

Food Security



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Our ecosystems are already under severe and extensive strain because of climate change. Ensuring food security (i.e. food availability and food safety) in the face of climate change is among the most significant challenges facing humankind. (FAO, 2016).

By 2050, the world’s population is expected to reach 9 billion, with most people living in urban areas and predominantly in developing countries. Such rapid growth of cities (fivefold increase from 1950’s to 2010) is placing enormous demands on urban food supply systems (Satterthwaite et al, 2010). To satisfy the growing demand driven by population growth and diet changes, food production will have to increase by at least 60 percent in the next decades (FAO, 2016a). Therefore, the production of sufficient quantities of safe food in urban environments will be one of the biggest challenges for governments, scientists and the agriculture/food industry, in this century. However, climate change impacts (higher temperatures, shifting seasons, more

frequent and extreme weather events – floods, droughts), coupled with increasingly sophisticated and extended global food supply chains, will inevitably affect food security.

In view of rapidly increased urbanization and increase demand for food, it is recognized that urban agriculture may have a significant role to play in strengthening the food security of cities and building urban resilience in a changing climate. (Nastasijevic, I. 2016)