



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



Cities and Local Governments at the forefront

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**Key results from the FAO Survey
“Urban Food Systems and COVID-19”**

CHALLENGE: FOOD IN AN URBANIZING WORLD



55%
OF THE WORLD'S
POPULATION RESIDES
IN URBAN AREAS



70%
OF ALL FOOD
PRODUCED IS
DESTINED FOR
CONSUMPTION
IN CITIES



60%+
OF PRIMARY ENERGY
DEMAND AND
70 PERCENT OF CO₂
EMISSIONS STEM
FROM CITIES



34%
OF THE GLOBAL
POPULATION LIVES
IN SMALL CITIES OR
TOWNS



30%
OF ALL GREENHOUSE
GAS EMISSIONS STEM
FROM FOOD
PRODUCTION AND
DISTRIBUTION



80%+
OF URBAN DWELLERS
ARE EXPOSED TO
AIRQUALITY
LEVELS THAT EXCEED
WHO LIMITS





FAO Framework for the Urban Food Agenda

Leveraging sub-national and local government action to ensure sustainable food systems and improved nutrition

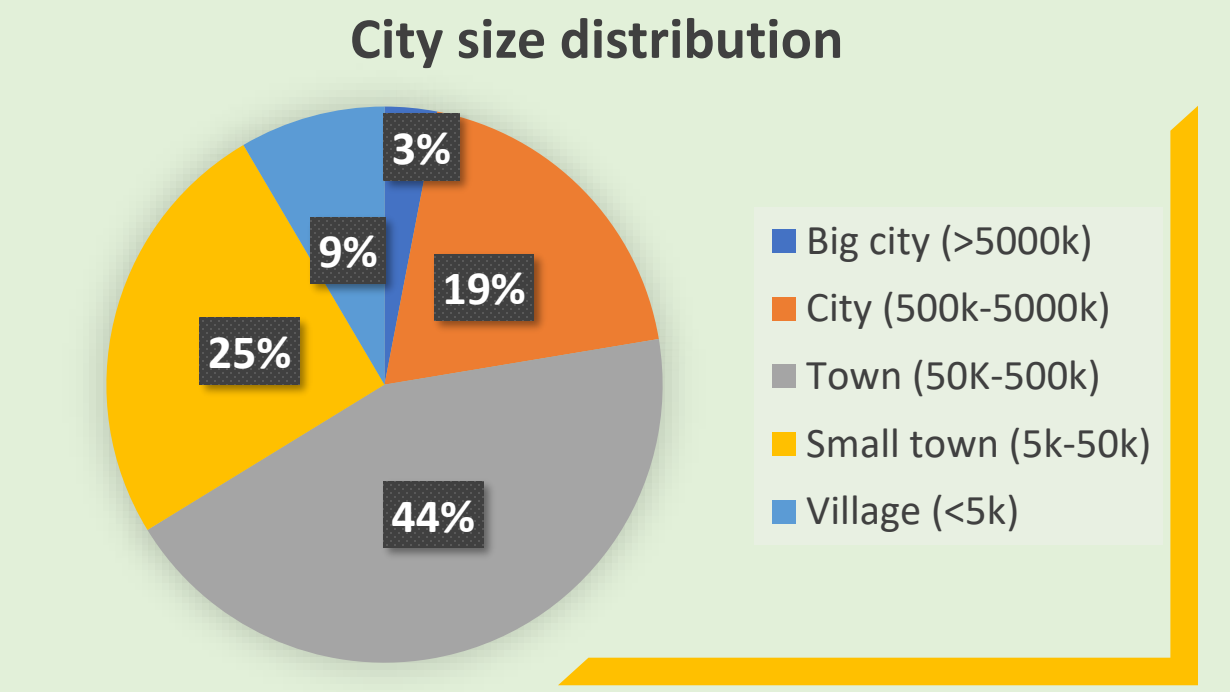
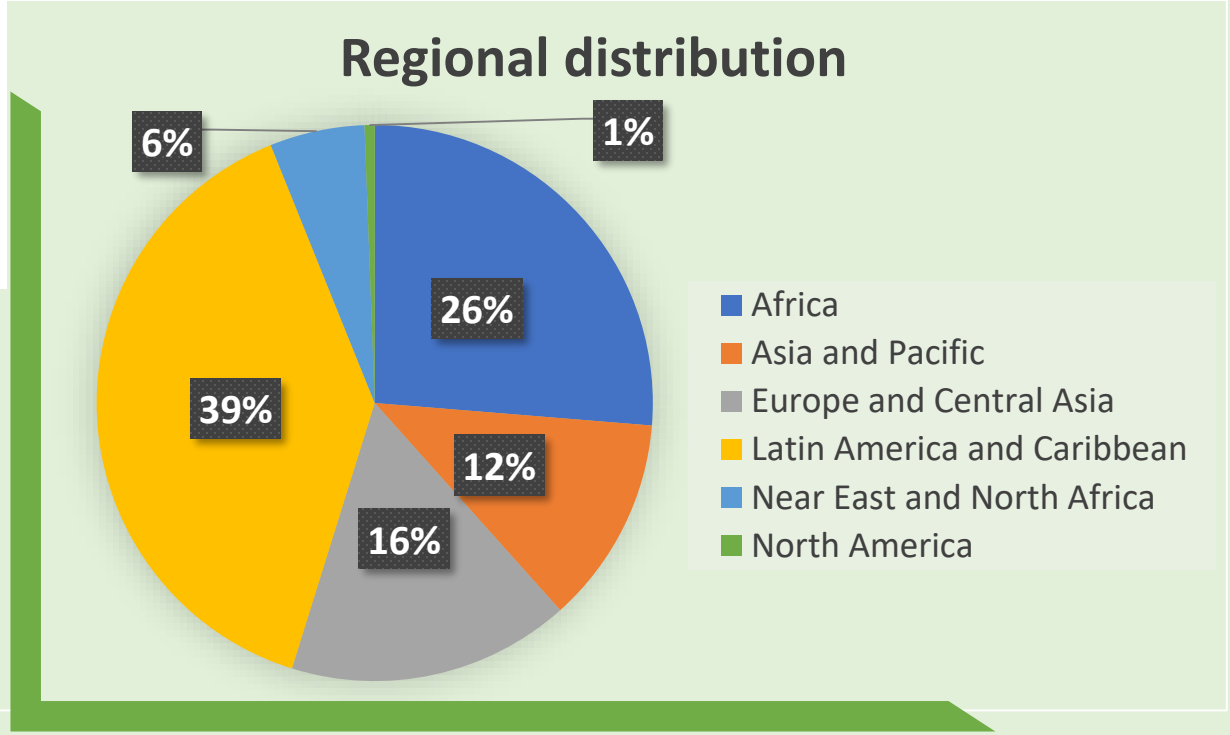
COMPREHENSIVE AREAS OF SUPPORT



FAO URBAN FOOD AGENDA AT THE TIME OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC: FAO Survey to Assess the Impact of COVID 19 on Food Systems in Cities

861 responses
77 countries

57% of the respondents are from local and subnational governments



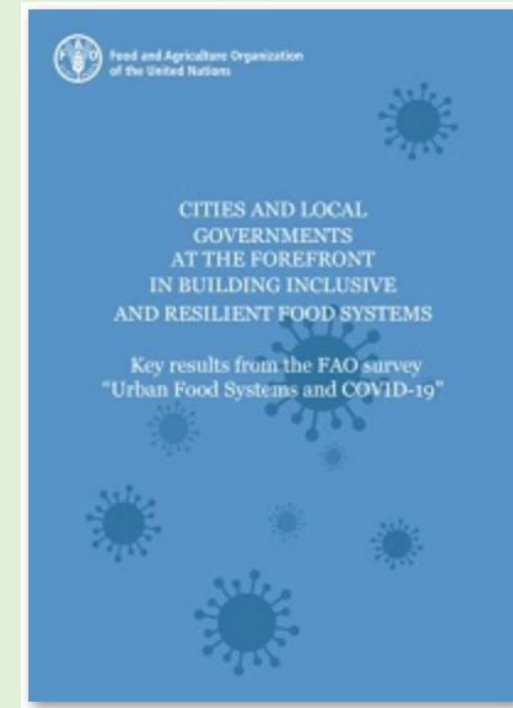
POLICY BRIEF

FAO Policy Brief

Cities and local governments at the forefront in building inclusive and resilient food systems.

Key results from the FAO Survey
"Urban Food Systems and COVID-19"

- Map the municipal responses to the emergency
- Analyze progress and setbacks in managing the urban food system disruption
- Related implications for Food Security and Nutrition



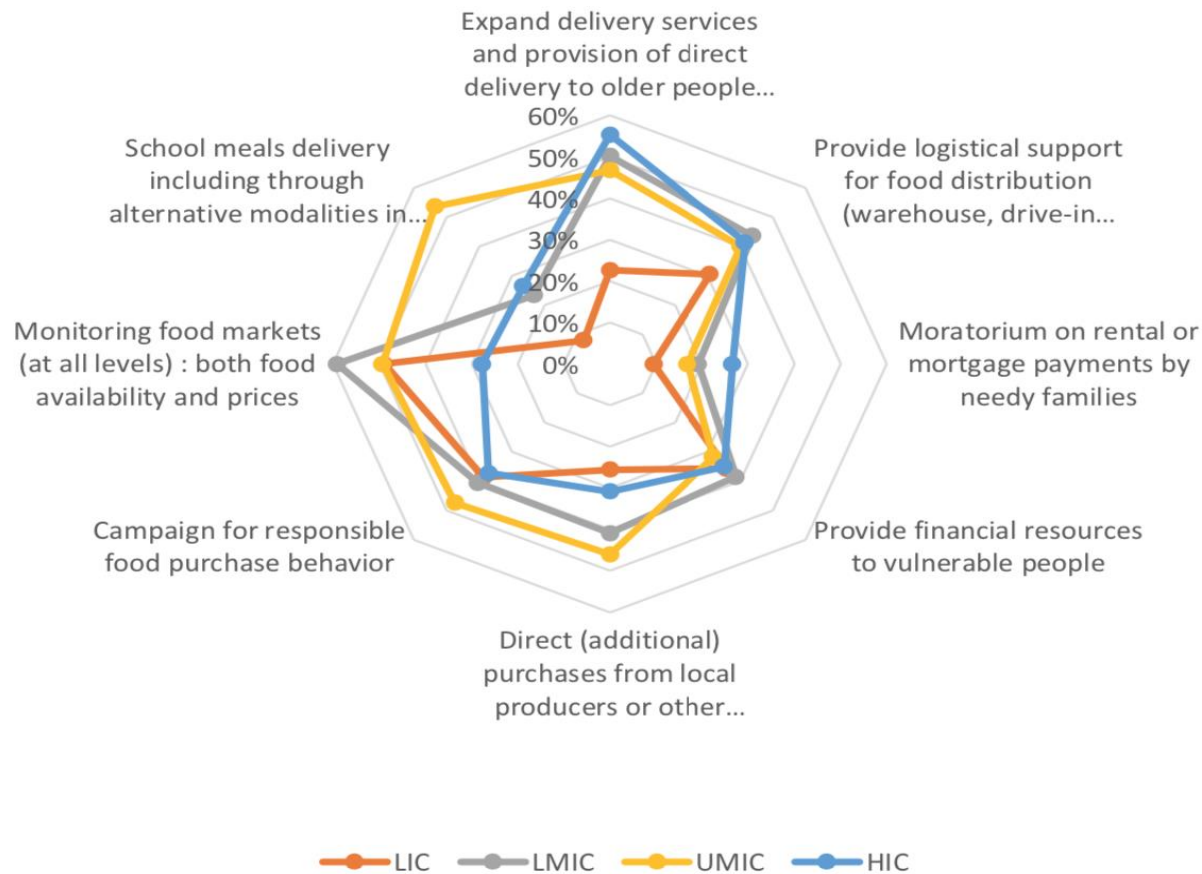
Published on 21 July 2020

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How to better support cities and local governments in building **inclusive and resilient** Urban Food Systems?

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Measures taken by local governments by country income category



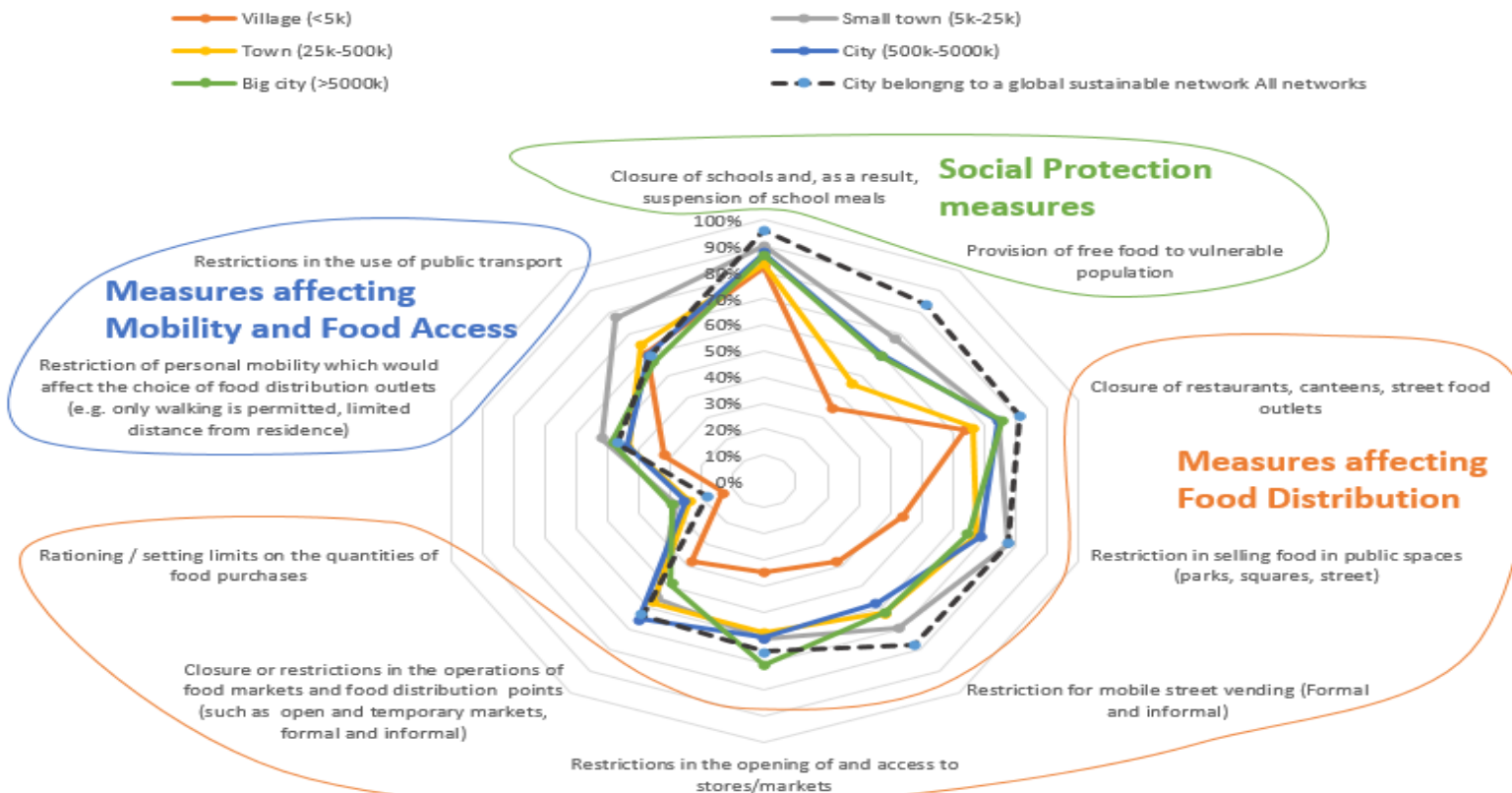
Local governments are key actors to face COVID-19. **90% of cities** have taken at least one **measure to ensure food access** to vulnerable people.



Cities from low income countries were less able than other cities to implement measures to support their population

Effects of the restrictive measures on Urban Food Systems and Food access

Measures affecting directly and indirectly food systems
in % of total respondents by city size



- **Closure of schools** and consequent suspension of school **meals** is a widespread problem experienced in all the regions for all kinds of city size, and country income level: **86% of the responses** signaled this as a problem

- **Smaller cities and towns are more resilient** to the pandemic as compared with big cities
- Food related **urban-rural linkages** should be strengthened in time of crises.

FAO Survey to Assess the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Systems in Cities

WHAT MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT ON THE URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS?

80%

Direct food distribution particularly to vulnerable population

69%

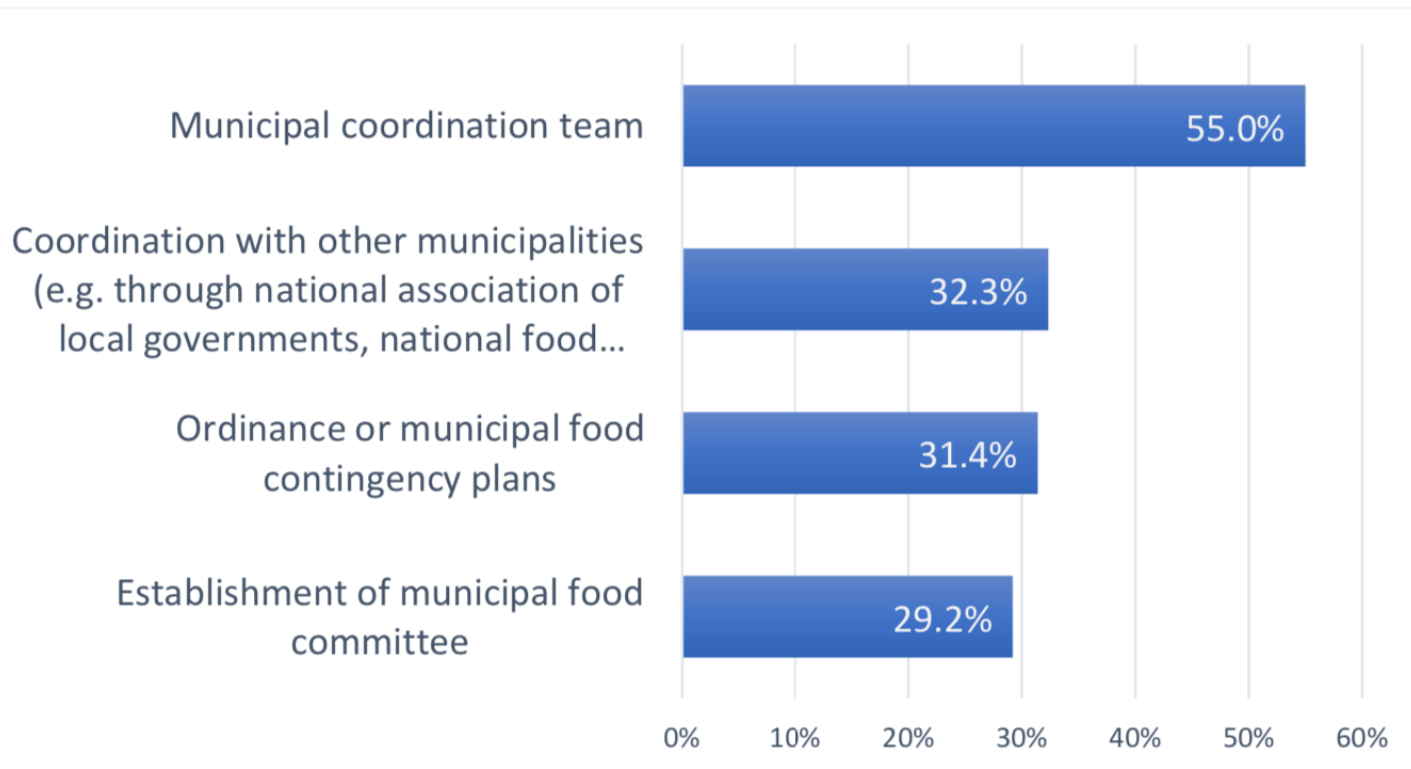
Coordination with private sector and other non-governmental actors

51%

Monitoring food availability and prices in urban markets

MUNICIPALITIES ARE DOING A LOT AND IN MOST CASES THEY HAVE NO ACCESS TO ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR WHAT THEY DO

Food governance measures during the COVID-19 crisis



The importance of Urban Food Governance

Municipal governments have an enormous potential in identifying and connect food systems actors, exploring innovative community-based solutions.

KEY MESSAGES FROM THE SURVEY

- *Local governments are key actors to face COVID-19 impacts on food systems, food security and nutrition*
- *The empowerment of local governments can make a big difference in preventing a food security crisis following a health or other emergency*
- *The resilient component of the food systems should go hand in hand with inclusiveness. There is an urgent need to understand the root causes of vulnerability in urban areas, mapping the most vulnerable and ensuring innovative mechanisms to facilitate their access to nutritious food.*
- *Multi-level Food Governance is a crucial area for innovation. The municipal governments had an enormous potential in identifying and connecting the food systems actors at all levels, facilitating their collaboration and exploring innovative community-based solutions.*
- *The programmes and contingency plans need to be put in place ensuring that the food-related urban-rural linkages remain uninterrupted in time of crises.*
- *Better coordination between local and national efforts will produce more effective and efficient results.*



FAO GREEN CITIES INITIATIVE

Green Cities Action Programme:
building back better



THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S GREEN CITIES INITIATIVE

OBJECTIVE

Increase **people's wellbeing** through increased availability of and access to products and services provided by **sustainable food systems** and **green spaces**, including urban and peri-urban forestry and agriculture.

GREEN CITIES ACTION PROGRAMME

1. Creating the **enabling environment** to support integrated policy, planning and governance on green infrastructures and food systems.
2. Actions in **metropolitan cities**
3. Actions in **intermediary cities**
4. Actions in **small cities**

100

CITIES

15

COUNTRIES

3

YEARS

FOR MORE INFORMATION

FAO framework for the Urban Food Agenda:

<http://www.fao.org/3/CA3151EN/ca3151en.pdf>

FAO Urban Food Agenda website:

<http://www.fao.org/urban-food-agenda>

The Urban food actions platform:

<http://www.fao.org/urban-food-actions/>

FAO Urban taskforce:

Urban-Food-Actions@fao.org

Policy Brief: Cities and local governments at the forefront in building inclusive and resilient food systems. ^[SEP] Key results from the FAO Survey ^[L SEP] “Urban Food Systems and COVID-19. <https://doi.org/10.4060/ca8642en>

