



SESSION DESCRIPTION

URBAN FOOD FORUM

F4 Innovative practices, strategies and policies in resilient urban food systems

Opening Panel

Date: Wednesday, 10 June 2015

Time: 09:00-10:30

Rooms: S29-32

Language: English

Contact: Marielle Dubbeling

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Organized by: RUAF Foundation, supported by the
SUPURBFOOD Program

OBJECTIVE

This panel session highlighted innovative practices, strategies and policies in the field of resilient urban food systems implemented by cities from Europe and the Global South. Panelists included the Mayor of Munoz, Philippines; the Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture-Western Province, Sri Lanka, the Food Policy Coordinator from Ghent, Belgium and municipal representatives from Cape Town, South Africa and Quito, Ecuador.

Following these contributions, different support organizations and programs highlighted further policy recommendations and concrete activities undertaken to help develop sustainable urban food systems. These included contributions by the EC supported SUPURBFOOD program "Towards sustainable modes of urban and peri-urban food provisioning", the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact process, the international CITYFOOD network and the Global partnership on city region food systems.

OUTCOMES

Participants gained a better understanding of:

- Why cities are involved in urban food system policy and planning
- What initiatives, strategies and policies cities are and might be developing and what key obstacles or guiding factors are for putting in place an urban food policy and action plan
- What international resources and contacts are available to support cities in policy making and action planning?

METHODOLOGY

- The facilitator opened the session with a short personal introduction and presentation of the program and speakers (**5 minutes**)
- The city representatives each gave a short (max 5 min) statement (**6 x 5 minutes =30 min**)



- Followed by short contributions (**4 x 5 minutes =20 min**) from:
 - The SUPURBFOOD programme on policy recommendations (5 min) and relevant resources (5 min)
 - The Milan Policy Pact (5 min)
 - The CITYFOOD network (5 min)
 - The Global partnership on city region food systems (5 min)
- The facilitator managed questions and answers from the audience, addressing the different panelists (**30 minutes**)
- The facilitator concluded with closing remarks. (**5 minutes**)

Guiding questions:

1. List of questions that the panel of city representatives explored and sought to answer:
 - a. Why their city feels it is a city's responsibility to work on urban agriculture and urban food systems;
 - b. What urban agriculture/food policies and practices their city currently implements and envisages to implement in future
 - c. What are –in the city's view- the main guiding factors or obstacles for putting in place an urban food system policy/plan/programme and how could these be addressed
2. Questions to other contributors:
 - a. What are further recommendations, resource materials and concrete activities that your organisation/programmes is developing that cities can call upon or connect to?
 - b. Additional points if needed

CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator *Marielle Dubbeling, Director, RUA Foundation, Leusden, the Netherlands*

Panelists:

- *Nestor Alvarez, Mayor of City of Muñoz, Philippines*
- *Alfonso Abdo Félix, Executive Director, CONQUITO Economic Development Agency, Quito, Ecuador*
- *Matthew Kempthorne, Councillor and Chairperson, Energy, Environmental and Spatial Planning Portfolio Committee, City of Cape Town, South Africa*
- *Nayanananda Nilwala, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture Western Province, Colombo, Sri Lanka*
- *Katrien Verbeke, Food Policy Coordinator, City of Ghent, Belgium*



Further recommended resources and readings

- www.ruaf.org
 - See specifically the RUAF policy briefs: http://www.ruaf.org/publications/policy_briefs and the Urban Agriculture Magazine on City Region Food Systems and other topics: <http://www.ruaf.org/publications/magazines>
 - <http://www.supurbfood.eu/>
 - <http://www.cityregionfoodsystems.org/>
 - CITYFOOD: <http://www.iclei.org/index.php?id=1348>
 - [Milan Urban Food Policy Pact](#).
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