

#21. PARCFARM

Location:
Brussels, Belgium
Year: 2014

Theme(s):
Partnership/ Inclusivity/ Stakeholder involvement

Languages: French/English
Source: <https://bit.ly/2HGyjuY>

WHY IS THIS A GOOD EXAMPLE?

Parcfarm is an example of a new approach for initiatives that involve spontaneous participation, letting go of traditionally designed ideas and concepts. It has been developed by the local residents from the bottom-up, who took it upon themselves to clean up the area and to start gardening on the former waste land. The public project was meant to end last autumn, but thanks to its huge success, it was extended for a year. The new non profit group that runs the site is now seeking support to keep it running indefinitely, for the benefit of all. The Public Space Prize in 2015 is expected to give a boost to the fundraising currently taking place.



Photo credit: <http://www.leefmilieu.brussels/>

DESCRIPTION

Parcfarm is an urban farm in Brussels build on a former dumping ground by the local residents of Molenbeek. It was an idea of local people who responded to a call from Parkdesign project to create a park in the Molenbeek district that has been built around a glass farmhouse, a cafe as well as the administrative offices of the non profit organisation that runs the site. Parcfarm is also home to a communal kitchen, a series of beehives, an animal park with chickens and sheep, and a communal wood fired oven where locals can bake bread or pizzas. The project was meant to be temporary, but the success of the initiative made the city council announce it as a permanent fixture.

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