



Sectoral Activities Department Labour Issues in Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture: Information and Resource Guide

# Labour Issues in Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture: Information and Resource Guide

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Over the next four decades, the population living in urban areas is projected to increase by 2.6 billion, jumping from 3.6 billion in 2011 to 6.3 billion by 2050. Urban areas are forecast to absorb all the population growth while at the same time drawing in some of the rural population. Urbanization is expected to continue rising in both more and less developed regions so that, by 2050,<sup>1</sup> urban dwellers will likely account for 86 per cent of the population in the more developed regions and for 64 per cent in the less developed regions. Overall, the world population is expected to be 67 per cent urban by 2050.<sup>1</sup> This trend has major implications for food production, livelihoods and job creation. As a result there is a need to rethink the organization of production and distribution systems to meet the challenge of providing urban inhabitants with sufficient and affordable food supplies.

Over the past two decades there has been a growing recognition of the significance of urban and peri-urban agriculture for poor people's livelihoods. What is generally termed "urban and peri-urban agriculture" is not new as crops and livestock have always been raised in urban and peri-urban areas. What is new, as the world urbanizes, and as towns and cities grow, is the scale and rapid spread of urban and peri-urban agriculture and the recognition that, given proper support, producing and consuming fresh food locally in urban areas brings numerous economic, social, and environmental benefits.

Today, urban and peri-urban agriculture has moved far beyond the old fashioned image of "backyard farming". There is growing acknowledgement that increasing the production of crops and livestock on people's doorsteps can improve urban residents' nutrition and diet, reinforce their food security and right to food, raise households' incomes and help to green cities. Urban and peri-urban agriculture also has the potential to contribute significantly to job creation (especially for youth), poverty reduction and gender equality in cities. However, not all jobs currently created in this sector are decent jobs. In reality, many urban and peri-urban farmers are in low-income categories. Waged workers hired in this sector, including young people and women, are usually poorly paid and suffer from bad working conditions. This Information and Resource Guide focus-es on these labour aspects of urban and peri-urban agriculture, aiming to help ensure decent work in this expanding sector. The Guide can be, therefore, considered as innovative and unique as the first among the vast body of existing literature on urban and peri-urban agriculture to tackle the issue from the perspective of decent work.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> United Nations, Department of Economics and Social Affairs, Population Division: World Urbanisation Prospects The 2011 Revision Highlights, New York, March 2012.

The Guide provides background information on urban and peri-urban agriculture to inform policy-making and project development, highlighting those issues where the ILO can be most influential in providing guidance and resources to promote decent work in the sector. It also presents ILO resources which could be of particular value in achieving decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture. The resources are presented to enable their use as modular training courses.

The Information and Resource Guide was prepared within the Sectoral Activities Department by Peter Hurst, with the technical support and overall methodological guidance of Edmundo Werna and Rajendra Paratian and inputs and research support of Fernanda Lonardoni and Tran Thi Mai Thoa.

Alette Van Leur Director, Sectoral Activities Department Alphonse Tabi-abodo Director, ILO Harare Office The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the organization of the United Nations which deals with the world of work. It is the tripartite organization which brings together governments, employer and worker representatives.

Through its international labour conventions, standards, and activities, the ILO promotes full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people. It is based on the understanding that work is a source of personal dignity, family stability, peace in the community, democracies that deliver for people, and economic growth that expands opportunities for productive jobs and enterprise development.<sup>2</sup>

The ILO has developed an agenda for the community of work. The Decent Work Agenda comprises four inseparable, interrelated and mutually supportive pillars:<sup>1</sup>

- Employment promotion
- Fundamental rights and principles at work
- Social protection
- Social dialogue

#### **Sectoral Activities Department**

The Sectoral Activities Department (SECTOR) promotes decent work by addressing social and labour issues in specific economic sectors, both at international and national levels. By tack-ling challenges and development issues of great importance for specific sectors, the ILO assists governments, employers and workers to develop policies and programmes aimed at enhancing economic opportunities and improving working conditions in each sector.

Over the years, SECTOR has implemented a number of national activities at industry level. Social dialogue is at the heart of sectoral work, but all other pillars of the ILO's Decent Work Agenda — employment creation, labour rights and social protection — have also been addressed as a result of SECTOR's cross-cutting nature.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> C. van Empel and E. Werna. *Labour-oriented participation in municipalities. How decentralised social dialogue can benefit the urban economy and its sectors.* ILO Sectoral Activities Department, Working Paper No. 280 (Geneva, ILO, 2010) p. 24. http://www.ilo.org/empent/Publications/WCMS\_151450/lang--en/index.htm (accessed 11 March 2013).

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# Aims of the Information and Resource Guide

- 1. To inform the ILO and its constituents of the role played by urban and peri-urban agriculture in poverty reduction and decent work.
- 2. To enhance the ILO's role in promoting the development of urban and peri-urban agriculture based on principles of decent work and sustainable livelihoods.

To highlight and give examples of the information and training resources which the ILO can offer to urban and peri-urban agriculture practitioners in:

- employment and business and market development;
- fundamental rights and principles at work;
- social protection (especially occupational safety and health);
- social dialogue.
- 3. To augment collaboration and identify further relevant partners, actors and networks, to better promote decent and sustainable urban and peri-urban agriculture.
- 4. To provide guidance on how urban farmers and producers, and their groups and associations, could utilize social dialogue and develop links with national employers' organizations, and trade unions for their mutual benefit.

## How to use the Information and Resource Guide

Target groups for the Resource Guide are urban farmers and producers, trainers on urban and peri-urban agriculture, members of trade unions and employers' organizations and officials in municipal authorities.

The Guide is structured in two main parts. Part 1 is an Information Guide. It is divided into two sections. Section 1 provides background information on urban and peri-urban agriculture: what it is, its scale, the reasons why it is growing and becoming more structured, as well as who are the urban farmers and producers. The section goes on to note some key challenges for stakeholders in urban and peri-urban agriculture and decent work. Section 2 breaks down issues in urban and peri-urban agriculture in terms of the Decent Work Agenda, showing areas where the ILO can provide guidance and resources to promote decent work as well as discussing in more detail other relevant issues.

Part 2, the Resource Guide lists and describes the types of ILO resources which could be of particular value in ensuring decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture. For each resource, a short description is provided, as well as electronic link(s) to the latest version(s) available, and, where relevant, a training activity or activities to illustrate how the resource could be best used to support the development of decent work.

Part 2 can be used as a training course in its own right with key issues highlighted on each theme. Trainers of course also have the flexibility to adapt the training activities and supporting resource materials to suit their needs.

Throughout the Information and Resource Guide the examples are illustrative and do not reflect any special priority or importance.

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Globally, and especially in developing countries with rapidly urbanizing populations, agriculture in towns and cities and their peri-urban fringe areas is expanding. It is increasingly gaining in significance in terms of poverty reduction, food and nutrition security, income generation, employment (especially of women and young people), small-scale business growth, local production and consumption, greening of cities, green jobs, waste management, and tackling climate change. It is estimated that between 15 and 20 per cent of the food consumed in the world is produced in cities and their peri-urban fringes, although there is a lack of accurate data. Urban and peri-urban agriculture can produce fresh food including vegetables, fruits, eggs, milk and dairy products, meat, and fish; at hand, and at affordable prices.

While urban and peri-urban farming is not new, popular perceptions of it have moved far beyond the old fashioned image of "backyard farming". The industry has evolved from a largely informal activity into a more commercial and professional initiative in many countries, and there are often strong links with community improvement initiatives, and greening of the environment. Furthermore, since the 2007/2008 world food crisis, municipalities and governments worldwide are viewing this type of agriculture with a new or renewed interest, whilst evaluating its true potential, and working out how best to support its sustainable development.

Paradoxically though, despite this growing interest and support, urban and peri-urban agriculture still remains out of the mainstream of the economy in many ways. For example, as local authorities, urban planners and policy-makers often undervalue this sector or consider it illegal, there are few national and municipal legal frameworks in place to develop it rationally. Urban and peri-urban farmers often have little or no security of tenure, little recourse in case of theft or crop slashing, and no access to agricultural extension services. They often lack access to clean water for their agriculture, and systems for safely disposing of agricultural wastes, leading to negative implications for food safety, and public health. There is a lack of information on the types of jobs and working conditions that prevail in the sector and on the types of measures needed to strengthen labour markets and ensure good labour practices and conditions.

A major challenge therefore, for the ILO and its tripartite constituents — governments, trade unions and employers' organizations — is to help mainstream urban and peri-urban agriculture in labour market analysis and to ensure that the growth of urban and peri-urban agriculture not only offers pathways out of poverty but also pathways to decent work for urban workers, dwellers and communities, especially for women and young people.

This Information and Resource Guide aims to demonstrate how the ILO can help mainstream and support the growth of sustainable urban and peri-urban agriculture, including local processing and trading opportunities. Issues in the sector cuts across the ILO's programmes and initiatives on the promotion of decent work for all. To provide a holistic picture, the Information and Resource Guide lists the main challenges — and therefore opportunities — for the ILO and its constituents in the area of urban and peri-urban agriculture.

The Information and Resource Guide is divided into two parts.

#### Part 1: the Information Guide

This section gives background information on the nature and scale of urban and peri-urban agriculture, the stakeholders, and workforce. The Guide then examines in greater depth, and with examples, the issues most directly related to decent work.

Particular focus is given to job creation and income generating opportunities for self-employed farming family households, hired waged agricultural labourers, youth and women, and cooperative organizations. For the growing number of youth worldwide, market-oriented urban and peri-urban agriculture provides relatively easy access to the urban job market, and low start up costs for new enterprises. It offers new opportunities for women to combine food production with child care and other household activities. Finally, it has a multiplier effect, creating jobs and income generating opportunities in other sectors.

The Guide looks at relevant business skills, credit issues, the importance of value chain analysis, developing and/or strengthening networks of urban and peri-urban producers, promoting marketing opportunities including local markets, supermarkets, and street foods, as well as local opportunities for processing and adding value to products.

The importance of ensuring good safety and health for workers is stressed as agriculture is one of the four most dangerous sectors to work in. Measures to protect public health by ensuring correct use of pesticides, good management of livestock and their wastes to avoid diseases, avoidance of water, air and soil contamination, and ensuring good levels of food safety and hygiene, are also important aspects of sustainable and decent urban and peri-urban farming. Indeed, done correctly, urban farming can help improve the environment by, for example, cleaning up non-agricultural waste water and refuse, and so help to green cities and towns.

The guide also addresses the need to ensure that those working in urban and peri-urban agriculture have access to social protection<sup>1</sup> including: medical care, sickness, unemployment, old age, employment injury, family, maternity, invalidity and survivors' benefits.

It is important to anchor urban and peri-urban agriculture within institutional and legal frameworks at the local, municipal and national levels. The Guide examines how the ILO can help bring this about through the promotion of social dialogue between groups or associations of urban and peri-urban agricultural producers and and local, municipal, and national governments.

#### Part 2: the Resource Guide

Building on the issues raised earlier in the Guide, Part 2 lists some key ILO resources which could be of help in mainstreaming and supporting urban and peri-urban agriculture; along with training activities to illustrate how best to adapt and utilize each resource.

For those providing support, or training on urban and peri-urban agriculture, the Resource Guide aims to provide key, ready-made training materials, with the supporting materials available electronically.

The ILO resources are categorized in three modules, and additional information is provided under related resources:

Module 1: Job promotion and income generation

Module 2: Business development

Module 3: Social protection and social dialogue

#### **Related Resources**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For further information on social protection and social security, see ILO: Social security for social justice and a fair globalization, Report VI, International Labour Conference, 100<sup>th</sup> Session, 2011, page 9, Box 1.1 Definitions.

# PART 1

# INFORMATION GUIDE ON URBAN & PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE

### Section 1

## Urban and peri-urban agriculture in a nutshell

#### 1.1. Introduction

In many regions of the world, and especially developing countries, agriculture in towns and cities and their peri-urban fringe areas is expanding and increasingly gaining in significance in a range of issues including: poverty reduction, food security, income generation, employment, small-scale business growth, local production and consumption, greening of cities, waste management, and tackling climate change. In many countries, urban and peri-urban agriculture is common for both survival and commercial purposes. While there is a lack of accurate data, it is estimated that between 15 and 20 per cent of the food consumed in the world is produced in cities.<sup>1</sup> Urban and peri-urban agriculture is a complete value chain that encompasses the supply of inputs, production, agro-processing, distribution through various marketing channels, and the management of waste and waste water all along the value chain.

Whilst urban and peri-urban farming is not new, what is giving it new significance is the dramatic increase in the rate of urbanization and the size of cities. Worldwide, the majority of people now live in cities and urban areas. By 2050, it is estimated the world population will be over 9 billion and that 70 per cent of people will live in urban areas. This urban development will mainly occur in low-income and transition countries.<sup>2</sup> With growing urbanization, urban and peri-urban agriculture has evolved from a simple traditional and largely informal activity into a commercial and professional initiative. After the 2007/2008 world food crisis, many municipalities and governments view urban and peri-urban agriculture with growing interest which can potentially help them achieve numerous key policy objectives.<sup>3</sup> As urbanization is forecasted to accelerate in the coming decades, the significance of urban and peri-urban agriculture can only grow.

However, despite its growing contribution to food security, employment, and well-being in cities, urban and peri-urban agriculture still remains out of the mainstream. A report by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) highlights:

Local authorities and policy-makers, however, often undervalue this sector or consider it illegal. As cities grow, internal pressure also forces urban (and peri-urban) agriculturalists off their land. Urban (and peri-urban) agriculturalists face difficulties including little or no security of tenure, little recourse in case of theft and crop slashing, and no access to agricultural extension services. Where the sector is illegal (or marginalized), urban (and peri-urban) agriculturalists have trouble in getting access to clean water which has public health implications because potentially contaminated food products are distributed to markets and consumers.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Cabannes, Y: 2012. p. 10

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> FAO. 2010,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 72

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> FAO: 2007a. p. 13

If problems such as these are addressed, urban and peri-urban agriculture will be better able to contribute to improvements in the economic, social, nutritional and environmental well-being of cities. As an FAO-World Bank report notes:

Generally the legal framework for UPA is either non-existent or institutionally complex and confusing. Although public awareness of farming activities in cities is slowly increasing, agriculture is still in many cases "by definition" not a legally practiced in cities, and is often seen as "economically unimportant" or "a temporary phenomenon". The terms "agriculture" and "urban planning" are often seen to be incompatible in the minds of many. The reality is that UPA is "de facto" practiced in most cities of developing countries.

...in most cases UPA is not yet formally recognized and, therefore, not integrated into urban planning processes. In contrast, where UPA is recognized as a legitimate activity by city authorities, it can be inserted into formal development policies and strategies and can more easily benefit from assistance and monitoring.<sup>5</sup>

A major challenge therefore, especially for the ILO and its tripartite constituents is to help mainstream urban and peri-urban agriculture within the Decent Work Agenda, to help to ensure that the growth of urban and peri-urban agriculture not only offers pathways out of poverty but also pathways to decent work for urban workers and communities. Promoting social dialogue and strengthening the tripartite partners will ensure an enabling environment. Here it will be beneficial to foster links between urban farmers and their organizations and networks, trade unions and employers' organizations. The ILO can be most useful in providing guidance and resources on those issues in urban and peri-urban agriculture which most directly relate to decent work. At the same time, the ILO can take note of other important issues in urban and peri-urban agriculture which are relevant, although less directly linked to decent work.

Issues in urban and peri-urban agriculture which most directly relate to decent work include:

- The need to strengthen urban labour markets by promoting the creation of new jobs and business development opportunities, based on principles of decent work, including through sustainable growth of urban and peri-urban agriculture.
- This sector has a high potential as an engine of job creation. Horticulture, raising livestock and dairying are very labour intensive, and as such, urban and peri-urban agriculture creates employment for the jobless, particularly for young people, and people newly arrived from rural areas. Low start-up costs, for example in vegetable and small fruit growing, short production cycles, and high yields relative to inputs of time, land and water, make work in the sector accessible. Finally, an important multiplier effect leads to the creation of jobs in other sectors.
- Urban and peri-urban agriculture provides an additional source of income that can help reduce poverty and food insecurity. Workers and their families can make important savings on their food bills by growing and consuming their own fresh produce and in addition be better nourished. While selling surplus produce can help workers and their families, especially poor households, generate much needed cash income.
- Urban and peri-urban agriculture offers many new business opportunities. The expansion of this type of agriculture is resulting in the creation of new micro, small and medium-sized

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> FAO-World Bank: 2008. pp. 62-63.

5

enterprises including cooperatives. In turn, there is a growing demand from these new enterprises to enhance their business and marketing skills. New market outlets are being created such as local farmers markets, local supermarkets, and street traders selling street foods. The demand for new support services such as provision of urban agricultural extension advisory services is also stimulating local labour markets.

- Local economic development (LED) strategies can include an urban and peri-urban agriculture component building on the comparative advantages of local areas to promote economic growth, employment and poverty reduction.<sup>6</sup>
- Gender is also an important aspect of urban and peri-urban agriculture as many, and frequently the majority of, urban farmers and producers are women. Urban agriculture is not only offering women new opportunities but new ways of combining work, family and personal life.
- In an increasing number of towns and cities and their peri-urban areas, there is growing social dialogue between agricultural producers and municipal authorities on how to best promote urban and peri-urban agriculture. In some cases, municipal decent work programmes also form part of the dialogue; this is a positive trend which can support all other aspects of decent work in the sector.
- Some governments are increasingly interested in urban and peri-urban agriculture as a potential priority within urban development and planning frameworks and policies, and as a way of addressing issues such as growing youth unemployment.<sup>7</sup>
- Agriculture is one of the most dangerous sectors to work in, in terms of occupational fatalities, injuries, and illness. As with their rural counterparts, urban farmers and agricultural workers face risks from a wide range of hazards in crop and livestock production. Providing guidance and resources on how to improve occupational safety and health conditions in workplaces is one of the key functions of the ILO.
- The development of sustainable and decent urban and peri-urban agriculture also touches on many other elements of decent work such such as ensuring fundamental principles and rights at work, the abolition of child labour and its worst forms, improving social protection, skills training, strengthening local organizations; greater attention is given to these issues in Part 2.

Issues in urban and peri-urban agriculture which are less directly linked to decent work and labour include:

- Urban harvesting helps to provide food and nutrition security for the growing numbers of urban dwellers, especially for poor households who often living in slums and who may spend up to 80 per cent of their income on food. Poor workers farming to feed their own families are a primary driving force behind the growth of urban and peri-urban agriculture.
- In other instances, urban and peri-urban agriculture is community driven through community initiatives, projects and networks. It exemplifies people banding together for food production, amenity gardening, to cultivate personal and community links.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> FAO: 2010. p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Prain, Gordon; Karanja, Nancy; Lee-Smith, Diana (Eds.). 2010.

- As well as providing food for the cities, income and jobs, urban and peri-urban agriculture can also help make cities greener, by improving the urban environment, and encouraging wildlife and biodiversity. It can also contribute to urban sanitation through water harvesting, water re-use, and the re-cycling of urban waste to provide water, animal feed and fertilisers. Growing trees and other plants can have a positive impact on human health by reducing air pollution. At the same time livestock waste can provide a source of energy; the benefits of using methane gas as an energy source are well documented.
- Producing locally also reduces the need for long distance transportation of food, and thus reduces fossil fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions. Urban farming cuts back on food miles the energy required to get food to your plate which can be significant especially when fresh or packaged food is imported.

It is critical that governments and international organizations, including the ILO, consider the formulation of an international framework to mainstream urban and peri-urban agriculture in the international development agenda. Such a framework should cover decent work, the right to food and food security. A challenge for the ILO and its constituents is to determine which ILO standards, policy and technical guidance would be most relevant as part of an international framework for urban agriculture.<sup>8</sup>

#### 1.2. What is urban and peri-urban agriculture?

There are numerous, if relatively recent, definitions of urban and peri-urban agriculture which go beyond the limited notion of backyard gardening that prevailed for many years. Some definitions focus exclusively on agricultural activity within large cities and the peri-urban areas around them. Others consider that urban and peri-urban agriculture can extend to rural areas on the fringes of significant sized towns. This report adopts the broader approach, covering towns, cities and peri-urban fringes in both urban and rural areas. The words urban centre, town and city are also used interchangeably in this text.

The working definition of urban and peri-urban agriculture used in this guide is: "Urban and peri-urban agriculture is an industry located within (intra-urban) or on the fringe (peri-urban) of a town, a city or a metropolis, which grows and raises, processes and distributes a diversity of agriculture products, using largely human, land and water resources, products and services found in and around that urban area".<sup>9</sup> Urban and peri-urban agriculture encompasses a complete value chain running from field to fork, so in addition to cultivation, it includes food processing, marketing and distribution.

Agriculture, as an even broader concept, also has many definitions; the working definition used in this guide follows the Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention, 2001 (No. 184):

The term agriculture covers agricultural and forestry activities carried out in agricultural undertakings including crop production, forestry activities, animal husbandry and insect raising, the primary processing of agricultural and animal products by or on behalf of the operator of the undertaking as well as the use and maintenance of machinery, equipment, appliances, tools, and agricultural installations, including any process, storage, operation or transportation in an agricultural undertaking, which are directly related to agricultural production.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Cabannes, Y: 2012. p. 12.

<sup>9</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 21.

Typically, urban and peri-urban agriculture focuses on short cycle, high value and low input market crops; e.g. highly perishable leafy vegetables such as spinach, and cassava leaves; fruits and vegetables such as okra, eggplant, and mango. Looking at the medium and long term, productive returns can be expected on fruit tree systems and other tree-based systems from five years after planting, provided that land and resources accessibility and tenure are secure.<sup>10</sup> The sustainability of other non-wood forest products, and wood used as fuel, is very important for communities. While often managed by forestry, rather than agricultural institutions, they are nonetheless relevant here.<sup>11</sup>

#### Rural-urban agriculture links

Rural-urban agriculture is in reality a continuum. Rural and urban development are two sides of the same coin and no sustainable development can take place if rural-urban linkages, concerning for example employment, migration, land and water resource management, are not given the appropriate attention. As cities expand, and people from rural areas move to cities, the frontiers between urban, peri-urban and rural activities blur and merge, presenting opportunities to extend beneficial linkages. As there are no fixed definitions, an FAO report observes, "The term peri-urban agriculture varies very widely, from the immediate city environs to up to 60km from a city. At the greater distances from a city, there is little or no difference between peri-urban agriculture and rural agriculture".<sup>12</sup>

See also the ILO's Rural Employment and Decent Work Programme discussed in Part 2 "Related resources".

#### 1.3. Who are the urban and peri-urban farmers and producers?

While in most countries, urban and peri-urban agriculture is dominated by small scale producers cultivating for daily consumption to achieve food security and earn some income for their families, there is no such person as a typical urban farmer. Producers, for example, can be rich or poor, landed farmers or migrant workers.<sup>13</sup> In most developing countries, however, it appears that the majority of urban farmers are in low-income groups and are women. Frequently, they farm on a small scale on land they do not own, and work less than full time. For many, urban and peri-urban agriculture is a relatively long-term economic activity. As an Urban Agriculture Network Report observes, "The average low-income farmer is a member of a poor but stable urban community. The poor who have lived in the city for a number of years have better access to resources and greater familiarity with the market and the urban economy."<sup>14</sup> Some urban producers are workers hired on a permanent, seasonal, casual, or day basis.

Urban and peri-urban farmers may also produce for barter or be directly contracted by a retailer or food processing business.<sup>15</sup> Outsourcing of production is even becoming a feature of urban and peri-urban agriculture. As a report by the Agropolis notes, "higher income individuals and groups are increasingly engaging in urban agriculture, where they employ or out-source production to a poorer, often female-dominated work force."<sup>16</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> FAO-World Bank, 2008. p. 25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> FAO-World Bank, 2008. p. 25.

<sup>12</sup> FAO: 2007b. p. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Urban Agriculture: Food, Jobs and Sustainable Cities; http://www.cityfarmer.info/2011/02/26major-news-"urban-agriculture-food-jobs-and-sustainable-cities"-now-online/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Smit, J., Nasr, J., Ratta, A: 2001. p. 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Smit, J., Nasr, J., Ratta, A: 2001. p. 25

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Mougeot, L., (Ed.): 2005. p. 275.

# 1.4. The scale of urban and peri-urban agriculture, and reasons for growth

Hundreds of millions of people in urban and peri-urban areas are now growing food crops, raising livestock and fish, and managing trees and flowers; and their numbers and importance are increasing. Some 200 million people are engaged in urban and peri-urban agriculture and related enterprises, contributing to the food supply of 800 million urban dwellers.<sup>17</sup> According to the United States Department of Agriculture, some 15 per cent of the world's food is now grown in urban areas. Areas used for urban and peri-urban agriculture include: backyard, roof-top and balcony gardens, community gardens in vacant lots and parks, roadside urban fringes.<sup>18</sup> The food crisis of 2007-2008 added to the impetus as has the 2008 global financial and economic crisis. The FAO has estimated that "one-quarter to two-thirds of urban and peri-urban households are involved in agriculture"<sup>19</sup> and that "in Africa, 40 per cent of urban dwellers are estimated to be in some form of urban agriculture and the figure rises to 50 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean."<sup>20</sup>

#### Urbanization is giving new significance to urban and peri-urban agriculture

Increasing urbanization is forcing a rethink on how food is produced and distributed. In 2008, for the first time, the world's urban population — more than three billion people — exceeded the number of those living in rural areas. Urbanization is forecast to continue and in some parts of the world, noticeably parts of Asia and Africa, to accelerate. In 2050, 70 per cent of the world population, forecast to be more than 9 billion, will live in urban areas. An FAO-Bank report estimates that, "By 2020, Africa, Asia, and Latin America will be home to eight of the anticipated nine mega-cities with populations in excess of 20 million. Coping with these large changes in population structure and location is challenging and in many developing countries the creation of formal employment opportunities cannot keep up with the growing population. At the same time, management of waste disposal and maintenance of air and water quality is becoming increasingly urgent."<sup>21</sup>

Much of the impetus for the growth of urban and peri-urban agriculture has come from the increasing numbers of urban slum dwellers who, to survive, have resorted to producing their own food on every piece of available land: in vacant lots, backyards, along rivers, roads and railways, in the middle of roundabouts, and under power lines. Food crops are grown, and livestock such as hens, cattle, goats, pigs, sheep and even fish are raised, as well as, sometimes, flowers and trees. Some of these urban farmers have recently arrived from the countryside as part of the growing exodus of rural populations to urban areas. Others are longer settled urban residents. Many urban producers are in effect smallholder farmers who have much in common with their rural counterparts.

The growth of urban slums is outpacing urban growth by a wide margin. Urbanization in low-income countries is associated with high levels of poverty, unemployment, underemployment and food insecurity. Worldwide, an estimated one billion people live in crowded slums, without access to basic health, water and sanitation services. According to an FAO report, "770 million people are unemployed or working poor, with incomes below official poverty lines"<sup>22</sup> Many of them are young. Globally, young people make up 25 per cent of the working age population with 90 per cent of them living in developing countries (the majority of them in urban areas).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> FAO: 2012a, p. 214.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> United States Department of Agriculture; http://afsic.nal.usda.gov/farms-and-community/urban-agriculture

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> FAO: 1999, paragraph 23

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> FAO: 2012a, p. 214.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> FAO-World Bank: 2008, p. 9.

<sup>22</sup> FAO: 2010, p. 2.

#### Box 1: Stakeholders in urban and peri-urban agriculture

These include people and groups directly and indirectly affected by urban and peri-urban agriculture including:

- Urban producers including family households and waged workers
- Urban producer groups and networks which may also be linked to trade unions, farmers' and employers' organizations
- Food processors, who may or may not be the producers
- Wholesalers and retailers who sell the produce locally or to other markets, including producers, cooperatives, farmers' markets, and street food traders, supermarkets and hotels,
- · Community groups and networks involved, for example, in production marketing
- Landowners, both private and public
- Financial institutions such as banks and saving and credit cooperatives
- Local authorities including departments and offices of agriculture and agricultural extension, land registration, finance and tax, labour, waste management, parks and gardens, forestry, health and nutrition and transport, as well as water and power boards, city planners and city market authorities
- National governments
- Private, public and NGO suppliers of inputs such as seed, fertiliser, compost, pesticides, tools and equipment
- Service providers such as extension departments and NGOs
- Promoters such as community groups, NGOs, aid agencies, educational institutions, university departments, schools and religious organizations, and relevant local and national authorities
- Schools (which often have small agricultural plots)
- Communities living near urban and peri-urban agriculture plots or where animals are kept, and people who may be affected by the waste, noise and smells from agriculture.

Adapted from: The Urban Producer's Resource Book: A practical guide for working with low income urban and peri-urban producers organizations. FAO, Rome 2007, p. 81.

According to an ILO report, "The youth unemployment rate is nearly three times higher than the adult unemployment rate. For those youth who have been able to find jobs, half of them earn less than US\$2 a day."<sup>23</sup>

With increasing numbers of urban consumers, there is also a growing commercial sector in urban and peri-urban agriculture. Urban livestock keeping and dairy farming, for example, has long been practiced in many towns and cities and is now expanding; often run by middle-income households as a response to growing urban demand and markets, and often using hired labour.<sup>24</sup> Also, in some countries, the effects of the food crisis and global economic crisis pushed many middle income households below the poverty line. As a result these households have begun to produce their own food and in some cases have started up small and medium-sized enterprises in the sector.

There are also growing numbers of community gardening and farming initiatives, linked to fresh food and nutrition and greening of cities, and the wish to bring communities alive and foster personal relations. Community gardens are a major part of USA's First Lady Michelle Oba-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> ILO (Undated), p. 1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Gündel, S. 2006, p. 6.

ma's Let's Move initiative.<sup>25</sup> According to the US Municipal Research and Services Center web page, community gardens can promote healthy communities; provide food security for many low income persons; be part of the open space network; strengthen community bonds; provide food, and create recreational and therapeutic opportunities for a community; promote environmental awareness and provide community education.<sup>26</sup>

A report by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (2000) observes that:

Urban and peri-urban agriculture complements, rather than supplants, rural supplies and imports of food into cities will continue to do so. Cities will continue to depend largely on rural agriculture for bulkier, less perishable foodstuffs, while urban agriculture can provide significant amounts of food at small scales and for specific items. It can generate goods valued at tens of millions of dollars in any given major city. By growing their own food, cities lower their food deficits and obtain an important source of fruits, vegetables, livestock products, including diary. Urban agriculture provides an estimated 15 per cent of all food consumed in urban areas and likely to double that share in the next couple of decades. Cities with more advanced urban agriculture sectors, particularly in Asia, have already become largely self-sufficient in higher-valued, nutritious perishables.<sup>27</sup>

# 1.5. Challenges and opportunities for decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture and how the ILO can contribute

Working with its tripartite constituents, through its standards supervisory system and through technical cooperation, the ILO can assist in the promotion of decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture by:

- mainstreaming urban and peri-urban agriculture in the framework of the Decent Work Agenda;
- strengthening social dialogue between employers and workers organizations and their links to urban producers to foster an enabling environment for decent work;
- conducting further research to maximize the employment potential of urban and peri-urban agriculture, and achieve decent work in this sector through regularization and improvement of working conditions;
- strengthening recognition that urban and peri-urban agriculture are a means of promoting decent jobs for young people.
- strengthening the recognition that urban and peri-urban agriculture are a means of promoting women's employment and rights, under decent conditions of work;
- collecting data and conducting research on the job multiplier effects of urban and peri-urban agriculture;
- conducting research and fostering policy to harness the potential of urban and peri-urban agriculture to create green jobs as well as greening of cities;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> For more information see: http://www.letsmove.gov/ (accessed 11 March 2013).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Municipal Research and Services Center web page. "Urban agriculture - Community Gardening". http://www.mrsc.org/ subjects/parks/comgarden.aspx (accessed 11 March 2013).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> CGIAR: 2000, p. 3.

- continuing efforts to abolish child labour and its worst forms and thus ensure that no child labour is used in urban and peri-urban agriculture;
- promoting business and marketing opportunities for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in urban and peri-urban agriculture, as well as the development and strengthening of value chains;
- incorporating a rights-based approach as a framework for urban and peri-urban agriculture covering the rights to decent work, food and food security, and advancing that approach within the international community;
- identifying standards that are key to achieving decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture;
- extending its work on strengthening rural labour markets, to examine what complementary measures are needed to strengthen urban agriculture labour markets;
- extending its work on improving occupational safety, health and environmental standards (OSHE) in rural agriculture, to urban and peri-urban agriculture;
- researching and documenting the social protection aspects of urban and peri-urban agriculture, and based on those findings, taking action to strengthen social protection in this sector;
- using its experiences and resources on social dialogue to promote and support urban and peri-urban agriculture at local, municipal and national levels, and to similarly encourage its constituents to support its development;
- reviewing what other policies, resources, and activities could best help promote and support urban and peri-urban agriculture;
- providing urban agricultural extension officers with training and capacity building on labour issues;
- evaluating training needs for ILO secretariat staff centrally and in the regions and countries on urban and peri-urban agriculture.

## Section 2

## Decent work and urban and peri-urban agriculture

Section 2 of the information guide examines in greater depth the issues in urban and peri-urban agriculture most directly related to decent work and where the ILO can provide expertise, resources, and training materials (see Part 2: the resource guide).

#### 2.1. Job creation and income generation

Job creation, and strengthening urban labour markets, is a key area for the ILO in promoting decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture. As many of the crop growing and livestock raising activities in urban and peri-urban agriculture are very labour intensive, this type of agriculture creates employment for the jobless, particularly for women, youth and people newly arrived from rural areas (see Part 1, Section 1). The work may be casual, seasonal, or permanent and working conditions may vary considerably: not all jobs are decent and some may be dirty, difficult and dangerous. Much of the work is part-time as many people are involved in urban and peri-urban agriculture in addition to a primary job.

Urban and peri-urban agriculture offers opportunities for productive employment in a sector with low barriers to entry. Intensive horticultural and livestock production employs workers in the production of high value-added products that should yield reasonable incomes and returns. Commercial peri-urban greenhouse production and livestock rearing are fast-growing sub-sectors.<sup>1</sup> Urban and peri-urban agriculture also has an important multiplier effect, stimulating job creation in many other sectors. Consequently, there is a need to promote the Decent Work Agenda within the sector to foster creation of decent jobs.

Some major issues to consider relating to the employment generation capacity of urban and peri-urban agriculture follow:

#### 2.1.1. Farming by household groups

Household members are usually the main source of labour in urban and peri-urban agriculture. In essence, these contributing family members are self-employed though they may not be recognized or registered as such under national laws. Some household members may receive remuneration, others are unpaid. A 2004 study by Foeken et al of urban and peri-urban agriculture in two towns in Tanzania, for example, found that: "Usually, crop cultivation was not a full-time job for the person involved and family member can allocate some of their time to cultivation. ...the role of the women – in most cases the spouse, is greater than the figures suggest. Responses from the in-depth survey suggest that being housewives, and thus spending a lot of time at home, enables women to devote more time to crop cultivation, even if the labour is divided daily into a number of short time units."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 75.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Foeken, D., Sofer, M. and Mlozi, M. 2004, p. 60

Prain et al. also note that: "Children in the household may also help out, without being classed as child labourers, as long as it doesn't affect their school attendance and education". In a study in Uganda, for example, a local farmer in Komamboga, Kampala stated that "our three children above the age of eight help us during holidays".<sup>3</sup> In addition, labour is often provided by relatives, friends and can be in the form of working groups. This labour is usually free or operates on a mutual basis.

Some examples of the type and scale of employment of farm households are:

- Pakistan: a 2010 study on the opportunities and constraints of dairy buffalo and cattle systems in the urban and peri-urban zone of Faisalabad, Punjab<sup>4</sup> found that in the 145 farmer households interviewed, a total of 410 people were taking care of animals, and 339 (82.7 per cent) of those people were household members. In terms of market value, milk production contributes more to Pakistan's GDP than any single major crop and makes up almost half (49 per cent) of the value of agricultural products.<sup>5</sup>
- Tanzania: The study by Foeken et al. came up with the following estimates of self-employment in crop and/or livestock production: 48,000 persons in Morogoro (population of 229,000 in 2002) and 58,000 in Mbeya (population of 266,000 in 2002). They noted that however "in reality, the figures are even higher as in many households more than one person was involved in farming and for some, farming was a full-time occupation."<sup>6</sup>

#### 2.1.2. Hiring waged labourers

Both urban and peri-urban crop and livestock production offer employment opportunities for hired, waged labourers. They can be employed permanently, seasonally, or casually for just one or two days at a time. The decision to hire workers depends on the types of work to be done, and also on whether the household members have time to do the work themselves. In crop cultivation, workers tends to be hired on a seasonal basis and for many of the workers, the job is an additional, not sole, source of income. Livestock keeping, however, is more time-consuming and often appears to create full-time jobs.

It is difficult to make accurate estimates of the contribution of urban and peri-urban agriculture to waged employment as results from studies vary widely. Nugent (2005), for example, concluded that, "there appears to be relatively little use of wage labour in urban agriculture except for seasonal work in some areas."<sup>7</sup> However, the same author notes the cities of Jakarta, Havana, and Shanghai were exceptions as they were characterized by substantial official support to agriculture and a strong commercial sector.

A 2001 FAO study in Southern Africa stated that, "few paid jobs are created/exist in urban and peri-urban agriculture with the exception of commercial horticultural production in peri-urban zones as farming households generally sell the products themselves. No information on post-harvest handling or processing was made available, apart from an occasionally reported link to the street food sector."<sup>8</sup> Citing China as an example, another FAO study found that: "Market-oriented agricultural production systems have the capacity to absorb workers from other urban sectors when needed. Farmland in peri-urban Beijing is owned by local rural collective units

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Prain, G; Karanja, N; Lee-Smith, D (Eds.). 2010., p. 105.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Faisalabad is Pakistan's third-largest city, with a population of more than 2 million in 1998 with an average annual growth rate of 3.58 per cent (Hagmann, J: 2012, p. 3).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Hagmann, J.: 2012.

<sup>6</sup> Foeken, D., Sofer, M. and Mlozi, M. 2004, p. 115.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Nugent, R.: 2005., p. 83

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Egal, F., Valstar, A., Meershoek, S. 2001. p. 4.

(village committees), but is primarily cultivated by migrants without local hukou (household registration), absorbing a high amount of labour (Liu et al, 2004). However, in general there is relatively little use of wage labour in urban agriculture, except for peak activities."<sup>9</sup>

Whereas, the study by Foeken et al. in Tanzania stated that: "Quite a number of farming households hired additional labour... Some 11,000 persons living in Morogoro and 13,000 in Mbeya found employment in crop-cultivating sector. However, these people were employed on a casual basis, i.e. at peak periods only. In livestock keeping, labour of a more permanent nature is required (cattle attendants, fodder collectors). An estimated 2,100 labourers in Morogoro and 6,400 in Mbeya were employed in this way."<sup>10</sup>

Further examples of job creation include:

- Africa: In cities like Dakar, Bamako, Accra and Kumasi, depending on crop and season, between 60 and 100 per cent of leafy vegetables consumed are produced within the respective cities with employment figures ranging from 1,000 to 15,000 jobs.<sup>11</sup>
- Bénin: Some 253 landless workers were growing organic vegetables along the runway at Cotonou airport.<sup>12</sup>
- Cameroon: In Yaoundé, pigs and poultry livestock production employed between 10,000 and 20,000 persons, including producers, retailers, processors, animal input and feed traders..<sup>13</sup>
- *Cuba*: in Havana, 117,000 jobs in Havana and income for 150,000 low income families were directly provided by urban and peri-urban agriculture.<sup>14</sup>
- Democratic Republic of the Congo: An FAO project estimated that the urban and peri-urban agricultural programme "has created some 40 jobs for every hectare, or 66,000 jobs, benefiting indirectly some 330,000 people."<sup>15</sup> The programme provided more jobs than in any other sector of the informal or formal economy, employing an estimated one in 50 inhabitants. The project report went on to state that, "From a small plot, 100 to 250 people can get earn up to \$200 per month, which exceeds the wage of a public employee."<sup>16</sup>
- *Ghana*: 90 per cent of Accra's fresh vegetable consumption is from urban and peri-urban production. <sup>17</sup>
- Indonesia: In Jakarta, some 92,500 wage jobs are in urban and peri-urban agriculture.<sup>18</sup>
- Kenya: A survey of smallholder dairy farmers in Nakuru found that 71 per cent of the sample of 50 farmers interviewed employed permanent hired labour. In addition, 65 per cent of the urban farmers and 89 per cent of the peri urban farmers provided accommodation for their permanent workers. Some farmers also provided lunch for their workers. In addition,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> FAO 2007, p. 40.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Foeken, D., Sofer, M. and Mlozi, M. 2004, p. 137.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> FAO-World Bank, 2008, p. 38.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Organic farming in the metropolis. From issue no: 7/2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Lee-Smith et. al.: 2010. p. 19.

<sup>14</sup> FAO: 2010. p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> FAO: 2010. p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 40.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> RUAF webpage: Why is Urban Agriculture important? Resource Centre on Urban Agriculture and Food Security (RUAF) web site; http://www.ruaf.org/node/513 (accessed 11 March 2013).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Nugent, R.: 2005. p. 82.Op cit, Table 2, p. 82.

workers were often given a daily allowance of milk, ranging from 0.5 litres for a single worker to two litres for workers with larger families. In terms of working hours, the average was ten hours per day, six days a week with no paid annual leave. Workers received 2,800-3,500 Kenyan shillings per month (\$43) when the legal minimum wage is 5,000 per month.<sup>19</sup> Women viewed employment benefits as most important whilst men chose income.<sup>20</sup>

- Malawi: A study of urban and peri-urban agriculture in Malawi's two main cities, Lilongwe and Blantyre, revealed two predominant types of household engaged in urban farming: i) low income, less educated, often female-headed households, who use urban agriculture as an insurance against income losses and who can employ skilled workers to support their livestock activities; and ii) middle and high income, often male-headed households, that undertake urban agriculture for personal consumption and hire significant numbers of unskilled workers.<sup>21</sup>
- Mexico: in Mexico City the proportion of people employed in agriculture fell from 9 per cent of the total in 1980 to less than 1 per cent in 1990. In his study, Nugent (2005) states that: "What remains is an active, commercial peri-urban agriculture that provides a sub-stantial number of jobs, but relatively little contribution to food security for the poor."<sup>22</sup>
- Pakistan: A 2010 survey of 238 dairy farmers in Faisalabad and 272 in Lahore found that commercial farmers running "cattle colonies" in the peripheral areas of cities tended to use waged labour.<sup>23</sup> On average, one worker was employed for every 15 cows with the larger colonies employing up to three or four workers. Average wages were 5,000 Pakistani rupees (\$61) plus one or two litres of milk, and sometimes being given meals and/or an extra 50 rupees.<sup>24</sup> In a related study in these towns, 26 of 73 women interviewed were hired labour, clearing manure which they used to prepare dung briquettes for use as fuel. They were often paid with milk but received no direct wages.<sup>25</sup>
- Senegal: 60 per cent of the country's vegetable consumption and 65 per cent of its poultry consumption comes from the city of Dakar. Within the city itself, 60 per cent of the milk consumed originated from urban and peri-urban farmers.<sup>26</sup>
- The Philippines: In Cagayan de Oro City, 9 per cent of the economically active population were employed in agriculture. There were 13,000 farmers in the peri-urban area; 40 per cent (95,000) of all households maintained backyard gardens and 70 per cent of the city's demand for fish was produced within the city.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Personal communication with Jane Sawe, postgraduate student, International Center for Development and Decent Work, University of Kassel, Germany, 13.07.2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Prain, G., Karanja, N., Lee-Smith, D. (Eds.). 2010, p. 237-238.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Mkwambisi, DD; Fraser, EDG; Dougill, AJ. 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Nugent, R.: 2005., p. 69. Duque et al 1999 cited in The Impact of Urban Agriculture on the Household and Local Economies. Rachel Nugent, Table 2, p. 69.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> (The City government does not allow animals to be kept within municipal localities).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Personal communication with Saadia Hanif, Pakistan, postgraduate student, International Center for Development and Decent Work, University of Kassel, Germany, 13.07.2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Personal communication, Jule Erbach, postgraduate student, International Center for Development and Decent Work, University of Kassel, Germany, 13.07.2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> RUAF webpage: Why is Urban Agriculture important?; http://www.ruaf.org/node/513 (accessed 11 March 2013).Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> FAO-World Bank, 2008: p. 39.

- Tanzania: In Dar Es Salaam, at least 60 per cent of the informal economy was made up of urban agriculture, accounting for 20 per cent of jobs, making it the second largest urban employment sector, <sup>28</sup>
- West Africa: it is estimated that urban and peri-urban agriculture is practised by some 20 million urban dwellers in West Africa, mostly for subsistence.<sup>29</sup> Market gardeners were mainly located in the open spaces in West Africa, and changed crops according to seasonal supply and demand, as well as market prices.
- Uganda: A comprehensive survey by Prain et al. of Banda, a vast urban slum area either side of the Kampala-Jinja highway, found that poor people used a variety of production strategies: growing cocoyams for food and income; keeping poultry and cattle for income; growing green vegetables, beans, maize and cooking bananas for food. Regarding employment, the survey found that, "one farmer employed two labourers each of whom were paid 40,000 shillings a month (some \$16)",<sup>30</sup> and that, "just 13 per cent of respondents were in waged employment, and employment was stated as an important subsidiary benefit of urban dairying."<sup>31</sup>
- USA: Numerous programmes are being implemented which are forecast to create large numbers of jobs. Examples include:
  - A Green City Growers Cooperative in Cleveland, Ohio is expected to create 35 to 40 long-term living wage jobs for low income residents.
  - Self Help Addiction Rehabilitation (SHAR), a Detroit-based organization, has worked to create one of Detroit's largest urban farms. It estimates that within six months, 150 jobs would be created for local residents and over the next ten years the number will rise to between 2,500 and 3,500 jobs.
  - In New Orleans, Viet Village Farming plans to establish a 28-acre community farm which is expected to create 26 new jobs for local residents.<sup>32</sup>
- *Vietnam*: Hanoi's urban and peri-urban areas provided its dwellers with 80 per cent of fresh vegetables consumption, 50 per cent of pork, poultry and fresh water fish demand as well as 40 per cent of egg consumption.<sup>33</sup>

#### 2.1.3. Job multiplier effect

As the agriculture chain is long and complex, urban and peri-urban farming has a wide multiplier effect, generating employment in related and supportive activities in production, input supply, marketing, processing, and value addition from producer to consumer. An FAO report estimated that the 200 million urban and peri-urban farmers employed a further 150 million people.<sup>34</sup> Private sector employment examples include jobs in input companies supplying: tools, seeds/ seedlings, fertilisers, pesticides, veterinary medicines and equipment, transport services, formal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> FAO-World Bank: 2008, p. 39.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> FAO-World Bank: 2008, p.41.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Prain, G., Karanja, N., Lee-Smith, D. (Eds.). 2010. p. 102.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Prain, G., Karanja, N., Lee-Smith, D. (Eds.). 2010., p. 177.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Hagey, A., Rice, S., and Flournoy, R. 2012. P. 18

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> RUAF webpage: Why is Urban Agriculture important?; http://www.ruaf.org/node/513 (accessed 11 March 2013).

<sup>34</sup> FAO : 2010., p. 9

companies and informal carriers, and market traders.<sup>35</sup> Public sector employment examples include: urban agricultural extension officers, and job creation in municipal departments in charge of regulating urban agricultural activities, raising of taxes, selling of licences, allocating land and environmental standards.<sup>36</sup>

Urban and peri-urban agriculture stimulates the development of related micro- and larger agro-enterprises, such as those related to agricultural inputs (for example production of compost from urban organic wastes, bio-pesticides, small-scale irrigation equipment), product processing (cooking, frying, drying), packaging and marketing and other services (for example animal health services, transport), and employment and income generation.<sup>37</sup>

- Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay: Community and farmers' markets and door-to-door delivery of food baskets are examples of marketing jobs created by urban and peri-urban agriculture<sup>38</sup>
- USA: Urbanization in Georgia has resulted in strong growth of urban agriculture industries such as floristry, nursery industries, landscaping and turfgrass, which in turn support other industries such as chemicals, fertilisers and equipment.<sup>39</sup>
- Vietnam: In Hanoi, urban and peri-urban agriculture employs about 10 per cent of its skilled labour.<sup>40</sup>

#### 2.1.4. Income generation

Urban and peri-urban agriculture is not only an important food and nutrition source but provides a substantial income source as well, both directly and indirectly. Indirectly, many households save money, and so generating disposable income/cash, by consuming their own products. Directly, some or all of the produce is sold, which provides cash income. Income generation is another major force driving urban and peri-urban agriculture. Data from surveys conducted in the late 1990s for 24 cities and one country (urban areas) around the world indicate that urban and peri-urban agriculture represents a sizeable source of employment and income.<sup>41</sup>

A 2007 FAO report also made the following observations. First, annually, urban farmers produce substantial quantities of economically valuable food for urban consumers. Secondly, food costs are lower than the same foodstuffs brought from rural areas since, due to proximity, direct marketing from producers to consumers of fresh products is possible. Thirdly, less transport, cold storage, losses, processing and packaging, leads to direct economic savings for urban residents. And finally, access to food for the urban poor is improved because of lower prices, accessible location and distribution.<sup>42</sup>

Some examples of income generation benefit from urban and peri-urban agriculture are:

Bangkok, Thailand: in 2002, peri-urban aquaculture production was estimated at around 80,000 metric tons, generating an estimated income of nearly 3,000 million Baht (US\$ 75)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Foeken, D., Sofer, M. and Mlozi, M. 2004, p. 137.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Foeken, D., Sofer, M. and Mlozi, M. 2004, p. 137.

<sup>37</sup> FAO 2007, p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> FAO: 2010., p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> University of Georgia USA, College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences website. 2012. Impact of urbanization on agricultural and environmental research and outreach. Available at: http://apps.caes.uga.edu/urbanag/Impact.cfm (accessed 11 March 2013).

<sup>40</sup> FAO: 2010. p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Nugent, R.: 2005, Table 2, p. 9.

<sup>42</sup> FAO: 2007, p. 41.

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million) a year for farmers and/or vendors.<sup>43</sup> Combining aquaculture production with other water and fish-related recreational activities, such as angling, boating and fish restaurants, has also proved a successful model in Bangkok.<sup>44</sup>

- Cuba: from 1993 onwards, to tackle the country's growing economic problems following loss of Soviet support, the Cuban government authorized people to use state-owned vacant lots at no charge to grow crops. The support of local government organizations (People's Councils), social organizations and NGOs was also enlisted. As a result, by 2003, 12 per cent of Havana's urban land base was used for agriculture, and farmers had higher incomes; in some cases, higher than the average urban salary.<sup>45</sup>
- Tanzania: The study by Foeken et al. found that: "Crop cultivation constituted a direct source of income for 30 per cent of urban farmers in the towns of Mbeya and Morogoro."<sup>46</sup> The same study found that: "Livestock keeping was generally considered more as an income source than crop cultivation, with two-thirds of the live-stock keepers in the two towns making an income out of it; and for a quarter of them it was a major income source."<sup>47</sup>
- Uganda: In Kampala, the study by Prain et al. of urban and peri-urban agriculture in four areas found that, "70 per cent of farming households earned more than the national income per capita, equivalent to \$330, whilst 10 per cent earned five times as much, (\$1,680)."<sup>48</sup>

#### 2.1.5. Youth employment

The rapid growth of urban populations is outpacing the creation of employment opportunities, resulting in rising youth unemployment and underemployment. ILO data indicates that youth make up 25 per cent of the world's working age population with 90 per cent of them living in developing countries. The youth unemployment rate is nearly three times higher than the adult unemployment rate.<sup>49</sup> In 2010, an estimated 75 million youth aged between 15 and 24 years of were unemployed out of a total of 207 million people worldwide, i.e. nearly 40 per cent. In many countries, large number of employed youth are engaged in poor quality and low paid jobs. For those youth who have been able to find jobs, almost a quarter are considered working poor, earning less than \$2 per day.<sup>50</sup>

The Agropolis review observed that, "For a growing number of youth, in the face of rising school costs and shrinking formal employment, market-oriented urban and peri-urban agriculture provides a relatively accessible entry into the urban job market. They can earn an income, save on food, learn another trade and, perhaps later, set up a small business."<sup>51</sup> There are many ways in which urban and peri-urban agriculture can improve local job and economic opportunities. A US study on community gardening, for example, notes that this type of agriculture can "provide job training and skills development. Numerous urban agriculture projects focus on helping individuals find jobs and providing basic job skills and support within their communities, all while using urban agriculture to provide productive and empowering transitional employment."<sup>52</sup>

<sup>46</sup> Foeken, D., Sofer, M. and Mlozi, M. 2004, pp. 136.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> FAO: 2007b, p. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> FAO: 2007b, p. 62.

<sup>45</sup> FAO: 2007a. p. 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Foeken, D., Sofer, M. and Mlozi, M. 2004, . pp. 136

<sup>48</sup> Prain, G., Karanja, N., Lee-Smith, D. (Eds.). 2010, , p. 114

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> ILO. (undated). p. 2

<sup>50</sup> ILO: 2012a. p. 43

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Mougeot, L., (Ed.) 2005. p. 48.

<sup>52</sup> Hagey, A., Rice, S., and Flournoy, R. 2012, p. 9

See also ILO Resource 1 on youth employment in Part 2, Module 1 "Job promotion and income generation", for key resources and training activities.

#### 2.1.6. Women's employment

Women often carry out urban and peri-urban agriculture on a part-time basis as they can combine food production with child care and other household tasks.<sup>53</sup> Many surveys indicate that women predominate in urban and peri urban agriculture, enabling women to earn income, improve household diets, perform household chores, and exert greater control over household resources, budgets, and decision-making.<sup>54</sup> According to one FAO report: "Women tend to dominate urban cultivation because they are marginalized in other forms of employment in the formal sector of the urban economy. In some cases in Southern Africa, urban agriculture is even synonymous with 'farming by women', indicating that this is very typical female work".<sup>55</sup> Another FAO report found that: "The level of women's participation in groups varies considerably by country, city and even within cities according to the communities. In some cities, women have equal rights with men and play equal parts in groups including leadership roles. In other's women are only allowed to take part in women only groups and their activities are restricted. Where women's role is restricted, promoting their participation in groups can be difficult as they are often reluctant to air their views or challenge the views of men in public."<sup>56</sup>

Anecdotal evidence in cities around the world brings out additional outcomes and benefits of urban and peri-urban agriculture for women.

- Women living in remote peripheral areas of *Mexico City* have benefitted from switching to urban and peri-urban agricultural activities. Previously women commuting and working daily in the city centre as domestic servants would leave at 4.00 a.m. and return late in the evening. Their children were left watching television and often ended joining street gangs. These women are now able to generate income and produce food for household consumption while taking care of their children.<sup>57</sup>
- Women living in urban areas of *Cameroon* and affected by HIV/AIDS now raise and roast chicken to make a living. Benefits include: less physical work than working in fields; time saving as activities are nearer their homes; and better environment for group organization and empowerment which are essential elements in dealing with the disease and facing discrimination associated with it.<sup>58</sup>
- Studies in *Dakar, Senegal*, have shown that micro-garden projects have succeeded because of social networking between previously isolated housewives.<sup>59</sup>
- A study of urban and peri-urban agriculture in *Harare, Zimbabwe*, and townships of the *Cape Town Metropolitan area, South Africa* found that most of the urban farmers were women. The study notes that: "...involvement in UPA does not always guarantee women access to the urban economy. In Dar es Salaam, for instance, women grew food for their family's own consumption in home gardens, whereas men grow food for the market in the

<sup>53</sup> FAO: 1999, paragraph 23

<sup>54</sup> Smit, J., Nasr, J., Ratta, A: 2001. Chapter 3: 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> FAO: 2001b, p. 15.

<sup>56</sup> FAO: 2007b, p. 41.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 17

<sup>58</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 17

<sup>59</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 17

open spaces. In Malawi, women do most of the work on the fields and might even sell the crops, but the income is still controlled by the men." $^{60}$ 

See also ILO Resource 2 on women's employment in Part 2, Module 1 "Job promotion and income generation" for key resources and training activities.

#### 2.1.7. Green jobs

The potential for creating green jobs has to be examined, especially given urban and peri-urban agriculture's potential for greening cities, and helping control wastes. Currently, many of the jobs in urban and peri-urban agriculture may not themselves be green, though the workers are in effect helping green the cities and improve environmental protection. A 2012 ILO report on the green economy has a chapter on rural agriculture but makes no reference to urban and peri-urban agriculture.<sup>61</sup>

#### 2.2. Business development, skills, and marketing

Urban and peri-urban producers are frequently smallholder farmers, running what can be classed as micro, small or medium-sized enterprises. As an ILO training manual on safety and health risk assessment for these types of enterprises observes:

Although small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) are very important, many of them fail to grow or even survive. Problems of low productivity and poor quality, as well as marketing and finance, lead thousands to bankruptcy yearly. These obstacles often result from the same difficulties and lack of organization that make work hazardous and risky. Such SMEs have untapped potential for change that can easily lead to better product quality, improved working conditions and an overall more competitive enterprise. However, they often lack the tools and techniques to implement such changes.<sup>62</sup>

The ILO helps micro, small or medium-sized enterprises to set up and grow by providing guidance, resources, and training on business development, skills, and marketing, tools which could be readily adapted and applied to support urban farmers and agricultural producers. Some of the skills training and business support provided by the ILO include:

#### 2.2.1. Promoting market access

By shortening food chains, urban and peri-urban agriculture allows for substantial savings in energy and other post-harvest handling expenses. As a result of traffic jams and restricted access to central markets, new marketing channels such as neighbourhood markets, doorstep sales points and door to door marketing have evolved.<sup>63</sup> Consumer habits in cities are also changing as due to work pressures there is increasing demand for convenience, for example through ready prepared foods. As a female respondent in the FAO's urban producer's resource book commented: "[in Ghana] convenience foods are becoming the in-thing...cooking from scratch at home is gradually going out of fashion for those of us who have work schedules that make demands on time and strength...now everything I cook is half processed .... from fish to purees to fufu powder... I used to prepare plantain chips every weekend at home, now I can count on over 30 people selling the chips along the street on my 10 kilometre way home.<sup>264</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Egal, F., Valstar, A., Meershoek, S. 2001, p. 4

<sup>61</sup> ILO: 2012b. Chapter 2.

<sup>62</sup> ILO: 2013, p. 2

<sup>63</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 68.

<sup>64</sup> FAO: 2007b, p. 104.

As another FAO report observes:

UA (Urban agriculture) can be a profitable undertaking at the household level, especially when producing products that are high in demand and that have a comparative advantage over rural production such as perishable products (e.g. green leafy vegetables and milk), mush-rooms, flowers and ornamental plants. Urban animal husbandry can also be a profitable business. Investments in commercial livestock production, however, require higher start-capital than other forms of informal UPA. This is often derived from other (primary) household ventures ... or innovative arrangements....<sup>65</sup>

Urban farm produce can be sold directly to customers, to a wholesaler or intermediary, directly to local markets or retail outlets such as local supermarkets, processing facilities, restaurants, or street traders. Street vending includes sales at fixed kiosks and mobile stands, from vehicles (carts, bicycles, trucks etc.), or from plastic or cloths set out in the street, or street hawkers.<sup>66</sup> Easy access to markets is essential in order to generate an income from selling crops and/or livestock products. Many urban cultivators sell part of their produce to generate some much needed cash. Poorer farmers in many cases will sell their own produce at the farm gate or local market. The two other forms of sale used by these farmers are freshly harvested produce sold at the market and ready to eat at a street vendor's stand. Richer producers, such as poultry farmers, may have direct contracts with supermarkets or restaurants. Their primary form of processing is cleaning, but they may also package goods.

Simpler distribution systems mean fewer middlemen, and less complicated storage and post-production. Most of the agricultural products is now consumed by the farmers themselves, by their friends and neighbours, or sold in the local market. Also there is less traffic required than for food produced in more remote locations, which means less vehicular pollution.<sup>67</sup> Smit et al. observe that as: "Food processing facilities are often located close to, or in, urban or peri-urban areas, slaughtering and canning facilities may purchase animals, fruits, and vegetables directly from local growers, or have a seasonal contract with outgrowers. Products that receive further processing have additional value added, particularly in cities where refrigeration is lacking in many homes."<sup>68</sup>

Proximity to market is a fact that urban and peri-urban farmers need to take full advantage of. A study in the context of the Urban Harvest initiative has identified two strategies for doing this: focusing on increasing volumes of existing products with low risk such as poultry and mush-rooms; and focusing on products with higher returns such as vegetables, fruit and pig raising but developing strategies to reduce the higher risks such as collective action through producer associations.<sup>69</sup>

However, in many instances, products need to be better marketed if farmers are to derive income, and hired workers to receive wages, from this type of agriculture. While much effort has been invested in rural settings in finding ways to link farmers to markets as a key strategy for poverty reduction, there has been less attention to marketing urban produce. Municipalities have an important role in improving market access. A Working Paper by the Resource Centre on Urban Agriculture and Food Security (RUAF) notes that: "Some municipalities do facilitate the marketing of surpluses by poor urban farmers by providing them access to existing city markets, assisting them in the creation of farmers' markets (infrastructure development, licenses, con-

<sup>65</sup> FAO: 2007, p. 38.

<sup>66</sup> FAO: 2007a, p. 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Smit, J., Nasr, J., Ratta, A: 2001. Chapter 1: 26.

<sup>68</sup> Smit, J., Nasr, J., Ratta, A: 2001. Chapter 1: 26..

<sup>69</sup> Prain, G., Karanja, N., Lee-Smith, D. (Eds.). 2010.p. 23.

trol of product quality), authorising food box schemes and/ or supporting the establishment of "green-labels" for ecologically grown and safe urban food." <sup>70</sup>

See also ILO Resource 4: Start and improve your business; ILO Resource 5: Training for rural economic empowerment; and ILO Resource 6: Local economic development in Part 2, Module 2 "Business development" for key resources and training activities.

#### 2.2.2. Access to credit and other financial services

An FAO and World Bank report notes that:

Despite the well-established recognition of the role of increased agricultural production and processing of agricultural produce in order to meet the rising demand for food, small farmers continue to face problems in accessing the required financial services that will enable them to carry out their activities in a business-like manner. In particular, lack of access to seasonal credit and longer term loans for investment in agriculture, but also savings and deposit facilities that will help them build up reserves for the future that can be used to mitigate shocks and to meet unexpected expenditures are of importance to the farmers as is also access to quality advisory services.<sup>71</sup>

Another 2007 FAO report cites the example of China:

Agro-tourism is one of the four most common agricultural enterprises in Beijing [China], the others being processing, production and high-tech agriculture. It has grown significantly over the last few years, and includes:

- sightseeing agriculture i.e. one day trips including touring the farm and picking produce.
- recreational agriculture, i.e. multiple-day stays where the farm offers accommodation and other tourism-related activities.

Sightseeing agriculture offers a valuable option for diversification. The very low investment costs have allowed many farmers to develop sightseeing agricultural gardens on their existing farmland. As a result, there are now over 1,900 sightseeing agricultural gardens in the 300 villages of the 50 towns and townships in peri-urban Beijing. These include 285 large enterprises, of which 30 are designed as municipal key gardens.<sup>72</sup>

Developing saving and credit cooperative organisations can be important for urban and peri-urban producers. An example about a savings and credit cooperative named Uthiru Muthua in Kenya is cited by the FAO:

[The] group began in 2003 with an initiative from extension officers who wanted to reach more farmers. However, the group saw the need for collective bargaining and pooling of resources and began providing microfinance services on its own by giving soft loans to members. They also started receiving microfinance loans from SISDO (an NGO). With success in this venture, they decided to move to a higher level and register with the Ministry of Cooperative Development, partly also because interest rates from the microfinance loans were too high. With this arrangement they have been able to access loans from the Cooperative Bank of Kenya. They

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> De Zeeuw et al.: 2007, p. 27.

<sup>71</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 31.

<sup>72</sup> FAO: 2007b, p. 99.

have to raise 60 per cent of the total applied for as a group, while the bank provides the remaining 40 per cent. The 60 per cent is the collateral instead of land and other property as is the norm with bank loans. They then lend out money to members at 12 per cent interest.<sup>73</sup>

The Municipality of Rosario, Argentina has created "a Municipal Agricultural Land Bank in order to enhance urban farmers' access to privately owned vacant land and bring those in need of agricultural land in contact with the owners of vacant land. It also hires vacant land from private landowners to lease it out to community groups interested in using this land productively".<sup>74</sup> At the same time, in India, a 2007 FAO report notes that "to promote access to credit, all banks in India must follow Reserve Bank of India Rules which stipulate that between 30 and 45 per cent of all funds retained by the bank must be issued as loans to the agricultural sector and/or though microfinance programmes for cooperatives, urban joint liability groups or self-help groups."<sup>75</sup>

See also ILO Resource 4: Start and improve your business; ILO Resource 5: Training for rural economic empowerment; and ILO Resource 6: Local economic development in Part 2, Module 2 "Business development" for key resources and training activities.

#### 2.2.3. Business skills training

Training in food production, distribution, marketing, and business planning are often needed. Agricultural training can help ensure greater urban farming success. Business training and support can help operations that are selling food increase their ability to make a profit, contributing to increased incomes for the farmers and more funds for the farm's on-going expenses.<sup>76</sup>

Examples include:

- The city of Rosario, Argentina has developed a policy framework based on economic incentives, communication and training tools. NGOs, government departments and municipal officials, work together to actively support urban farmers. Restrictive by-laws have been removed to make public lands available for farming and farmers are provided with training and advice, tools, seeds, and other essential supplies. The programme has helped establish over 600 groups of producers, two producer-led agro-industries, one processing vegetables and one producing natural cosmetics using medicinal plants.<sup>77</sup> One of the urban producers involved commented, "since we organized ourselves as urban producers, we have been able to participate in the participatory (Rosario) municipal budgeting process (in which citizens can participate in the decision-making on allocation of public resources). We thus have negotiated some money for an agro-industry. We could not have done this individually."<sup>78</sup>
- Peri-urban fish farmers in Bangkok, Thailand and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, have begun to produce ornamental fish as an attractive option for a growing market. In Bangkok, urban farmers also increase the value added of aquatic plant production through different processing, packaging and sales techniques.<sup>79</sup>

See also ILO Resource 4: Start and improve your business; ILO Resource 5: Training for rural economic empowerment; and ILO Resource 6: Local economic development in Part 2 Module 2 "Business development" for key resources and training activities.

<sup>73</sup> FAO: 2007b, p. 34.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> De Zeeuw et al.: 2007. p. 22

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> FAO: 2007b, p. 69.

<sup>76</sup> Hagey, A., Rice, S., and Flournoy, R. 2012, p. 24

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> RUAF: 2006, p. 62.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> FAO: 2007b, p. 37.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> FAO 2007b. p. 105.

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#### 2.2.4. Value chains

According to an ILO report:

A "value chain" describes the full range of activities and services that are required to bring a product or service from conception, through the intermediary phases of production (involving a combination of physical transformation and the input of various producer services), delivery to the final consumers, whether local, national, regional or global and final disposal after use (Kaplinsky, 2004). This includes activities such as design, production, marketing, distribution and support services up to the final consumer (and often beyond when recycling processes are taken into account). The activities constituting a value chain can be contained within a single firm or divided among different firms, as well as within a single geographical location or spread over wider areas.<sup>80</sup>

ILO's value chain work can help promote job multiplier effects. ILO's Value Chain Development work focuses on the sub-sectors that are most relevant for job creation and job quality improvement. The ILO aims at addressing systems and institutions that can drive competitiveness and job creation in specific sectors by using a market development approach. The ILO's interventions build on private sector development strategies that seek to strengthen enterprises, business relationships and services, market structures, and the business environment so that they channel more benefits to the poor and create more and better jobs effectively. Urban and peri-urban agriculture remains an area which ILO's Value Chain Development work has yet to address, but which offers exciting possibilities.

See also ILO Resource 7: Value chain development in Part 2, Module 2 "Business development" for key resources and training activities.

#### Box 2: Food processing and street foods

"Urban lifestyles, increasing distances between home and the workplace, women at work, and changes in family cohesion are all factors increasing the demand for processed, ready-to-eat food. This has resulted in a very active food processing industry in the urban sector.

Street foods are ready-to-eat foods and beverages prepared and sold by vendors or hawkers especially in the streets and other similar places. They represent a significant part of urban food consumption for millions of low- and middle-income consumers, in urban areas on a daily basis. As the size of cities is increasing, more time is spent commuting, and less and less people return home for lunch. There is now a demand for more processed meals close to the work place, since employers or institutions offering meals and catering facilities are almost non-existent in cities in developing countries.

Few countries have specific regulations for street foods, and vendors handle their businesses according to informal rules dictated by their social environment in polluted sites with poor environmental hygiene. Thus vendors operate in a permanent state of uncertainty and their vulnerability inhibits investment and long-term development of their activity.

Many small street food vendors can however make a living for themselves and their families by preparing and selling foods. If the quality of their products can be assured, their activities will provide adequate and inexpensive nourishment for many urban inhabitants".

Source: FAO website, page on Food for the Cities. http://www.fao.org/fcit/food-processing/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> For information see ILO website, Value chain development. http://www.ilo.org/empent/areas/value-chain-development-vcd/lang--en/index.htm (accessed 11 March 2013).

#### 2.2.5. Forms of business entrepreneurship: Cooperatives

Cooperative organization lends itself readily to urban and peri-urban agriculture, and indeed agricultural cooperatives are the main type of cooperative in most countries. A cooperative is both a business enterprise and a membership based and driven organization, as well as part of civil society. The prime purpose of all cooperatives is to meet the needs of their members rather than to make a profit for shareholders as is the case in many other forms of enterprises. Cooperative principles are based on equity, solidarity, and inclusion. Cooperatives are governed on the principle of one member, one vote. Worldwide, at least 800 million people are members of cooperatives.<sup>81</sup>

Agricultural cooperatives assist small scale farmers to increase incomes and to create employment. Cooperatives can help enhance productivity; provide social security coverage for members, either by setting aside money for access to health care and pensions, or by taking out a group insurance, benefiting from their greater negotiating power and assets; help farmers access credit through cooperative banking; act as a vehicle for women producers; and offer health care provision through cooperative clinics.<sup>82</sup>

An example of urban and peri-urban agricultural cooperatives is in Japan where Tokyo Musashi is an urban agricultural cooperative under the Japanese Agricultural Cooperatives (JA) Group. Its members are farmers with pieces of land in urban areas on which they grow crops such as vegetables, fruits, fruit trees, flowers, garden and house plants. Total membership is 22,241 and includes 3,155 regular members and 19,086 associate members (2009 figures). Most members are part time farmers who have regular employment elsewhere in the city. Within the membership are 51 members' organizations including producer groups, youth associations and women's associations. With 79 branches in the five districts, the cooperative employs 432 people and made a net profit of 1.67 billion in 2009. In addition to organizing the supply of inputs and materials, and the marketing of members' products, Tokyo Musashi offers financial services, agricultural machinery and technical advice and guidance as well as consultative services – especially on management of personal finances and investment. The urban farmers' cooperative is much more than a commercial entity: quality and freshness of products is strictly observed. Consumers can buy products harvested on the same day at the farm gate, in the coop department or in the market. In fact the motto of Tokyo Musashi is "Local Production and Local Consumption".<sup>83</sup>

#### Box 3: Collaboration with other farmers

Collaborate with other farmers to secure tools, trucks, refrigeration, and other farming needs. Small farmers can work together to create and reach new markets by sharing expenses such as liability insurance, trucks, refrigeration, sorting, and distribution systems. They can also supplement their own offerings by selling other farmers' produce and added value products.

In the USA, for example:

- Programmes such as the MUD's Truck Share allow the Missoula community to borrow a truck for occasional use. A \$5 non-refundable application fee is required and a farmer can borrow the truck for \$5/hour and \$0.45/mile in usage fees.
- Urban Tilth in Richmond, California, is working to offer a tool lending library that allows community gardeners to borrow tools instead of purchasing them permanently.

Source: Hagey, A., Rice, S., and Flournoy, R. 2012. p.26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> In line with the Promotion of Cooperatives Recommendation, 2002 (No. 193), Paragraph 1(2), the term "cooperative" here is defined as: an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise.

<sup>82</sup> ILO: Forthcoming.

<sup>83</sup> Personal notes, Mshui, S.: 2011.

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See also ILO Resource 8: Cooperatives in agriculture in Part 2, Module 2 "Business development" for key resources and training activities.

#### 2.2.6. Agricultural extension services

Agricultural extension in some countries already deals with urban and suburban clients. In the future, what is currently considered "agricultural and rural extension" may eventually become "food and agriculture, rural and urban extension". An FAO report notes that extension in high-income countries is already providing information and education services in urban areas.<sup>84</sup> The same FAO report notes:

Urban extension is a potential growth area for information transfer. As such, it addresses new audiences and new programmes, and reflects the world's rapid urbanization. In Latin America, for instance, urbanization (74 per cent in 1998) will affect 83 per cent of the population by the year 2020. This process will involve socio-economic and demographic changes that will affect food and nutrition, as well as epidemiological, institutional and socio-demographic changes. The same process is apparent in Asia and Africa, as well as in North America and Western Europe. Food security, the employability of youth in the food industry, environmentally sound practices by small urban businesses, and other food and agriculture-related programmes are likely to demand the attention of governments which are currently dismantling extension programmes. Conceiving of extension purely as an agricultural production, rather than an educational service is short-sighted and limited.<sup>85</sup>

The ILO could help ensure that urban agricultural extension officers receive training on labour issues.

#### 2.2.7. Improving business through better working conditions

There is a lack of data on working conditions in urban and peri-urban agriculture. Improving working conditions is an area where the ILO can offer valuable experience and resources to urban and peri-urban producers. See ILO Resource 12: Work improvement in small enterprises in Part 2, Module 3 "Social protection and social dialogue" for key resources and training activities.

#### 2.3. Social protection and social dialogue

#### 2.3.1. Safety, health and the environment

In both developing and industrialized countries, agriculture is one of the three most dangerous occupations to work in along with construction and mining.<sup>86</sup>.The level of accidents and illness is high, accounting for half of the global total. Agricultural workers - self-employed or waged - are at risk from a wide variety of machinery, biological, physical, chemical, dust, ergonomic, welfare/ hygiene, and psychosocial hazards, as well as long hours of work, and poor living and housing conditions. Whilst there is a lack of data on the specific hazards and risks in urban and peri-urban agriculture, like their rural counterparts, urban farmers use similar machines, bend and stoop, and carry heavy loads. Thus, many of the same hazards and similar levels of risk will apply in urban and peri-urban agriculture as in rural agriculture. In an urban setting, occupational safety and health concerns are also closely linked to food safety, public health issues and the environment, especially where livestock is being raised and pesticides being used.

<sup>84</sup> FAO: 2001a

<sup>85</sup> FAO: 2001a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> *Promotion of rural employment for poverty reduction*. ILO, Geneva, Report IV, for the International Labour Conference, 97th Session, 2008.

As the ILO has observed, in agriculture:

...conditions of work can be arduous. Much agricultural work is by its nature physically demanding, involving long periods of standing, stooping, bending, and carrying out repetitive movements in awkward body positions. The risk of accidents is increased by fatigue, poorly designed tools, difficult terrain, exposure to the elements and poor general health. Even when technological change has brought about a reduction in the physical drudgery of agricultural work, it has introduced new risks, notably associated with the use of machinery and the intensive use of chemicals without appropriate safety measures, information and training.<sup>87</sup>

In Pakistan, a survey of urban and peri-urban agriculture was carried out on dairy farms in the cities Faisalabad and Lahore in 300 dairy farms. Of the 73 women workers interviewed in depth, ungarded fodder chopping machines had resulted in at least eight women or their children losing at least one finger. There were also problems associated with back pains, headaches, hand injuries, and heat stress.<sup>88</sup>

In Nakuru Township, Kenya, a study of smallholder dairy farmers found that people working in confined spaces with cattle were often injured. Also, when workers applied acaricides, a type of pesticide, to the cattle for mite control, few precautions were taken and personal protective equipment was rarely provided. In fact, workers wore their personal clothes at work, which quickly became dirty and contaminated. Further health risks were encountered as families lived close to the cattle and were thus exposed to chemical and biological wastes.<sup>89</sup> In another study in Nakuru, Kenya, "The health risks from urban dairy production listed in by respondents to an urban farmer/worker survey included diseases transmitted from animals to humans, (zoonotic diseases) such as Brucellosis, tuberculosis, anthrax, and intestinal worms, along with problems such as odour, environmental degradation and pollution. Respondents listed a range of illnesses including allergies, cancer, amoeba, anaemia, poisoning and gout, mastitis, milk fever, newcastle's disease, fowl typhoid, cysticercosis, diarrhoea, east coast fever, rabies, salmonellosis, and stomach ache. Other problems relating to urban dairy production raised included injuries or accidents, multiplication of disease carriers, allergies, noise, drug residues, stress, and skin problems from handling animal waste."<sup>90</sup>

With urban livestock rearing, public health problems can often be encountered. An FAO-World Bank report notes that:

These include diseases such as parasites from pigs or viruses such as Avian Flu, with its potential for transmission to humans. Smell, dust and noise with related pollution (due to manure effect and waste e.g. from slaughterhouses) are the main nuisances described. High density livestock production, where space is limiting, also creates health and welfare problems for animals. ... Capacity building to assure better veterinary health service provision and better treatment of animals is associated with appropriate awareness raising in the frame of existing livestock programmes in peri-urban areas.<sup>91</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> *Field labour inspection services in rural areas.* ITC-ILO Curriculum on Building modern and effective labour inspection systems, ILO 2011. Module 15, Section 6.1.p.30.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> Personal communication, Jule Erbach, postgraduate student, International Center for Development and Decent Work, 13.07.2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Personal communication with Jane Sawe, postgraduate student, International Center for Development and Decent Work, 13.07.2012.

<sup>90</sup> Prain, G; Karanja, N; Lee-Smith, D (Eds.). 2010.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 29.

#### Box 4: Waste disposal

Waste management is a most significant link between urban and peri-urban agriculture and public health and the environment. As the Agropolis review notes:

Urban and peri-urban agriculture is part of the urban ecological system and can play an important role in the urban environmental management system, actively preventing waste dumping, absorbing urban waste and turning illegal waste dumping sites into productive open spaces, while transforming the organic waste materials into compost for sustainable soil fertility management.

There is enormous potential for reducing risks to public health by educating and empowering urban producers, as opposed to ignoring or harassing them.

Farmers can reduce environmental risks and gain financially by making appropriate choices about what crops to grow. For example, increasing the use of short-cycle crops boosts productivity and decreases the use of potentially contaminated water. Since many safe practices are knowledge-based, they are also affordable and easily adopted by farmers. Producers can be taught to avoid the use of polluted organic or chemical fertilisers on specific crops or to draw water from wells instead of rivers.

Examples of good waste management practices include:

*Argentina:* In Rosario, vermiculture (the raising and production of earthworms and their by-products) "training and environmental education have resulted in a local ability to convert organic waste into bio-fertiliser, as well as an appreciation of the environmental problems of the neighbourhood and the establishment of a project to create an urban–hygiene cooperative."

*Ethiopia:* in Addis Ababa, some 3.5 tonnes of organic waste are collected daily by a private company which then converts it into almost 2 tonnes of high quality fertiliser.

*North America*: organic waste is routinely recycled by cities and given to citizens as compost for home gardens.

See also ILO Resource 9: ILO Code of practice on safety and health in agriculture; ILO Resource 10: Safety and health assessment for small and medium-sized enterprises; ILO Resource 11: Ergonomic checkpoints in agriculture; ILO Resource 12: Work improvement in small enterprises; and ILO Resource 13: Work improvement in neighbourhood development, in Part 2, Module 3 "Social protection and social dialogue" for key resources and training activities.

#### 2.3.2. Ensuring Social Protection

What the ILO terms "Social Protection" is one of the main elements of ensuring that workers across all sectors have decent conditions of work. As various ILO reports observe, "Social protection also needs to be addressed in order to ensure sustainable urban development and decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture. Inappropriate working and living conditions expose many urban workers to risk on a daily basis. Agricultural workers are among the least protected in terms of access to basic health services, medical insurance, workers' compensation, long-term disability insurance survivors' benefits and retirement pensions. The UNDP has emphasized that:

Social protection aims to enhance the capacity of poor and vulnerable people to manage economic and social risks, such as unemployment, exclusion, sickness, disability and old age. Policy interventions can improve their well-being by, among other things, moderating the impact of shocks that cause sharp reductions in their income or consumption. Social protection and provision can also enhance the productive capabilities of poor men and women, reducing poverty and inequality and stimulating pro-poor growth.<sup>92</sup>

<sup>92</sup> UNDP: 2006, p. 2

#### Box 5: Workers' Rights

The Urban Labour Network observes

"Many urban workers still face challenges related to their rights. Their inability to secure their rights has practical implications for their living and working conditions and productivity. Examples of issues related to workers' rights in urban areas include informality, casualization, child labour, bonded labour and the situation of migrant workers.

To address workers' rights, there are many possible lines of action related to different groups of workers, based on ILO conventions, recommendations, and instruments. There are instruments for each aspect of decent work, including workers' rights, for which broader synergies can be explored. There is a burgeoning international movement on "the right to the city" which gives specific attention to community and consumers' rights. Workers' rights also fit within this movement, and should be promoted. To this end, there are embryonic examples of coalitions of urban workers (in Brazil for example) and there are specific initiatives related to the rights of urban citizens to a better environment supporting a green economy. Promotion of a better urban environment and promotion of the rights of urban workers can reinforce each other."

Source: Urban Labour Network, http://www.urban-labour.net/?page\_id=6

People working in the informal economy are vulnerable and often lack social protection. The Urban Labour Network at the same time makes the remark: "ILO instruments provide a sound basis for action, many of which specifically correspond to social protection. In addition to this, poor people have at times mobilized their own resources and organized their own risk protection through mutual health protection and community surveillance (support should be given to such initiatives). There are also examples of partnership practices involving local governments, the local private sector and communities."<sup>93</sup>

One social protection initiative which is gaining ground worldwide is the Social Protection Floor (SPF), which according to the ILO:

The Social Protection Floor is a global social policy approach promoting integrated strategies for providing access to essential social services and income security for all... The SPF initiative is one of the nine United Nations system Chief Executive Board joint initiatives to cope with the effects of the economic crisis. The ILO and the World Health Organization are the lead agencies for the SPF initiative, cooperating with 17 other international agencies, funds and programmes, including the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. It is a core part of the Global Jobs Pact and combines income security for the elderly, persons with disabilities and child benefits with public employment guarantee schemes for the unemployed and working poor. It functions as a tool to protect and empower vulnerable populations to work out of poverty and find decent jobs.<sup>94</sup>

See also ILO Resource 9: ILO Code of practice on safety and health in agriculture and ILO Resource 12: Work improvement in small enterprises in Part 2, Module 3 "Social protection and social dialogue" for key resources and training activities.

#### 2.3.3. Promoting social dialogue at local, municipal, and national levels

Whilst a wide variety of issues fall under this heading, it is crucial that urban and peri-urban agriculture be anchored within local, municipal and national institutional and legal frameworks. The ILO can help bring this about through promotion of social dialogue between urban and

<sup>93</sup> Urban Labour Network; http://www.urban-labour.net/?page\_id=6

<sup>94</sup> ILO: 2010, p. 2.

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peri-urban agricultural producers and their groups/associations and local, municipal, and national governments. This includes addressing the barriers which have hindered social dialogue in urban and peri-urban agriculture at the local, municipal, and national levels, including institutional gaps.<sup>95</sup> According to the ILO, social dialogue<sup>96</sup> includes all types of negotiation, consultation or exchange of information between, or among, representatives of government, employers and workers on issues of common interest... Social dialogue has the potential to resolve important economic and social issues, encourage good governance, advance social and industrial peace and stability and boost economic progress. Social dialogue is relevant to any effort aiming to achieve more productive and effective enterprises and sectors and a fairer and more efficient economy.<sup>97</sup>

As observed on the Urban Labour Network website:

The role of the local government is particularly important. There is a great deal that local governments can do - directly and via forging public private partnerships - to promote employment creation: investing in the built environment and upgrading of infrastructural facilities like roads, drainage, water and energy facilities, sewerage systems, public buildings and public transport, and waste management & recycling establishments, among others. Such investment can stimulate local economies, result in immediate employment gains, and have long term impact on income, living and working conditions. Local governments can also encourage job growth - and enforce better employment conditions - in other sectors in which they are not directly involved, by supporting private entrepreneurship, especially micro and small enterprises which are responsible for a significant proportion of urban employment. Investment in training in the different sectors of the urban economy and dealing with informality is also fundamental for employment creation.<sup>98</sup>

See also ILO Resource 6: Local economic development in Part 2, Module 2 "Business development" and ILO Resource 14: Promoting social dialogue in Part 2, Module 3 "Social protection and social dialogue", for key resources and training activities.

#### Making urban farming legal

In many countries and municipalities, urban and peri-urban agriculture has dubious legal status. As a report by the Rodale Institute observes:

The expansion of urban agriculture is forcing re-evaluation of what communities believe improves their quality of life: the modern-era ideal of mowed lawns and manicured bushes is losing out to a post-modern vision of a more bio-diverse landscape of vegetable, small fruits and the bio-mechanical processes of fresh, local, organic food production. These neo-agricultural efforts were not what was in mind when municipal zoning laws were written. Cities have restricted residential food gardening and urban farms as competing uses for local water, and in response to complaints over smells, noises, change of aesthetics and perceived decreased property values sometimes associated with farming.<sup>99</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> Urban Labour Network website http://www.urban-labour.net/?page\_id=6 (accessed 11 March 2103)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> Since it's foundation social dialogue and collective bargaining have been at the hub of the ILO's mandate. Two core conventions are the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87); and the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98). For more information see the ILO Social Dialogue Sector http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/index.htm (accessed 11 March 2013).

<sup>97</sup> Van Empel, C and Werna, E,. 2010, p. 24.

<sup>98</sup> Urban Labour Network website; http://www.urban-labour.net/?page\_id=6 (accessed 11 March 2103)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> Making urban farming legal: Pressure and creativity are loosening old rules that kept farming in the country. Rodale Institute, USA; http://www.rodaleinstitute.org/20100426\_Making\_urban\_farming\_legal (Last Access: April 1st, 2012).

This issue also includes ensuring security of tenure for urban and peri-urban farmers who often lack formal proof of tenure. The Urban Producers Handbook cites the example of Warren Park suburb, Harare, Zimbabwe, where a women's group, organised as a cooperative, had been farming land allocated to them twenty years previously by the Harare City Council but had never received proof of the allocation in writing. An NGO from whom they then sought assistance with training and inputs, wanted proof that they were allowed to farm the land before agreeing to help. Although both the women's group and the council officials could vouch that the cooperative was authorized, there was no formal proof.<sup>100</sup>

#### Urban land planning, design and upgrading

Urban land planning, design and upgrading is another important aspect of developing urban and peri-urban agriculture. As an FAO-World Bank report observes:

47. The future habitability, competitiveness, and viability of the cities in developing nations will depend on whether decision makers and urban planners develop and adhere to coherent policies for managing their urban and peri-urban areas.

48. Distinct policies and planning efforts are needed for the management of agriculture, horticulture, forestry and aquaculture in the urban and peri-urban environments. ... There are few models and little information available to city managers to address these competing demands, and to develop alternative visions of the future.

While the interest, potential, and risks of UPA are clearly perceived, it is surprising to note that, in most cases, policy and strategy developments - as well as technical guidance - are still embryonic.

53. ... Strategic ways of dealing with the competition for water and land, as well as other environmental issues, must be developed.<sup>101</sup>

Urban and peri-urban agriculture and municipal zoning laws are also crucial. Musonga observes, for example, that, "in Nairobi, agriculture is not recognized as a land use in urban and peri-urban areas, and there is no category for it in Kenyan urban land zoning laws".<sup>102</sup> Boateng also notes that this is

Land use planning in Accra doesn't accommodate urban farming.... In the peri-urban areas of the city, the situation is alarming. The rate at which agricultural land in this zone is being converted into residential use is high. ... It is no wonder that urban agriculture in African cities has come to be viewed as a transitory activity or associated with what Keene has characterized as the "impermanence syndrome", a belief that farming in urban areas is only an interim activity that will cease when the land is ripe for development.<sup>103</sup>

An FAO report states that, "urban and peri-urban agriculture should have an important place in slum upgrading schemes and the design of new neighbourhoods for the poor."<sup>104</sup>. Kampala, Uganda provides another example, cited in an FAO-World Bank report, of the type of changes that are needed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> City case studies, Harare, Zimbabwe. The Urban Producer's Handbook, FAO, p.129.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 29., p. 77.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> Musonga H. 2004. Incorporating UPA in urban land use planning. In G. Ayanga et al. (eds) Policy prospects for urban and peri-urban agriculture in Kenya. Kari Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> Asomani-Boateng, R. 2002. Urban cultivation in Accra: an examination of the nature, practices, problems, potentials and urban planning implications. (Habitat International).

<sup>104</sup> FAO: 2010, p. 15.

"Our bylaws were outdated," admits Winnie Makumba, Kampala City Minister of Social Improvement, Development and Antiquities. "They failed to recognize that many residents derived their livelihoods from urban farming. We realized it was up to us as political leaders to initiate the policy changes that would support urban farming practices." ... In 2001, Kampala city government set out to revise existing legislation related to urban farming. Two years later, the Kampala City Council District Extension Office, in collaboration with the Kampala Urban Food Security, Agriculture and Livestock Coordination Committee, spearheaded a consultative process to re-examine draft bills for five city ordinances. Resistance to change, however, ran deep in Kampala, partly because urban agriculture challenges prevailing attitudes. Influenced by colonial bylaws, these attitudes hold that urban farming is inappropriate in cities.<sup>105</sup>

#### Creating local organizations and networks of urban producers and distributors

Developing recognisable urban and peri-urban producer organisations is an important step forward in the promotion of this type of agriculture. As the Agropolis review notes, "organization will allow practitioners to better access resources, services and markets, practise more sustainable and profitable forms of urban and peri-urban agriculture, negotiate the resolution of conflicts, bring their know-how, perspectives and interests to bear on policy design and take on responsibilities in their implementation."<sup>106</sup> The Agropolis review lists the main ways in which urban producers' organizations can help which include: "bulk purchasing of inputs (seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, tools); group finances (savings funds and loans); access to services, training and advice; access to credit through the organization's own funds or through other sources with the support of the organization; joint marketing of produce; representation of groups to government and other organizations; and exchange of ideas and information".<sup>107</sup>

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), for example, a UNEP report observes that: "Urban farmer associations are a positive example of emerging social enterprises which can help food security and green the DRC's rapidly growing cities."<sup>108</sup> An FAO report also observes that: "Community-based Water User Associations are also helping transform the urban landscape and provide potable water to marginalized populations."<sup>109</sup>

In Zimbabwe, urban producers in the town of Chitungwiza have organised themselves into groups in order to access better training. In another town, Mabvuku, farmer groups received training from Environment Africa, an NGO, as well as state bodies such as AREX (Department of Agricultural Research and Extension services, University of Zimbabwe). Support and training is also provided to strawberry producers in Chitungwiza as well as mushroom producers in Budiriro and Warren Park.<sup>110</sup>

#### 2.3.4. Child labour

The ILO and its tripartite constituents are committed to eliminate child labour in all its forms.<sup>111</sup> An estimated 60 per cent of child labour is found in agriculture. Information is very limited as to the extent of child labour in urban and peri-urban agriculture but given that family household labour is dominant in urban and peri-urban agriculture, the question arises as whether the children

<sup>108</sup> UNEP: 2011.

<sup>105</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> Mougeot, L., (Ed.): 2005. p. 274.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> Op cit 119, p.82.

<sup>109</sup> FAO: 2012b

<sup>110</sup> FAO: 2007b, p. 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>111</sup> For more information see the ILO website child labour pages: http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/child-labour/lang--en/index.htm

are helping out or whether their work falls into the exploitative child labour category. Urban agriculture in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, was found to use child labour of both children with parents of higher and lower socioeconomic status.<sup>112</sup> In a 2004 Tanzanian study:

When asked whether children younger than 14 years of age were also engaged in crop-cultivating activities, the majority [of survey respondents] felt that this did not happen in "their" town. Yet, more than a third of the Mbeya respondents and a quarter of the Morogoro respondents thought that it *did* occur. And according to a few of them, it was even quite common.... Opinions regarding child labour in livestock keeping were as diverse as those regarding crop cultivation, though the percentages of respondents stating that young children were employed in livestock keeping were higher (52 per cent and 40 per cent in Morogoro and Mbeya, respectively). A respondent in Mbeya who claimed that child labour was not used gave the following reason: "they cannot carry grass".<sup>113</sup>

See also ILO Resource 15: Child labour in agriculture in Part 2, Module 3 "Social protection and social dialogue" for key resources and training activities.

#### 2.4. Related issues

2.4.1. Disaster and Risk Management, Recovery Programmes

The development of urban and peri-urban agriculture has a role to play in disaster and risk management, recovery programmes. As noted in an FAO-World Bank report:

Starting with 1m2 of space and between one and three litres of potable water per day, a family can grow a broad range of vegetables including leafy vegetables like: cabbage, lettuce, jute, cut lettuce, amaranth, rosel, basil, as well as root and tuber vegetables like: carrot, potato, red beet, onion, and fruit vegetables like: tomato, hot and sweet pepper, eggplant. As a first priority, the micro-garden system encourages the families to "save" the little fertile soil and protect it from further erosion and practice a "bed culture system". When no soil is available, the cultivation can be successfully performed with natural substrates elaborated from locally available materials such as peanut shells, coconut fibres, rice hulls, coarse sand, pozzolane, etc. In case the substrate is not available then it is also easy to grow the crops floating directly on a nutrient solution. ...

With the micro-gardens theTtsunami affected population can immediately engage and participate in rebuilding their future and harvest fresh, safe and highly nutritious vegetables for improving their diet with vitamins, essential micro-nutrients and vegetable proteins every day. It is suggested that Training and Demonstration Centres be established in camps, schools and health centres, where beneficiaries could be trained with the help of local NGOs if applicable. Families will be provided with a take-home kit in order to continue vegetable production at their homestead once resettled.<sup>114</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>112</sup> Miozi, Malongo. R.S. 1995

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>113</sup> Foeken, D., Sofer, M. and Mlozi, M. 2004., p. 116.

<sup>114</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 72.

#### 2.4.2. Food and nutrition security

Urban and peri-urban agriculture has become a key element in food security and nutrition strategies.<sup>115</sup> First, about food security, poor urban households spend up to 80 per cent of their income on food making them highly vulnerable when food prices rise or their incomes fall. An FAO report estimated that, "in the wake of the global food price inflation in 2007/2008, and subsequent economic recession, the number of chronically hungry in the world rose by at least 100 million to more than one billion people. The greatest increase has been among the urban poor."<sup>116</sup> Feeding ones family, and improving ones food security is a primary driving force behind urban and peri-urban agriculture. Growing their food, allows families to save considerable money through reduced food purchase, with annual savings which may equate to several months of a minimal wage. Concerning the nutrition, easily and quickly grown fruit and vegetables, which are the richest natural sources of micronutrients, can significantly boost family nutrition levels in urban and peri-urban areas. In developing countries, daily fruit and vegetable consumption is just 20-50 per cent of FAO/World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations.<sup>117</sup> FAO research has indicated that: "Case study data indicate that both food availability and incomes in poor farming households are significantly higher compared to households of non-farmers. Interestingly, the urban gardeners are not typically the poorest residents but rather those families that have lived long enough in the city to secure land and water, and become familiar with the market channels for selling surpluses."118

Country level examples of urban and peri-urban agriculture's contribution to food and nutrition security include:

- West Africa: an FAO report estimates that, "backyard gardening is widely practised by approximately 20 million urban dwellers in West Africa, mostly for subsistence. Market gardeners are mainly located in the open spaces in West Africa, and change crops according to seasonal supply and demand, and market prices."<sup>119</sup>
- China: an FAO report notes that, "over 50 per cent of Beijing's vegetable supply comes from the city's own market gardens, and it costs less than produce trucked from more distant areas."<sup>120</sup> Cabannes also notes that, "according to the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing Metropolitan Area alone contributes 40 per cent of the fresh food consumed by its 17 million inhabitants."<sup>121</sup>
- Colombia: An FAO project in slum areas in Bogotá and Medellin is supporting vegetable production by internally displaced persons, involving over 32,000 families. According to the FAO,

...local experts ... have taught hundreds of families living in "barrios" how to produce their own vegetables right inside their homes in micro-gardens using a curious array of containers including recycled water bottles, old tyres and trays... Every month, each family's "garden" yields some 25 kg of produce including lettuce, beans, tomatoes and onions. Any surpluses are sold off for cash to neighbours or through a cooperative...<sup>122</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>115</sup> FAO: 2010, p. 5: "People have food security when they are able to grow enough food, or buy enough food, to meet their daily needs for an active, healthy life".

<sup>116</sup> FAO: 2010, p. 5.

<sup>117</sup> FAO: 2010, p. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>118</sup> FAO: 1999, paragraph 23

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>119</sup> FAO: 2008, p.31.

<sup>120</sup> FAO: 2010. p. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>121</sup> Cabannes, Y: 2012. , p. 10.

<sup>122</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 27.

- Cuba: 60 per cent of the country's horticultural production comes from urban and peri-urban agriculture helping ensure that Cubans' per capita intake of fruit and vegetables exceeds FAO/WHO recommended minimum.<sup>123</sup>
- Democratic Republic of the Congo: an FAO report notes that, "market gardens in Kinshasa produce estimated 75,000 to 85,000 tonnes vegetables a year, 65 per cent of the city's supply.<sup>124</sup> Plus FAO helped to regularize titles on 1,600 hectares of gardens operated by some 20,000 full time growers in five cities."<sup>125</sup>
- Mexico City: An FAO-World Bank report observes that, "Launched in 2007, a "Backyard Agriculture Program" with the theme, "We want to make people realize that they can use their gardens, yards and roof terraces to grow food" has been expanded by the city's local government. An Urban Agriculture Program is encouraging communities to make communal land available for more ambitious crops such as maize and fruit with the target was to involve about 200,000 city residents in the medium term. The longer term aim is that participating families could generate a surfeit of agricultural produce which could give rise to farmer-style markets in the city. Both programmes were also launched in the hope that adding a dose of agriculture could improve the city's notoriously poor air quality."<sup>126</sup>
- Peru: According to an Urban Harvest assessment, "some 15 per cent of households in Lima practise urban and peri-urban agriculture with small livestock raising being the most important activity because of the limited space required. In some slum areas, as much as 48 per cent of households are involved."<sup>127</sup>
- Russia: The St Petersburg Urban Gardening Club is promoting roof top gardening. It emphasized that in contrast to the land which is costly and vulnerable to vandalism, the roof tops are always available for farming. The Club estimated that 2,000 tons of vegetables per season could be grown from 500 roof tops in one district alone.<sup>128</sup>
- Uganda: In Kampala, chicken rearing was the most common form of livestock production. Earlier work found that urban poultry producers met 70 per cent of the city's needs.<sup>129</sup>
- USA: The Department of Neighbourhoods, Seattle found that the city's gardening programmes enabled families to meet 30 to 60 per cent of their produce needs.<sup>130</sup>
- Vietnam: peri-urban horticulture in Hanoi supplies the city with more than 150,000 tonnes of fruit and vegetables a year.<sup>131</sup>

<sup>123</sup> FAO: 2010, p. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>124</sup> FAO: 2010. p. 6.

<sup>125</sup> FAO: 2010, p. 5.

<sup>126</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>127</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 26.

<sup>128</sup> Gavrilov, A., 2000. p. 5.

<sup>129</sup> FAO-World Bank. 2008, p. 61.

<sup>130</sup> Hagey, A., Rice, S., and Flournoy, R. 2012. p. 17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>131</sup> FAO: 2010., p. 5.

# PART 2

# ILO RESOURCE GUIDE AND ASSOCIATED TRAINING ACTIVITIES

To promote and support the achievement of decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture, this section shares key ILO resources along with training activities which can be adapted as appropriate. The section is organized thematically to capture as many aspects of decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture as possible.

# MODULE 1

# JOB PROMOTION AND INCOME GENERATION

### ILO Resource 1 YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

The ILO's work on youth employment is multi-facetted. A central element is the Youth Employment Network (YEN), a partnership between the UN, the ILO, and the World Bank. It brings together policymakers, employers' and workers' organizations, young people and other stakeholders to pool skills, experience and knowledge so as to propose policies and programmes addressing the youth unemployment challenge. The YEN brochure brochure provides an overview: http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/yen/downloads/brochure/brochure.pdf

Main resources and electronic references

#### Biz-up: Self-employment skills for young people: Facilitator's guide and toolkit

This toolkit is geared to promote self-employment among young people. It is for use by employment counsellors and facilitators in the design and delivery of workshops to foster entrepreneurialism. The toolkit is a short induction training module that helps young people make informed decisions about their future employment, consider self-employment as a possible career option and, eventually, follow a fully-fledged entrepreneurship training programme. Session 1 "Entrepreneurial Skills" in the toolkit is background reading for the Module 1 training activity here..

 $The \ toolkit \ is \ available \ at: \ http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/instructionalmaterial/wcms_119344.pdf$ 

The User's Guide is available at: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\_emp/documents/instructionalmaterial/ wcms\_119346.pdf

#### The ILO Youth Entrenet

Youth Entrenet is a global knowledge sharing and resource platform created by the ILO through a partnership with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) under the project "Creating Youth Employment through improved Youth Entrepreneurship". The goal of this project is to create an improved understanding of how youth entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurship start-up programmes contribute to creating more and better employment for youth. This understanding will then contribute to the design of more efficient and effective youth entrepreneurship strategies by making the findings available to national policy makers and youth entrepreneurship promoters.

The website is available at: http://www.knowaboutbusiness.org/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=125&Itemid=140

#### Youth employment: making it happen

The youth employment, making it happen website is an electronic resource tool for employers. It is part of an ongoing effort by the ILO, together with the International Organisation of Employ-

ers, to strengthen the capacity of employers' organizations to engage in youth employment, especially in developing and transition countries. While a wealth of knowledge and expertise in this domain exist worldwide, this information is not necessarily available to employers who might most need it, particularly in countries where the youth employment challenge is more acute. The main purpose of this tool is to shed light on practical action and concrete programmes employers and their organizations, as well as other business associations, can undertake to promote youth employment. It provides an overview of youth employment challenges and the role of the private sector in promoting access of young people to work as well as a compendium of useful resources. It also highlights best practices in policy making and advocacy, skills development and training and self-employment and entrepreneurship, with country examples.

Youth employment: Making it happen is available as CD ROM or at: http://www.ilo.org/youth-makingithappen/home.htm

See also Part 1, Section 2a "Job creation and income generation" for more information on youth employment.

#### Training activity 1:

#### Promoting youth employment in urban and peri-urban agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Discuss opportunities for, and types of, youth employment found in urban and peri-urban agriculture;</li> <li>Identify the role that the ILO and other stakeholders could play in promoting youth employment in urban and peri-urban agriculture</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the ILO Biz-up: Self-employment skills for young people material as a starting point to:</li> <li>Discuss opportunities for youth employment in urban and peri-urban agriculture, identifying the types of jobs in crop and livestock production, and associated activities such as processing, marketing and street trading, that could be created.</li> <li>Discuss what role the ILO and other stakeholders could play in helping create the types of jobs you have identified.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT MATERIALS	Biz-up: Self-employment skills for young people. Facilitator's guide and toolkit. Geneva, ILO, 2006. Session 1: Entrepreneurial skills, p. 10. http://www. ilo.org/employment/Whatwedo/Instructionmaterials/WCMS_119344/ langen/index.htm

### ILO Resource 2 WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT

The ILO is committed to promoting the rights of all women and men at work and achieving equality between them.

Main resources and electronic references:

#### Gender and Entrepreneurship Together: GET Ahead for Women in Enterprise: Training Package and Resource Kit. Bangkok, Berlin and Geneva: ILO, 2004.

The ILO training package aims to assist ILO partner organizations in promoting enterprise development among women in poverty who want to start or are already engaged in small-scale business.

Part 1 sets out the main aims and strategies, and gives an overview of the training content and structure. It provides tips for trainers and hints for organizing training on GET Ahead for women in enterprise.

Part 2 is organized in four main sections and covers a total of ten modules on aspects of business management ranging from marketing, to finance and action planning. Each module consists of a series of exercises. Each exercise starts with listing the specific learning objectives for participants, gives an overview of the training aids needed, outlines possible preparatory activities which need to be carried out before the start of an exercise and provides a step-by-step session plan.

Part 3 provides sources of further reading for trainers and entrepreneurs.

Available at: http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/ilo-bookstore/order-online/books/WCMS\_ PUBL\_9221158071\_EN/lang--en/index.htm

#### ILO resource guide on gender equality in the world of work

There is a wide variety of publications available on the following website: http://www.ilo.org/public/english/support/lib/resource/subject/gender.htm

See also Part 1, Section 2a "Job creation and income generation" for more information on Women's employment.

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#### Training activity 2:

#### Gender mainstreaming in urban and peri-urban agriculture

AIMS	To help us to:
OR	• Identify how the role of women in urban and peri-urban agriculture could be expanded and strengthened;
	• Discuss the types of training that would be beneficial to bring this about.
TASK	In your small group, using the GET Ahead package as a starting point to:
	• Discuss what types of jobs and tasks women carry out in urban and peri-urban agriculture, and how they combine this with looking after their families;
	• Discuss what type of measures would help ensure decent work in urban/peri-urban agriculture for women, whilst giving them maximum flexibility to look after their families;
	Discover the top ten traits for business success.
	Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.
WOMEN EMPLOYMENT MATERIALS	GET Ahead for Women in Enterprise Training Package and Resource Kit. Bangkok, Berlin and Geneva, ILO, 2004. Part 2, Module 2, Module 2.1, Exercise 5: Discovering the top 10 traits for business success.
	http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/ilo-bookstore/order-online/books/ WCMS_PUBL_9221158071_EN/langen/index.htm

### ILO Ressource 3 THE DISABLED

Decent work is the ILO's primary goal for everyone, including persons with disabilities. Work of decent quality is the most effective means of escaping the viscious circle or marginalization, poverty and social exclusion. People with disabilities are frequently trapped in this viscious circle, and positive action is needed to assist them in breaking out of it. The ILO's Disability Programme promotes equality of treatment for persons with disabilities in vocational rehabilitation, training and employment. Urban and peri-urban agriculture, because of its low-entry costs, flexibility, and proximity to places of residence, could offer work opportunities for people with disabilities. *Main resources and electronic references:* 

Replicating Success Tool Kit: "Disability Toolkit"

The toolkit describes the core elements of the ILO's approach, Alleviating Poverty through Peer Training (APPT) programmes and projects, that address the prejudices and barriers faced by people with disabilities when seeking training and employment opportunities. The toolkit includes a manual, a training guide for trainers, instruction manual for the APPT database and a DVD. The toolkit is available at: http://labordoc.ilo.org/record/431207

# • Count us in! How to make sure that women with disabilities can participate effectively in mainstream women's entrepreneurship development activities.

Guidelines and film examine what needs to be done to operationalize current thinking on disability strategies and to ensure that women with disabilities can fully benefit from equal rights and equality of opportunity.

The guide is available at: http://www.ilo.org/skills/pubs/WCMS\_106558/lang--en/index.htm.

The film is available at: http://www.ilo.org/public/english/disability/countusin/index.html

#### Training activity 3:

#### The disabled and urban and peri-urban agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Identify opportunities for employment and involvement in urban and peri-urban agriculture;</li> <li>Identify what types of support and training disabled workers and volunteers in urban and peri-urban agriculture may need.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the Replicating success manual as a starting point:</li> <li>Discuss what type of opportunities could exist for people with disabilities in urban and peri-urban agriculture.</li> <li>Discuss what ongoing kinds of training and support are needed to enhance the role of people with disabilities in urban and peri-urban agriculture under decent conditions of work.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's viewss.</li> </ul>
THE DISABLED MATERIALS	Replicating success: A manual to alleviate poverty through peer training. Phnom Peng: ILO, 2009. http://www.ilo.org/skills/pubs/WCMS_120312/ langen/index.htm Training for success: A guide for peer trainers. Phnom Peng: ILO, 2008. Training basics, p. 9-24. http://www.ilo.org/skills/pubs/WCMS_132677/ langen/index.htm

# MODULE 2

# **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

### ILO Resource 4 START AND IMPROVE YOUR BUSINESS PROGRAMME

The ILO's Start & Improve Your Business (SIYB) programme is a management-training programme with a focus on starting and improving small businesses as a strategy for creating more and better employment.

SIYB is a set of practical business management skills training packages. Objectives include:

- Enable local Small Enterprise Development organizations to effectively and independently deliver SIYB training and related activities to entrepreneurs
- Enable potential entrepreneurs to start their small businesses and existing entrepreneurs to develop and strengthen their basic management skills for better performance, profitability, while creating jobs in the process

SIYB provides training and resources for entrepreneurs, trainers and master trainers, with tailored training materials for each level. Technical areas covered by the training include:

- Business management skills training
- Entrepreneurship
- Disability
- Gender in Enterprise (GET Ahead) training is largely based on SIYB materials
- Occupational safety and health workplace practices
- Modules of SIYB are adapted for "greening" enterprises

Main resources and electronic references:

#### SIYB website

Available at:

http://www.ilo.org/empent/areas/start-and-improve-your-business/lang--en/index.htm

#### **Rural-relevant Tools: Start and Improve Your Business – SIYB.** ILO, Geneva.

#### Available at:

http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\_emp/documents/publication/wcms\_159129.pdf

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#### Training activity 4:

#### Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) in Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Identify the opportunities to start small enterprises in urban and peri- urban agriculture, especially for women and youth;</li> <li>Identify the types of skills and training needed, and other types of necessary support.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the SIYB material as a starting point:</li> <li>Discuss what type of business/marketing opportunities exist in urban and peri-urban agriculture and related sectors;</li> <li>Discuss what are the main steps you would need to follow to set up your own business in urban and peri-urban agriculture or a related sector.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
SIYB MATERIALS	SIYB Trainers Guide. http://www.ilo.org/empent/areas/start-and-improve-your-business/ WCMS_161682/langen/index.htm

### ILO Resource 5 TRAINING FOR RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Training for rural economic empowerment (TREE) is a programme conceptualized under the principles of community based training. The TREE methodology consists of a set of processes:

- institutional organization and planning
- community assessment, involving planning and identification of economic opportunities and training needs assessment
- planning, designing and delivery of training
- providing post-training support to ensure the economic activities are sustainable.

Main resources and electronic references:

#### The ILO's Skills and Employability Department (EMP/SKILLS)

Its website provides further information and links to ILO resources: http://www.ilo.org/skills/ lang--en/index.htm

Under the TREE programme, a number of resources were published, including:

#### Rural skills training: A generic manual for rural economic empowerment. Geneva: ILO, 2009.

The manual provides guidance on how poverty, inequality, social, economic and political challenges through skills development. The manual is available at:

 $http://www.ilo.org/islamabad/whatwedo/publications/WCMS\_152250/lang--en/index.htm$ 

ILO staff can provide briefings and workshops to introduce the TREE approach and to develop project ideas.

See also Part 1, Section 2b "Business development, skills and marketing" for more information on promoting market access, access to credit and other financial services, and business skills training.

#### Training activity 5:

# Training for Rural Economic Empowerment (TREE) in Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Identify and discuss market opportunities to develop urban and peri- urban business activities in the localities where you live and/or work;</li> <li>Identify and discuss the types of technical and financial support needed to take advantage of the market opportunities you have identified.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the TREE material as a starting point:</li> <li>Identify and discuss market opportunities in urban and peri-urban agriculture in your localities;</li> <li>Discuss what type of resources and support would you need to turn these market opportunities into concrete business activities.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views</li> </ul>
TREE MATERIAL	Rural skills training: A Generic Manual for rural economic empowerment. Geneva: ILO, 2009. Annex 3.4 Market Opportunities Survey sample tool. http://www.ilo.org/islamabad/whatwedo/publications/WCMS_152250/ langen/index.htm

### ILO Resource 6 LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Communities, cities and governments around the world increasingly turn to Local Economic Development (LED) strategies in response to the challenges of globalization and the drive for decentralization. LED means more than just economic growth. It is promoting participation and local dialogue, connecting people and their resources for better employment and a higher quality of life for both men and women. The ILO is working with its constituents - governments, employers and workers - in developing and implementing LED strategies in a wide range of economic, social and political settings across the world. This includes countries emerging from crisis, rural and underdeveloped areas and city slums as well as growth-oriented clusters where territorial competitiveness is addressed. There is also a focus on vulnerable groups such as indigenous peoples, women, young people and child labourers. Given the growing demand for support to address the local effects of climate change, LED strategies are more and more incorporating the green jobs dimension. ILO strategies include the use of private sector development approaches and tools such as value chain development, linkages with micro-finance institutions, skills development, institutional capacity-building and green jobs.

Main resources and electronic references:

#### The ILO Local Economic Development (LED) Sensitizing Package

The package provides guidance on LED, enterprise development, entrepreneurship, and skills training, and consists of five modules:

- The relevance of LED today
- What is LED?
- How to plan and implement a LED strategy
- LED and decent work
- An enabling environment for LED

#### Available at:

http://www.ilo.org/empent/Publications/WCMS\_112301/lang--en/index.htm

#### LED Website

Available at: http://www.ilo.org/empent/areas/local-economic-development-led/lang--en/index.htm

See also Part 1, Section 2b "Business development, skills and marketing" for more information on: Promoting market access, access to credit and other financial services; business skills training. See Part 1 Section 2c "Social protection and social dialogue" for more information on promoting social dialogue at local, municipal and national levels.

#### Training activity 6:

#### Local Economic Development in Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Identify and discuss which local economic issues, tools and resources are most relevant to ensure decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture;</li> <li>Discuss what type of training and support urban agricultural producers need in order to ensure successful development of their businesses.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the LED material as a starting point:</li> <li>Discuss how urban and peri-urban agriculture could become a more central element of LED initiatives;</li> <li>Discuss what specific LED measures are needed to ensure decent work in urban and peri-urban agriculture, and successful business enterprises in this sector.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
LED MATERIALS	Local Economic Development (LED) Sensitizing Package. ILO, Geneva, 2005. Module 1: The relevance of LED today, p. 17. http://www.ilo.org/empent/Publications/WCMS_112301/langen/index. htm

### ILO Resource 7 VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

The ILO's value chain development work focuses on the sub-sectors that are most relevant for job creation and job quality improvement. The ILO works with systems and institutions that can drive competitiveness and job creation in specific sectors by using a market development approach.

The ILO's interventions build on private sector development strategies that seek to strengthen enterprises, business relationships and services, market structures, and the business environment in order to foster pro-poor growth and create more and better jobs. The ILO's value chain development methodologies are state of the art tools for job creation built on the ILO's extensive knowledge of developing business service markets, existing tools to improve the business environment as well as drawing from best practices, conceptual thinking and participatory methodologies. Main resource and electronic references:

- The Value Chain Development (VCD) and Business Development Services (BDS) Resource Guide. The guide provides access to key ILO publications and practical guides for value chain development, private sector development and business service markets. Available at: http://www.ilo.org/empent/Links/WCMS\_143120/lang--en/index.htm
- ILO Value chain development for decent work: A guide for development practitioners, government and private sector initiatives. ILO, Geneva: 2009. Available at: http://www.ilo org/empent/areas/value-chain-development-vcd/WCMS\_115490/ lang--en/index.htm
- ILO value chain development portfolio analysis: A stocktaking of ILO value chain related activities. ILO, Geneva: 2011. Available at: http://www.ilo.org/empent areas/value-chain-development-vcd/WCMS\_169203/lang--en/index.htm
- **ILO Employment sector VCD website**. Available at: http://www.ilo.org/empent/areas value-chain-development-vcd/lang--en/index.htm

See also Part 1, Section 2b "Business development, skills and marketing" for more information on value chains.

#### Training activity 7:

#### Value Chain Development in Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Identify the types of value chains found in urban and peri-urban agriculture;</li> <li>Identify how the ILO could best assist in value chain development in urban and peri-urban agriculture.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the ILO Value chain development for decent work guide as a starting point:</li> <li>Discuss how value chains in urban and peri-urban agriculture could be developed and/or strengthened;</li> <li>Discuss what role the ILO and other bodies could play in helping you develop and/or strengthen value chains in urban/peri-urban agriculture.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
VALUE CHAIN MATERIALS	ILO value chain development for decent Work: A guide for development practitioners, government and private sector initiatives. ILO, Geneva 2009. What it's all about. http://www.ilo.org/empent/areas/value-chain-development-vcd/ WCMS_115490/langen/index.htm

## ILO Resource 8 COOPERATIVES IN AGRICULTURE

Managing your agricultural cooperative, My.COOP is a training package and programme on the management of agricultural cooperatives. The objective of this training material is to enable existing and potential managers of agricultural cooperatives to identify and address major challenges that are specific to cooperatives in market oriented agricultural development. It is based on the fact that proper management enables cooperatives to offer high quality, efficient and effective services to their members. Moreover, well-managed agricultural cooperatives can also contribute to wider development issues such as food security, sustainable use of natural resources and inclusive employment creation.

#### Main resource and electronic references:

- Trainer's Manual and Mobile Learning Toolkit: My.COOP Managing your agricultural cooperative. Available at: http://publications.itcilo.org/test/catalogo/scheda.php?id=168
- My.COOP also has a website (www.agriculture-my.coop) where you can find the package in addition to related services and online tools, such as the distance learning platform for the training of trainers and a mobile learning kit.

See also Part 1, Section 2b "Business development, skills and marketing" for more information on forms of business entrepreneurship: Cooperatives.

#### **Training activity 8:**

#### My.COOP in Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

AIMS	To help us to:
<b>@</b> 2	<ul> <li>Discuss why cooperative types of organization are well suited for urban and peri-urban agriculture;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Identify the practical steps needed to set up a cooperative in urban and peri-urban agriculture.</li> </ul>
TASK	In your small group, using the My.COOP material as a starting point:
	<ul> <li>Identify and discuss the basic features of an agricultural cooperative and those which distinguish it from other types of businesses;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Discuss the practical steps you would need to take to set up an urban/ peri-urban agricultural cooperative;</li> </ul>
¥	• Discuss what ongoing kinds of training and support you might need to ensure the success of your cooperative.
	Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.
MY COOP	Trainer's Manual and Mobile Learning Toolkit. My.COOP - Managing your agricultural cooperative. My.COOP, Module 1: Basics of an agricultural cooperative. Topic 1:
MATERIALS	Basics of an agricultural cooperative My.COOP, Module 2: Cooperative service provision. Topic 1: What are the needs of members? www.agriculture-my.coop

## MODULE 3

## SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE

## ILO Resource 9 ILO CODE OF PRACTICE ON SAFETY AND HEALTH IN AGRICULTURE

The ILO Code of practice on safety and health in agriculture, 2011, is geared to improving OSH in agriculture and complements the Convention on safety and health in agriculture, 2001 (No. 184), and its Recommendation (No. 192). The Code provides guidance for the application of Convention No. 184 and its Recommendation in practice. It provides guidance on appropriate strategies to address the range of OSH risks encountered in agriculture in order to prevent – as far as is reasonably possible – accidents and diseases for all those engaged in this sector. It also provides guidance on the roles of the competent authorities, employers, workers and their organizations in promoting OSH within this sector.

#### Main resource and electronic references:

**The ILO's Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Agriculture. ILO, Geneva: 2011.** Available at: http://www.ilo.org/sector/activities/sectoral-meetings/WCMS\_160706/lang--en/index.htm

See also Part 1, Section 2c "Social protection and social dialogue" for more information on safety, health and the environment; and ensuring social protection.

#### Training activity 9:

#### The ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Understand and be able to apply the ILO Code of practice on safety and health in agriculture;</li> <li>Identify those parts of the Code most relevant to work situations and practices in urban and peri-urban agriculture.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the Code as a starting point:</li> <li>Identify those parts most relevant to work situations and practices in urban and peri-urban agriculture;</li> <li>Discuss how the information and standards you have identified could be communicated in simple language and pictorially to urban producers;</li> <li>Discuss whether social media and electronic information would be useful in extending good OSH practices.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
COP MATERIALS	ILO Code of practice on safety and health in agriculture. ILO, Geneva, 2011. Tractor risk assessment: Chapter 4, Section 4.2.12, p. 39. http://www.ilo.org/sector/activities/sectoral-meetings/WCMS_160706/ langen/index.htm

## ILO Resource 10 SAFETY AND HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

Although small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) make up the vast bulk of businesses worldwide and contribute greatly to employment. However, problems of low productivity and poor quality, as well as marketing and finance, mean many SMEs fail to grow or even survive. At the same time the jobs they provide may lack quality and may fall into the 3D category (dirty, difficult and dangerous). Provided with the tools and techniques to put in place safety and health practices, SMEs have the potential improve competitiveness and product quality, as well as improve safety, health and working conditions.<sup>1</sup>

One of the key techniques used to improve safety and health conditions in SMEs is the workplace risk assessment. Carried out by the business owner, a workplace safety and health risk assessment is a careful examination of what could cause injury or ill health to people in the workplace, to weigh up whether enough risk control measures are in place, or more should be done to prevent harm to those at risk, including workers and members of the public. A risk assessment involves identifying the hazards present in a business, weighing up the extent of those risks, taking into account existing safety and health measures, and deciding whether additional steps are required to improve occupational safety and health.

#### Main resources and electronic references:

- Training Package on Workplace Risk Assessment & Risk Management for Small & Medium-Sized Enterprises. ILO SAFEWORK Geneva 2013.
   ISBN 978-92-2-120764-5 (print): ISBN 978-2-127065-2 (web pdf); http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/instr/WCMS 215344/lang--en/index.htm
- The ILO's Programme on Safety and Health at Work and the Environment (SafeWork) makes available a wide variety of OSH training materials and methods at: http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/instr/lang--en/index.htm

See also Part 1, Section 2c "Social protection and social dialogue" for more information on safety, health and the environment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ILO: 2007, p. 2

### Training activity 10:

# Safety and Health Risk Assessment for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Understand and be able to apply the ILO Code of practice on safety and health in agriculture;</li> <li>Identify those parts of the Code most relevant to work situations and practices in urban and peri-urban agriculture.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the Safety and Health Risk Assessment for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises materials as a starting point:</li> <li>Identify the safety and health hazards/risks within your enterprise. Identify who is at risk and how;</li> <li>Assess the degree of risks and prioritize the most significant risks requiring action;</li> <li>Note which risk control measures exist and decide which further risk control measures are necessary;</li> <li>Analyze which actions need to be taken in the enterprise, by whom and by when they need to be completed.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
RISK ASSESSMENT MATERIALS	Safety and health risk assessment for small and medium-sized enterprises: ILO training module. ILO, Geneva. See also the worked example on risk assessment in the poultry industry below.

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### Poultry industry Risk assessment worked example

Name and address of the small or medium-sized enterprise where the risk assessment is being carried out.

Date of risk assessment.

The poultry industry involves a range of activities including managing population size by breeding or populating with young birds and reducing bird density during growth or at the end of the cycle; as well as routine maintenance, litter and manure removal, cleaning, and disinfecting and fumigating houses after depopulation.

The poultry industry ranges from a relatively small number of large companies (integrated producers) to SMEs and micro-enterprises. Some businesses or people within the industry are dedicated to in highly specialized tasks such as bird catching, spreading litter in cleaned houses and setting up drinker and feeder equipment and removing waste (litter and faeces) from premises and arranging its disposal. Specialists can work either directly for a producing company or for an equipped contractor who may any number of teams.

As well as improving OSH standards for workers, ensuring food safety for consumers is an important aspect of poultry production, and the two issues are linked.

Please note that this is a worked example, not a generic risk assessment. As such, it is not appropriate for wholesale adoption by a company or practitioner. This would not satisfy the law and would not be effective in protecting people. Every business is different and practitioners need to think independently through the hazards and risk controls required in their businesses.

How the risk assessment was carried out?

The risk assessment was carried out by a poultry enterprise owner in cooperation with other management staff and with worker OSH representatives.

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What are the hazards? Safety/health risks?	Who is at risk and how?	Degree of risk, prioritization of risks for action?	Existing risk con- trol measures?	What further risk control measures are necessary?	Action by who in the enterprise? By when? Completed?
STEP 1	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3.A	STEP 3.B	STEP 4
Dust - from feathers, droppings, feed, including milling	All workers in the poultry sheds	High risk	Basic ventilation in the sheds is provided	<ol> <li>Milling machine - fit dust extraction equipment to that machine</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Poultry farm supervisor - immediate action</li> </ol>
operations				<ol><li>Ventilation: All shed doors are kept open when putting down or cleaning up litter</li></ol>	2. and 3. Poultry farm owner - action within one week.
ruse of asumua, farmers lung irritation				<ol> <li>Good quality disposable dust masks are provided for workers and workers instructed to use them when cleaning up</li> </ol>	
				<ol> <li>Respiratory protective equipment is to be provided and used for especially dusty jobs</li> </ol>	
Manual handling - risk of injury to joints,	All workers lifting heavy and awkward	High risk	On the job training	<ol> <li>Only bags etc. weighing less than 25 kilograms are to be manually lifted</li> </ol>	1. Poultry farm owner - within two weeks
rinscies, pones, tendons			provided in lifting techniques	2. All workers are to be trained in correct manual handling techniques	2. Poultry farm owner - within four weeks

What are the hazards? Safety/health risks?	Who is at risk and how?	Degree of risk, prioritization of risks for action?	Existing risk con- trol measures?	What further risk control measures are necessary?	Action by who in the enterprise? By when? Completed?
STEP 1	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3.A	STEP 3.B	STEP 4
Spread of occu- pational diseases from the poultry (Zoonoses) - including avian flu	All workers in and around the poultry sheds	Medium risk	Regular cleaning of the poultry sheds, and safe disposal of dead poultry	<ol> <li>Training on prevention of occupational diseases, including zoonoses such as leptospirosis.</li> <li>Workers are to be trained in using rat poison (pesticide) and the safe removal of dead rats, and safe disposal of bait</li> <li>Workers are provided with, and instructed to use, protective clothing, including gloves, overalls, and disposable dusts masks particularly when putting down or cleaning up litter</li> <li>Hot/cold water, soap and paper towels available in facilities near the sheds. Workers are strictly instructed to wash hands after contact with animals, and especially before eating, drinking or smoking.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Poultry farm owner and supervisor - immediate action</li> <li>Supervisor - within two weeks</li> <li>Supervisor - immediate action</li> </ol>
Slips and trips - phy- sical injuries, cuts	All workers in and around the poultry sheds	Medium risk	Basic cleaning procedures in place	<ol> <li>Floors are to be kept level</li> <li>Poultry carcasses, debris etc. to be cleaned up more regularly</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Poultry farm owner - immediate action</li> <li>Supervisor - immediate action</li> </ol>
Step 5. Record your find	Step 5. Record your findings, monitor and review your ri	ew your risk assessmen	t, and update when ne	isk assessment, and update when necessary: The risk assessment should state the intended review date.	nded review date.

assessment	
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and	
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Poultry	

## ILO Resource 11 ERGONOMIC CHECKPOINTS IN AGRICULTURE

The physical demands of farming (repeated bending, stooping, kneeling, carrying heavy and awkward loads, and hard and repetitive physical activities) mean that farmers and farmworkers commonly suffer from health problems (bad backs, aching joints and muscles). An ILO manual Ergonomic Checkpoints in Agriculture provides simple advice and examples on ergonomic innovations to help farm workers to avoid and lessen injuries to bones, muscles and joints. It builds on the Work improvement in neighbourhood development (WIND) manual (http://www.ilo.org/employment/DepartmentsOffices/rural-development/WCMS\_159173/lang--en/index.htm).

#### Main resources and electronic references:

**Ergonomic Checkpoints in Agriculture**. Geneva, ILO, 2012. Available at: http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS\_168042/lang--en/index.htm

See also Part 1, Section 2c "Social protection and social dialogue" for more information on safety, health and the environment.

#### Training activity 11:

#### Ergonomic Checkpoints in Agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Demonstrate simple measures which farmers and farm workers can use to improve the safety and health conditions in their urban and peri-urban agricultural workplaces to ensure decent working conditions;</li> <li>Demonstrate safety and health improvements in respect of storage and handling of heavy materials/loads.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the Ergonomic Checkpoints material as a starting point:</li> <li>Discuss how manual handling of materials/loads could be improved on the urban/peri-urban farm which you run, or on which you work;</li> <li>Discuss how to use green waste containers in an optimal manner.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
ERGONOMIC CHECKPOINT MATERIALS	Ergonomic Checkpoints in Agriculture. Geneva, ILO, 2012. Checkpoint 12: Manual handling Checkpoint 14: Green waste containers http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_168042/langen/ index.htm

## ILO Resource 12 WORK IMPROVEMENT IN SMALL ENTERPRISES

The ILO's Work Improvement in Small Enterprises (WISE) is a training methodology specifically designed to improve working conditions and productivity in small and medium-sized enterprises around the world. The WISE methodology is unique because it relies on the initiative of local people, entrepreneurs and workers. They are guided to look at good local examples, check available local solutions, plan and implement actions which will be useful for improving working conditions and productivity. The methodology makes clear that participating entrepreneurs are "the actors" and the trainers "the facilitators". Examples of correct material storage and machinery safety are used as training activities to illustrate use of this resource.

Main resources and electronic references:

The latest **WISE+ full training package** (action manual and trainers' guide) brings together the WISE Action Manual (1997) with the WISE-R Action Manual to create a complete WISE+ Action Manual. The package also contains the WISE and new WISE-R Trainers' Guides. This newly published WISE+ training package extends the number of technical areas covered, with six newly developed training modules and guides on productivity, managing and motivating, working time, wages, family-friendly measures and creating a respectful workplace. WISE+ provides trainees and trainers with guidance on 14 technical areas, all related to improving working conditions and productivity. For more information and links to training materials see: http://www.ilo.org/travail/whatwedo/projects/WCMS\_119287/lang--en/index.htm

See Part 1, Section 2c "Social protection and social dialogue" for more information on safety, health and the environment and ensuring social protection.

#### Training activity 12:

# Work Improvement in Small Enterprises (WISE) in Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Conceptualize WISE methodologies in urban and peri-urban agricul- ture to ensure decent working conditions;</li> <li>Understand i) correct material storage; and ii) correct machinery safety and guarding.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the WISE material as a starting point:</li> <li>Discuss how material storage could be improved in the urban/peri- urban farm which you run, or on which you work;</li> <li>Discuss how machinery safety and guarding could be improved on on the urban or peri-urban farm which you run, or on which you work.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
WISE MATERIAL	WISE Package for Trainers. Bangkok, ILO, 2004. Unit 1: Material storage and handling training . Unit 3, Productive machine safety training. http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/instr/WCMS_110322/langen/index.htm

## ILO Resource 13 WORK IMPROVEMENT IN NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT

The ILO's Work Improvement in Neighbourhood Development (WIND) training programme is designed to improve the safety and health of farmers. WIND provides a highly pictorial training manual on improving occupational safety, health and environmental conditions for small producers in agriculture. Originally developed with small scale producers in Vietnam, it easily lends itself to adaptation by small scale producers in urban and peri-urban agricultural systems, and those providing training to them. Examples of livestock handling and pesticides are used here as training activities to illustrate use of this resource.

Main resources and electronic references:

Work Improvement in Neighbourhood Development (WIND): Training programme on safety, health and working conditions in agriculture. ILO and Centre for Occupational Health and Environment, Department of Health, Vietnam. 2005. Available at: http://www.ilo.org/asia/whatwedo/publications/WCMS\_099075/lang--en/index.htm

See Part 1, Section 2c "Social protection and social dialogue" for more information on safety, health and the environment.

#### Training activity 13:

## Work Improvement in Neighbourhood Development (WIND) in Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Demonstrate simple measures which farmers and farm workers can use to improve the safety and health conditions in their urban and peri-urban agricultural workplaces to ensure decent working conditions;</li> <li>Demonstrate safety and health improvements on: i) livestock management and handling; and ii) use of carts or vehicles to carry heavy materials.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the WIND material as a starting point:</li> <li>Discuss how livestock management and handling could be improved on the urban or peri-urban farm which you run, or on which you work;</li> <li>Discuss how to choose, store and use pesticides correctly, and dis- pose of empty packets and containers in an optimal manner on the urban or peri-urban farm which you run, or on which you work.</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
WIND MATERIAL	<ul> <li>Work Improvement in Neighbourhood Development (WIND): Training programme on safety, health and working conditions in agriculture. ILO. 2005.</li> <li>Checkpoint 29 on livestock handling</li> <li>Checkpoints 24 and 34 on pesticides. http://www.ilo.org/asia/whatwedo/ publications/WCMS_099075/langen/index.htm</li> </ul>

## ILO Resource 14 PROMOTING SOCIAL DIALOGUE

Social dialogue includes all types of negotiation, consultation or exchange of information between, or among, representatives of government, employers and workers on issues of common interest relating to economic and social policy. Social dialogue has the potential to resolve important economic and social issues, encourage good governance, advance social and industrial peace and stability and boost economic progress. It is relevant to any effort aiming to achieve more productive and effective enterprises and sectors and a fairer and more efficient economy, including urban and peri-urban agriculture. Main resources and electronic references:

Labour-oriented participation in municipalities: How decentralized social dialogue can benefit the urban economy and its sectors. Carlien van Empel and Edmundo Werna, ILO Sectoral Activities Department, Working Paper No. 280, Geneva, 2010. Available at: http://www.ilo.org/sector/Resources/publications/WCMS\_162687/lang--en/index.htm

See also Part 1, Section 2c "Social protection and social dialogue" for more information on promoting social dialogue at local, municipal and national levels.

#### Training activity 14:

#### Promoting Social Dialogue in Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Identify which local government and municipal authorities you would need to deal with in developing your urban and peri-urban agricultural enterprise;</li> <li>Identify the issues you would need to raise and discuss with these authorities.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the social dialogue material as a starting point:</li> <li>For each issue you have identified, discuss how you would best present your case to the relevant authority, for example on management of wastes. Identify possible objections from the authorities and how to overcome them.</li> <li>Discuss what ongoing kinds of training and support you might need to ensure the continued success of social dialogue with the relevant authorities</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
SOCIAL DIALOGUE MATERIALS	Labour-oriented participation in municipalities. How decentralized social dialogue can benefit the urban economy and its sectors. Carlien van Empel and Edmundo Werna, ILO Sectoral Activities Department, Working Paper No. 280, Geneva, 2010. http://www.ilo.org/sector/Resources/publications/WCMS_162687/ langen/index.htm

## ILO Resource 15 CHILD LABOUR IN AGRICULTURE

The ILO's Training resource pack on the elimination of hazardous child labour in agriculture is targeted at farmer trainers to plan and run training activities with farmers and their communities, particularly in areas where child labourers are likely to be working. It aims raise awareness about the problem of child labour, particularly hazardous child labour; to help them improve occupational safety and health conditions and to promote implementation of the ILO Convention (No. 182) on the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, 1999, and its accompanying Recommendation (No. 190).

#### Main resources and electronic references:

**Training resource pack on elimination of hazardous child labour in agriculture.** ILO IPEC, Geneva, 2005. Available at: http://www.ilo.org/ipecinfo/product/viewProduct.do?productId=1759

Book 1: A trainer's guide

Book 2: Training course activities for farmers

Book 3: Additional resources for trainers

See also Part 1, Section 2c "Social protection and social dialogue" for more information on child labour.

#### Training activity 15:

#### Elimination of Child Labour in Agriculture

AIMS	<ul> <li>To help us to:</li> <li>Identify what is child labour;</li> <li>Identify the types of work that should not be carried out by children, especially hazardous child labour, in urban and peri-urban agriculture.</li> </ul>
TASK	<ul> <li>In your small group, using the materials listed from the Training resource pack on the elimination of hazardous child labour in agriculture as a starting point:</li> <li>Discuss at what age you think a person ceases to be a "child";</li> <li>Discuss what you think the term "child labour" means and formulate a definition;</li> <li>Discuss some of the jobs on urban farms and supply chains which you think could be described as "hazardous child labour".</li> <li>Elect a spokesperson to report back with your group's views.</li> </ul>
CHILD LABOUR MATERIALS	Training resource pack on the elimination of hazardous child labour in agriculture. ILO IPEC, Geneva, 2005. Book 1: A trainer's guide. Section 1. Setting the scene. Book 2: Training course activities for farmers. Activity 5. Myths and facts about child labour: Quiz http://www.ilo.org/ipecinfo/product/viewProduct. do?productId=1759

**Related Resources** 

### THE ILO'S RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK PROGRAMME

The ILO's Rural Employment and Decent Work Programme recognizes that:

- Rural development is key to poverty eradication.
- Rural empowerment is central to other current pressing concerns, such as economic growth, crisis resilience, food security and climate change, women's empowerment, the management of migration flows, and socio-political stability.

The Programme aims to:

- Reveal the potential of rural areas as engines of growth, job creation, equitable development, and crisis resilience.
- Replace stereotypical images of rural "backwardness" with ones emphasizing potential and opportunities.
- Take action to counter the decent work and other structural deficits impeding progress of rural areas.
- Invest in rural men and women especially youth to help them realize their potential.
- Demonstrate that investing in rural development is ethical as well as economically sound.

#### Main resources and electronic references:

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- ILO Employment sector: Policy briefs on a range rural development issues. Available at: http://www.ilo.org/employment/DepartmentsOffices/rural-development/WCMS\_158637 lang--en/index.htm

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#### **URBAN LABOUR NETWORK**

The Urban Labour Network is a global knowledge sharing network with a specific focus on the role of labour in urban development. It is designed to serve as a venue for bringing together practitioners, researchers, policy-makers and other interested actors (across the board, from developed to developing countries) to exchange ideas and information, post comments and articles, inform about relevant events such as seminars, conferences, and forums, and eventually promote further knowledge on the topic of urban labour.

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#### Sectoral Activities Department

International Labour Office Route des Morillons 4 CH-1211 Geneva 22 Switzerland

E-mail: sector@ilo.org Website: www.ilo.org/sector

