Issue summary

The sustainable urban development the world needs will significantly rely on the implementation of sustainable food systems. Cities are highly impacted by food systems efficiency and sustainability, while they are also key influencers of the prevalence of quality and quantity of food, its availability, price and overall demand and consumption patterns. Promoting sustainable food system in the urban development is crucial for achieving not only food security and nutrition, but also socio-economic and environmental urban development.

Lifestyles in cities are directly connected with the way food systems functions. City dwellers are increasingly experiencing the “triple burden” of undernourishment, micronutrient deficiencies, and over-nutrition (overweight and obesity) with greatest impact observed among the urban poor, especially women and children.

Food security in urban areas is closely connected to urban poverty and to the financial access -purchasing power-. In the Global South, a large majority of the urban poor rely on informal sector activities and casual labour, which commonly produce low and irregular earnings. The current scenario in cities around food security calls for a multi-sectorial analysis for job creation and income generation, which goes beyond the food system.

Cities are largely contributing to the global greenhouse gas emission. Food systems are one of the set of activities and operations that more transportation within cities. Two thirds of the organic waste produced in the world originates in cities. Therefore, food systems for cities can play an important role for a sustainable “urban metabolism”.

Food was placed at the centre of the urban and territorial sustainability within the New Urban Agenda, which is an historical crucial change that calls for clear understanding, commitments, and multi-stakeholders partnership at all levels.

This side event aims at raising awareness, sharing knowledge, provide a rapid review of the on-going FAO activities in the era of urbanization and will establish a discussion on future challenges. FAO’s work on urban forestry, food systems and nutrition and urban agriculture will be discussed. Networking and partnership with relevant stakeholders, research activities, publications and field projects will be highlighted.
## DRAFT AGENDA

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<td>1:00 – 1.30</td>
<td><strong>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARK : THE NEED OF PRIORITIZING FOOD IN THE NEW URBAN AGENDA</strong>&lt;br&gt;Moderator: TBD</td>
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| 1:30 – 2.30 | **FAO WORK AND FUTURE CHALLENGES for the implementation of the New urban Agenda - Roundtable**<br>1:30 Nutrition in the era of urbanization - Trudy Wijnhoven  
Integrating food into urban planning: Planning for food environment, supply and markets - Cecilia Marocchino  
City region food systems and food for the cities network - Makiko Taguchi  
Urban and peri-urban forestry role for cities - Simone Borelli  
1:50 Discussion on Emerging Challenges  
2:15 WRAP UP AND FINAL REMARKS - TBD |