Knowledge creates perspectives

At the latest with the beginning of the Corona pandemic, allotment gardens have increasingly become the focus of many people, and thus of the media and also of science. All those who enjoy their own allotment garden or the allotment garden site in the neighbourhood know what positive effects are associated with it. In the best case, the cultivation of healthy food, protection of nature, the environment and the climate, a balanced diet, physical activity in the



garden, community, integration and inclusion, leisure activities, creativity and education all come together. Allotment gardens provide the multifunctional spaces that are so urgently needed.

Scientists and scholars from all over the world are interested in our "jack of all trades device". At the EU level they are investigating how "urban agriculture" - of which allotment gardens are an important part - can be increasingly integrated into European, regional and local policies. Internationally, evidence of the positive health effects of allotment gardens is growing. It is also proven that (small) garden soils are among the most important carbon reservoirs. Biodiversity, the further development of allotment gardens according to needs and the wide range of educational and technical advice offered by the federations are further significant fields of research.

The gain in knowledge for the associations and federations, for politics and administration should not be underestimated. Scientific evidence is one of the most important foundations for strengthening and further developing allotment gardens as an integral part of communities.

The entries for this year's BDG Science Award are numerous and promising. The selection of award winners will not be easy. Let us surprise you, we will report!

To the BDG Science Award: http://bit.ly/bdg-wissenschaftspreis

Eva Foos, BDG Image : Source : Kristina Rainer