

Pilot 2

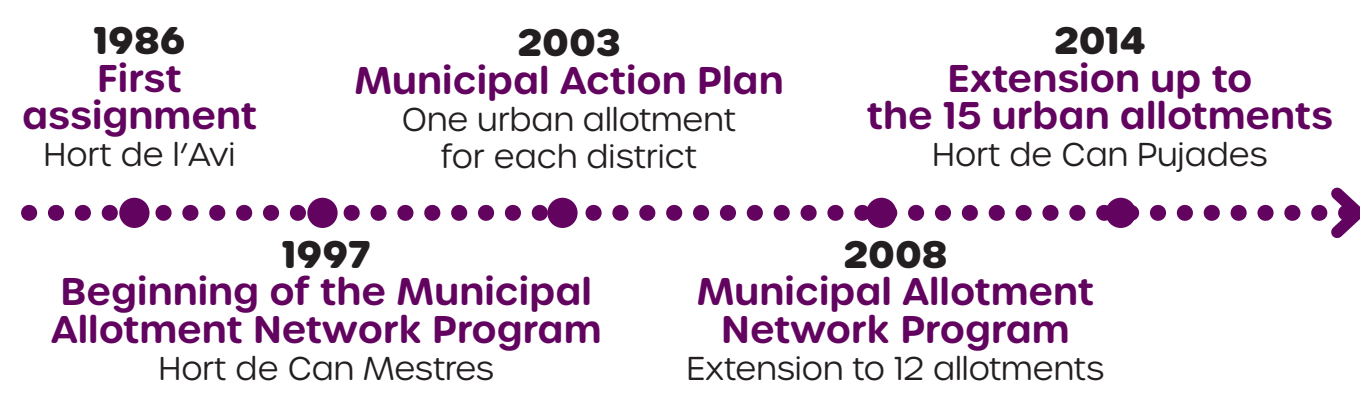
Monitoring Urban Allotments

LifeLab Barcelona - Urban Agriculture Observatory

Introduction

In Barcelona, and in many other cities around the world, urban allotments and urban agriculture have experienced an increase in recent years. This is due to a growing social demand for urban spaces available for urban agriculture and a greater sensitivity about the importance of living in sustainable cities, environmentally and socially. Although the main objective of an urban allotment is usually the food production in urban areas, currently the interest in these spaces encompasses different visions, or movements, that claim these urban allotments as spaces for health and social interaction, offering ecosystem services within the city as pieces of urban green infrastructure. Also as leisure spaces, in contact with nature, as well as spaces where an alternative food model is claimed, or as therapeutic spaces for different groups. Also in the educational field, both for families as for the school-age population. Urban allotments can accommodate to all these perspectives or only to some of them, which favors a high variability among all those that are distributed throughout the city.

Historical timeline of the Municipal Allotments Network Program



The Municipal Allotment Network Program has been promoted by the Municipal Institute of Park and Gardens.

Objetives

The main objective is to establish a database of environmental and social aspects of urban allotments and analyze their benefits.

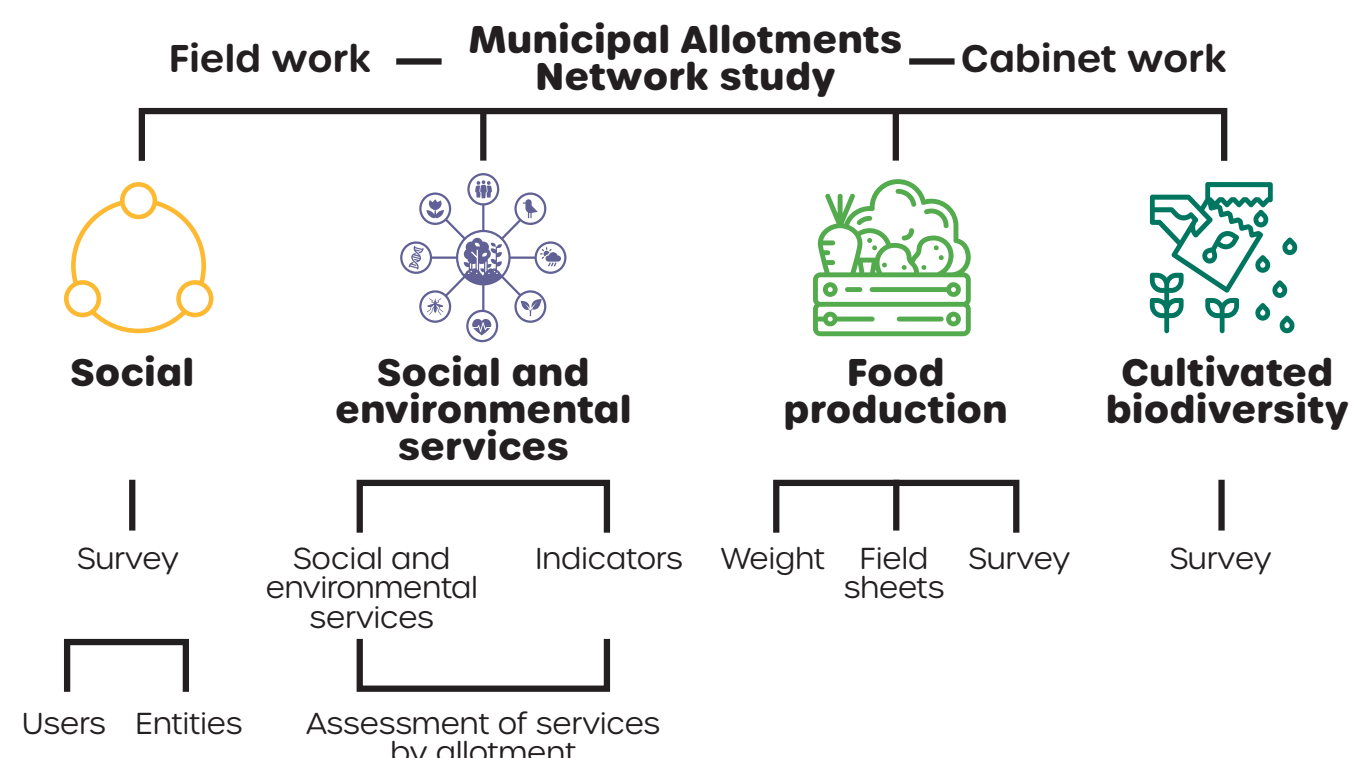
- Getting information on agricultural production, cultivated biodiversity, food and health, social relations, socio-environmental benefits, etc.
- Provide management tools and support to the administration.
- Create a space for communication and participation in the urban agriculture, open to users, entities, associations, and the general public.
- Position Barcelona as a benchmark in urban agriculture policies.

Background

Management, promotion and study of the network of municipal allotments are included in several plans of the Barcelona City Council.



Methodology

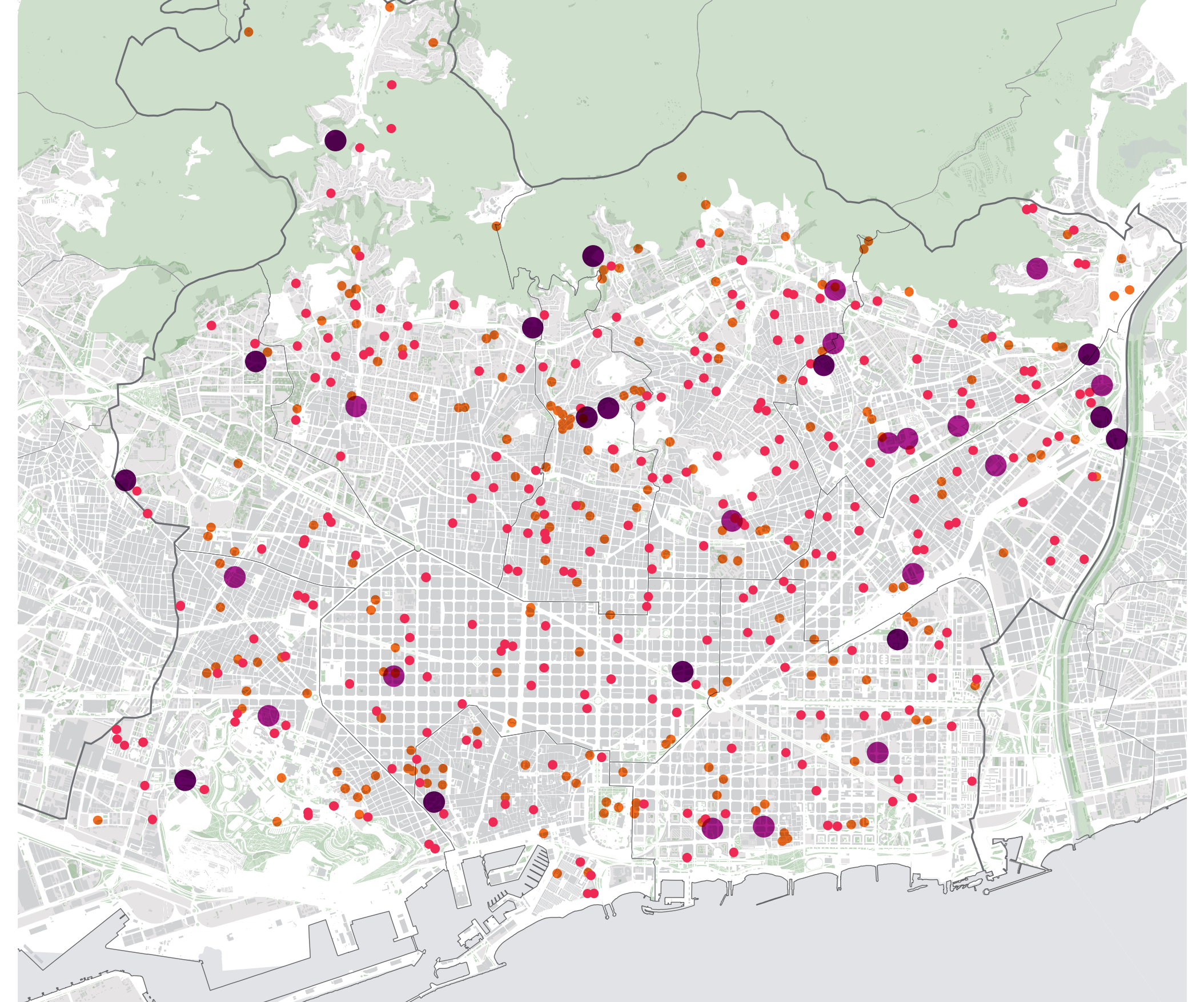


Cabinet work

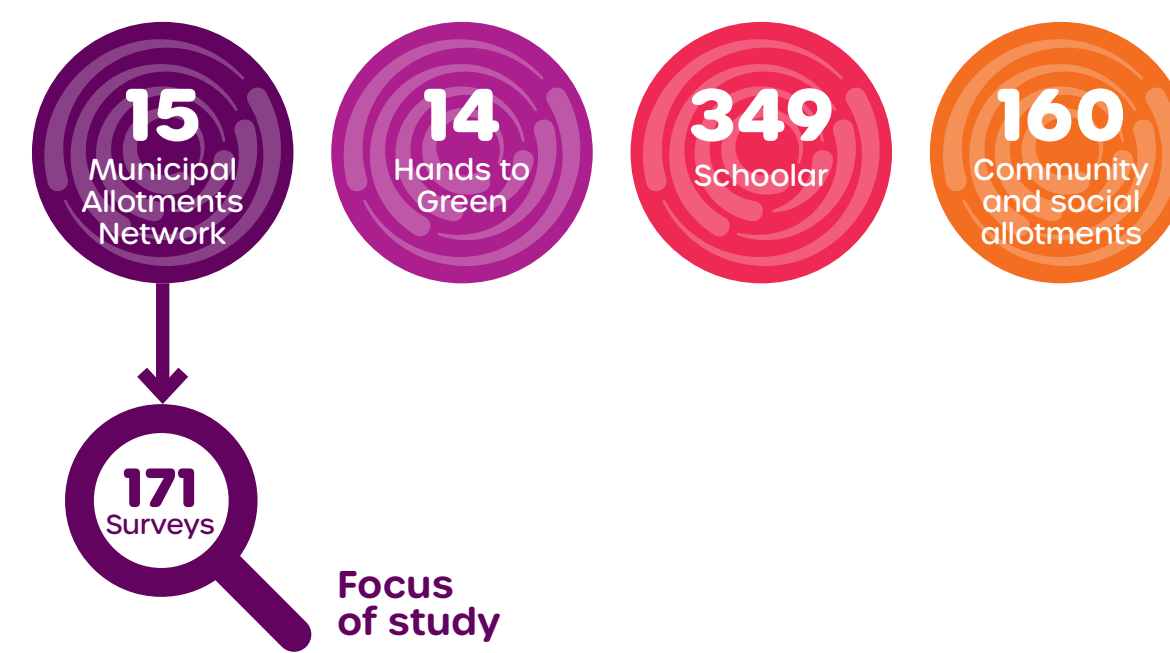
Bibliographic search, analysis with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and the corresponding data processing.

Urban Allotments in Barcelona

Source: Barcelona City Council and Barcelona Regional.



538 Urban Allotments



In Barcelona there are different types of urban allotments: allotments managed by the City Council, community allotments, allotments on roofs and balconies, schools, hydroponic and therapeutic gardens allotments, etc. The study project of urban allotments has started with those managed directly by the City Council, the ones on the Municipal Allotments Network Program and Hands to Green Program.

Local Engagement



Conexus Project presentation to urban allotments users 23th November 2021

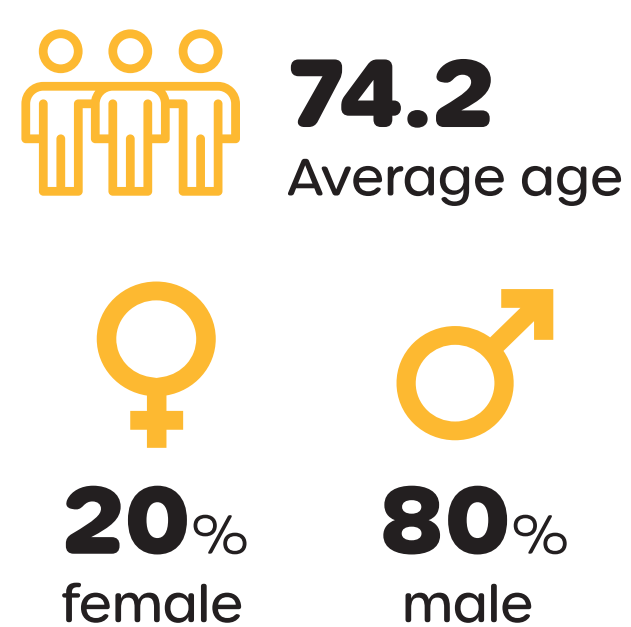


Encouraging users getting data about urban allotments production and biodiversity 23th March 2022



48 hours of Urban Agriculture 14th May 2022

Age and gender



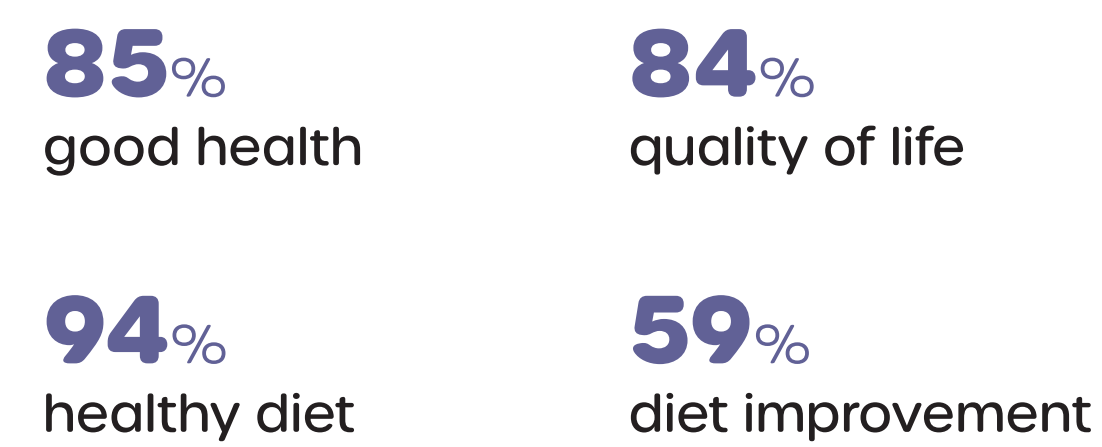
How often do you come?



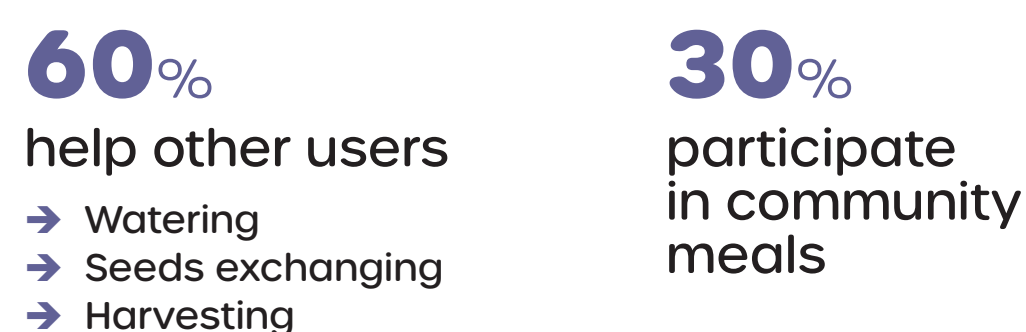
Why do you come to the urban allotments?

- Spend spare time
- Do exercise
- Growing what you eat
- Nature connection
- Social relationship (schools, mates)

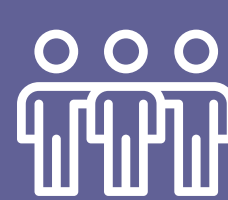
What are the perceived health benefits?



How are the social relationships?



92% of users have made new friends



What kind of agriculture is practiced?

