



Urban Food Systems

Research & Policy: two peas in a pod? A dialogue for food security impact

1 December 2017, The Hague



Session programme

- Introduction Urban Food Systems
- Pitches by ARF & GCP projects
- World Café - table discussions
- Plenary exchange of actions
- Wrap-up and follow-up



Introduction

Urban Food Systems

Nicky Pouw, University of Amsterdam– GCP project leader

Key dilemmas:

- We need to ensure to build-in circular economy objectives into urban food systems
- Urban food system need to become more socio-economically viable and sustainable
- Current Dutch development cooperation is often focused on rural poor. Policy needs to focus on regional rural-urban interfaces.
- Contribution to FNS by urban agriculture is vital to poor urban dwellers, but limited in scale due to limited space in the city and the inefficiency of urban agriculture.



#	Circular Economy Criteria
1	Social sustainability and equity: improved health and well-being
2	Economic sustainability: increased local economic growth and decent jobs; stronger local sourcing by processors, retailers, caterers etc.
3	Environmental sustainability: improved stewardship of environmental resources and promotion of agro-ecological approaches to production
4	Urban-rural integration: support a localised food production and supply system and circular resource flows
5	Increased resilience or reduced vulnerability: increasing the diversity of food supply sources and reducing vulnerability to stresses and shocks
Source: RUAF Foundation (2016)	
6	Food governance: improved governance for sustainable food systems



ARF & GCP pitches

1. ARF “Enhancing urban food security through development of allotment gardens in and around the cities of Benin” – Donald Housseou
2. ARF “Utilization of Organic Waste to Improve Agricultural Productivity in Ghana” – Dzidzo Yirenya-Tawiah (University of Ghana)
3. GCP “Women Food Entrepreneurs in Kenya and Burkina Faso: Building inclusive business models for food security in the city slums of Kisumu and Ouagadougou.” - Nicky Pouw (University of Amsterdam)

Enhancing urban food security through development of allotment gardens in and around the cities of Benin

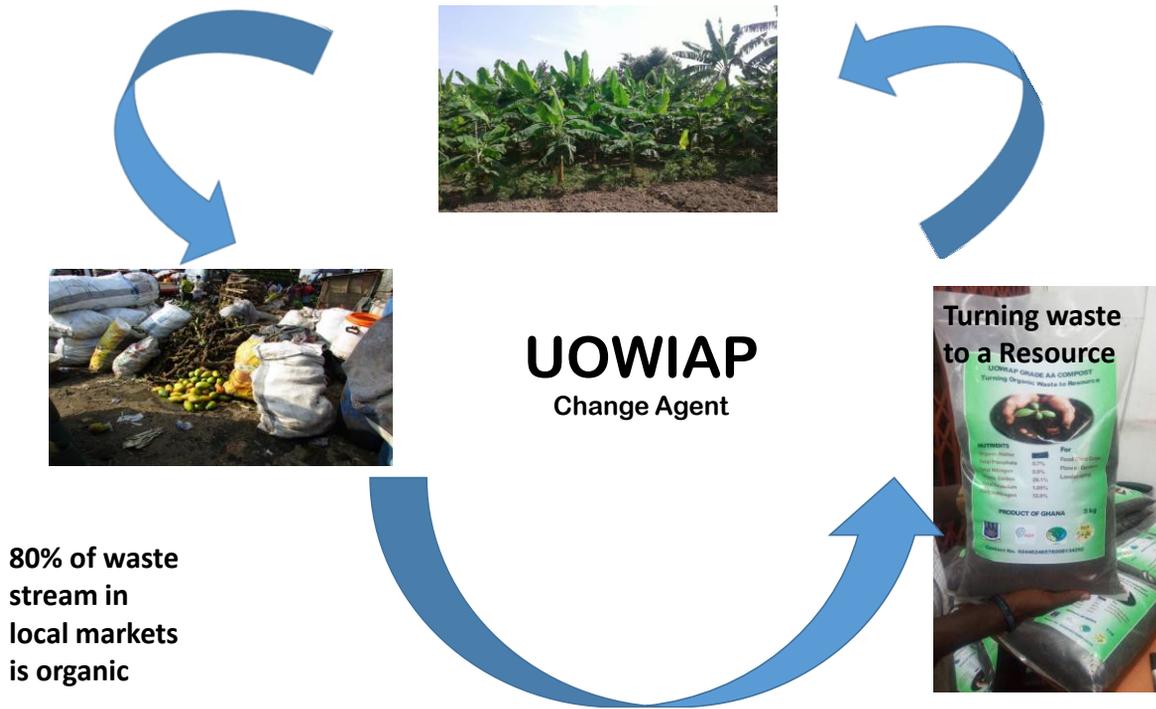
Ben Sonneveld, Project Leader
Donald Houessou, Project Coordinator
Amsterdam Centre for World Food Studies (ACWFS)
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
<http://bit.ly/2jlysCP>

Project description

- **Project aims:**
 - What is the impact of allotment gardens on food security of urban poor?
 - How can we make an optimal site selection for allotment gardens?
 - What is the appropriate structure for allotment gardens managed by urban poor?
- **Location:**
 - Cotonou and Porto-Novo, two cities of Benin (West Africa)
- **Target groups:**
 - Direct beneficiaries: urban poor, especially women. Support to policy makers.
- **Approach:**
 - Transdisciplinary approach combining academic knowledge with indigenous knowledge to create a common knowledge base which serves as a support tool for decision makers

Utilization of organic waste for improvement agricultural productivity (UOWIAP) in Ga- West Municipality, Greater Accra Region, Ghana





Aims

- ★ **Divert organic waste for landfill to compost production**
 - develop value chain opportunities in organic waste management
 - provide skills in organic waste collection and compost production
- ★ **Improve agricultural productivity in the Municipality**
 - Adoption of compost utilization by farmers for soil conservation in the municipality
- ★ **Create public awareness on compost utilization and benefits**
 - Develop outreach programs to increase awareness of the health and environmental benefits of compost
 - Improve the quality of life and well-being of the vulnerable in the communities by improving access to added income from waste collection and compost production and marketing

Target Beneficiaries

unemployed, urban farmers, market traders, municipal assembly

APPROACH

Community Engagement/
Awareness creation



Skills training:
Compost production
and
entrepreneurship



Product
Development



Start-up Business



WFE's in city slums of Kisumu & Ouagadougou - N. Pouw (PI)

Main Objective:

To strengthen women's food entrepreneurship in city slums in Kenya & Burkina Faso, based on an integrated understanding of the complex interactions between soil quality, food production and quality for vulnerable groups.





APPROACH, METHODOLOGY & OUTPUTS

- interdisciplinary
- transdisciplinary
- evidence-based with policy relevance

Research APPROACH

Research METHODOLOGY

- bottom-up, explorative; participatory action; value chain analysis; soil research, lab & field experiments; comparative cases

- design innovative techniques for soil and crop improvement and food processing
- enhance food added values & WFE business along the entire food chain

Research OUTPUTS



World Café

Questions discussed at the 3 tables:

Round 1: How to build-in criteria of circular economy into the project? (20min)

Round 2: How to ensure social-economic viability and sustainability? (20min)

Round 3: What is the potential use of Dutch knowledge internationally, and of African knowledge in the Netherlands and internationally? (20min)



Exchange of Actions

Round 4: What will you (as individual or within your project/organisation) do (differently) to contribute to a change in urban/national/international policy? (10 minutes)

> Post-it on the flipchart



Wrap up & Follow-up

Marja Spierenburg: How will the research – policy dialogue on Urban Food Systems be taken forward?

Concluding remarks