

Article title: Barriers and Facilitators to the Development and Implementation of Public Policies Addressing Food Systems in Five Sub-Saharan African Countries and Five of Their Cities

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Authors' information: Celia Burgaz^{1,2*}, Iris Van Dam¹, Adama Diouf³, Kouakou Philipps Kouakou⁴, Olouwafemi M. Mama³, Sabiba Kou'santa Amouzou⁵, Rebecca Rachel Assa Yao⁴, Blessing Atwine⁶, Madina M. Guloba⁶, Lallepak Lamboni⁵, Pauline Nakitende⁶, Julien S. Manga⁷, Clémence Metonnou⁸, Célestin Koffi N'dri⁴, Reynald Santos⁸, Charles Sossa⁸, Papa M.D.D. Sylla⁹, Tiatou Souho⁵, Stefanie Vandevijvere¹

¹Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Sciensano, Brussels, Belgium.

²Department of Geosciences, Environment and Society, Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium.

³Laboratoire de Recherche en Nutrition et Alimentation Humaine (LARNAH), Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal.

⁴Université Alassane Ouattara (UAO), Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire.

⁵Laboratoire de Biochimie des Aliments et Nutrition, University of Kara, Kara, Togo.

⁶Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC), Kampala, Uganda.

⁷Department of Nutrition, University of Montreal, Montreal, QC, Canada.

⁸Regional Institute of Public Health, Université of Abomey-Calavi (UAC), Ouidah, Benin.

⁹Laboratoire des Sciences Biologiques, Agronomiques, Alimentaires et de Modélisation des Systèmes Complexes (LABAAM), Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, Saint-Louis, Senegal.

***Correspondence to:** Celia Burgaz; Email: celia.burgaz@sciensano.be

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Supplementary file 4. Thematic Codes Identified During the Analysis of the Interviews, and Reasons for Exclusion of Interviews

Key themes and subthemes identified and organised according to the categories of the Health Policy Triangle (HPT) framework.

ACTORS	Facilitator	Barrier	CONTENT	Facilitator	Barrier
Individuals	14	5	Budget	17	20
Agrifood company or industry spokesperson	0	0	Financial resources	17	19
Celebrity	0	0	Human resources and manpower	6	7
Civil servant	3	1	Clarity	15	15
Independent opinion leader	2	1	Data	10	4
Politician	12	5	Definitions	2	4
Researcher or expert	3	1	Language	0	2
Groups	31	17	Responsibilities, coordination and accountability	3	6
Community group	16	2	Sustainability	3	5
Farmers or fishers	10	11	Timelines	0	3
General public	19	11	Communication	8	5
Illegal groups	0	1	Accessibility of information	8	5
Indigenous groups	0	0	Official press releases	0	0
Police	1	1	Knowledge capacity	5	8
Protest groups	0	0	Formation and competence	5	8
Social movement	5	1	Policy objectives	21	6
Youth	5	2	Ecological objectives	8	2
Organisations	36	26	Economic objectives	7	1
Agrifood company or industry	12	10	Health objectives	12	2
International governments	10	1	Social objectives	10	2
International organisation	20	1	Policy type	14	6
Local government	11	4	Facilitating policies	9	1
Media	1	0	Industry self-regulatory	0	0
National government	33	20	Regulatory policies	6	3
NGOs	17	2	Restrictive policies	2	2
Private investors	1	1	Scope	9	7
Public sector agency	18	3	Universally targeted	0	1
Religious organisation	4	0	Selective targeted	2	0
Research institutes or academia	6	1	Broad setting	5	5
Trade platform or labour union	5	0	Specific setting	3	3
CONTEXT	Facilitator	Barrier	PROCESS	Facilitator	Barrier

Cultural factors	3	6
Gender roles	1	1
Religion	0	0
Social behaviour	1	5
Traditions	1	1
International and exogenous factors	22	14
Climate change	8	1
Crisis, disease or pest outbreak	6	1
International agreements	12	4
Migration	0	1
Trade agreements	3	6
War and conflicts	2	2
Situational factors	30	21
Food insecurity	2	1
Government accountability	1	1
Political elections	0	3
Political stability	1	0
Political will	10	11
Population health	5	2
Public opinion and awareness	20	14
Scandals	1	0
Trust and transparency	3	3
Structural factors	17	24
Corruption and fraud	3	6
Economy	3	5
Infrastructure and mobility	4	4
Land use and planning	0	4
Laws	1	1
Political structure and bureaucracy	3	11
Poverty	0	3
Technology and innovation	5	3
Urbanisation	2	3

Agenda setting and problem definition	15	7
Problem awareness and agenda setting	15	7
Consultation	28	8
Interest groups	23	8
Scientific basis and research	11	0
Formulation and desing	8	5
Solutions or preferred options	8	5
Negotiation	21	16
Advocacy or lobbying	10	5
Cross-governmental	13	11
Partnerships	9	5
Adoption	1	5
Policy adoption	1	5
Implementation	3	17
Policy implementation	3	17
Validation and effectiveness	14	17
Policy monitoring and evaluation	14	17

Legend: The numbers refer to the number of interviews in which each code was identified, and the grading colour scale for all categories goes from 0 (the lowest value) to 20 or more (the highest value).

Reasons for exclusion of interviews

1. **Uganda_Local_1:** Agriculture expert. The whole interview did not address any barrier or facilitator nor for policy development or implementation. It explained the levels of jurisdiction in Mbale and some obstacles on the ground for farmers and food safety, but they were not related to policy. No policy information could be identified, as the stakeholder was not talking about anything specific to the policy index and none of the potential policies to implement.
2. **Cote d'Ivoire_National_5E:** In theory was a nutrition expert focusing on schools but it was changed for another colleague. This new stakeholder was working on agriculture but it was difficult to understand due to the language used and the context explained, which was not related to policy but to the individual school management. The interview was very long but they were not talking about policy, it was too specific for the local context and not at all related to policy development or implementation. It also felt as if the person conducting the interview was not following the questionnaire.
3. **Cote d'Ivoire_Local_14N:** In theory was going to be a female but they changed the expert. The expert worked in the regional office for employment and social affairs, but he was not working on anything related to the food system. He stressed many times that this was not something they worked on. He did not mention any kind of support for young people or gender equality, and only a few things mentioned were related to companies and dietitians at the local level giving recommendations on how to eat healthy. No mention of barriers or facilitators or any other type of information that can be useful for our research.