



The Food Security and Nutritional Impacts of Urbanization and Rural Transformation on Lower Income Groups

Monday 19 November 2018, 10:00 am – 17:30 pm, Red Room (FAO HQs)

Urbanization and rural transformation present both challenges and opportunities for urban and rural areas alike. The transformation of rural areas stimulated by interactions with urban centers can deliver positive impacts in terms of sustainability, as well as in terms of access to services and higher incomes. This transformation, however, can also result in certain areas being left behind and in creating pockets of poverty and obliging people to escape from their areas of origin in search of better living conditions.

How do inequalities differ in the rural and urban context? How are rural and urban areas connected and what role do the interconnections play in addressing inequalities? What are the advantages of a territorial approach to food security and nutrition? And what is the potential of food systems in supporting smoother transitions in a context of changing rural-urban dynamics? These are some of the key questions that, through an interactive format, will be discussed during this first intersessional event.

From a policy perspective, identifying vulnerabilities of groups and individuals, understanding how they vary in rural and urban areas and how they're likely to evolve in the context of ever-changing rural-urban dynamics, is essential to designing policies that address their needs. It is also fundamental to include these marginalized individuals and groups in the design and implementation strategies at local, national, regional and international levels.

A second event on *Promoting youth and women engagement and employment in food systems across the rural-urban continuum, including linking producers to markets*, will follow on 29 January 2019 in FAO.

Besides furthering CFS stakeholders' understanding of the interplay between food security, nutrition and rural-urban linkages, the intersessional events are also expected to facilitate a functional and effective link with the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work planning process. Through this exercise CFS is expected to develop concrete proposals on how it sees its work on Urbanization and rural transformation going forward in a way that builds on and adds value to other ongoing initiatives at the global level, as well as other CFS workstreams.

Interpretation services will be provided in all UN official languages. The webcast can be followed on: <http://www.fao.org/webcast>

The event will build on the findings of the following CFS documents:

[CFS 44 2017: Addressing Food Security and Nutrition in the Context of Changing Rural-Urban Dynamics: Experiences and Effective Policy Approaches](#) (CFS 2017/44/6)

[CFS 43 2016: Urbanization, Rural Transformation and Implications for Food Security and Nutrition: Key Areas for Policy Attention and Possible Roles for CFS](#) (CFS 2016/43/11)



AGENDA

10:00 – 10:15	<p>Opening remarks by the H.E. Hans Hoogeveen, Ambassador of the Netherlands to the Rome Based Agencies and Facilitator of the CFS workstream on Urbanization and Rural Transformation and implications on Food Security and Nutrition</p>
10:15 – 11:45	<p>Framing the Issue: addressing inequalities across the rural-urban continuum</p> <p><i>Keynote by Patrick Caron, HLPE Chair</i></p> <p><i>Discussants:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Souad Mahmoud, World March of Women (Smallholder/women perspective)</i> - <i>Margaret Munene, CEO of Palmhouse dairy (Private cooperative/small business perspective)</i> <p>Following an overview of the food security and nutrition challenges faced by lower income groups as a result of rural transformation and urbanization dynamics, this session will provide an opportunity for CFS stakeholders to listen to two different experiences on how these challenges are being met.</p> <p>CFS stakeholders will be invited to share their experiences and engage in a dialogue with the discussants and keynote speaker.</p>
11.45 – 13:00	<p>Governance, access to natural resources, services and infrastructure</p> <p><i>Introduction Panagiotis Karfakis, Economist, FAO</i></p> <p><i>Discussants:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Gianluca Brunori, University of Pisa (Research perspective)</i> - <i>Florence Egal, Consultant, UN-HABITAT (Guiding Principles on Urban Rural Linkages)</i> <p>This discussion will build on the findings of the opening session to delve deeper into issues pertaining to unequal/insecure access to natural resources, services and infrastructure by lower income groups as a result of growing urbanization and rural transformation. CFS stakeholders will have an opportunity to hear about the latest trends and research findings, as well as ongoing global processes such as the UN-HABITAT led initiative on developing Guiding Principles on Urban Rural Linkages in the context of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.</p> <p>CFS stakeholders will be invited to ask questions, share their perspectives and updates on additional research findings, as well as on other initiatives bringing together the rural and urban dimensions of food security and nutrition.</p>
13:00 – 14:30	<p>Lunch</p>

<p>14:30 – 15.45</p>	<p>Changing Food Systems and Healthy Diets</p> <p><i>Introduction by Jessica Fanzo, Team Leader, HLPE report on Nutrition and Food Systems</i></p> <p><i>Discussants:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Andre Luzzi, Urban Movements in Food and Nutrition Security - Sao Paulo (City perspective from the global south)</i> - <i>Irene Onwona Amuzu, 4-H Youth Delegate (Young entrepreneurship perspective)</i> <p>This discussion will focus on the challenges related to securing access to diversified and nutritious products in the context of fast urbanization and changing food systems, as well as on the potential of food systems to address these challenges. CFS stakeholders will hear the perspective of a local government on how food systems can be repositioned from just supplying food to providing high quality diets for all. The youth/women perspective will also allow to connect to the main topic of the second intersessional event and touch upon the decent employment and income generation dimension of the changing food systems.</p> <p>CFS stakeholders will be invited to share their perspectives/experiences and interact with the discussants.</p>
<p>15.45 – 16.00</p>	<p>Response by Patrick Caron, HLPE Chair</p>
<p>16:00 – 17:25</p>	<p>Policy implications and possible roles for CFS going forward</p> <p>Open floor discussion co-moderated by Hans Hoogeveen and Technical Task Team members</p>
<p>17:25 – 17:30</p>	<p>Wrap up and conclusions by H.E. Hans Hoogeveen</p>