

# UFISAMO



Newsletter 04/2017: December 2017

What is new since October 2017?



Photo 1: Abalimi research farmers: Noncedo, Liziwe and Babalwa (N.Paganini)

Happy new year!!!

## 1. UFISAMo – activities from October - December 2017 (4<sup>th</sup> quarter)

The fourth quarter 2017 was mainly spent doing the analysis of data and discussing research findings. The reviewing of results so far has helped to identify gaps and to re-focus our activities for 2018. In addition, it was marked by big personal changes, in Berlin as well as in Cape Town: Heide Hoffmann handed over the project leadership to Karin Fiege; Anna Markovic and Anja Schelchen went on maternity leave, and Max Baumann retreated (as of 31 Dec 2017) from most of his activities at the FAO Reference Centre and handed over to Diana Meemken; Chris D’Aiuto, responsible for UFISAMo at Abalimi’s left Cape Town to renew his South African visa in the US. Since the outcome of the procedure is unclear, his responsibilities have been divided between different people from Abalimi.

### Research activities

- Finalization of the research by the SLE study group “**visions and recommendations for the future of urban agriculture in Maputo and Cape Town**”: in October, they presented their results in Cape Town with local stakeholders, in November they did the same in Berlin. A draft report was submitted and commented and is currently undergoing last editing before being translated into Portuguese.
- **All survey data:** was finally cleaned and handed back to the different researchers for analysis. A first analysis was submitted to project coordination. This enables the team to clearly identify progress so far and the remaining needs for further research for the coming project phase

- **Field phase in Cape Town by Nicole.**

Amongst others, she and the demo garden-team launched the second phase for the **demonstration garden**: different soil management techniques will be tried on indigenous and other vegetables to compare their results in a water restricted



*Photo 2: Planning for the demonstration garden (N.Paganini)*

environment. Furthermore, she held focus group discussions and workshops with **10 research farmers** who have since engaged in systematic monitoring of their gardening activities, results and challenges. Furthermore, an additional survey with 56 farmers was conducted.

- **Report on the food security situation in Cape Town** was drafted by Haidee Swanby and is currently undergoing final editing
- **Research in Cape Town** by Abongile on food security and consumer behaviour and Tinashe on organizational structures is ongoing. It has been hampered by UWC requirements who hesitated to issue clearance for the respective research.
- **Research in Cape Town** by a master student from HUB, Adriana August on (future) climatic risks to urban agriculture in the Western Cape region and supported by Dan and Razack.

### Business trips, meetings and preparatory activities

- **Cooperation with “Grüne Liga Berlin”** was initiated on the conducting of scenario workshops on the future of urban agriculture in Berlin and Maputo by Nicole and Anja S.
- **Cooperation with FAO** on urbanGAP was initiated: FAO is interested in co-publishing the outcome of the process.
- **Cooperation with GIZ/IHK** was initiated on a new initiative called “Tip your farmer”: consumers get the opportunity to transfer a tip to the producer of agricultural products – we believe that this model could be of interest for the Cape Town setting, where many locally produced vegetables are consumed by more affluent citizens who may want to make an extra payment for locally produced, PGS certified products
- **Preparation of the coming field phase** of Nicole (February – May 2018). During data collection, she will also work on dissemination strategies and knowledge transfer, replacing Anja S. who is on maternity leave.
- **Specification of the research approach and focus of analysis** of Anja S. and Nicole in meetings with Silke Stöber and Anja Kühn, both from SLE
- **Good practices for different aspects of urban agriculture** are currently being compiled by Caroline Prantz, complementary to work done by the SLE study group.
- **Preparation of a Study visit by Grace Nkomo to HUB, Berlin**, PhD student of Razack Karriem (UWC) to participate in scientific discussions in Berlin and benefit of the HUB library to finalize his PhD thesis covering urban agriculture, food security, and school feeding programmes in Cape Town. The trip will be facilitated by the HUB foreign office.
- **Preparation of the agenda of UFISAMo’s annual meeting in February 2018**. Logistics are arranged, the rough programme is accepted, last details need to be specified
- **Preparation of a research** for a master thesis on specific aspects of marketing of urban agriculture products with the support of Nicole and Anja Kühn.
- **Preparation of a 6 months research** conducted by ASA scholars in Maputo on different aspects of knowledge transfer and good agricultural practices with the support of Anja K. and Silke. The students will be identified in January 2018.
- **Discussion between all German UFISAMo researchers** who spent time in Cape Town and Maputo to discuss “impacts of Urban agriculture”, “durability of UFISAMo interventions” and “networks”.
- **Clips for a movie on urban agriculture in Maputo** were shot during the field phase of the SLE-UFISAMo group. The short movie describing current trends in urban agriculture in the green zones of the city and interviewing key stakeholders should be ready by April 2018.



Photo 3: Group work of research farmers in Beacon Hill (N.Paganini)

## Conference participation

- **Participation in the AESOP conference on sustainable food planning in Coventry by Nicole.** She presented “Participatory Guarantee Systems as planning tool for agroecological cultivation and knowledge hub” highlighting some results of her and Anjas work – and found a PhD supervisor for both German PhD researchers, Mrs Stefanie Lemke of the University Hohenheim, currently teaching in Coventry.

## Products

- **Contributions to the compilation of results**
  - **Concept note for the module on urban agriculture** (part of WP 3) was submitted for comments by Razack.
  - **Analysis of quantitative data** from the surveys in Maputo and Cape Town and enriched with qualitative data from expert interviews, observation, action research as well as secondary data was presented by Ivo, Luisa, Nicole and Anja S.. These preliminary results allow us to identify knowledge gaps for the coming project phase and to focus the dissemination tools for knowledge transfer for all levels of intervention.
- **Briefing paper: “Urban Agriculture in Cape Town and Maputo; Urban Agricultures potential role for Sustainable Food Systems - a characterization of study region and first evidence”** was drafted by Anja and Nicole. It will be ready for publishing before the end of January.
- **Draft of the report “Visions and recommendations for the future of urban agriculture in Maputo and Cape Town”** was submitted by the SLE study group and commented by Karin, Nicole and Erik. The final version will be available in February.



*Photo 4: Chris planting a fruit tree. A dune spinach pyramid will be erected between the tree and the fence to protect the garden from wind (N.Paganini)*

## Coordination

- **Finalization of annual expenses**, reducing the amount of unspent monies to a minimum
- **Request for the forwarding of unspent funds into 2018** on clearly specified issues was partly accepted by BLE
- **Handing over of financial procedures** to Erik (as intermediary solution) and a new recruit as Anna left on maternity leave
- **Handing over of overall procedures for project leadership** to Karin Fiege, as Heide Hoffmann had to resign from her post for healthy reasons.
- **Identification of a successor** for Anna: Birgit Trogisch with ample experience in project administration from years with TU Berlin and with financial management with TU and private enterprises will come on board as soon as University bureaucracy will allow.
- **Preparation of the coordination trip** of Erik (February – May 2018) to help prepare the annual meeting, support the field phase of Nicole in both cities and interact with the project partners on a more daily basis (rather than on short term missions).
- **Training on maintaining the website** was given to Erik and Johann.

### Milestones achieved:

- **Work package 4.3** (stakeholder dialogues and **scenarios** for urban agriculture; implemented by an **SLE study group** under team leader Severin) presented its results in Cape Town and Berlin and submitted its draft report in early December 2017.
- **All Work packages submitted preliminary analysis of their quantitative research**, endorsed by expert interviews and literature analysis. While the analysis was still incomplete (so far mainly descriptive, more analytical cross tabulation, e.g. with socio-economic data) as well as more intense

### Milestones missed

- The **website is still only partly accessible**. Presentations and posters as well as (edited) reports will soon be online. A serial number will be attributed to online publications (DOI) to make them quotable. However, the process is still dragging due to unexpected difficulties on the CMS.
- **Research within WP 2.2** on broiler production in Maputo is still delayed, even though solutions for most issues mentioned in the previous newsletter have been found. In particular, the purchase of laboratory material is under accomplishment, and the UEM researchers in Maputo started field work in the selected broiler producing households.

### Welcome:

**Birgit Trogisch**, new finance and administration coordinator (replacement for Anna during maternity leave)

**Juri Markovic**, newly arrived on Earth, healthy and pretty (I suppose)

**Diana Meemken**, new Head of FAO Reference Centre VPH and coordinator of UFISAMO Animal Component at FU Berlin

### Good luck:

**Chris D'Aiuto**, in obtaining your visa and hopefully returning to Abalimi

**Heide Hoffmann**, may your health improve

**Max Baumann**, but you retreated only from FAO Reference Centre and are still supporting the Animal Component of UFISAMO

**Anna Markovic**, well, with new little Juri it should be easy 😊

## 2. Planning: are changes concerning results necessary?

With the presentation of some results of the work of all people involved in research and implementation of UFISAMo, we have a good overview of what is still missing to respond to our contractual obligations.

The submitted results are still just a quick shot, more substantial analysis is necessary. However, it shows that we are on a good way, and that we have relevant material on all issues we work on. An in-depths discussion of results and missing information as well as a strategy for ensuring the translation of the most important information into good practice material for practitioners will take place during the annual meeting in Cape Town in late February.

A relevant change has to occur due to personal changes: with the maternity leave of Anja S. for at least 8 months, and with the planned paternity leave of Severin in June 2018, we have to rethink the responsibilities for the dissemination of results. While parts of the knowledge transfer will be worked on by Nicole (mainly on good agricultural practices), concrete education, information, communication materials (EIC) will need to be produced on the different aspects of urban agriculture we are working on. The plan is to contract professionals in South Africa and Mozambique with the task to translate research results into attractive leaflets, radio spots, advertising campaigns or recipe books. Examples could be

- guidelines for good organizational structure for associations in urban agriculture
- a recipe book for more nutritionally valuable diet based on urban agriculture products
- leaflets on international good practices for policy support for urban agriculture

## 3. Scientific updates: Any new developments from third parties that might influence the project?

Given the scope of actors and researchers on urban agriculture in Cape Town, we hope to intensify cooperation with them during and after the annual meeting to mutual benefit. Especially the University of Stellenbosch, the UCT and the Southern African Food Lab are interesting partners.

The network launched with SLE/UFISAMo facilitation in August in Maputo, bringing together stakeholders from different backgrounds lost its impetus due to organizational issues and lacking leadership/dynamics. Since it is generally accepted, that such a network would be a real innovation for Maputo and strengthen the entire UA landscape, renewed efforts will be made to reinvigorate the network and strengthen key actors, especially within the urban agriculture unit of the municipal council.

The network launched with SLE/UFISAMo facilitation in September in Cape Town, bringing together stakeholders from different backgrounds lost its impetus after discussions on the necessity for another discussion platform came up.

## 4. Indications of results for different user groups – how is previewed transfer strategy working? Adaptations needed?

The activities of the SLE group focused on stakeholder dialogues on their respective visions for urban agriculture, accompanied by the participatory development of recommendations to policy makers for strengthening UA in urban development. Feedback from Maputo from the various participating groups showed that there was a dire need for actors to engage in networks and exchange platforms

to learn from one another, to streamline approaches and to gain a stronger voice in support of urban agriculture.

We as UFISAMo are increasingly more represented in conferences, i.e. in scientific platforms where first results are put to discussion. Experiences and ideas gained during these conferences feed into our internal discussions and contribute to better, more focused results.

The demonstration plot in Cape Town is evolving: a planning workshop and planting exercise will take place in late October. This demonstration plot enhances the cooperation with various actors beyond Abalimi.

We preview to share results of our surveys (association and baseline) with respondents to the interviews and to other interested platforms in order to give them back some of the information and validate our analysis and findings. The annual meeting in Cape Town – which was postponed to February 2018 - will be one opportunity to meet with different partners and share our preliminary results.

## 5. Cooperation with partners: self-assessment of how cooperation is going and why

Cooperation and communication is a challenge in a project over 3 countries and with different institutions and people who all have engagements besides the project. In reaction to the critical self-assessment presented in the previous newsletter, we have improved on some issues, even if there is further room for improvement.

The fact that SLE is cooperating with UEM in a “trilateral cooperation” (including Brazil) is helping to further improve exchange and discussion with the partners from Mozambique. Some additional overlaps of project partners may help to add durability to UFISAMo activities.

The fact that communication has not always been easy will be addressed during the annual meeting. Erik will try to do his daily work from Cape Town and Maputo for the duration of three months to have time to share some routine with the partners and better understand their issues and realities.

Cooperation with Abalimi has been difficult, especially with the departure of Chris and a certain lapse of leadership during internal reforms within Abalimi. A renewed agreement shall clarify issues and improve the cooperation.

The handing over of responsibilities from Heide to Karin, as regrettable as it is, has reduced the need for coordination and communication, as Erik and Karin are now the two persons centralizing most information.

## 6. Plan for the coming 3 months

The coming months will mainly be dedicated to reviewing the analysed data to identify gaps and the need to focus for all work packages. That will also be one of the central topics of the annual meeting. In addition, Nicole will spend most of the coming three months in the field, finalizing her project-related research.

- *January:* planning for 2018
- *January:* introducing Birgit Trogisch, new FinAdmin, to her tasks
- *January:* handing in the final version of the UFISAMo SLE report for editing and translation into Portuguese
- *January:* detailed planning of Nicoles field phase including budget

- *February*: starting Nicoles field phase in Cape Town with presentation at ACC conference
- *February*: finalizing arrangements for annual meeting in Cape Town
- *February*: drafting article for „Ernährung im Fokus“ (→ Erik)
- *February*: conducting annual meeting. Issues:
  - presentation of results so far and discussion with local experts
  - identifying information gaps and developing strategy how to fill them (e.g.: field phase Ivo and Luisa in Maputo)
  - engaging in discussion with farmers and other stakeholders on our results
  - planning implementation
  - planning outlines and deadlines for final report
  - internal communication
- *March*: conducting urbanGAP workshop
- *March*: continuing data collection
- *March*: Identifying partners for developing of IEC

Following conferences will have the participation of UFISAMo

- *ACC (African Centre for Cities) urban conference* in February 2018 in Cape Town  
<https://www.africancentreforcities.net/call-submission-acc-international-urban-conference/>

Next issue: April 2018



Photo 5: Banana trees for gardens with borehole water (N.Paganini)