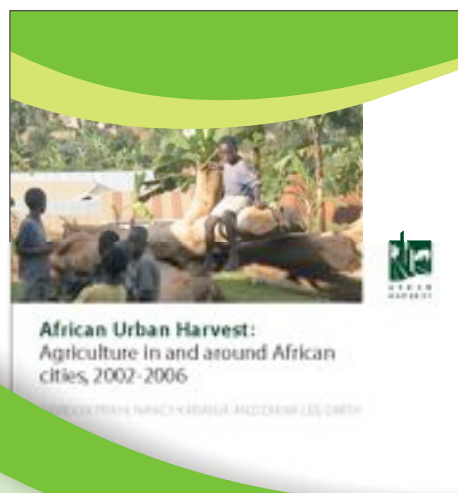


# African Urban Harvest: Agriculture in and around African cities, 2002-2006

GORDON PRAIN, NANCY KARANJA AND DIANA LEE-SMITH



**Amid the multiple changes affecting sub-Saharan Africa in the last couple of decades, how has the demonstrated importance of urban agriculture in African cities changed, how far is farming better integrated into urban environmental management and city governance and what is its future role in addressing the needs of low-income urban households and modernizing cities in the region?**

- **A major contribution to understanding the role of agriculture for urban livelihoods in African cities**
- **Showing the growing role of local government for creating safe and sustainable food production in cities**
- **Understanding of the natural resources and social interactions that link urban, peri-urban and rural agriculture**
- **Documenting the primary role of women in urban food production**

A timely follow up to the seminal publication by IDRC on "Cities Feeding People" (1994), this publication features contributions from leading specialists in the field of urban agriculture and the urban environment. It presents city case studies, many undertaken as part of a regional research program led by the CGIAR global initiative Urban Harvest with funding from IDRC, the World Bank, DfID and other sources, emphasizing the growing role of local food production in urban livelihoods in sub-Saharan Africa since the late 1980s. Chapters provide overviews of the changing role of agriculture in different cities, look in detail at the health risks and the social and economic benefits of crop-livestock systems and consider the opportunities from schools and local markets for making locally produced nutritious food more easily available and more profitable. The final chapters reflect on the movement toward an integrated management of urban natural resources and the built environment which includes an expanded role for urban agriculture in the region and a recognition of the importance of women in feeding cities.

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