



CITY REGION FOOD SYSTEM TOOLKIT

Assessing and planning resilient and sustainable city region food systems

Example: Establishing a Stakeholder Advisory Group

Brief description	Two examples of how stakeholder advisory groups were established in two pilot city regions: Antananarivo (Madagascar) and Kigali (Rwanda).
Expected outcome	Stakeholders are aware of how stakeholder advisory groups have been established in other project contexts, which may provide them with inspiration.
Expected output	
Scale of application	Project level
Expertise required	-
Examples of application	-
Year of development	2021
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Relevant CRFS Handbook modules; related tools, examples and activities	CRFS Handbook: Inception module.

Full description and justification

This document set out two examples of how stakeholder advisory groups were formed in two pilot city regions: Antananarivo (Madagascar) and Kigali (Rwanda).

The examples are needed because each city region context is different, and existing stakeholder networks vary considerably. In some cases they may derive from connections made during previous food systems projects. In addition to the theoretical guidance on how to establish a SAG, it can be helpful for the project team to see how this task has been carried out in practice.



1 Establishing the SAG in Antananarivo, Madagascar

The starting point for identifying prospective SAG members was the list of stakeholders who had participated in earlier food systems work (implementation of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact monitoring framework in 2019). When the CRFS boundaries were extended to 100km around the city, the list was expanded to include other stakeholders working in the territory.

An initial mapping exercise was carried out to analyse the role of each stakeholder and assign them to one of six categories: i) government representatives; ii) stakeholders with a role related to climate change; iii) CRFS institutional focal points (members of the project team); iv) authorities and technical services related to food quality/control; v) food security and nutrition stakeholders; and vi) stakeholders from other organizations and sectors, such as NGOs, academics, private sector, parallel platforms, media.

All the stakeholders identified were invited to a kick-off meeting at the beginning of the project, and were invited to be members of the SAG. However, care was taken not to allow the SAG to become too big, to ensure regular, dynamic dialogue could take place. It was necessary to engage an expert in stakeholder engagement to guide the process.

2 Establishing the SAG in Kigali, Rwanda

The selection of stakeholders to form the SAG was based on the advice of agriculture leaders. Vice-mayors of economic affairs, district directors of agriculture and natural resources management, and district agronomists were selected because of their vital roles in food production and marketing, and knowledge about food systems. Representatives of private NGOs were also included. The advisors identified a need for youth and gender officers at district level, officers in land stop centres, and irrigation officers but they were not initially engaged. Over time, it became clear that there was a need to for stakeholders from all the food system nodes to join the SAG, to articulate their roles, and to regularly inform them on each step of the in the CRFS process.

A workshop was organized where all the stakeholders were asked to describe their role in the food system, food security and/or nutrition in the community. Other effective ways of meeting with stakeholders include group WhatsApp calls, phone calls, emails, and virtual meetings (although with some with difficulty).

