

Building Urban Resilience

Assessing Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture in Kampala, Uganda





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Assessing Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture in Kampala, Uganda

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Preface

Food production in and around cities is an integral part of the urban fabric in much of the developing world. In these regions, urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) plays an important role in diversifying urban diets and providing environmental services in urban and peri-urban areas. As such, there is growing interest in UPA as a strategic component of urban resilience and climate change adaptation planning. However, advocacy for UPA in this capacity is outpacing the body of evidence regarding important stressors and drivers that act on UPA. Such knowledge is especially critical in the developing world where urban areas are experiencing rapid growth and transformation. In these regions, UPA is facing intensifying pressures from urban encroachment, waste disposal, pollution, and climate change that may undermine the sector's long-term viability.

The need to better understand these critical sustainability dimensions provided the impetus for city-level knowledge assessments of UPA, whose main findings are contained in nine underlying assessment reports including this one. The assessed cities were Dakar (Senegal), Tamale (Ghana), Ibadan (Nigeria), Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), Kampala (Uganda), Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Dhaka (Bangladesh), Kathmandu (Nepal) and Chennai (India). All of the reports and the synthesis report can be found at *http://start.org/programs/upa*. The assessments were conducted in 2012, with initial stakeholder engagement beginning in 2011. The assessments were led by city-based teams, the composition of which varied, with some of the teams being comprised predominately of researchers and other teams comprising of a mix of researchers, city officials and urban NGO representatives.

The assessments seek to better understand the changing nature of UPA systems, and the critical interactions at the land-water-climate nexus that influence resilience of UPA in rapidly growing developing-country cities. The audience for these assessments includes national and city-level policymakers, sectoral experts and city planners, the research community, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that interface with urban farmers and other actors within the broader UPA sector.

The UPA assessments are part of a larger project on strengthening understanding of critical links between climate change and development planning in West Africa, East Africa and South Asia. The premise for the project is that progress towards undertaking effective action to address climate change risks in these regions is hindered by low levels of awareness of global climate change, lack of understanding of the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and other sources of scientific information, lack of location and sector specific knowledge, and the need for strengthening capacities to undertake integrated assessments that support decision making. This multi-year project has been a collaborative effort between the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), START, the University of Ghana, the University of Dar es Salaam, and the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS).

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Acronyms and abbreviations

AISRGD	African Institute for Strategic Research Governance and Development
ARDC-Kajjansi	Aquaculture Research and Development Centre, Kajjansi
CAES	College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
CBO	Community-based Organization
CIP	Climate Information Portal
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
DFID	Department for International Development
DJF	December, January and February
DSIP	Development Strategy and Investment Plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (of the United Nations)
FGD	Focus group discussion
GDP	Gross domestic product
GoU	Government of Uganda
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
JJA	June, July and August
KDDP	Kampala District Development Plan
KDMP	Kampala Drainage Master Plan
KCC	Kampala City Council
KCCA	Kampala Capital City Authority
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MAM	March, April and May
MFPED	Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NARO	National Agricultural Research Organization
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-governmental organizations
NRM	National Resistance Movement
PEAP	Poverty Eradication Action Plan
PMA	Plan for Modernization of Agriculture
SON	September, October and November
START	System for Analysis, Research, and Training
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UCSUA	Uganda Centre for Sustainable Urban Agriculture
UDM	Uganda Meteorological Department
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlement
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UPA	Urban and peri-urban agriculture
VEDCO	Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

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Executive summary

 $\cdot T$ (UPA) for the city of Kampala, Uganda, that was conducted in 2012. It examines the state of UPA in the city through the lens of intensifying urban pressures and increasing climate risks with the objective of identifying how these and other drivers potentially interact to affect the long-term sustainability of UPA, and what response options are needed to address existing and emerging challenges. The assessment is intended to:

- 1) examine the current state of knowledge and identify key knowledge gaps;
- 2) explore the array of stressors that contribute to vulnerability of UPA systems to climatic and other environmental changes; and
- 3) identify critical areas for strengthening policies and institutional capacities that contribute to sustaining the UPA sector within the larger context of resilient cities and food systems.

Urban farming in Uganda was born out of the political and economic crises of the 1970s and is widely practiced in Kampala today. Vegetable production and livestock keeping—primarily poultry, dairy cattle and pigs—are the dominant components of UPA systems, along with the cultivation of cassava and other staple crops in peri-urban areas. The UPA sector has deep roots into the urban food system and is practiced across low- to high-income classes, and has strong participation from women in the production arena. The sector contributes to nutritional and food security, and the vitality of the informal market, as well as helping to reduce the urban waste stream through productive reuse of organic waste as livestock feed and an input to vegetable production.

Despite its important role, UPA is subject to many constraints, which mostly revolve around a lack of adequate space for agriculture in the urban core and loss of valuable cropland to urban expansion in peri-urban areas. Other critical concerns include accessing adequate quantities of animal feed, managing animal waste, zoonotic diseases associated with urban livestock keeping, and vulnerability

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