Urban Rural Linkages
For Resilient Food Security
And Vibrant Markets

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networking session goals:

- To describe why a resilient food system is becoming an important "city planning" issue,
- To share innovations and emerging best practices among local authorities and other stakeholders,
- To demonstrate how agricultural production outside a city and food needs within can become mutually supportive,
- Providing insights in urban-rural partnerships that can aid in directly linking agriculture to other important sustainability considerations such as climate protection, water resources and biodiversity conservation.
Outline

- Overview and Background
- Context
- What are successful programs, policies, tools?
- Partnerships
- Challenges & Opportunities
- The road ahead
Context

- Population, Now and Projections
- Poverty and Food Insecurity
- Consumption Patterns: the Growing Middle Class
- Global Climate Change
- Sustainability-Environmental
- Sustainability-Economic
- Sustainability-Social
Challenges of urban growth have rural linkages crossing environmental, economic, and social dimensions.
Urban Agriculture

Providing high-quality food to urban communities...
Catalyzing business development and fostering local self-reliance...
...Strengthening Skills and the Resource Base...
...Building awareness and action
Building “Local Food Systems”

Strengthening rural-to-urban linkages
...establishing new markets for small scale livestock – With increasing consumer interest in local production, processing, and animal welfare.
Supporting cross-sectoral networks

maximizing diversity and resilience
Why food systems are important to urban, peri-urban and rural areas

- Food systems can integrate rural and urban communities through vibrant markets
- Improved food system integrity can address hunger, obesity, and other dietary and nutritional challenges facing cities
- Social benefits of access to affordable, healthy food in low income areas (gardens, schools, grocery stores ...)
- Food systems help stabilize and grow local and regional economies
Energy and transport impacts of the food system (from field to table) can be reduced through more wholistic planning.

Securing open land for food production spans the whole continuum. Fertile farmland in/around metro areas being lost to uncontrolled growth.

Incentives can be developed with multiple benefits, deriving from stronger links between urban and rural:
- City-wide, watershed and landscape scales can be managed to limit use of fertilizers and pesticides that can impair water, air, or biodiversity resources, while providing range of incentives to land managers.
- Organic wastes can provide positive nutrient flows rather than solid waste burdens in landfills.
Why urban rural links?

Rural-urban relationships are key for:

- Economic interdependence
- National economic resilience
- Environmental sustainability
- Governance and citizen participation
- Poverty alleviation and economic opportunity

-- UNDP Report on Urban Rural Linkages, 2000
Closing the Gap

The historic divide between urban and rural is artificial and counter-productive.

It is increasingly recognized that the two sectors are intimately connected in a larger system.

Fundamental issues of biodiversity, land use, climate change and food security are all inter-connected.
The ‘stylized rural-urban continuum’

Foodshed Mapping

**foodshed** ['food,shed] -noun: a region or area from which a population draws its food

Local, sustainable food production is cited as one strategy for addressing urban nutrition and health, through impacts on the availability of fresh foods, dietary choices and activity. Local, sustainable food production may also aid in mitigating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other environmental impacts associated with the current food system. However, the broader implications for both health and environmental impact of widespread conversion to sustainable food crop agriculture remains relatively unknown.

We are exploring the potential for increased regional food production as well as the potential impacts of that food production on health and the environment. We are currently examining potential "foodshed" development in the upper Mississippi watershed, including the Chicago metropolitan region. Geospatial analysis is used to quantify the resource potential for establishing small, urban foodsheds as well as large, metropolitan foodsheds in the Midwest. Simple biogeochemical modeling is used to predict changes in GHG emissions and nutrient flows following changes in land management practices.

Local and regional foodsheds are defined by estimating resource requirements from regional data collection while (1) minimizing environmental and economic costs through transportation mode and (2) maximizing the production potential of different ecoregions and soil types. We are pursuing a broad range of questions related to environment, economics, and health. Environmental modeling includes modeling landscape-scale changes in the hyrdologic and nutrient cycles, in collaboration with models being developed at Argonne National Laboratories. Ultimately, quantification of these wide-ranging impacts from coupled changes in land use and food production can inform regional planning for environmental mitigation strategies while developing a more robust food system.
What programs, policies, toolkits can we identify?

- Urban-rural Roundtables (San Francisco)
- Food Policy Councils (Chicago, Toronto)
- Brazil’s Bolsa familia
- Popular restaurants
- Kenya Value Chains & KLWG
- Farm to school programs
- Urban-rural cooperation on farmers markets, urban agriculture,
- School gardens, youth programs
Policies to . . .

- Support cropping systems with perennials and forages
- Grazing based livestock systems
- Conservation buffers, land management, conservation systems
- Increased economic opportunity to own resources, enter/participate in agriculture
- Increase rewards to skilled farm labor, management, and maximizing use of on-farm biological resources
Connecting farmers to markets

- Local direct marketing
- Market promotion programs
- Value-added programs for small, medium scale farmers
- Child nutrition and general nutrition programs
- Food safety programs
- Risk management
- Producer organization building
Partnerships

- Global Alliance for Food Security
- Government-Civil Society Organizations
- ICLEI/LAB Food and Agriculture WorkNet
- UN Partnerships, Potential CSD?
SARD-Kenya Livestock Working Group

Adding Knowledge, Adding Value, Adding Voice: Socially, Environmentally and Economically Viable Livestock Keeping for the 21st Century
Sustainable Pastoralist Livestock Value Chain

Current practice
Proposed practice

Livestock Production
Natural Resource Management

Livestock Transport
Trade
Slaughter
Processing
Transport truck/bike
Butcheries
Consumers

Holistic Grazing Planning
Increased Grass Cover
Working Water Cycle
Better Wildlife Habitat
Secured resources
Clustered herds

Improved Handling and Transport
Improved Slaughter
Meeting Food Safety Standards
Safe Working Conditions

Fair contracts
Credit

Infrastructure and Capacity Building for Processing of Value Addition Products

Community-owned and-managed abattoirs
Franchise Contracts with Actors across the Chain

Unarticulated demand for diversified products
Lack of processing skills
Lack of processing facilities
Lack of hygiene

Increased grass cover yields unfair prices
Lack of credit to market
Loss of condition through trekking

Lack of price information
Visual assessment
No means to store proceeds
Lack of holding facilities
Unscrupulous buyers

Lack of product diversity
Lack of market segmentation
Prices incorporate costs of market inefficiencies

GAIN SOURCES: 25% 25% 50%
INVESTMENT NEEDS: 25% 15% 40% 20%
Challenges/Opportunities

- Creating partnerships to share best practices and develop way forward
- Taking advantage of upcoming meetings, events
- Analysis and documentation
- Using Information & Communication Technologies (eXtension)
- Youth Involvement
- Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), supply chains
Why should food systems be included in the work of cities?

How do cities increasingly plan for and integrate food systems into their work at policy, program and other levels....

What lessons have been learned from small, medium or larger cities who have tried to work with their countrysides?

What role are food councils or similar civic organizations playing in helping to build local and sustainable food security in their cities?
The Road Ahead

- Upcoming events
- Coalition of partners
- Compilation of case studies, research, analysis
- Developing a vision—Food security for all, Viable local and regional food systems, Food sustainably produced, processed, transported and consumed.
Rural – Urban Linkages Global Policy Entry Points

MDG Review, UN HQ Sept.’10

Commission on Sustainable Development CSD 16-17, UN HQ 2008-2009

World Urban Forum V, Rio March ‘10

Resilient Cities, Bonn May ‘10

Convention on Biological Diversity, Nagoya Oct. ‘10

Side Events
Outside Events
Interventions
Consultations
World Urban Forum: Bridging the Urban Rural Divide for Food & Agriculture

As many as ten thousand people are expected at the World Urban Forum opening in Rio de Janeiro on Monday, March 22nd. Practitioners and advocates for strong links between urban and rural, food and farming, producers and markets will be highlighting a diverse range of issues addressing the need for food systems that meet the needs of farmers and consumers, wherever they live.

IPSA has linked with collaborators Heifer International and the Sustainable Development Council, US Department of Agriculture, to host an event "Urban Rural Linkages for Resilient Food Security and Vibrant Markets" to consider why resilient food systems are becoming an important "city planning" issue, and provide examples of how local authorities, farmers, consumers, planners and community groups are addressing this in their communities.

From Advocacy to Action

After two years of advocacy for sustainable agriculture and related issues of land, desertification, and a focus an African development at the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (2008-2009), the focus is now on translating policy decisions to concrete action on the ground in communities around the world.

Achieving coherence between policy and practice in the implementation of agreed Commission recommendations takes center stage at the special multistakeholder dialogue session on February 1, 2010.

Collaborators include:

- Municipal Development Partnership for Eastern and Southern Africa (MDP-ISA)
- ICLCI - Local Governments for Sustainability
- Heifer International
- WHY HUNGER?
- Kenya Livestock Working Group
- Food & Water Watch
- Food Sustainability
- School Food Focus
- Cardiff University - School of City and Regional Planning
- Groundswell International
- IPSAT — Institute for Production and Research in Tropical Agriculture
- USDA Sustainable Development Council
- World Union of Wholesale Markets (WUWM)

Links for further information: http://practice2policy.org/
Thank you! Muito obrigado!
Declaración de Medellín

Increment the research and technical cooperation to validate and promote sustainable technologies (sustainable use of water, composting, local seed systems, bio pesticides, planning) and strategies of diversification for urban and periurban farming systems.

Formulate and support policy process and instance of dialogues between the stakeholders involved in urban and periurban process.

Activate value chains of innocuous and healthy products from sustainable urban and periurban agriculture to local markets;
Declaración de Medellín

Strengthen the research and technical support to national/local governments to face the urbanization in periurban areas and in rural areas surround the cities;

UPA as a tool of Food Security and Local development;

Microfinance and other communitarian funds to finance initiatives of urban producers organizations beyond institutional and cooperation projects;

Promote the communitarian organization.