspicion because we don't know the urban environment and that in turn is caused by our mobility behaviour: we are not really connected / present in the urban environment but just moving from a to b
- we are unskilled to live with nature (in the city)

Food as a basis:
- linking economic and artistic in the frame of urban environment

Walking in the city:
- is about
  - mobility
  - perception of the environment
- see smell and cross the borders of the senses
- experience the feedback of our behaviour of the environment

Solutions:
- transitional spaces in oxford colleges: from individual through semi-public to public space
- collective gardens in Brussels (using unwritten contracts in the transition from guiding to autonomy)
- top down and bottom up need to meet:
  - Flemish legislation: obligation 2 pct. investment of public money in housing projects
- long term contracts between productive side and consumer side can produce new, sustainable economies
  - is about short circuits economy and could be transposed from agriculture to other economic sectors
- issue of scale
- Repopulate your green space with veggies
- Give your garden space to a community who takes care of it
- Bee-keeping in cities
- Guerrilla gardening and seed bombing
- Set up community seed bank to exchange bio seeds
- Keep and adopt (eco)chickens (to control slugs for instance)
- Get involved in transition towns