

UFISAMO



Newsletter 03/2017: October

What is new since August 2017?

----- Including: special report from SLE research in Maputo -----



Impressions from SLE research group in Maputo. All photos: SLE team

1. UFISAMo – activities from August - October 2017 (3rd quarter)

The third quarter 2017 was dedicated to the field phase of the SLE study group in Maputo and Cape Town, to the cleaning and analysis of data of the socio-economic baseline surveys, and to the participation of UFISAMO team members in various conferences, amongst others the Tropentag in Bonn, and the Urban Farming conference in Berlin. A research fellow from South Africa visited Berlin to work on his PhD, thus adding to the partnership between UWC and HUB, and representatives of the faculty of agriculture of UEM spent a week with project members in Berlin to establish a partnership between the two faculties.

Research activities

- Implementation of the study on **visions and recommendations for the future of urban agriculture in Maputo and Cape Town** by the SLE study group, including expert interviews, farmer workshop and a 1.5 days multi-stakeholder workshop (see “special report” below)
- **First analysis of the association survey in Maputo** with 27 associations. Some results were presented during the urban farming conference in Berlin in September.
- **Cleaning and analysing survey data:** all survey matrixes contained some inconsistencies and need to be cleaned and streamlined in order to allow for a clear analysis by the different researchers. The verification and cleaning process is ongoing
- **Ongoing research in Cape Town** by Abongile on food security and consumer behaviour and by Tinashe on organizational structures

Business trips, meetings and preparatory activities

- **Coordination trip to Maputo and Cape Town** to provide methodological support to the SLE group, to support the planning for the annual meeting and to clarify various issues with partners
- **Study visit by Siphon Felix Mamba in Berlin, HUB,** PhD student of Dan Tevera (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 climate change in Zimbabwe. The trip was facilitated by the HUB foreign office
- **Partnership-visit by Thomas Chiconela, dean, and Benedito Nvunga, professor for plant production at the agricultural faculty of UEM** to discuss future cooperation/partnership with Thaer Institute of HUB. Besides establishing the partnership, they participated in the conference by Böll Stiftung on urban agriculture and visited farms in Brandenburg with Frankenfoerder Forschungsgesellschaft
- **Work visit by Samuel Quive in Cape Town** to move forward the drafting of an urban agriculture module which is integral part of WP 3 and one of the practical project outputs
- **Expert interviews and networking** with RUAFA, Misereor, IFOAM and FAO by Nicole and Anja. FAO expressed their interest in the results of the urbanGAP with the idea to publish them

Conference participation

- **Presentation of UFISAMO first results at Tropentag** during BMEL session and in two poster sessions
- **Participation in panel by Ivo Cumbana during Urban Farming conference** by Grüne Liga and Böll Stiftung in Berlin with a focus on the situation of urban agriculture and organizational structures in Maputo
- **Facilitation of the workshop “edible cities”** by Anja and Nicole during Urban Farming conference in Berlin: included presentation of first results of impact of urban agriculture, food planning and dissemination strategies

- **Presentation of the microgarden project by the q-team study group** of the Thaer Institute of HUB under supervision of Anja and Nicole (see “special report” below)
- **Poster by Mena Dos Anjos for Cape Town food security conference** in early December accepted. Unfortunately, participation cannot be organized

Products

- **SLE-briefing paper on value chains in urban agriculture** in Maputo and Cape Town: The 4 pages document by Erik Dolch, Karin Fiege, Anja Kühn and Matthias Schmidt summarizes the value chain reports disseminated earlier this year. (<https://www.sle-berlin.de/>)
- **Poster on the impact** of UA in Maputo and Cape Town, presenting first findings of the baseline survey by Nicole Paganini and Anja Schelchen
- **Poster on knowledge systems** for UA, presenting first evidence from the baseline surveys as well as expert interviews by Anja Schelchen and Nicole Paganini
- **Presentation on first results** of the project in general during Tropentag by Erik Engel
- **Document presenting findings from the association survey** in Maputo was drafted. It will be further elaborated once supervisors and scientific coordination provide feedback.
- **Presentation on the deeds and challenges of associations** and small horticultural enterprises in Maputo by Ivo Cumbana, Luisa Mutisse and Samuel Quive (prepared for Grüne Liga conference) – based on the document mentioned above as well as expert interviews
- **Presentation of the impact analysis of UA** on food security and the potential of micro-gardens in Berlin Neukölln (not under UFISAMO, but in close relationship as it was supervised/facilitated by Anja and Nicole → see “special report” below)

Coordination

- **Concept for a compilation of results** was developed and diffused to the various researchers: by Mid-November, all researchers are requested to present the state of their research in draft form including analysis of the baseline and association surveys and supported by expert interviews as well as other results at half time of the project. It will be the base for presentations and discussions during the (postponed) annual meeting and help to identify current gaps compared to our original plans.
- **Urgent requests** to all partners to clarify about funds which were budgeted in 2017 but will most probably not be used.
- **Meeting of the project leadership and coordination** re-specifying roles within the coordination team. Heide Hoffmann maintains the overall leadership with the focus on finance, administration and human resources; Karin Fiege holds the scientific leadership and thus oversees the big picture; Erik Engel does the day-to-day coordination and serves as transmitter between the researchers and project leadership.
- **Meeting between Anja, Nicole, Erik, Anja Kühn and Silke Stöber** (both SLE) who took over the backstopping of the research components of Anja and Nicole. The session served to review their progress, highlight certain discussions and support the planning of the consolidation phase.

Milestones achieved:

- **Work package 4.3** (stakeholder dialogues and **scenarios** for urban agriculture; implemented by an **SLE study group** under team leader Severin) conducted its workshops in Maputo and engaged in the analysis of their multiple research results. They are currently in Cape Town where they adapted their research concept and started workshops and expert interviews.

Milestones missed

- **Annual meeting** – it had originally been planned for late October in Cape Town. In accordance with all partners, the meeting was postponed to the last week of February to allow for a more intense discussion on results and the way forward. The main reason for postponing is the delay due to the difficulties around the various survey.
- **Work package 3** – the research and education network – has progressed, the rough outline for an UA module was drafted during a meeting in Cape Town between Dan, Quive and Razack. However, the date for sharing the draft module with coordination team (previewed for the end of September) has not been met.
- 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 to make it quotable. However, the process is still dragging. The training for the management has equally not yet been implemented.
- The cleaning of data of the **baseline surveys** in Maputo and in Cape Town is more complex than expected. Robust results are not expected before the end of October, most interesting results will be compiled in a data compilation by Mid-November
- **Research within WP 2.2** on broiler production in Maputo is still delayed for various reasons: the avian influence is still affecting broiler production in Southern Africa and thus making field research on animal welfare difficult. A rescheduled data collection plan is drafted and should be implemented in October. The purchasing process for laboratory materials is ongoing but facing administrative difficulties (availability, quotations without transport/import taxes...). The mastermind of the component, Max Baumann, is working on solving the various issues.
- **The quest for PhD supervision** for Anja and Nicole is still ongoing. PhD supervision will be outside the project team.

----- Special Report: Q-team creates a micro-garden -----

Ein Hochbeet bauen

Für den Anbau von Pflanzen in der Stadt. auf kleinem Raum bietet ein kastenförmiges Hochbeet die idealen Voraussetzungen: Guten Boden und eine angenehme Arbeitshöhe

Ziel:
Ein stabiler, haltbarer Kasten; aufgefüllt mit gutem Boden für hohe Erträge.

Kurzbeschreibung:
Aus Holz wird eine Kiste gebaut, um die Erde zusammenzuhalten. Dabei ist sehr wichtig, dass Holz, welches später mit Erde in Berührung kommt durch eine Lasur oder Noppenfolie vor Verrottung geschützt wird. Es empfiehlt sich das Beet schichtweise aufzubauen. Die unterste Schicht besteht aus grobem Pflanzenmaterial wie Zweige und Laub. Hierauf wird Komposterde geschichtet und anschließend alles gründlich bewässert. Das Hochbeet wird bis zum Rand mit normaler Erde angefüllt.

Benötigte Zeit:
ca. 5 Stunden

Material:
Bretter, Kanthölzer,
Schrauben, Holzschutz,
Erde, Pflanzgut

Kosten:
ca. 100 €



(jede Schicht ist ca. 20 cm hoch)

Bildquelle: <https://www.mehrfachengarten.de/gartenprojekte/hochbeet-bauen-bauen.html#up-132>

Ist der Boden nicht verschmutzt, kann das Beet direkt in die Erde eingelassen werden. Dafür wird dieser ca. 20 cm tief in Form des Beetes ausgehoben und Kaninchendraht als Schutz vor Tieren im Boden wie zum Beispiel Wühlmäusen ausgelegt. Das Hochbeet kann durch Vertikales Gärtnern, Pilzzucht, eine Trockenmauer oder andere Ideen erweitert werden.

In the course of the action-research study project “a plate per m²” supervised by the UFISAMo researchers Anja and Nicole, a study group investigated on how a micro garden can contribute to food security in a disadvantaged district of a European Capital (Berlin Neukölln) and by which strategies these families can be sensitized, advices and reached to improve their food and nutrition situation.

After setting up the garden, different communication channels – from facebook platform to direct communication – were tested, each with advantages and each with issues, the major one how to attract and keep the interest of the target group. In a nutshell, a continuous, diverse and entertaining mix of dissemination methods seems necessary. The short-term project proved too short to bring forward robust results, more long term efforts and observations are necessary to catch and keep the interest of the target group.

For more information: see the presentation on ufisamo.org or ask: schelchen@hu-berlin.de or paganini@hu-berlin.de

----- **Special Report: SLE study group in Maputo** -----

Over 40 participants from organizations as diverse as FAO, UEM, ACIDI/VOCA, local farmer associations, farmers union and municipal representatives took part in the 1.5 days scenario building workshop on the future of Urban Agriculture in Maputo. It was organized by an SLE team for UFISAMo at UEM premises. After the meeting, the participants vowed to engage in regular stakeholder meetings to keep up the impetus and lobby for better support to enhance the positive impacts of improved and healthier urban agriculture for producers and consumers.



The key factors impacting on urban agriculture identified were, water and soil management, access to markets and finances, a legal framework protecting farmers' rights and codifying their obligations as well as securing their access to land through a cadastre and sound land use planning. Professionalization of farmers, better communication between actors and increased resilience to climate change were equally chosen as being among the 10 most important factors.

In a consecutive step, the participants developed recommendations for how to move towards a situation, where farmers would have access to credits for agricultural enterprises, where soil and water management would follow good agricultural practices, where market access would be eased through certification schemes protecting also the interests of consumers and rewarding the adepts of good practices and so on, and so forth...

This is not the place to divulge all of their results – but we may be curious to hear their stories and read their reports after they have returned from their time abroad. Until then: bravo and good luck for the similar exercises in Cape Town!

2. Planning: are changes concerning results necessary?

The difficulties in implementing the researches are affecting our schedule. Since the consolidation phases are being delayed, the project leadership needs to get a clear overview of what has been achieved to-date. That shall help for planning our activities 2018 in order to respond to our original research questions and previewed project outputs. Therefore, a compilation of research results to-date has been requested from all researchers and members of the UFISAMO team. The compilation shall only highlight first results and be kept not be:

- Ivo, Luisa, Anja and Nicole shall present a brief analysis of the data sets they have been working on
 - highlights of findings, including surprising or most interesting outcomes and including findings from expert interviews and observations
 - a discussion of the findings
 - an identification of outstanding questions or need for consolidation/verification
 - an annex with statistical data
- Chris of Abalimi shall compile a short article on current challenges for Abalimi farmers, in particular concerning the salinization of the water table and what measures you are trying
- Antonio Paulo of SETSAN shall compile an overview of the nutritional situation in Maputo (if possible arranged by neighborhoods) and trends
- Quive, Razack and Dan of UEM and UWC shall outline the module on urban agriculture (draft) as well as the approach to create/extend the research & education network
- Tinashe, master student of Dan at UWC, shall contribute his main findings so far based on his literature analysis and his first interviews/data

The document is NOT for publication, so it will be rather a compilation of unedited bullet points, to provide an overview of the results so far in order to better plan action needed in 2018.

The contributions will also prove useful for the respective presentations and discussions during the annual meeting in February 2018

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

The stakeholder workshops organized by the SLE group in Cape Town face the issue that, other than in Maputo, the actors are already quite well organized and aware of one another. How, then, to adapt the research concept to make it worthwhile for the group, and for the participants?

The group will raise the question of Philippi Horticultural area – as all experts in Cape Town pointed out, urban agriculture in the metropolitan area cannot be discussed without talking of the different options for development of PHA. The focus of the groups work will thus go beyond the market and backyard gardeners but include the highly politicized debates around PHA. Their status as “outsiders” can grant them a neutral position and thus be acceptable to the participants.

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:

- Communication with Maputo has improved, both via mail and skype/phone. There are now more regular updates on UEM organizational meetings and quicker answers on specific issues.
 - The visit to Berlin by UEM staff helped to discuss remaining issues and clarify the way forward
- Communication with Cape Town has partly improved, as there are now regular skype meetings with Abalimi and tentatives to skype with UWC. The latter has proven difficult, but information flow has still improved
 - The fact that CT team now conducts regular meetings has further improved exchange between partners
 - More information on what the MSc students at UWC are planning on doing would be good.
- Communication between Cape Town and Maputo, especially on WP 3 but also on the topics of Ivo, Luisa, Abongile and Tinashe (WP 1.2, WP 4.2) is still considered too weak.
 - Prof. Quive previews a second trip to CT to move forward with WP 3.
- Communication within Berlin has not changed much
 - We have still not had a meeting to discuss thematic questions and results in an in-depth manner – all previewed meetings received a different character due to prioritized issues. We are however still planning to engage in this important debate – the preparations to Tropentag and our annual meeting will provide ample opportunities

6. Plan for the coming 3 months

The coming months will mainly be dedicated to analysing data from the first year of research and compiling it into a document. That will serve to identify gaps and the need to focus for all work packages. Concurrently, the SLE-study group will finalize their work and draft their report.

- *Mid October* : all partners have communicated financial needs until the end of 2017 for the last call for funds of the year
- *Until End of October*: Data sets of baseline surveys for Cape Town and Maputo are cleaned and prepared for analysis
- *Late October/early November*: 3 weeks field phase in Cape Town focusing on participatory planning and the establishment of the demonstration plot
- *Mid November*: All team members have submitted their contributions to compilation of results-document for feedback by coordination team
- *22nd November, 18:00*: Presentation of results by SLE study group: Scenarios for urban agriculture in Maputo and Cape Town
- *Early December*: Feedback on the different chapters of the data compilation has been given for further analysis
- *Mid December*: Reviewed chapters have been submitted and are collected for planning further steps
- *Mid December*: planning for annual meeting is complete
- *Mid December*: SLE study has been submitted for final editing and formatting; too be printed and published by February

Following conferences will have the participation of UFISAMo

- *Sustainable food planning* in Coventry in November organized by AESOP (Association of European Schools of Planning) http://www.aesop-planning.eu/blog-posts/en_GB/2017/01/31/readabout/coventry-conference-2017-abstracts-and-more will be attended by Nicole who will present Anja's and her work on "Participatory Guarantee Systems as planning tool for agro-ecological cultivation and knowledge hub"
- *Food security* in Cape Town (December): <http://www.globalfoodsecurityconference.com/> should be attended by UWC researchers
- *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: December 2017