



Dar es Salaam

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# URBAN AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER

November 2011

PRODUCED BY  
Sustainable Cities International Network – Africa Programme (SCINAP)



**Sustainable Cities International Network – Africa Programme (SCINAP)**

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Happy December Urban Agriculture Enthusiasts!

The 2011 calendar year is drawing to a close and, as is often customary, this presents us with the opportunity to look back on some noteworthy accomplishments for urban agriculture in Dar es Salaam in the past twelve months.

#### Legitimization

The legitimization of urban agriculture in Dar es Salaam has been the primary focus of our efforts to promote urban agriculture as a viable urban livelihood activity. These efforts have piggy-backed the development of a new Master Plan for the City of Dar es Salaam. As such, we work in close collaboration with the Dar es Salaam City Council (DCC) and the three municipalities of Ilala, Kinondoni and Temeke. Each of these municipalities is in the process of developing and approving Strategic Plans on Urban Agriculture which, once approved by the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development (MLHHSD), will be incorporated into the new Master Plan. Notable activities supporting these efforts during the past year include:

- Facilitating two (2) major stakeholder engagement workshops on the development of the Strategic Plans, as well as the development of Site Suitability Assessment Surveys
- Participating in regular meetings with municipal agriculture officers on the development of the Strategic Plans and Site Suitability Assessments
- Attending meetings with municipal/DCC town planners to discuss strategies for developing the Strategic Plans, as well as collecting further insight on the approval process

Once the plans are approved at the municipal level, we look forward to the continuation of our activities with the municipalities and DCC in anticipation of implementing the new Master Plan.

#### Demonstration projects

As a tool for promoting urban agriculture as a viable livelihood option, SCINAP funds relevant and innovative demonstration projects. Recent projects have included:

- Mikocheni 'A' Post Primary Vocational School: the school operates a waste separation and compost project, as well as an on-site gardening project through the home economics department;
- Msimbazi Mushroom Farming Group: the mushroom farming group undertook an innovative approach to urban agriculture by growing and harvesting mushrooms in containers;
- [Urban] Farmers' Training Workshop: the training workshop sought to develop the capacity and technical skills of urban farming groups in Dar es Salaam

#### The Tanzania Food and Gardening Network (TaFoGa Net)

SCINAP has played a supportive role in the process of developing a Tanzania Food and Garden Network (TaFoGa Net) to advocate on behalf of urban farmers during public engagement activities, as well as to engage in skills training and awareness building with urban farmers groups. Over the past year, TaFoGa Net has made great head way in further developing its organizational capacity. Notable milestones over the past year include:

- Achieving registered status (which included the development of a constitution)
- The development of a strategic five year plan
- The development of an annual plan
- Regular planning meetings
- Field visits to the project sites of founding group members

As TaFoGa Net further develops its organizational capacity, we look forward to future opportunities for the group to advocate on behalf of urban farmers in Dar es Salaam, as well as engage in skills training and capacity development activities.

Looking forward

In anticipation for the New Year, we look forward to the effectuation of a number of urban agriculture activities in Dar es Salaam. Primarily, these include:

- Final approval of the Municipal Strategic Plans on Urban Agriculture by municipalities
- Incorporation of the Strategic Plans into the new Master Plan by the MLHHS
- Workshops to discuss the implementation of the new Master Plan
- Supporting the implementation process by facilitating engagement between municipalities, national-level ministries and urban farmers

In closing

It has been a busy and exciting year for urban agriculture in Dar es Salaam. We hope that you find these newsletters insightful and informative. If you have any suggestions for ways in which the newsletter could be improved, do let us know (please find the relevant contact information below). Thank you for your repeated interest and continual support for urban agriculture in Dar es Salaam. We are thankful for the opportunity to engage with you further in the New Year.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN URBAN AGRICULTURE IN DAR ES SALAAM.  
WE APPRECIATE YOUR TIME AND SUPPORT.

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**Contact us!**

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**MESSAGE BOARD:**

Send us your comments or questions for the message board.

If you have any information on agriculture, urban farmers' networks, or opportunities for collaboration, please contact us about including it in the next issue.