



SESSION DESCRIPTION

F4 Building inclusive urban food governance: Local food council in Lusaka, Zambia

Facilitated Discussion

Date: Friday, April 27, 2018

Time: 16:30-18:00

Rooms: S25-26

Language: English

Contact: Nout van der Vaart

E-mail/web: nvaart@hivos.org / www.hivos.org

Organized by: Hivos

OBJECTIVE

In 2017, Zambia was ranked as one of the 10 hungriest countries in the world. This is despite Zambia registering “bumper harvests” for the previous 3 year farming seasons. These two divergent pictures of the Zambian food security situation indicate that more needs to be done within the food system to translate into healthy livelihoods for the population. The local authority in Lusaka has signed up to the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP) pledging to take an active part in food security issues for the city. The City Region Food Systems study by FAO/RUAF states that “the current fragmented governing bodies for food systems do not normally work in collaboration; a multi-stakeholder and inter-institutional mechanism or body responsible to define food strategies and policies would be key to reinforce the food system, in order to ensure food and nutrition security, including food safety” .

Furthermore, the recently launched decentralization policy offers a good platform for setting up a food council because certain national government functions such as agriculture and health have been devolved to local government. This means the local authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Health are already working hand in hand but only need other stakeholders in the food system to join in to create well-adjusted strategies and policies to reinforce the Lusaka food system.

This Facilitated discussion brought together civil society and municipal representatives around the topic of building inclusive urban food governance. Practitioners presented the case of Lusaka, Zambia and the entry point of building these local food councils from different perspectives, while key experts provided a broader input and perspective on the topic.

The aim of the session was to learn from different approaches to build inclusive urban food governance, which was done by addressing the following questions:

1. Why and how can an urban food council be a solution for food and nutrition security?
2. When is a local food council inclusive?
3. What is the difference between councils that are initiated by local government versus councils that are initiated through civil society organisations?

OUTCOMES

Participants left the session with:

- A good understanding of the concept of urban food councils and how they may contribute to better food and nutrition security
- The pros and cons of urban food councils being initiated by civil society or local authorities
- Some first insights into how to initiate a process to build inclusive urban food governance



METHODOLOGY

- The facilitator introduced the aim and the format of the session, as well as the speakers. **(10 minutes)**
- The session presented two entry points to activate change towards inclusive urban food governance in Lusaka, Zambia: citizen driven change and local government driven change. **(20 minutes)**
- Key experts provided their input to the Zambia case: they shared what went well and what could be done to improve the process. **(20 minutes)**
- Audience and representatives from other municipalities provided their input in the Zambia case and responded to the three questions. **(35 minutes)**
- Summary of key outcomes and recommendations for follow up. **(5 minutes)**

CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator *Nout van der Vaart, Advocacy Officer, Sustainable Food, Hivos, The Hague, The Netherlands*

Discussant *Guido Santini, Program Coordinator, Food for the Cities, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, Italy*

Discussant *Mangiza Chirwa Chongo, Advocacy Officer, Hivos, Lusaka, Zambia*

Discussant *Manuel De Araujo, Mayor, Municipality of Quelimane, Quelimane, Mozambique; Co-Chair ICLEI Resilient Cities Portfolio*

Discussant *Glory Manambowoh Lueong, FIAN International, Heidelberg, Germany*

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

With thanks to: *Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Further recommended reading

City Region Food system Situational Analysis, Lusaka, Zambia www.fao.org/3/a-bl822e.pdf

Hivos: www.hivos.org
