

TRINITY AND THE CHANGING CITY LECTURE SERIES
UNHEALTHY DUBLIN

FOOD SHARING: CULTIVATING THE CITY

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WHAT IS FOOD SHARING?

“**having** a portion [of food] with another or others; **giving** a portion [of food] to others; **using, occupying** or **enjoying** [food and food related spaces to include the **growing, cooking** and/or **eating** of food] jointly; possessing an **interest** [in food] in common; or **telling** someone about [food]”.

(Adapted from Oxford University Press, 2014)

This definition emphasises the practices and experiences of **having things in common** and **doing things together** around food, including but moving beyond commensality; the practice of eating or drinking together. Such a definition includes attention to what is shared, from **raw materials** (e.g. crops) to **products** (e.g. processed food products, tools and cooking utensils) and **services**, as well as **capabilities** (knowledge and skills) and **spaces** (e.g. fields, allotments, gardens, and kitchens).



FOOD SHARING PRACTICES

CITY: ALL | WHAT IS SHARED: ALL | HOW IT IS SHARED: ALL

3832 food sharing activities on map [List View](#)

WELCOME TO SHARECITY100 DATABASE!

Explore the map or use the drop-down menu to see what and how food is being shared within 100 cities around the world.

Scroll below the map to get more details about the food sharing activities matching your search.

For more information about using and licensing the **SHARECITY100 Database** click [here](#).

Please cite this database as: Davies, A.R., et al. (2016) SHARECITY100 Database. Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. Retrieved from: <https://sharecity.ie/research/?sharecity100-database>

Not on the map? Have Questions? [Contact us!](#)

WHAT IS SHARED

HOW IT IS SHARED

SHARING ORGANIZATION



SHARECITY BRIEFING NOTE 3

GOALS & IMPACTS

Communicating goals and impacts of food sharing in online spaces



<https://sharecity.ie/research/sharecity100-database/>

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.**”
[transl.]



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 ...**

*Spinnel
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.]



CULTIVATING LEARNING



“... 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** ... 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”

Shimmer & beet

“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

FOOD SHARING: A WAY TO WELLBEING?



(c) SLaM

<https://livewellkent.org.uk/six-ways-wellbeing>

- **Be Active** - Exercising makes you feel good. Step outside. Play a game. Dance. Garden.
- **Keep Learning** - Learning new things will make you more confident, as well as being fun. Try something new. Learn to cook your favourite food.
- **Give** - Look out, as well as in, to help yourself and others. Volunteer your time. Join a community group.
- **Connect** - Invest time in developing connections with the people around you. At home, work, school or in your local community.
- **Take Notice** - Be aware of the world around you and what you are feeling. Reflecting on your experiences will help you appreciate what matters to you. Notice the changing seasons.
- **Care for the Planet** - Small steps to a greener life can make a difference. look after your community and the world.

CHALLENGES

Fears for inner city as Bridgefoot Street community garden set to close

Residents have spoken about how much the garden has meant to their community

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By **Laura Lene** Reporter
12:46 PM, 14 NOV 2017

NEWS

Inner city Dublin is set to lose an important community garden by the end of the year, as plans are underway to transform the area with a new park.

While a community garden is included within the future plans, residents in the Bridgefoot Street area are concerned about the interim plans – and what it means for existing crops.

On December 31, the Bridgefoot Street community garden will close in its location nestled between Thomas Street, Usher Island, and Oliver Bond Street.

▶ **READ MORE**

▶ Councillor calls on public to rally against anti-social behaviour in St Cuthbert's Park



City shuts down the community garden

BY **BARRY HOLTYRE** / 4 APRIL 4, 2018

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

'We wish it wasn't closing down': Edmonton food kitchen closure forces clients to search elsewhere for a meal, friendship

National News | September 26, 2019 by **Chris Stewart** | 0 Comments

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Chris Stewart

APTN News

A soup kitchen in Edmonton is being forced to close forcing hundreds of food-insecure people to search for meals elsewhere.

THE IRISH TIMES

Fri, Nov 15, 2019

NEWS SPORT BUSINESS OPINION LIFE & STYLE CULTURE

Food & Drink Recipes Restaurants Drink

Growing pains: The Dublin community gardens under threat

As the housing crisis deepens, allotments are being earmarked for development

© Fri, Nov 26, 2018, 12:45



Catherine Cleary

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)



NEW ZEALAND / GANTERBURY

Kaikōura community kitchen on cusp of closure

© 07 April 10 June 2018

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Kaikōura's beloved community kitchen could be forced shut if the district council carries out its plan to close the local scout hall.



© Photo: iStockphoto

Kaikōura District Council wanted to close the building while it considered its future – which could include demolition.

But locals are pleading to keep it open.

The community kitchen in the old scout hall had served 5300 meals since it began last before the November 2016 earthquake, offering free meals every

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

KEY CHALLENGES



Challenges	Vote 1	Vote 2
1. Strict food safety regulations which have been developed for commercial operations		
2. Lack of policy attention to the ^{positive (non-food)} impacts of shared food growing	3	5 ✓
3. Difficulties gaining access to land for shared growing activities	2	✓
4. Difficulties securing land tenure for shared growing activities	5	4 ✓
5. Lack of policies encouraging local government to use vacant land for shared growing	6	7
6. Privatisation of public land that could be used for shared growing activities	2	
7. Few opportunities to influence policy that affects shared food growing	2	✓
8. Public plans for shared food growing not being acted upon	1	
9. Few policies for addressing food security (CLIMATE CHANGE)	2	2 ✓
10. Policies preventing food growing in public parks and spaces	4	7 ✓
11. Lack of harmonisation between different stakeholders		4
12. Lack of support for entrepreneurs along the food chain		2 ✓
13. Lack of inclusivity		4 ✓
14. Capitalist mind-set of policymakers (non-sharing)		4 ✓
15.		
16.		
17.		
18.		
19.		
20.		

- Academics
- Policy shapers
- Practitioners

- Insecure access to land due to a lack of long-term planning for shared growing spaces by planners and policy makers
- A lack of common language to communicate the positive impacts of urban growing, and shared growing, between the different stakeholders involved
- Commercial and financial interests hold significant power and are given priority when it comes to forming policy and shaping planning decisions

CONCLUSION:

Cultivating the conditions for change



For a sustainable future, we need to reconnect with what we're eating – and each other

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

Free (Open Access) book:

Urban food sharing
<https://policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/urban-food-sharing>



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