First focus on urban agriculture in the Paris Region: exponential development

This cartography provides a first image of urban agriculture in the Paris Region. It is not intended to be exhaustive but gives some idea of the diversity and distribution of its various forms. Thus, the only peri-urban farms with short supply chains that are shown here are fruit and vegetable picking farms and farms that supply the ANAP network (which supports small, local farming). Only community gardens with a surface area of over 500 sq. m. are shown. The urban agriculture Observatory under development by ARUDI - IAUDD will soon be publishing a complete review of urban agriculture in the Paris Region.

THREE KEYS TO DEFINING URBAN AGRICULTURE

Like any complex reality, various typologies have been made of urban agriculture, which is by nature inevitably ephemeral because it is so fast-changing. Nevertheless, today, three criteria seem to stand out to distinguish its various forms:

- geographical localisation: intra- or peri-urban, with different pressures on resources;
- the "economic model": sale of agricultural products, self-production outside the market system or revenues generated from the sale of products and services;
- the technical system: means of production (in soil or soilless cultivation with or without a substrate) and the degree of control over the environment (outdoor/indoor, more or less controlled environment).

These criteria make it possible to identify the five forms of urban agriculture discussed in this Note, namely: peri-urban farms, community gardens, micro farms, urban greenhouses and indoor systems, individual urban agriculture. This categorisation is not rigid as several different technical systems can be used in each of these forms. The innovativeness and changing nature of the forms of urban agriculture give rise to hybridisation, which enhances the wealth and adaptability of the projects.