



International Cooperation
in Urban Development



MESCI
Master in Development Economics
and International Co-operation

2021 MUNDUS URBANO WORKSHOP

*"Developing sustainable food systems to achieve zero hunger:
the need for new paradigms"*



February 9-12, 2021

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/97845253198?pwd=RUVFa0FKTXR0dnQ1Vy8zeEJKNkJuZz09>

Meeting ID: 978 4525 3198

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Programme

Background

The context - The Mundus Urbano Master Programme

The University of Rome Tor Vergata is organising the "Developing sustainable food systems to achieve zero hunger: the need for new paradigms" workshop in the framework of the Erasmus Mundus Master programme in International cooperation and urban development (MUNDUS URBANO)*.

Objectives of the Workshop

The workshop is addressed to post-graduate university students enrolled in the Master in International Cooperation and Urban Development, and will include sessions presented by university professors, international experts and government officials. The event represents as an opportunity to explore current urbanisation trends and analyse implications for the future of food systems, food security and nutrition.

The evidence is clear: our food systems are not sustainable. Hunger has been on the rise for several years. Already, in 2019, 690 million people were going hungry across the world. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are projected to see up to 132 million people join this number.

At the same time, the food production makes a significant contribution to greenhouse gas emissions. And the environmental costs of current production practices - especially the expansion of large-scale agriculture - are contributing to an emergency that threatens the food security of future generations.

Hunger affects rural and urban people alike, as do the environmental impacts of food production. Hunger is growing in cities, while in rural areas, small-scale farmers and their families are often vulnerable to hunger and poverty as a result of low and uncertain incomes and barriers in commercializing their production.

In recent decades food value chains have lengthened, resulting in a growing disconnect between urban consumers and rural farmers. At the same time, diets are changing, with growing demand for western style diets in growing cities in many developing countries.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to rethink models of food production, processing and sale, with value chains needing to become shorter and more localized to overcome trade and logistical barriers associated with restrictive health measures. But there are a variety of other reasons there is growing awareness of the need to connect urban areas with rural farmers - among them nutrition, rural livelihood and employment considerations.

There is growing debate around these issues and the awareness that we need to rethink all aspects our food systems. That is why, in 2021, UN Secretary-General António Guterres will convene a Food Systems Summit.

In the context, it is pertinent that the 2021 Mundos Urbano Workshop will be dedicated to the theme "Developing sustainable food systems to achieve zero hunger: the need for new paradigms". Some of the key overarching questions to be discussed will include:

- Why are food systems failing to deliver healthy food for all, despite producing enough food to feed everyone alive today? What changes will be necessary to develop food systems that are fit for purpose and sustainable?
- How can urban development be adapted to address the food challenge of today and tomorrow? Can stronger links between urban and rural areas contribute to building more sustainable food systems?
- What are the trade-offs when it comes to food system transformation and the environment? Are there synergies too, where we could simultaneously improve food availability for all while reducing environmental footprint? If so, what are some of the entry points to realize these synergies?
- What models of food production, processing and retail offer the best solutions to address challenges? Can small-scale agriculture help us to end hunger?
- What measures are needed to build the resilience of food systems to future shocks such as we have seen in 2020 with the COVID-19 pandemic?
- How can trade in food products, and strong linkages between food traders and food value chains, contribute to ending hunger, reducing rural poverty, and improving livelihoods, including for vulnerable categories such as women and youth?

Workshop participants

(*)

MUNDUS URBANO is a university interdisciplinary post graduate programme born in the framework of the European Commission's Erasmus Mundus programme and organised by 4 European universities:

- Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany
- Università degli Studi di Roma "Tor Vergata", Italy,
- Universitat Internacional de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain
- Université Grenoble Alpes, France

Workshop - Tuesday, 9 February 2021

Moderator: Carmine Soprano

- 9:30 – 9 :45 Opening Session: Welcome address
Paolo Paesani, Coordinator of Mundus Urbano, University of Rome Tor Vergata
Leonardo Becchetti, former Coordinator of Mundus Urbano, University of Rome Tor Vergata
Nebojsa Camprag, Coordinator Mundus Urbano
David Suttie, Communications officer, writer, IFAD
- 9:45 – 10:00 Opening Session
Maurizio Martina, Special Adviser, FAO
- 10:00 – 10:45 Future of Food: Challenges and Opportunities
Speaker: **Maximo Torero**, Máximo Torero, Chief Economist, Economic and Social Development Stream, FAO
- 10:45 – 11:30 The future of food systems: Issues and debates
Spekers : **David Suttie**, Communications officer, writer, IFAD
- 11:30 – 12:15 Sustainable Food System's Transformation: Policy tradeoffs and the FAO Hand in Hand Initiative
Speaker : **Panagiotis Karfakis**, Economist Agrifood Economics Division, FAO
- 12:15 – 13 :00 The Mountain Partnership Products initiative: How cultural heritage and know-how can be a driver for sustainable development
Speaker : **Rosalaura Romeo**, Programme Officer– Mountain Partnership Secretariat, FAO
- 12:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break
- 14:00 – 14 :45 ContemPLATing your Plate: Achieving Zero Hunger through Zero Food Wastage
Speaker : **Maya Terro**, Co-founder and Executive Director, FoodBlessed NGO
- 14:45 – 15:30 Climate, Hunger, Conflicts, Migrations: Turning Four Problems into a Solution
Speaker : **Grammenos Mastrojeni**, Deputy Secretary General for Energy and Climate Action, Union for the Mediterranean
- 15:30 – 16:30 "Individual behaviours, food consumption and waste"
(chair: Alessio D'Amato, University of Rome Tor Vergata and SEEDS)
Speakers: **Alessio D'Amato** - "Food waste and individual behaviour"
Andrea Serna Castano: "Experimental evidence on organic food purchases in Colombia"

Workshop - Wednesday, 10 February 2021

Moderator : Paolo Paesani

- 9:00 – 9:45 Sustainable food system and ecological transition
Wastage
Speaker: **Leonardo Becchetti**, University of Rome Tor Vergata
- 9:45 – 10:30 Building sustainable food systems across urban-rural areas
Speaker: **Guido Santini**, Programme Coordinator, FAO
- 10:30 – 11:15 Don't transform food systems on the back of the rural poor
Speaker: **Benjamin Davis**, Director, Inclusive Rural Transformation and Gender Equity Division, FAO
- 11:15 – 12:00 Agricultural Cross-Border Trade as Driver of Food Security and Inclusive Growth
Speaker: **Carmine Soprano**, Senior Economist, World Bank
- 12:00 – 12:45 Farming systems, sustainability, and food security in sub-Saharan Africa
Speaker: **Carlo Azzarri**, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI
- 12: 45 – 13:00 Closing
- 14:00 Open discussion and definition of working groups with the coordinator Carmine Soprano and with the tutors:
- Olga Raduchych, University of Rome Tor Vergata
 - Gianluigi Nico, FAO
 - Benedetta Pompili, IFAD
 - Sara Mancini, University of Rome Tor Vergata
 - Yasmin Aimina Doghri, University of Rome La Sapienza

Workshop – Thursday, 11 February 2021

9:30 – 12:30 Group work

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 16:00 Group work

Workshop – Friday, 12 February 2021

9:30 – 12:30 Group presentations

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 16:30 Group presentations

Scientific Committee: David Suttie, Paolo Paesani, Leonardo Becchetti, Carmine Soprano
Organising and Scientific Secretariat : Raffaella Sisti