

Supplementary Materials

Questionnaire - Knowledge and collaboration needs of managers of Urban Parks, Green Infrastructure and Urban Forestry

Introduction

The World Urban Parks Applied Research Working Group is seeking input from managers of urban parks, green infrastructure and urban forestry with this 10-15 minute survey.

This survey aims to better understand the actual background and knowledge needs, but also collaboration needs of managers of Urban Parks, Green Infrastructure and Urban Forestry, with the scientific community. Please take the time to help us.

Definitions

"Green Infrastructure" (GI), a concept which includes *"a strategically planned network of high quality natural and semi-natural areas with other environmental features, which is designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services and protect biodiversity..."* (European Commission, 2013) and of "Urban Forestry", *"... the management of trees for their contribution to the physiological, sociological, and economic well-being of urban society. Urban forestry deals with woodlands, groups of trees, and individual trees, where people live - it is multifaceted, for urban areas include a great variety of habitats (streets, parks, derelict corners, etc.) where trees bestow a great variety of benefits and problems."* (from <http://www.fao.org/docrep/005/t1680e/t1680e01.htm>);

The questionnaire is made of four parts:

- personal details (PART 1)
- scientific knowledge transfer (PART 2)
- collaboration with research (PART 3)
- training in Green Infrastructure and Urban Forestry (PART 4)

It will take about 10-15 minutes to fill in. The information provided here will be treated as strictly confidential and stored in a private database. Only aggregate statistics will be published, without any reference to the personal and organisational details.

Your contribution will be useful for other stakeholders and important to evaluate the current needs of urban parks, green infrastructure and urban forestry.

Thank you in advance for your collaboration

PART 1. PERSONAL DETAILS

1. Indicate your nation (select the country where you live)

Fare clic qui per immettere testo.

2. Age:

- ☐ 18 to 30 years
- ☐ 31 to 40 years
- ☐ 41 to 50 years
- ☐ 51 to 65 years
- ☐ 66 to 75 years
- ☐ Over 75 years

3. Gender

- ☐ Male ☐ Female

4. Education

- ☐ PhD
- ☐ Master degree
- ☐ Bachelor's degree
- ☐ Diploma/Certificate
- ☐ High school
- ☐ Less than high school
- ☐ Other:

5. Your organisation is

- ☐ Government Agency/Department
- ☐ Non Government Organisation
- ☐ Business
- ☐ Research/Education Institution
- ☐ Community Group
- ☐ Other, please specify:

6. Your work sector

- ☐ Governance
- ☐ Management
- ☐ Policy-Planning
- ☐ Operations
- ☐ Academic/Education
- ☐ Corporate support
- ☐ Other, please specify:

PART 2. Background and knowledge needs

7. In doing your job, do you consider yourself updated on the newest scientific research results in your sector?

- ☐ Yes, a lot
- ☐ Yes, somewhat
- ☐ No opinion
- ☐ Not so much
- ☐ Not at all

8. Which aspects of scientific knowledge should be enhanced in order to make it more useful for your purposes?

	High priority	Medium priority	Low priority
Language (translations of publications in own language)			
Cost of access to information			
Accessibility of information			
Availability in Internet			
Connection to actual problems that I face			

Other suggested:

9. Please, according to your experience in the last 3 years, evaluate the usage of the following means of scientific knowledge related to GI and UF.

	Habitually used	Used at least once	Not used
Scientific publications			
Professional magazines			
Internet search engines			
Manuals / textbooks			
E-learning courses			
Technical meetings			
Seminars / workshops			
Conferences			

10. Please, evaluate the effectiveness of the following means of scientific knowledge related to GI and UF.

	Very effective	Somewhat effective	Not effective	None opinion
Scientific publications				
Manuals/Textbook				
E-learning courses				
Technical meetings				
Seminars/Workshops				
Conferences				

11. Strategically speaking, which sectors on GI and UF do you think need funding priority?

	High priority	Low priority	I don't know
Tree related (tree biomechanics, tree physiology)			
Species selection mitigating climate change, pollution, allergies			
Tree management.			
Plant pathology and entomology etc.			
Atmosphere related (climate, air quality etc.)			
Infrastructures (effective and sustainable irrigation, lightning systems etc.)			
Plant provision (nursery; import/export etc.)			
Economical aspects of green areas			
Social aspects of green areas			
Training / Professionalism of stakeholders			

12. Have you ever used any scientific finding in your work? If yes, describe it briefly.

PART 3. Collaboration with other stakeholder categories

13. Have you had at least one collaboration with other categories in the last three years?

- ☐ Yes, with agencies
- ☐ Yes, with scientific institutions
- ☐ Yes, with business companies
- ☐ Yes, with policy makers
- ☐ Yes, with politicians
- ☐ Yes, with community groups
- ☐ No

14. Which are the most important benefits from effective collaboration with each of the following stakeholders (Select only one option for each stakeholder)

Collaborating with agencies brings

- ☐ Policy setting
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Innovation
- ☐ Identification of strategies
- ☐ Opinion exchange
- ☐ Transferability of results
- ☐ Problem solution

Collaborating with scientific institutions brings

- ☐ Policy setting
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Innovation
- ☐ Identification of strategies
- ☐ Opinion exchange
- ☐ Transferability of results
- ☐ Problem solution

Collaborating with private companies brings

- ☐ Policy setting
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Innovation
- ☐ Identification of strategies
- ☐ Opinion exchange
- ☐ Transferability of results
- ☐ Problem solution

Collaborating with policy makers brings

- ☐ Policy setting
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Innovation
- ☐ Identification of strategies
- ☐ Opinion exchange

- ☐ Transferability of results
- ☐ Problem solution

Collaborating with politicians brings

- ☐ Policy setting
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Innovation
- ☐ Identification of strategies
- ☐ Opinion exchange
- ☐ Transferability of results
- ☐ Problem solution

Collaborating with community groups

- ☐ Policy setting
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Innovation
- ☐ Identification of strategies
- ☐ Opinion exchange
- ☐ Transferability of results
- ☐ Problem solution

Other comments:

15. Which is the weakest point in the collaboration with each of the following stakeholders (Select only one option for each stakeholder)

Collaborating with agencies is difficult because of

- ☐ Bureaucracy
- ☐ Royalties
- ☐ Strict project schedule
- ☐ Diverse interests/approaches
- ☐ Scarce resources

Collaborating with scientific institutions is difficult because of

- ☐ Bureaucracy
- ☐ Royalties
- ☐ Strict project schedule
- ☐ Diverse interests/approaches
- ☐ Scarce resources

Collaborating with private companies is difficult because of

- ☐ Bureaucracy
- ☐ Royalties
- ☐ Strict project schedule
- ☐ Diverse interests/approaches
- ☐ Scarce resources

Collaborating with policy makers is difficult because of

- ☐ Bureaucracy
- ☐ Royalties
- ☐ Strict project schedule
- ☐ Diverse interests/approaches
- ☐ Scarce resources

Collaborating with politicians is difficult because of

- ☐ Bureaucracy
- ☐ Royalties
- ☐ Strict project schedule
- ☐ Diverse interests/approaches
- ☐ Scarce resources

Collaborating with community groups is difficult because of

- ☐ Bureaucracy
- ☐ Royalties
- ☐ Strict project schedule
- ☐ Diverse interests/approaches
- ☐ Scarce resources

16. What is important to start a collaboration with other stakeholders?

- ☐ Having direct contacts
- ☐ Holding a professional certification (ISA, ETT etc.)
- ☐ Being part of a professional organisation
- ☐ Other:

17. Please, indicate your level of agreement with the following statements

	Totally agree	Somewhat Agree	Neutral	Somewhat Disagree	Totally disagree
a) Being part of a professional organisation facilitates personal knowledge and learning					
b) Being part of an association or organisation facilitates direct contact with other stakeholders					
c) Being part of an association or organisation facilitates					

awareness of market needs					
d) Being part of an association or organisation facilitates business marketing and promotion of new ideas					
e) Joining an association or organisation is a worthwhile investment					
f) Being part of an association or organisation promotes credibility and enhances trust					
g) Cost for being part of an association or organisation is too high					

PART 4. Training in Urban Parks, Green Infrastructure and Urban Forestry

18. Have you participated in any specialized training courses (excluding university courses) in the last three years?

YES ☐ NO ☐

18A. If yes, who was the learning provider? (You can select more than one)

- ☐ Public Institute (university, research institute etc.)
- ☐ Public policy organisation (municipality, province, region etc..)
- ☐ Certified training provider
- ☐ Professional organisation (i.e confederation, chamber of ... etc.)
- ☐ Private organisation
- ☐ Others:

18B. What kind of learning delivery was used?

- ☐ Plenary presentations in classroom (face to face)
- ☐ Practical/experimental activities in classroom and/or outside
- ☐ E-learning platform
- ☐ Blended (e-learning and face-to-face)
- ☐ Others:

18C. Please, indicate your level of agreement with the following statements

	Totally agree	Somewhat Agree	Neutral	Somewhat Disagree	Totally disagree
That course increased my knowledge					
That course was useful for my job					
That course was too expensive					
That course had effective discussion					
A mailing list of participants allowed further exchanges and networking					
Afterwards, I have developed a collaboration with one/more course colleague/s					

19. What do you expect from (or suggest to) learning providers?

	Totally agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Totally disagree
High quality in learning delivery					
Facilitate the connection to labour market					
Inclusive learning for people with low access to training					
Lower cost of education					
Networking among learners					
Release of recognized certification / qualification					
Use of e-technologies for learning delivery					
More practical activities					

Further suggestions: _____

20. In what field would you like to deepen your knowledge?

Management

- ☐ Urban/landscape planning or design
- ☐ Trees/green areas management
- ☐ Marketing and communications

Environmental quality (biodiversity and sustainability)

- ☐ Atmosphere related topics (climate, air quality etc.)
- ☐ Water saving irrigation systems
- ☐ Efficient lighting systems
- ☐ Tree biomechanics, Tree physiology
- ☐ Pathology and entomology
- ☐ Species selection for CO₂ and pollution capture
- ☐ Species selection for water stress, climate change
- ☐ New technologies for tree assessment (canopy, root investigations)

Socio-Economic

- ☐ Environmental education
- ☐ Programs and Events
- ☐ Facility / Asset management
- ☐ Healthy Parks Healthy People

Other: _____

Further comments:

Thank you for your collaboration!