



WAGENINGEN  
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

# Urban Greenhouse #3 Challenge

Social Impact edition

Management Summary 21/22



# Management summary

## Introduction

Wageningen University and Research (WUR) is one of the world's leading educational institutes. On influential university ranking lists, WUR ranks as the world's best in such fields as Agriculture & Forestry and Food Science & Technology. Moreover, students have nominated the university as the best Dutch university 16 years running. In short, WUR occupies a unique position in the academic world, both locally and globally. WUR is home to students from all over the world who come to Wageningen to share in the extensive knowledge available to them on our campus. The international mix of students and our unparalleled position in the academic landscape form the successful basis of WUR's mission: to explore the potential of nature to improve the quality of life.

## WUR Urban Greenhouse Challenge '3

In a rapidly urbanising world and with the effects of climate change already noticeable, we are confronted with a multitude of challenges, including feeding our growing metropolises. Developing sustainable and resilient urban food systems is essential to ensure sufficient food for all. In the third edition of the Urban Greenhouse Challenge, we ask the brightest and most ambitious young minds to develop an urban farming site that eliminates food apartheid and adds to equity. Participants battle for the best designs and innovations that will significantly improve the quality of life of local residents in one of the most diverse lower-income neighbourhoods of Washington D.C.

From November 2021 until June 2022 student teams, with the support of top experts from our partner network, will develop a revolutionary urban farm concept that not only ensures year-round sustainable and affordable food production but also generates incomes for the local residents. The winning concept can potentially serve as a prototype for affordable, sustainable and urban resilient design.

This edition is organised in close collaboration with the College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) of the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) and Soapbox

## What's in it for our partners?

The Challenge is particularly interesting for corporates and organisations that attach great importance to building resilient and equitable urban food systems for a sustainable future. Partners typically come from fields such as plant production, food, retail, finance and urban development. The Urban Greenhouse Challenge offers partners a unique opportunity to scout ambitious top talent, empower dedicated young changemakers and showcase their contribution to a sustainable and fair future. Being in direct contact with the brightest students and being able to contribute substantially to their progress make this an inspirational experience. This project plan contains more information about the Urban Greenhouse Challenge and presents opportunities to join us as a partner. If you would like to partner with us, please contact us so we can discuss the next steps toward your active partnership in the 2021-22 Urban Greenhouse Challenge.



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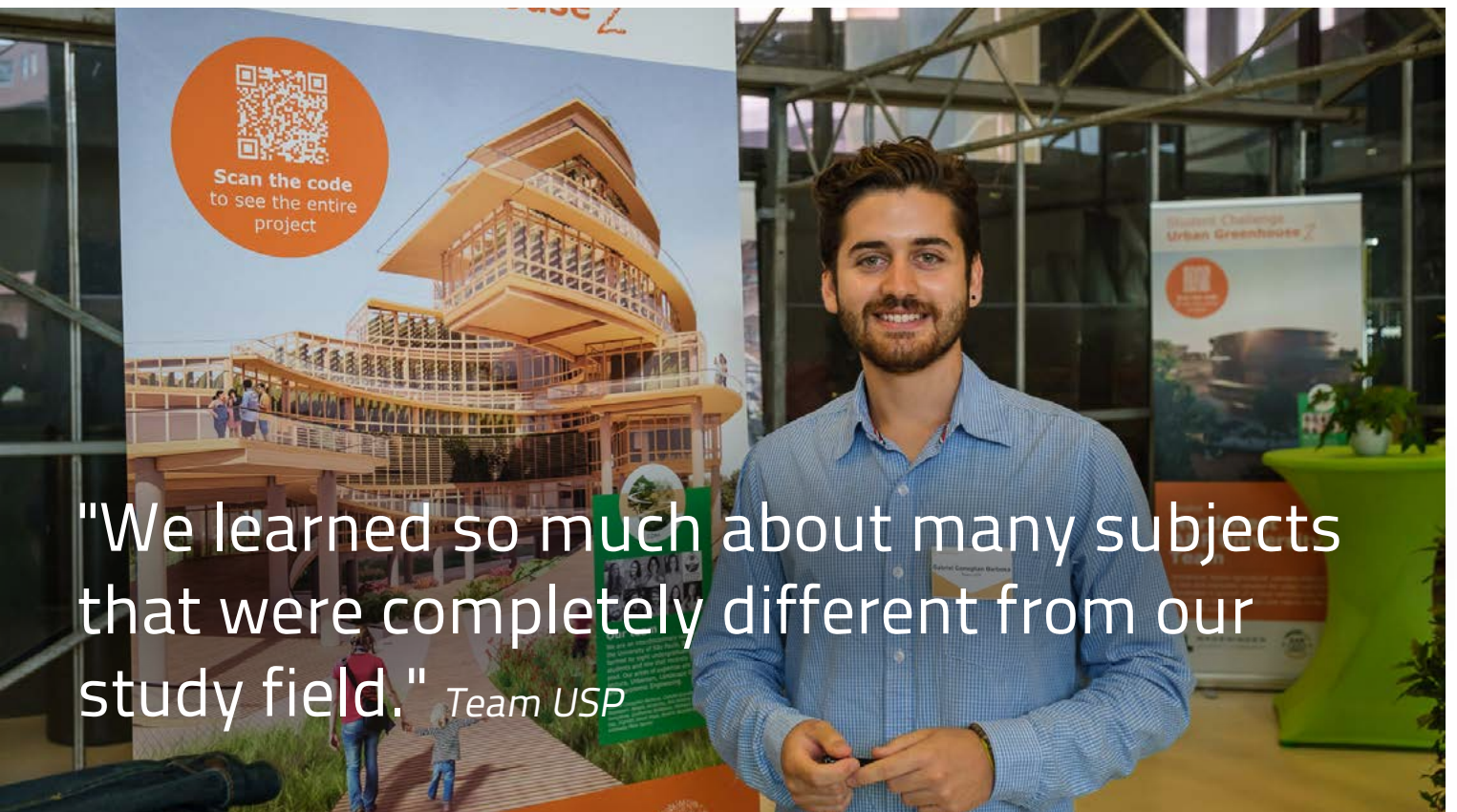
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"I enjoyed seeing how students tackled the urban greenhouse project in a completely different way than I see at my job."

*Cindy van Rijswick (Rabobank) - jury member*



"We learned so much about many subjects that were completely different from our study field." *Team USP*



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, URBAN SUSTAINABILITY  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

**SOAPBOX**

