

# URBAN ORCHARDS AS COLLECTIVE ACTION

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS



01

OFFSITE  
URBAN  
ANALYSIS



02

FIELD  
RESEARCH



03

ANALYSIS



04

CONCLUSION

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Urban Analysis - Green Infrastructure
2. Methodology
  - a. DAY 1 (On Site Assessment)
  - b. DAY 2 (Community Engagement)
3. Analysis of Findings
4. Conclusion

Conclusions

Existing Conditions Pre visit

METHODOLOGY

Day 1 - OBSERVATIONS / SENSORY ANALYSIS (Lina, Krishna)

Argelia Facility

Observational Data - Excel

Qualitative Research - Quotes

Limitations

Day 2 - WORKSHOP (Wei, Lubna)

Qualitative Research - Surveys

Conclusions from Survey

Limitations

Analysis of Findings

DAY 1/DAY 2 together

**Potential Sites: Why is it good? (YS)**

Map Green spaces -

Orchards - Open Spaces

Proposed Site - Site Analysis

Conclusions

Blah Blah Blah

We Don't Know

OFF-SITE ANALYSIS

ON-SITE RESEARCH DAY 1

ON-SITE RESEARCH DAY 2

ANALYSIS

Mapping Existing Green Infrastructure

Physical Diagnosis  
Observational research  
Informal Interviews

Questionnaire  
Informal Interviews  
Participatory Activity

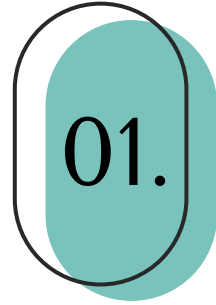
Qualitative Research

SYNTHESIZE FIELD NOTES

URBAN ORCHARDS



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01.

OFF-SITE  
URBAN  
ANALYSIS

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# LA LUCHA DE LOS POBRES B



# GREEN FIGURE GROUND

- Voids
- Recreation
- Scrubs
- Private Garden
- Urban Orchard





# VOIDS





# RECREATION



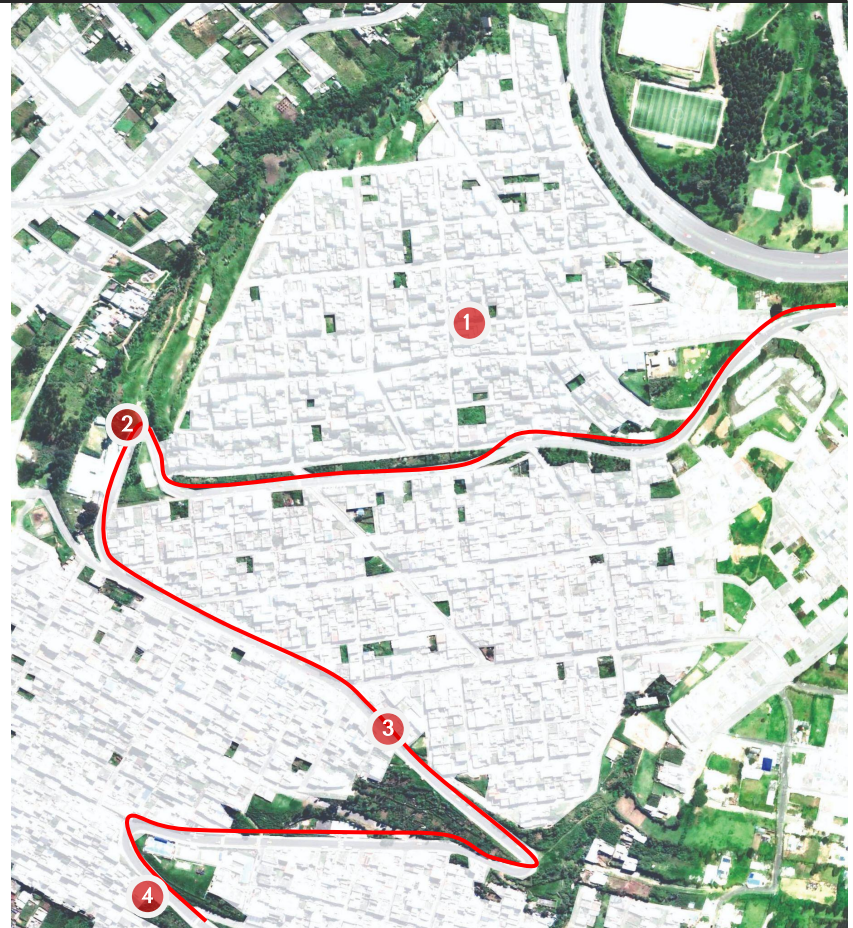


# TYPOLOGY: PRIVATE GARDEN



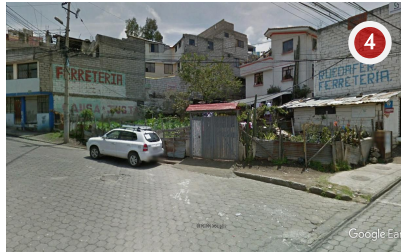


# SCRUBS





# URBAN ORCHARDS

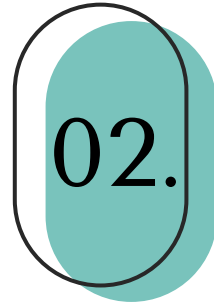




## MAIN URBAN CORRIDOR, CALLE 7

- Land owned by the municipality
- Since the land has been occupied and cultivated by people they have informal tenure security
- It is also a way for the municipality to ensure that the piece of land is taken care of





# FIELD RESEARCH

- DAY 1 (On Site Assessment)
  - DAY 2 (Community Engagement)
-

## DAY 01

1. Visit to Asociación de emprendedores La Argelia Alta
2. Physical assessment of selected study area in LLDLP
3. Qualitative research with orchard owners and one of the founders of LLDLP to supplement physical assessment

## DAY 02

1. Community engagement (focus group)
2. Qualitative research (questionnaire/activity)



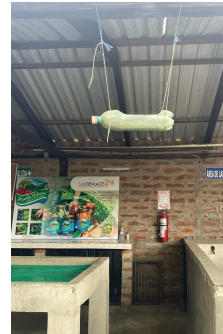


# 1.01 ASOCIACIÓN DE EMPRENDEDORES LA ARGELIA ALTA

## Highlights:

- Garbage dumping ground converted to urban farmland in 2008
- Food orchard collectively managed by 3 families currently
- Soil and climate suitable for multi-cropping without chemical fertilisers
- ***Water for irrigation from main supply thereby increasing production cost***
- Legal enterprise:

**Pros:** Financial and educational support from state and academia. **Cons/ tradeoffs:** high cost on maintaining payroll



## 1.02 MAPPING GREENS

1. Identifying voids, green spaces, spatial appropriations and informal spaces of congregation in the study area
2. Mapping of existing urban orchards, Calle 7

*Fieldwork conducted with the support and guidance of local expert Margarita*



Study Area, LLDLP



## 1.02 MAPPING GREENS

1. Identifying voids, green spaces, spatial appropriations and informal spaces of congregation in the study area



- 1 Private urban orchards
- 2 Private vacant green

- 3 Scrubs on steep slopes
- 4 Vacant green



## 1.02 URBAN ORCHARD DOCUMENTATION

### CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA



Boundary Conditions

Branches and metal wires  
as borders



Types of Vegetation

Corn identified as an  
important crop



Space Appropriation




Space appropriated as a  
garage by an orchard owner



State of Maintenance

Maintenance depends on  
the individual owner

# 1.02 SYNTHESIS OF OBSERVATIONS

URBAN ORCHARDS, CALLE 7, LA LUCHA DE LOS POBRES								
Sl. no.	Vegetation Type			Boundary conditions		State of Maintenance	Remarks	Photographs
	Vegetables	Fruits	Others	Fencing	Borders			
Part 1								
Orchard 1	Potato, corn, onions, carrots, beets, beans, lettuce, radish	Peach, lemon	N/A	No proper fencing (iron sheets and tires)	Height Difference and a wood stick in the pedestrian	Cultivated and maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintenance is a family activity on Saturdays or whenever they have time</li> <li>- Watering with hose required only from June-Aug or if its too dry</li> <li>- Surplus production</li> <li>- Weed invasion because of increased rainfall</li> <li>- Issues of theft reported</li> </ul>	 
Orchard 2	beans	Figs, lemon, nispero	flowers	Metal wire fence with wood sticks	No obvious border but a wooden platform on the pedestrian	not well maintained, weed all over		





## 1.03 INFORMAL INTERVIEWS

*“We consider ourselves a family, we have a good and close relationship, we take care of each other’s property.”*

ROSA,  
PRESIDENT MANZANA R

*“During the confinement from March to June 2020, the authorities did not allow us to work or tend the orchards. But by July 2020 we resumed caring for their plants.”*

RESIDENT FROM CALLE 7

*“Taking care of orchards are secondary activities. We do this for leisure”*

RESIDENT FROM CALLE 7  
GARDEN 1

Asked if we were going to give them advices and seeds and mentioned a previous group that did it. Complained about the quality of the seeds people gave them

RESIDENT FROM CALLE 7  
GARDEN 2

Existing empty plots potentially available for orchards are not attractive to people due to distance from home and tenure insecurity (ex.: plots close to ecua-volley court)

RESIDENT FROM CALLE 7

## KEY TAKEAWAYS: ARGELIA



### Food sovereignty

Produce primarily for self consumption

Healthy and nutritious food

Community resource

Aligned with food sovereignty law, 2008



### Economy

Surplus could be sold in open markets or for exchange within the community

Long term sustainability needs to be studied further

High cost of maintenance ( legal, water etc.)



### Community

Long term sustainability to be considered regarding formalising the action.

Community involvement and interest to be evaluated

## KEY TAKEAWAYS: PHYSICAL ASSESSMENT CALLE 7



### Urban character

Existing orchards along the Calle 7 become extension of the private areas: privatized street

Dumped waste in the street

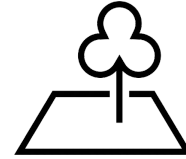


### Orchards

Fencing and borders quality depends. All cultivated plots fenced off.

Productivity of cultivation: for self consumption rather than surplus for selling apart from one plot

Dumped waste in unused greenlands between orchards



### Void

Void lands near the street is on-sale at inflated price

Empty unused spaces identified, but location not suitable for private gardens

Dumped and burnt waste in void lands

## LIMITATIONS: PHYSICAL ASSESSMENT



### Time limit

A few hours to conduct observations



### Limited Access

To Physical Orchards + Views Inside

Assumed usage and maintenance



### Small Sample Size

Physical assessment restricted to an area with existing orchards which are very visible.

Could only interview a few orchard owners

## DAY 01

1. Visit to Asociación de emprendedores La Argelia Alta
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3. Qualitative research with orchard owners and one of the founders of LLDLP to supplement physical assessment

## DAY 02

1. Community engagement (focus group)
2. Qualitative research (questionnaire/activity)



## EXPLORATORY THEMES



### Food Sovereignty

Accessibility to fresh fruits and vegetables

Satisfaction of food qualities

Affordability of fresh products



### Food Orchards

Relationship with orchard activities: experience, frequency, purpose, and participant

Interest about orchard if no experience and access



### Community Perception

Opinions about existing community orchards

Preference of orchards: private or community

## METHOD: QUESTIONNAIRE

1. **Google Questionnaire** : questions based on the theme questions and translated into Spanish language
2. **Technology assistance**: in case the internet doesn't work well, we prepare tablets and cellphones for displaying questions and ask participants answer by hands

The image shows a screenshot of a Google Form titled "Food Orchards: Qualitative survey". The form is in Spanish and contains three questions. The first question asks for the respondent's age group. The second question asks where they obtain their fruits and vegetables. The third question asks where they buy fresh fruits and vegetables.

**Food Orchards: Qualitative survey**

smmaooo@gmail.com (未分享) 切换帐户

Cual es su edad?

Bajo 15

15-35

35-60

60 o más

¿De donde obtiene sus frutas y verduras ?

Fuera del Barrio

Del Barrio

Both

其他 : \_\_\_\_\_

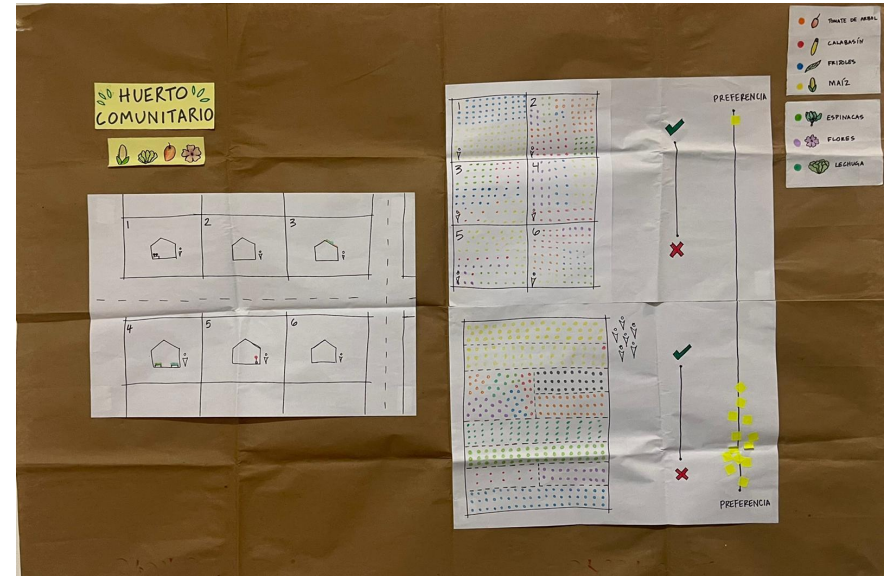
Donde consigue frutas y vegetales frescos?

Mercados

Tiendas de barrio

# COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

1. **Community Orchard introduction:** introducing existing model in LLDLP and the possibility of community collaborations in orchard with graphic poster
2. **Preference Voting:** after introduction, requiring participants to vote for their preference of orchard models: collaborative or private





## DAY 2: TIMELINE



10:30

### Introduction

Community performance

11:00

### Focus Group

Residents divided into groups for different topics

11:00-13:00

### Questionnaire

Introducing designed questions, participants answered with cards and pen

13:00-13:30

### Activity

Introducing urban orchard model and asking participants for their preference

## LIMITATIONS: QUALITATIVE RESEARCH



### Time limit

Only 2 hours to conduct questionnaire and activity: not enough time for second group of people



### Technology

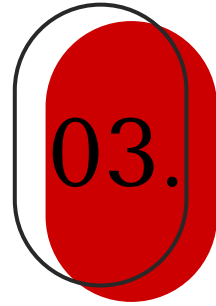
Google sheet as a tool is not friendly for the elders who have less facility to technical devices, and for those who have no access to the internet



### Participants

Most participants were under 20 years for the focus group.

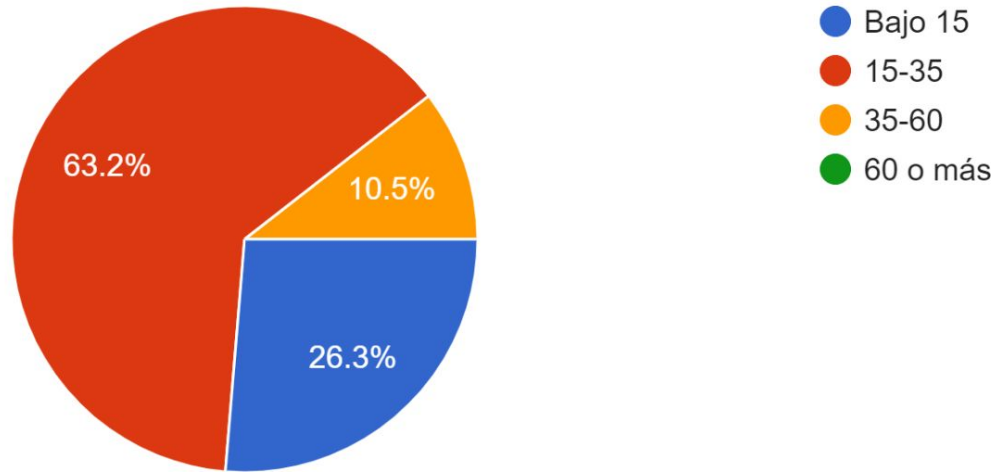
Not knowing about the diversity/manzanas of participants



# QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

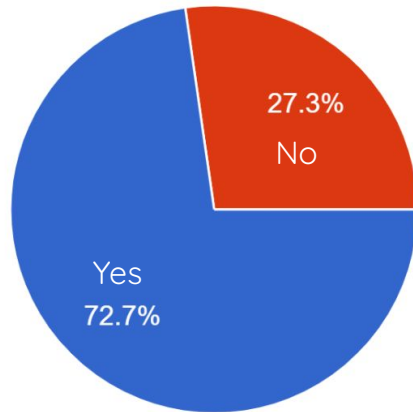
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## PARTICIPANTS

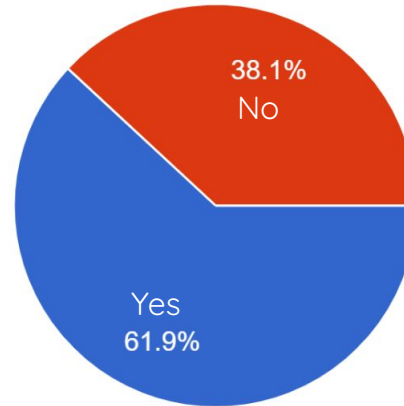


QUESTION- Are you satisfied with the quality of these foods?

Satisfaction



Affordability

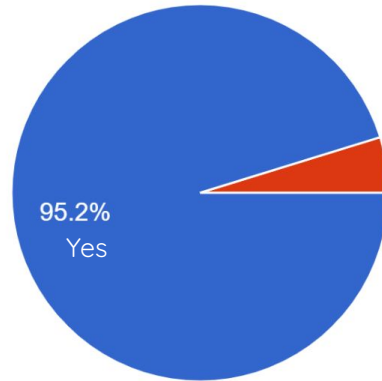


Resident G (15-35): *'Las verduras de calidad tienen precios muy altos (Prices of quality vegetable are very high).'*

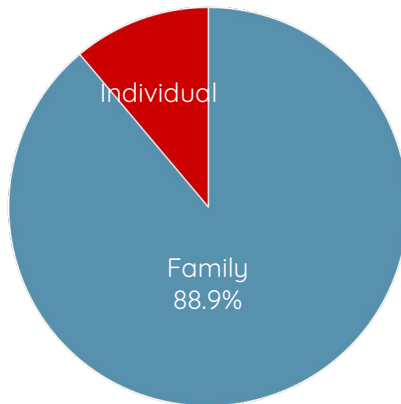
Resident K: *'porque a veces no son muy frescos (Because sometimes they are not very fresh).'*

## PREVALENT PRACTICES

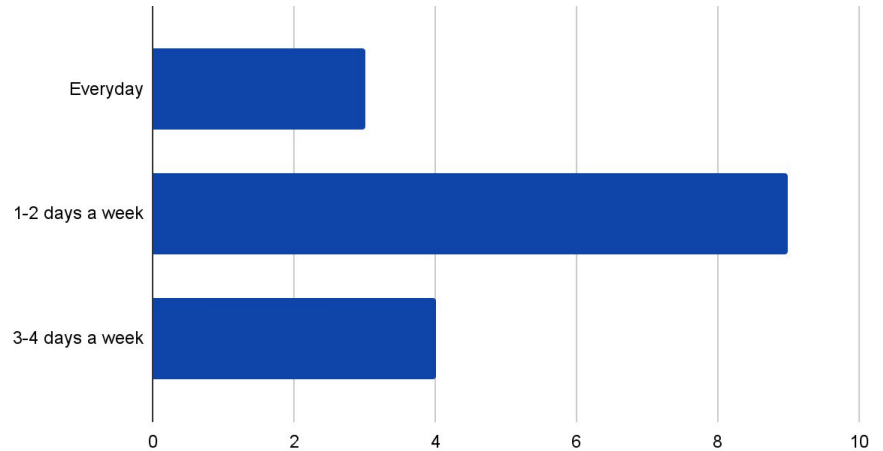
Do you (or someone you know) grow or have in the past grown their own food?



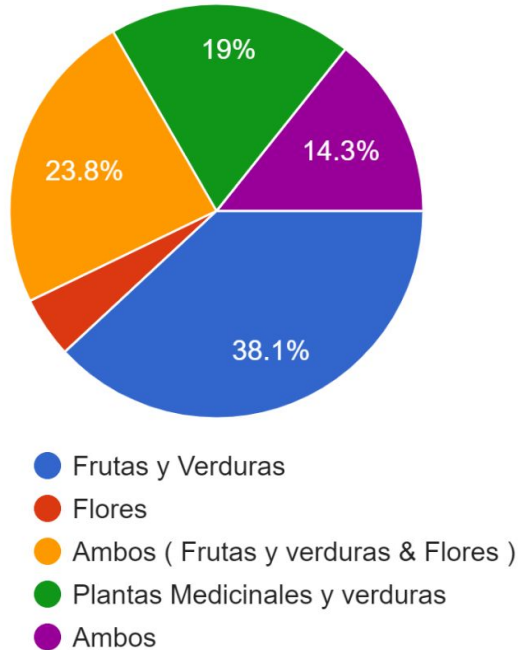
Who participates in the orchard activities?



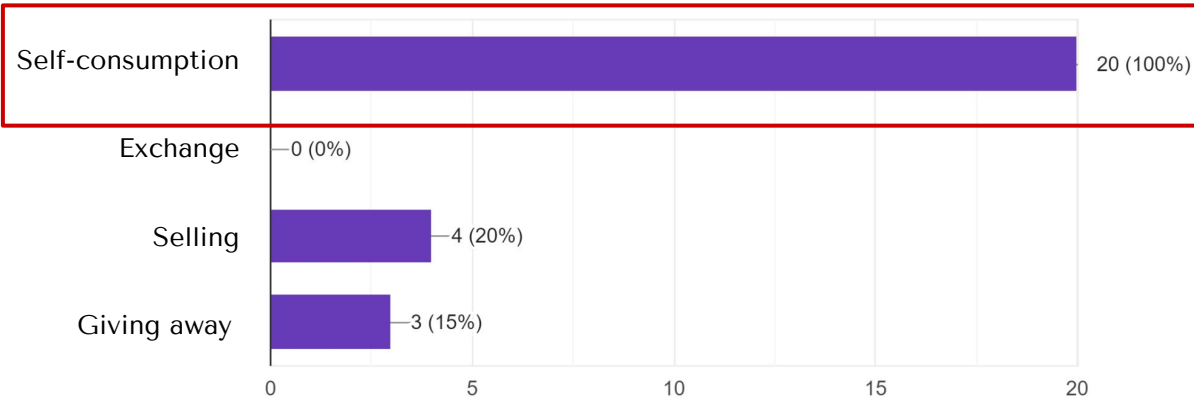
## Frequency of work in the orchards



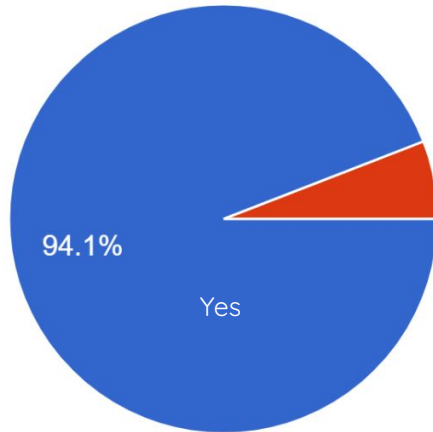
## VEGETATION TYPOLOGY AND MOTIVATIONS



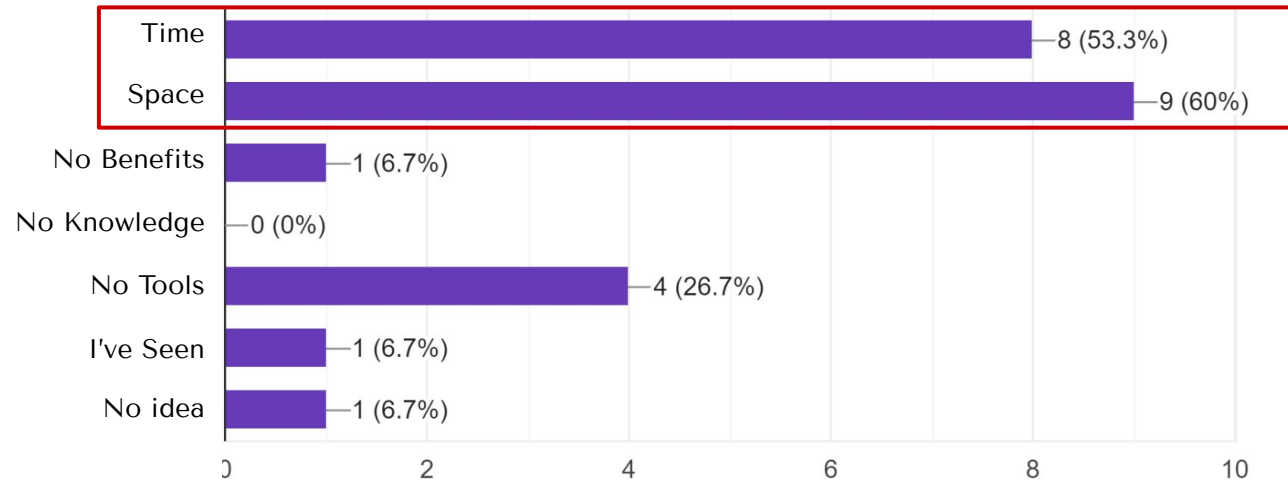
For what reasons or reasons did you decide to grow your own food?



# COMMUNITY PERCEPTION ABOUT ORCHARDS



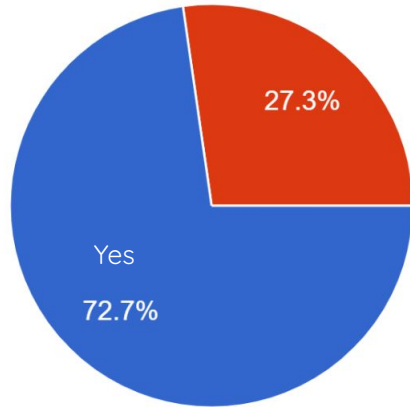
## The reasons of not growing?



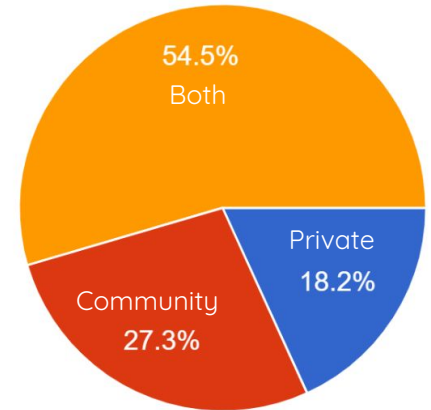


## QUESTION: PREFERENCES ABOUT ORCHARDS

Have you seen any orchard in your manzanas?



If you could do an orchard, do you prefer community or private?



Community Collaborations is very important in the neighborhood

# COMMUNITY ACTIVITY: PREFERENCE

*'nos gustaría mucho ya que no hay mucha unión en la comunidad (We'd like it more since there is not much union in the community).'*

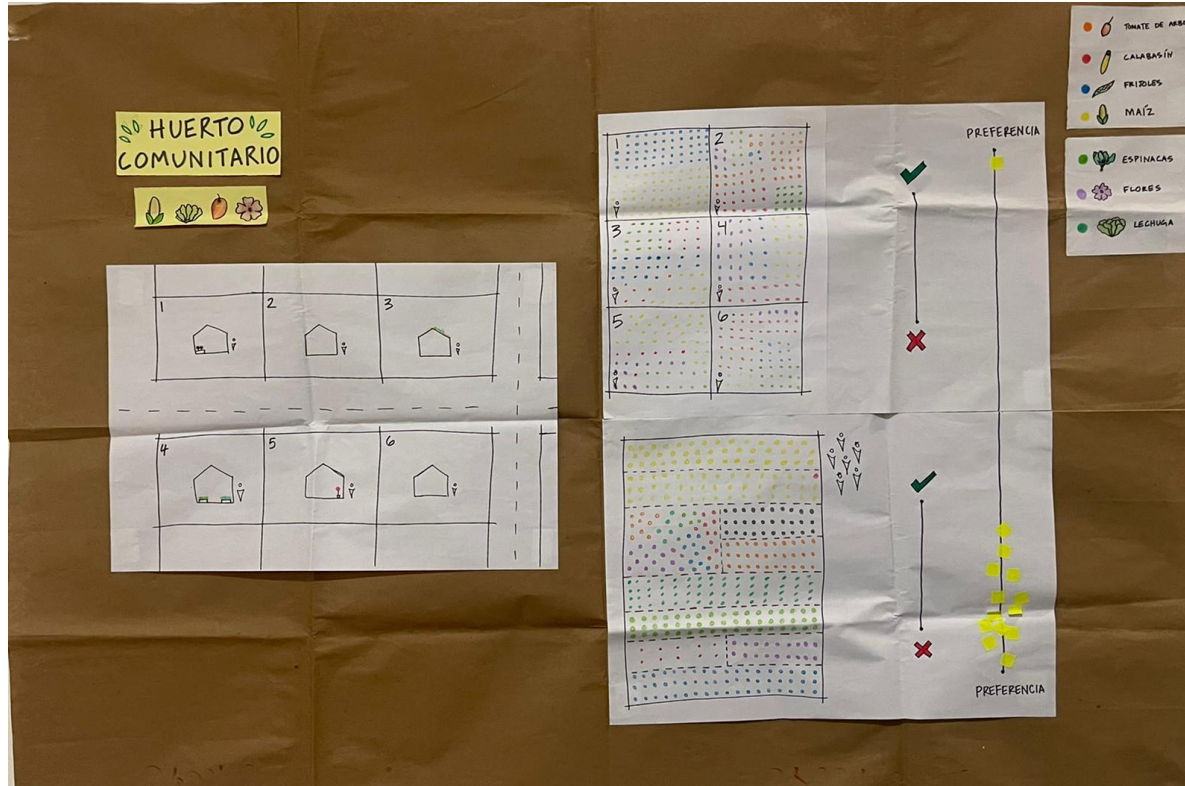
RESIDENT G (15-35)

*'para la unión de la comunidad y para invertir de mejor manera nuestro tiempo (For the union of the community and to better consume our time).'*

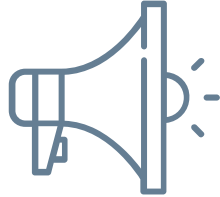
RESIDENT I (15-35)

*'porque así comparto con las personas (Because that's how we share with others).'*

RESIDENT H (15-35)



## INFORMAL INTERVIEW: RESPONDENTS OPINIONS



*‘Nos gustaría charlas de ayuda psicológica y de depresión (We’d like to talk about psychosocial and depression assistance).’*

RESIDENT G (15-35)

*‘Sería bueno que participen varias personas pero con actividades asignadas y que estén comprometidas con la causa (It would be good if only several people who are committed to the case participate with assigned activities)’*

RESIDENT J (15-35)

*‘porque hay que ser colaborativo con las demás personas para poder cuidar el medio ambiente (Because you have to be collaborative with other people to be able to take care of the environment)’*

RESIDENT K (15-35)

## QUESTIONNAIRE REFLECTIONS

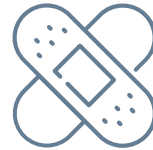
**Community** action and need for **healthy** food are the most critical reasons that drive desire for collective food orchards as per the questionnaire



### Emotion

Resident A (under 15): '*Para distraernos y poder comer nuestra cosecha* (For distraction and being able to eat our harvest).'

Resident B: '*Satisfacción de cultivarlos* (Satisfaction of growing).'



### Health

Resident C (15-35): '*Es para poder comer alimentos sanos* (it is to be able to eat healthy foods).'

Resident D (35-60): '*Para que sean libres de fungicidas, pesticidas* (For Fungicidal and Pesticidal free).'



### Economics

Resident E (15-35): '*Para autoconsumo y ahorrar en su economía* (For self-consumption and save one's economic).'

Resident F (15-35): '*No hace mi papá porque la economía es baja* (My dad doesn't have it because the economy is low).'

# MAPPING OF ORCHARDS AND COMMUNITY GARDENS

These are the orchards that we have identified. We would like to make it very clear that this is not an exhaustive list and further research needs to be conducted to map the all the formal and informal orchard practices in LLDLP

- 1 Private urban orchards
- 2 Collective action





# MAPPED GREENS



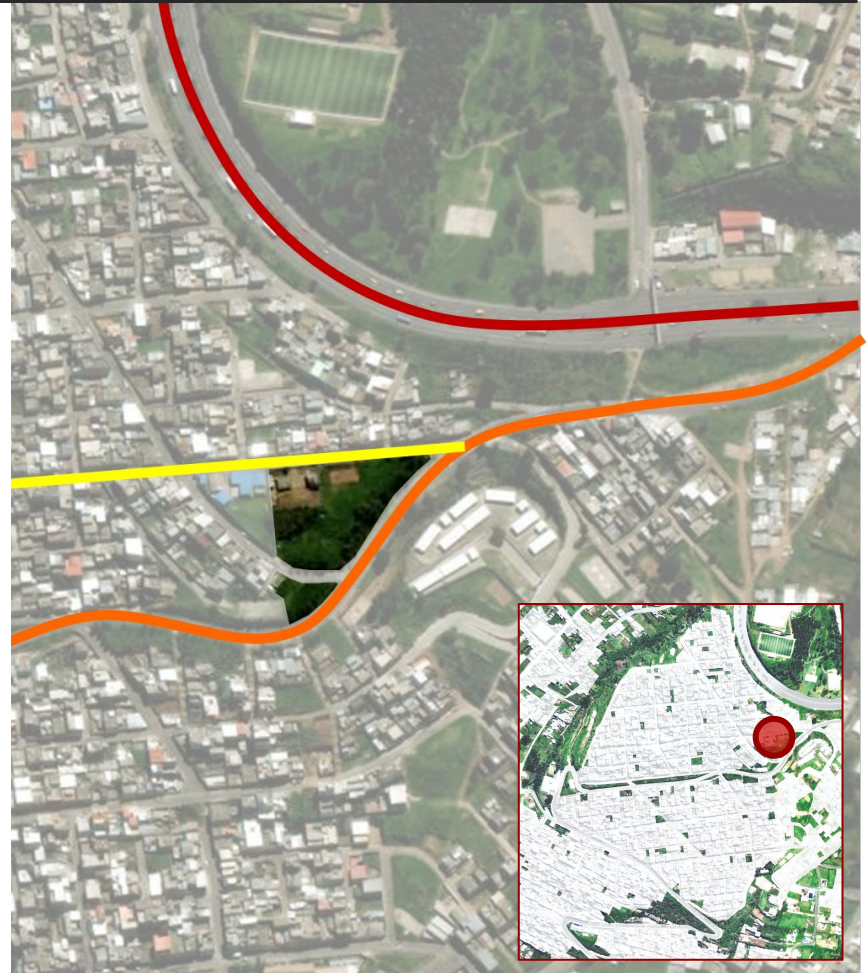
- 1 Private urban orchards
- 2 Private vacant green

- 3 Scrubs on steep slopes
- 4 Vacant green



## SITE SELECTION: CRITERIA

- Good connection: close from commerce and main roads
- Close from other community activities
- Topographically possible
- Environmental factors





# SITE PHOTOGRAPHS





## EXISTING TOPOGRAPHY

Two plateau and a slope in between with significant height difference

Plots with potential for:

- Orchards
- Greenhouse
- Warehouse
- Composting area
- Kitchen



## EXISTING TOPOGRAPHY



Potential area for a kitchen and composting area, close from community center



Potential plot for a greenhouse

Example: Asociación Argelia Alta



## OPTION 1

- Flattening
- Connecting slope
- Height difference
- Divide plot into two connected spaces

Potential for different types of orchards: collective / individual use





## OPTION 2 Terrace-fields

Turn the divided site into one by smoothing topography

Potential for a community orchard for collective use

Example:  
Asociación Argelia  
Alta





# CONCLUSION

## Limitations of Survey

Community Collective is important to the community

Future Research Topics : Activating Public Spaces

Waste Management

Assessment of Community Needs

Psychosocial

Arts

New Survey - Broad

## Overall Limitations



### Time limit

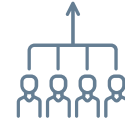
Only through existing documents and 2 days of contact with the neighborhoods



### Research bias

We were trying to identify potential of collective gardens in public spaces.

The questionnaire implicitly induced general answers to be related with orchards. Example: Use of public space for psycho-social support



### Community and Power relations

Not able to fully understand the **power relations and dynamics** of the neighborhood

Contradicting response about community collaboration: requires further investigation.



## SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

### ACTIVATING PUBLIC SPACES



#### Waste Management

Waste management about the void public spaces could be an **entry point** for engagement and cooperation within communities to raise the awareness and establish the **new broader assessment**



#### Community Needs

**More assessment and interaction** with the community needed to figure out the real needs that could be implemented on the activated public spaces, such as psychosocial supports and art activities.

## Key stakeholders to take the project forward



### Community

People of LLDLP

Manzana Presidents

Neighbourhood President

Mingas  
(socio-cultural-spatial-material.....  
... assemblages)

AYRIWA

Asociación de Emprendedores La  
Argelia Alta (*potential key  
collaborator for knowledge and  
experience exchanges*)



### Institutions

Municipality: *Right to public  
lands, tenure security and waste  
management*

AGRUPAR- ConQuito: *Urban  
Agriculture*

.....



### Academia

FLACSO

UIC Barcelona

University of Montreal

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Thank you for your attention

