

Urban and peri-urban agriculture and its contribution to facing some of the challenges of our urban future

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Table programme**

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Overview

1. Urban and peri-agriculture: a reality
2. Why do cities promote urban agriculture?
3. The RUAF Foundation: support to UA policy making
4. What cities can do to support UPA?
5. Proposals for collaboration

Urban agriculture: a reality!

A multiplicity of urban and peri-urban agriculture practices and policies









Sierra Leone

“Operation Feed the Nation” : *“No Sierra Leonean shall go to bed hungry”*

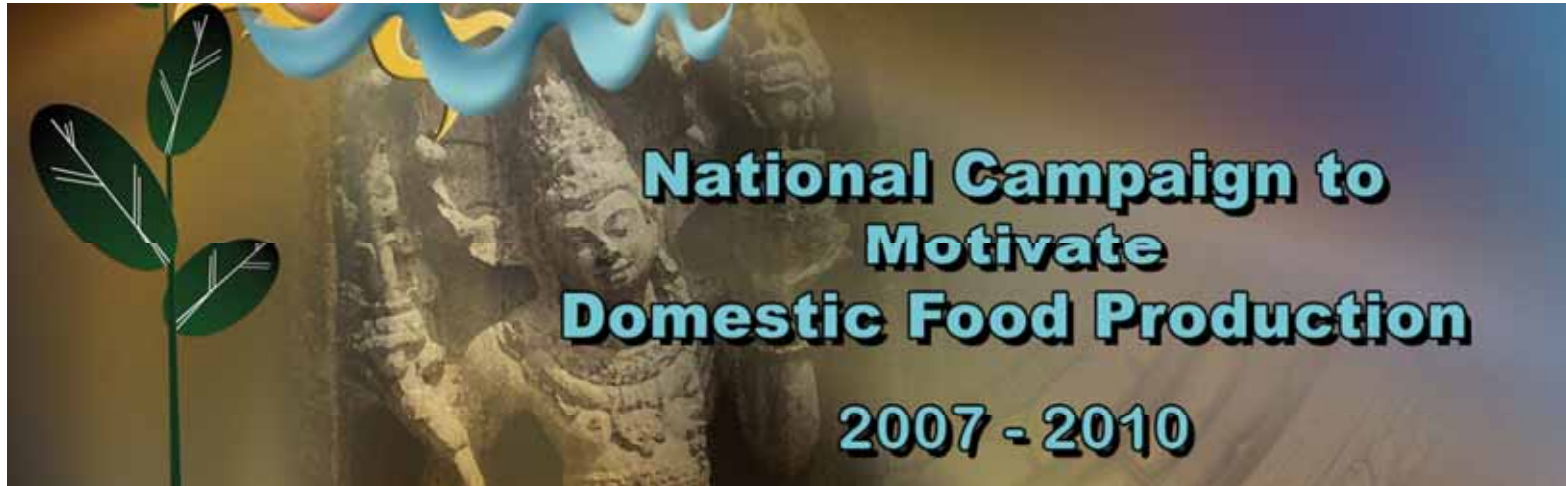
- Urban agriculture a major component of urban food security programmes:
 - > Integration in the Freetown Development Plan
 - > In slum upgrading programmes
 - > Creating employment through high-value agri-business

Monde Launches Freetown Urban and Peri-Urban Agricultural Project

The Minister of Agriculture and Food Security Dr. Sama Monde has launched the Freetown Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture Project (FUPAP) at the Conference Hall of the Ministry in Freetown. Addressing participants during the occasion, the Director General of the Agriculture Ministry Mr. Patrick Hanmer welcomed the participants adding that the project is an attempt to address the growing problems of urban

20 agricultural development projects with outside funding of 117 million US dollars in the pipeline. He urged the various stakeholders to employ synergy so as to achieve the aim of the various projects. In her contributions, the West Africa Regional Coordinator of International Network of Resource Centers on Urban Agriculture and Food Security Dr. (Mrs.) Olufunko Cofie said that cities all over the world are growing faster than rural areas. This she said poses a serious challenge for Sierra Leone and other countries where city growth outpaces urban resources.

Sri Lanka



Main aim: *Achieve food sovereignty of the country*

- > Cultivate every inch of available municipal land
- > Reconverting abandoned paddy fields into small-scale commercial urban agriculture
- > Promote urban home, school and institutional gardening on office premises

Brazil

Boletim semanal Nº 145 / 02 a 08 de maio de 2008

Ministro Patrus Ananias anuncia recursos que vão beneficiar 10 mil famílias de agricultores urbanos

Até o próximo ano, 10 mil famílias de agricultores urbanos e peri-urbanos de regiões metropolitanas de 10 Estados e do Distrito Federal receberão recursos do Ministério do Desenvolvimento Social e Combate à Fome (MDS). A afirmação foi feita pelo ministro Patrus Ananias durante abertura do “Seminário Técnico com Gestores dos Centros de Apoio à Agricultura Urbana e Peri-urbana em Regiões Metropolitanas Brasileiras”, na terça-feira (06/05), em Brasília (DF). Pelo Ministério, estiveram presentes os diretores da Secretaria Nacional de Segurança Alimentar e Nutricional, Crispim Moreira, Marco Aurélio Loureiro e César de Medeiros.



Cape Town urban agriculture policy (2006)

“The City recognizes that urban agriculture can play a key role in strategies for poverty alleviation (food security and nutrition) and economic development (income generation). Therefore, the City supports and promotes urban agriculture within the context that it will not degrade the quality of life of citizens, will not impact harmfully on public health, the natural environment and will contribute to the economic and social well-being of people”

Mexico City (2008)

The local government launched a "Backyard Agriculture Program" to encourage the capital's residents to **use all available space to grow crops**. *"With the climate we have in Mexico City you can get between two and three harvests a year and that would help families keep costs down"*

A parallel Urban Agriculture Program encourages communities to make **communal land available for crops such as corn and fruit**. The target is to involve about 200,000 city residents in the medium term.

Why support urban agriculture?

UPA can contribute to answering important urban challenges:

- Growing urban poverty and social exclusion (“urbanization of poverty”)
- Growing food insecurity in cities (nutritious food more difficult to access for urban poor; food crisis hits especially the urban poor)
- Growing need for more resilient cities (to mitigate climate change and reduce the “foot/d-print” of cities)

Three policy perspectives on Urban and peri-urban agriculture

1. The social perspective (inclusive city)
2. The economic perspective (productive city)
3. The ecological perspective (resilient city)

ECOLOGICAL
(Healthy City)

SOCIAL
(Inclusive City)

Multi-functional urban agriculture

- Urban Greening
- Recreational services
- Productive Use of Urban Wastes
- Reduction of Urban Ecological Footprint
- Improved Urban Micro-climate
- Management of Landscape and Biodiversity

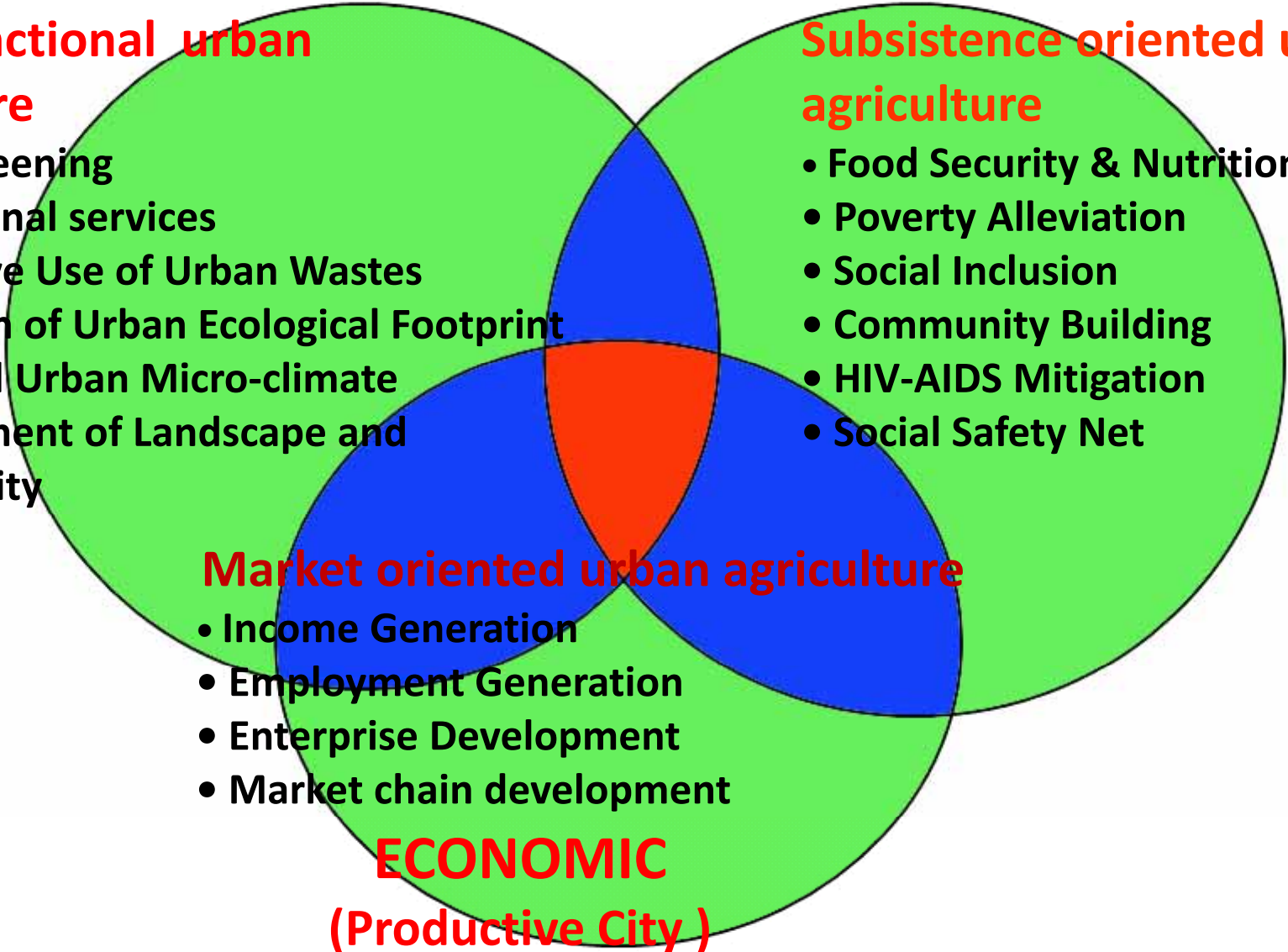
Subsistence oriented urban agriculture

- Food Security & Nutrition
- Poverty Alleviation
- Social Inclusion
- Community Building
- HIV-AIDS Mitigation
- Social Safety Net

Market oriented urban agriculture

- Income Generation
- Employment Generation
- Enterprise Development
- Market chain development

ECONOMIC
(Productive City)



The RUA Foundation

- International network of 1 international and 7 regional Resource centers on Urban Agriculture and Food security
- Active in 20 cities in 18 countries around the world, including several Metropolis members:
Accra, Amman, Bangalore, Beijing, Belo Horizonte, Bogota and Shanghai
- And having linkages with other members such as *Antananarivo, Bangkok, Chengdu, Colombo, Dakar, Harare, Ile-de-France, Kampala, La Habana, Mexico, Montreal, Tunis and Quito*

The RUA Foundation-its programmes

- 1. Cities Farming for the Future:** Multi-stakeholder policy formulation and action planning; Integration of urban agriculture in land use planning, institutional programmes and budgets
- 2. From Seed to Table:** Strengthening (poor) urban producer groups; Enhancing their capacity to innovate their production systems; Stimulating direct marketing of fresh or processed products (mainly organic); Enhancing access to local financing
- 3. Knowledge programme:** studies, thematic workshops, training & coaching, distance learning, major publications, UA-Magazine, exchange visits, online databases

Case: Bulawayo-Zimbabwe

- 1,4 million inhabitants
- Unemployment level at 80%
- Poverty around 60% of the population



- Policy awareness seminar
- Establishment of the Bulawayo Urban Agriculture Forum (multi- stakeholder) and the Municipal Interdepartmental committee on UPA
- Forum members received intensive training
- Situation analysis: review existing policies and regulations, mapping vacant open spaces; SWOT analysis existing urban farming systems



- Strategic Action planning (committees)
- BUAF Policy Formulation Workshop
- Approval Bulawayo Policy on Urban Agriculture by Council Committee
- Establishment of the Municipal Urban Agriculture Bureau



URBAN AGRICULTURE POLICY



- Inclusion of urban agriculture in the annual budget
- And in the city development and land use plan;
- Making Municipal land available to groups of poor urban households
- Making treated wastewater available to a large community garden (450 hectares; 1000 households)



- Implementation of various projects with groups of poor urban households by BUAF members, including:

- Establishment of 22 new community gardens (World Vision)

- Training in ecological horticulture practices (AGRITEX)



- Projects with mushroom growing, cultivation of herbs, poultry keeping (MDP and other actors)

- Strengthening of producers groups and facilitating farmers marketing (SNV)



Some impacts

- Since 2005 some 5000 households got access to land and water for food production
- A high number of indirect beneficiaries (improved access to nutritious food)
- Enhanced public-private cooperation



Case: Rosario-Argentina

- 1 million inhabitants
- 60% poverty, 22 % extreme poverty
- End of 2000: economic crisis
- A municipal urban agriculture program was established



Strengthening access to land:

- Mapping of vacant land
- Setting up a Land Bank
- Exemption from property tax
- Inclusion of UA in the urban development plan and in social housing schemes



Enhancing production:

- Setting up a city network of urban producer groups
- Training of producers in management and project formulation
- Technical assistance and training
- Provision of quality seed and compost



Enhancing processing and marketing

- Training in market analysis and business planning
- Providing access to old infrastructure and supporting its rehabilitation
- Establishing farmer markets and home delivery schemes
- Inclusion in participatory budgeting



Promoting multifunctional land use:

- Participatory design of “productive parks” and “Productive streets”
- Promotion of multi-functional land use in flood zones (production + agro-tourism + water storage + biodiversity and landscape management)



Some impacts:

- 10.000 families participating in the programme
- 2 agro-industries, 7 farmer markets
- producers earn an additional 90-150 US\$
- rehabilitating waste lands
- waste recycling and management of flood zones





**What can cities do to support
safe, sustainable and pro-poor
urban agriculture?**

“Local governments should show a clear commitment to the development of urban agriculture, mobilizing existing local resources, integrating urban agriculture in the municipal structure, expanding it nationwide, and allotting funds from the municipal budgets for carrying out urban agriculture activities”

Quito Declaration, signed by 40 cities. Quito, Ecuador. April 2000.

1. Creating an enabling policy environment

- Formal acceptance of urban agriculture as an urban land use
- Facilitating policy and regulatory framework and Creating an institutional home for urban agriculture

Some examples:

- Creation of an inter-departmental municipal committee on urban agriculture (Bogota, Bulawayo)
- Creation of a municipal urban agriculture bureau or programme (Rosario, Gampaha)

2. Enhancing access to and security of land

- Mapping land areas for urban agriculture (Quito: 33% of vacant urban land)
- Zoning for urban agriculture and integration into land use plans (Dar es Salaam, Bobo Dioulasso, Beijing)
- Temporal lease of vacant municipal land (Lima, Cape Town)
- Tax incentives for use of public land (Gov Valadares)
- Including space for urban agriculture in new housing projects or slum upgrading schemes (Kampala, Colombo)
- Promoting multifunctional use of land (Beijing)

3. Enhancing the productive and economic viability of urban agriculture

- Provision of training and extension services to urban producers (Cape Town, Botswana)
- Strengthening farmer organizations (Lima)
- Development of appropriate technologies (ecological farming, optimizing use of water and space, health-reduction)
- Enhance access to water, inputs and basic infrastructure (Havana, Bulawayo, Gaza)
- Enhance access to credit and financing (Rosario)
- Facilitate direct marketing (Belo Horizonte)


4. Reducing health and environmental risks

- Improved coordination health, agricultural and environmental departments (Phnom Penh)
- Zoning of urban agriculture (Freetown)
- Strengthening farmer organizations (Lima)
- Farmer education and shift to other forms of production (Bangkok, Xochimilco)
- Training of food vendors and consumers (Accra)
- Preventing pollution by industry -separating waste streams, pollution control (Hanoi)

Proposals for collaboration

1. Training on urban agriculture (En, Fr, Sp, Po, Ch, Ar)

- Integration in land use planning
 - Policy formulation and strategic planning
 - Development of various UA types
 - Micro-enterprise development in UA
 - Strengthening producer organisations
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- > Through distance learning
 - > Face-2-Face training (with the Intern. Inst. For Manag. Of major metropolises?)
 - > Study visits to resource cities

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- 2. Technical assistance to local processes of multi-stakeholder policy formulation and action planning, as well as implementation of UA projects and programmes**
 - 3. Prepare city case studies on contribution UA to community adaptation to climate change**
 - 4. Policy incidence at national and global level**

Let us work
together and
Thank you for your
attention

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