

URBAN AND PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE SOURCEBOOK FROM PRODUCTION TO FOOD SYSTEMS

PUBLISHED BY FAO, RIKOLTO AND RUAF

In July 2022, FAO has launched a new publication in the framework of the [Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture programme](#), that focuses on its evolution by collecting cases and presenting examples of current practices in different countries around the world. The publication includes the *Urban and peri-urban agriculture sourcebook - From production to food systems*, and the Annex Report *Urban and peri-urban agriculture case studies - Overview, conclusions and recommendations*. These Reports have been produced by FAO in collaboration with the [Rikolto International NGO](#) and the [Global Partnership on Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Food Systems RUAF](#).

The publication underlines that urban and peri-urban agriculture has been practiced for decades worldwide, through formal and informal initiatives, and its importance has been recognized globally. The sourcebook defines “Urban and peri-urban agriculture as practices that yield food and other outputs from agricultural production and related processes (among others transformation, distribution, marketing, recycling), taking place on land and other spaces within cities and surrounding regions, involving urban and peri-urban actors, communities, methods, places, policies, institutions, systems, ecologies and economies, largely using and regenerating local resources to meet changing needs of local populations while serving multiple goals and functions.”

The publication analyzes the key elements of Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture and the challenges it faces, in order to provide useful information for involved stakeholders. In addition, the practices in progress in 59 countries and presented in the reports, allow us to appreciate the great diffusion and the great advantages of this type of food production.

[Urban and peri-urban agriculture sourcebook - From production to food systems](#)

The sourcebook focuses on Urban and peri-urban agriculture and its evolution by collecting and classifying typical cases and examples, analyzes the key elements and challenges faced by practitioners, so as to provide useful information for those who are interested in taking an active part in urban food production. The purpose of the book is to set out the key lessons learned and to provide recommendations and guidance based on existing cases and examples for a wide range of actors involved in urban food systems. In particular, the aim is for this publication to serve as a sourcebook for local decision-makers, policy advisors, urban planners, specialists, practitioners and others involved in Urban and peri-urban agriculture.

[Urban and peri-urban agriculture case studies - Overview, conclusions and recommendations](#)

Published as an annex to the sourcebook, this Report contains six case studies on urban and peri-urban agriculture, providing an



➤ Egypt. A project beneficiary tends a rooftop vegetable garden



➤ Havana, Cuba – An urban farmer cultivating crops at the peri-urban agriculture cooperative



overview of the impacts and key requirements of a wide range of typologies and practices. The six case studies have been conducted by Rikolto in the following cities: Quito (Republic of Ecuador), Leuven (Kingdom of Belgium), Dakar (Republic of Senegal), Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania), Surakarta (Republic of Indonesia) and Tegucigalpa (Republic of Honduras).

This Report gives detailed accounts of each city and its urban and peri-urban agriculture policies, challenges and practices. These aspects are grouped according to the themes of land (availability, tenure); water (irrigation, access); labour (seasonal versus full-time, worker profiles); finance (expenses, revenues, access to credit); agronomy (practices, technical assistance) and value chain (commercialization, availability of inputs, consumer profiles). While policy mechanisms and support interventions are included among these themes, a policy overview presents the final theme of governance. These city accounts are followed by a comparative overview of all six cities and culminate in generalizable lessons-learned, interesting findings, and actionable recommendations for planners and policy-makers.

The Report highlights that “Urban and peri-urban agriculture producers profiled are generating and growing the kind of sustainable food systems they would like to be part of. All have different visions, but diversity of vision can be harnessed to productive ends. The city-case studies found in this report can help urban planners, city politicians, private investors, and other decision-makers join with urban and peri-urban farmers to create a more sustainable food system together - bringing together diverse perspectives and visions to create silver seeds, ideas that can grow and germinate in the soil of the city.”

Since the 1990s, FAO has been working with members and key partners to promote urban and peri-urban agriculture through various activities. The partners include private companies, promoters, agencies, working with cities and citizens to promote resilient and sustainable urban agriculture production and value chains worldwide. The [FAO webpage for Urban and peri-urban agriculture](#) offers a wide range of information about initiatives underway globally and in cities of many countries around the world, about documents available and international organizations and partners of reference.

To know more

[Sourcebook presentation in FAO website](#)

[Urban and peri-urban agriculture sourcebook - From production to food systems](#)

[Urban and peri-urban agriculture case studies - Presentation in FAO website](#)

[Urban and peri-urban agriculture case studies - Overview, conclusions and recommendations](#)

[Rikolto International NGO](#)

[RUAF - Global Partnership on Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Food Systems.](#)

[Urban and peri-urban agriculture - FAO website](#)

[Growing greener cities in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

[Growing greener cities in Africa](#)

