



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Synthesis Report

*Sixteen Urban Food Systems Dialogues for
the United Nations Food Systems Summit*



Local Governments
for Sustainability

SYNTHESIS REPORT

*Sixteen Urban Food Systems Dialogues for
the United Nations Food Systems Summit*

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations &
ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

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Abbreviations and acronyms

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GAIN	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
GTF	Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments
ICLEI	International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UN	United Nations
UNFSS	United Nations Food Systems Summit

1. Executive summary

The year 2021 marks the beginning of the Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Food systems that are healthier, more sustainable, and equitable are key to achieving most of the SDGs.

An FAO survey (FAO, 2022) has clearly demonstrated the enormous, active role that cities and local governments have played in attenuating the effects of the pandemic on their citizens' health and food and nutrition security. Often, however, the actions at the local level were not sufficiently supported by corresponding actions, coordination, and resources at the national level while the policy space of urban and local governments is, in most cases, limited.

At present, the overall functioning of food systems has proved unsustainable and drastic transformation is essential. As cities transition to pandemic recovery, there is an opportunity to rethink the way urban food systems are managed. Cities, supported by national governments, can promote policies and programmes that provide incentives and create capacities towards the promotion of economic, social, and environmental sustainability of food systems. Sustainable urban food systems can drive transformation at national and global scales.

Current levels and patterns of urban food consumption and waste are unsustainable and will become more so as urbanization continues to increase, especially in low- and middle-income countries. This also constitutes evidence of local governments' potential to implement necessary reforms that best reflect local conditions.

Given the importance of urban food consumption, urban food systems transformation towards sustainability can catalyze innovative and integrated solutions to broader food systems challenges.

This report summarizes the major outcomes of the dialogues that were conducted by more than 26 local governments and brought together about 1000 stakeholders under the **partnership between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) in contribution to the United Nations Food Systems Summit 2021**. This initiative has been developed under FAO Framework for the Urban Food Agenda, a corporate FAO initiative launched in 2019 aiming at supporting local governments in mainstreaming food systems in local policy, planning and actions.¹ The purpose of holding the city-level food systems dialogues was to strengthen local multi-stakeholder engagement while collectively re-enforcing the position of cities as a key driver of food systems transformation. Moreover, the dialogues highlighted city-level initiatives, and these were recognized as part of national, regional and global United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) processes. The report also offers **a call to action** that will support efforts by local governments but also the Member States and other stakeholders to implement the national pathways shared during the Food Systems Summit Process and leverage their food systems capacity in meeting the SDGs.

¹ This activity has been developed as part of FAO Project "Feeding Urbanization: promoting sustainable urban food systems in intermediary and small cities. The activity is also linked to FAO Strategic Framework 2022-2031 which includes sustainable urban food systems as a Priority Programme Area- PPA and to FAO Green Cities Initiative.

1.1. Summary of dialogue outcomes

Dialogue topics cover a wide spectrum of issues such as **holistic food strategy** (Nairobi, Kenya) and the importance of food **governance** (Kisumu, Kenya), **policies on procurement** (Copenhagen, Denmark) and strengthening application of **hygiene regulations** for improving **food safety in markets** (Dhaka, Bangladesh). Sixteen dialogues took the form of in-depth multi-stakeholder engagement and were registered as the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) Independent Summit Dialogue. Some dialogues were organized jointly with more than one local government in the region, as in the case of Belo Horizonte, Brazil, and New Haven, United States of America, that provided a more comprehensive picture of the urban food systems in that specific regional context.

One common issue that arose throughout the dialogues was cities having to respond to the pandemic in real time to ensure access to nutritious food to their citizens. For some cities, collaborating with national governments has gone smoothly, while others had to operate alone to acquire financial resources, while not all had the trained staff, nor the required expertise to deal with the access to food during the emergency. This recalls the importance of **multi-level governance or coordination** among global, national, and subnational actors on food systems. Urban and local governments have a lot to offer in the design and implementation of national food policies.

Equity was key throughout the dialogues. While some cities, such as New Haven, focused extensively and explicitly on equity and inclusion, many cities embedded equity as an underlying topic that is fundamental to transforming urban food systems through other entry points, such as school nutrition and food security. In the framework of the Urban Food Systems Dialogues, equity means to ensure equal access to food to all citizens, also ensuring inclusion and representation of most vulnerable populations into the established food systems governance mechanisms at city level. All dialogues reinforced the importance of community empowerment

Another common thread of the dialogues is that healthy and sustainable urban food systems require a **systemic approach**. Challenges cannot be resolved by only addressing one specific sector in isolation (such as agriculture, food environments, logistics or health). Food is a cross-cutting theme and requires solutions that extend across multiple sectors. For this, inter-departmental collaboration within the local government and with stakeholders across food systems is key.

In short, **vertical and horizontal integration** can spur the basis of urban food systems transformation: vertical, because national and subnational governments need each other to ensure resilient and healthy food systems; horizontal, because food is cross-cutting and only an integrated, systemic approach will succeed in transforming them towards a comprehensive sustainability.

As a synthesis of the dialogues process, two infographics were developed to highlight the 5 strategic areas of focus and the 10 critical actions proposed by urban food systems stakeholders participating in the dialogues.²

² To view the infographics, please visit https://africa.iclei.org/posters_infographics/5-strategic-areas-for-urban-food-systems-transformation/ and https://africa.iclei.org/posters_infographics/10-critical-actions-for-transforming-urban-food-systems/.

2. Introduction to FAO-ICLEI partnership and the city-level dialogues

2.1. About the UN Food Systems Summit 2021

Being convened by UN Secretary-General António Guterres in New York on 23 September 2021, the [UN Food Systems Summit 2021](#) (UNFSS) was part of the Decade of Action to drive the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and put food systems back on track to support the achievement of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The transformative effects of food systems were fully recognized as a driver for the achievement of the SDGs by 2030. Throughout this process, governments and stakeholders explored new ways to work together and re-define the future of food.

The UNFSS process provided a ground-breaking opportunity to put on the table and give visibility to the fundamental issue of multi-level governance (global, national, and subnational or urban) to food systems issues as well as the importance of transforming urban food systems as an essential element of food system transformation. Namely, it has been recognized that guiding urban food systems towards sustainability will go a long way towards promoting sustainability of national and global food systems. Shifting preferences and dietary patterns of urban consumers and increasing their access to healthy diets by those who cannot afford them will go a long way towards meeting many of the SDGs. Cities must be a big part of the solution to address the triple planetary crisis, such as climate, loss of biodiversity and pollution, to offer better lives for everyone.

Governments convened National Dialogues across 148 countries. They revealed key building blocks for joint action with different stakeholders, to support citizens to realize their right to food. Through the Global Food Systems Summit Dialogues and over 900 Independent Dialogues, ideas were generated on how to transform food systems. Member States, experts and stakeholders contributed more than 2000 ideas for accelerated action.

2.2. The overall process of raising the voice of cities and local governments

Throughout the UNFSS process, cities and local governments have been referred to as fundamental stakeholders and were welcomed to engage. However, they have not been part of the process as governmental or official stakeholder groups, nor were the topics of urban food systems and the respective empowerment of local governments fully addressed in the process.

The Urban Food Systems Working Group, established in early 2020, led by FAO and the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) has worked to raise the voices of cities in the Food Systems Summit Process. The Working Group is currently composed of 26 organizations and includes the members of the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments (GTF) such as United Cities and Local Governments, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, and C40 Cities, and GTF partners such as UN-HABITAT and UN Capital Development Fund.

As part of the Pre-Summit Session, the Working Group has also launched a Call to Action for establishing an Urban Food Systems Coalition with the aim of promoting a coherent action

on urban food systems and fostering linkages between national and sub-national governments.

The Urban Food Systems Coalition¹³ is currently part of the emerging coalitions and initiatives under the Food Systems Summit Action Areas.

Given the lacunae regarding the recognition of urban and food systems during process, it then becomes important that this role and importance be recognized in the process of implementing the outcomes of the dialogues or through the agreed pathways. In many cases, such dialogues need to be had or continued. The Call for Action for an Urban Food Systems Coalition could be leveraged as soon as it becomes clear what is its mandate and modus operandi

2.3. FAO-ICLEI partnership on raising the voice of cities at UNFSS

The partnership between FAO and ICLEI supported **26 cities** that were engaged in local multi-stakeholder **Food Dialogues**, ongoing from April to August 2021. This process assembled key players, such as city and local governments and their associations, city networks, national governments, business sector, academia, farmers and civil society organizations.

FAO and ICLEI have invited cities that showed strong commitment to sustainable food systems and in engaging local stakeholders. The cities which participated in the dialogue reflect the partners' wide geographic presence. However, as indicated in the image below, special attention has been given to Africa.



Source: ICLEI

The 26 cities that hosted FAO-ICLEI dialogues leading up to the UNFSS

- Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Copenhagen, Denmark
- Belo Horizonte, Curitiba, Rio de Janeiro, and São Paulo, Brazil and Lima, Peru
- Izmir, Turkey

³ Please visit <https://foodsystems.community/coalition-on-sustainable-and-inclusive-urban-food-systems/> for more information.

- New Haven, Minneapolis, Austin, Washington, United States of America, and Toronto, Canada
- Accra and Tamale, Ghana
- Antananarivo, Madagascar
- Arusha and Dodoma, United Republic of Tanzania
- Cape Town, South Africa
- Entebbe, Uganda
- Kigali and Rulindo, Rwanda
- Kisumu and Nairobi, Kenya
- Quelimane, Mozambique
- Tunis, Tunisia

2.4. Methodology for conducting multi-stakeholder food dialogues

To prepare for the 2021 UNFSS, Independent Dialogues have been taking place around the world. Independent Dialogues are one of three main components of the Food Systems Summit Dialogues (FSSD), the other two being Member State Dialogues and Global Dialogues. Independent Dialogues could be convened by any interested group. They aimed to offer a seat at the table to food systems stakeholders for an opportunity to “debate, collaborate, and take action towards a better future”.

The multi-stakeholder food dialogues followed the key criteria of the UNFSS Independent Dialogues format, particularly the Summit’s [principles of engagement](#). The UNFSS Secretariat’s recommended structure was applied to the Independent Summit Dialogues organized by ICLEI and FAO, together with the cities, to ensure that the voices of the participants were well captured. Cities followed two distinct types of engagement processes – in-depth and exploratory multi-stakeholder – depending on the state of food systems literacy and momentum in the city (readiness level), as well as the city’s priorities and a number of additional factors.⁴ For instance, in the case of Cape Town, a high-level political dialogue was conducted taking an exploratory dialogue format to complement the multi-stakeholder dialogue that was already conducted with the city in the previous year. The summary of each dialogue is available in Annex 2.

As for the topics of a multi-stakeholder food dialogue, they varied in their focus:

- 1) **Holistic exploration of food systems** – identifying opportunities and challenges; exploring synergies between different elements of food systems and examining trade-offs that influence the choice of food systems pathways.
- 2) **Linkages among the Summit’s five objectives** and potential for collaborative action along the [five action tracks](#).
- 3) **Crosscutting issues** like policy, finance, innovation, indigenous knowledge, and the empowerment of women, young people and marginalized groups.

⁴ Factors to consider in determining the nature of engagement include:

- i. Whether work or engagement has been done previously by ICLEI in the city to understand its food system.
- ii. Whether there is a presence of an established local partner in the city.
- iii. Whether there is an existing food system stakeholder forum in the city.

- 4) **Specific aspects of food systems** that were relevant in a given context (e.g. food governance, public food procurement, food insecurity among urban poor, urban food systems resilience, food systems inequality)

Where there are multiple cities selected in the same country or continent (e.g. Latin American and Rwandan dialogues), **city-to-city exchange** elements were embedded in the dialogue to foster shared learning and cooperation on food systems issues between or among cities within the same regional context.

List of city-level dialogues, topics, and dialogue types

No.	City, country	Title	Dialogue type
1	Dhaka, Bangladesh	Multi-stakeholder food dialogue, envisioning a sustainable urban food systems, Dhaka city	Independent
2	Copenhagen, Denmark	Multi-actor dialogue on farm to fork school food procurement	Independent
3	Belo Horizonte, Curitiba, Rio de Janeiro, and São Paulo, Brazil and Lima, Peru	Independent Dialogue on Food Systems in Latin American Cities	Independent
4	Izmir, Turkey	Building nature positive food systems to combat poverty	Independent
5	New Haven, Minneapolis, Austin, Washington, United States of America, and Toronto, Canada	Food equity and sovereignty	Independent
6	Accra, Ghana	Transforming Accra's City-Region Food Systems Through Robust Rural-Urban Linkages	Independent
7	Tamale, Ghana	Building a climate resilient city-region food systems through innovative strategies and action planning in Tamale	Independent
8	Antananarivo, Madagascar	"Saru", an approach adapted to guarantee resilient food systems in urban areas	Independent
9	Arusha and Dodoma, United Republic of Tanzania	Elevating the voices of African cities towards the UN Food Systems Summit 2021	Independent
10	Cape Town, South Africa	Catalyzing local government actions for a sustainable food system in Cape Town	Light touch. High-level political meeting
11	Entebbe, Uganda	Exploring Opportunities for maximizing the benefits of Lake Victoria for Food Security, Improved Livelihoods and Environmental Sustainability in Entebbe City	Independent
12	Kigali and Rulindo, Rwanda	Transforming Kigali and Rulindo's Food Systems through Robust Inter-regional Linkages and Natural Resources Management	Independent

No.	City, country	Title	Dialogue type
13	Kisumu, Kenya	Building Collaborative and Effective Food Systems Governance Frameworks in Kisumu County	Independent
14	Nairobi, Kenya	Towards a Future of Food that is Sustainable, Equitable and Secure in Nairobi City County	Independent
15	Quelimane, Mozambique	Strengthening Local Agri-Food Systems and Actors Through Investment and Innovation	Independent
16	Tunis, Tunisia	Towards healthy, resilient and inclusive urban food systems for the City of Tunis	Independent

2.5. Other methods that complemented the dialogues

1) Participants survey

While the dialogues provided solid qualitative inputs from a wide variety of stakeholders allowing the details and depth to understand the full implications of their contributions, they were supplemented by a survey with a set of quantitative results. The survey gathered participants' thoughts, opinions, and perceptions on the food systems of the cities which they are associated with or residing. One hundred seventy-seven answers out of about 1000 total dialogue participants were collected, enabling the coordinators to have an in-depth understanding of how participants perceive the food systems that would have otherwise not been captured.

The survey respondents identified **poor food systems infrastructure, food production and availability**, and **environmental degradation** (including solid waste pollution) as the major challenges in their urban food systems. When asked to describe some tangible solutions to the main challenges food systems face, the **implementation of agricultural and food safety policies and regulations** and **training farmers and other actors** in the food value chain were the most reported responses. This list gives an important hint to the immediate actions that the local (but also national) governments should take to improve their food systems, tackling the most significant needs of the stakeholders.

The survey also showed that the low-hanging fruit for local governments to systematically transform the urban food systems are where their mandates lie: most of the local government participants answered that **waste management, emergency food provision, food safety, business licensing, and food procurement** are under their city's mandates. The survey results demonstrate that additional support needs to be provided to the private sector, including through financial and other incentives subject to the availability of resources.

AfricanCITYFOODMonth

To bring the messages of the dialogues to a higher level, the African CITYFOOD Month Campaign served as a platform to reflect on the outcomes of the dialogues and deliberate on the joint messages that were put forward throughout the 12 dialogues conducted in the African region. The African CITYFOOD Month was a month-long campaign being conducted

by ICLEI Africa Secretariat together with its partners in July 2021, following the 11 multi-stakeholder dialogues led by African cities. The second edition of the annual campaign brought together local government officials, civil society organizations, national government officials, researchers, non-profit organizations, and funders, among other key stakeholders. Two dedicated sessions on the reflections of the African cities food systems dialogues invited the conveners and participants of the dialogues to highlight the key outcomes to a larger audience as well as to facilitate a city-to-city exchange where city practitioners shared knowledge and experiences on how they are responding to the key themes of governance, stakeholder engagements and investment in urban food systems.

3. Key messages of the city-level dialogues

Overall, the city-level dialogues revealed the urgent need expressed by cities to be recognized as key drivers of food systems transitions toward more sustainability. The dialogues reaffirmed that with the majority of the world's consumers residing in urban areas, cities have an important role to play in food systems transformation.

Further, an integrated and systemic approach is needed to transform food systems as food is a cross-cutting issue. Food justice and equity served as the underlying principles in most of the cities in their effort to transform their urban food systems. This effort is a response to the recognition that the way food systems perform currently fails to ensure access to healthy and nutritious food to all citizens in a sustainable manner. All dialogues reinforced the importance of community empowerment and empowering and engaging local leaders. They reiterated the interconnectedness and interdependencies of elements and actors across food systems.

While there is considerable variation in the food-related topics that were touched upon in the different dialogues, the following eight guiding themes were summarized to capture the essence of the 18 multi-stakeholder food dialogues.

1) Integrating food systems transformation in urban and territorial governance

National food policies aiming at the food system are usually characterized by sectoral and centralized approaches that exclude sub-national (local) governments. Food systems transformation requires national and sub-national governments working together in a coherent and coordinated way. Food systems are characterized by the interdependence of all components and stakeholders (producers, consumers, distributors, retailers, etc.) and of the institutions which link them. Therefore, policy and programme coherence are key to promote an integrated and inclusive food systems transformation.

A fundamental issue is related to how can governments better integrate local into national food policy. At the local level, some of the challenges which need national government support are: i) providing policy space for city to get engaged in national policy action; ii) funding, and capacity building to plan and implement food actions. At the same time, instruments of collective city actions are necessary to integrate the "urban voice" in the dialogue with the national governments. This requires establishing **formal and informal mechanisms** to better coordinate policies, planning and interventions (systemic and multi-level governance).

During the **Kisumu** (Kenya) dialogue, the need to translate the regional and national food policies into local applications was highlighted as a key entry point to make the necessary changes towards a sustainable food system. Similar ideas were conveyed by the cities of **Dodoma** and **Arusha**, which indicated that local governments have the potential to bridge the knowledge gap between local food actors and food experts.

Another example that emerged from the “**North America Local Food Dialogue on Inclusive Food Systems**”, hosted by the City of New Haven, was that multi-level governance mechanisms in the United States of America are diverse and not well aligned toward creating equitable and integrated food systems. Mechanisms, such as local food councils, community hearings, and funding for community-led initiatives, have been highlighted as possible solutions for local governments to be involved and heard. Participants proposed a wide range of suggestions to facilitate and channel the community’s voice. These ideas included: involving community members in advisory boards through official paid roles to enable the integration of people that are not already affiliated with organizations that have already a position of power; supporting the creation of community land trusts to enable and build wealth for the community, and training and supporting (also financially) communities with the necessary skills, resources and information to creating their own thriving food systems with mechanisms like food asset mapping, for example.

2) Integrating food systems into urban and territorial planning

Local and regional governments use urban and territorial planning as the basis for identifying and prioritizing interventions for use of space and infrastructure, and for allocating physical and financial resources. National-level food policy is usually split among different departments while in many countries it is under the ministry of agriculture. At the city level, some cities have a food policy team for an integrated approach to food systems components while in others, food systems interventions are distributed among different urban administrative departments.

Most food system interventions cannot be implemented if they are not included in plans and are not permitted under existing land-use planning and zoning regulations. Land-use plans are crucial for efficient and inclusive food environments and are therefore linked to food distribution, including retail and wholesale markets and informal and formal street food vending. Such planning will have implications and should be integrated with planning solutions for food distribution and related infrastructure, access to food outlets, food safety and the reduction of the overall urban or local food system environmental footprint.

Therefore, urban and territorial planning is a crucial instrument for mainstreaming food systems at the local level and to an integrated approach within the urban food system but also in its relation to local one. The development of holistic food strategies and food charters are a pre-requisite for the process of integrating food systems into urban and territorial planning. Those plans are usually developed in collaboration with established multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral food governance mechanisms such as Food Policy Councils.

For example, the City of **Quelimane** (Mozambique) also committed to putting food planning at the forefront of the forthcoming city’s planning initiatives, like the next

Municipal Development Strategy, which is the city's main planning strategy, and the Territorial and Spatial Development Plan.

In 2007, **Cape Town** enacted the Urban Agriculture Policy, one of whose strategic imperatives is to “include urban agriculture in land use management and physical planning”. Recently, the urban food mandate was moved to the Urban Planning and Design Department. There is thus keen interest among stakeholders on how the enacted Policy will influence Food Sensitive Urban Planning and implementation within the city to alleviate urban food insecurity and poverty.

Nairobi County is in the process of finalizing the Nairobi Food Systems strategy which has been developed through a multi-stakeholder consultation process. Nairobi City County has recognized the importance of developing a holistic food strategy and has also introduced a department (sector) on agriculture and food system within the county.

3) Public procurement and school nutrition programmes

Public food procurement programmes from local, sustainable sources are powerful levers that should be enhanced everywhere. For example, public food procurement for school meals should be scaled-up since it can foster better nutrition and longer-term food literacy for millions of children while bringing co-benefits across local food systems.

Public food procurement programmes for school meals and also for meals in other public institutions (like hospitals, childcare services, universities, military bases, prisons, government offices, senior centers, etc.) are systemic interventions. To enhance their multiple benefits, procurement should be as much as possible linked to local production to facilitate short supply chains and boost the local food economy. It is well understood that such “local solutions” may not be always feasible for economic reasons (local agro-climatic or infrastructure conditions, suitability of farming systems for the production of a variety of nutritious foods etc.). The pandemic demonstrated that in a number of developing countries, there were no substitutes for school food when schools were forced to close. School food can help address food poverty, malnutrition and obesity, while promoting education and good learning outcomes.

The City of **Copenhagen**, Denmark, set the targets of going 90 percent organic and reducing global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the food procurement sector by 25 percent before 2025. Sustainable food procurement requires stakeholders to have improved access to green and seasonal food. What is needed is a systemic intervention, such as applying sustainable procurement criteria to school meals in order to increase the nutritional value and quality of the food provided to the pupils. The city has the power to make visible changes with its 80 large kitchens and serves 20 000 meals a day to its schools.

“Sustainable procurement means bringing real food into the procurement and connecting food with both the children and the contracts.” – Betina Bergmann Madsen, Senior Adviser at the Municipality of Copenhagen, Champion of UNFSS

4) Healthy and resilient food environments

Healthy food environments require promoting availability, accessibility and desirability of safe, nutritious and culturally relevant food. Efficient and accessible urban food distribution, including both the formal and informal sectors, impacts both producers and consumers.

Cities are already taking action to promote healthy food environments. Efforts include revitalization of municipal and local food markets; guidelines for food sales in hospitals and workplaces; tax breaks to reduce food waste and incentivize donations; sugar and beverage taxes; zoning regulations; nutrition educational programmes and school meals programmes; guidelines for reducing food adulteration practices, and social media campaigns.

City governments have the will to change food systems but require clear policies and resources to enforce implementation and facilitate multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships.

Dhaka (Bangladesh)'s experience emphasized the problem of food adulteration, especially in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and local markets. To address the issue, there is a need for a systemic change in urban food systems. Safe food handling practices must spread across all the actors of the food supply chain, from producers to food vendors. However, along with guaranteeing access to facilities and services to improve the food quality standards and adequate training on food safety, the city corporations should implement a more effective food quality regulation system.

5) Food waste

One-third of food produced globally is lost or wasted, and food waste accounts for about 8 percent of GHG emissions. Organic waste represents an average of 50 percent of all municipal solid waste. Cities are already taking action on food waste reduction, including prevention and reduction of waste at source.

Cities must address infrastructure needs to achieve their waste reduction goals. Water and electricity supply impact food transportation and storage and, as a result, on people's food purchase preferences (i.e. type, quantity, frequency). Therefore, cities need basic infrastructure and technical capacity to reduce food waste but also waste management infrastructure to enable separation, composting and resource recovery.

A global commitment to phase out food waste disposal from both landfill and incineration would radically transform the relationship between cities and food. Emphasizing the value of food, avoiding waste and phasing out disposal would catalyze the virtuous cycle of reduction, recovery and regeneration. Organic waste is a valuable resource that can be used to produce renewable energy, plus restore nutrients and moisture to the soil. Curbing food waste disposal would create economic opportunities and viability.

São Paulo (Brazil) demonstrated how effective local government initiatives can tackle food loss and improve food security at the same time. Sao Paulo's Food Bank programme and the Combating Food Waste initiatives aim at better food allocation. The Food Bank programme purchases agriculture products from family farms or collects food from the food industries that are out of commercial standards, but

perfectly edible while the Food Waste initiative gathers input donations in fairs and markets. Along with those projects, food education activities are organized, and food waste is destined for composting processes that contribute to regenerative land use on farms.

In **Izmir** (Turkey), short food supply chains from peri-urban farmers to the city were identified as the one of the main action points for the city to reduce the significant food losses (58 percent of fresh fruits and vegetables). The dialogue particularly emphasized that the durability of products should be supported through improved food infrastructure such as cold storage and packaging facilities.

6) Financing mechanisms for sustainable urban food systems solutions

Rapidly accelerating urbanization necessitates increased financing for systemic solutions. Both public and private finance, as well as blended financing mechanisms, are needed to catalyze initiatives that increase access to nutritious foods. The benefits are numerous: more sustainable production; healthier consumption; more equitable livelihoods and employment opportunities, and inclusive ownership structures for women, youth and people living in poverty.

The participants of the **Kisumu** (Kenya) Dialogue highlighted how access to finance for small-scale food actors is a big challenge for local governments. Possible solutions were discussed, and they include revolving loans or other loan-provisioning mechanisms, as well as establishing partnerships with private and international development institutions to co-develop initiatives that have the potential to enhance farmers' access to markets.

7) Emergency planning, response and recovery

The COVID-19 pandemic has both exacerbated and highlighted inequities in food systems. Most cities lack emergency food stocks, so vulnerable groups are unprotected in the face of shocks. Cities can be better prepared if they develop informed emergency food response and recovery plans to guide efforts during any disaster. These can be stand-alone plans or embedded in overall emergency plans. These plans should be informed by the city's commitments to climate change and equity principles. This ensures that crisis planning, response and recovery efforts are aligned with climate adaptation plans, resilience plans, equity and inclusion principles and policies that address longer-term food security.

Emergency food response and recovery plans must recognize that crises can be recurrent, have long-term impacts, and amplify existing stresses (such as chronic food insecurity). Cities need procedures and responses which pivot away from equating emergency response to short time frames, towards preparing for long-term responses to "structural" crises.

The City of **Nairobi** (Kenya) developed a Food System Strategy Draft as a first step to build a food system that's more resilient to shocks and stresses. The draft was put together before the aftermath of COVID-19. However, the pandemic and the restrictions that were put in place, which severely exposed the city to food system's vulnerabilities, created the urgent need to finalize the strategy and start implementing actions towards a sustainable food system. The Food System Strategy's goal is to

create a food system that allows access to affordable, healthy, nutritious and sustainable food to everyone, especially the more vulnerable groups.

8) Equity and inclusion

Urban areas contain multiple physical, sociocultural and environmental realities that affect both the access to healthy diets and the resilience of food systems. Ensuring food security and good nutrition entails enacting policies that recognize the needs of most vulnerable and marginalized groups. Equitable food systems are those in which everyone can fully participate and benefit from access to healthy, affordable and culturally appropriate food.

Equity and inclusion require deliberate action, and the recognition that the people who face the most inequities are often the voices least heard. There is an urgent need to foster diverse and inclusive leadership to meet collective intersectional challenges. Supporting an equitable approach will allow the creation of an enabling environment to support a more just, inclusive, and sustainable food system for all.

During the “**North America Local Food Dialogue** on Inclusive Food Systems”, hosted by the City of New Haven, participants highlighted the need to use community engagement and ownership model of planning and action to alleviate disparities in representation and leadership. The most appropriate approach when interacting with the native communities and nations – i.e. by asking “how can we support your solutions” as equals – proved to be crucial. Some examples of how leadership could enable an inclusive and equitable environment were recommended: advocating at the state level to improve land access for new farmers and farmers of color and providing urban agriculture training and work opportunities for inmates or recently incarcerated people. Finally, to preempt marginalization and promote equity, the New Haven Dialogue stressed protecting small landowners, small food businesses, and communities from the influence of big business interests and consolidation.

4. Reflections and way forward

As proven through the multi-stakeholder food dialogues, cities and local governments offer a crucial entry point to integrate the links between food, nutrition, public health, social development, employment, sustainable agriculture, biodiversity, crisis preparedness, regenerative resource and waste management and land use across urban and rural areas. A range of innovative governance mechanisms, informed by systems thinking, have been developed, explicitly attempting to bring food systems actors together (e.g. Food Policy Councils) and to connect food with other key sectors and policy priorities (i.e. food policy integration). Transforming their potential into real outcomes requires increasing their capacities and resources including through a fundamental shift to integrated local, national and global governance systems.

While the dialogues recognized the critical role of local governments in transforming food systems, they also revealed the barriers the cities often face that hinder their full potential. The participants of the dialogue highlighted the challenges and opportunities of their local food systems as well as aspirations of what their cities’ food systems should resemble. These perspectives are anchored around **10 critical proposals** for action presented below.

1. **Invest in critical infrastructure:** Investment in physical infrastructure such as transport, markets, cold storage, food preservation technologies, and irrigation systems for urban and peri-urban agriculture is critical for food system transformation. This was highlighted through the participant survey (Annex 1), which identified food infrastructure as the biggest challenge that local governments face. Improving efficiency across the food value chain as well as access to nutritious food and food system opportunities will not only depend on the development of appropriate infrastructure but also the uptake of emerging technologies.
2. **Foster cooperation between city governments and other levels of levels of government:** A local food system is more resilient if embedded in a regional (sub-national) food systems policy framework. Several local governments highlighted during the dialogues the importance of and their wish for improving their engagement with regional and provincial governments which provides benefits such as promotion of short supply chains, logistics, regional food economy, social return on investment, nature-positive development (food supply).
3. **Ensure food-sensitive planning and urban design:** To achieve inclusive food systems, food systems should be integrated in urban and territorial planning to facilitate easier and equitable access to healthy and sustainable foods. This will also include the integration of street food vending (addressing the challenges of informality) and the access to land for food related activities such as urban agriculture.
4. **Enable and intensify urban agriculture:** While not necessarily holding the promise of meeting all the food needs of cities, urban agriculture offers opportunities not only for urban greening and increased food production but also livelihoods sustenance through income generation. Leveraging on urban agriculture's potential means planning for the diverse range of forms urban agriculture can take including but not limited to home gardens, community gardens in open spaces, rooftop gardens, hydroponics and commercial agriculture in areas reserved for such purposes. It may also involve cities leasing out or supporting the lease of empty spaces for agri-food related activities.
5. **Develop data collection and management systems:** Data on food systems at the sub-national level are mostly inadequate for supporting informed policies especially in many emerging economies despite the fact that such data are critical to the formulation of effective food-related policies and food systems governance. Cities need to put in place data collection and management systems that take stock of the entire food systems and map the interconnections between the different components of food systems as well as the different stakeholders involved. This helps to identify gaps and priorities for action. Examples of food systems data include data on food demand, food flows and early warning systems. However, where quantitative data is not readily available, qualitative data collection through the innovative use of tools such as photography, videography, interviews, community engagements, dialogues, among others, should be given consideration. These forms of data and feedback offer a broad perspective on the local food system and could aid in more inclusive decision-making processes.
6. **Develop accessible and inclusive finance models:** The results of the participants survey demonstrated that especially for the private sector, the main support that they would need from local governments is financial provision. Innovative finance mechanisms can broaden opportunities for food systems actors especially small-

scale actors across the food value chain to contribute to increased access to nutritious food. Some examples include public-private partnerships, subsidy schemes for input provision, provision of revolving or micro loans, re-imagining the role of Small Savings and Cooperative Societies for urban actors as well as developing existing accessible platforms such as mobile money to incorporate access to a range of banking services.

7. **Provide an enabling environment to reduce food loss and waste:** In addition to an integrated food waste and loss management scheme, cities should also reassess the legal and policy frameworks within their existing waste management strategies to provide an enabling environment for stakeholders to apply zero waste practices. Cities also need to prioritize transitioning into circular food systems which support zero waste generation and the sustainability of natural ecosystems.
8. **Promote climate change adaptation and mitigation:** Adaptation measures will include the introduction and use of climate information services and insurance services. On the other hand, reduction of deforestation practices, promotion of afforestation, food loss and waste reduction, reduction of food miles and sustainable agricultural practices particularly regenerative agriculture and agroecology, are some mitigation measures, which need to be incorporated.
9. **Develop local level policy and ensure coherence, implementation and evaluation:** Policy coherence can potentially be improved by having an integrated food systems framework. Strengthening policy implementation needs to be prioritized and this is contingent on ensuring that financial resources are made available and capacity development of local actors is ensured.
10. **Develop the capacity of food systems actors:** Food systems can only become resilient when their actors have the capacity and resources to prevent, respond to and cope with shocks and stresses. For food systems transformation, capacity is also needed to design and implement interventions and to take advantage of windows of opportunity. Cities must develop institutional arrangements and initiate programmes focusing on the development of the human capital of food systems actors.

5. Conclusion and call to action

The multi-stakeholder dialogues conducted at the city-level are part of the joint efforts by the various departments of the host local governments, stakeholders, FAO, ICLEI, and partner organizations. The dialogues created a space for systematic exchange and engagement of key stakeholders. In several cases, national and local government representatives exchanged for the first time on sustainable urban food systems. The dialogues brought together a wealth of different actors, while promoting both vertical and horizontal coherence and integration between policies, plans and programmes.

Continuing such dialogues, city-to-city information exchange and ongoing mentoring and resource support is crucial for strengthening the food systems linkages between national and sub-national governments, different sectors and practitioners.

The dialogues showed that committed local governments and mayors have the potential to create a win-win for healthy people and healthy environments in their cities and towns. Multi-level governance should no longer remain a buzzword in global conferencing but be

anchored in real cooperation mechanisms between local, regional and national governments.

The FSS process will not end with the UN Food Systems Summit and upcoming global conferences will need to empower local governments to engage with national governments in cooperative, impact-driven structures, and mechanisms to make the transition toward sustainable, healthy food systems and from farm to fork. The dialogues reaffirmed that **the road to sustainable and healthy food systems leads through the cities and towns of our planet.**

The key messages derived from the 1000 stakeholders represent **a call to all relevant actors to support urban food systems transformation.** After the global pandemic exposed how vulnerable food systems are, local governments demonstrated ways of how cities contribute to improving food security and resilience by responding to the pandemic in real time. Local governments can play a catalytic role as the intermediaries between multiple scales of government, unique contextual realities and activities and committed food businesses and organizations. Local governments need national governments and national governments need local governments to achieve sustainable food systems change. The dialogues and engagement have strengthened existing relationships, built new alliances and provided a foundation for further action.

References

FAO. 2020. *Cities and local governments at the forefront in building inclusive and resilient food systems: Key results from the FAO Survey "Urban Food Systems and COVID-19", Revised version*. Rome.

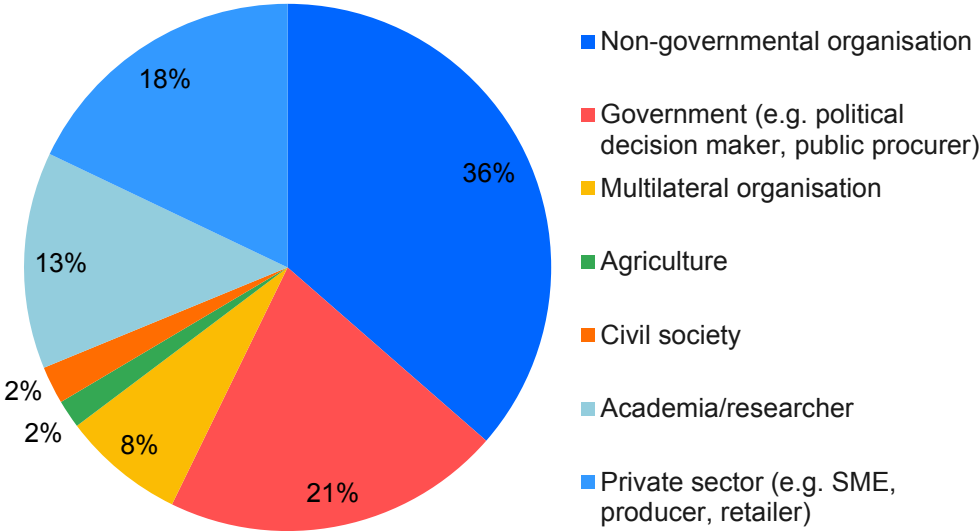
Annex 1: Results of participants survey

In parallel to the dialogue, the coordinators of the dialogues conducted a survey that gathered thoughts, opinions, and perceptions on the food systems of the cities where dialogues participants are residing.

1) Participants' profile

A total of 177 responses were collected from participants across 40 different cities from 12 countries, most of which are from the Africa region. The graph below illustrates the profile of survey respondents. It shows that while a wide variety of sectors is represented in the survey, a majority of them were nevertheless from NGOs, local or national governments, and the private sector, reflecting the nature of the city-level dialogues.

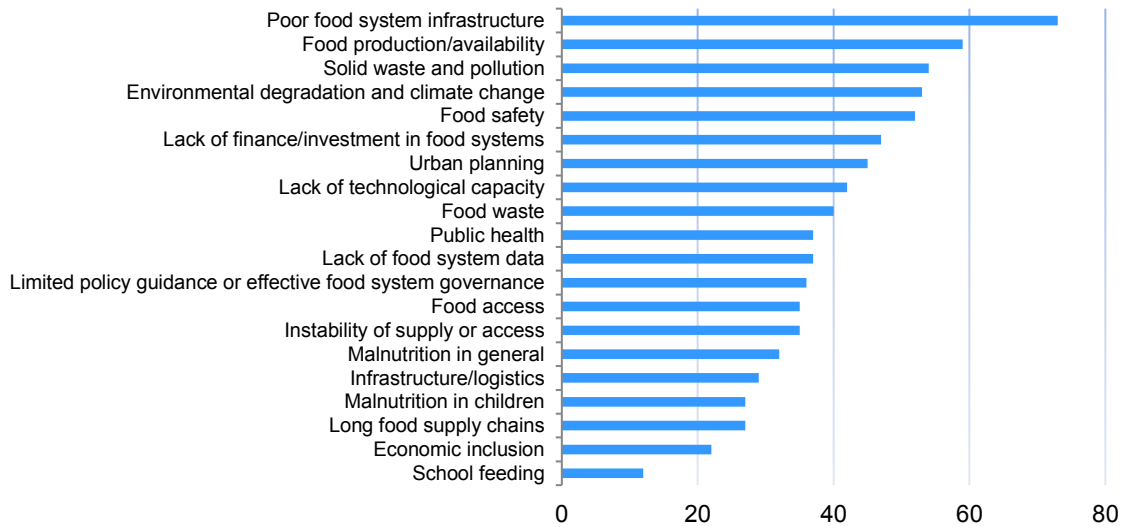
Profile of survey respondents



2) Challenges and opportunities on food systems

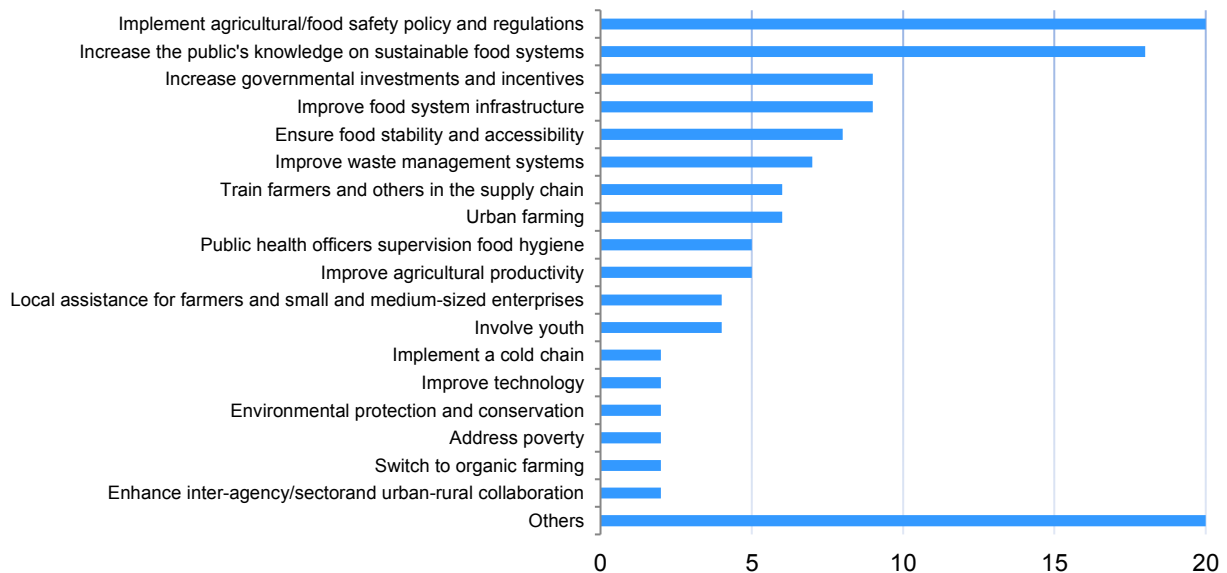
The participants identified **poor food system infrastructure, food production and availability, and environmental degradation** (including solid waste pollution) as the major challenges in their food systems. This list gives an important hint to the immediate actions that the local governments should take to improve the food systems of the city, tackling the most significant needs of the stakeholders.

What are the biggest food system challenges faced in your city?



When asked to describe some tangible solutions to the main challenges food systems face, the implementation of agricultural and food safety policies and regulations and training farmers and other actors in the food value chain were the most popular responses. The second-most popular answer was on the same wavelength, as 13 percent of respondents suggested increasing public knowledge on sustainable food systems. This shows how stakeholders believe that there is a lack of knowledge on sustainability both in and around the industry that needs to be addressed.

Tangible solutions to be implemented to address food challenges in/around your city

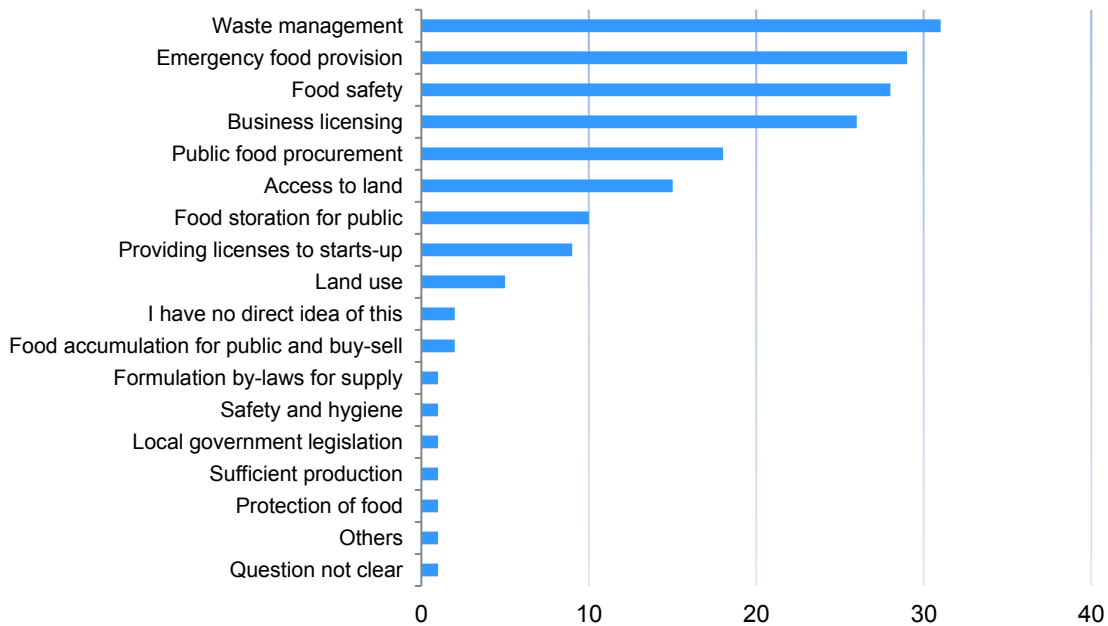


These challenge and solution priorities are reflected in the list of recommendations stated in “Chapter 4: Reflections and way forward section” of this report.

3) Mandates of local governments and food procurement

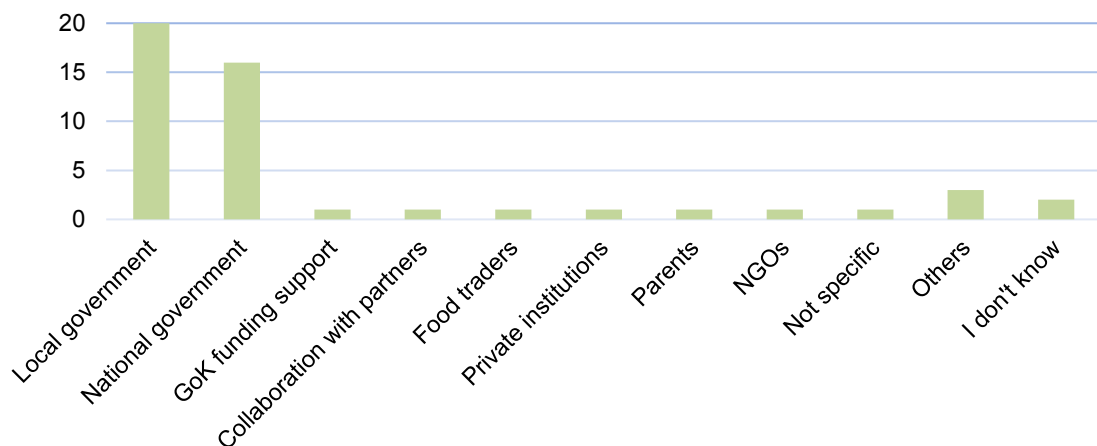
Food is a cross-cutting theme that involves multiple actors in the systems, in which local governments play a crucial role. To the question on the food-related policy areas that the local governments are responsible for, the survey respondents predominantly answered that **waste management, emergency food provision, food safety, business licensing, and food procurement** are under their city's mandates. The survey results suggest the potential entry points that local governments should consider to systematically transform the urban food systems within their given areas of responsibility.

What food-related policy areas is your local government responsible for?



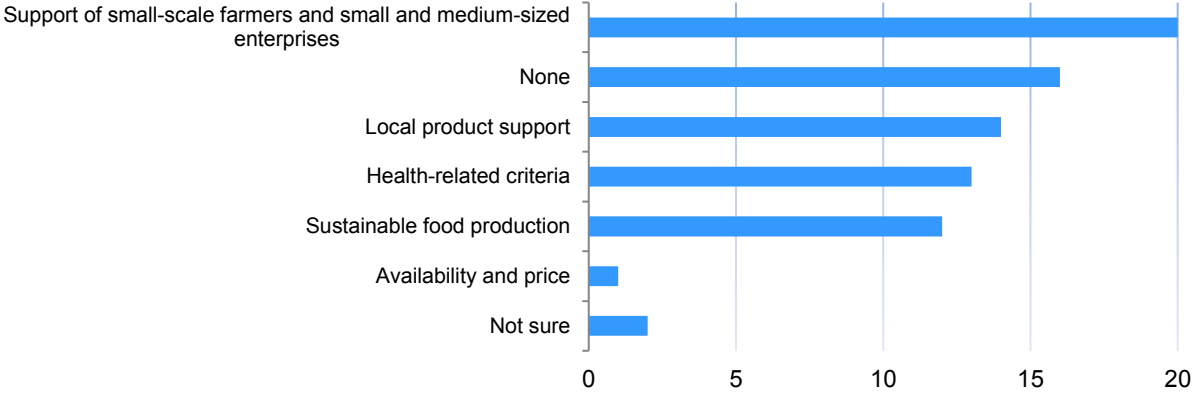
Public food procurement is one of the key systemic changes that a local government can use as a lever to improve the nutrition intake of its citizens. The following graph shows that the responsibility for public food procurement falls mostly on local governments of the cities to which the respondents are associated, tightly followed by national governments. This question was asked only to public servants to increase the credibility of the answers.

Responsibility for public food procurement



Most of the public official respondents stated that, apart from price considerations, small farmers and support towards small and medium enterprises are the main criteria taken into account in public food procurement or purchasing for public institutions. However, the fact that 20 percent of the answers given say “none” could imply that price is in fact one of the main criteria that is taken into consideration in some cities, before the sustainability of food production, support of local products and the health of the food.

Criteria taken into account in public food procurement, other than price

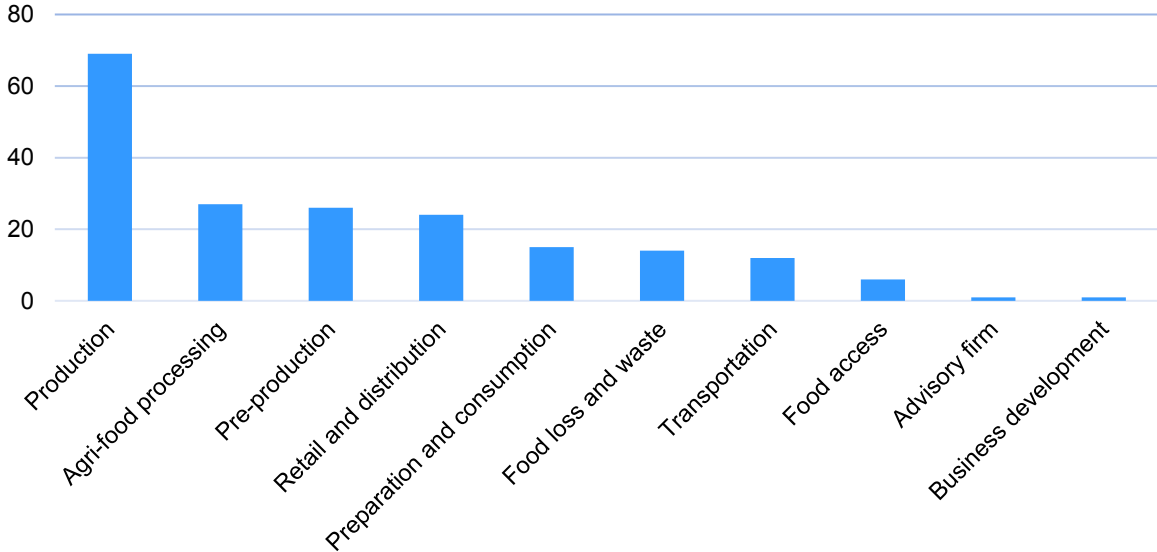


4) Perspective of private sector

18 percent of the participants of the survey are from the private sector and the following graphs represent the questions answered only by the businesses.

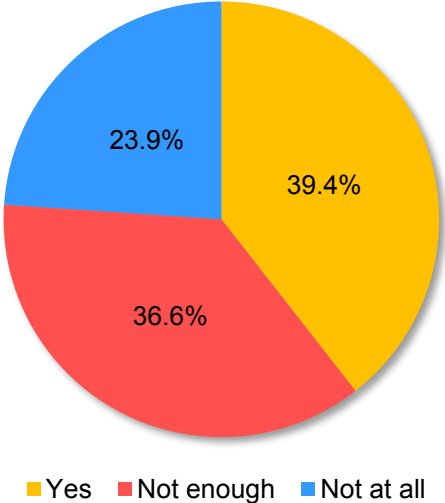
A majority of the business respondents are associated with production but also a considerable number of participants are involved in the pre-production phase as well as in the processing phase of the food value chain, such as in agri-food processing.

Which phase(s) along the food supply chain do you typically work in?



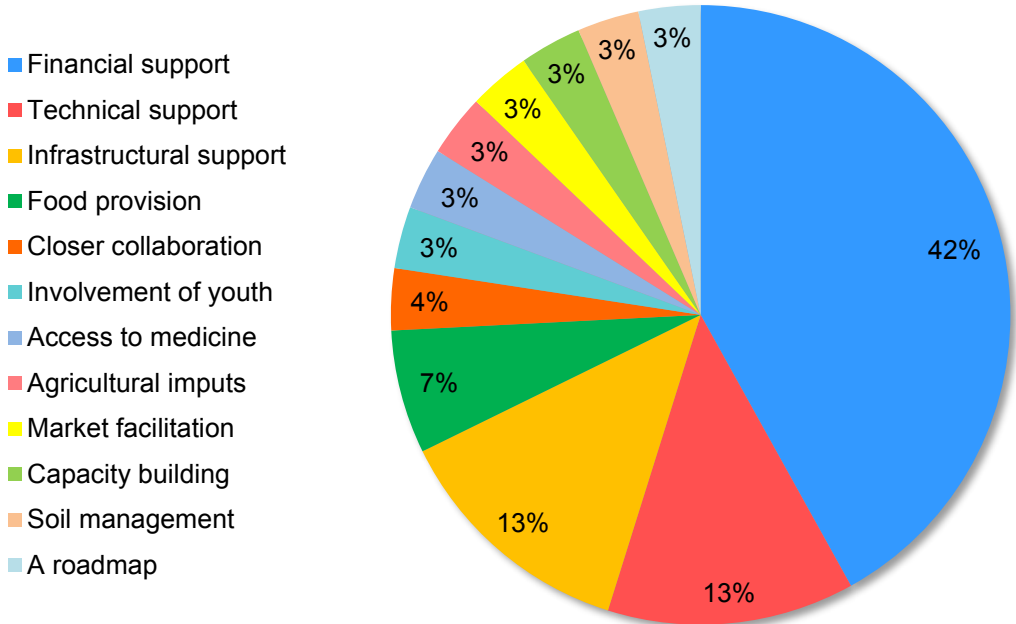
About 40 percent of the business respondents answered positively to the question “do you think that the local government supports your business?”, leaving over one third of “not enough” and 24 percent “not at all”.

Do you think that the local government supports your business?



As the graph below shows, the main support that the private actors would need from local governments, in case they answer that they are not receiving enough or any at all, is financial provision. This is in line with the answer to the question on tangible solutions in which increasing the government investment and incentive schemes came third as mentioned above. After that, technical and infrastructure are the most asked for kind of support that is needed by the business stakeholders.

Support expected/needed from local governments



Annex 2: Short summaries of each dialogue

1. Dhaka, Bangladesh

Dialogue Title and City	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Key Questions
Multi-stakeholder food dialogue, Envisioning a sustainable urban food system	To investigate specific aspects of the urban food system in Dhaka, with particular attention to food adulteration and food insecurity especially among the urban poor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the systemic challenges to ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all? • Who are the relevant stakeholders that should be involved? • What role can the local government play to ensure access to safe food for all? • What are the long-term solutions or initiatives to ensure healthier food choices made by the residents of the city?

Dialogue summary

The Dialogue highlighted some Dhaka urban food system challenges, focusing on food safety and identifying critical contexts and possible solutions. Indeed, a particular cause for concern is the high-level of food adulteration and unsafe food handling practices which are taking place at a large scale, across all the steps of the food value chains. This issue is mainly linked to the production process of small and medium-size enterprises, given the fact that large-scale food production systems can easily follow more standards and regulations. Thus, from the discussion group, it has emerged that a monitoring system on food quality must be a priority and a Standard Operating Procedure for food regulations for SMEs need to be developed and implemented.

Also, local markets and street food stalls are places where unsanitary food conditions and food adulteration practices are spread. In this framework, it is evident that the current regulatory mechanism is not adequate to handle the problem. Indeed, the discussion group raised the need for a more systemic approach, whereby advisory and guidelines on food safety need to be given to the vendors, who have a big responsibility in the improvement of food safety standards. It has also been suggested that the street food vendors should get a license by the city municipality and more services need to be provided to them to reach a more balanced development. Overall, the city corporation should be in charge to identify the relevant stakeholders who could provide the necessary training to street food vendors on safe food.

Another topic of discussion was the knowledge among farmers on the appropriate production methods concerning the use of chemical fertilizers and other contaminants, which are a determinant factor for the food safety of agricultural commodities. To this regard, a safe food foundation, titled “Nirapod Khaddo Foundation” should be formed to coordinate the activities among the different stages of the food value chain and the food regulatory system.

The consumption of highly processed food and low-quality food is another issue which compromises the health of urban citizens, especially among the poorest who lack food education and, at the same

time, are more subject to the consumption of low quality and unsafe food. It is, therefore, crucial to promote more sustainable consumption patterns, for instance, through awareness campaigns or Information centers to inform urban consumers about food safety, hygiene, standards, and authenticity. Additionally, raising the price of unhealthy food through the Fat and Sugar taxes and checking the nutritional values of food items have been identified as possible solutions.

Overall, it turned out the need for a comprehensive 'urban food policy' involving multiple stakeholders, wherein they coordinate and improve the urban food supply chain, ensuring access to safe and affordable food especially for the urban poor and the marginalized communities who are extremely vulnerable. On the other hand, investment needs to be made in the agricultural and food sectors to promote safe and affordable food to all along the food value chain.

2. Copenhagen, Denmark

Dialogue Title and City	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Key Questions
Copenhagen's Independent Multi-Actor Dialogue on Farm to Fork Procurement	Exploring opportunities for farm to fork procurement involving local and regional small and medium enterprises and farmers, in compliance with applicable legal frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can local farmers and SMEs be more involved in food procurement? • How can farm to fork procurement and education be linked? • What is the role of local governments in the food procurement process?

Speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Betina Bergmann Madsen and Peter DeFranceschi	Senior Advisor, Municipality of Copenhagen and Head ICLEI Brussels Office, Global Food programme	Welcome and introductory remarks
Ida Bigum Nielsen	Head of office, Municipality of Copenhagen	Official Opening of the Dialogue
Cecilia Marocchino	Urban Food Agenda Coordinator, FAO	Introduction to the Independent Summit Dialogue process and the importance for cities
Nanna Britt Danielsen Marklund	Senior Advisor, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries of Denmark	Working towards an even more sustainable food system seen from the perspective from the Danish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries of Denmark.
Andrea Magarini	Coordinator Food Policy of Milano, City of Milan	How to open up opportunities for local farmers in food procurement? Lessons from the City of Milan, Italy
Dorte Ruge	Senior researcher, PhD, University College Lillebælt, Odense	European healthy Pupils and skilled Educators via integrated School food Systems (Erasmus Plus programme – the LOMA project)
Johannes Baad Michelsen	Senior associate, Commercial law Elmann Lawfirm	Legal aspects of sustainable procurement: how public procurers benefit from local and regional SMEs and farmers while complying with the European Union principle of non-discrimination?

Dialogue summary

The dialogue highlighted some of the challenges faced by local governments and SMEs in the procurement process and outlined two best practice examples of food procurement systems, namely Copenhagen and Milan.

One of the main challenges that food procurement faces when on its road to becoming sustainable is the lack of a direct link between food production and consumption. Copenhagen has a goal of opening the tenders for SMEs and farmers and giving them a chance to win a tender with the municipality, and this goal is possible to fulfil at the larger kitchens that are run by the municipality where they have employees that are specialized in ordering and receiving the goods they need for the production.

In order to solve this problem, local governments should be able to engage with a green and seasonal food system, which serves meals that are nutritional and high-quality, that improve one's physical and mental health and are able to create a sense of community, whilst also having educational value on green and seasonal eating themselves.

This is also why it's so important to link procurement to teaching, which would allow food systems to bring real food into procurement, and then connect food with children on one side and the contract on the other. Linking the procurement to food's educational purpose was also identified as a solution to the fact that, because big procurement contracts are the norm, SMEs are harder to include. Other possible solutions to this are making short-term arrangements, introducing shared farming or dynamic procurement systems.

It was also highlighted that, to create opportunities for dialogue and exchange between the two ends of the chain, there's the need for an integrated approach. In the context of schools, all the actors need to follow the approach of an Integrated Food School System, which is when all the parts of the school are working together towards healthier and more sustainable food practices, without which behavioral change can't be achieved.

Another challenge of sustainable food systems is the fact that cities' importance has not been recognized until only recently. Because of this, local governments haven't been receiving enough support to bring about the systemic change they have the potential to.

Also, local producers find it hard to keep up with food systems while keeping up relationships with big buyers. This is caused by the disconnected nature of the system, and by the facts that the interpretation of the law might differ between countries and that, especially with the internet, there are a lot of untrustworthy sources of information.

Another topic that was covered in the summit was the legal specifications of public procurement. Article 18 of Directive 2014/24/EU, the procurement directive for goods and services, is what defines the ground rules for public procurement. According to the directive, the contracting authorities can't directly request local goods or set geographical demands for the origins of the goods, but some options were explored to procure locally that are still in line with the European directive. For instance, involving municipalities or other contracting authorities that fall under certain thresholds or transferring financial and practical responsibility for procurement from a central municipal government to single operating units.

Another identified challenge of dividing the tenders into smaller lots is that it can be hard to get in touch with the SMEs and farmers and give a direct bid through a municipality contract. A few reasons are a) SMEs and farmers already have their regular buyers; b) it is difficult for them to promise a steady and secure flow of goods; and c) The price of the goods can be hard to set as it is difficult to predict the amount of harvest. Some of the challenges can be solved by supporting the SME or farmer contracts with a contract from a wholesaler, but others are harder to solve.

Overall, for the challenges that were identified in the dialogue, solutions were also presented, the main one being a better connection between the different stages of the food systems and its players. It's important for local governments to be actively involved in food procurement, and education and exploiting food's educational value were highlighted as solutions to many problems.

3. Belo Horizonte, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Curitiba (Brazil) and Lima (Peru)

Dialogue Title and City	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Key Questions
Latin American cities and regions Independent Dialogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight the role of subnational governments in building sustainable and resilient urban food systems. • Implementation of food security policies in the cities. • The need for cities and regions to access the public policies decision-making process and financial resources. • Highlight relevant actions that can be implemented and that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to promote food security and resilience in urban contexts? • Which could be the main source of funding and the appropriate public policies to achieve a more sustainable food system? • Which are the global trends and the virtuous initiatives in urban farming?

Speakers

Name	Role and Organization
João Intini	Oficial de Políticas de Sistemas Alimentarios, FAO
Hugo Salomão França	Director de Relaciones Internacionales de la Alcaldía de Belo Horizonte
Rodrigo Perpétuo	Secretario Ejecutivo de ICLEI América del Sur
Darklane Rodrigues Dias	Subsecretária de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional, Prefeitura de Belo Horizonte Prefeitura de Belo Horizonte
Felipe Thiago de Jesus	Director del Departamento de Estratégias de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional de la Prefeitura de Curitiba
Ximena Giraldo	Gerenta de Servicios a la Ciudad y Gestión Ambiental de la Municipalidad de Lima
Eduardo Cavaliere	Secretário de Medio Ambiente de la Prefeitura da Cidade do Rio de Janeiro
Aline Cardoso	Secretária Municipal de Desarrollo Económico, Trabajo y Turismo

Dialogue summary

The Latin America Dialogue highlighted the importance of the subnational governments in the global food system and the need for cities and states to have access to public policies and financial resources. The event was organized by five Latin American cities: Belo Horizonte, which shared the city's 27 years' experience of Municipal Food and Nutrition Security Policy as the host of the dialogue, as well as Curitiba, Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo in Brazil and Lima in Peru.

During the opening of the event, the City of Belo Horizonte (Brazil) made a presentation on the city's 27 years' experience of the Municipal Food and Nutrition Security Policy that significantly strengthened metropolitan food systems and emergency actions to support the cities in effectively addressing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It is not about promoting any food systems, but about carrying out a great task force to put into practice food systems that guarantee food sovereignty and governance in a healthy and agro-ecological way." –Darklane Rodrigues Dias, Undersecretary of Food and Nutrition Security

The event also had four thematic discussion rooms, each hosted by the cities of Curitiba, Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, from Brazil, as well as Lima (Peru), where representatives of municipal governments, states, civil society and the private sector could discuss the importance of subnational governments in global food systems and the need for cities and states to have access to public policies and financial resources.

It has been pointed out how urban agriculture can contribute to improve food security and resilience of urban food systems during and after COVID-19 pandemic. Many projects and initiatives were presented, such as the Urban Farm, "solidarity table" and the promotion of The Metropolitan Family Farms in Curitiba. Lima is also committed to promoting urban agriculture through articulated actions that involve several stakeholders along the food value chain to obtain more replicability and scaling.

Besides, Rio de Janeiro emphasized the importance of public policies in the agro-ecological production and of traditional knowledge in food production, setting ambitious goals for the future of its urban agriculture. Doubling the production of the Hortas Cariocas Program by 2030 and increase of arable area in the City of Rio de Janeiro by 30% are a few of the targets set by the city. In all cases, the local governments play a key role in the implementation of urban agriculture and sustainable methods of production are at the core of all those types of initiatives.

To tackle the issue of food waste, while addressing food security, São Paulo demonstrated how much local governments' initiatives can be effective. Indeed, São Paulo's Food Bank programme and the Combating Food Waste initiatives aim at better food allocation. The first programme purchases food from family farms or collects food from the food industries that are out of commercial standards, but perfectly edible, the second one gathers input donations in fairs and markets. The Combating Food Waste programme itself collected from 305 to 406 tonnes of food per year during 2017 and 2019. In 2020, the collection reached 2300 tonnes and, until May 2021, approximately 788 tonnes were collected. Along with those projects, food education activities are organized, and food waste is destined for composting processes that contribute to regenerative land use on farms.

The major outcome of the dialogue is the call for actions that is jointly endorsed by the participants from more than 50 cities in eleven countries of Latin America, represented by 40 local governments, 27 partner institutions (organizations from civil society, national and international organizations, and Cities Networks) and ten universities. They come up with three main recommendations; the first one states that the final declaration of the conference encourages member states to include local governments in their national decision-making process. The second one concerns the creation of a cooperation programme between cities to share best practices and replicable examples of local

policies. The last one aims to include sustainable food production and healthy consumption patterns as a mandatory criterion for funds allocation in the fight against the climate crisis.

4. Izmir, Turkey

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
Building Nature Positive Food Systems to Combat Poverty Link to Recording (Turkish)	<p>To open a discussion and know-how exchange platform for agricultural programmes around the world that are similar to the one recently launched by Izmir, i.e. support a shift to sustainable consumption patterns and boosting nature-positive production methods.</p> <p>Issues and processes to be discussed include environment, climate crises, indigenous knowledge, innovation, procurement, marketing, certification, innovation and empowerment of women and small producers.</p>	<p>Session 1: Fair food systems with nature-based solutions</p> <p>Session 2: Innovative peri-urban food systems</p> <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What would you commit to in a 5-year vision? • What do you see as the main challenges to overcome? • How to shorten the distance between supply and demand

Speakers

Name	Role and Organization
Tunç Soyer	Mayor of Izmir Metropolitan Municipality
Pier Giorgio Oliveti	Secretary General, CittaSlow International
Erinch Sahan	Chief Executive Officer, World Fair Trade Organization
Neptün Soyer	President, Izmir Producer Cooperatives Union
Steven Schonberger	Regional Director, World Bank
Peter Defranceschi	Head of Brussels Office, Global Food programme, ICLEI
Makiko Yanagiya	Programme Coordinator, Satoyama Initiative
Michele Rumiz	Program Coordinator, Slow Food International

Dialogue summary

The Izmir Metropolitan Municipality has recently launched a new agriculture and food programme for the city.

“Resilient urban food systems create healthy, happy and sustainable communities in our cities. Cities are at a critical crossroad to put food systems on their agenda and take the lead on sustainable food systems. Cities of the world should make the right to food a basic priority.” –Mayor Tunc Soyer, Mayor of Izmir

By applying biogeography-based product planning, Izmir Agriculture identifies and promotes selected products, which meet both of the two criteria below:

- (i) Products with high market demand and economic value and
- (ii) Products with high drought resilience propagated through biodiversity friendly methods.

Product planning is carried out taking into account biogeographical conditions and the market potential in a holistic manner. This helps the producers to have sales guarantee before the cultivation of the products, ultimately reducing poverty. The aim is to open a forum for innovative agricultural programmes that will help to shift to sustainable consumption patterns and boost nature-positive production methods. These methods could be modern innovations but also may be inspired by traditional methods, such as the GIAHS (Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems).

Discussion points included:

- Short food supply chains from peri-urban farmers to the city (Izmir) need to focus on the whole chain to avoid very high food losses (58% of fresh fruits and vegetables). Particularly the durability of products should be supported through assistance with cold storage and packaging.
- The farmers around Izmir are generally small-scale farmers with limited investment capacity to purchase agricultural machinery and other tools. Izmir provides grants to small farmers. The farmer-to-farmer interaction is crucial and supported by the municipality.
- The climatic conditions are challenging, particularly droughts and water shortages. Nevertheless, examples of innovative agriculture, including permaculture projects in the city are happening
- Izmir gave 12 000 goats and sheep to farmers and provided training in order to support farmers in continuing agricultural practices around the city.
- Community-based agriculture is an opportunity to support peri-urban agriculture and several initiatives are already existing
- The "popular market shops" where farmers can market, store and sell their products are another good example of short food supply chains
- Awareness-raising and the education of citizens in this regard is very important
- An issue that came up in the discussion is that at supra-municipal level, indicators for subsidies should not be related to productivity only but also include sustainability aspects
- The concept of food safety is perceived quite differently among Turkish consumers. This includes also the conflict between not using pesticides but being dependent on polluted water sources, which in both cases leads to healthy food (safety) concerns.

5. New Haven, United States of America

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Key Questions
North America Local Food Dialogue on Inclusive Food Systems	The discussion focused on the importance of ensuring food security, resilience, and equity in cities. It considered the methods, measurements, and goals necessary to increase cohesiveness and inclusivity in food systems planning and action. Food sovereignty and community involvement were at the core of the discussions, highlighting that they are fundamental for the creation of equitable and integrated food systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you approach food in your city? • What are the challenges facing your food system? • What steps are you taking to address these challenges? • What ten years' time visions or priorities do you have for your future food system? • What activities or recommendations can bring about this vision of your city's food system?

Speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Latha Swamy	Director of Food System Policy, New Haven	Welcome and introductions
Peter Defranceschi	Head of ICLEI Brussels Office and Global Food programme Coordinator	Global Food in Context: The UN Food Systems Summit and beyond. Introduce the concept of "game-changing" solutions.
Melana Roberts	Policy Development Officer Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit Social Development, Finance and Administration City of Toronto, Positioning Inclusivity in the Food System	Opening Remarks by Toronto Black Food Sovereignty

Dialogue summary

During the “North America Local Food Dialogue on Inclusive Food Systems”, speakers, panelists, and participants agreed that food systems outcomes are most successful when the community is leading, and that it is important that cities facilitate community conversation by building networks and relationships, funding pilot and demonstration projects, and by codifying conclusions in plans and legislation.

During the dialogue, methods, measurements, goals and actions necessary to increase cohesiveness and inclusivity in food systems planning and action have been discussed, such as: the adoption of community engagement and ownership model of planning and action; the development of programmes and structures that can be self-sustaining beyond government legislations; the role of data collection (from both traditional and non-traditional sources) to mobilize action and engagement with key stakeholders and to effectively identify gaps and priority interventions; the involvement of schools into the food system conversation through school gardening projects and the application of sustainable and healthy food procurement principles to school food procurement.

Greater connection between urban and peri-urban and nearby rural areas was also discussed as a way to build resilience. Cities must integrate food access and resilience into adaptation and emergency planning, develop relationships with stakeholders across the food system to build resilience, and ensure at least some local food production for emergencies.

Issues of food justice, racial justice, food sovereignty, community involvement, and sustainable production are all connected and need to be addressed. Structural racism limits access to healthcare, culturally appropriate nutrition, food preparation, retail food stores, and wellness programmes. It causes disconnected Black, Indigenous and People of Color networks and high food insecurity. There are barriers to access infrastructure, food assets, community gardens, food programmes, and community kitchens. Promoting urban agriculture can help residents, especially residents of color, to build job skills, generate income, contribute to community development, increase food access and security, and foster connection to broader efforts that combat the root causes of structural inequities such as racial and economic justice. As one speaker said:

“Today, I heard agreement across all panels and breakouts in the belief that all people and all communities should have the right and the means to produce, procure, prepare, share, and eat food that’s nutritionally and culturally affirming free from exploitation of themselves, other people and nonhuman animals, and also in harmony with the rest of the natural world.”

Another important aspect that emerged was the need to include local government voices at the international level from the beginning by ensuring that they have a position of influence where their experience is valued and taken into account properly.

In conclusion, what emerged was that there is a need for a holistic food systems approach with a well-defined overarching vision, and an organized structure that connects programmes and people. Cities and communities in the United States of America are going towards this direction by looking at food sovereignty, land access, community-led processes, and improving city and community-wide communication and commitment.

6. Accra, Ghana

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Key Questions
Transforming Accra's City-Region Food System Through Robust Rural-Urban Linkages Link to Recording	To explore strategic ways in which Accra City can strengthen its role across the food value chain as well as maximize the benefits of integrated city-region linkages for long term resilience of the food system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the vision for Accra's City-region food system in the short and long term? Does it contribute towards building robust rural-urban linkages? • What are the key factors that support or undermine the sustainability and resilience of Accra's city-region food system? • How can Accra strengthen its role in the food system? What are the opportunities for Accra across the food value chain? • What are the main shocks affecting the local food system and how prepared is the city to handle these as well as other climate and health related shocks? • What policies, institutions and technologies can enable locally driven design of resilient city-region systems integrating multiple actors? • As a food systems stakeholder, how can your work contribute towards building a more resilient Accra city-region food system?

Speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Hon Mohammed Adjei Sowah	Mayor of Accra	Official Opening Remarks of the Summit
Dr Mphumuzi Sukati	Senior Nutrition and Food Systems Officer, FAO	UNFSS summit process from global to local level
Dr Charles Edem Etse	Director, Food and Agriculture, Accra Metropolitan Assembly	Understanding Accra's food system and governance framework
Prof Amos Laar	University of Ghana. PI, MEALS4NCDs Project	The role of cities (Accra) in the delivery of healthy, nutritious, and safe food equitably and sustainably

Dialogue summary

The Accra Independent Dialogue offered a platform for relevant stakeholders to discuss the gaps in Accra's food system and possible opportunities to mitigate these gaps and move towards a food system that is resilient and sustainable. The dialogue was used to promote synergy between stakeholders in order to build a resilient food system that ensures access to nutritious food for the urban residents and minimizes environmental impacts.

“Cross sectoral coordination is very important around the food systems issues because if each institution is working in silos, it is not going to work. Some of the issues require that all sectors be part of the solution.” –Mary Mpereh

The discussions identified the opportunities to improve Accra’s food system. Accra has the potential to diversify the diets of citizens by incorporating home-grown and indigenous foods into citizens’ diets. Home-grown foods are nutritious and have the potential to increase agricultural productivity thus feeding the city, as well as create livelihoods by selling the excess. It is therefore important that educational awareness programmes are used to educate consumers and producers on the benefits of including home-grown foods in their diets, thus increasing the uptake of households growing their own food and potentially decreasing the over reliance on imported foods into the city.

Stakeholders also identified that additional opportunities to improve Accra’s food system lie in building territorial resilience to ensure stable food flows in the city. The stable food flows will promote accessibility and availability of nutritious foods, thus improving food security. The city government therefore needs to invest in the improvement and development of transport infrastructure and food markets as these will support city-region linkages and promote stable food flows. In addition, market infrastructure such as refrigerators should also be improved to ensure that the food coming into the city is fresh for a longer period, increasing the likelihood of citizens accessing it as well as reducing the instances of food loss and waste. Adequate market infrastructure has the potential to reduce post-harvest losses and increase food and nutrition security. In relation to the latter, obesity and malnutrition were identified as key concerns within the city.

Furthermore, the need for coordination and collaboration was emphasized as another opportunity to improve Accra’s food system and build resilience. The city should create accessible and inclusive platforms that engage multiple stakeholders, such as urban food producers, municipal officials, agricultural extension officers, and waste collectors, both formal and informal traders among others, to build a robust and well-coordinated food system that is inclusive. Some of the stakeholders could help build capacities where there are opportunities such as the non- profit organizations and researchers within the food system.

Moving forward, Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) is committed to improving their food system by focusing on food and nutrition security and promoting environmental sustainability. The Mayor of AMA offered a great provocation: “Imagine the rooftop of the City Hall at the Metropolitan Assembly converted into a lively rooftop garden growing organic vegetables. We can, if we put our minds to it. We can make intensive backyard gardening, especially of vegetables and fruits, more attractive and accessible to city residents. Importantly, the context of digitization needs to be discussed and promoted by the government.”

Accra’s long-term plans include establishing greenhouses to attract the unemployed graduates into urban agriculture as well as promoting and developing urban agriculture through home gardening and school gardening to a level where Accra can feed its own population with fresh, low priced and highly nutritional vegetables.

“Accra can strengthen its role to improve food security by continuously learning from the activities of other cities. It is important to openly discuss where the opportunities are along the food systems value chain for urban areas.” –Dr Charles Etse, Director, Food and Agriculture, Accra Metropolitan Assembly. Accra Independent Dialogue

7. Tamale, Ghana

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
<p>Building a climate resilient city region food system through innovative strategies and action planning in Tamale</p> <p>Link to Recording: Building a climate resilient city region food system in Tamale</p>	<p>To identify strategies and plans to improve resilience and reduce vulnerabilities of the Tamale city food system due to the impact of climate change by enabling informed integrated strategies, policies and action plans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the Tamale city region food systems look like and what are the main elements and stakeholders of the food system? • What are the main vulnerabilities to climate change and disruptions to Tamale's Food System that are impacting food security? • What are the existing capacity and contingency plans to deal with the effects of climate shocks and stresses? • What are the gaps and priority areas for policy actions? What policies, programmes, institutions and technologies can enable the transformation to a resilient city-region system that integrates multiple actors at TaMA? • As a food systems stakeholder, how can your work contribute towards building a more resilient Tamale city-region food system?

Speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Gilbert Nuuri-Teg	Tamale Metropolitan Coordinating Director	Opening Remarks
Dr Philip Amoah (PhD)	Consultant, International Water Management Institute	City Region Food Systems Vulnerability to Climate Change and Pandemics in Tamale
Adam Elijah	Planning Department, Tamale Metropolitan Assembly	The Role of Urban Planning in Resilient City Region Food System
Victor Yakubu	Healthy Food Africa and Centre for Initiatives on Food Security and Environment	Strategies to Ensure Resilient City Region Food Systems: Food Jobs

Dialogue summary

Tamale experiences extreme weather conditions, such as droughts and flash flooding which are as a result of climate change. The Tamale Dialogue was used as a platform to explore opportunities to build a food system that would ensure access to nutritious and safe food even during climatic shocks and identify strategies and plans to reduce vulnerabilities caused by climate change.

The droughts in Tamale result in unstable water supply and access especially for food producers and livestock farmers. Therefore, there is a need for the city government to invest in alternative sources of water to meet the city's water needs, especially the water needs of the increasing food gardens and livestock farming in Tamale. The participants in the dialogue highlighted that the government has implemented a "One Village One Dam" Initiative as means to ensure that water is available regularly for farmers and other producers and this could potentially be replicated throughout the city-region.

Conversely, the heavy rains result in road blockages that limit the movement of food into the city, and thus affect the supply. There is a need for the city government to prioritize the improvements of the transport system to ensure that the city's access to food is resilient to erratic weather patterns. In addition, market infrastructure, such as sheds, storage facilities, are also an important area of improvement as it will protect livestock from the impact of the extreme weather patterns.

Land tenure limits access and equity to agricultural land. To reduce vulnerability and ensure stable access to food in Tamale, the city government should ensure that citizens are able to access land for agricultural activities with no hindrances. Some of the land tenure systems in the city are currently scheme lands which causes restrictions on agricultural production.

Additionally, there is potential to build capacity for smallholder, and particularly women, farmers. This could be achieved by providing them with adequate resources for production, for example providing equitable access to land, finances, among others. Particularly, it was suggested, women should be trained or capacitated in soya production because soya production has the potential to feed many families and it can be processed into different nutritious recipes. Furthermore, the limited access to land in the city has resulted in the vulnerable groups encroaching on private and municipal land. To prevent land encroachment the city should work hand in hand with traditional and private organizations to ensure that utilized portions of land in urban areas are leased out at affordable rates to be utilized for agri-food related activities. However, for a more systemic approach, it is critical that Tamale Metropolitan Assembly embarks on the process of food sensitive urban planning in order transform the urban food environment into one that ease the access to safe and nutritious food as well as ensures that there is adequate allocation of urban space towards biodiversity and agri-food activities.

Moving forward, the Department of Agriculture at Tamale Metropolitan Assembly should ensure that farming activities are undertaken to promote and enhance food security in the city. Regarding prevention of land encroachment, the Works Department in the Assembly monitors activities to make sure that there are no new developments in the reserved agricultural areas. They ensure that all developments are part of the city's proposal for land access. The Works Department stops any non-agricultural or unapproved land use activities in these reserved areas.

The Assembly prepared a Medium-Term Development Plan for a four-year period and is currently preparing a plan that runs from 2022–2027. In the Development plan, spatial planning has been included to promote zoning for agricultural areas, markets, among others to cope with the rising population and ensure food security in the great metropolis which includes the TaMA and adjacent neighborhoods. However important for the success of this process is to acknowledge the role of and engage with cultural leaders, who own large tracts of land in the city, on how best part of this land could be utilized for agri-food related activities.

8. Antananarivo, Madagascar

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
<p>“Saru”, an approach adapted to guarantee a resilient food system in the urban region</p> <p>Link to Recording: Antananarivo Independent Food Dialogue</p>	<p>To collectively and collaboratively craft a vision for the food system of the City of Antananarivo</p>	<p>What is your “global vision” of the food system of Antananarivo in the short and long term?</p> <p>What additional policies, mechanisms and initiatives can be adopted or introduced to support systemic change in the urban food system?</p> <p>How can the Urban Commune of Antananarivo and its local stakeholders strengthen their capacities to pursue, expand and identify opportunities to set up a system resilient and inclusive urban food?</p> <p>Who are the main stakeholders capable of bringing about change in food systems and what are their requirements or needs to drive a real change in food systems?</p> <p>As a stakeholder in food systems, how can your work contribute to a resilient and inclusive urban food system?</p> <p>What tools can be offered to better succeed in engaging actors in implementing actions guided by this vision?</p>

Speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Mr Mbuli Charles Boliko	FAO country representative in Madagascar	Introduction to the dialogue process independent of the UNFSS 2021 Summit
Mr Guy Razafindralambo	Antananarivo Urban Commune (AUC) Chief of Staff	Official opening
Mr Mandresy Rakotoarison	AUC Director of International Cooperation	Reflection on a “vision statement” of food systems in Antananarivo and commitments to the Summit and closing remarks
Ms Misatiana Andriamampionona	AUC Head of Urban Agriculture Department	City of Antananarivo: Courses of action for food system in the urban area of Antananarivo
Mrs Volatiana Razafindratoanina	Director of Agriculture, Farming, and Fisheries for the Analamanga Region	

Dialogue summary

As the capital, the Antananarivo Urban Commune (AUC) is committed to taking the lead in strengthening climate resilience in Food Systems in Urban Regions in Madagascar. The city and its partners used the dialogue as an opportunity to prioritize actions and commitments from the City-Region Food System assessment, and craft a vision for the Antananarivo food system.

The CUA is currently working with FAO in partnership with the African Union Commission, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, the Regional Directorates of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, and the Analamanga region to develop a food system strategy. The city has long been in need of sound coordination in the form of policy, as efforts to transform the food system have not been absent but rather of a siloed nature. The city is thus committed to ensuring a sustainable and resilient food system that can withstand any shock and stresses. To this end, the city is a proud signatory of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact and CityFood Network and as such, has taken a leading role across the African continent in terms of its overall leadership in driving the urban food agenda. Being a signatory to these global initiatives and movements allows for continuous networking with and learning from other cities and partners from across the world.

Antananarivo is also striving to reduce food system vulnerabilities by driving urban agriculture through school vegetable gardens and ensuring the maintenance and enhancement of local markets and related infrastructure. Addressing issues around malnutrition is also high on the city's agenda, particularly at school level as working with partners to ensure nutritious meals for improved learning is a low-hanging fruit being prioritized. A mobile application is also in the process of being developed to ensure streamlined communication between the city and its stakeholders, and to provide key role players like farmers with up-to-date data for improved production.

Prior to the dialogue, CUA and partners identified various actions and commitments for consideration and inclusion into the city's food system strategy. The dialogue thus served as an opportunity to prioritize these actions and commitments and craft a vision for the strategy moving forward. Participants were divided into four groups, each with a particular focus and unique actions and commitments to prioritize. Key focus and important, "easy to achieve" outcomes of each group:

- Group 1: Stimulate a production respectful of nature (production) – *need to train farmers on soil erosion prevention, improved overall soil management and promotion of use of resilient crops and seeds and improve agroecology.*
- Group 2: Switch to modes of durable consumption (value chains) – *establishment of information systems (prices, trends etc.), strengthening the capacity of all role players.*
- Group 3: Guarantee access for all to healthy and nutritious food (food safety) – *establishment of relevant cooperatives to improve safe food, drive food and nutrition education across the value chain.*
- Group 4: Strengthen the resilience in the face of vulnerabilities to shocks and stress (resilience) – *collaborate with other municipalities, improved education and awareness of stakeholders.*

In addition to the prioritization of actions, each also crafted and submitted vision statements to guide the food system strategy. Through a voting poll exercise, participants had the opportunity to select the vision statement that they felt strongly supported their respective hopes and dreams for the future food system of the city. The vision with the most votes was:

"A well-organized food system, guaranteeing healthy and resilient food for the population."

Looking ahead, the city in its bid to develop the food system strategy will incorporate the respective actions, commitments and vision statements from the dialogue as key considerations and inputs into

the strategy to provide the pathway towards resilient, sustainable and inclusive food systems for the City of Antananarivo.

9. Dodoma and Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
Elevating the voices of African cities towards the UN Food Systems Summit 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To highlight the role that local governments are playing in improving their urban food systems as well as identify key food systems challenges, opportunities and priorities To generate discussions, action and commitments from local governments on food systems reforms To connect these dialogues with the national UNFSS Member States Summit Dialogues To achieve a lasting collaboration on urban food systems and strengthen the CITYFOOD engagement platform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is your vision for Arusha and Dodoma's food system in the short and long term? Who are the key players and what is their role in the above-mentioned food systems value chain to drive food systems transformation? How can the city and local stakeholders be empowered to carry on, extend and identify opportunities to achieve a (food safety or resilient and inclusive) urban food system? What policies, mechanisms and incentives can be adopted or introduced to enhance the role of food systems transformation stakeholders in improving food safety and food security? As a food systems stakeholder, how can your work contribute towards a (food safety or resilient and inclusive) urban food system? What are the most efficient ways of implementing those actions?

Dodoma independent dialogue speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Prof Folorunso Fasina	FAO United Republic of Tanzania	Welcome remarks on behalf of Assistant FAO Representative (Programme) and Officer in Charge Mr Charles Tulahi
Hon Neema Lugangira	Member of the Parliament	
Prof David Mwamfupe	Mayor, City of Dodoma	Reflection on city council's food systems vision and commitments to the food system summit
Dr Honest Kessy	National convenor / Director of Food Security, Ministry of Agriculture	Introduction to the food system summit (FSS) framework and action tracks
Prof Joyce Kinabo	Professor (Human Nutrition), Sokoine University of Agriculture	Integrating Food Systems and Environmental Sustainability in Urban Planning

Dr Elibariki Mwakapeje	FAO	Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in fresh fruits and vegetables
Lawrence Haddad	GAIN	Elevating the voices of African cities towards the UN Food Systems Summit 2021
Dr Sophie Tadria	FAO	Summarizing the key outcomes from the plenary and discussions. Linkages with the Food Systems Summit Action tracks

Arusha independent dialogue speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Clara Makenya	UNEP	Welcome remarks on behalf of AFAOR-P-Oic Mr Charles Tulahi
Stella Kimambo	FAO United Republic of Tanzania	Introduction to the FSS framework and action tracks
Hon Neema Lugangira	Member of the Parliament	
Prof David Mwamfupe	Mayor, City of Dodoma	Reflection on city council's food systems vision and commitments to the food system summit
Hon Maximilian Irange	Mayor, City of Arusha	Opening remarks
Hon Kalisti Lazaro	Former Mayor, City of Arusha	Remarks
Prof Joyce Kinabo		Integrating Food Systems and Environmental Sustainability in Urban Planning
Dr Elibariki Mwakapeje	FAO	Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in fresh fruits and vegetables
Mr Ludovic Joly	RIKOLTO	Introduction to the city council Urban Food Systems and its Value chain
Ms Marina Bartolleti	UNEP	How to apply food systems to policy making and governance
Lawrence Haddad	GAIN	Elevating the voices of African cities towards the UN Food Systems Summit 2021
Dr Sophie Tadria	FAO	Summarizing the key outcomes from the plenary and discussions. Linkages with the Food Systems Summit Action tracks

Dialogue summary

The food dialogues in Dodoma and Arusha were met with great enthusiasm, with local partners GAIN, FAO United Republic of Tanzania, UNEP and Rikolto playing a key role in crafting the sessions. The sessions were run concurrently with separate breakout rooms for each. Both dialogues were important in providing a platform for each city's food system actors to engage, whilst ensuring linkages and coordination with regional and national parties. For Dodoma, the objective was to bring stakeholders together to unpack and understand the city's food system at a high level. In Arusha, discussions covered aspects from the current and existing knowledge and initiatives within the sustainable food system platform to the inclusion of youth in the food system.

One of the main concerns for the Arusha food system, was food safety, specifically food purchased and consumed in the urban areas which have been adulterated with either chemical agents or antimicrobial agents; this occurs mainly in horticultural crops like vegetables. This concern stems from farmers' limited knowledge regarding the correct use of pesticides or herbicides, the general lack of dedicated standards for African Indigenous Vegetables coupled with limited enforcement of food safety requirements for fresh produce in the United Republic of Tanzania, generally. The discussions identified potential areas of intervention to improve food safety and security. These included streamlining and regulating the delivery of plant-based foods or crops, animal health services and dispensing of antimicrobial by professionals, creating awareness and education across the entire food value chain, and empowering consumers with knowledge to allow them to serve as pressure groups and game changers by demanding high-quality products.

"Food is central to achieving the global development agenda. We cannot move at normal speed if we want to achieve the 17 sustainable development goals." –Prof Davis Mwamfupe, Mayor of Dodoma City Council.

In contrast to Arusha, Dodoma is experiencing a rapid influx of people due to its designation as the National Capital and the seat of government. Even though this influx has various negative implications on the city, such as additional pressures on its infrastructure, land use and planning difficulties, among others., there are also numerous opportunities for the city to explore. The dialogue emphasized the role that Dodoma City should play across the entire food system. The city is an important actor not only from a land ownership and planning perspective, but also as custodians of necessary infrastructure related to roads and markets. Perhaps most importantly is the regulatory function where, by means of by-law and policy enforcement, cities or the city can ensure food safety, availability and continuous access.

The discussions also highlighted the knowledge gap between local food system actors (farmers, producers, etc.) and food system experts, and how the city could bridge that gap by acting as a knowledge broker in a capacity as a champion of the local food system. Overall, the Dodoma City Council leadership acknowledges/d the need to adopt a systems approach to combat and deal with the complexities of the food systems by strengthening synergies between the various stakeholders across the food value chain.

Both dialogues brought several low hanging opportunities to the fore, in light of the specific challenges and shortcomings experienced by the cities in general. Central to this was the future empowerment and involvement of the youth in the future planning and implementation of the food system. This is critical for ensuring sustainability. Engagement for continuous learning and sharing between cities, and wider public participation are additional elements identified as important levers for positive change.

Looking ahead, both cities, together with the regional and national Tanzanian government and wider stakeholders, are committed to ensuring sustainable food systems for cities across the country. The political leadership of Dodoma are eager to enhance the linkages with nature, by using food as a

central entry point for achieving development sustainability. Mayor Mwamfupe of Dodoma is also championing the local food systems agenda across the country. Arusha Council acknowledges the need for partnerships and collaboration, and that taking up a stronger role in the multi-stakeholder food platform is critical towards ensuring safe and nutritious food.

10. Cape Town, South Africa

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
<p>Catalyzing local government actions for a sustainable food system in Cape Town</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Facilitate sharing and learning on food system issues among officials and political office holders in Cape Town ● Articulate the role of different portfolios in supporting food security and food system sustainability and resilience ● Facilitate better coordination among government departments for food systems sustainability ● Accelerate local government actions for equitable and resilient food systems ● Support multi-stakeholder learning and action for sustainable food systems ● Build broader alliances around sustainable food systems in Cape Town ● Explore potential commitments that City of Cape Town could make as part of UNFSS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How can we accelerate local government actions to achieve a sustainable food system in Cape Town? ● What is your vision for your city's food system in the short and long term? ● What gaps in local government actions/strategies are limiting food system sustainability in Cape Town? ● How can we improve coordination and multi-sectoral collaboration within the City of Cape Town? ● How do we formalize existing multi-stakeholder fora that are promoting food security, and connect them to City of Cape Town's food policy processes? ● How can the city step up its commitment and promote actions to achieve food security and food system resilience? ● What commitments will the City of Cape Town articulate for the UNFSS?

Note: The City of Cape Town Dialogue was a closed high-level political meeting, convened with Mayoral Committee Members and the conveners of multi-stakeholder food system fora in Cape Town. A number of valuable outcomes were taken up by various departments.

11. Entebbe, Uganda

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
<p>Exploring Opportunities for Maximizing the Benefits of Lake Victoria for Food Security, Improved Livelihoods and Environmental Sustainability in Entebbe City</p> <p>Link to Recording: The significance of Lake Victoria to Entebbe's food system</p>	<p>To map the importance of Lake Victoria to Entebbe and Uganda's Food System as well as discuss strategic ways in which Entebbe City can maximize the benefits from the lake to improve food security outcomes and environmental sustainability of the peninsula.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the food flow systems for Entebbe City? • What additional policies, mechanisms and incentives can be adopted/introduced to support systemic change of Entebbe's food system? • Who are the key food systems transformation stakeholders and what are their requirements/ needs in order to drive food systems transformation? • How can Entebbe Municipal Council and local stakeholders be empowered to carry on, extend and identify opportunities to achieve resilient and inclusive urban food systems? • As a food systems stakeholder, how can your work contribute towards a resilient and inclusive urban food system?

Speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Samson Semakula	Agriculture Officer, Entebbe Municipality	Food Governance and Flows in Entebbe City
Mercy Sebuliba	Programme Officer, Lake Victoria Local Authorities and Counties Cooperation	Linkages between Lake Victoria and Food Security in Entebbe
Solophina Nekesa	ICLEI Africa	Understanding urban food flows and governance
Kimbowe Richard	Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development	

Dialogue summary

Entebbe City is a rapidly growing city and food security continues to improve but at a slow pace, even with the city's strategic location within the Lake Victoria Basin. The Lake is very crucial to the city's food system because it is a source of fish, such as Nile Perch and Tilapia, a regional trade hub, a location with suitable conditions for farming and other agricultural activities, a source of raw materials for industries as well as an ecologically sensitive zone. The fishing industry in particular is a very important aspect of Entebbe's economy as a source of livelihoods and food security. The aim of the Entebbe Dialogue therefore was to map the importance of Lake Victoria to Entebbe City, the city

region and Uganda's Food System as well as to discuss strategic ways in which the city can maximize the benefits from the lake to improve food security outcomes and the environmental sustainability of the peninsula.

During the dialogue, different stakeholders from local government, national government, government institutions, civil society, academia and the private sector identified the issues below as the key priority areas for Entebbe Municipality in improving food security while at the same time promoting environmental sustainability of the Lake Victoria Basin.

There is potential for both national and local governments to explore the opportunities of transforming Entebbe City into a regional transportation hub due to the city's strategic location on the shores of Lake Victoria and also the location of Uganda's International Airport, which is Entebbe International Airport. Given its location, Entebbe City is linked to main towns and cities such as Jinja, Mukono and Masaka as well as regional cities such as Kisumu in Kenya and Mwanza in the United Republic of Tanzania. This will be beneficial in easing the movement of goods, especially both fresh and processed foods, nationally and regionally thus diversifying food sources for Entebbe and Uganda as well as creating employment opportunities and access to income which is linked to the ability to access food.

There is still a need for the local government to address land management and ownership in Entebbe City as a whole, especially the strategic areas located close to and within the Lake Victoria buffer zone. If not addressed, issues such as individuals 'owning' land in the Lake Victoria buffer zones could lead to unsustainable fishing practices and encroachment on ecologically sensitive zones on the lakeshores which could lead to degradation of the ecosystem which eventually affects the food production and fish stocks.

It was suggested that there is a need to promote agro-ecology especially for the urban agriculture initiatives in order to increase local food production while conserving the Lake Victoria ecosystem. This is particularly because Entebbe residents depend on the lake for food production, firewood for food preparation and water for domestic and industrial use. Awareness and implementations of agro-ecological practices as well as other environmental conservation programmes will not only promote environmental regeneration but also encourage the development of ecotourism initiatives given Entebbe's strategic position for example the creation of a bird sanctuary for ecotourism development/promotion to supplement local incomes.

The discussions also included recommendations to support nature-based solutions, such as including tree belts, buffer zoning for Lake Victoria to protect wetlands, forests, river and lake banks so as to sustain the fisheries sector and protect water resources from exploitation and degradation. Therefore, it is important that Entebbe Municipality scales up existing and potential good practices that benefit the vulnerable and poor communities as well as the environment, such as supporting savings and credit cooperatives, promoting alternative and efficient energy use for households and institutions, recycling of municipal organic waste and, zero waste initiatives, water harvesting practices and encouraging the production and consumption of indigenous foods. In addition, it was suggested that Entebbe Municipal Council develops the potential to better manage waste for manure and biogas production as well as promote other resource recovery skills to reduce pollution while promoting food production.

12. Kigali and Rulindo, Rwanda

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
<p>Transforming Kigali and Rulindo's Food Systems through Robust Inter-regional Linkages and Natural Resources Management</p> <p>Link to Recording: Kigali and Rulindo Independent Food Dialogue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deepen the understanding of the main opportunities and challenges of the food systems of Kigali and Rulindo. • Understand instrumental policies and incentive mechanisms to spur systemic transformation of the food systems of Kigali city and Rulindo district. • Explore how regional linkages can catalyze sustainability of the food systems of Kigali city and Rulindo district. • Explore how to ensure sustainable natural resources management for food system transformation in Kigali and Rulindo. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key factors that support and undermine the sustainability and resilience of the food systems of Kigali city and Rulindo district? • How can we achieve sustainable natural resources management (including land) for food system transformation in Kigali city and Rulindo district? • How can we better link urban, peri-urban and rural food systems to ensure sustainability of Kigali and Rulindo's systems? • What solutions are feasible in responding to the challenge of the effect of environmental change and degradation on Kigali and Rulindo's food system? • What policies and incentive mechanisms are available or can be implemented to spur systemic transformation of the food systems of Kigali city and Rulindo district? • How can local authorities respond adequately and positively to food system challenges? • As a food systems stakeholder, how can your work contribute towards building more resilient and sustainable food systems in Kigali city and Rulindo district?

Speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Solophina Nekesa	ICLEI Africa	Urban food systems governance approach
Gualbert Gbehounou	FAO country representative in Rwanda	Introduction to the UNFSS process from global to city level
Annamaria De Lilla	UN-Habitat	Food Systems and Cities Steering Committee

Leonidas Dusengemungu	Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board	Mapping Food Flows in Kigali: Regional Linkages as Catalyst for Sustainable Food Systems in Kigali and Rulindo
Kizito Nishimwe	University of Rwanda	Feeding Kigali and Rulindo Cities: Game Changing Solutions for Sustainable Food Supply and Consumption
Jean Baptiste Nsenguyimva	Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR)	Sustainable Urban Agriculture for Employment Creation and Food Security in Kigali and Rulindo
Peggy Mativo	Boston Consulting Group	Strategies for Efficient Food Waste Management in Kigali and Rulindo

Dialogue summary

The increasing rate of urbanization in Kigali and Rulindo has resulted in a growing need to meet residents' food needs. Food systems of both Kigali and Rulindo are intricately linked and there is a need to ensure symbiotic relationship between both food systems. The dialogue explored possibilities and opportunities for improving the resilience and sustainability of the food systems for the two districts. The dialogue considered policy interventions that are necessary for promoting food and nutrition security, and ways of strengthening the linkages between the food systems of both cities.

The discussions highlighted the need to pay attention to the dynamics of food flows between the cities. Strengthening linkages between both cities would increase the resilience of their food systems against shocks and stresses from multiple risks. An implication of rapid urbanization in the cities is reflected in the growing demand for safe and nutritious foods. Planned urbanization must therefore be prioritized given its potential for creating opportunities for socio-economic growth and food security.

One of the top recommendations was the need for food loss reduction and waste management strategies to be put in place to address food waste and associated environmental issues. Examples of these strategies included waste valorization, regulations for retail outlets to better manage their food waste, and investment in transport and storage infrastructure. In addition, capacity building, particularly of small-scale value chain actors, was considered critical for an inclusive food system. And the need for accessible awareness campaigns that share knowledge about sustainable food production for farmers for example through the use of local languages as a medium of communication.

“We can say unmistakably that our health depends on the quality of the food we eat and therefore on the quality of the food system that we depend on as consumers and producers. When the food system collapses, our individual and collective wellbeing also collapses as we experienced in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic” –Gualbert Gbehounou, FAO country representative in Rwanda

Participants noted the existence of some good policy frameworks which can contribute to the achievement of sustainable food systems in the cities. However, issues relating to implementation and evaluation of the policies have hindered the achievement of policy objectives. It is imperative that more resources are committed towards implementation and evaluation at the local level. Investment in diverse data capture and management systems must also be prioritized given that the ability to constantly evaluate progress towards achievement of food-related policies and programmes hinges on the collection, storage and synthesis of good data. Collaborative food system governance and

strengthened coordination across all food system activities will be critical to achieving sustainable food systems in the cities.

Representing the City of Kigali, Mayor Pudence Rubingisa noted that the city is committed to strengthening its collaborations with the national government, development partners, other regions and food system stakeholders in order to ensure a sustainable and inclusive food system in Kigali. The government will work to prioritize food system solutions and initiatives including urban agriculture, food waste management and capacity building.

Deputy Mayor Prosper Mulindwa reiterated Rulindo district's commitment to strengthening food system linkages and relations between Rulindo and Kigali. The Rulindo district is committed to building capacities and delivering training to its farmers so that they can meet the food safety and/or quality standards required by food businesses in Kigali.

13. Kisumu, Kenya

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
<p>Building Collaborative and Effective Food Systems Governance Frameworks in Kisumu County</p> <p>Link to Recording: Kisumu Independent Dialogue: Building Collaborative and Effective Food Systems Governance Frameworks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand instrumental policies and incentive mechanisms to spur systemic transformation of Kisumu's food systems • Identify the key local, national and regional across the food value chain that are instrumental to driving local food systems transformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the vision for Kisumu's urban food system in the short and long term? • What are the food flow systems in Kisumu? • What food systems governance frameworks can be adopted/introduced to improve the resilience of Kisumu's food system? • How can we promote collaborations, innovative and inclusive food system governance in Kisumu? Where do the opportunities lie? • Who are the key food systems transformation stakeholders and what are their requirements or needs in order to drive food systems transformation?

Speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Solophina Nekesa	ICLEI Africa	Urban food systems governance approach
Hamisi Williams	FAO country representative in Kenya	Introduction to the UNFSS process from global to city level
George Mark Onyango	Kisumu FLAG Steering Committee	Food Flows in Kisumu: An Overview
Nixon Samba	Co-Chairman, FLAG Kisumu	Reflection on the Importance of Collaborative Food System Governance: A Case Study of the City of Kisumu

Dialogue summary

Kisumu county's food system is currently susceptible to shocks and stresses given its dependence on external forces and actors for the supply of food to the county. The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions reinforced the vulnerability of the county's food system and impacted the availability and access to food as well as livelihoods across the food value chain. The dialogue explored opportunities and solutions to improve the resilience of Kisumu's food system. It considered possibilities for transforming the food system to one that is less dependent on external forces and actors for its long-term sustainability, and how stakeholder collaboration could be strengthened.

The discussions stressed the need for enabling policy frameworks that will allow all food system actors, especially the informal as well as small and medium enterprises (SMEs), in Kisumu to thrive. Creating an enabling environment for the transformation of Kisumu's food system should start from contextualizing the regional and national food and nutrition policies and scaling them down to the local level. In addition, enabling policies for the growth of the circular economy was also emphasized. This should include the introduction of a comprehensive waste and food loss management strategy that encompasses waste across the entire food value chain. Furthermore, one of the identified opportunities that is critical to minimizing food loss and waste is the development of a logistics and transportation sector to ensure safe and efficient transportation and delivery of foods within the county.

Participants highlighted the need to improve access to finance for small-scale food actors, such as smallholders, fisherfolks, food traders, among other actors. This type of financing opportunities could be in the form of revolving loans or other loan-provisioning mechanisms. It was suggested that partnerships with both private and international development institutions should be explored in order to co-develop initiatives that will enhance market access for farmers. Such initiatives should not only consider formal market channels but must also embrace the informal sector.

In addition, awareness creation relating to the consumption of nutritious diets within households is critical for food and nutrition security outcomes in Kisumu. For farmers, sensitization campaigns can also drive transformation towards more sustainable agricultural production practices. In addition, it was suggested that Kisumu's food system could benefit from a more collaborative governance approach. This should be achieved by building networks and stakeholder groups and creating spaces for dialogues, cooperation, sharing, co-learning and co-creation in a bid to transform Kisumu's food system.

"We cannot have a food governance system if we do not bring in the state which represents the government, the market which looks at supply and demand, as well as civil society." –Nixon Samba,
Chief Executive Officer City of Kisumu Urban Areas Association

Kisumu County Government reiterated its commitment towards advancing policies that enhance the availability of healthy and nutritious foods for Kisumu residents and resilience of the food system. The government noted its willingness to rally its people to produce nutritious foods for consumption in the county and Kisumu City. Sensitization campaigns will be undertaken to ensure Kisumu residents eat healthy and nutritious foods. Efforts will be geared towards improving both access to markets for farmers and small-scale actors as well as extension services. The latter will be done by recruiting more extension staff. The government committed to exploring collaborations with development partners to improve extension services for the improvement and sustainability of food production in Kisumu.

14. Nairobi, Kenya

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
<p>Towards a Future of Food that is Sustainable, Equitable and Secure in Nairobi City County</p> <p>Link to Recording: Nairobi Independent Dialogue: Towards a Future of Food that is Sustainable, Equitable and Secure</p>	<p>Breaking down the draft Nairobi City County Food Systems Strategy: How can the strategy spur systemic transformation of the urban food system?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is your vision for Nairobi's food system in the short and long term? • How can the Nairobi City County Food System Strategy better support this vision? • What additional policies, mechanisms and incentives can be adopted/introduced to support systemic change of the urban food system? • How can Nairobi County and local stakeholders be empowered to carry on, extend and identify opportunities to achieve resilient and inclusive urban food systems? • Who are the key food systems transformation stakeholders and what are their requirements/needs in order to drive food systems transformation? • As a food systems stakeholder, how can your work contribute towards a resilient and inclusive urban food system?

Speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Dr Jairus Musumba	Acting Nairobi City County Secretary	Official opening of the dialogue: Message from Her Excellency Anne Kananu Mwenda, Acting Governor, Nairobi City County
Carla Elisa Luis Mucavi	FAO Country Representative in Kenya	
Justus Kathenge	Nairobi City County Chief Officer	Introduction to the Nairobi City County Food Systems Strategy and commitments from Nairobi City County in the UNFSS
Güven Eken	Counsellor to the Mayor: Izmir Metropolitan Municipality, Turkey	Lessons from Izmir Municipality, Turkey on urban food governance
Dr Daniel Maingi	Kenya Food Rights Alliance	Reflection on the role of civil society in the food system
Josphat Kariuki	Policy Officer, FAO Kenya	Linkages to regional and national summit dialogues

Dr Daniel Karugu	County Directorate of Food System	Reflection on the next steps for the Nairobi City County Food System strategy
Dr Lucia Muli	Nairobi CECM Food, Agriculture and Forestry	Closing remarks from Nairobi City County

Dialogue summary

Nairobi City County only produces approximately 20% of the food it consumes, making its food system vulnerable to shocks and stresses. The COVID-19 pandemic and lock down regulations, which came as a shock, proved the need to prioritize building resilience within Nairobi's food system. The City County developed a Food System Strategy Draft as a step towards building a food system that can withstand shocks and stresses. The dialogue provided a multi-stakeholder platform to explore how the County's Food System Strategy could achieve a future that is sustainable, equitable and secure for its urban community.

"The food and agriculture issue should be addressed not as a stand-alone issue in cities or countries, but as a whole chain or a product and supply chain." –Guven Eken, Counsellor to the Mayor, Izmir Metropolitan Municipality

Different stakeholders during the dialogue noted the need for the Food System Strategy to be specific in actions that emphasize availability and access to affordable, healthy, safe and nutritious food for the whole population of Nairobi, especially the vulnerable groups in order to ensure a future that is sustainable, equitable and secure.

In addition, it was noted that through zoning and territorial planning, the county can begin to improve the availability and accessibility of food. This will ensure that the city designates spaces to be used specifically for agricultural activities as well as. Having designated spaces will allow the city and stakeholders to intensify the city region's food production and with the right systems in place, this will be essential in ensuring that a portion of the city's fresh food needs are met from such spaces. Moreover, small scale farmers should be provided with the right assistance and capacities built to maximize their yield produced and minimize loss and waste. Examples of assistance include access to financing, production technologies, markets and land for agriculture (e.g. open spaces in schools, hospitals, etc.), provision of efficient transport infrastructure, among other suggestions.

It is important to ensure that the food produced in the city is healthy and safe for consumption. A food safety action plan was identified by the participants as key for guiding food handling, food certification, food retail and food waste. Regarding food waste management, the discussions highlighted the importance of managing food waste to minimize long-term effects that could enhance climate change impacts. To reduce food waste, it was suggested that waste management strategies could be implemented, and these should capture the role of marginalized groups, such as informal waste pickers and composters as well as that of the municipality and other private actors.

It is important that Nairobi maps out existing urban capacities and explores opportunities of coordination across departments, coordination with civil society actors, private sector actors, researchers and other counties and countries. An efficient food system can be built through collaboration and capacity building. As a way forward, Nairobi City County is committed to take action in building a resilient and sustainable food system. Key officials from the City County committed to working with relevant stakeholders across the food value chain to identify linkages within the food system and also allocate necessary resources for different activities in the food system. The County is committed to finding workable solutions to nourishing Nairobi's growing population and aligning these efforts with the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy.

15. Quelimane, Mozambique

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
<p>Strengthening Local Agri-Food Systems and Actors Through Investment and Innovation</p> <p>Link to Recording: Quelimane: Strengthening Quelimane's Agri-food Systems and Actors through Investment and Innovation</p>	<p>To understand instrumental policies and incentive mechanisms to spur systemic innovation and investment in Quelimane's urban food systems for improved food security and environmental regeneration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the vision for Quelimane's urban food system in the short and long term? • What policies, mechanisms and incentives can be adopted/introduced to spur systemic innovation and change in Quelimane's food system? • How can the municipality of Quelimane be empowered to carry on, extend and identify opportunities to achieve resilient and healthy food systems? • Who are the key food systems transformation stakeholders and what are their requirements or needs in order to drive food systems innovation and change? • As a food systems stakeholder, how can your work contribute towards enabling investment and innovation for healthy and resilient food systems in Quelimane?

Speakers

Name	Organization or Role
Mayor Manuel de Araújo	Mayor of Quelimane City, Municipal Council of Quelimane
Mr Hernani Coelho da Silva	FAO representative in Mozambique
Barbora Hladka	FAO East and Southern Africa Service
Mercy Chikoko	FAO Sustainable Food Security
Seana Daúd	Invxt agro investimentos

Dialogue summary

Quelimane, like many other African cities, is grappling with rapid urbanization and population growth which are exacerbated by the negative effects of climate change. The Quelimane dialogue was conducted with the aim of understanding the instrumental policies and incentive mechanisms that will spur systemic innovation and investment in Quelimane's urban food systems towards improved food security and environmental regeneration.

To address some of these issues, the Municipal Council of Quelimane has launched a series of innovations to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change such as the three projects of,

“Quelimane Limpá”, “Quelimane Agrícola” and “The Coastal City Adaptation Project”, carried out in partnership with local and international partners like NGOs, municipalities and universities. Through the exchange of best practices, technical assistance and capacity building between different actors, the city of Quelimane has drawn up a plan tailored to its specific context addressing three major challenges: the waste management crisis, food security and mangrove restoration. During the dialogue, it was suggested that moving forward, the city needs to be empowered to carry forward the learnings from these initiatives and develop them further as well as implement new innovative projects with long term impacts on the resilience of the city’s food system.

There was participation and rich contributions from participants from academia, non-government organizations, private sector and government officials including the Mayor of Quelimane, Mayor Manuel de Araujo. These were the key outcomes from the discussions.

It was noted that there is huge potential for the Zambezia Province, where Quelimane City is the capital, for agricultural production, especially the production of nutritious local food such as rice (there is an identified unique and flavorful rice local to Zambezia), corn, soy and animal husbandry such as cattle keeping. The production of local foods would reduce the current reliance on imported foods from South Africa and other provinces. Imported foods are more expensive and some have lower nutritional value.

Food diversification was highlighted as a crucial solution because crop growing depends largely on the weather seasons in the region. Diversifying the food production would benefit the food system in Quelimane City as it would contribute to building the city’s resilience.

In addition, it was recognized that it is essential to promote environmentally friendly food systems to contribute towards building climate change resilience for Quelimane. Discussions were centered on how to effectively manage land and forestry resources, such as protecting the mangroves and other natural assets of Quelimane while ensuring that there is access to fertile land and other natural resources such as fresh water for food production.

There are several opportunities for investment and innovation to the Quelimane food system that were identified:

- Promotion and awareness campaigns on effective fishing, creating of clean energy through waste to energy initiatives, mechanizing production and irrigation systems that will increase efficiency and enhance productivity.
- Urban infrastructure planning, for example planning for location and distribution of markets is fundamental as well as transport systems are key for driving local investment as well as reduction of food loss and waste and promoting livelihoods in the food system.
- Investment in digital technologies for people to sell remotely, and not necessarily in stores. It would also have been good in building resilience especially in situations such as the COVID-19 lockdown.

Mayor Manuel de Araujo from the Municipal Council of Quelimane, reiterated its commitment to position the food systems at the forefront of planning and policy initiatives moving forward. This will be done through prioritizing food systems in the upcoming Municipal Development Strategy which is the masterplan that will guide the development of the city as well as the Territorial and Spatial Development Plan.

The mayor also noted that the city is currently collaborating with stakeholders, such as Manitese and the Municipal Council of Reggio Emilio, on projects related to waste management and the city is committed to collaborating with other stakeholders to scale up these initiatives through technical and financial support. However, the Mayor invited different stakeholders to liaise with the Municipal Council to support the food system planning and transformation processes through capacity building as well as

support towards the development of the right infrastructure at local level. He recognized that there are both demand-side and supply-side opportunities across the food value chain and that capacity building of local stakeholder is key to capitalizing on these opportunities. The mayor called upon institutions, such as FAO, ICLEI, Milan Urban Food Policy Pact, among others, to support with the right expertise that will reinforce different local capacity of food system stakeholders.

16. Tunis, Tunisia

Dialogue Title	Aim(s) of Dialogue	Dialogue Guiding Questions or Key Questions
<p>Towards healthy, resilient and inclusive urban food systems for the City of Tunis</p> <p>Dialogue Recording</p>	<p>To understand the nexus between food, nutrition and health and how it can be made relevant for the citizens of the city of Tunis, for instance by promoting urban and peri-urban agriculture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is the role of urban and peri-urban agriculture? ● What distribution channels are best to use? ● What is the role of e-commerce platforms in food distribution? ● What is the role of the social economy and of social protection of urban food system transformation? ● How to reduce and manage food waste and implement a circular economy?

Opening speakers

Name	Organization or Role
Souad Ben Abderrahim	Municipality of Tunis, Mayor of Tunis
Philippe Ankers	FAO representative in Tunisia
Aida Robbana	UN-HABITAT representative in Tunisia
Arnaud Peral	United Nations Resident Coordinator in Tunisia
Abderrahmen Cheffai	Ministry of Agriculture, National Coordinator (national dialogue)

Technical speakers

Name	Organization or Role	Topic
Dr Amor Ennaifer	Municipality of Tunis, Inspector General, Director of Hygiene of the City of Tunis, Director of Environmental Protection	Nexus Food, nutrition and health for Tunis city citizens
Dr Jalila Elati	Director of studies department, National Institute of nutrition and food technology	
Mr Adel Bettaieb	General director of green spaces and parcs, Municipality of Tunis	Promoting urban and peri-urban agriculture
Mrs Besma Maddouri	Head of planning division, CRDA Tunis	
Mr Abderrazak Bouziri	Deputy Mayor of Tunis	Channels of distribution and role of digital commerce and platforms
Mr Mourad Ben Hassin	General director of National institute of consumption	
Mrs Amel Bouzaiene	President of the training, employment and local development committee, Municipality of Tunis	Social protection and role of social and solidarity economy
Mr Adel Azzabi	President of association: El Mourouj 2 citizens	

Mrs Afef Hamdi	President of the Health Protection Commission, Municipality of Tunis	Food waste and food waste management, circular economy
Mr Deryn Dogui	Director of National institute of consumption	

Dialogue summary

The Municipality of the City of Tunis has approximately 620 000 inhabitants and half a million non-residents flock to the city daily, mainly for professional reasons. Therefore, establishing healthy and sustainable food systems requires comprehensive work and a systemic approach to address all interrelated issues such as the population trends, agricultural production, processing, disposal, trade, consumption and waste management.

Initiatives have been launched in the city of Tunis to establish a nexus between food, nutrition and health for its citizens, such as producer-to-consumer sales point in El Mourouj 2. The working group identified a series of solutions and actions to be promoted, such as increasing the number of points of sale from producer to consumer, establishing educational vegetable gardens in kindergartens and other educational institutes, increasing hygiene control in food outlets, and using mass media to raise awareness on Tunisians' eating habits and how to improve them.

Furthermore, peri-urban agriculture in the governorate of Tunis (occupying approximately 8000 ha) continues to perform economic, environmental and social functions through its various activities (plant, animal, fishing) and its wealth of forests and natural reserves and represents a green belt for the city. The gardens of neighborhoods managed by the syndics are sporadically present and several households practice individual composting, while associations are successfully conducting new experiments. However, there are several associated challenges such as the reluctance among young people to participate, rapid rates of urbanization and the use of available land for housing and infrastructure related projects as well as high labor costs in the urban areas. Moreover, there are also environmental related challenges such as pollution of water for irrigation and shortage of water dedicated toward agri-food activities.

One of the major challenges in regarding e-commerce platforms as a distribution channel is the digitization of the processes and services of the entire food supply chain as well as the related acceptability and uptake. The Municipality of Tunis will work to reinforce the control of the distribution channels while considering the existence of informal vendors, particularly itinerant, in the distribution channels. In terms of achievements, there is an online platform "code online" which offers twelve million consumers the means to follow the prices of fresh products at all times and to participate directly in the fight against the anarchic rise of retail prices in the neighboring markets. The COVID-19 pandemic has also forced several companies to create a home delivery service for food products.

About the role of the social economy and social protection in urban food systems transformation, Tunisia has since 2020 passed a law on the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE Law 2020–30) that allows institutions and local authorities to engage in promoting this field. At this level, the Municipality of Tunis could play the role of a locomotive for other municipalities, by promoting innovative SSE models, which allow for the creation of sources of sustainable employment and offer sustained food support for vulnerable groups (particularly the homeless).

The working group identified a series of recommendable actions, which cover different levels of intervention such as policy and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) for social change, and which include: establishing a regulatory framework for the fight against food waste, establishing a waste separation system where organic waste must be sent to a designated site for composting in each region, launching communication actions with partners and multimedia aimed at all stakeholders on methods of food conservation, packaging and recycling, building the stakeholders' capacity on waste management and treatment techniques and generalizing the composting experience.

Overall, the dialogue was a good way to gather information and ideas on the key themes connected to urban food system transformation in Tunis.

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SYNTHESIS REPORT

*Sixteen Urban Food Systems Dialogues for
the United Nations Food Systems Summit*

