ABOUT
MOTIVATION & SOCIAL ORGANISMS

THE NUTRIENTS RECOVERY PROJECT

The Nutrients Recovery Project is learning about the meaning of health, self-reliance, the rhythms of daily life, and about community. It is also about the satisfaction of producing something often ignored or taken for granted.

On the individual level, making Terra Preta black soil is about self-determination: Reclaiming the responsibility not only for what enters our bodies — in the form of wholesome, sensibly produced food — but also about being in charge for one's bodily output and reconsider what its place and meaning is in the biosphere.

On the larger level, The Nutrients Recovery is driven by the realization that action and participation in the public realm doesn't suffice anymore to address the burning issues of our world today. We have to change the way we live, too. In a city like Canberra — which has the largest waste output per capita in Australia, and that relegates green waste recycling waste to the individual — it means that the kitchens, gardens, houses, cars and toilets are the sites of our daily engagement with nature and matter to the fate of the planet like never before.

Aside from raising consequential questions, The Nutrients Recovery is mainly about creating novel connections. Charcoal as principle element in Amazonian 'dark earths' in relation to indigenous tradition in a land of bush fires. Collaboration between an artist and scientist and with different constituencies among the ANU. Controlled fermentation that brings people together through preparing food that transits across different species.

Supporters

PROJECT PARTNERS
Facilities & Services Division, Australian National University
Sustainability Learning Community, ANU Organic Garden
Gardens & Grounds (Soil Yard), Australian National University
Canberra Environmental Centre
Australian Centre on China in the World, College of Asia and the Pacific

FELLOW URBAN FARMERS
Interview with Michael Leung,
urban farmer & designer of HK Farm (Hong Kong)
on the fertile power of urine

SOURCE
THE NUTRIENTS RECOVERY PROJECT
http://socialorganism.org

MARKUZ WERNLI
Aspiring Soil Maker
PROJECT INITIATOR

As artist dedicated to food and collaboration, Markuz realizes participatory projects that bring environmental issues into a tangible experience. After "Growing Radishes With 30 Families" (Kyoto, 2009), and running a "No-Menu-Restaurant" (Seoul, 2010), he currently works as digital research manager at ANU's Australian Centre on China in the World.

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DAVID FREUDENBERGER
Research Ecologist and Lecturer
SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR

Dr. David Freudenberger is a research ecologist and lecturer at the Fenner School of Environment and Society, The Australian National University. His research expertise includes herbivore digestive physiology and nutrition. Between himself and his agronomist father, they have over 70 years of experience in compost processes and organic fertilisers.

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SOCIAL ORGANISMS
Transformers of Organic Matter
PROJECT ASSOCIATES

Microorganisms are microscopic, living, single-celled organisms such as bacteria. Ubiquitous throughout the world, microorganisms play a vital role in supporting and maintaining nature and life. Although some bacteria are harmful, the vast majority are not harmful, but in fact beneficial. Without bacteria, life would simply not be possible.

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http://wiki.org/microorganism

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REFERENCES

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