



## **Action Plan for the region of Frankfurt Rhine Main**

REGIONAL  
PARK  
RHEINMAIN 



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### **Part I – General information**

Project: CityZen - Enhancing scalable innovations and new business models based on urban farming ecosystem values

Partner organisations concerned: Regionalpark RheinMain, Institute for Rural Development Research

Country: Germany

NUTS2 region: DE71, Darmstadt

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## Part II – Policy context

The Action Plan aims to impact:	Investment for Growth and Jobs programme
	European Territorial Cooperation programme
x	Other regional development policy instrument

Name of the policy instrument addressed: **Leitkonzept des Regionalpark RheinMain** (Guiding Concept of the Regionalpark RhineMain)

The Rhine-Main area is a densely populated and structurally strong region around Frankfurt. The aim of the Regionalpark is to safeguard green spaces (including farm- and woodland) that extend into the centre of the Rhine-Main conurbation and to upgrade them through a network of attractive routes and features making it a valued recreational site.

At the moment, the Regional Park's Guiding Concept hardly addresses agricultural projects near to the city, but rather focuses on development through cycle routes. Yet there are numerous agricultural actors and initiatives in the associated area. However, these are hardly visible and tangible for the urban visitor. Future developments, opportunities and challenges in the field of agriculture, especially in urban areas, are hardly communicated.

The goal of the action plan is to broaden the strategic focus of the policy instrument by the inclusion of agricultural objectives through targeted activities along the circular route.

## Part III – Details of the actions envisaged

### **ACTION: Integration of urban agriculture related activities into the Guiding concept**

#### 1. Relevance to the project

The CityZen project has provided a framework for the process and structure of developing the action plan and its underlying priorities and activities.

Regarding the theme on urban gardening and urban agriculture in Regionalpark to be integrated in the Guiding Concept, availability of land in urban areas was identified as common challenge among partners in the impact workshops. The Regionalpark has been looking for new topics and projects to be implemented as part of the Guiding Concept, to which inspirational elements on the multifunctional use of land was provided at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Impact Workshop on „Dealing with land and space scarcity in cities “.

#### 2. Nature of the action

The integration of urban agriculture related activities into the Regionalpark Guiding Concept will start at its planning and design level. Innovative pilot projects related to urban agriculture and the food system will be identified and included into implementation and financing plans of the policy instrument in three priority areas:

- o Measures for agriculture along the circular route, incl. incentives and activities for better dialogue among stakeholders.
- o Measures for meadow orchards as part of the historic agriculture, incl. incentives for recreation seekers and connecting with orchards owners.



- Measures for urban gardening and urban agriculture in the Regionalpark, incl. permanent gardening or aquaponics pilot spots.

At actor level, activities to strengthen the involvement of and coordination with agricultural stakeholders will be integrated as well.

Steps towards integrating new urban agriculture measures include:

- Finalisation of the prioritised activities plan and the identified pilot projects (including draft implementation plan and budget);
- Presentation of activities plan and pilot projects to the steering committee in conjunction with general planning and budgeting decisions; prioritisation and approval of proposed measures and projects by the Managing Authority.
- Coordination of the new priorities and related opportunities with relevant partners. Already two strategic meetings took place to elicit initial ideas and directions.

### 3. Stakeholders involved

The integration of urban agriculture activities into the Regionalpark Guiding Concept will foremost involve the Regionalpark organisation itself as well as the Amt für den ländlichen Raum. Secondly, it will also build on the network of relevant actors established in the course of the CityZen Regional Stakeholder Group process. This is particularly relevant for the joint implementation of pilot projects.

Participating stakeholders include the regional orchard representative of the FrankfurtRhineMain planning association, farmers, the MainÄppelHaus, BioFrankfurt, possibly interested nature conservation associations and the cultural landscape network KULT. Another important partner is BIONALES e.V. – Citizens for Regional Agriculture and Nutrition - a registered association located in the metropolitan area with the aim of building bridges between consumers on the one hand and farmers, processors and traders on the other hand. It thus has similar aims to the project goal. Synergy effects are to be used to strategically strengthen the region.

### 4. Timeframe: 1 Aug 2022 – 31 Jul 2023

First 6 months:

- Coordination of the new strategic focus and elaboration of SWOT or needs analysis of the planned change for partners and stakeholders
- Active dialogue with relevant partners and committees.

Second 6 months:

- Expansion of policy instrument with the topic of UF and initial implementation of planned pilot projects to gain regional consent



## 5. Costs

Cost item	Estimated costs
<b>Finalization of new measures and activities plan in the Guiding Concept</b>	
Personnel costs	8.000 €
<b>Coordination of the new activities set up</b>	
Personnel costs	16.000 €

## 6. Funding sources

Costs for the integration of urban agriculture related activities into the policy instrument are mainly those for necessary networking and coordination. No external costs are needed. Personnel costs are covered by the RegionalPark.

For the exemplary implementation of first projects/activities, external costs will be necessary, which will be determined in more detail at the appropriate stage.

<b>Date:</b> 9.5.22	
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<b>Signature of the relevant organisation:</b>	