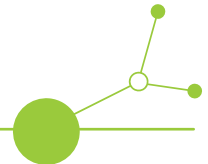


## D.1.4.3.

Budapest District III - Óbuda-Békásmegyer

Urban Farming Action Plan



Budapest Főváros III. Kerület Óbuda-Békásmegyer

Önkormányzat

Városi Farm Akcióterv

Version 2





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# 1. Introductory

The Urban Farm Action Plan (hereinafter referred to as the Action Plan) aims to ensure that **the Municipality of Óbuda-Békásmegyer, District III of Budapest**, as the beneficiary and Lead Partner of the Interreg CoFarm4Cities project. In addition to the full maintenance of the direct results of the project, the Action Plan aims to utilize them as widely as possible and to further develop the physical and intellectual output products as much as possible, so that they have an increasingly positive impact on the lives of the residents of the district.

The Action Plan was developed by Óbuda-Békásmegyer Városfejlesztés Nonprofit Kft. (Óbuda-Békásmegyer Urban Development Plc.), as the primary implementing body of the Interreg CoFarm4Cities project, following consultation with professional partners and relevant local government departments and institutions, of which the consultation with the Deputy Mayor responsible for environmental protection, the Chief Architect's Office, the Chief Horticultural Office, the office responsible for sustainability and civil affairs, the Finance and Management Department, and Óbuda Asset Management Company Zrt. is particularly noteworthy.

The Óbuda-Békásmegyer Városfejlesztés Nonprofit Kft. is also the appointed responsible body for the realization of the Urban Farm Action Plan and its actions, as within the III district's municipal organizational structure, it has the professional experience and skills for managing such actions from the elaboration of the idea until the starting phase of the operation.

This document also assists in the adaptation of the main output of the Interreg CoFarm4Cities project, the Urban Farm-based Sustainable Land Use Model (hereinafter referred to as the UFSLU model), and has been prepared in accordance with its spirit, taking into account the principles and specific recommendations formulated therein, thus contributing to the regulated spread of urban farming in District III. The Action Plan closely builds on the previous situation analysis or goal-setting documents prepared for the District in the project, and on the numerous public forums and professional workshops and presentations held during the project, in particular the study entitled Stakeholder Analysis and Market Research for the Interreg CoFarm4Cities project (D.3.1.1) and the Óbuda Urban Farm Scenario (D.1.3.3.) C. The latter not only outlined the vision of the Municipality regarding the Óbuda urban farm, but also essentially formulated the district vision and goals of sustainable urban agriculture.

The Action Plan does not in any way supersede the existing district strategic or operational documents or existing district urban planning and other legislation, but is a complementary, operational document.

## 2. The Action Plan's target system

### 2.1. Mission

By developing and adopting the Action Plan, the Óbuda-Békásmegyer Municipality confirms the goal already formulated in the Urban Farm Scenario, with the important addition that the Action Plan now applies to the urban farm and the existing and future network of community gardens/orchards, which form the backbone of sustainable agriculture in the district. In addition, this network is connected, in a diverse and loose structure, to privately owned backyard gardens, in which gardening for food production also takes place.

*The mission of the Action Plan is therefore to build people's connection with each other and with nature through the urban farm and the network of existing and future community gardens/orchards, thereby promoting a healthier and climate-friendly society and city. By creating urban farms and community gardens, we revitalize and utilize unused land, encouraging local food production. Our long-term goal is to*



*create a greener and more resilient city by spreading urban farming so that we can live and consume in a more sustainable way.*

## 2.2. Vision

The vision of the Action Plan is corresponding to the vision of the Csúcshegy urban farm itself, namely:

*brings nature into the city to connect the population with nature: "Nature in the city - connecting the population with nature".*

The Action Plan contributes to the promotion of environmentally friendly and regenerative farming methods, such as permaculture, water harvesting and conservation, and composting, through community-based agriculture. It also promotes the planting of native plant species.

The Action Plan aims to contribute to the inclusion of currently underutilized land for production purposes, which increases the economic value of municipally owned land used for production, while also benefiting the use, environmental and economic value of surrounding land. From a social perspective, the success of the farm is enhanced by the effective development of community services and community functions, which create new social value through successful community-building activities.

Among the activities defined in the Action Plan, environmental, farming-focused education and training stand out, which help to increase the environmental sensitivity and farming knowledge of users. The therapeutic nature of urban farms and community gardens/orchards provides opportunities for rehabilitative training, vocational and work activities, which also have significant social value.

The activities defined in the Action Plan focus on long-term, ecologically balanced crop production and farm use. According to its vision, the urban farm is multifunctional, and provides the basic conditions for a wide range of community services over the next 5 years, i.e. the period from 2026 to the end of 2031, as follows:

- providing land (variable-sized plots for subsistence farming)
- provision and sharing of agricultural equipment and tools
- operating a community space (providing conditions for community cooking and other events)
- establishment of a community market (place for exchanging agricultural products, pavilions, stands)
- operating a demonstration site, testing and demonstrating practices relevant to a sustainable and circular economy (e.g. community composting, rainwater harvesting, solar energy, wind energy, weather monitoring, information boards).
- providing advice and expert support (organizing lectures and workshops by experts to provide and share useful knowledge for farmers)
- ensuring knowledge transfer, exchange of experience, and practice acquisition
- organizing education and attitude formation (providing environmental education opportunities, courses, thematic lessons, and internships for kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, and universities).
- creating a nature trail and online platform to promote local values and products.
- support for therapeutic and mental health activities (providing land and equipment for rehabilitation and therapeutic activities)
- micro-mobility point, provision of parking facilities.



## 2.3. Specific objectives

The specific objectives of the Csúcshegy urban farm are:

1. **Social goals** : creating a diverse and supportive urban farm and community garden/orchard network
  - development of community services
  - creating community functions and facilities
  - environmental education, attitude formation, knowledge transfer
  - intercultural and intergenerational programs
  - rehabilitation employment and therapy
  - affordable rental fee for civil, residential and needy users
2. **Environmental objectives**
  - creating a climate and environmentally friendly urban farm and community garden/orchard network
  - introducing environmentally friendly farming methods (e.g. permaculture, water collection and conservation, composting).
  - planting native plant species
  - sustainable technical solutions (e.g. solar lighting, rainwater harvesting)
3. **Economic objectives:** to create a non-profit, self-sustaining community garden/orchard network.
  - creating community-based sharing services (e.g. community marketplace, device rental, micro-mobility)
  - low operating cost operating model
  - institutional uses and activities of non-governmental organizations (e.g. volunteers, CSR)

The Action Plan also contributes to the implementation of the key objectives of the UFSLU model listed below:

- **Food security and local markets** : prioritize crops and systems that supply local demand and reduce food miles .
- **Multifunctional land use:** combine production , biodiversity , recreation , stormwater management and carbon sequestration .
- **Circular resource flows** : water capture & reuse , composting , nutrients cycling , on- site energy where feasible .
- **Equitable access:** secure land tenure and inclusion of smallholders , youth , women and marginalized groups .
- **Resilience & adaptation:** climate smart practices ( drought tolerant crops, agroforestry, soil conservation ) .

## 2.4. Risk analysis

Assessing and documenting potential risks and their mitigations in this phase is important to get a clear picture about the feasibility of implementation and operation.

Some high level examples:

- **Risk** : Land conversion pressure . **Mitigation** : Legal zoning , rapid leases , political champions .



- **Risk** : Water scarcity . **Mitigation** : Drought tolerant crops , storage , prioritized allocation .
- **Risk** : Market collapse guard price volatility . **Mitigation** : Diversified crops , forward contracts with anchor buyers .
- **Risk** : Contamination of soils . **Mitigation** : Testing, raised beds , crops restrictions .

## 2.5. Stakeholder scan and engagement

Key stakeholders includes :

- Locals  
plan : map conflicts and level of rejection towards the project, find potential solutions , invite them lake open -farm days , involve them in the expansion ( modify) lease contracts lake favor both parties )
- Local community gardens  
plan : map common interests , organize open days , knowledge sharing workshops , market events
- Local NGOs  
plan : provide capacity building and training opportunities
- Local institutions  
plan : organize awareness-raising activities , community events , workshops for stand old
- Local food units ( kindergartens , schools , restaurants )  
plan : invite them lake the farm, map common interests

## 3. Implementation

### 3.1. Activities, budget, schedule

#### 3.1.1. Csúcshegy urban farm phase II

The aim of the activity is to expand the Csúcshegy urban farm, opened in 2025 on an area of 3000 m<sup>2</sup> , with three additional plots (totalling approximately 2000 m<sup>2</sup>) directly connected to the existing farm area .

The investment includes the rehabilitation of a currently unused and abandoned 2,000 m<sup>2</sup> green area and its transformation into a special regenerative, forest-garden type cultivation area, which both increases biodiversity and provides ecosystem services, as well as enabling sustainable farming.

Schedule: 2nd half of 2026 - 1st half of 2028

Budget: 2026: 20 million HUF (ca. 50.000 EUR) (provided in the 2026 municipal district budget), 2027: 30 million HUF (ca. 80.000 EUR) (provided in the 2026 budget), 2028: 20 million HUF (ca. 50.000 EUR).

Preparatory activities: development of the permaculture plan and electricity plans for the area (2000 m<sup>2</sup>), removal of waste from the area, demolition of existing structures, necessary tree felling and plant care tasks, earthworks to level the area (if necessary).

Responsible: Óbuda-Békásmegyer Municipality, Óbuda-Békásmegyer Urban Development Nonprofit Ltd.



#### Sub-activities:

- Construction of the area's power supply. Construction of an internal electrical network.
- Construction of an internal fence to ensure adequate protection against vandalism and theft. Planting plants in accordance with the principles of permaculture and introducing new plant species (e.g. Mediterranean cultures) to the area, which can play an important role in adapting to climate change.
- Construction of a covered, outdoor community space.
- Construction of a greenhouse.
- Procurement of agricultural equipment for the new agricultural area: greenhouse, outdoor storage units and renewable energy generation equipment, procurement of basic cultivation tools and machinery, taking into account the forest-garden nature of the area, as well as irrigation and composting.

### 3.1.2. Establishment of water intake points in Csúcshegy

One of the main problems of the Csúcshegy urban farm and the other plots of the Csúcshegy closed garden zone is the lack of piped water, which is also a key issue in providing irrigation water. To this end, it is necessary to establish water intake points at 2-3 points on Csúcshegy, one of which would be a well prepared on the Csúcshegy urban farm. The water intake points would operate as public outlets, with the qualification of the well on the farm area exclusively for non-drinking water purposes, i.e. it would primarily provide water suitable for irrigation, thus primarily ensuring the agricultural water needs of the urban farm and the surrounding plots.

Schedule: 1st semester 2026 - 2nd semester 2026

Budget: HUF 120 million (ca. 330.000 EUR) (provided in the 2026 municipal district budget).

Preparatory activities: licensing (done for all water intake points, in the case of the farm Water Law establishment license is available), establishment of conditions for good access.

Responsible: Óbuda-Békásmegyer Municipality, Óbuda-Békásmegyer Urban Development Nonprofit Ltd.

#### Sub-activities:

- Fire hydrants, 2 public outlets, construction of necessary shafts 25 million HUF (ca. 70.000 EUR)
- Construction of a groundwater well: 90 million HUF (ca. 245.000 EUR)
- Creating conditions for transport access 5 million HUF (ca. 13.000 EUR)

### 3.1.3. Infrastructural development of functioning community gardens and urban farms

The aim of the activity is to provide the Municipality with dedicated funding sources in the form of invitations/applications for the development of community gardens and urban farms operating in the district, through the civil organizations that maintain them. On the other hand, the Municipality cooperates with the garden communities in the development of joint applications and, in the case of a winning application, in their implementation, providing a dedicated professional organization for this assistance. These funds can be used for equipment purchases, smaller or larger investments or material costs.

Schedule: 1st semester 2026 - 2nd semester 2026

Budget: 2026: 10 million HUF (ca. 25.000 EUR)



**Responsible:** Óbuda-Békásmegyer Municipality (Department of Sustainability, Youth, Civil, Ethnic and Green Affairs)

The application is planned to be announced every year or every other year.

The application objectives may change from year to year, depending on consultation with the civil society organizations operating the gardens/farms: it is expected that the organization of community-building and open days or other events supporting public involvement will also be supported activities.

### 3.1.4. District community gardens and the city farm joint farmers market

By 2027, it is expected that the activities of the community garden and urban farm, which opened in 2025, will stabilize, and thus it is possible that there will be a surplus of produce that can be sold on the farm, or to a lesser extent in the community gardens. The produce would be sold regularly at a farmers' market during the agricultural season, even with the involvement of primary producers from outside the district, in order to ensure a wider selection. The market would also be linked to events that promote healthy eating and shape attitudes.

**Schedule:** from 2nd half of 2027

**Budget:** In 2027, support from municipal district budget (maximum 1 million HUF, ca. 2.500 EUR) and possibly free provision of public space will be required from the Municipality.

**Responsible:** Óbuda-Békásmegyer Municipality, Óbuda-Békásmegyer Urban Development Nonprofit Ltd.

**Preparatory activities:** renting market stalls, promotion.

### 3.1.5. Expansion of the City Farm Phase III

The aim of the activity is to expand the Csúcshegy urban farm, which opened in 2025 and was expanded during 2026-28, with 3 additional plots directly connected to the existing farm area at that time, with a total area of approximately 3,400 m<sup>2</sup>, thus creating a unified, rectangular plot block with a total area of 7,700 m<sup>2</sup> within the municipal plot. The city farm would thus also receive a reception area on the side facing Ózsuta street, with additional community functions, where the farmers' market will also be located in the future.

**Schedule:** 2nd half of 2028 - 1st half of 2030

**Budget:** total of 100 million HUF (ca.25.0000 EUR), local government funds (municipal district budget) or partly corporate (CSR) contribution (if plots cultivated by companies are also developed within the framework of CSR).

**Responsible:** Óbuda-Békásmegyer Municipality, Óbuda-Békásmegyer Urban Development Nonprofit Ltd.

**Preparatory activities:** development of the landscape architecture and permaculture plan for the area (3,400 m<sup>2</sup>) and electricity plans, removal of waste from the area, demolition of existing structures, necessary tree felling and plant care tasks, and earthworks necessary to level the area.

### 3.1.6. Encouraging backyard gardening among district residents and small farmers

The aim of the activity is to encourage the cultivation of vegetables and fruits in the backyard of the district population, outside the urban farm and community garden/orchard network. The activity essentially means an incentive package consisting of several different types of sub-activities that encourage and support the production of their own healthy food among local residents. The target groups of the activity are: tenants



of non-farm plots of the Csúcshegy urban farm block and tenants of additional municipal plots in Csúcshegy, as well as those with their own gardens or other suitable locations for cultivation in any part of the district.

Schedule: 2027.1. semester - 2029.2. semester

Budget: a total of 30 million HUF (ca. 80.000 EUR) for 3 years, from local government funds (municipal district budget) or partly corporate (CSR) or other grant sources.

Responsible: Óbuda-Békásmegyer Municipality, Óbuda-Békásmegyer Asset Management Ltd.

Sub-activities:

- organizing awareness-raising campaigns;
- organizing training courses, workshops and demonstrations aimed at imparting theoretical and practical knowledge of gardening;
- supporting the purchase of low-value gardening tools or materials or distributing such tools and materials free of charge to the public;

### 3.1.7. Urban gardening and farming sites are structured supporting networking

Community gardens and urban farms are not only places for food production, but also spaces for community building, attitude formation and environmental education. Their effectiveness and impact can be significantly increased if the knowledge, experience and information between them flows in a structured way. Networking also reduces the parallel use of resources. A more open, better communicating system contributes to making green initiatives attractive and accessible to wider social groups.

The aim of the activity is to improve the flow of information between community gardens, the Csúcshegy urban farm and related green initiatives, to establish regular professional and community meeting points, and to encourage the sharing of good practices. The task contributes to ensuring that these initiatives do not operate in isolation, but develop further as a mutually reinforcing, networked system, increasing their social visibility and accessibility for the district population.

Schedule:

Continuously from the first half of 2026, over a multiannual period.

Responsible: Óbuda-Békásmegyer Municipality (Department of Sustainability, Youth, Civil, Ethnic and Green Affairs), Óbuda-Békásmegyer Urban Development Nonprofit Ltd.

Sub-activities:

- organizing regular professional and community meetings, forums and open days;
- implementing workshops, exchanges of experiences and case study-based programmes presenting good practices;
- development of common communication and information interfaces (e.g. online map);

preparing and encouraging partnerships and joint projects that support the cooperation of district green initiatives.

### 3.1.8. Creating new community gardens and orchards

The development of additional community gardens in the district will also be supported, depending on the needs of the locals, which can be indicated primarily during the annual community budget vote. In addition, two public, urban orchards will be established in the district by 2029. The development of the orchards will take into account international experience to date, especially the experience of the CoFarm4Cities pilot in



Zagreb, and will be tailored to the needs of local residents during community planning sessions (e.g. the variety of fruit trees). In all cases, the varieties of the orchards will be selected from local indigenous or landscape varieties, taking into account their ability to adapt to climate change. The planned locations of the urban orchards are: in the Pók Street housing estate, in the Rómaifürdő district, and in the vicinity of the Mocsáros nature reserve, in the Mocsárosdülő district.

**Schedule:**

Community gardens: Continuously from the second half of 2026, over a multiannual period.

Urban orchards: from the first half of 2027 to the second half of 2029

**Budget:** total of 50 million HUF (ca. 135.000 EUR) in local government funds (municipal district budget) for 3 years.

**Responsible:** Óbuda-Békásmegyer Municipality

## 3.2. Monitoring and Evaluation

### 3.2.1. Indicators

You need to specify how you plan to measure and evaluate the performance of your urban farm. For an urban farm, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) go beyond traditional business metrics, because they have social and environmental missions in addition to financial goals, so you need to measure performance in three key areas: economic, social, and environmental. KPIs may vary depending on the urban farm specifics, but here are some general examples:

- Biodiversity indicators (pollinator counts, native species planted at least 15 pcs,) -
- Hectares under productive peri-urban cultivation (ha)
- Number of secure leases (pcs & average lease length)
- Number of educational programming guard workshops (pcs)
- Soil organic matter change (baseline and annual %)
- Public perception and satisfaction (survey) after the first year of operation and then every 2-3 years