



Side Event to the 156th Session of FAO Council

SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS IN THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

The New Urban Agenda (NUA) signed in October 2016 at the HABITAT III Conference in Quito, Ecuador, is a roadmap for enabling cities to become engines of prosperity and of integrated rural-urban development. Global leaders committed “to promote the integration of food security and nutritional needs in urban and territorial planning in order to end hunger and malnutrition” and “to promote coordination of sustainable food security and agriculture policies across urban, peri-urban and rural areas to facilitate the production, storage, transport and marketing of food to consumers in adequate and affordable ways in order to reduce food losses and prevent and reuse food waste”.

The NUA is timely in the current era of rapid urbanization, climate change and persistently high levels of malnutrition. More people live in cities today than in rural areas, and by 2050 the urban population is expected to nearly double. Urban areas have a central role in mitigation and adaptation efforts related to climate change and in the efficient use of natural resources and ecosystems services. While precise data are generally lacking, recent evidence from some cities shows the growing dimensions of urban food insecurity and the triple burden of undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies and obesity. The implementation of the NUA will make a vital contribution to the achievement of the SDGs.

The NUA is universal in scope, setting out priorities and actions at the global, regional, national, sub-national, and local levels. Governments and other relevant stakeholders in every country can adapt these actions to their own realities, policies and priorities. This process of adaptation can be enriched by learning from the successful experiences of pioneering municipalities, local governments and national governments that have integrated sustainable food systems into urban planning and policy development. It is against this background that this side event is being organised as an opportunity to discuss how cities can become key drivers of sustainable food systems development that contributes to combatting food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms.

The objectives of the present side event are to:

- (i) **highlight commitments** and efforts already made by member countries towards sustainable city-driven food systems;
- (ii) **illustrate contributions** of FAO and its partners to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda;
- (iii) **promote dialogue** and information exchange on the integration of sustainable food systems plans into urban development and modernization.



The outcome expected from the event is enhanced recognition by member countries of the importance of enabling sustainable food systems and promoting healthy diets in their urban agenda at national, subnational and local levels.

Provisional Agenda:

- 13:30** Introduction and welcome remarks by the Chair, Kostas Stamoulis - Assistant Director General of the Economic and Social Development Department, FAO
- 13:35** Overview
The New Urban Agenda: Commitments and challenges ahead - Mr. Roi Chiti, Regional and Interagency Coordinator, Habitat III Secretariat
- 13:45** Remarks on implementation of the New Urban Agenda
- H.E. Hinrich Thölken, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to FAO
 - Representative of the Government of the Republic of Kenya
 - Mr. Joan Ribó, Mayor of Valencia, Spain
- 14:05** Q&A session and discussion
- 14:25** Conclusion and closing remarks



Tuesday, April 25th
13:30 - 14:30
IRAN ROOM (B016)