



SESSION DESCRIPTION

G1 How to govern stakeholder cooperation for resilient city-region food systems

Presentations

Date: Saturday, May 31, 2014

Time: 11:30-13:00

Rooms: S34-35

Language: English

ICLEI contact: Franziska Schreiber/ Laura Kavanaugh

Organized by: ICLEI

OBJECTIVE

Due to the rising recognition of the numerous benefits of urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA), more and more actors are choosing to become involved in city-region food systems. This trend has led to a growing need to develop effective governance structures in order to ensure successful multi-stakeholder collaboration and improve the outcomes of UPA. This session will showcase examples from both the Global South and the Global North to evaluate current strategies for governing multi-actor cooperation.

It will begin with an introduction to FAO's "Growing Greener Cities" program, investigating the progress and current status of UPA in Latin American and Caribbean cities, which is recognized by public policy and incorporated into land-use planning. The diverse governance structures developed by these cities to tackle urban agriculture and food security will be highlighted and opportunities to enhance partnership and collaboration will be discussed. This will be followed by a presentation focusing on the internal dynamics of a multi-stakeholder negotiation process, and detailing their implications for the outcomes of urban agriculture. Initial findings of a study conducted in Ghent, Belgium will provide insights into the role and interplay of actors involved in the development process of urban agriculture, and offer recommendations for effective sustainable planning and policy making. Continuing the discussion on governance, the last presentation will focus on two good practice examples for resilient urban food systems located in Milan's peri-urban areas. In both cases successful urban rural partnerships and multi-level stakeholder collaborations have been developed, and the challenges and lessons learned will be shared.

OUTCOMES

- The participants will learn about new partnerships and multi-stakeholder collaborations to enhance the resilience of city-region food systems;
- Through the case studies, participants will gain a deeper understanding of urban and peri-urban agricultural production and potential ways of distribution; and
- They will be able to take this knowledge with them to apply in their own cities and regions.

METHODOLOGY

- The facilitator will provide an overall introduction to the session topic and contributors. **(5 minutes)**
- Each presentation will be allotted 10 minutes. **(3 x 15 minutes)**
- The facilitator will manage questions and answers. **(35 minutes)**
- Closing remarks by the facilitator. **(5 minutes)**



CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator *Marielle Dubbeling, Director, RUAF Foundation, the Netherlands*

Presenter *Makiko Taguchi, Agricultural Office and Co-secretary of the Food for the Cities Network, FAO of the United Nations, Rome, Italy*

City region food system and sustainable urbanization: A call for global action

A call for global action was made at the World Urban Forum 7 that was held in Medellín, Colombia in April 2014. FAO's Food for the Cities and various partners from the network, including ICLEI, made the call to advocate the importance of city region food system and rural urban linkage for sustainable development. One of the key elements is the mainstreaming of participatory governance and capacity building for inclusive development. Examples from the new FAO publication "Growing Greener Cities in Latin America and the Caribbean" will be shared to highlight the diverse ways of governance in cities to tackle urban agriculture, food security, and food system. Furthermore, efforts to enhance partnership and collaboration on city region food system will be presented.

Presenter *Charlotte Prové, PhD Student, Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research (ILVO), Mellebeke, Belgium*

Behind the local scene of urban agriculture: How stakeholders collaborate

The recent increase in public interest in participating in urban agriculture has caused a reorientation of the food governance system. This implies an increasing involvement of non-governmental and private actors in decision-making, which was previously the exclusive domain of government officials. Based on a study conducted in the city of Ghent, this presentation will explore the process of newly developed multi-stakeholder collaboration and its implications for the development of urban agriculture. It will be argued that the social dynamics that evolve throughout the negotiation process determine the outcomes and practices of urban agriculture. Initial findings reveal two important shifts: a reorientation from a social approach of neighborhood integration to a strategy focused on local and sustainable food systems, and a shift from collaborative toward more competitive stakeholder relationships.

Presenter *Angela Colucci, Independent Researcher/Consultant, DASTU of Politecnico of Milano/Co.O.Pe.Ra.Te.Ltd, Italy*

Resilient urban food systems: Two good practices from Milan's peri-urban areas

This presentation will compare two good practice examples for resilient urban food systems located in Milan's peri-urban areas: the "rice fields park" project and the "BuonMercator" initiative. The "rice fields park" project aims to enhance the traditional rice production and its distribution through the development of market networks, which promote local agricultural products in city markets and retail shops. The local "BuonMercator" market provides a space for bio-food distribution and seeks to develop a new model of agricultural production by establishing partnerships between farmers and consumer. The challenges, success factors, and lessons learned will be discussed



and innovative instruments of urban rural partnerships and multi-level/multi-stakeholder collaborations will be shared.

Further recommended reading

ResilienceLAB is constituted as a network of people working on sustainability issues, adaptation, urban and territorial resilience with different looks and approaches. Documents and presentations (of workshop developed on rural/urban partnerships) are available on the website:

http://www.resiliencelab.eu/index_ENG.html

Documents, paper and references on Angela Colucci's research/consulting work

<http://www.angelacolucci.eu/angela/HOME.html>

URMA INTERREG Urban-rural partnerships in metropolitan areas

IVC <http://www.urma-project.eu/>
