

Role of local authorities, policies and strategies in developing resilient food (including water) systems in cities

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Introduction

- For developing resilient food and water systems for cities, the major responsible agency is the **local authority**, which needs to be duly supported by the **local Government** and other supportive **stake holders**.
- To develop an implementable and **sustainable** programme, all concerned **stake holders** should be involved who have a functional role.

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Development of a resilient Food System 1/3

- The system is complex as it has to take care of the **availability of food** right from **farm to plate**, where a major part of the **food chain** is not under the control of urban authorities.
- The **urban food system** is quite **complex** as it needs to take into consideration several factors which are quite varied or even diverse.
- It has to **cater** to the needs of varied **communities** coming from very poor to the most affluent sectors.

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Development of a resilient Food System 2/3

The various critical points that the urban food chain needs to consider are –

1. **Procurement and Availability** of good quality **raw foods**.
2. Proper **Processing of raw foods** by different sectors Eg.
 - Food establishments (high, middle and lower categories)
 - Domestic use
 - Special uses Eg. Mass feeding, school meals, canteens etc.
3. **Consumption, Display, Sale and Storage** of foods.
4. **Price control**
5. **Value addition** to foods

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Development of a resilient Food System 3/3

6. **Availability of safe** and uncontaminated foods
7. Special **support programmes** for the **under privileged groups**.
8. Develop **special checks** for **monitoring and control**, to ensure adequate and safe foods.

All these steps need to consider not only the availability and accessibility of foods but it also needs to take into account the food safety and quality aspects.

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Urban Food Supply and Distribution Policies 1/6

Three key areas –

1. **Food Supply** to cities
2. Urban **food distribution**
3. **Health and Environment**

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Urban Food Supply and Distribution Policies ^{2/6}

1. Food Supply to cities

- **Projections** for urban food and water **need**
- Development of efficient and **sustainable production**
- **Processing** and **storage** in **rural, periurban** and **urban** areas
- **Infrastructure**, facilities and services for **food assembly**,
- **Handling, packaging** and **transport** to cities
- Efficiency, transparency and dynamism of **production** and **marketing systems**

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Urban Food Supply and Distribution Policies ^{3/6}

- **Effectiveness of services** (information, extension, etc.) to **producers, processors** and **traders**
- **Food import** logistics and procedures
- Promotion of **private sector organizations** and private investment
- **Planning, development** and **management** of **slaughterhouses**
- **Legislation** and **regulations**

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Urban Food Supply and Distribution Policies ^{4/6}

2. Urban food distribution

- **Planning, development and management of wholesale and retail markets** and food shops
- Planning and organization of specific **low-cost food** distribution arrangements
- **Street food** and informal activities
- **Modern** distribution
- **Intra-urban transport**

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Urban Food Supply and Distribution Policies ^{5/6}

- Services to urban **market users**, promotion of **market traders**
- **Shopkeeper** and **consumer associations** and organizations
- **Promotion of private investment** in urban markets and shops
- Efficiency, transparency and dynamism of **urban food distribution** systems
- **Legislation and regulations.**

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Urban Food Supply and Distribution Policies ^{6/6}

3. Health and environment

- Better **hygiene conditions** in the **food chain**
- **Environmentally friendly** and sustainable food production systems
- Better **located**, maintained and managed food market and processing **infrastructure**
- Better **market** and **slaughterhouse waste disposal** and use
- Better attention to **ecological conditions** of the city during planning

[Ref: Urban Food Supply and Distribution - Policies, Strategies and Programmes, <http://www.fao.org/DOCREP/003/X8296E/x8296e07.htm>]

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GOALS

1. Economic goal

Efficient food supply and distribution systems to achieve:

- Stable supplies of **low-cost food** to low-income urban consumers;
- Food production incentives through **equitable marketing** opportunities for **farmers**.

2. Social goal

Minimize **food insecurity** in **poor urban households** to achieve:

- **Improved equity** from lower food prices;
- **Reduced social disruption**, because supplies and prices are more stable;
- **Increased employment and income opportunities** in the food sector.

[Ref: Urban Food Supply and Distribution - Policies, Strategies and Programmes, <http://www.fao.org/DOCREP/003/X8296E/x8296e07.htm>]

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Food and Water Policy Councils

Food Policy Councils have been formed in many countries –

Objectives:

- **Advocate for policy changes** to improve a community's food system
- **Develop programs that address gaps** in a community's food system
- **Strategize solutions** that have wide applicability to the food system
- **Research and analyze** the existing conditions of a community's food system
- **Communicate information** about a community's food system
- **Cultivate partnerships**
- **Convene meetings** that draw diverse stakeholders of a community's food system

[Ref.: FOOD POLICY COUNCIL-APAP PLANNING BOOKS, <http://FoodPolicyCouncils.htm>]

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[Ref.: FOOD POLICY COUNCIL-APAP PLANNING BOOKS, <http://FoodPolicyCouncils.htm>]

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FPCs share operating characteristics

- Take a **comprehensive approach**
- Pursue **long-term strategies**
- Offer **tangible solutions**
- Are **place-based**
- **Advocate** on behalf of the larger community
- **Seek government buy-in**
- Establish **formal membership**
- Operate with **little or no funding**

[Ref.: FOOD POLICY COUNCIL-APAP PLANNING BOOKS, <http://FoodPolicyCouncils.htm>]

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Development of a resilient Water System ^{1/2}

- This brings into focus the most important factor with impacts greatly on safety and quality of food which is **availability and accessibility to safe and potable water.**
- Without a **vigilant control** to ensure that adequate amount of water is available, which is safe and potable, food is likely to get contaminated at any point of the food chain, starting from washing of raw foods, to the preparation, display and storage of prepared foods – water has a multi pronged impact.

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Development of a resilient Water System ^{2/2}

- **Issues** that need to be considered are –
 1. Easy accessibility to safe water
 2. Availability of sufficient water
 3. Water quality monitoring
 4. Proper storage and usage of water
 5. Hygienic practices
 6. Scientific disposal of waste water
 7. Create a proper water management plan to ensure adequacy, sufficiency, availability and quality of water.
 8. Encourage Public – Private sharing.

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Water Policy – to ensure Integration and proper management ^{1/6}

1. **Water Supply**
2. **Water Conservation**
3. **Water Distribution**
4. **Water Quality**
5. **Public Private Partnership**

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Water Policy – to ensure integration and proper management

2/6

1. **Water supply** – Acquire and manage water supplies so that existing and future reasonable **demands** for water, as **projected** in the 10 year forecast, are reliably met.
 - Negotiate **for long-term supply commitments**, using future demands as projected
 - Support **reasonable, cost-effective, efficient** and **environmentally friendly** water supply enhancement projects
 - Investigate possibilities to increase **multiple water sources** within the City.
 - Encourage **recycled water** use
 - Develop **Public-Private Partnerships**

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Water Policy – to ensure integration and proper management

3/6

2. **Water Conservation** – Promote more **efficient use** of the City's **water resources** to reduce the demands placed on the City's water supplies

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Water Policy – to ensure integration and proper management

4/6

- 3. Water Distribution** – Proactively **maintain** the water distribution system **infrastructure** to ensure the reliable and safe delivery of water under **normal** and **emergency conditions** to both current and future customers.

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Water Policy – to ensure integration and proper management

5/6

- 4. Water Quality** – Ensure that the water meets **standards** for **aesthetics, quality** and **health**.
 - Maintain and update a comprehensive **water quality-monitoring** program.
 - Provide staff with adequate certification/**training**
 - **Control, monitor** and **investigate** to prevent back flow.
 - Provide appropriate **security** and protection of water facilities
 - Maintain and update an **action plan** that responds to and protects water supplies from **contamination**.
 - Maintain an **emergency action plan** to isolate and halt delivery of known or suspected contaminated water to customers.

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Water Policy – to ensure integration and proper management

6/6

5. Public Private Partnerships

Develop public – private partnerships to receive **private sectors** support to enhance water resources on the basis of **sharing** of water.

[Ref.: Policy 3.1.1 Water Resources – Goals, Policies and Action Strategies,
<http://sunnyvale.ca.gov/Portals/0/Sunnyvale/CodesAndPolicies/CouncilPolicy/Policy3.1.1.pdf>]

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Food and Water

Joint Actions for Policies and Strategies for Development of a Resilient Food and Water System

- We need to develop joint policies to ensure adequate and safe, food and water by involving all concerned stake holders.

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Meeting held in Kolkata

- A meeting was held in Kolkata on September 2011, it was a historic meeting
- For the first time the agency responsible for **Food** (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Govt. of India) and the agency responsible for **Water**, (Public Health Engineering Department, Govt. of West Bengal, India), joined hands
- Joint policy recommendation was created for developing a resilient street food system.
- Since street food is the most difficult food system to handle and manage in this sector we have taken on the most difficult task as our very first step.
- If we succeed in this, we will succeed on every other policy.

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What is needed?

For an **Efficient, Sustainable and Resilient food and water system for cities what is needed is :**

- Involvement of all relevant sectors
- Developing a joint planning mode
- Constant dialogue and interaction with each other
- Assessing the existing situation – Problems and Prospects
- Giving special considerations for the –
 - Under privileged communities
 - Difficult areas
 - Vulnerable groups

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Food for the Cities - Regional Workshop – Bangkok
Ensuring Resilient Food Systems in Asian Cities – 17-18 November 2011
Role of local authorities, policies and strategies
in developing resilient food (including water) systems in cities



In Bangkok

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Releasing of Food Safety Posters

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Kolkata Consultation

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Inauguration of Kolkata Consultation

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Thank You

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