



SESSION DESCRIPTION

URBAN FOOD FORUM

G4 Planning resilient food systems at urban and metropolitan scale

Panel discussion

Date: Wednesday, 10 June 2015

Time: 11:00-12:30

Rooms: S29-32

Language: English

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Organized by: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

OBJECTIVE

Challenged by decreasing resources, higher demands for food, elongating supply chains and changing dietary patterns, urban food security will be at the center of attention in the future. Closely linked to urban poverty, issues of urban food security are widely ignored by the majority of international and national development partners.

Urbanization, population growth and the consequences of climate change increasingly put the global food system under pressure. It has to produce more food for a larger, still growing and highly concentrated (urbanized) population with fewer resources while operating in an environment increasingly affected by climate change. As cities grow, they take up land that has thus far been used as farm land (urban sprawl), reducing the area suitable for food production. As a consequence, distances from rural producers to urban consumers grow, value chains elongate, price vitality increases.

Inefficient distribution systems and utilization cause large post-harvest losses and impair on the nutritional status of millions of people. The increased food prices caused by those dynamics directly affect urban populations, especially the urban poor, since they buy most of their food items. In some areas, urban low income households spend more than 50% of their income on food.

The objective of the panel on Urban Food Security was to address those issues mentioned above and present policy recommendations and examples from cities and city-regions on how these developments can be coped with.

OUTCOMES

Participants gained a better understanding of:

- The dynamics of urbanization, population growth and climate change and how they affect urban food systems.
- The role rural-urban linkages and urban/peri-urban agriculture play for increased urban food security, which is usually neglected by the majority of development partners.
- Innovative urban food strategies applied by urban planners and city-regional decision makers to confront issues of urban food security



- The potentials of UPA to improve the nutritional, economic, ecological, social, educational situation of urban residents, focusing on low income groups.

METHODOLOGY

- The facilitator opened the session with a short introduction and presented the speakers. **(5 minutes)**
- Each speaker gave an action-oriented input on concepts or experiences, showing maps or other illustrations as needed. **(3 x 10 minutes)**
- The facilitator guided the discussion based on guiding questions, and give floor for comments made by other panelists. **(25 minutes)**
- The facilitator managed questions and answers from the audience. **(25 minutes)**
- The facilitator concluded with closing remarks. **(5 minutes)**

Guiding questions:

1. Which mechanisms can be applied to foster interaction between urban and rural areas to improve urban food security?
2. With regard to the development of the SDGs and the HABITAT III in Quito in 2016, one of the guiding questions will focus on how to place the issue of urban food security on the international agenda.
3. Urban and peri-urban agriculture are not new. Yet, there has been little to no support for urban farmers, in some cases UPA is obstructed by national laws and regulations. How can residents and decision makers be incentivized to practice and support UPA initiatives?

CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator *Carmen Vogt, Head of Program "Sustainable Development of Metropolitan Regions", GIZ, Eschborn, Germany*

Panelist *Marielle Dubbeling, Director, RUAF Foundation, Leusden, the Netherlands*

This presentation focused on policy recommendations, examples of integrating UPA in land use planning and climate change strategies and provided examples on different policies (zoning, use right agreements, land use regulations, building codes, incentives) as well as support programmes (protection of flood zones, rooftop garden programmes, preservation of the peri-urban greenbelt, productive use of urban open land, storm water management programmes). These strategies was illustrated with examples from Kathmandu (Nepal), Cairo (Egypt), Rosario (Argentina), New York (USA), Bobo Dioulasso (Burkina Faso) and 1-2 European experiences.

Panelist *Jason Jabbour, Scientific Assessment Branch, Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Nairobi, Kenya*

This presentation highlighted findings from a 9-city assessment on UPA undertaken in Addis Ababa, Kampala, Dar es Salaam, Ibadan, Tamale, Dakar, Chennai, Dhaka and Kathmandu during 2011-12. The assessment examined the state of UPA in these cities through the lens of intensifying urban pressures and increasing climate risks with the



objective of identifying how these and other drivers potentially interact to affect the resilience of UPA, and what response options are needed to address existing and emerging challenges.

Panelist

María Alejandra Saleme Daza, International Relations Consultant, Agency for Cooperation and Investment of Medellín and the Metropolitan Area, Medellín, Colombia