

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 29 June 2021 11:00 GMT +03:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	The Significance of Lake Victoria to Entebbe's Food System: Exploring the opportunities for Food Security, Improved Livelihoods and Environmental Sustainability
CONVENED BY	Entebbe City and Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/28176/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Uganda

The outcomes from a Food Systems Summit Dialogue will be of use in developing the pathway to sustainable food systems within the locality in which they take place. They will be a valuable contribution to the national pathways and also of interest to the different workstreams preparing for the Summit: the Action Tracks, Scientific Groups and Champions as well as for other Dialogues.

1. PARTICIPATION

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

30

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

19-30

31-50

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

Male

Female

Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

Agriculture/crops

Fish and aquaculture

Livestock

Agro-forestry

Environment and ecology

Trade and commerce

Education

Communication

Food processing

Food retail, markets

Food industry

Financial Services

Health care

Nutrition

National or local government

Utilities

Industrial

Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Small/medium enterprise/artisan

Large national business

Multi-national corporation

Small-scale farmer

Medium-scale farmer

Large-scale farmer

Local Non-Governmental Organization

International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

Local authority

Government and national institution

Regional economic community

United Nations

International financial institution

Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

Consumer group

Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

HOW DID YOU ORGANIZE THE DIALOGUE SO THAT THE PRINCIPLES WERE INCORPORATED, REINFORCED AND ENHANCED?

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

DO YOU HAVE ADVICE FOR OTHER DIALOGUE CONVENORS ABOUT APPRECIATING THE PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT?

3. METHOD

The outcomes of a Dialogue are influenced by the method that is used.

DID YOU USE THE SAME METHOD AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONVENORS REFERENCE MANUAL?

Yes

No

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

The Dialogue was titled:

Entebbe CITY Independent Food Systems Dialogue - The Significance of Lake Victoria to Entebbe's Food System: Exploring the Opportunities for Food Security, Improved Livelihoods and Environmental Sustainability Outcomes

Like other rapidly growing Ugandan cities, food security in Entebbe City continues to improve but at a slow pace, even with the city's strategic location within the Lake Victoria basin. The lake is very crucial to Entebbe's food system because it is a source of fish such as Nile Perch and Tilapia, a regional trade hub, provides suitable conditions for farming and other agricultural activities, a source of raw materials for industries as well as an ecologically sensitive zone. The fishing industry is particularly a very important aspect of Entebbe's economy as a source of livelihoods and food security.

However, due to weather changes, ecological changes and increased fishing pressure, fish catches have declined thus threatening the food security status and livelihoods of the communities that depend on the lake. Moreover, other factors have contributed to food insecurity of Entebbe city such as poor road and market infrastructure and rapid urbanization within the peninsula. These factors have led to an increase in food losses and food prices and thus affected access to food within the city.

The aim of the Dialogue therefore was to map the importance of Lake Victoria to Entebbe's and Uganda's Food System as well as discuss strategic ways in which Entebbe City can maximize the benefits from the lake to improve food security outcomes and the environmental sustainability of the peninsula.

This Dialogue was attended by over 30 participants who discussed challenges and explored opportunities and solutions to improve food and nutrition security, the livelihoods of the lake communities as well as environmental sustainability. In addition, it showcased collaborations and initiatives that are already underway to transform the food system and how these can be strengthened

This was based on the following key questions for the 3 presenters and the 5 breakup sessions:

- What are the food flow systems in Entebbe City?
- What are the structural challenges affecting Entebbe's food System?
- What policies, programs and incentives can be adopted / introduced to support systemic transformation of Entebbe's food system to one that is resilient and maximizes its strategic location within the Lake Victoria basin to achieve food security and environmental sustainability?
- Who are the key food systems transformation stakeholders and what are their requirements/ needs in order to drive food systems transformation?
- How can Entebbe Municipal Council and local stakeholders be empowered to carry on, extend and identify opportunities to achieve resilient and environmentally sustainable urban food systems?

ACTION TRACKS

	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
✓	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
✓	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
✓	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

	Finance	✓	Policy
✓	Innovation	✓	Data & Evidence
	Human rights	✓	Governance
✓	Women & Youth Empowerment		Trade-offs
		✓	Environment and Climate

MAIN FINDINGS

- Need for responsive policy architecture for sustainable food systems in Entebbe (addressing challenges in the food chain, food safety, etc.)
- There is need to better regulate and improve land rights and access (ownership, land grabbing, conservation of commons, land use planning, fisheries management to benefit all, etc.)
- Promote agro ecology / urban agriculture as part of urban planning in Entebbe Municipality to increase food security while conserving the Lake Victoria ecosystem in light of the increasing food, fuel and water demands; but also given Entebbe's position as a bird sanctuary for ecotourism development / promotion.
- Scale up consumer awareness / advocacy on food rights, food safety, nutrition standards, consumer complaints mechanism, media engagement, etc.)
- Support nature based solutions including tree belts, buffer zoning for Lake Victoria to protect wetlands, forests, river and lake banks so as to sustain the fisheries sector and protect water resources for various uses
- Scale up existing and potential good practices that benefit the vulnerable and poor communities and the environment: Cooperatives that bring together food suppliers and end users; alternative and efficient energy use at household and institutions; recycling of municipal organic waste / zero waste, water harvesting, local dishes
- Launch stakeholder forums to discuss and implement food governance across Entebbe's food chain and what can be done by whom in short, mid and long term.
- Economic empowerment of communities especially the urban / rural poor that are part of the Entebbe food chain through skills development, inputs and other support
- Food sensitive conducive policies for urban planning (taking care of the rural/urban realities in Entebbe; taking agriculture for food security for the vulnerable people; conservation of Lake Victoria ecosystem including wetlands, forests, lake and river banks)
- Infrastructure needs to be developed further to harness Entebbe's potential as a food basket (fisheries, crops, etc.) being an entry via water, air and land / road
- Full compliance to existing policies and laws regulating use of the commons and food production
- Promote sustainable fisheries including cage farming that takes cognisance of ecological limits and carrying capacity

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/3

What are the structural challenges affecting Entebbe's food System?

- Population growth that is leading to conversion of land into settlements and large scale infrastructural development
- How to make agriculture more intensive - land will continue to dwindle so we need to come up with innovations on how to intensively grow food in small spaces in order to avail different options for feeding the rapidly growing urban population.
- Political structure is not so conducive (there is need for openness to work with diverse actors)
- Cage Farming - we need to study more and decide which the optimal carrying capacity
- 'Urban' connotation means food importer from other areas (food requirements, standards set by the colonial setting/ technocrats).
- Lake Victoria - waste management and pollution (palm oil, fast growing urban areas), rising water levels affect provision of quality water for domestic and production including fisheries (safety)
- Urban sprawl - commons like wetlands, forests are grabbed by the rich people and the poor encroach for agriculture, etc.
- Less attention given to standards and practices of ready food (cooked) on which many people depend, raising concerns around food safety in Entebbe
- Land management issues like individuals owning land titles in the buffer zones
- Higher level Local Authority (Wakiso district) overshadowing the creativity and flexibility of Entebbe Municipal council is managing its local food system
- Lack of technical and financial support to interventions like greening the municipality and other parts of the food chain
- Weakness in multi-sector / actor coordination to improve the food systems in Entebbe. A lot of sectors at national level and departments still operate in silos
- No consumer engagement / feedback. Consumers are not empowered

What policies, programs and incentives can be adopted / introduced to support systemic transformation of Entebbe's food system to one that is resilient and maximises its strategic location within the Lake Victoria basin to achieve food security and environmental sustainability?

- Many policies that could potentially influence the nature of the food system exist but are not fully implemented
- Government is moving away from sector-wide planning to program planning
- Urban Farming – there is need to provide skills of intensive urban agriculture in response to the growing land shortage and projected food demand
- Water Transport - Entebbe can become a regional hub for receiving goods from other ports along L. Victoria. This same transport infrastructure can be beneficial for the ease in transportation of food between different port cities in Kampala and the East African region.
- Exploring Collaborative engagement for controlling pollution of the lake e.g. towards reducing the problem of plastic waste in the lake.
- Conflict between political leaders and technical workers at local government level - we need to have cohesion

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/3

Who are the key food systems transformation stakeholders and what are their requirements/ needs in order to drive food systems transformation?

- Urban planners: Strengthen urban- rural linkages (urban / per urban settings) and incorporate these in urban plans
- Policy makers and planners: Food sustainability in Entebbe – to draft an inclusive urban food system policy in Entebbe as well as food safety policies and other practices
- Territorial governance (stakeholder forums) to dialogue and support food governance through food councils that involve urban / rural continuum as well as different stakeholders across the food value chain
- Public Health Stakeholders - Safe food especially cooked food for example: designated places for evening ready food markets. Should devise ways of monitoring food safety without necessarily excluding street food traders- possibly through licencing
- Local Government authorities / Municipality and lower councils / the poor...Food must be made available, accessible, affordable as big part of the population is poor --- everyone deserves to eat safely given the food environment in Entebbe and other cities
- National level actors: working closer with the Entebbe Municipality to draft implementable regulations at local level such as how to run and resource market safety and cleanliness programs

How can Entebbe Municipal Council and local stakeholders be empowered to carry on, extend and identify opportunities to achieve resilient and environmentally sustainable urban food systems?

- Employing researchers to come up with evidence based interventions
- Coming up with enforceable laws on food systems
- Using a human rights approach to resource management
- Infrastructure development like roads, waterways and food storage and carriage facilities
- Investing in Alternative agricultural practices like fish pond farming
- Capacity building of the citizens and local authority leaders in climate change, environmental sustainability, clean energy, water harvesting and agro forestry

What initiatives/ programs/ good practice are currently happening that are promoting environmental sustainability and food security around the lake?

- Adoption of farming systems with emphasis on agro-ecology, environmental sustainability and resilience
- Advocacy and consumer awareness e.g. consumer forums – food safety and quality
- Inspectors and enforcers of food safety standards should be empowered to conduct their responsibility. Government needs to invest and implement food safety standards.
- Biotechnology and GMO law must be passed by government. The municipality and country should champion that.
- Vertical agriculture should be promoted by making room for urban food production using appropriate technologies
- Enabling fisher folks and communities to access skills, technologies and finance that can empower them to go into fish

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 3/3

What are the opportunities presented by L. Victoria to the Entebbe's food systems and environmental sustainability? What initiatives/ programs/ policies can be implemented to empower communities or enhance the value of the lake?

- Promoting and advance farming for sustainability to feed urban dwellers
- Implementation of the existing policies - robust plan to roll out the policies
- Involve the communities more!
- Establishment of food banks
- Address food waste as in the New market - is still a problem
- Value adding section - process some of the food, meats etc.
- Increased Storage facilities
- Connection to energy - better practices, subsidies, address reliability
- Promote access to agriculture finance/credit for urban farmers - across the food chain - difficult to access, need for more accessible - community bank (involving the private sector- banks)
- Including informal and street food vendors in the planning process

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

- Periodic 'closure' of access to Lake Victoria fishery to communities affects food security and incomes of the vulnerable and poor (fishers)
- The effects of cage farming on the Lake Victoria ecosystem is not yet fully understood

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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- **Entebbe Feedback Form**
https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Entebbe-Feedback-form.-22072021.ICLEI_FAO.docx