## **Urban Gardens: Possibilities for Development of Urban Farming by Unleashing the Potential of the NGOs**

Emilia Chengelova (Summary)

The article considers urban gardens as a typical urban farming practice, with a high potential for organizing social energy and the emergence of intensive and sustainable social relationships in time. There are four models for urban gardens, which were created on different occasions but were all successfully implemented by non-governmental organizations on the territory of a metropolitan municipality. The article reveals the specifics of the functions that urban gardens perform and suggests that the non-governmental sector has a huge role to play in promoting urban farming practices and unleashing the potential of urban gardens. Through in-depth interviews, the enthusiasm and the high social commitment of people who have implemented urban gardening initiatives are demonstrated. The models presented could be implemented as examples of urban agriculture in the capital.

Keywords: urban farming; urban gardens; social communities

Emilia Chengelova Institute for the Study of Societies and Knowledge – BAS 13A Moskovska Str. 1000 Sofia BULGARIA chengelova@gmail.com