



Food Security: An Urban Imperative

FAO Food for Cities

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ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability



ICLEI Cities Biodiversity Center

BiodiverCities Programme

The goal of the BiodiverCities Programme is to guide, support, capacitate and motivate local governments and their partners to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem-based planning into all aspects of policy, decision making and implementation activities to result in enhanced biodiversity conservation and more sustainable local economic development.

Acknowledgement of accountability and responsibility for the health and well-being of communities and recognition of biodiversity and essential ecosystem services as the foundation of our existence are core components of the goal.



A unique platform linking science and practitioners

SERVICES

Advocacy

Technical Support

Profiling

Policy Consultation

Tools & Resources

LAB Guidebook

TEEB Report & Manual

Durban Commitment

Guidelines & Case Studies

LBSAPs

and more...

www.iclei.org/biodiversity

ENTRY POINTS FOR CITIES

LAB Pioneer

BiodiverCities

LAB Pioneer Biodiversity & Climate Change

LAB Pioneer Biodiversity & CEPA

Cities in Biodiversity Hotspots

URBIS

& more to come

BiodiverCities Advisory Committee: High-level coordination group

On invitation: outstanding cities and selected organisations.



GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

BIODIVERCITIES TECHNICAL REFERENCE GROUP

Durban CC Adaptation Charter

1. *Mainstream adaptation into planning*
2. *Assess vulnerability*
3. *Prepare strategies to reduce vulnerability*
4. *Ensure adaptation aligned with mitigation*
5. *Recognize needs of vulnerable communities*
6. *Prioritise ecosystem-based adaptation*
7. *Fast-track funding*
8. *Develop MRV register*
9. *Promote multilevel governance*
10. *Promote partnerships*



● Contextual challenges

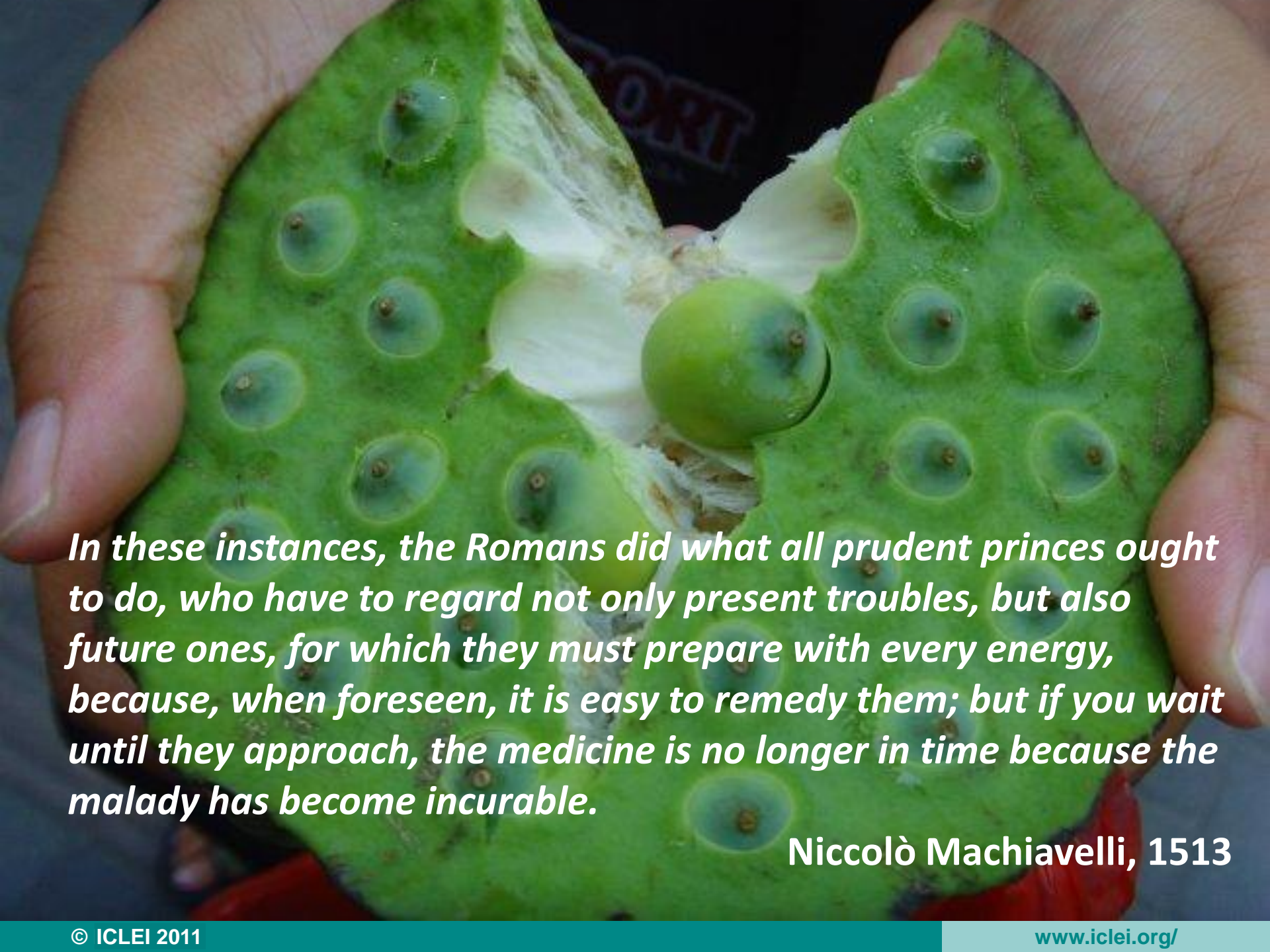


- Explosive population growth
- Rapid urbanization
- Soil degradation and desertification
- Water and energy scarcity
- Loss of genetic resilience of food

“The effects of climate change will be compounded by the region’s high poverty levels, weak infrastructure, poor natural resource management and dependence on rain-fed agriculture.” (IFAD 2011)

● Contextual challenges

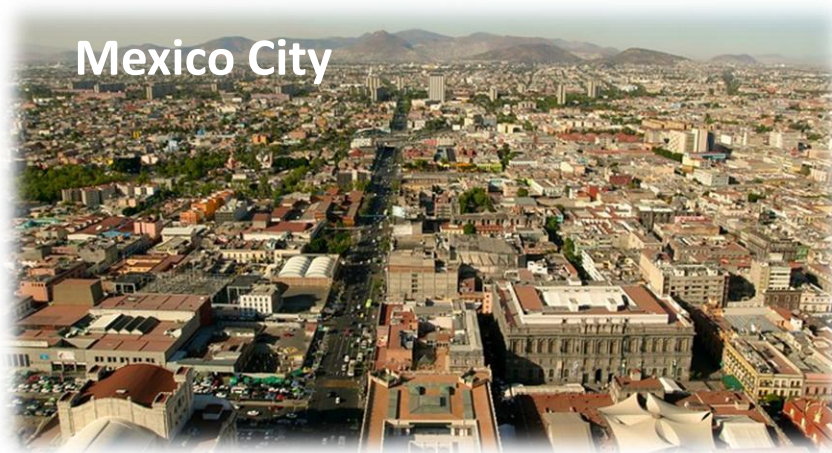




In these instances, the Romans did what all prudent princes ought to do, who have to regard not only present troubles, but also future ones, for which they must prepare with every energy, because, when foreseen, it is easy to remedy them; but if you wait until they approach, the medicine is no longer in time because the malady has become incurable.

Niccolò Machiavelli, 1513

● Cities taking action



● ICLEI World Congress 2012

Where: Belo Horizonte, Brazil

When: 14 to 18 June 2012, just before Rio+20

Purpose: Peer exchanges, knowledge-sharing, capacity building and on-site visits and exhibits.

ICLEI Council will agree on Strategic Plan

Hot topic: Food Security



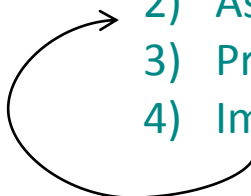
● A Way Forward

Establish urban food security network for cities to:

- Receive technical assistance
- Exchange best practices
- Develop guidelines and manuals
- Showcase achievements

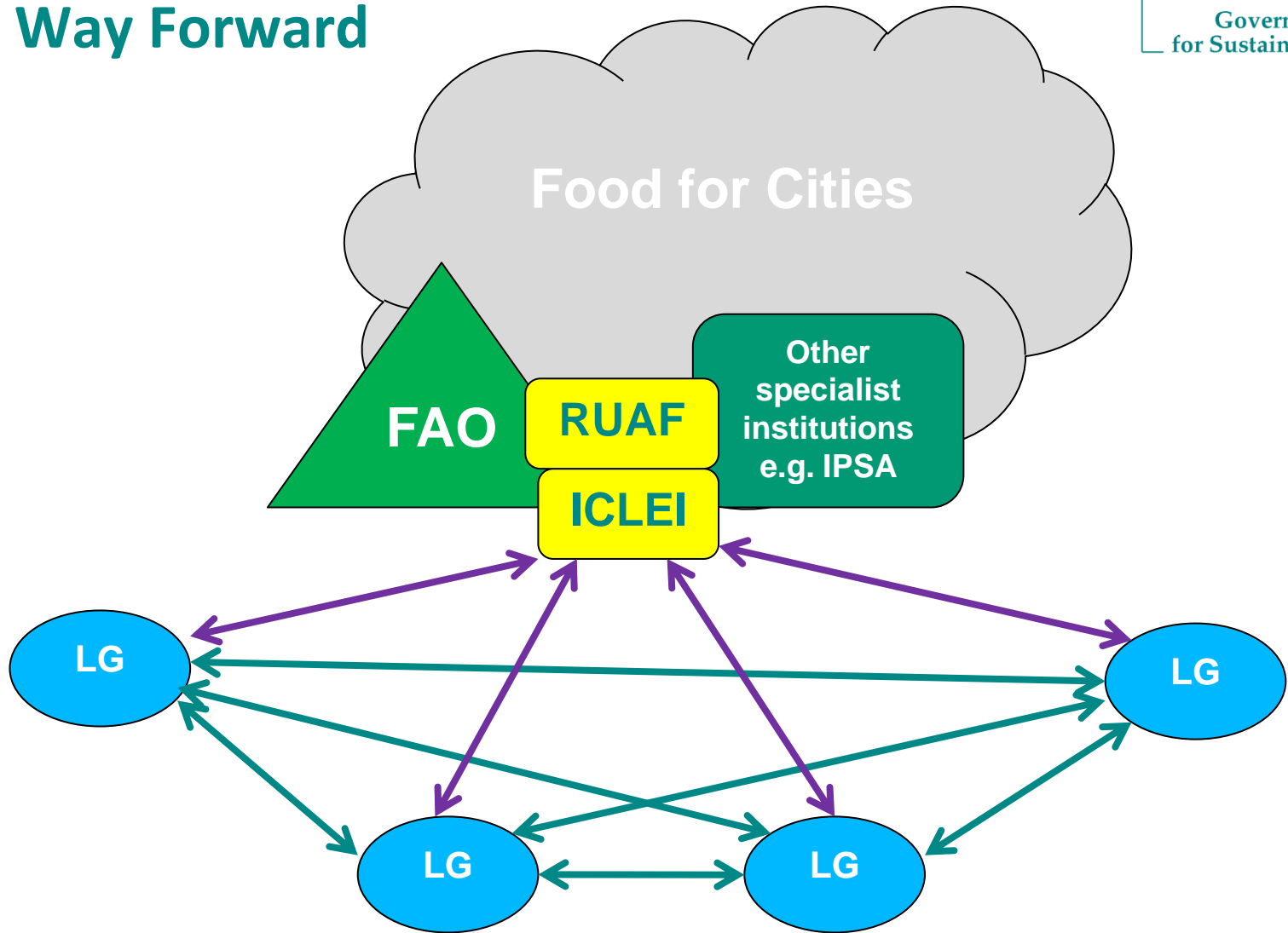
Cities could undertake the following steps:

- 1) Establish municipal food council
- 2) Assess vulnerability
- 3) Prepare strategy to reduce vulnerability
- 4) Implement policies and projects





A Way Forward



● Concluding remarks

Cities recognise the growing importance of food security
Cities need specialist support in planning their food systems
Cities would greatly benefit from a knowledge network

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