



SESSION DESCRIPTION

C3 Frameworks for enhancing food system governance

Panel discussion

Date: Thursday, 27 June, 2019

Time: 9:00-10:30

Rooms: S25-26

Language: English

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Organized by: ICLEI

OBJECTIVE

Global urbanization requires a fundamental shift in how food systems are managed. The Sustainable Development Goals, New Urban Agenda and the Paris Climate Agreement, along with the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact, elevate food systems in the international discourse and validate the ambitious food policies and practices that a growing number of cities are adopting. Urban food systems play a critical role in delivering on SDG 11; the multidimensionality of food systems are recognized as they are addressed through SDG 2 on hunger, SDG 3 on health and well-being, SDG 6, water and sanitation, SDG 12, responsible production and consumption and SDG 13, climate action.

A number of initiatives emerged that aim to assist and inform local and regional governments to advance their food systems work. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) recently launched their Framework for the Urban Food Agenda, informed by guiding principles and including tools like CRFS toolbox, RUFSA, ensure that actions taken to strengthen rural-urban linkages in support of food system development are compatible with the goals set out in the 2030 Agenda. UN Environment is developing the Sustainable Food Systems Transformative Framework to support national and local governments to effectively assess their current food systems, identify gaps, and improve food systems governance. This will enhance their capacity to meet resilient and sustainable food systems, besides a number of SDGs. The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) and FAO have recently formalized a partnership to increase the availability and affordability of nutritious food for all in developing countries. The partnership aims to make urban food systems more nutrition-sensitive, through support to GAIN's Urban Governance for Nutrition Program.

This panel addressed urban food and nutrition governance mechanisms that contribute to the resilience of city region food systems. It explored how different frameworks developed by FAO, UN Environment and GAIN can contribute to improving food systems' policies and programs, at national and local level. Current work was presented and, diving into practice, Rikolto and RUAF shared examples of the role of Food Policy Councils in engaging a wide variety of food system actors and stimulating an integrated approach to food systems within the rural-urban nexus.



OUTCOMES

- participants gained a better understanding of frameworks that seek to enhance urban governance mechanisms to improve the resilience of city region food systems;
- participants learned about different methodologies and tools that can help local governments address resilience and climate adaptation of their food system, and design effective policies;
- participants took this knowledge with them to apply in their own communities, cities and regions.

METHODOLOGY

- The facilitator opened the session with a short introduction of himself and each speaker. **(5 minutes)**
- Each speaker was given time to describe their work, showing maps or other illustrations as needed. **(5 x 10 minutes)**
- The facilitator managed questions and answers from the audience. **(30 minutes)**
- The facilitator concluded with closing remarks. **(5 minutes)**

Guiding questions:

List of questions the panel explored and attempted to answer.

1. How can global frameworks on CRFS and SFS be harnessed to create change on the ground? What existing evidence demonstrates the added value of these frameworks for cities? What governance mechanisms do they require?
2. How do different governance mechanisms such as food policy councils contribute and stimulate a participative and holistic approach on food systems? What are key success factors? What are inspiring examples?
3. What are the different lessons learned achieved from the implementation of a holistic approach by local governments?

CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitators *Rene Van Veenhuizen, Senior Programme Officer, RUAFA, Utrecht, the Netherlands*

Panelist *Charlotte Flechet, Food Smart Cities Coordinator, Rikolto, Leuven, Belgium*

Panelist *Marina Bortoletti, Associate Programme Officer, UN Environment, Paris, France*

Panelist *Michela Carucci, Project Manager Consultant, FAO, Rome, Italy*

Panelist *Sharelle Polack, Senior Specialist Urban Governance for Nutrition, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), Utrecht, the Netherlands*