SESSION DESCRIPTION

C3 International frameworks for Food Systems

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 12, 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, RUFSAT), 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 will address urban food and nutrition governance mechanisms that contribute to the resilience of city region food systems. It will explore 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 will be presented and, diving into practice, Rikolto and RUAF will share 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 will gain a better understanding of frameworks that seek to enhance urban governance mechanisms to improve the resilience of city region food systems;
- Participants will learn about different methodologies and tools that can help local governments address resilience and climate adaptation of their food system, and design effective policies;
- Participants will be able to take this knowledge with them to apply in their own communities, cities and regions;

METHODOLOGY

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

Guiding questions:

List of questions the panel will explore and seek 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

Facilitator: Rene Van Veenhuizen, Senior Programme Officer, RUAF, Utrecht, The Netherlands
Panelist: Michela Carucci, Project Manager Consultant, FAO, Rome, Italy
Panelist: Marina Bortoletti, Associate Programme Officer, UN Environment, Paris France
Panelist: James Lomax, Food System Programme Officer, UN Environment, Paris France
Panelist: Sharelle Polack, Senior Specialist Urban Governance for Nutrition, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), Utrecht, The Netherlands
Panelist: Gert Enlegen, Sustainable Food Systems Programme Coordinator, Rikolto, Leuven, Belgium
Panelist: Charlotte Flechet, Food Smart Cities Coordinator, Rikolto, Leuven, Belgium