

DRAFT CITY STRATEGIC AGENDA ON URBAN AND PERI- URBAN AGRICULTURE

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The core group of stakeholders who especially contributed to its formulation are:

It can be cited as:



Acronyms

ADB	Agricultural Development Bank
CSA	City Strategic Agenda
DECO	Decentralised Composting
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FDA	Food and Drugs Agency
FOA	Functional Organisational Assessment
GES	Ghana Education Service
GHS	Ghana Health Service
GWC	Ghana Water Company
IWMI	International Water Management Institute
LC	Lands Commission
MCE	Metropolitan Chief Executive
MoFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MSF	Multi Stakeholder Forum
RUAF	Resource Centre on Urban Agriculture and Food Security
SADA	Savanna Accelerated Development Authority
SD	Survey Department
SDA	Sagnarigu District Assembly
TA	Traditional Authorities
TaMA	Tamale Metropolitan Assembly
TCPD	Town and Country Planning Department
UDS	University for Development Studies
UFP	UrbanFoodPlus
UPA	Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

Introduction

Policy decision and integration of UPA into development strategies are prerequisites to efficiency and long term sustainability of UPA programs, which need to address multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary issues including crop and livestock production, aquaculture, agro-forestry in the overall context of proper natural resource management. This document outlines the vision of stakeholders in Tamale for the future of Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture (UPA) in the metropolis. It outlines the importance of this subject, details out the history of the multi-stakeholder forum that led to the development of a UPA agenda for Tamale. The bulk of the document comprises a detailed plan for how to achieve the vision of Tamale's stakeholders for sustainable UPA.



Photo: Participants @ stakeholders' forum

Urban and peri-urban agriculture

Urban agriculture can be defined briefly as the growing of plants and the raising of animals within and around cities. The most striking feature of urban agriculture, which distinguishes it from rural agriculture, is that it is integrated into the urban economic and ecological fabric: urban agriculture is embedded in and interacts with the urban ecosystem (Mougeot 2005).

Tamale and its urban agriculture

Tamale is a fast-growing city: its area has increased seven-fold in the past 30 years and population has approximately doubled since the year 2000. The city is becoming a financial as well as a production

center and services are expanding, associated with in-migration from surrounding rural areas and other regions of Ghana. Nevertheless, the majority of the population in the northern region of the country is still engaged in agriculture as a livelihood strategy, and UPA therefore plays an important role in Tamale. UPA in Tamale demonstrates special characteristics, especially because of the city's rapid expansion. Farms that were recently part of the rural zone have been absorbed in to the urban fabric, and there is a dynamic land market. Tamale's cultural and historical heritage has also had a role to play in shaping the expression of UPA: the city is famous for its strong traditional authority structure, alongside a history of subsistence livestock production and a location on a historic trade route.

Currently, indigenous leaf vegetables are an important crop for commercial cultivators, and there are still many people who grow maize and other subsistence crops, particularly in the rainy season, in open spaces as well as isolated and backyard farms. Rainfed cultivation dominates the production scene in a situation where irrigation is very limited. There is increasing use of fertilizers, agrochemicals and improved seeds. Livestock rearing is still an integral part of the agriculture system of the city with farmers keeping livestock on intensive, semi-intensive and free rang systems.

Stakeholders in Tamale are still developing an advocacy agenda. There has been some movement by isolated occupational and research groups and these are now coming together for the first time in a city strategic agenda.

Tamale's multi-stakeholder forum on urban agriculture

A Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) on urban and peri-urban agriculture has been established in Tamale, through the parallel and complementary activities of RUAF, the Ghana WASH Alliance Programme, UDS, URBANET, IWMI and the UrbanFoodPlus research project. We have met intermittently since 2011, sharing research results and posing questions about the future of urban agriculture and surrounding concerns such as sanitation and waste management. The stakeholder forum includes representatives from the municipal authorities, research organizations, NGOs, traditional authorities and occupational groups such as farmers, traders. For the time being, the MSF is facilitated by URBANET, with key support from RUAF and IWMI.

In 2014, building on the lessons and experiences of the multi-stakeholder forum, a core group of stakeholders began the work that led to the development of this City Strategic Agenda (CSA) on UPA. The CSA reflects the needs, interests and a mandate of the various groups and institutions involved in UPA institutions and propose how UPA can contribute to the sustainable development of the city of Tamale. The forum discussed and agreed on a joint vision for UPA in Tamale and on the opportunities that exist in the city to further enhance it.

Envisioning a Sustainable UPA in the City

The Multi-Stakeholder Forum recognized that, the development of a vision and a plan for what you want your city to become is the essential first step for pursuing new pathways towards transformation. Therefore the members of the Tamale MSF on UPA agreed on the following joint vision for urban and

peri-urban agriculture and on the opportunities that exist in the city to further enhance urban agriculture and the resilience of the city generally.

Vision and mission

The vision of the city is to ensure food and nutrition security in a resilient and sustainable city environment. We will strive to create well-balanced and integrated systems that link up all the relevant UPA value chains; land use planning, safe and efficient waste re-use, regulations, and efficient market systems for sustainable UPA.

Agreed main objectives

The policy narrative on UPA in Tamale pointed to the need for action around six main objectives-

1. Improving land productivity and access
2. Policy inclusion and institutional development
3. Strengthening livestock and cropping links
4. Maximizing environmental synergies
5. Developing markets and private sector contributions
6. Raising awareness and equality
7. Access to Finance for UPA

Strategic action planning for UPA in Tamale – 2015 forwards

This work plan is based on the vision and objectives of agreed CSA and has been discussed with the institutions participating in the Tamale’s Multi-Stakeholder Forum on UPA, including the University for Development Studies (UDS), Tamale Metropolitan Assembly (TaMA), Sagnarigu District Assembly, the Department of Town and Country Planning, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Traditional Councils, Non-Governmental Organizations, and others. It focuses not only on what needs to be done but activities that are on-going with in the work plans of the concerned institutions.

Theme: Land Productivity and Access

Main objective: Improved land acquisition systems for easy access for UPA.

Sub-objective	Strategy and activities	Expected outcome	Measurement criteria	Implementing responsibility	Timeline	Budget
Demarcate and register agricultural land in spatial zoning	1. Use GIS to identify and delineate potential areas for UPA.	Identified UPA lands are integrated into land use plans.	GIS information/data on potential UPA areas	TaMA (Lands Commission-TCP, Land registry), traditional councils	2016 - 2018	
	2. Facilitate Integration of UPA into land use plans in a participatory fashion	UPA integrated into land use plans	No. of plans that incorporate UPA	TaMA, traditional councils	2016 - 2018	
	3. Education and Sensitization of stakeholders/communities on agricultural zones	Stakeholders supporting the zoning of agricultural lands	Knowledge levels of communities on relevance of agric preserving agric zones for UPA	Urbanet, MoFA	2016 – 2018	
	TaMA to collaborate with TCP and traditional councils to register demarcated agriculture zones for purposes of UPA	Agricultural zones/green belts and demarcated registered	No. of agriculture zones	TCP, TaMA, traditional councils, EPA, MoFA	2020	

	Facilitate the leasing/payment of fees for use of agricultural zones farming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved access to land for UPA. Source of revenue for assembly and traditional councils 	No. of farmers participating	Urbanet, ActionAid, TaMA,		
	Facilitate the development of local byelaws for the protection agricultural zones/lands	Local byelaws specify the tenure and usufruct arrangements for UPA in specific zones	Byelaws exist	TaMA, TCP, Traditional Councils, NGOs		
	Specialist research and advisory committee of experts on land matters deliberates the legal ramifications of the assembly and other stakeholders demarcating and acquiring agricultural land in spatial zoning, and identifies possible loopholes and stumbling blocks	Report on the feasibility and implications of dedicating UPA lands and assembly acquiring them.		Assemblies, UDS, DTCP,		
Create awareness about land acquisition for urban agriculture.	Organized advocacy and dialogue meetings with TaMA general assembly to create awareness amongst assembly persons on land for UPA	Assembly members increased their knowledge and supporting UPA	No. of meetings held No. of assembly persons supporting the process	CSOs (urbanet, actionaid, rumnet ----),	2016 - 207	
	Hold advocacy and lobbying meetings with traditional councils to create awareness on land for UPA	Increased awareness of Traditional councils and support for UPA	No. of traditional councils sensitized	CSOs, TCP, UDS	2016 – 2017	
	Media publications on land for UPA in the city (radio discussions, policy briefs/leafless etc)	Increase knowledge and support by general public	Number of publications	UDS, RUAUF/ UrbanFood+,IWMI rumnet, urbanet, -	2016 - 2018	

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Theme: Policy inclusion and institutional development

Main objective: UPA integrated into the planning of institutions concerned with Tamale's development.

Sub-objective	Strategy and activities	Expected outcome	Measurement criteria	Implementing responsibility	Timeline	Budget
Enhance the capacities of institutions and organizations that deal with UPA.	Mapped out UPA stakeholder institutions and their capacity needs.	Major stakeholders on UPA mapped out with their capacity gaps	Number of stakeholders trained.	Urbanet, farmer unions	2015 ongoing	
	Build capacities of stakeholder institutions to facilitate UPA development	Enhanced capacities of stakeholder institutions	No. of stakeholder institutions with enhanced capacities	UDS, urbanet	2016 on-going	
	Institutionalized UPA stakeholder bi-annual platform meetings for learning and sharing of lessons	Sustained UPA platform	No. of UPA platform meetings	Uds,urbanet, RUAF, IWMI		
	Facilitate the participation of representatives of UPA platform on regional and international learning platforms	Best practices learned and shared	No. of meetings participated in	Uds, RUAF, IWMI, urbanfood+, urbanet		
	Tie institutional performance on UPA to Functional Organizational Assessment	UPA tied to FOA	No. of assessment carried out	uds		
	Monitoring of implementation of CSA.	Long term monitoring mechanism in place.	Long term responsibility for monitoring taken up.	Urbanet, OTHER Stakeholders – WHO in long term?	2015 onwards	Urbanet , WHO IN LONG TERM?

	Lobby general assembly to buy in to the city agenda.	CSA adopted by assembly.	CSA adopted by assembly	All	2016	
	Advocate for the introduction of an agriculture sub-committee for TaMA	Agriculture sub-committee established.	Sub-committee in place	All	2017	
	Capacity building, training.	Realistic portrayal of UPA in media.	Number of evidence based stories about UPA in media.	Urbanet, Farmers, Media		

Theme: Maximizing environmental synergies and sustainability

Main objective: Ensure sustainable urban production (UPA).

Sub-objective	Strategy and activities	Expected outcome	Measurement criteria	Implementing responsibility	Timeline	Budget
Increased access to water for in a sustainable but affordable manner for purposes of UPA through-out cropping season.	Promote water harvesting technologies for UPA (rain, storm water, flood and surface water)	Improved water harvesting techniques developed and increasing access for UPA	Number of water harvesting facilities built.	Technical departments, Assemblies, Farmers, NGOs, householders		
	Policy obliging new houses to incorporate rainwater harvesting technology.	Ubiquitous use of such facilities by householders.	Number of houses with this infrastructure.	Planning authorities, Assemblies, householders, contractors		
	Culverts on the roadside are used to trap rainwater, especially in peri -urban area	All roads where appropriate have such	Number of roads built with culverts.	Technical departments, assembly,		

		structures.		contractors		
	Tube wells and normal wells used to tap groundwater. Dams and dugouts built where possible.	Water available to all	Number of structures functioning.	Technical departments, assembly, contractors		
	Facilitate installation drip irrigation systems in UPA for water use efficiency	Improved efficiency in water use for UPA	No. of systems installed	UDS, other CSOs		
Ensure safe and productive use of urban organic waste for UPA for	Vegetable farmers should preferentially use boreholes and wells. Investigate possibility of bank infiltration, based on Kumasi Anloga junction case study.	Irrigation water is clean.	Number of sites with safe water.	GWC, IWMI should be doing research about how clean is acceptable	Testing 'once in a while'	
	Training and dissemination of improved and safe extension knowledge and technologies for food production	Improved knowledge and information on safe practices	No. of farmers trained	UDS, urbanet, IWMI, RUAF		
	Periodic bacteriological examination of irrigation water.	What to do if levels of pathogens are unsafe?	Testing to confirm safe pathogen levels in water.	IWMI, UDS		
	Promote cleaning of vegetables in marketplace, vending and consumption site.	Clean vegetables.	Availability of washing facilities in markets.	EPA, GHS		
	Develop safety guidelines for use of organic waste in UPA	Safety guidelines developed	Safety guidelines in place	EPA, GHS, TaMA, UDS		
	Training faecal sludge farmers on safe application of faecal sludge for food production in the metropolis	Improved knowledge on safe application	No. farmers trained	UDS, urbanet, DECO		
	Build the capacity of Faecal Sludge Farmers Association to facilitate control and regulation of the activities of farmer s	A vibrant association regulating	No. of farmers	Urbanet, UDS		

		activities of members				
		Education on safe, appropriate agrochemical use for agro-dealers and farmers.	Farmers and marketers trained	Number of farmers and dealers trained.	EPA, MoFA	
		Regular monitoring of agro-chemical stores and farming sites to ensure safe use of agro-chemicals	Public safety promoted	No-of visits and reports on visits	EPA, GHS	
Linking urban waste to UPA and creating businesses but also ensuring efficient waste management		Establish model farmers/FFSs for capacity building on production and use of co-compost	Increased knowledge on co-composting	No. of farmers trained	Urbanet, RUAF, UDS, DECO	2016 – 2017
		Develop training materials/manuals on co-compost training for farmers	Training materials available to users	No. of manuals/material produced	UDS, RUAF, IWMI, urbanet, DECO	
		Construct and promote use of Ecosan toilets for co-composting for food production	Farmers adopt Ecosan toilets	No. of Ecosan toilets constructed	CLIP, UDS	
		Compile data, fill data gaps and conduct market analyses for the establishment of co-compost businesses	Analysis on feasibility of co-compost business done and published	No. of co-compost businesses in place	UDS, DECO, RUAF	2016- -2017
		Facilitate the training and development of entrepreneurs for co-composting businesses	Increased interest in the busness of co-composting	No. of businesses established	UDS, URBANET, RUAF	
Research into long-term, large-scale water treatment and use.		Investigate possibility of municipal wastewater treatment alongside centralised collection, filtration and irrigation facilities near to farming zones.	Short term Feasibility study	Plan available	TAMA, GWC, Planning authoritie	2019
		Ongoing research on filtration and irrigation options	Feasibility of technologies assessed	Feasibility of technologies assessed	UDS, UFP	

	Research possibilities for implementing a centralized water supply system	Short-term - Feasibility study available	Feasibility study available			
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Theme: Strengthening livestock and cropping links

Main objective: Ensure improved and sustainable livestock production systems for increased incomes and livelihoods

Sub-objective	Strategy and activities	Expected outcome	Measurement criteria	Implementing responsibility	Timeline	Budget
Promote semi/intensive livestock production system	Organize awareness creation and farmer training programmes on livestock production systems (business models, behavior communication models etc)	Increased awareness	No. of farmers trained	Farmer groups, MoFA, Assemblies, NGOs		
	Promote improved and appropriate housing for livestock rearing.	Improved house adopting for animal rearing	No. of farmers adopting improved housing	Farmer groups, MoFA, Assemblies, NGOs		
	Conductive evaluation of community livestock volunteer project and share lessons and recommendation for expansion of activities	Lessons of evaluation of project documented and shared	No. of communities participating	Urbanet, ActionAid, UDS		
	Review byelaws on livestock production and enforce the byelaws	Byelaws enforced	No. people sanctioned. 30% reduction in stray animals on the road	Farmers, MoFA, Assemblies, NGOs		
	Enhance the capacity of vet services to deliver to farmers	Enhance vet service delivery.	Reduction in reported cases of	MoFA, farmers		

			disease. Evidence of regular visits by vet officers.			
	Train farmers and volunteers on basic vet service	Farmers can deliver some vet services to peers.	Number of farmers and volunteers trained on vet services.	MoFA, farmers, Public		

Theme: Developing markets and private sector contributions

Main objective: strong markets for agricultural products, involving various sectors.

Sub-objective	Strategy and activities	Expected outcome	Measurement criteria	Implementing responsibility	Timeline	Budget
Facilitate private public partnership to develop market infrastructure for UPA products.	Provide storage infrastructure in the markets for UPA products especially perishable products as a business	Increased access by farmers and marketers to quality storage infrastructure	Number of storage infrastructure and traders using it	Assemblies, private individuals and companies/banks	2017	
	Development of warrantage-style vegetable storage warehouses where a percentage of produce is taken as payment. This model has been investigated for cereals	Warrantage facilities available	Number of facilities developed.	Assemblies, NGOs, MOFA	2020	
	Investigate potential for physical market segmentation, e.g. for organic and conventional goods.	Decision on whether market segmentation is feasible or desirable	Decision published	Assemblies, market authorities	2017	
	Facilitate UPA value chains developing	Improved linkages of UPA value chain actors	No. of value chain actors involved	MoFA, farmer unions/asociations, traders associations		

	Research into and development of appropriate postharvest storage and processing facilities, e.g. mango dryers and tomato puree production plants, alongside the market for new products like garden egg/aubergine purée.	Example facilities available	Example facilities available.	NGOs, UDS, Private entrepreneurs	2018	
	Research into the most institutional appropriate development and distribution model for such technology, e.g. state-run, privately supplied, outsourced, cooperatively-run, a PPP etc.	Recommendations available.	Recommendations available.	UDS	2017	

Theme: Raising awareness and equality

Main objective: Increase of all stakeholders on importance of UPA

Sub-objective	Strategy and activities	Expected outcome	Measurement criteria	Implementing responsibility	Timeline	Budget
Sensitization on the importance of UPA and the need for development	<p>Sensitization of specific groups with regard to each of the objectives outlined above, e.g. land acquirers and land authorities on land law, chemical dealers on agrochemical safety, farmers on sustainable practice.</p> <p>All through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the mainstream media • Community engagement exercises • Posters and flyers at chief's palaces and mentions in community meetings • Second cycle and tertiary institutions • Dedicated seminars on UPA for specific stakeholder groups • Meetings organised at the 	Stakeholders aware of areas of UPA that relate to them	Number of sensitization exercises taking place and number of people contacted	EPA, MoFA, Assemblies, GES, Media, TAs		

	assemblies for assembly men and women					
Gender and generational equality	Incorporate gender and generational sensitivity into all the above sensitization activities	Gender and generational equality	Regular surveys on gender and generational representation in various sectors			
Research database on WASH and UPA	Draw together all research on UPA and WASH in Tamale in one web platform	Web resource running	Web resource running.	UDS		

Theme: Access to Finance for UPA practitioners

Main objective: Increased access to credit for UPA activities in the metropolis

Sub-objective	Strategy and activities	Expected outcome	Measurement criteria	Implementing responsibility	Timeline	Budget
Ensure that UPA practitioners have increased access financing mechanism for their businesses	Organize farmer organizations into effective and functioning groups	Farmer groups/unions strengthened	No. of farmer groups/associations formed	Urbanet, MoFA, RUAF		
	Train farmer associations on business planning and management	Farmers increased knowledge on business financing	No. of farmers trained	Urbanet, uds, cooperative department		
	Facilitate linkage of farmer associations with financing institutions	Increased linkages with financial institutions	No. of farmers linked-up with financial institutions	Urbanet, uds		
	Develop and promote business models on co-composting for investment	Business models developed	Number of entrepreneurs	Urbanet, uds, RUAF		

