

RGS 2018 Plenary Panel Session
Cultivating new urban food landscapes

URBAN FOOD SHARING

Anna Davies,
Trinity College Dublin
30-8-2018

Acknowledgements:

This presentation uses research from SHARECITY a project funded by the European Research Council, Grant No: 646883

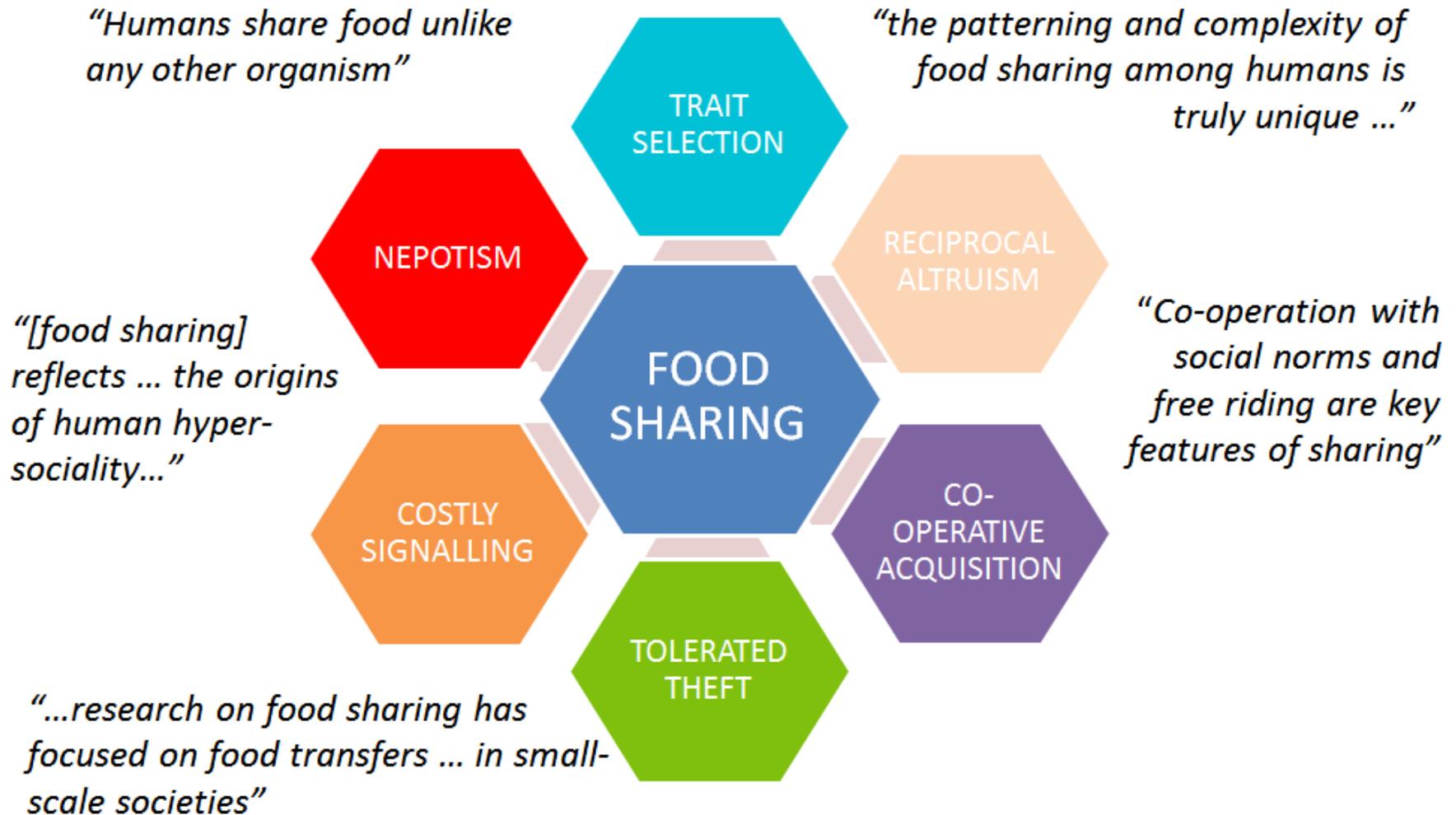
See: website <http://sharecity.ie/> twitter: [@ShareCityIre](https://twitter.com/ShareCityIre)



Horizon 2020
European Union funding
for Research & Innovation



WHAT IS FOOD SHARING?





cultivate



VERB

[WITH OBJECT]

- 1 Prepare and use (land) for crops or gardening.
'the peasants who cultivated the land became its owners'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- 1.1 Break up (soil) in preparation for sowing or planting.
'damp, well-cultivated soil'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- 1.2 Raise or grow (plants), especially on a large scale for commercial purposes.
'they were encouraged to cultivate basic food crops'
'walnuts were cultivated for salad oil'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- 1.3 **Biology** Grow or maintain (living cells or tissue) in culture.
'blood cells that can be most easily cultivated are macrophages'
[+ More example sentences](#)
- 2 Try to acquire or develop (a quality or skill)
'he cultivated an air of indifference'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- 2.1 Try to win the friendship or favour of (someone)
'it helps if you go out of your way to cultivate the local people'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- 2.2 Try to improve or develop (one's mind).
[+ Example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)

1. Literal

- a. Prepare to grow food - **PREPARE**
- b. Grow food - **GROW**

2. Figurative

- a. Improve, encourage or foster by labour: **CARE**
- b. Seek acquaintance, make friends with: **CONNECT**
- c. Acquire or develop a quality or skill: **LEARN**

GOALS

Do urban food sharing initiatives **seek** to cultivate new urban food landscapes?

SHARECITY BRIEFING NOTE 3

GOALS & IMPACTS

Communicating goals and impacts of food sharing in online spaces



FOOD, CULTURE & SOCIETY, 2018
VOL. 21, NO. 2, 233-254
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15528014.2018.1427924>

Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group

Check for updates

Fare sharing: interrogating the nexus of ICT, urban food sharing, and sustainability

Anna R. Davies^a and Robert Legg^b

^aDepartment of Geography, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland; ^bEarth, Environmental and Geosciences Department, North Michigan University, Marquette, MI, USA

ABSTRACT

Sharing economies are being identified across diverse territories, including the food sector, as potential means to enact urban sustainability transitions. Within these developments ICT (information and communication technologies) are seen as a crucial enabler of

KEYWORDS

Food; sharing; cities; urban transitions; sustainability; information and communication technologies (ICT)



Regular Paper | Open Access |

Creative construction: crafting, negotiating and performing urban food sharing landscapes

Anna R Davies , Ferne Edwards, Brigida Marovelli, Oona Morrow, Monika Rut, Marion Weymes

First published: 26 April 2017 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/area.12340> | Cited by: 1

Check TCD e-journals

Read the full text >

PDF TOOLS SHAR



Geoforum
Volume 86, November 2017, Pages 136-149

Making visible: Interrogating the performance of food sharing across 100 urban areas

Anna R. Davies , Ferne Edwards , Brigida Marovelli , Oona Morrow , Monika Rut , Marion Weymes

Show more

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2017.09.007>

Get rights and content

Open Access funded by European Research Council

Under a Creative Commons license

open access

1a. PREPARING TO CULTIVATE: ACCESS+

3000
acres

“3000 Acres is a service that makes it easier for **more people to grow more food in more places**. We do this by finding land suitable for growing food and mapping it onto an interactive web platform, where community members can find land, and find other people **to grow food with**.”



596
ACRES

“596 Acres builds tools to help neighbors **see vacant lots as opportunities** and create needed green spaces that become focal points for **community organizing and civic engagement** ... **We activate imaginations, initiate campaigns** to legally get the keys to previously inaccessible vacant lots, and **ultimately unlock more than just the gates**. Through collaborative organizing residents become active stewards of urban land”



1b. CULTIVATING FOOD+

SKIP GARDEN & KITCHEN

“... a **moveable urban food growing garden** in the middle of the King's Cross development site. Amongst the rise of glass and steel buildings, it is an urban oasis in which herbs, chillies, apples, sweet potatoes and cabbages grow out of skips and planters made out of scaffold boards and other reclaimed materials.”

“... **the whole kind of food-growing meant that, you know, there's lots of opportunities for people to get involved and work together** and get their hands in the soil and understand the seasons and share food together ... there was a hunger from people, from local communities, to take back their land and start growing food. And **there's something really powerful about growing food.**”

“... it's become a **mutual dependency**. You know, people coming here after a day's work are so different after gardening, being part of the cycle again. So for mental health alone it's worth an awful lot.”



2a. CULTIVATING CARE

SKIP GARDEN & KITCHEN

“... All of this helps to nurture **a close-knit and collaborative community, which cares about its environment** - and about the planet as a whole ... I work with a group of ten volunteers that are coming regularly, helping maintain the garden. They **give away about a thousand hours a year of work** to maintain the garden.”

EDIBLE GARDEN CITY

“There’s a mysterious and undeniable discovery of our own soul when we start to become more connected to our food ... Working with plants is **therapeutic** and **rewarding**.”

Himmel beet

“People **pay attention** to other people. They also pay attention to animals and plants. They behave in such a way that they do no harm to anyone. That's what we want in the Himmelbeet. That all **face each other with respect** ... Everyone works together at Himmelbeet. **Working together is easier than on your own**. Therefore, offer your help if someone needs help. You can accept help or friendly say "no". ” [transl.]



2b. CULTIVATING CONNECTIONS

SKIP GARDEN & KITCHEN

“ ... when I do Twilight Gardening ... I set them a task and then I turn around and walk away and then I give them like sort of thirty seconds and suddenly they start talking and I know that I’ve won again. You know, **they’ll make friends, they’ll start talking, they won’t feel lonely**. You know **they’ll feel part of something again**. And that’s important, especially in London ... This [I, we, planet] approach provides space for people to increase **awareness of self**, to **connect to each other** and **to connect to the natural world** ...

*Shimmel
beet*

“ ... one can **learn a lot more** from each other by **meeting regularly** in the garden and by the **joint engagement** with pleasant things ... And actually one can **enter into a different relationship** than if you just pass by at each other on the street.” [transl.]

“And there is a **strong connection to different groups in the social space**. The *Weddingwandler* is a very important **cooperation partner**, *Food Assembly* another one ... There were also joint activities with *Cooking for Peace* or with *Fixpunkt*.” [transl.]



2c. CULTIVATING LEARNING

“... the development of the concept of **environmental and social intelligence**, by providing experiential, non-formal **education for sustainable development** for all ages ... Organisation Earth **promotes knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to shape a better future** ..., by methods that motivate and empower the learners to change their behaviour and to take action...”

“To **expand our visitors’ capacity** so that in their **everyday activities** they can identify and adopt attitudes and practices that ameliorate the planet’s future, while contributing to collective prosperity and a better quality of life”



SKIP GARDEN & KITCHEN

“ So it’s **not just a garden**, it’s an **outdoor classroom** and you use growing to teach kids about maths, geography, history. You know, it’s a very **powerful tool** that works extremely well with children that might not be really great inside the classroom”



“There are many books on gardening, but not one in easy language. The aim of the project is to **write a book about gardening with an inclusive group** that can be read by all. The project enables a **group process that gives space to friendship and exchange, but also to disagreement and conflict** ... The participants find solutions themselves and exchange ideas about needs and barriers.” [transl.]



Tuml-book workshops

CHALLENGES

The future of the Himmelbeet - what happened so far & last stand

22.06.2018 13:13 Meryem Korun

The common garden Himmelbeet is now in the sixth season on the area Ruheplatzstraße / corner Schulstraße. Our current license agreement with the District Office for this area ends on October 31, 2018 - in just over four months. In this article, we try to present the events of the last three years and our efforts to create a new area for the Himmelbeet.

Already in 2015, during our third gardening season, we learned about building plans by the sponsor Amandla eduFootball eV on the area Ruheplatzstraße / Ecke Schulstraße. In the meantime, there are more than 300 beds, the stone oven and the low-waste-cafe of our community garden. The garden has become a neighborhood meeting point and location for a variety of offers for the neighborhood. Now Amandla eduFootball eV plans to create a "safe hub" on the area, while at the same time the district is aiming to build a public gymnasium on the adjoining property (at Ruheplatzstraße in the direction of the adult education center).



CHALLENGES



LIVING LOTS NYC URBAN REVIEWER  NYCommons

[ABOUT](#) [GET INFORMATION](#) [TAKE ACTION](#) [BEYOND NYC](#) [FAQ](#)

As of June 2018, 596 Acres is not providing advocacy support in New York City. Our tools remain online but no staff is able to assist with crafting campaigns. Community land access advocacy continues to be done by New Yorkers - we are so glad to have contributed to shaping a movement.

**CHAMPIONING RESIDENT STEWARDSHIP OF LAND
TO BUILD JUST AND EQUITABLE CITIES**

CONCLUSION: CREATING CONDITIONS FOR CHANGE

THIS LOT IS OWNED BY HOUSING PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (HPD), A NYC AGENCY. THEY AREN'T DOING ANYTHING WITH IT RIGHT NOW. IT'S VERY LIKELY THAT THEY WOULD LET YOU AND YOUR NEIGHBORS DO SOMETHING NICE HERE — START A FARM OR A GARDEN. YOU CAN CALL HPD DIRECTLY TO ASK ABOUT THIS LOT: (212) 863-8667. YOU CAN ALSO CALL GREENTHUMB TO FIND OUT ABOUT NYC COMMUNITY GARDENS: (212) 788-8070. THIS IS BROOKLYN BLOCK 1468, LOT 58.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP ALONG THE WAY IF YOU NEED IT.

THIS IS PUBLIC LAND. ♡ 596 ACRES.



Anna Davies
Principal Investigator

Anna Davies is Professor of Geography, Environment and Society at Trinity College Dublin where she...

[View More](#)



Stephen MacKenzie
Postdoctoral Researcher

Stephen MacKenzie is an interdisciplinary researcher who focuses broadly on sustainability challenges in the food...

[View More](#)



Monika Rut
PhD Student

Monika Rut is a cultural entrepreneur and interdisciplinary scholar interested in how digital technologies are...

[View More](#)



Vivien Franck
Research Assistant

Vivien Franck is an urban ecologist who focuses on urban agriculture research and science communication. She...

[View More](#)



Marion Weymes
Previous: Research Assistant

Marion Weymes was awarded a BA in Earth Science from Trinity College Dublin in 2013...

[View More](#)



Oona Morrow
Previous: Postdoctoral Researcher

Oona Morrow is a feminist geographer whose research is broadly concerned with the economic politics...

[View More](#)



Ferne Edwards
Previous: Postdoctoral Researcher



Brigida Marovelli
Previous: Postdoctoral Researcher

Thank you

This presentation draws on research from SHARECITY, a collaborative project involving a multidisciplinary team and the participation of many food sharing initiatives internationally

All outputs from the project are available online:

Website: <http://sharecity.ie/> Twitter [@ShareCityIre](https://twitter.com/ShareCityIre)

Emails: daviesa@tcd.ie and sharecity@tcd.ie



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin



Horizon 2020
European Union funding
for Research & Innovation