

Building Urban Resilience

Assessing Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture in Dakar, Senegal





Published by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), November 2014

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ISBN: 978-92-807-3374-7 DEW/1786/NA

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Citation

Sy, M., M. Khouma, M.O. Diagne, M.L. Dial, O. Diop, I. Niang, N.Y. Badiane, Y. Niang and M.S.G. Ndong (2014). Building Urban Resilience: Assessing Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture in Dakar, Senegal. [Padgham, J. and J. Jabbour (eds.)]. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Nairobi, Kenya.

A digital copy of this report along with supporting appendices are available at http://www.start.org/upa/dakar_en.pdf

Managing Editor: Jon Padgham Associate Editor/Production Coordinator: Jason Jabbour Assistant Editor: Katie Dietrich Copy Editors: Bart Ullstein and Kristie Bates Layout and Design: Jennifer Odallo and Audrey Ringler Printing: UNON Publishing Services Section, Nairobi-ISO 14001-certified/D1 No. 14-00110/250 Cover Photo: © Peeter Viisimaa

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Assessing Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture in Dakar, Senegal

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Preface

Food production in and around cities is an integral part of the urban fabric in much of the developing world. In these regions, urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) plays an important role in diversifying urban diets and providing environmental services in urban and peri-urban areas. As such, there is growing interest in UPA as a strategic component of urban resilience and climate change adaptation planning. However, advocacy for UPA in this capacity is outpacing the body of evidence regarding important stressors and drivers that act on UPA. Such knowledge is especially critical in the developing world where urban areas are experiencing rapid growth and transformation. In these regions, UPA is facing intensifying pressures from urban encroachment, waste disposal, pollution, and climate change that may undermine the sector's long-term viability.

The need to better understand these critical sustainability dimensions provided the impetus for city-level knowledge assessments of UPA, whose main findings are contained in nine underlying assessment reports including this one. The assessed cities were Dakar (Senegal), Tamale (Ghana), Ibadan (Nigeria), Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), Kampala (Uganda), Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Dhaka (Bangladesh), Kathmandu (Nepal) and Chennai (India). All of the reports and the synthesis report can be found at *http://start.org/programs/upa*. The assessments were conducted in 2012, with initial stakeholder engagement beginning in 2011. The assessments were led by city-based teams, the composition of which varied, with some of the teams being comprised predominately of researchers and other teams comprising of a mix of researchers, city officials and urban NGO representatives.

The assessments seek to better understand the changing nature of UPA systems, and the critical interactions at the land-water-climate nexus that influence resilience of UPA in rapidly growing developing-country cities. The audience for these assessments includes national and city-level policymakers, sectoral experts and city planners, the research community, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that interface with urban farmers and other actors within the broader UPA sector.

The UPA assessments are part of a larger project on strengthening understanding of critical links between climate change and development planning in West Africa, East Africa and South Asia. The premise for the project is that progress towards undertaking effective action to address climate change risks in these regions is hindered by low levels of awareness of global climate change, lack of understanding of the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and other sources of scientific information, lack of location and sector specific knowledge, and the need for strengthening capacities to undertake integrated assessments that support decision making. This multi-year project has been a collaborative effort between the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), START, the University of Ghana, the University of Dar es Salaam, and the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS).

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Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the different individuals and institutions who in one way or another contributed to the execution of the larger European Commission-led project. In particular, the successful implementation and completion of the project, and the subsequent knowledge assessments were made possible due to the close cooperation and commitment of the International START Secretariat; the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) represented by the Division of Early Warning and Assessments and the Office of the Chief Scientist; the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the University of Ghana, the University of Dar es Salaam, and the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS). Several colleagues across these organizations rendered valuable insight, expert advice, guidance and encouragement during this 4-year endeavor. We would especially like to recognize the efforts and support of Ghassem Asrar, Hassan Virji, Katie Dietrich, Clark Seipt, Chris Gordon, Pius Yanda, Atiq Rahman, Chipo Plaxedes Mubaya, Adelina Mensah, Elaine Tweneboah, Abu Syed, Salif Diop, Audrey Ringler, Jennifer Odallo, Peter Gilruth and Joseph Alcamo as well as Jon Padgham and Jason Jabbour, the project managers and editors of this series.

The overall project and the associated UPA assessments were made possible in large part thanks to funding provided by the European Commission (through project ENV/2008/149690 'Understanding the Findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report "Climate Change 2007"—Integrating Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in Development Planning'), as well as by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the Global Climate Change Programme at the US Agency for International Development (USAID). The editors of this series wish to thank these organizations for their financial support.

In addition to the numerous authors listed in each of the separate reports, we are grateful to the following people for providing useful insights and feedback during the early conception of the knowledge assessment, and helpful review comments on the various manuscripts: Rafael Tuts, Anna Skibevaag, Stephen Twomlow, Elizabeth Migongo-Bake, Trang Nguyen, Volodymyr Demkine, Jane Battersby, Marielle Dubbeling, Anna Kontorov, Richard Munang, Jesica Andrews, Fatoumata Keita-Ouane, Jacqueline McGlade, Keith Alverson, Stuart Crane, Martina Otto, Robert Yennah, Beverly McIntyre, and Tom Downing. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation for the generous support of colleagues at the University of Cape Town's *Climate* Systems Analysis Group who with the climate projections for six African cities.

Acronyms and abbreviations

ANSD	Agence Nationale de Statistique et de la Démographie (National Agency of Statistics and Demography)	
ATADEN	d'assistance technique au développement économique des <i>Niayes</i> (Technical Assistance for <i>Niayes</i> planning and Economic Development)	
CIRAD	Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development)	
CMIP5	Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 5	
CRDI	Centre de recherches pour le développement international	
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane	
EDNA – RUF	Environnement développement action-Relais pour le Développement Urbain Populaire	
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	
GCCP	Global Climate Change Partnership of the United Nations	
GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery	
GHG	Greenhouse gas	
GIE	Groupement d'Intérêt Economique	
GRET	Group of Research and Technological Exchanges	
IAGU	Institut Africain de Gestion Urbaine (African Institute for Urban Management)	
ICMSF	International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Foods	
IDRC	Institute of Research and Development (of Canada)	
IFAN	l'Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire	
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	
IRD	L'Institut de recherche pour le développement	
ISRA	Institut sénégalais de recherche agricole	
NGOs	Non-governmental organizations	
NRC	National Research Council	
ONAS	Office National de l'Assainissement du Sénégal (National Office of Urban Sanitation in Senegal)	
PASDUNE	Programme d'Action pour la Sauvegarde et le Développement Urbain des Niaves et zones vertes de Dakar	
PDU	Plan Directeur d'Urbanisme (Urban Master Plan)	
PNAT	Plan national d'aménagement du territoire	
POP	Persistent organic pollutants	
PPMP	Planning and preservation master plan	
RCP	Representative Concentration Pathway	
RegCM3	Regional climate model, version 3	
RUAF	Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture and Food Security	
START	Global change SysTem for Analysis, Research, and Training	
UCAD	Universite Cheikh Anta Diop	
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme	
UPA	Urban and peri-urban agriculture	
WHO	World Health Organization	
WWTL	Waste Water Treatment Laboratory	

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Executive summary

 $\cdot T$ his report presents the findings of a knowledge assessment on urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) for the city of Dakar, Senegal, that was conducted in 2012. It examines the state of UPA in the city through the lens of intensifying urban pressures and increasing climate risks with the objective of identifying how these and other drivers potentially interact to affect the long-term sustainability of UPA, and what response options are needed to address existing and emerging challenges. The assessment is intended to:

- describe the dominant characteristics of urban and peri-urban agriculture, and identify key knowledge gaps in these UPA systems;
- 2) explore the array of stressors that contribute to vulnerability of UPA systems to climatic and other environmental changes; and
- 3) identify critical areas for strengthening policies and institutional capacities that contribute to sustaining the UPA sector within the larger context of resilient cities and food systems.

Urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) in the Dakar region is well developed and contributes significantly to the city and region's food basket, and to the economic vitality of the urban food system. Extensive areas of vegetable production primarily occur in the *Niayes*, a geological depression with a high water table that runs through the region. UPA is linked to domestic and overseas markets, with production systems encompassing a range of small and large-holding producers that provide seasonal employment for urban and temporary rural migrants. Despite UPA's economic significance, the sector is subject to many constraints, particularly with respect to the availability of appropriate land, uncertainty about land ownership, inadequate access to quality irrigation water, inadequate policy protection and weak investment. These factors undermine the sustainability of the sector and contribute to health and environmental hazards, such as those linked to use of untreated wastewater for vegetable production.

In particular, the lack of suitable land and water presents a major challenge to the long-term sustainability of UPA in Dakar. With the reduction of urban agricultural space and a decline in the

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