

Technologies for Urban Farming

Dr. Godfrey Sseruwu and Dr. Barbara M Zawedde

Mukono Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MUZARDI)

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Presentation Outline

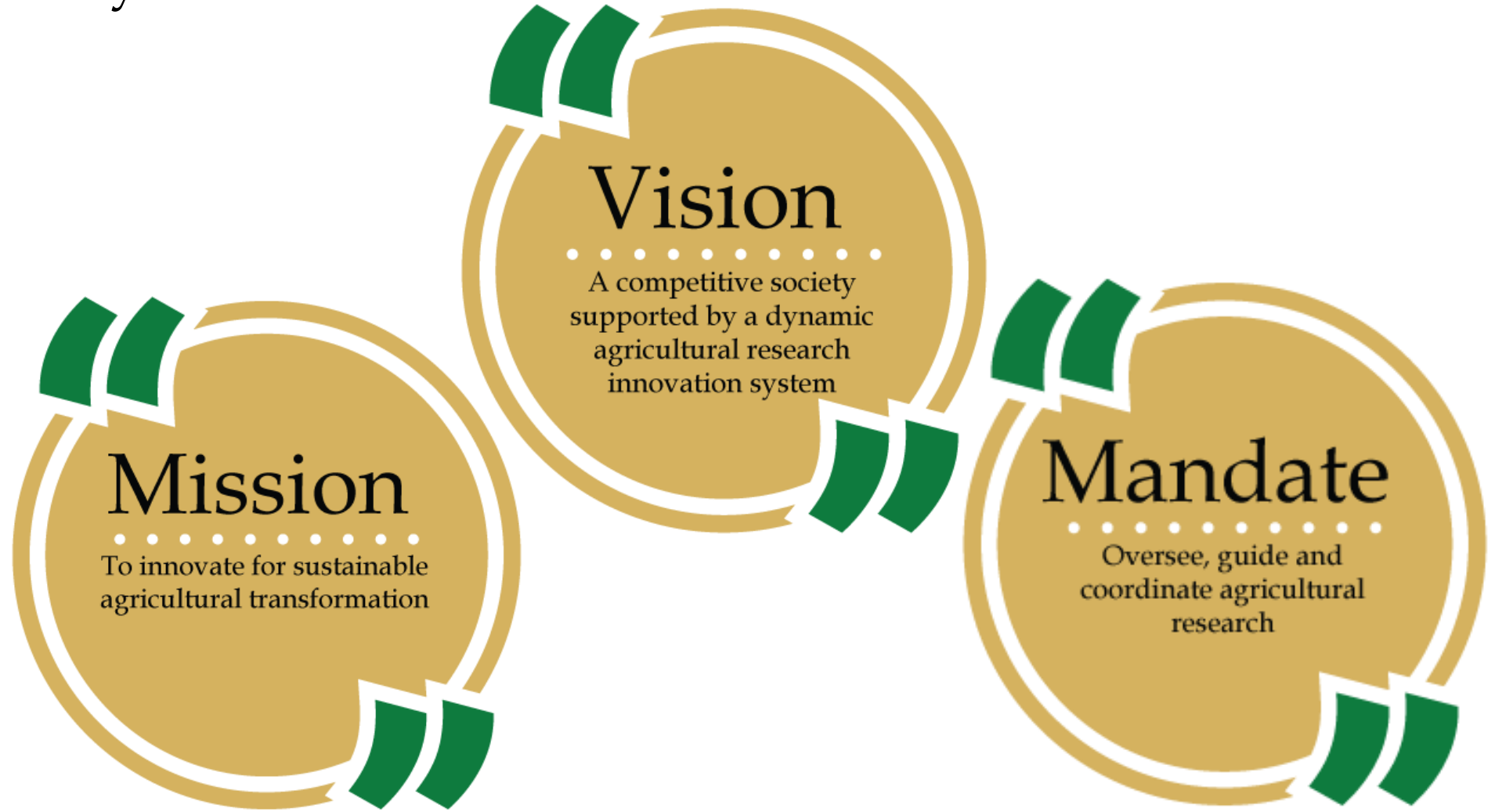
- Introduction
- Why urban farming?
- Key Aspects
- Types of urban farming
- Disruptions and shocks of natural calamities
- Take home message



Background



- National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO) was established by an Act of Parliament





Introduction to Urban farming

- Urban farming - refers to production of food in and around cities or towns
- The population of Uganda in Urban areas is **9,400,000 (UBOS, 2018)**. Who will feed these masses?
- Urban farming is widely upheld as a solution to food crisis facing urban populations



Why Urban Farming?

- Food & nutrition security
- Income generation
- Makes use of small pieces of land
- Provides employment
- Contributes to waste management
- For leisure



Types of Urban Farming



a) Backyard gardens



b) Container gardens



c) Hanging Gardens



Mainly by those with very limited space or those with a special interest

d) Food Towers



Wider at base;
supports plant growth
on surface

Narrower - allows
you to plant crops
vertically



e) Ridge planting



Laborious to make, but has advantages

- ✓ Easily penetrable soil
- ✓ Can control soil erosion
- ✓ Can help preserve water



g) In-door gardens



For instance for mushroom growing

h) Hydroponics and aquaponics





Urban farming for livestock

Poultry



Rabbits





Piggery under IMO



Dairy under Zero grazing





Fish farming





Shocks and Thriving Strategies

Shocks	Thriving strategies
Reduced budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus on hanging fruits• Alternative resource mobilization
Limited staff presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shuffling attendance• Online assignments• Casual workers clustered in small groups of 5 people with social distancing
Engagement with clients	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virtual work• Following SOPs during visits



Opportunities

- Enhanced appreciation of urban farming following COVID-19 pandemic
- Small business like sale of ready to plant vegetable seedlings (targeting urban farmers) have sprang up giving opportunities to many youth and women
- Enhanced appreciation of scientists by Government
- Enhanced appreciation in role of ICT for development
- Online market place and delivery system to take advantage of emerging trends i.e. telephone, sms bookings



Recommendations

- Immediate promotion of urban farming technologies and use of sustainable ecological system through partnerships
- Promote online market place, digital marketing and delivery systems
- Online innovative mechanisms for delivery of R & D services
- On-line real-data collection through virtual interactions
- Cities and towns should avail budgets for empowering women and youth to adopt these technologies
- Development partners should support NARO to conduct adaptive trials and demonstrations for appropriate technologies
- Need for initiatives to support urban dwellers to access affordable financial loans, and fair markets
- Urban authorities should include urban farming in the physical planning of urban area



Take Home Message

“Urban farming is not just a trend, but a solution to food insecurity, malnutrition and unemployment in our cities and towns”



Thanks for listening