

International course

Food security in an urbanising society



WAGENINGEN UR
For quality of life



From home gardens to agro-parks: designing resilient agrifood systems serving densely populated areas

Wageningen, The Netherlands, 05 – 16 September 2016

RUAF FOUNDATION
RESOURCE CENTRES ON URBAN AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

Accelerated urbanisation is one of the major drivers of change in our globalized world. Countries and cities are facing enormous challenges relating to food security, agricultural systems and regional development. In striving for urban food security it is crucial to develop resilient agricultural systems, effectively link rural and urban areas, and manage food chains from production to consumption in a holistic approach including efficient waste and energy management. This course addresses these challenges, explores potential pathways for sustainable urban development and brings together multi-disciplinary innovative ideas, and visions to improve food security for the cities of tomorrow.

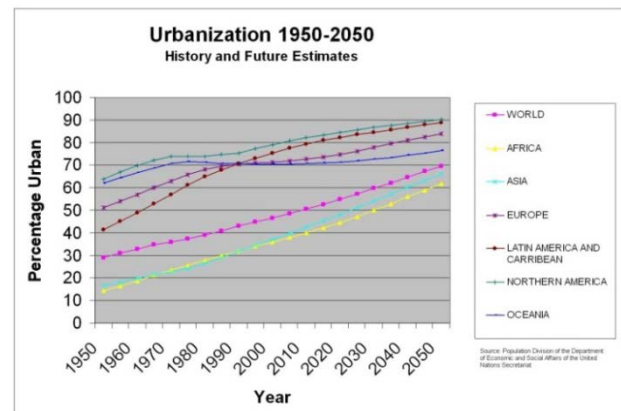
Currently, over 50% of the world's population is living in densely populated urban areas. This percentage is increasing continuously, due to rural-urban migration, natural disasters and insecurity. The urban population heavily relies on a multitude of market systems for their daily food needs. From overstressed complex agro-logistical networks to direct engagement of the consumers with the producers. These systems are increasingly prone to the risk of failure. Understanding and working towards an integration of urban, peri-urban and rural market systems is vital to allow to both rural and urban communities access to nutritious, affordable and acceptable food. With increasing urbanisation, interlinked, multifunctional urban and regional food systems are becoming essential in ensuring food security, safety and sovereignty in the years to come.

These topics will be discussed during the course within the framework of urban and regional food systems and the multiple linkages and

Fee:	3,450 Euro
Deadline subscription:	25 July 2016
Deadline NFP/MENA Fellowships:	22 March 2016



functions of food in sustainable urban development. There are various types of food sub-systems each with their own merits, varying from intra urban green buildings, rooftops, community gardens, to peri-urban high tech Integrated systems, like the metropolitan food clusters, in which food production and market systems are integrated into a holistic, systemic and spatial manner. These city-region food systems should be able to



integrate adaptive and innovative change processes with technical, social and cultural aspects, to address the current and future challenges of complex food systems around the world. This new course focuses on how to facilitate rural-urban integration, and enhancing food chains; not only guaranteeing access to healthy food in adequate quantities for urban dwellers, but also assuring environmental, social and economic sustainability of the production areas.



The training programme consists of two modules of one week each that can also be taken separately, in 2 different years. Module 1 can be followed as stand-alone and will be propaedeutic to module 2. This set-up allows for individual packages, tailored to the specific requirements of the participant. Only the full two weeks course will be eligible for fellowship.

Module 1: **Agrifood systems in an urbanizing society.** In this module the participants will understand the complexity of the agri-food systems at city-region level and start analysing their own case study. This module will include:

1. Food production in and around cities: from home gardens to metropolitan food clusters – characteristics, pros and cons of different food production systems;
2. Relations between agri-food systems / food & nutrition security and other grand challenges that urbanizing societies are facing: climate change, resource depletion and diet-related ill-health;
3. Technical and socio-economic aspects of urban agriculture and its contribution to sustainable agri-food systems with case studies from poor and rich countries.

Module 2: **Planning for sustainable city region agri-food systems.** During the second week, the participants will further explore several concepts and design potential solutions for their own cases:

1. Food logistics: producing, processing, storing and transporting food to and through cities;
2. Selling food in the city: street food, fresh food markets, supermarkets, etc. and the meaning of different food outlets for urban food security, in particular for the urban poor;
3. The use of multi-stakeholder processes to design policies and new forms of governance in an urban food production system.

During the course you will be challenged by a mixture of theory from leading experts and hands-on assignments. Case studies, also from your own professional environment, are used to work on the concepts.

Ideal course participants are working in the following fields: rural/urban/spatial planning, agribusiness development, rural/urban livelihood governance, food security and sustainable development or other relevant areas, have several years of professional work

experience and at least a BSc level. Proficiency in English is a must.

This course is realised through a collaboration of the following Centres of Excellence in this field:

- Rural Sociology Group (RSO Wageningen UR)
- Metropolitan Food Cluster team (Alterra, Food & Biobased Research and LEI)
- The RUA Foundation (Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture and Food Security)

Further practical information

- **Application**, the procedure is:
 - 1) **Apply at the website of CDI, Wageningen**
UR: www.wageningenur.nl/cdi You will receive a confirmation and more information within a week. Early application is recommended as some procedures to finalise subscription (f.e. funding, visa) can take some time.
 - 2) **CDI** is unable to assist you in obtaining financial support, however if you want to apply for a **NFP/MENA Fellowship**, CDI will provide you with the full instructions and the web address for registration in **ATLAS**. You can check the eligibility at www.nuffic.nl/nfp or www.nuffic.nl/mena. A limited number of scholarships is available. As this application process takes time and requires several documents, we recommend that you **start as soon as possible**.
- **Accommodation:** Hof van Wageningen, Wageningen, The Netherlands. For prices, see the cost estimate on our website. **NFP Fellowships include** travel and full board and lodging.
- **Fee** includes all course related costs (materials, excursions, administration).
- Participants will be awarded with a **Certificate** of attendance. The programme of the course might be changed to incorporate new insights.

Proven concepts & state-of-the-art science and methodology For an overview of all the courses visit our website: www.wageningenur.nl/cdi. More than 20,000 participants have gained access to the latest insights from research and best practices. From September 2013, all participants of our courses offered in Wageningen are provided with tablets as a learning tool.

