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https://blog.usaid.gov/2012/06/powering-energy-to-face-the-challenges-of-world-hunger/bamako-woman-selling-eggplants-for-brochure/

# **Key fact**

Funded by the Global Challenges Programme, the WFE research project will run until 2019.

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# Women Food Entrepreneurs in Kenya and Burkina Faso:

Building inclusive business models for food security in the city slums of Kisumu and Ouagadougou



www.knowledge4food.net/research-projects



# **Women Food Entrepreneurs (WFEs)**

The Women Food Entrepreneurs (WFE) research is a project under the Dutch Food & Business Knowledge Platform (http://knowledge4food.net/) that aims to strengthen women's food entrepreneurship in city slums of Kenya and Burkina Faso. It builds on an inclusive business model for food security based on an integrated understanding of the complex interactions between soil quality, food production, quality and nutrition for vulnerable groups.

This project has a transdisciplinary team of social and natural scientists namely Dutch, Kenyan and Burkinabè collaborating with local stakeholders and community-based women groups.

Through a comparative analysis between Kisumu and Ouagadougou, this research addresses the constraints faced by women as: (i) food producers in (peri-) urban gardens, (ii) food processors and (iii) food marketers within diversified physical, environmental, social and policy contexts.

The project co-designs and undertakes field-tests for hybrid food production, processing and marketing technologies, enhancing and promoting women's business knowledge and skills through inclusive business models.

### Our aim and objectives:

The project WFE aims to strengthen women's food entrepreneurship in city slums in Kenya & Burkina Faso, by building inclusive business models for food security.

#### Its objectives are:

- Boosting women's production, processing and trading of quality foods in Africa's growing cities to improve food and nutrition security of vulnerable populations.
- Field-testing innovative food production and processing methods, and
- Designing inclusive business models for women food entrepreneurs.

In November 2015, the project kicked off with a meeting in Kenya. Two social science PhDs (one for Kisumu and one for Ouagadougou) teamed up with one natural science PhD (studying in both locations). Collaboration was sought in each location, through participatory workshops, with three urban WFE groups.

The WFE research project has developed research-based outputs through co-creation with the WFE groups and local stakeholders, including:

- Two seasonal calendars 2016 and 2018
- Rock dust analysis report 2017
- Soil sample test results 2017
- Food and Nutrition survey Nyalenda and Obunga 2017
- Released a publication on inclusive business titled 'Governance and Inclusive Development programme group (https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1877343517300428)

To receive a copy of the outputs, please contact:

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