



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Integrating Food Systems into local planning

Wednesday, 12th February - 9 AM to 12 AM
Room CS 7, Abu Dhabi Exhibition Center (ADNEC),
Khaleej Al Arabi Street, Abu Dhabi, UAE

1. Introduction and background

Food governance mechanisms, such as the food policy councils, already established in 400 cities around the world, are social innovations born to make the decision-making process related to food policy more inclusive and context specific. The training will introduce the **food system planning** approach in urban and city region contexts. One essential enabling element of this approach is the presence of effective food governance mechanisms that mobilize multiple actors who represent the diversity of culture, geography, religion and economy of the cities and territories involved. Another characteristic is the use of food systems analysis tools and innovative tools such as spatial analysis utilizing geographic information systems (GIS) and geospatial tools to identify gaps that require remedies. Digital technologies such as big data are increasingly available that can open innovative ways to meet the new challenges faced by cities that are experiencing rapid urbanization, proliferation of informal settlements, and changes of lifestyle and consumption patterns that influence diet and health.

The training will emphasize on the systemic thinking and on the importance of dialogue and partnership within local governance mechanisms, and building the relationships among the various departments and sectors within the local administration, as well as among the various non-government stakeholders such as private sector, civil society, and consumers in the food agenda.

With the collaboration of:



The session will contribute to various WUF 10 dialogue themes, primarily: *Urbanization, Culture and Innovation* as well as *Partnerships and Initiatives Supporting Culture and Innovation in Cities*.

Background

The **New Urban Agenda (NUA)** signed in **2016** addresses the need for “*integrating food security and nutritional needs of urban residents in urban and territorial planning...*” and encourages the “*generation of evidence-based and practical guidance for the implementation of the NUA*”. Local and national governments are increasingly calling for support to foster sustainable food systems in urban areas, and their surrounding rural areas, for addressing the specific food security and nutrition challenges and planning for resilient and sustainable food systems. Several cities are currently promoting and implementing innovative models of integrated planning across urban and rural areas where food and agriculture are key elements.

In **2018** FAO in collaboration with the University College London the Development Planning Unit published the book **Integrating Food Into Urban Planning** in which a range of authors critically examine innovative process, sharing their experiences of food systems planning approaches and tools used by local governments in different regions across the world.

FAO launched in **2019** the “**FAO Framework for the Urban Food Agenda**”. The Framework provides an overall framework and guidance to support local governments and urban actors in planning and promoting more resilient and sustainable food systems.

The training course is informed by various initiatives and events that have been taking place over the last few years; these include:

- The **City Region Food System (CRFS)** program has been implemented from **2014** by, FAO, RUAF, Laurier University, in more than 10 cities. It provides support and guidance to assess and plan sustainable and climate-resilient city region food systems, and by facilitating the involvement of multiple stakeholders.
- The **Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP)**, signed in **2015** by 115 cities from around the world, which committed to create a governance framework for local food systems. The MUFPP, now signed by over 200 cities, covers multiple thematic areas including governance, social and economic equity, sustainable diets and nutrition, food production, supply and distribution, and food waste and loss. RUAF and FAO supported the development of this Pact and led the development of a **framework of indicators** to support cities in the formulation and monitoring of urban food policies.
- Two Expert Group Meetings on “Integrating Food Security and Nutrition into Urban and Territorial Planning” held in May **2016** and June **2017** in New York City, organized by FAO in collaboration with the Habitat III Secretariat.

• The “NADHALI Project: Developing sustainable food for urban areas in Nairobi, Dhaka and Lima” was developed between **2017-2018** by FAO and aimed at supporting local governments on food systems planning. The NADHALI approach includes the establishment of the food governance mechanism and the development and pilot-test of the Rapid Urban Food Systems Appraisal Tool (RUFSA).

The course is open to a maximum of 50 participants, primarily National and Local Government Officials and urban actors from different disciplines involved or aspired to be involved in food related issues at city and / or regional level.

Participation is on a first-come first-serve basis, so make sure you come on time.

2. Objectives of the session

- To raise awareness on the cross-sectoral and systemic approach to the new Urban Food Agenda and Food System urban planning
- To give visibility and to share the results and lessons learned from projects/initiatives led by local governments and stakeholders on food system planning
- To obtain recommendations and suggestions from participants for developing a full fledged food system urban planning training module
- To offer a unique face-to-face, peer-to-peer exchange among practitioners, decision makers and urban actors to exchange, discuss, debate and elaborate on urban food system planning.
- To contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and to the Urban Food Agenda, primarily in relation to food security and improved nutrition.

3. Learning outcomes

As a result of this 3 hours training course, participants will:

- Acquire conceptual and practical knowledge on Food Systems Planning, within the frameworks of both the Urban Food Agenda and the NUA
- Be exposed to leading cities of different sizes and types, from Africa, Asia and Latin America, that illustrate how urban actors and governments can practice urban food planning and address their difficulties
- Gain critical knowledge on instruments and tools to better integrate food into urban planning
- Better understand the comparative advantages, limits, and risks of the tools and methods that can be used

4. Content, structure and methodologic approach

The following is a brief outline of the main topics covered throughout the training course

The training is structured into four stages:

First stage: Exposure [plenary, 60 minutes]

The first 60 minutes are divided in two parts:

During the first one, each one of the three instructors will focus for 10 minutes on a critical aspect of how to integrate urban food system-thinking into planning, spanning multiple spatial dimensions, multiple sectors dimensions, and multi-actors dimensions, that are each a part and interact as the urban food system:

- Basic concepts on urban food systems planning / urban and food the missing link / multi-scalar urban food system planning
- Urban food planning as part of FAO's Urban Food Agenda and UN NUA. Relations Urban food planning and sustainable development
- Multi-stakeholder involvement and food governance

The second part will consist of three ten-minute presentations each from Africa [Tamale, Ghana], Asia [Dhaka, Bangladesh] and Latin America [Quito, Ecuador] that will deepen, nuance, and illustrate some of the aspects that were previously presented. They will show how basic principles need to be tailored and adapted to each reality and to each urban scale: metropolitan regions; capital cities and their hinterland, intermediate and small-scale cities and villages embedded in a rural region.

Second stage: Q&A [plenary, 20 minutes]

A 20 minutes debate and Q&A will end up with a list of constraints and positive lessons coming from this “learning by doing” exposure on **integrating food into urban planning**

Third stage: Application [Group work, 40 minutes]

The third part of the training stimulates direct involvement of, and proposals from, participants who will work in small groups [40 minutes]. Broad guidelines will be given as well as expected results. At the core, participants will have to critically identify, in light of the conceptual approaches, tools, and the illustrative cases, and relate them to the reality they live in and their own experience: [a] the crucial aspects that should be taken into account, and [b] the pitfalls that should be avoided. [If time allows, they should also identify one or two difficulties they foresee in their own locale, and how to better address them]. Special attention will be given to youth and gender perspectives and the role they play today and what roles they should play to ensure equality and inclusiveness. Trainers and resource persons associated with the cases will provide further elements if

requested by participants.

Fourth stage: Feedback [Plenary, 30 minutes]

During the final 30 minutes, each group will present their results, participants will share their comments and reflections, and instructors will offer a summary of key lessons.

5. Readings

Participants should read the following references before the training course in order to take full advantage of the course.

Conceptual approach and introduction to Food System planning

- Cabannes Y. & Marocchino, C. 2018. **Food and urban planning: the missing link**, chapter 1 in [Integrating Food into Urban Planning](#). UCL Press: London; FAO: Rome, pp 18-59.
- FAO, 2019, [FAO Framework for the Urban Food Agenda](#). Leveraging sub-national and local government action to ensure sustainable food systems and improved nutrition.
- Zeeuw, de, H. and M. Dubbeling, 2015. **Process and tools for multi-stakeholder planning of urban agro-food systems**, (pp 56-87), In: de Zeeuw and Drechsel (Eds.), [Cities and Agriculture](#), Developing Resilient Urban Food Systems, Earthscan. pp 56-87

Illustrative Case studies

Quito

- Jácome-Pólit, D, Paredes, D, Santandreu, A, Rodríguez Dueñas, A, Pinto, N, 2019, [Quito's resilient agrifood system](#), ISOCARP Review 15. pp 276 -300 (This will be provided directly to the participants)

Tamale

- Imogen Bellwood-Howard, *I an al 2018*, **Participatory planning for food production at city scale: Experiences from a stakeholder dialogue process in Tamale, Northern Ghana** in [Integrating Food into Urban Planning](#). UCL Press: London; FAO: Rome, pp 292-311

Dhaka

- Keck. M, 2015, **Contributions and Challenges of Dhaka's Food System: The Case of Fish Provision**, [Urban Development Challenges, Risks and Resilience in Asian Mega Cities](#). pp 469-488

6. Evaluation, follow up and outreach

An evaluation form will be distributed and filled out individually by each participant during the session. Suggestions and recommendations will help identifying current needs and expectations and give essential elements to design and implement a longer training module on **Integrating food system into urban planning**.

Participants will receive the training materials and presentations used for further reflection and dissemination. They will be invited to join the dialogues, networks and platforms which are supported by FAO and its partners to continue exchanging on urban food policy practices and develop new approaches and tools.

Websites and social media from FAO, RUAF and UCL/DPU as well as all other partners involved will be used for further dissemination. International networks of cities will be instrumental for further dissemination of the outcomes of the training course.

7. Presentation of the Training team

Trainers

Yves Cabannes is an urban planner and Emeritus Professor of Development Planning, Chair of Development Planning (2006–15) at the Bartlett Development Planning Unit (DPU), UCL. He was previously a lecturer in urban planning at Harvard University Graduate School of Design and the Regional Coordinator of the UN Habitat/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Urban Management Program for Latin America and the Caribbean and worked for many years with local governments, NGOs and social movements in various countries. He has worked as a researcher and practitioner in urban agriculture and food sovereignty, collective and communal forms of land tenure, local currencies, participatory planning & budgeting and municipal public policies.

Cecilia Marocchino is an urban planner with more than 10 years experience in urban research and urban development planning in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. Currently she works for FAO Headquarters in Rome as an urban food planning expert, involved in various projects and initiatives relating to the urban food agenda. She has previously worked in various cities around the world providing technical support to local governments on urban development planning and participatory multi-stakeholder engagement processes, urban agriculture, and food distribution including formal and informal market and street vendors.

René van Veenhuizen is a senior programme manager with Hivos, and Coordinator of the RUAF Global Partnership. He has over 30 years professional experience, including in FAO, and RUAF over the past 20 years, on sustainable agricultural development, urban agriculture and food systems. He has been the editor of the Urban Agriculture Magazine, and co-author of several books, and graduated from Wageningen University.

Presenters and resource persons on illustrative cases

Dhaka, Bangladesh

- **Kulsum Begum Chowdhury** – Value Chain Specialist, FAO Bangladesh
- Resource Persons: **John Taylor**, Chief Technical Advisor - Dhaka Food Systems Project, FAO Bangladesh; **Mohammad Ruhul Abedin** – Director, Paraa, Dhaka

Quito, Ecuador

- **Yves Cabannes**
- Resource Persons: **Guido Santini**, Technical Advisor - Food for the Cities Program Coordinator, FAO, Rome;

Tamale, Ghana

- **Philip Amoah**, IWMI, International Water Management Institute, Accra, Ghana
- Resource Person: **René van Veenhuizen**

8. Partners institutions

FAO (lead). The food and agriculture organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to end hunger. Its goal is to achieve food security for all and make sure that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. <http://www.fao.org>

The RUAF Global Partnership is a consortium of expert institutions and cities with a recognised track record in urban and peri-urban agriculture and urban food system solutions. The Partnership brings together cities, research institutes and civil society organizations, combining technical and policy expertise with scientific research and practical knowledge. The RUAF Secretariat is hosted by Hivos. www.ruaf.org / www.hivos.org

UCL / DPU

The Bartlett Development Planning Unit at University College London conducts world-leading research and postgraduate teaching that helps to build the capacity of national governments, local authorities, NGOs, aid agencies and businesses working towards socially just and sustainable development in the global south. www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/development



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