World Urban Forum V – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The right to the city – Bridging the urban divide

FAO permanent representatives briefing
Rome, Italy – 17 March, 2010
Content

• The World Urban Forum V, context and key issues
  Alexander Müller

• Food for the cities: a multi-disciplinary initiative
  Paul Munro-Faure, Florence Egal
The World Urban Forum

- Organized every second year by UN-Habitat
  “Established to examine one of the most pressing issues facing the world today: rapid urbanization and its impact on communities, cities, economies and policies “

- Participation of mayors and national governments, academic, urban planners, civil society and NGOs, private sector, etc...
WUF Previous editions

1. Nairobi, Kenya (2002) - 1,000 participants
2. Barcelona, Spain (2004): “Cities: Crossroads of cultures, inclusiveness and integration?” - 4,000 participants
4. Nanjing, China (2008): “Harmonious Urbanization: The Challenge of Balanced Territorial Development” - 8,000 participants and 20,000 visitors
World Urban Forum V

- Theme: «The right to the city-Bridging the urban divide»
- Hosted by Brazil
- 22 to 26 March in Rio de Janeiro
- 18,000 registered participants
- Participation of FAO (HQs + RLC) + partners
The right to food in Brazil

- "Food and nutritional security law (LOSAN)", a framework law adopted in 2006
- The “right to food” in the Federal Constitution
- The “Fome zero” programme
- Multi-stakeholder and participatory approach
- Role of local authorities and inter-ministerial work
A series of events

- Dialogue session 6 - *Sustainable Urbanization: Cities in a Changing Climate*
- Networking events
  - FAO: *Food security: bridging the urban-rural divide*
  - FAO (HQ+RLC)-IDRC-RUAF-WB- Brazilian Ministry of Social Development (MDS) joint / co-funded event: *Cities, Food and Agriculture: Towards sustainable and equitable urban food systems*
  - UN-Standing Committee on Nutrition: *Nutrition in cities*
  - Others, e.g. Heifer and USDA: *Enhancing Communities, Food-Security, Sustainable Agriculture Through Urban-Rural Linkages*
More than 50% of the World population in cities

Almost 5 billion people will live in cities in 2030

In 2050, more than 6 billion, 70%
Food for growing cities

How to provide food and healthy diets to the cities?

Crisis hit cities

- direct effects:
  - food, financial and economic crises impact the urban poor
  - impact of natural disasters
- indirect effects: migration from rural to urban areas increase urban population
Challenges in cities

- Food Security and Nutrition: enhancing rural-urban linkages

- Natural Resources management (including land, water, forests and trees):
  - Within urban and peri-urban areas
  - Territorial planning

- Crisis mitigation
What FAO is doing

• Technical expertise and assistance
  – food production; distribution and marketing
  – access to natural resources (water, land, forestry)
  – food safety and sanitation issues, etc...
• Advocacy and partnerships at global level (food and agriculture in the agendas)
• Multilevel activities and operations: linking ministers and local governments, partnership with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), Decentralized Cooperation Programme
A multi-disciplinary initiative

- Chair: Paul Munro-Faure (NRC)
- Secretary: Florence Egal (AGN)
- Facilitator: Julien Custot
- Food for the cities multi-disciplinary group: 67 members from HQs and DOs
Key milestones

- 1997 Meeting of the Support Group of Urban Agriculture (SGUA) called by International Development Research Center (IDRC), Canada
- CoAG 15th Session - 1999 (UPA document)
  - IDWG established as recommended by CoAG
- PAIA (Priority Area for Interdisciplinary Action) in 2000
- Sept. 2009 Technical Consultation “Food, Cities and Agriculture: challenges and way forward”
Food for the cities website

http://www.fao.org/fcit

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Activities and cross-cutting issues

- Street foods
- Water management
- Urban and Peri-Urban Forestry
- Decentralized cooperation (UPA/UPH)
- Emergencies in cities

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FAO Projects in urban and peri-urban areas

Legend

- Unilateral Trust Fund / Decentralized Cooperation
  Ex.: Milan-Dakar, Rome-Kigali
- Emergency and Rehabilitation Programme
  Ex.: Haiti
- Special Programme for Food Security
  Ex.: Venezuela
- Technical Cooperation
  Ex.: Urban agriculture in Antananarivo proposal
- Telefood projects
  Ex.: Columbia
- Other projects

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Food for the cities activities

- Trust Fund project GCP/INT/955/CAN
  Urban producers’ resource book
- Resource Centre on Urban Agriculture and Food Security Foundation (RUAF): projects, joint events
- World Bank: “Urban Agriculture For Sustainable Poverty Alleviation and Food Security” paper (Cooperative Programme / TCI)
Increasing partnership

- UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) – Task Force (Geneva) on Meeting Humanitarian Challenges in Urban Areas (6-7 Sept 2009 FAO hosted IASC-TF workshop)
- Association of local authorities: Metropolis-United Cities Local Governments
- International meetings (Africités, World Forestry Congress, World Water Week, etc...)
- Food-for-cities@dgroups.org discussion list: recently launched, increasing, towards a global network
- Collaboration to the Milano Expo 2015 “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”
• Mayors and urban planners must incorporate food security and nutrition in urban policies and planning
• Natural resources management in urban & peri-urban areas is a key element of NRM national planning
• Urban-rural linkages are a key dimension of livelihoods and territorial planning, cities are key drivers and support rural development
• Food security is a critical issue for cities in the context of crisis and disaster risk management
Question and comments