

International course

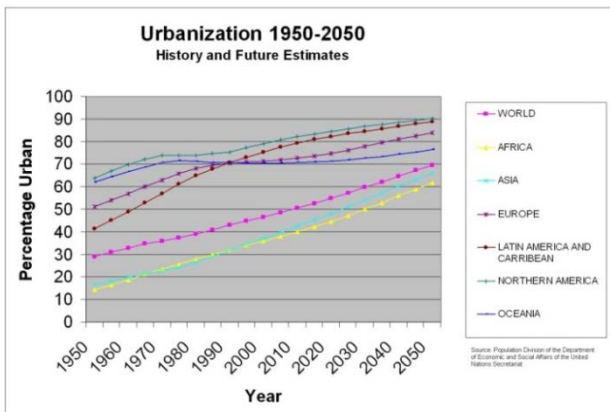
Food security in an urbanising society



Working towards sustainable resilient urban food systems serving densely populated areas

Wageningen, The Netherlands, 04 – 15 September 2017

The world is becoming increasingly urban. Today already more than half of the world's population lives in urban areas. By 2050 this will be risen to two-thirds. The continuous increase of urban population is due to factors like rural-urban migration, natural disasters or livelihood insecurities. Providing food and nutrition security for the rapidly expanding populations in the world's cities is a pressing challenge in this changing world. Delivering nutritious food to cities is a complex problem that is also challenged by natural resource scarcity, climate change, and population



growth, which affect food systems globally.^{1,2}

The urban population heavily relies on a multitude of food systems for their daily

1 TA Reardon, D Bereuter, D Glickman: Growing food for growing cities: Transforming food systems in an urbanizing world, 2016; Chicago, Chicago Council on Global Affairs; https://www.thechicagocouncil.org/sites/default/files/report_growingfoodforgrowingcities2.pdf

2 United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 Revision, 2014; New York: UN; <http://esa.un.org/unpd/wup/Publications/Files/WUP2014-Report.pdf>.

Fee:	3,500 Euro
Deadline subscription:	24 July 2017
Deadline NFP/MENA Fellowships:	21 March 2017



food needs, varying from industrial agro-logistical networks to local engagement of consumers with producers. The projected population growth adds a layer of complexity to the current food systems. Strengthening the access to nutritious, affordable and acceptable food for sustainable communities in the cities requires resilient agri-food systems. Therefore, a better understanding of urban, peri-urban and rural food systems from an integral perspective is vital for contributing to the resilience of these food systems against the pressing trends of our era.

Achieving urban food and nutrition security is a great challenge. Against the background of these developments, achieving urban food and nutrition security is one of our main future challenges, calling for integrated solutions. It is crucial to develop resilient agri-food systems, effectively linking rural and urban areas, and manage food value chains from production to consumption in a holistic approach including efficient waste and energy management. Alongside these approaches, public health interventions are required to provide effective food safety nets, improve nutrition literacy, and induce changes in adequate quantities for urban dwellers, but also assuring environmental, social and economic sustainability of the production areas.

Various angles in food and nutrition security in urbanising societies will be discussed during the course.

Various types of food sub-systems exist, each with their own merits. They vary from intra-urban green buildings, rooftop- and community gardening, to peri-urban high tech integrated systems, like the metropolitan food clusters, in which food production and market systems are integrated into a holistic, systemic and spatial manner. Within the framework of urban and regional food systems, the multiple linkages and functions of food in sustainable urban development will be explored. These so-called city-region food systems should be able to integrate adaptive and innovative change processes with technical, social and cultural aspects, to address the current and future challenges of complex food systems around the world. This course focuses on how to facilitate rural-urban integration, and enhancing food value chains; not only guaranteeing access to healthy food in adequate quantities for urban dwellers, but also assuring environmental, social and economic sustainability of the production areas.

The two-week training programme focuses on

how to promote rural-urban integration for urban food and nutrition security. Four key dimensions will serve as guidance to explore the potential pathways for sustainable urban development: the societal, environmental, economic, and spatial aspects, in order to bring together multi-disciplinary innovative ideas to improve food and nutrition security for the cities of tomorrow. We use the city region food systems approach to address the critical aspects in: i) enhancing food value chains for access to healthy food in adequate quantities for urban dwellers, ii) ensuring the environmental, social and economic sustainability of the production areas. At the end of the course, participants will be able to analyse and design interventions addressing food and nutrition insecurity in urbanizing societies.

The course is open to international participants and to MSc students of Wageningen University, preferably active in one of the following fields: rural/urban/spatial planning, agribusiness development, rural/urban livelihood governance, food and nutrition security and sustainable development. Several years of professional work experience and at least a BSc level are additional assets. Proficiency in English is a must.

Course objectives

1. Participants get well acquainted with the framework of city region food systems in relation to food and nutrition security in densely populated areas.
2. Participants are able to use the concepts of city region food systems to analyse urban food and nutrition security issues
3. Participants are able to use different designs, methods and approaches, and their interrelationships, in planning for food and nutrition security in urbanizing societies.

Further practical information

Application, the procedure is:

1) Apply at the website of Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation: www.wur.eu/cdi. You will receive a confirmation and more information within a week. Early application is recommended as some procedures to finalise subscription (f.e. funding, visa) can take some time.

2) CDI is unable to assist you in obtaining financial support, however if you want to apply for a **NFP/MENA Fellowship**, CDI will provide you with the full instructions and the web address for registration in **ATLAS**. You can check the eligibility at www.nuffic.nl/nfp or www.nuffic.nl/mena. A limited number of scholarships is available. As this application process takes time and requires several documents, we recommend that you **start as soon as possible**.

- **Accommodation:** Hof van Wageningen, Wageningen, The Netherlands. For prices, see the cost estimate on our website. **NFP Fellowships include** travel and full board and lodging.
- **Fee** includes all course related costs (materials, excursions, administration).
- Participants will be awarded with a **Certificate** of attendance. The programme of the course might be changed to incorporate new insights.

Joining on of our courses will expand your horizon, both in a social and scientific way. You can share experience and knowledge with others working in similar fields, get up-to-date in current scientific insights methodologies and practices, and become part of our 20.000 strong alumni network.