FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY FOR AFRICAN CITIES:

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Presented by: Mohamed Ag Bendech, FAO/RAF
Food and Nutrition Security for African Cities: Objectives

- Discuss challenges and opportunities on urbanization and agriculture-nutrition linkages

- Formulate recommendations on how to improve food and nutrition security in cities
Urbanization is redefining the region

- **Economically**: Urban areas have a great contribution of the region’s GDP.

- **Socially**: Cities are defining social and cultural norms, even in rural areas.

- **Politically**: Urban areas are frequently the frontline of political change, from civil activism to globalization.

- **Demographically**: Cities attract a variety of groups, increasing local diversity across the region.
Urbanization: trends and consequences

 Majority of people lives in cities

In 2008/2009
- Population mondiale: population urbaine = 3,4 milliards de citadins
- En Afrique: + 1 milliard d'habitants, dont 40 % de citadins

In 2050
- Population mondiale: plus de 70% des terriens vivront en villes
- En Afrique: 2 milliards d'habitants, dont 60 % de citadins vivront en villes
Towards 2050

URBANIZATION

UN, 2011
Cities – the challenges

• The ‘urbanization of poverty’: Poverty in Africa exists from rural and urban areas.

• **Growing inequality:** Even affluent and economically successful cities like Johannesburg or Nairobi contain concentrations of extreme poverty.

• **Increasing vulnerability of the urban poor:** Rapid and unplanned urbanization is resulting in acute rights and protection gaps.

• **Inadequate protection from a variety of threats:** The urban poor face multiple hazards, from natural disasters to price shocks, with limited formal or informal support.

• **Rising threat of NCDs:** Poor diets and sedentary lifestyles are raising the incidence of diabetes and obesity
### Food insecurity in Blantyre and Gaborone (African Geographical Review, 2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Blantyre (N = 429)</th>
<th>Gaborone (N = 391)</th>
<th>Total (N = 6306)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean HFIAS</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>10.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median HFIAS</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food secure (%)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mildly food insecure (%)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately food insecure (%)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severely food insecure (%)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Frayne et al. (2010).*
### Going without food and going without cash income in Blantyre and Gaborone (African Geographical Review, 2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How often gone without food?</th>
<th>How often gone without a cash income?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urban Malawi (N = 459)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Just once or twice</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Several times</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many times</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Always</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_Source: Afrobarometer (2013)._
Sources normally used to obtain food in Blantyre and Gaborone (African Geographical Review 2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Gaborone</th>
<th>Blantyre</th>
<th>Total AFSUN survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Informal market</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supermarket</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Crush and Frayne (2011a).
Key areas of action

- **Governance**: Urban policies, land management, housing and service rights, public protection.
- **Poverty reduction and employment**: Job security, social inclusion, decent work, welfare.
- **Basic services**: Availability, accessibility and affordability of education, health care and other services.
- **Food, nutrition, agriculture & rural-urban linkages**: Food security, rural-urban governance, migration.
- **Environment and DRR**: Green development, natural disasters, climate change, sanitation, waste disposal.
Urbanisation and local agriculture challenges?

1 rural should feed 1 rural + 1 urbain: Source: CIRAD
Sustainable Food and Nutrition Security: What are the Challenges??

Health
- Quality of food (pesticides, mycotoxins…)

Environment
- degradation / Reduction of biodiversity
- pollutions (Water, soil, air)

Socio-economic
- Disparities (N-S, also intra N and intra S)
- Food Systems governance (complex supply chain, food prices, seasonnality of food)
- Social impact of the adoption of new technologies (GMO…)
Proportion of households in Gaborone, Blantyre, and 11 AFSUN cities obtaining food from informal markets and supermarkets in the previous week and the frequency with which households normally obtain food at informal markets and supermarkets in Gaborone, Blantyre, and 11 AFSUN cities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Informal markets (% patronizing)</th>
<th>Supermarkets (% patronizing)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GB</td>
<td>BT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In previous week</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequently (5 X/week)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/week</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 X/month</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 X/6 months</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occasionally</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Crush and Frayne (2011a).*
Importance of urban and peri-urban agriculture and forestry (CIRAD, Africities 2012)

Proximity Advantages

- **Fresh Food**: more than 50% of urban households has no cold Chain

- Short chain of distribution, relatively low prices

Urban agriculture
Producer > (Collector) > (retailer) > Consumer

Rural Agriculture
Producer > Collector > rural whole salers > urban distributor/sellers > retailer > Consumer
## Urban agriculture in Blantyre and Gaborone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Blantyre</th>
<th>Gaborone</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normally grow own food</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partially or totally dependent on field crops as an additional livelihood strategy</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partially or totally dependent on livestock as an additional livelihood strategy</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partially or totally dependent on garden crops as an additional livelihood strategy</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partially or totally dependent on tree crops as an additional livelihood strategy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Crush et al. (2011).*
Food security and rural/urban linkages – key opportunities

• **Rights-based measures for urban food security**: Policy frameworks, allotments and roof gardens, ‘right skilling’, credit assistance, urban markets.

• **Hygiene and environmental guidelines**: Waste reduction measures, food safety controls and environmental regulations.

• **Strengthened rural-urban linkages**: Integration of cities and countryside in the food system through national and regional governance structures and platforms.

• **Social, economic and environmental resilience for urban and rural areas**: Monitoring, preparedness measures, registration systems, social welfare.
The Way Forward

Rethink urban development in an optimistic and positive perspective despite the increase of food demand and uncertainty of environment.

Develop local food systems anchored into integrated territorial planning (dialogue, policy, risk and conflict management, implementation).

Improve and sustain complementary rural and urban agriculture.
Let there be no doubt: we live in an urbanized world....Our struggle for global sustainability will be won or lost in cities.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, 2012
Introduction to “Food for the Cities”
Urban food security, nutrition and livelihoods
Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture / Horticulture
Urban livestock, food security or environmental hazard?
Forests and trees – improving livelihoods through healthy green cities
Water use and reuse for urban agriculture
Urban food market, infrastructure and services

Urban food marketing
Fresh food
Ensuring quality and safety of street foods
Processed foods
Land tenure and food production
Emergencies and crises
Local governments for food security
Resilient food systems

Web site of the Food for the Cities:
www.fao.org/fcit
D-groups:
www.dgroups.org/food-for-cities
References


• Crush and Frayne (2010). Baseline survey of 6451 households (28772 indiv1duals) in low-income neighborhoods in 11 southern African cities (AFSUN survey)