AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS AND GREEN SPACES IN KISUMU CITY
Building City Food Resilience

By Dr. Paul Omanga
Chief Officer-Agriculture & Irrigation
Kisumu County
About Kisumu City

- Port city located in the shores of Lake Victoria
- 3rd Largest City in Kenya
- Independent Entity Within Kisumu County
- Managed by City Manager answerable to A board who reports to Governor
- Covers 14 political wards out of the 35 wards in the county
- Has a growing population of over 500,000 people
About Kisumu City (cont)

- The city has both rural and urban settlements.
- Kisumu often faces the vagaries of weather.
- With climate change, the variability of weather often cause floods on one end and drought on the other end within a season.
Location of Kisumu (Maps)
Map of Kisumu city informal settlements
Growth Challenges

• Ensuring Food Security and nutrition
• Management of solid and other related wastes
• Development of Green Spaces
• Dealing with Climate Change Threats
Integration of agri-food systems and green spaces in Kisumu City

Political Good Will
- There is political good will at National and County levels to support urban and peri-urban agriculture
- Urban and peri-urban agriculture policy initiated at national level
- Both the County Executive and legislature are supportive

Policies and legislations
- Old legislations restricted urban farming
- Policies and legislation reviews ongoing to conform with current challenges of climate change and food systems
Supportive policies, legislations and plans

• Urban and peri-urban agriculture legislations in process

• The City has developed a plan for greening the city. The plan has demarcated specific areas for fruit, agro-forestry and flower planting

• The city has gazetted forest areas and targets public and private institutions to plant trees

• Climate Change Policy and act published

• Environmental policy in draft
• Initiative to reforest water towers and rehabilitate green spaces
• The county government has gazette 5 satellite towns within a radius of 50 kms to act as centers for peri-urban agriculture production and processing and linked to city markets
• National Climate Change Response Strategy
• National Climate Change Action plan which high lights agricultural adaptation priorities
Sustainable cropping food systems

• Green Home Technologies are emerging as sources of food security and nutrition in the urban and peri-urban areas of Kisumu. These include moist gardens, shade nets, micro-gardens, multistorey gardens and green houses.
Sustainable urban and peri-urban livestock systems

- Small livestock and dairy animals are becoming increasingly adopted by households within Kisumu City urban and peri-urban areas.

- These include poultry for both eggs and meat, rabbits, dairy goats, pigs, fish, and dairy cows.
The county government has developed a 50-year plan for greening Kisumu City. The plan has been enacted by the county assembly and proposed demarcation of specific areas for aggressive fruit and agro-forestry tree planting that will provide fruits, fuel, flowers, and other products to city dwellers.
Food waste management

- The county/city proposes sorting and composting of the waste at a newly established site at Kasese on the outskirts of the city.
EROKAMANO

THANK YOU