

Country	Uganda						
Population	319,600						
Title of practice	Food Access through Infrastructure Improvements in wet markets						
Subtitle	Access of safe and nutritious food through improved market infrastructure in traditional markets						
MUFPP Recommended Action	28. Support improved food storage, processing, transport and distribution technologies and infrastructure linking peri-urban and near rural areas to ensure seasonal food consumption and reduce food insecurity as well as food and nutrient loss and waste with an emphasis on diversified small and medium scale food businesses along the value chain that may provide decent and stable employment.						
Starting year	2025	Ending year (if any)			<input type="checkbox"/> already submitted in the past		
Actors and stakeholders' involvement	Municipal departments	Other public institutions	NGOs CSOs	Research centres	Private sectors	International organizations	Other
	1	1	3	2	2	1	
Budget	The practice will cost us a total of 260,500€ and funded by 25% from City budget and 75% from development partners like Rikolto, Technoserve,						
Brief description	<p>Like many other Ugandan cities, Mbale city is experiencing a high population influx daily. The city has made access to food a critical issue since the largest proportion of the population depend on the traditional market for their food because of access to fresh fruits and vegetables, variety of products, connection with rural and peri-urban producers and the ability to purchase commodities in bulk at a low price.</p> <p>A food risk safety study commissioned by Rikolto has shown that food safety is a big issue in these traditional markets: many of the available products have high MRLs and heavily contaminated, especially with wrong application of pesticides and use of contaminated water to clean these fruits and vegetables.</p> <p>Mbale is implementing a model to make public markets a place where high quality and safe food is accessible for a large part of the population. This revolves around creating a traceable supply chain from farmer to vendor where all actors are applying safe practices from production to marketing, training farmers in GAP, improving the vendor stall and practice visual merchandising to attract more consumers.</p> <p>This model aims to create a more inclusive supply chain where smallholder farmers have a secure and profitable market for their products and where consumers have access to high-quality and safe food that does not impose risks for their health.</p>						
Innovation	<p>Our Innovation is based on a study conducted by Rikolto in 2020 in 2 Cities; of Kampala and Mbale to improve food safety of fresh fruits and vegetables produced, supplied and consumed in and around the City using a food systems approach to bringing together various actors to address the food systems challenges found in their jurisdiction.</p> <p>Food safety risks not only pose significant threats to the health of the population, but also the competitiveness of agriculture, undermining potential and actual gains to be made in improving public health, food security and nutrition, as well as frustrating efforts to boost trade in agricultural commodities.</p> <p>Such gains are the foundations of inclusive growth and sustainable development in the continent. The model adopts a food systems approach that strives to deliver co-benefits in the areas of human health, regenerative and low-carbon food systems and a fair share for all actors in the food chain, including smallholder farmers.</p> <p>More specifically, the practice aspires to build local coalitions of businesses, consumers, local authorities and other food system actors working together to transform urban food environments for</p>						

	<p>improved consumption of healthy, sustainable and nutritious food by all citizens, regardless of their level of income. we strive to catalyse collective action to incentivise HSN food consumption in Mbale through; Sustainable Crop Production (Regenerative practices), Market Inclusion and creating an Enabling environment.</p>
Impact	<p>Social Impact: Improved Public Health and Nutrition reducing cases of malnutrition and non-communicable diseases. Empowerment of Women and Youth promotes social inclusion and economic independence. Consumer Awareness and Behaviour Change through Education of communities about food safety and hygiene promotes healthier behaviours. The “Good food parliament” model encourages participatory governance where all actors in the food chain voice their concerns and co-create solutions which promotes Community Cohesion.</p> <p>Environmental Impact: Improved preservation and storage techniques minimize spoilage, promoting long-term ecological balance through sustainable agricultural practices and reduction of chemical use. Encouraging organic farming and regulated chemical use helps reduce soil and water pollution. Cleaner Urban Environment through Proper waste management hence less garbage accumulation, reduced urban pollution and pest infestations.</p> <p>Economic Impact: Reduced Health Costs: Safer food reduces foodborne illnesses, decreasing household medical expenditures. The food safety chain—from production, distribution to retail—creates jobs for youth, women, and small-scale entrepreneurs. Improved Market Access for Farmers and traders complying with food safety standards gain access to premium urban markets, improving their income. Reliable, safe local produce encourages more consumption of locally grown food, strengthening local agribusinesses and reducing import dependency.</p>
Inclusion	<p>The fact that the urban food environment in many Cities is complex and dynamics, necessitates a collaborative and multi-faceted approach involving multiple stakeholders to address the various challenges such as increasing population growth and urbanization, limited agricultural land, complex supply chains, infrastructure, unregulated markets, health and safety concerns among others.</p> <p>There is need for strong connections between actors in the food system which requires a strong and effective multi stakeholder platform that can foster inclusive discussions, collectively finding solutions for a sustainable and resilient urban food system.</p> <p>It is against this background that Food Rights Alliance in partnership with Rikolto, CONSENT and Mbale City Council have established the Good Food Parliament to brainstorm on the key actions from the previous Parliamentary session and media engagements and come up with strategies on how to address food governance issues in Mbale City.</p> <p>The main objective of this platform is to create space for multi stakeholders engage and explore enabling conditions that can shape the desired urban food system in Mbale City. Specifically, the meeting is meant to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a safe space for multi stakeholder reflection on the food governance issues affecting the urban food system in Mbale City. 2. Identify priority actions and strategies that can foster an inclusive enabling environment for all actors for a sustainable urban food system.