

Energy conservation bogota

Photo from Botanic Garden of Bogot?

The District Development Plan "A New Social and Environmental Contract for Bogot? in the 21st Century" and the Territorial Ordering Plan, which revolve around the greening of Bogot? and the management and comprehensive care of vegetation covers, that is, of the trees, and vegetable gardens

"The greening of Bogot?" is a public policy included in the District Development Plan 2020-2024: "A New Social and Environmental Contract for the Bogot? of the 21st Century". Its purpose is to improve the quality of the natural, built and regional environment from the perspective of generating well-being conditions for the population and other living beings present in the territory, promoting the transformation of habits and spaces, and the construction of awareness about our consumption. and appreciation of all forms of life.

And in this scenario, agro-ecological urban and peri-urban agriculture takes on special importance as it involves more than 120 plant species in orchards, including fruit trees, shrubs, vines, even small plants with multiple uses such as food, aromatic, seasoning and medicinal for self-consumption, exchange and marketing of fresh and processed products.

These very diverse agricultural practices also contribute to the generation and strengthening of the social fabric, encourage a healthy diet, promote physical activity, contribute to mental health, contribute to the conservation of ancestral and traditional communities knowledge and practices, promote the reduction of organic and inorganic waste, among many other benefits.

Urban and peri-urban agriculture development is led in Bogot? by the Jos? Celestino Mutis Botanical Garden of Bogot? since 2004, with the purpose of contributing to the construction of a sustainable and resilient city, which provokes interactions with nature as a strategy for the appropriation of the territory.

In 2020, this Urban Agriculture Program gains strength and prominence, not only due to the interest of the community, but also due to the collateral effects derived from the pandemic, which made evident the need to promote agricultural processes in urban areas such as terraces, balconies, home patios, gardens and green areas of the city, which today materializes in more than 5,000 fortified vegetable gardens in a period of one year and approximately eight months

On the other hand, the efforts in previous years only addressed activities reflected in the goals of technical assistance and training in urban agriculture, ignoring the integrality and interdisciplinarity of agroecological practices in urban and peri-urban areas, that today are configured in the goals of Project 7681 of the Botanical Garden with a total budget for four years 2020 (second semester) - 2024 (first semester) of \$15,749,000 COP. (approx. 4 million USD)

As the capital of the country, Bogotá concentrates multiple social, economic and cultural factors that impact the quality of life of its inhabitants, in addition to climate change and the crisis generated by the Covid 19 pandemic, whose effects on health physical and mental of people are well known.

In 2020, the City Council declared the climate emergency, as a mechanism to promote actions that mitigate its consequences, and, around this decision, institutional and community actions were undertaken with the same purpose.

With the certainty that the health emergency would last indefinitely, communities and public and private entities took on the task of undertaking collective benefit actions, including the creation of urban vegetable gardens, not only for their ability to produce fresh food and healthy, but also for the rescue of knowledge, the generation and strengthening of the social fabric, the opportunity to rediscover ancestral and peasant knowledge, as well as to incorporate nature friendly techniques, and preserve and promote native nutritional and medicinal species and seeds.

Urban agriculture has contributed to the solution of problems of food insecurity, by cultivating, with the technical support of the Botanical Garden, more than 120 species with nutritional value, which implies having access to food from the perspective of food citizenship, axis of the public food and nutrition security policy of the city.

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Web: <https://sumthingtasty.co.za/contact-us/>

Email: [energystorage2000@gmail.com](mailto:energystorage2000@gmail.com)

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

