

The role of urban agriculture in enhancing urban food security and nutrition



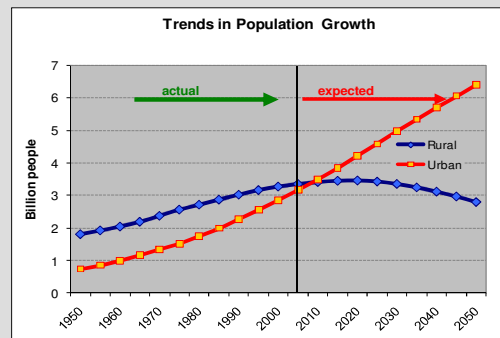
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Context



- More than 50 % of the world population in cities
- Almost 5 billion people will live in cities in 2030
- In 2050, more than 6 billion, 70 %



Cities are vulnerable to crises

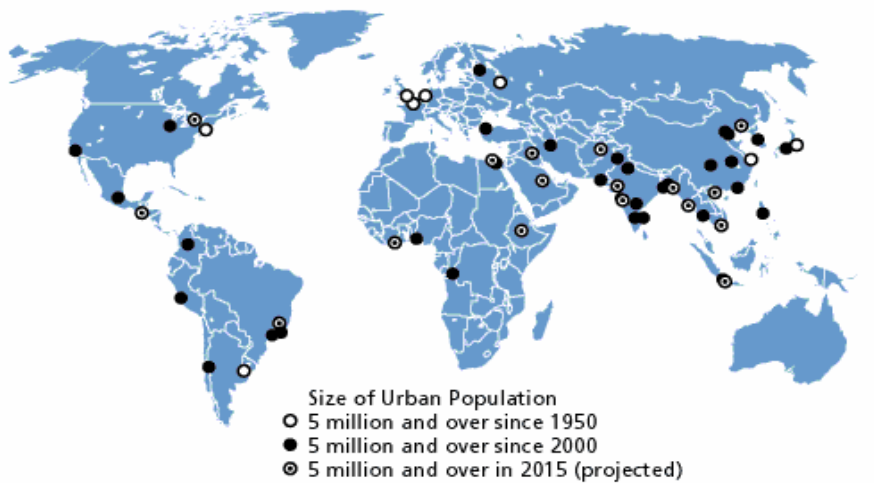


- Directly:
 - Food price crisis: hunger riots
 - Financial and economic crisis
 - Extreme weather events
- Indirectly:
 - Migration from rural areas
 - Disruption of supply chain
 - Access to natural resources (e.g. water) from surrounding territory

Satisfying the food needs of urban populations



By 2015, 53 cities in the world are expected to have a population of 5 million or more. To feed a city of this size, 6 000 tons of food must be supplied every day



Source: UN, Urbanization prospects.

What food for growing cities?



- The present model does not work: double burden of malnutrition
- Moving towards sustainable diets
 - healthy (sufficient, balanced and safe)
 - but also environmental
 - and socio-cultural dimensions
- Urban consumers have the key role in driving a more sustainable food and agriculture system

What do urban consumers need to ensure good nutrition?



- A better diet
 - more and affordable fresh foods (micro-nutrient rich)
 - less processed foods
- and therefore:
 - affordable foods on the market at all seasons
 - appropriate information
 - the means to access the food
 - time and energy to prepare it and distribute it
- a healthy environment and basic health services
- and more physical exercise

Towards more rational and resilient food systems



- Make the good choice the easy choice for urban consumers
 - revisit food distribution system (incl. schools, street foods, catering)
 - time-saving
- Move beyond national planning
 - local planning for shorter food chains and livelihoods
 - regional integration
- Revisit traditional food systems
 - sustainable management of biodiversity
 - valorization of local cultures and indigenous knowledge
 - more sustainable local development
- Articulate food chain and systems approach

Revisiting urban and peri-urban agriculture



- Availability of and access to micro-nutrient rich perishable foods
- ...as long as food safety is ensured
- Promotion of local and traditional foods (and biodiversity)
- Provisions of jobs and income for household food security
- Compatibility with reproductive tasks (child care, PLWHA)
- Contributes to greener and more healthy cities, as long as
 - good practices are adopted for both production and waste management
 - it is incorporated in urban planning
 - reliable access to natural resources
- Contribute to DRM (use of flood-prone areas, consolidation of banks. prevention of erosions and landslides)
- From peri-urban to intra-urban?



Thank you for your attention

