WEBINAR
Cities and COVID-19: food access for vulnerable communities
15 May 2020
The webinar is part of a **Series of webinars on the Food Systems Approach in Practice** promoted by the One Planet Network Sustainable Food Systems Programme.

The **Sustainable Food Systems (SFS) Programme** is a multi-stakeholder platform that aims to support countries to shift towards more sustainable food systems, with a systems-based approach.

It responds to country members commitment with the 10 Years Framework for Sustainable Consumption and Production, adopted at the Rio+20.
A few tips for a smooth webinar

- All attendees are in **listen-only** mode
- Attendees can send questions to the presenters by posting them in the **question box** in the control panel
- Please indicate to **which presenter** the question is addressed
- After the presentations, we will select a few questions from the question box for the Q&A
- If necessary, up to 5 additional questions per speaker will be answered in writing and sent with the follow-up email
- The webinar is being **recorded** and a link to the video and presentations will be shared via email
Speakers

• **Jamie Morrison**, Strategic Programme Leader, Food Systems Programme, FAO
• **Kate MacKenzie**, Director of the Mayor's Office of Food Policy, New York City
• **Esau Galukande**, Deputy Director Production and Marketing, Kampala Capital City Authority
• **David Jácome Polit**, Metropolitan Director of Resilience, Municipality of Quito
Cities and COVID-19 Food access for vulnerable communities

Jamie Morrison – Strategic Programme Leader, Food Systems Programme, FAO
FAO Survey to Assess the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Systems in Cities

- **861** responses
- **77** countries

57% of the respondents are from local and subnational governments.

### Regional distribution
- Africa: 39%
- Asia and Pacific: 26%
- Europe and Central Asia: 16%
- Latin America and Caribbean: 12%
- Near East and North Africa: 6%
- North America: 1%

### City size distribution
- Big city (>5000k): 44%
- City (500k-5000k): 25%
- Town (50K-500k): 19%
- Small town (5k-50k): 9%
- Village (<5k): 3%
- Other: 3%
WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS?

FAO Survey to Assess the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Systems in Cities

- 86% Suspension of school meals
- 68% Restriction in selling food in public spaces
- 57% Restrictions in functioning of markets
- 40% Limiting supply of food commodities
- 60% Rising prices
WHAT MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT ON THE URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS?

- Direct food distribution particularly to vulnerable population (80%)
- Coordination with private sector and other non-governmental actors (69%)
- Monitoring food availability and prices in urban markets (60%)

IN MOST OF THE CASES MUNICIPALITIES HAVE NO ACCESS TO ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR DIRECT ACTIONS.

FAO Survey to Assess the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Systems in Cities
It is time to rethink and build back better the urban food systems.
Cities and COVID-19: food access for vulnerable communities in practice

Kate MacKenzie
Director, The Mayor’s Office of Food Policy

15 May, 2020
## Key Goals & Strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workstream</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feeding New Yorkers</td>
<td>Food Security</td>
<td>Home delivered meals via taxis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Grab-n-go meals via schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Supports for emergency food providers</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply Chain</td>
<td>Prevent disruption</td>
<td>Monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support food industry workers</td>
<td>Freight Logistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enable long-term food sector</td>
<td>Food Production &amp; Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>resiliency</td>
<td>Consumer Facing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Workforce, Labor, &amp; Small Business</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Meals served through 11.5
Food Pick Up Sites
Citywide Meal Distribution

Cumulative meals provided to date (includes NYCEM, DOE, DFTA, DYCD)

20,481,689

05/12/2020

Total meals served by borough (DOE and NYCEM only; last day of full reporting)

2020-05-11
### Estimated Food Insecurity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pre-COVID food insecurity</th>
<th>Projected new food insecurity</th>
<th>Total food insecurity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>838,709 ▲ 8%</td>
<td>2,038,709</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Difference from prior week**

- **Pre-COVID food insecurity**: 04/26-05/02 (last updated: 05/11/2020 08:25)
- **Projected new food insecurity**: 04/26-05/02 (last updated: 05/11/2020 08:25)
## Demand

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People applying for food stamps</th>
<th>People applying for cash assistance</th>
<th>Year-over-year change in initial jobless claims</th>
<th>Emergency Food Assistance Searches (AccessNYC)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12,874 ▲ 96%</td>
<td>5,869 ▼ -62%</td>
<td>2,040%</td>
<td>9,900%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **People applying for food stamps**: 12,874 ▲ 96% difference from prior week (05/03-05/09) (last updated: 05/11/2020 11:42)
- **People applying for cash assistance**: 5,869 ▼ -62% difference from prior week (05/03-05/09) (last updated: 05/11/2020 11:42)
- **Year-over-year change in initial jobless claims**: 2,040% (04/19-04/25) (last updated: 05/01/2020 18:26)
- **Emergency Food Assistance Searches (AccessNYC)**: 9,900% (05/10-05/16) (last updated: 05/11/2020 08:21)
Lessons & Insights

- Multi-sectoral and multi-agency team with different perspectives is essential
- Connection between food access and supply chain has never been clearer
- Emergency orders allow for innovation and action in a way
- Having line of sight into food distributions is essential to ensure equity
- Farmers markets were first to practice retail behavior changes
- Infrastructure to support fresh food (refrigeration) is lacking
- Curb to door transport is challenge
ENSURING CONTINUOUS SUPPLY OF FOOD FROM MARKETS TO CITIZENS OF KAMPALA

Cities and COVID-19: food access for vulnerable communities in practice

Esau Galukande, PhD
Background

- Kampala has a resident population of 2M people, daytime numbers are estimated at 5M
- 70% of city population is employed in informal sector. Markets form significant part of this
- Food in city supplied through 3 types of markets;
  - Permanent Markets - (in fixed location) - 84 exist
  - Mobile Markets – held at different locations once or twice a week
  - Seasonal Markets – operate during particular seasons e.g. religious holidays
In March 2020, Government of Uganda issued a series of directives to check the spread of COVID-19. Those with significant effect on access to food and its supply to city residents are summarized below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY /ISSUE</th>
<th>DIRECTIVE</th>
<th>IMPLICATIONS ON FOOD SUPPLY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public transport and use of private vehicles</td>
<td>Public transport suspended, movement of private vehicles restricted.</td>
<td>Ease to travel to markets by citizens affected negatively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycles (Boda Boda)</td>
<td>Not to carry passengers but can carry goods.</td>
<td>Cheap mode of travel into city and markets by residents affected. Distribution possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent markets</td>
<td>To remain open, but only to supply food under Standard Operating Procedures (maintain 4 meter working distance, Clear walkways, decongest etc.)</td>
<td>Number of vendors reduced, supply of food to city uninterrupted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile and Seasonal Markets</td>
<td>Suspended</td>
<td>Reduced source of food to citizens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trucks and Delivery vans</td>
<td>To continue with deliveries</td>
<td>Continuous Supply of food from countryside to markets possible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OPTIONS INTRODUCED TO THE PUBLIC FOR DELIVERY OF FOOD

Objectives of the measures introduced;

• To reduce congestion in Markets
• To ensure a constant supply of food to the consumer in a safe and orderly manner.
• To ensure the livelihood of vendors and other vulnerable residents is not severely affected by the lockdown

Methods used to develop the options

• Consultative meetings with vendors
• Consultative meetings with e-commerce platform operators
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>Action promoted /introduced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members of public with a regular vendor from whom they shop</td>
<td>Obtain contact numbers, generate list of requirements and get him/her to do shopping and send goods by trusted cyclist. All payments by mobile money transfer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members of public with no regular contact in market but in need of assistance</td>
<td>A system was set up in 29 markets enabling the public to phone in and make orders following which produce is delivered by a registered cyclist. Telephone numbers of contact persons distributed widely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of e-commerce platform operators</td>
<td>A number of such operators exist in the city (eg Jumia, Safe Boda, Zoctu) All were encouraged to include a market fresh food option on their trading platforms and were linked to participating markets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents residing near markets</td>
<td>Physical visits to markets were allowed but under but a number of regulations were instituted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How has it worked?

The system of shopping is new to many but is gradually being taken up especially in the large and specialist markets;

• Physical shopping visits to markets still continue under strict guidelines

• For call in shoppers using advertised contacts, between 10 to 50 orders are made per day depending on the markets
Has it worked? Contd

• Online distributors have recorded reasonable success as well in three main markets namely, Nakasero, Nakawa, and Wandegeya with recorded average monthly sales of 50,000 USD, 25,000 USD and 10,000 USD respectively.

• Collectively it is estimated that 20,000 clients have been and continue to be served.
What are the challenges

• New shopping system introduced during a lockdown period, acceptance is low
• Some of the contact persons in markets can get overwhelmed by orders
• For some of the products different units of measure are used which may at times not be acceptable to the buyer for example Kilograms of tomatoes as opposed to a heap of the same
Lessons learnt

• Online marketing not only secured jobs for the vendors but also created jobs along the distribution chain. At least more than 400 cyclist have been engaged in the deliveries

• If the challenges are resolved and more publicity is done, online delivery could a major form of food distribution
Pictures from two markets after introduction social distancing regulations
Thank You for Listening
The challenge of COVID-19: Reaching the most in need

Based on the paper “R.I.S.Q: RIsk aSSessment tool for Quito” presented in the Improving the Sustainability Concept in Developing Countries Proceedings (Cairo, 2017. IEREK) by Jacome-Polit, D; Cubillo, P; Paredes, D; Ruiz Villalba P.

David Jácome Polit
Metropolitan Director of Resilience
Chief Resilience Officer
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Quito’s risk management system:

• The city has been planning to face manmade and natural hazards, such as the ones related to climate change
• Now the pandemic presents different challenges and it doesn’t observe boundaries

• The country’s risk management system activates the COE (Emergency Operations Committee) when an emergency occurs (either national or local depending on scales)

• Members of the PAQ (Quito’s AgriFood Covenant) have been actively coordinating with the Metropolitan COE to support food provision
Food insecurity analysis

Systemic challenges

1. Food is not accessible
   - Economically
   - Less income
   - Higher prices
   - Physically
     - Inadequate Urban Dev.
     - Deficient transp. system

2. Food is not available
   - Supply chain
     - Food donation
     - Food bank
     - Pat. San José
   - Production
   - Dist. To retailers

3. Food is not adequate
   - Not adequately used
   - Unsafe

4. Food supply is not stable over time
   - Deficiency on food provision during emergencies
   - Lack of food storage system
**Socioeconomic vulnerability**

- Data used is based on the 2010 Census. By utilizing projections our team was able to identify approximate numbers per parish and administrative zones.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish with higher concentrations</th>
<th>Administrative zones with higher conc.</th>
<th># of people per group</th>
<th>Vulnerability and poverty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amagüaña 23.4%</td>
<td>Los Chillos 22.1%</td>
<td>Single moth. 58,231</td>
<td>Total 260,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conocoto 22.4%</td>
<td>Eugenio Espejo 16.2%</td>
<td>Migrants 52,900</td>
<td>Poor 21,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Bartolo 20.9%</td>
<td>Eloy Alfaro 16.0%</td>
<td>Disabled 40,059</td>
<td>Extreme Poor 7,307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calderón 20.4%</td>
<td>Manuela Sáenz 13.9%</td>
<td>Elders 109,771</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chillogallo 19.6%</td>
<td>Quitumbe 12.6%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Total** 260,962
- **Poor** 21,399
- **Extreme Poor** 7,307

**Vulnerability and poverty**

- **Public funds**
- **NGOs**
- **Private donations**
Food production
- Monthly projection in metric tons.
- Based on minimum caloric requirements defined in poverty by consumption figures (INEC, 2015).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Monthly projections</th>
<th>Relation Prod./Cons.</th>
<th>Days with availability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Consumption</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grains</td>
<td>5,143.92</td>
<td>22,411</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meat</td>
<td>67.67</td>
<td>4,641</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish and sea food</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,508</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diary and eggs</td>
<td>5,988</td>
<td>12,468</td>
<td>48.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,676</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruits and vegetables</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>40,604</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar and similars</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>11,527</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Municipal services offer

- Zonal administration offices
- 48 “Casas somos” public communal spaces
- Vulnerable population

Establish effective partnerships

Reliable sources of information
Food offer

- 1589 Public offer and small-scale shops.
- 107 Private offer (markets and supermarkets).
- Vulnerable population.

Establish effective partnerships

Reliable sources of information
Establish effective partnerships
Reliable sources of information
Neighborhood leaders are key
• They know better who needs more assistance
• They help to quantify in an exact way the help needed
• They identify other special needs, such as non Spanish speaking people
• They help organize assistance provided inside the neighborhood
• They communicate inwards efforts coming from outside neighborhoods
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What needs to be improved</th>
<th>What works and can work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Better coordination between different levels of government</td>
<td>Reach out the most needed and make sure no one is left behind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better coordination between municipal agencies</td>
<td>Building social support and trust to voluntarily comply with the required measures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better coordination with other stakeholders</td>
<td>Test in place regulations for risk response and fine tune actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjust interventions in the territory as the project is implemented</td>
<td>Be better prepared to implement recovery programs after the pandemic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not every neighbourhood or leaders are equally prepared to cooperate</td>
<td>Be better prepared to face other different challenges in the future</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thanks

Alexandra Rodríguez
Alain Santandreu
Denisse Paredes
Nataly Pinto
Paola Ramón
Paulina Cubillo
Ana María Rosero
Klelia Guerrero
And everyone in planning and in the territory...

Thanks
Q&A time
Wrap up

• Successful urban responses require the active collaboration of various categories of actors across different sectors – working in silos will lead to more problems down the road.

• Food SMEs, smallholder farmers, and the informal sector are essential actors to maintain citizens’ access to food in the face of emergencies - We need to make sure that they are rightly valued.

• Urban food resilience depends largely on the strength and flexibility of networks within the food system that are able to quickly convene and organise collective action – In times of prosperity, let’s make sure that we invest in them.
Upcoming events