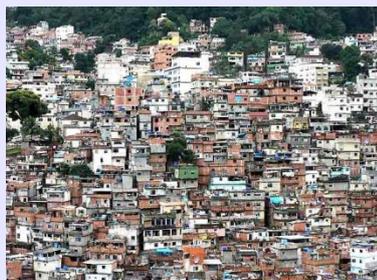


Food for the Cities

Side event



Chaired by Renato Maluf

Brazil, President of the National Council of Food and Nutrition Security (CONSEA)

Alexander Müller

FAO - Assistant Director General - Natural Resources and Environment Department (NR)

Opening

Hafez Ghanem

FAO - Assistant Director General - Economic and Social Development Department (ES)

Right to food in cities

Olivier de Schutter

United Nations Special rapporteur on the right to food

Malnutrition in urban settings

Denise Coitinho

Executive secretary of the Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN)

Emergencies, crisis and disaster risk management in cities

Sylvie Wabbes

FAO - Emergency Operations Service (TCEO)

Decentralized cooperation programme and role of cities

Richard China

FAO - Policy and Programme Development Support Division (TCS)

Plenary discussion

www.fao.org/fcit

Thursday 14 October 2010 - 12h30-14h00
(food and beverages provided)

Malaysia Room (B 227) - FAO - Rome



36th Committee on World Food Security (CFS)



Food for the Cities

Description

Recent food riots and the rise of obesity rates both demonstrate in their different ways the importance of food and nutrition security for urban populations all over the world.

Challenges are still ahead. The population of the world will rise by 50 % from 6.8 billion people today now to about 9 billion in 2050. This growth will take place in cities with an increase of the urban population from about 3 billion to 6 billion peoples leading to growing challenges regarding environmental management and enhanced rural-urban and producer-consumer linkages.



Food and nutrition security policies are needed for urban dwellers, who depend almost exclusively on purchasing food, in order to raise standards of food quality and availability of fresh and nutritious food. People living in cities must also benefit from and participate in the progressive realization of the right to adequate food.



Cities induce changes in lifestyle and nutrition habits. These changes are resulting in the rapid development of obesity, malnutrition and other diet-related diseases. Nutrition policy, relying particularly of social policies, education and livelihoods, can be implemented only with strong, long term political commitment.

In cases of crisis in a city, or of displaced people seeking protection in cities, responses regarding food and nutrition security frequently include emergency operations and support for development. Preparedness and disaster risk management have to be integrated in these policies.

City-to-city cooperation (North-South and South-South) can be a driver for progress, with approaches based on local food systems centered on cities. These rely on responsible local governance, with the mobilization of all stakeholders, supported by an holistic approach addressing issues including land tenure, urban and peri-urban agriculture (crops and livestock), forestry, fisheries, food supply and marketing infrastructures and emergency operations.



The Committee on World Food Security provides a global platform for addressing these issues, bringing key stakeholders together and promoting collaborative action among governments, regional organizations, international organizations and agencies, NGOs, CSOs, food producers' organizations, private-sector organizations, philanthropic organizations, academics and other relevant stakeholders, particularly the local authorities.

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