## **ROLES AND BENEFITS FOR STAKEHOLDERS**

Every stakeholders can contribute something to the development of a sustainable urban-centred region. For example, Community groups often address social needs and can also help improve neighborhood design. Farmers provide food for urban markets and can also provide animal habitat. Businesses show how to make projects profitable and can also demonstrate environmental stewardship. Universities can contribute research, analysis and training to activities for sustainability.

Stakeholders receive benefit as well. Here are two examples:

## Benefits for Communities

- community input to government and business decisions
- clearer focus on community needs
- useful relationships with other stakeholders
- learning how other communities resolve problems
- better communities

## Benefits for Businesses

- more opportunities to demonstrate stewardship
- understanding needs and opportunities with other stakeholders
- urban & rural businesses connect on themes such as food & recreation
- Learning how other businesses resolve problems
- more sustainable businesses.

We want stakeholders working together on sustainability, because cooperation improves results. A <u>Council of Stakeholders</u> brings different groups together in a <u>Biosphere Eco-City</u> (BEC), for discussion, coordination and sharing of information. Council members support innovation. They also encourage urban-rural cooperation and provide general guidance for BEC activities. These activities are all key to benefits for stakeholders.