

FAO Food for Cities multi-disciplinary initiative and climate change

Sylvie Wabbes

*Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
co-secretary of the Food for the Cities multi-disciplinary
initiative*

Food and nutrition security for urban dwellers

- *Concentrating food needs in growing cities*
- *Food riots in 2007-2008 and early 2011*
- *The double burden of malnutrition*
- *Food insecurity emergencies growing agenda*

4 Main interconnected challenges ahead

- Population growth and overexploitation of land and other natural resources (biodiversity, water, fossil fuels...)
- Rapid urbanization: exacerbation of poverty and hunger especially in less developed countries; unsustainable consumption patterns
- Increase of frequency and scale of disasters (man made and natural disasters) and need to prevent, prepare and manage risks for agriculture, fisheries and forestry sectors
- Climate changes and the need to adapt to and mitigate its effects, especially to ensure food and nutrition security for present and future generations

**GLOBAL
OBJECTIVES**

UNFCCC
"Carbon"

CBD
"Species"

WSFS
"Calories"

Human rights
Health, trade,
Education, etc.

National ->
International

National ->
Local

Climate

Biodiversity

Food Security

**LOCAL
REALITIES**

World Habitat Day
3 October 2011



Cities within their territories and eco-systems

- *Changing dimensions of rural-urban landscapes*
 - *Consumers' driven food system*
- *Natural resource management across the urban rural continuum*
 - *Local authorities and territorial planning*

The 4 dimensions of the food system

From the FAO “Food, agriculture and cities position paper”

- *A people centered and social development policy – the right to food*
- *Risk management and ecosystem resilience*
- *Addressing Multi-level governance*
- *Pitching food system in urban and territorial planning*

FAO in the Hyogo Framework for Action on DRR



Disaster Risk Reduction -DRR for agriculture and food insecurity, and FAO Framework Programme 4 pillars:

- 1- Institutional strengthening and good governance for DRR in agriculture sectors
- 2- Information and early warning systems on food and nutrition security and trans-boundary threats
- 3- Preparedness for effective response and recovery in agriculture, livestock, fisheries and forestry
- 4- Mitigation, prevention and building resilience with technologies, approaches and practices for food and nutrition security



FAO in the Hyogo Framework for Action on DRR (2)



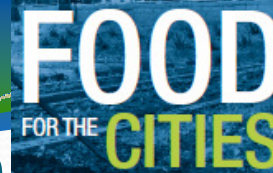
To support government member countries handle Disaster Risk Reduction -DRR in agriculture and food insecurity, FAO has a framework programme built on pillars ...

And 4 cross-cutting priorities on:

- capacity development of individuals, institutions and the enabling environment or policies and legal frameworks
- knowledge management, advocacy and communication
- strategic partnership and financing
- Gender equity



FAO in climate change adaptation



To support member countries and partners to avoid dangerous climate change, agriculture and land use must be part of the solution (these represent 30% of the green gas emissions)

Climate change impacts the 4 dimensions of food security:

- food availability: lower production due to extreme events, change in the availability of land and water, technologies, crop varieties, animal breeds, ...
- food access: loss of livelihood assets, infrastructure, income, employment,...
- food supply stability: food price fluctuation and dependency on imports and food aid
- food utilisation: food safety hazards associated with pests, animal and human disease



FAO in climate change adaptation (2)

To support its government members countries and partners, FAO has a Climate Change Adaptation programme framework helping coherent, multidisciplinary action around 5 main priorities:

- 1- data and knowledge for impact and vulnerability assessment and adaptation
- 2- institutions, policies and financing to strengthen capacities for adaptation
- 3- Sustainable and climate-smart agriculture : management of land, water and biodiversity, and ecosystem services (emission reduction/carbon sequestration)
- 4- Technologies, practices and processes for adaptation
- 5- Disaster risk reduction and management linking actions with DRR framework presented earlier on

FAO in climate change adaptation (2b)

To support its government members countries and partners, FAO has a Climate Change Adaptation programme framework helping coherent, multidisciplinary action around 5 main priorities...

Cross-cutting efforts in coordination and knowledge management, in capacity development and human resources and in resource mobilisation are crucial like for DRR

The inter-agency reference group on meeting the humanitarian challenges in urban areas



Guidance on food and nutrition security issues in crisis situation in urban and peri-urban areas is one of the strategic objective of the group. UN HABITAT is taking a lead coordinating role.

To that end, a group of NGOs (ACF, Concern, Oxfam, ...) and WFP and FAO launched a partnership to work together on:

=> Targeting; Needs assessment; Monitoring; Preparedness via contingency planning ; + the process of working and coordinating action together

The work planned in 3 focal countries (for capital and secondary cities) and seeking support of local authorities and donors: Haiti, Kenya, Nepal with possibilities also in Colombia.



Conclusions and the way forward



Today many good practices exist on food and nutrition security in urban and peri-urban areas and in both development and crisis situations:

- Haiti, Kenya, Colombia, Palestine territories, Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi,
- Partnership and alliances are key to face the huge challenges ahead
- Preparedness, prevention, mitigation and adaptation are essential to save lives and to reduce costs of food and nutrition security
- Urban systems need to have more attention and to be managed as part of their broader natural ecosystems and not in isolation to be viable
- Nutrition and food security at the local and national levels must be based on sound territorial food systems reinforcing rural-urban linkages
- Mayors and city councils must play a fundamental function in ensuring viable food systems for their cities.



Ways forward: Food and agriculture in the global urban agenda



- *FAO position paper in upcoming CFS*
- *Joining forces between partners*
 - *Participation to the WUF; WHD...*
 - *Resilient cities congress with ICLEI*
- *A contribution to the Green Economy – Rio+20*



Food and agriculture in the local urban agenda

- *Catalytic project implementation*
- *City-to-city collaboration*
- *Multi-stakeholders partnership and action*
- *Working with local authorities (ICLEI), UN-Habitat, WFP and other UN agencies; NGOs, research institutions and donors ...*

FAO and its partners are ready to engage with cities into developing the missing links between the right to food, DRR, CCA, and FNS in urban and peri-urban situations during both times of development and crisis. This should translate into coherent policies and technical and field interventions in support of FNS in favour of urban and rural populations

www.fao.org/fcit

www.dgroups.org/fao/food-for-cities

and please contact us:

Sylvie.WabbesCandotti@fao.org –« Food for the Cities » co-secretary

Julien.Custot@fao.org –« Food for the Cities » facilitator

Francesca.Gianfelici@fao.org –« Food for the Cities » secretariat