

SuwilANJI Sinyangwe  
ssinyangwe@fanrpan.org  
Programs Officer

The Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network  
(FANRPAN) / South Africa

**Agroecology Scientific Day 2024**  
Workshop n°7, Session n°1

**Title:**

**Cultivating Resilience: A Tailored Agroecology Framework for  
Enhancing Urban Food Sovereignty in African Metropolises**

**Abstract:** This paper introduces an agroecological framework specifically designed for the unique socio-economic and environmental landscapes of African urban and peri-urban settings. Recognizing the rapid urbanization and its resultant strain on food systems, this research integrates localized agroecological practices with indigenous knowledge systems to enhance food sovereignty in African cities. The framework is centered around three core components: adaptive urban land management, community-driven food initiatives, and resilient agricultural linkages between urban centers and their rural hinterlands. We present data collected from pilot projects in three major African cities: Nairobi, Kenya; Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; and Accra, Ghana, which demonstrate the feasibility and benefits of implementing customized agroecological strategies. These include vertical gardening and rooftop farms that utilize urban waste as a resource, thereby reducing the ecological footprint and promoting circular economy principles within urban food systems.

Our analysis explores how these localized initiatives not only increase the availability of nutritious food but also bolster urban communities' resilience against socio-economic shocks. The study evaluates the socio-economic impact of these agroecological practices, noting significant improvements in local employment and community health outcomes. Furthermore, the paper discusses the institutional and policy environments necessary to nurture these agroecological innovations. It proposes actionable strategies for urban planners and policymakers to integrate these practices into broader food security and urban development policies.

The proposed framework aims to serve as a blueprint for urban areas across Africa, advocating for a shift towards self-sustaining, community-led food systems that leverage local resources and knowledge. Our findings suggest that adopting this tailored agroecological approach could significantly transform urban food landscapes, making them more sustainable, equitable, and resilient.

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