

Linking Practice to Policy

*local food systems and urban rural linkages for food security and vibrant markets*

Presentation by Arthur Getz Escudero, Heifer International  
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**FAO - Food for cities initiative – Technical consultation on Food, Agriculture and Cities: challenges and way forward Rome, Italy 24-25 September 2009**

- Support to under-served communities – through urban agriculture projects in poorer neighborhoods of large cities –
- New immigrant farmer receiving training and support for access to affordable land to grow food for local markets – connecting people who have agricultural backgrounds to economic opportunities in their newly adopted homelands
- Linking schools to farms.
- Stimulating the formation of community-supported agriculture (CSA) partnerships.
- Promoting farmers' markets.
- Revitalizing small-scale food processing, and stimulating agricultural enterprise development.

*Q: How do you get what goes on inside the UN to matter and mean something to the people outside who are facing multiple crises and challenges in the food system  
– and especially with those who are doing a lot to adapt and innovate?*

A: Connect them as directly as possible.

Enable them to learn from each other.

Connect good practice to good policy.

## City/Farm Linkages Showcase

# Vibrant Markets Tour

Saturday, 9 May, 2008 – FREE  
Depart UN at 7:30 AM, return 3 PM



### Tour includes:

- bus transport
- great lunch prepared by SchoolFood staff
- talks by local policy-makers, advocates, and farmers
- focus on themes of CSD 17

### Explore the places and policies that feed all of New York City.

See distribution centers and vibrant local markets at work. We will go behind the scenes of various supply chain models within the city and see how they help connect producers with consumers. From one of the largest wholesale markets in the world to the regional farm-stands at a Greenmarket to procurement policies at city schools, the city's market processes will be examined in-depth and in-person.

For information and registration, please contact Tom Peyton at [tom.peyton@gmail.com](mailto:tom.peyton@gmail.com) or visit [sustainablefoodmonitor.org](http://sustainablefoodmonitor.org)





**City and Farm Linkages Showcase**  
Farm Tours and Learning Events in New York  
9-10 May, 2008

For Delegates to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development



A weekend of activities outside the UN, highlighting New York's remarkable work in sustainable agriculture, urban food systems, market development, and other important issues of CSD 16-17. The Showcase is hosted by a multi-stakeholder group, including New York, US, and international civil society organizations, along with local and national government agencies whose support demonstrates a commitment to partnership for sustainable development in agriculture and food systems.

**Friday,  
9 May  
18:30 – 20:30  
Near UN**

**Showcase Welcome Reception:** Friday, 9 May, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, near the UN. A welcome reception will be hosted for both Government and Civil Society delegates to the CSD by a consortium of New York City food system partners, state and national agencies and Mercy Corps, an international humanitarian relief agency that has provided generous support for this event. The reception will include a short program featuring civic and community leaders, farmers and organizations who will preview other elements of the showcase over the next two days. Locally available foods will be prepared by Cleaver Company, a celebrated New York caterer.

**Saturday,  
10 May  
In NYC**

**City Farms Showcase Tour:** Spend the day discovering the remarkable urban food system of New York City. This bus tour will highlight the large and small urban agriculture sites, youth and farmers' markets, and community nutrition education programs that together increase access to healthy foods for all New Yorkers. A lunch prepared by community chefs will be served. Tour guides will include grassroots community leaders, city farmers, local NGO representatives, and Cooperative Extension agents. Generous support provided by WHY (World Hunger Year).

**Saturday,  
10 May  
Meet in NYC,  
Travel to  
Upstate NY**

**Hudson Valley Farms Showcase Tour:** Travel up the Hudson River to visit farms near beautiful Pine Island, New York. This bus tour, which will travel 65+/- miles outside of NYC, will highlight successful examples of sustainable farming production linked to urban markets; land stewardship; immigrant farming initiatives and policy. A local farm lunch will be provided. Farmers, rural elected officials and staff of Cornell Cooperative Extension will be your guides.

**Saturday,  
10 May  
At Union  
Square  
in NYC**

**Union Square Greenmarket Tours:** Guided walking tours will be available, upon reservation, of the celebrated open-air Union Square farmers' market. Since 1976, the NYC Greenmarket system has provided city residents with a wide variety of fresh local produce, direct from the farmer. Greenmarket ensures the sustainability of 200 small farms and over 20,000 acres of working farmland. Tours will provide the opportunity to speak with a variety of local farmers, including those who are part of Greenmarket's New Farmer Development Project.

**For Registration:**

Please visit [www.sustainablefoodmonitor.org/showcase-registration](http://www.sustainablefoodmonitor.org/showcase-registration)  
All events are free, but space is limited.

**Showcase Learning Event**  
Teacher's College, Columbia University  
11 May, 2008

A Fresh, Healthy Lunch Will Be Served



**Showcase Learning Event – Sunday, 11 May, at Teachers College, Columbia** will be a full day of symposia and workshops hosted by New York, US and international organizations to review themes and initiatives related to issues under consideration at the CSD meetings. The conference will include plenary panels and discussion, workshops and briefings. Sessions will feature New York City and State representatives, local, national and international Civil Society organizations and representatives of Governments at CSD. **French and Spanish translation provided for Plenary.**

The provisional agenda includes issues such as:

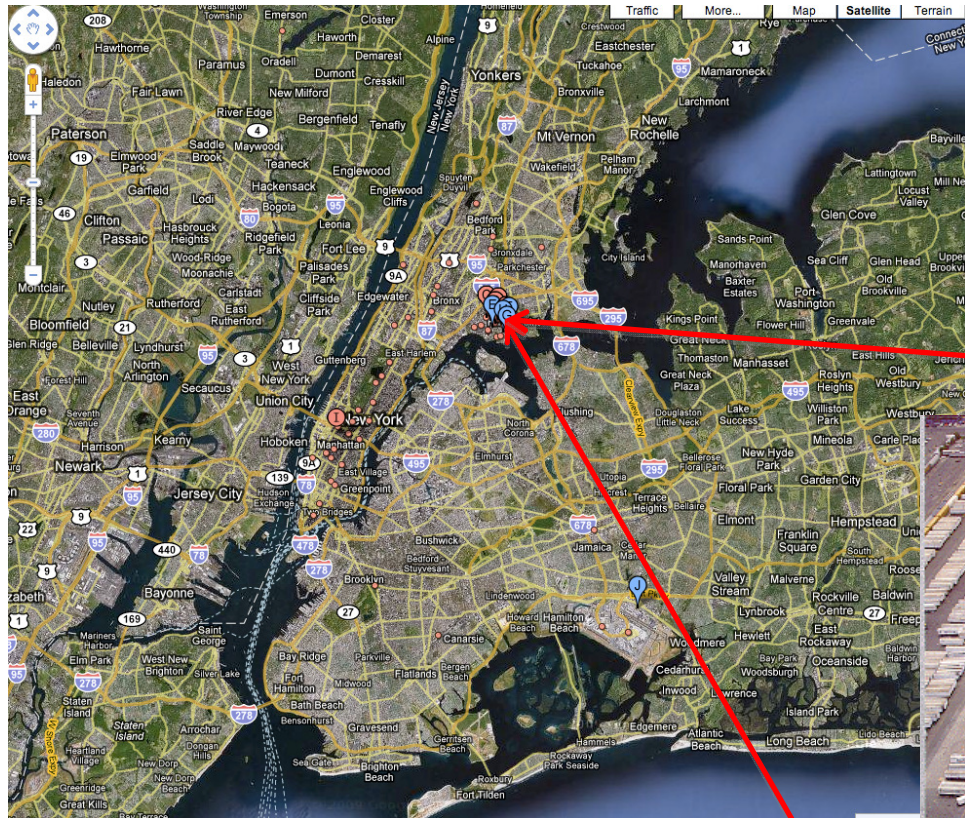
- Climate change, food prices, food security and the changing structure of food systems
- The role of cities in agriculture and food systems: A dialogue on emerging trends in developed and developing countries
- Food & agro-fuels: What are the stakes?
- Knowledge & extension systems for sustainable agriculture and rural development (SARD)
- Development with identity: Cultural approaches to food system development
- Soil and water conservation and nutrient management for sustainable farming systems
- Civil Society Major Group CSD: Briefings and discussion of common findings
- Sustainability indicators
- Women's role in agriculture: networking and advocacy for change
- Youth movements: connecting the Global North and South
- Livestock, land, and livelihoods: addressing critical links for sustainable development

The Showcase Conference will also include displays of organizational literature from agencies and community organizations. A healthy local lunch will be provided.

**For Registration:**

Please visit, <http://www.sustainablefoodmonitor.org/showcase-registration>  
All events are free, but space is limited.











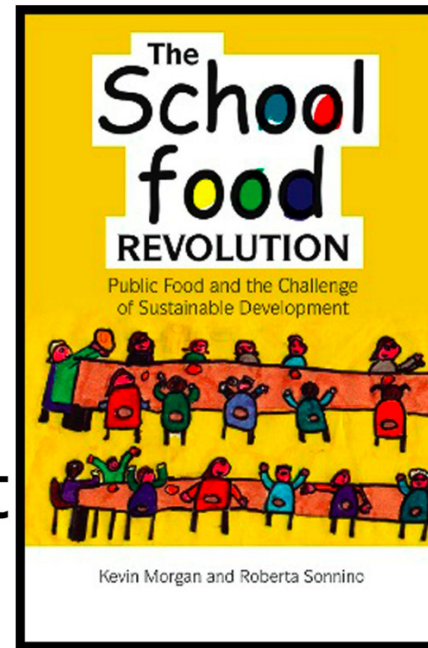






# How School Lunches Can Sustain the Whole Planet

Monday, May 4, 2009  
3-6 pm  
Conference Room 6



Professors Kevin Morgan and Roberta Sonnino are leading researchers in sustainable agri-food systems from the School of City and Regional Planning, Cardiff University, Wales, UK.

The authors of "The School Food Revolution - Public Food and the Challenge of Sustainable Development (2006)" discuss their research into the potential public food systems have to sustainably develop local economies via programs designed to simply provide school lunches.

Throughout the world, governments are beginning to discover the development potential of PUBLIC FOOD systems, especially in relation to school food, which is increasingly seen as a strategy that can contribute to food security, childhood education and market access for farmers.

Look for the table in the display area for further information and a 20% discounted flyer. To order the book directly from Earthscan Publishing see <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/?tabid=33914>



City/Farm  
Linkages Showcase



# Youth Farmers' Market

Wednesday, 13 May, 2009, 1-3 pm – FREE and open to the public  
Dag Hammar skjold Plaza, 47th Street & 2nd Avenue on the Plaza



- Learn It, Grow It, Eat It youth-led nutrition education
- Teen Iron Chef Cooking Demo with international recipes
- Greenmarket Youth Farmers' Market – urban youth partnering with regional farmers
- NYC/International youth caucus video interviews



Come see how New York City youth have taken the lead in leading vibrant markets and sustainable development with an innovative youth farmers' market, nutrition education and cooking programs, and live video events . . . all in the neighborhood for UN CSD-17!

Co-sponsored by the Council on the Environment, Family Cook Productions Teen Iron Chef, WHY (World Hunger Year), and the NYC CSD Host Committee

For information, please contact Lexi Van de Walle [lexi@alexavandewalle.com](mailto:lexi@alexavandewalle.com)





**You Are Cordially Invited**

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**Wednesday, November 19, 2008**

## **The Politics of Food: A Conference on New York's Next Policy Challenge**

### **Welcome**

**Lee C. Bollinger**

President Columbia University | [Speech](#) | [Video \(Flash Player\)](#)

### **Remarks**

**Hon. Scott M. Stringer**

Manhattan Borough President | [Video \(Flash Player\)](#)

### **Featured Speakers**

**Hon. Michael R. Bloomberg**

Mayor, City of New York | [Video](#) | [Photos](#) | [Video \(Flash Player\)](#)

**Maya Wiley, Esq.**

Director, Center for Social Inclusion | [Video \(Flash Player\)](#)

**H.E. Father Miquel d'Escoto Brockmann**

President, United Nations General Assembly | [Speech](#) | [Video \(Flash Player\)](#)

### **Presentation**

**Thomas Forster**

New School Food Studies Program Faculty | [Video \(Flash Player\)](#)

**Panel Discussion** | [Video \(Flash Player\)](#)

**Lerner Hall, Columbia University**

West 115th Street and Broadway ([map](#) | [directions](#))

### **Co-Sponsors:**



Office of the Manhattan  
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Partners

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Office of Environmental Stewardship  
School of International and Public Affairs

Photographs courtesy: Andy Mars (<http://amarsphoto.googlepages.com/>)



# FOOD IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

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How New York City's Food Policy Holds the  
Key to Hunger, Health, Jobs and the Environment



Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer  
February 2009



## Regions Feeding Cities:

Urban-Rural Linkages for Food Security and Vibrant Markets



Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>,  
6:15-7:45 pm, UN - Conf. Room 2



Speakers will highlight the important role of cities in diverse partnerships with civil society to promote new investment and enabling policy for local and regional food systems found around the world. The importance of policies supporting public food provisioning through new market infrastructure and home grown school feeding will be highlighted by speakers for inclusion in the CSD 17 policy decision. The session includes moderated dialogue with panelists and participants.

### Speakers include:

- **Robert Lewis**, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (moderator)
- **George Matovu**, Municipal Development Partnership for Eastern and Southern Africa (MDP-ESA)
- **Kevin Morgan**, Cardiff University School of City and Regional Planning, UK

### Wrap-up and synthesis of the discussion & policy recommendations for CSD:

- **Roberta Sonnino**, Cardiff University School of City and Regional Planning, UK



About the

### Sustainable Food Monitor

Sustainable Food Monitor is a project of **International Partners for Sustainable Agriculture**. IPSA brings together Civil Society actors and Government agencies. For over 15 years, IPSA has achieved policy outcomes which have improved the lives of people in both developing and developed countries.

<http://sustainablefoodmonitor.org/>

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**United Nations Human Settlements Programme**

Programme des Nations Unies pour les établissements humains - Programa de las Naciones Unidas para los Asentamientos Humanos

**THERE IS  
NO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
WITHOUT SUSTAINABLE URBANISATION**

**17<sup>th</sup> Session of the  
Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-17)  
High-Level Segment**

**Statement by  
Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka  
Under-Secretary-General and  
Executive Director, UN-HABITAT**

**New York, 13 May 2009**



### ***The urban rural continuum***

***“Another important aspect of planning for food security is the **need for policy makers to realize that urban and rural areas are inseparable.** Apart from contributing directly to agricultural production through know how, technology and inputs , cities and small towns constitute the marketplace for rural production. A big mistake that all of us have been guilty of in many parts of the developing world, and especially in Africa, has been to view cities and rural areas as separate entities. **We need to stop thinking along the lines of urban and rural divides or biases, and begin to think of a production-consumption chain or continuum.**”***

*(Tibaijuka statement, page 1)*

“...Third, *promote a more holistic view of urban and rural*. For many years there has been **an artificial divide and debate between rural and urban issues**. There is a growing appreciation that the two are connected in a larger system characterized by the dynamic flow of information, finances, resources and, people. Public policies related to investments in infrastructure, measures to promote social inclusion and strategies to promote economic growth need to take this reality into account.”

*(Tibajuka statement, page 3)*

# Summary of CSD Outcomes Related to Urban Rural Linkages

*“Making urban market facilities accessible to regional and local producers will create urban-rural linkages that could slow rural-to-urban migration, stimulate local economic development, and strengthen food security.”*

- *Vision Statement* from Gerda Verburg,  
Chair of the Seventeenth Session of the  
Commission on Sustainable Development upon  
successful conclusion of the Session, 15 May 2009



## Chair's Text as agreed to on conclusion of CSD 17

### A. Agriculture

***(d) Develop sustainable agricultural value chains and improve farmers' and agro-industry enterprises access to and participation in markets. In that context:***

(v) Encourage **strong rural-urban linkages and partnerships between countryside and communities**, to enhance livelihoods and food security; (p. 13)

(vi) As appropriate and in accordance with national conditions, build efficient and effective agricultural marketing institutions, including small-scale market infrastructure, and distribution networks, and enhance the availability of market information to farmers and farmer organizations through the effective use of information and communications technologies;

## Chair's Text as agreed to on conclusion of CSD 17 (cont.)

### **B. Rural Development**

Close economic **integration of rural areas with neighbouring urban areas** and the creation of rural off-farm employment can narrow rural urban disparities, expand opportunities and encourage the retention of skilled people, including youth, in rural areas. (preamble, p. 15)

**(c) *Invest in essential infrastructure and services for rural communities. In that context:***

(vi) Promote the development of rural organizations such as community driven cooperatives to enhance investment in essential infrastructure and services and **recognize the role of urban areas in fostering rural development.** (pp. 17-8)

## Chair's Text as agreed to on conclusion of CSD 17 (cont.)

### F. Africa

**(b) *Integrate African farmers and local entrepreneurs into agricultural supply chains. In that context:***

(iv) Increase support, from all sources, to the improvement of market infrastructure and market information systems, including the **development and strengthening of rural-urban linkages**;

(v) Increase efforts to lower barriers and improve infrastructure to create and expand sustainable domestic and regional food markets; (p. 41)

## Chair's Text as agreed to on conclusion of CSD 17 (cont.)

### **G. Interlinkages, cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation**

Revitalizing agriculture and promoting rural development can make an important contribution to eradicating poverty and hunger and to achieving food security as well as to improved health, the empowerment of women and the creation of productive employment opportunities for women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities. Actions are needed to: (from preamble, p. 47)

(g) Promote the **role of local authorities** in partnership with other major groups to exchange information, build networks and create markets for small farmers, especially women and youth. (p. 48)



**Chair's Text as agreed to on conclusion of CSD 17 (cont.)**

***(c) Enhance and promote capacity-building efforts and promote transfer of technologies to developing countries. In that context:***

(i) Implement targeted capacity-building programmes in areas relevant to the thematic cluster, their interlinkages and the cross-cutting issues, in coordination with local, national and regional institutions;

(ii) Strengthen South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation and enhance support from the United Nations development system in promoting such cooperation to enhance financial resources, comprehensive capacity-building, exchange of information and know-how and technology transfer; (p. 52)

## Next steps:

- ✓ A mandate from the ICLEI World Congress in June to build a network of local authorities linking food and agriculture to biodiversity.
- ✓ A partnership proposal under management of the ICLEI Africa Secretariat in Cape Town, South Africa to link select cities, countrysides and markets over the coming three years.
- ✓ A research proposal with European university, EU and African partners, to focus on urban rural linkages in select cities to compare best practices and successful strategies to link production and markets with attention to shorter supply chains.
- ✓ A policy proposal from IPSA, ICLEI and other partners working at the CSD to position the importance of local authorities around urban rural linkages and food in meetings coming up later this fall and in the next 2-3 years.
- ✓ (Multiple policy entry points including an upcoming seminar at USDA headquarters, October 29 –“*Domestic and international linkages for food security and sustainable production*”, the *Committee on Food Security meetings in October*, *World Food Summit*, November, *Copenhagen Climate Negotiations*, December)



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### IN THE NEWS

- Agriculture Deputy Secretary Merrigan Launches Website for 'Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food'; Plans Facebook Chat to Expand Conversation on Local Food Systems
- USDA Launches New Web Pages and On-Line Tools to Help Consumers Make Healthier Food Choices
- USDA Releases Publication on Opening Farmers Markets on Federal Property

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### IN THE KNOW



[Know Your Farmer - Know Your Food: USDA Campaign Launch On local and regional Food systems](http://www.usda.gov/portal/knowyourfarmer?navid=KNOWYOURFARMER)





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# STATE OF THE WORLD

*Into a Warming World*

THE WORLDWATCH INSTITUTE

“With the exception of the recent REDD initiatives to save standing forests through intergovernmental action, which are still in an early stage, there are no major international initiatives to address the interlinked challenge of climate, agriculture, and land use.

A worldwide, networked movement for climate-friendly food, forest, and other land-based production is needed. **This calls for forging unusual political coalitions that link consumers, producers, industry, investors, environmentalists, and communicators. Food, in particular, is something that the public understands. By focusing on food systems, climate action will become more real to people.**

It is realistic to expect that the prices of food and other land-based products will rise in a warming world, at least for a time. This must not be the result of scarcity caused by climate-induced system collapse but rather because new investment has been mobilized to create sustainable food and forest systems that also cool the planet.”

-Farming and Land Use to Cool the Planet, - *Sara J. Scherr and Sajal Sthapit, Ch. 3*, concluding remarks