Appendix A: Research Questions & Hypothesis

Table 1. Detailed research questions.

I.	What key food security-related benefits do local food systems provide to urban
	residents?
	a. Do they increase the physical availability of food within an urban area?
	b. Do they increase people's economic and physical access to food?
	c. Do they enhance urban residents' nutritional practices/increase access to
	healthy food?
	d. Do they increase urban residents' access to safe food?
II.	Resilience: How can local food systems ensure urban residents' food security during
	covariate and idiosyncratic shocks?
	a. Natural – e.g. natural disasters, floods, drought, pest attacks livestock disease
	epidemics?
	b. Economic – e.g. price increases, unemployment, recession, changing terms
	of trade, etc.?
	c. Sociopolitical – e.g. war, drastic political changes, social disturbances,
	internal displacement?
III.	How can local food systems become and remain a sustainable fixture in
	communities for fostering food security?
	a. What political/economic/social context/involvement is necessary to develop
	new/enhance existing local food systems to foster urban food security?
	b. Who are the key stakeholders in local food systems around the world?
	c. What are their incentives for organizing them?
	d. Who is benefiting from LFS? How are they benefiting?
	e. What classes of people may not benefiting/be harmed/be excluded from
	them?
IV.	How can they overcome challenges related to the following variables?
1 V .	a. Economic – e.g. profitability (both in normal economic conditions and
	during shocks), access to markets
	b. Social – e.g. social acceptance, available knowledge and skills, site safety
	c. Environmental – e.g. access to land and water, site quality, seasonality and
	climate
	d. Political – e.g. zoning and ordinances, legality, other policy restrictions
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Table 2. Detailed hypothesis.

Food	Local Food Systems Characteristics
Security	
Component	
1. Physical	Increases total food production within an urban region
availability	o Increases the productivity of existing production spaces that
of food	distribute food to urban residents
	 Increases the number of production centers that distribute food to urban residents
	 Increases the land in a neighborhood that is used for food
	production

2. Economic	Contributes to local employment and economic regeneration
and physical	Increases disposable income of urban residents
access to	o Provides direct income
food	 Increases access to food through self-production
	o Provides food that is less expensive than available substitutes
	Provides food in a geographic area that is accessible to more urban
	residents
3. Nutrition	Provides an educational space to learn about health and nutrition
of	Provides specific nutritional programming/education activities
consumption	Provides a wider variety of food products/enable consumers to increase
practices	their dietary diversity
	Provides customers with greater trust in the quality components of their
	food
4. Food	• Provides a source of safe food in the case that non-local food supplies are
safety	contaminated
	• Provides a safety net (e.g. insurance) in case food provided by the LFS is
	unsafe
	• (-) Provides people with (local) food that may be more likely to be
	unsafe/contaminated due to its growth in urban regions or lack of safety
	regulations
5. Stability	• To provide resilience during <i>type of</i> shock, the organization
of the other	Natural/environmental:
four	 Employs technology that is resistant to environmental shocks
dimensions	and/or climate change
	 Has physical barriers that defend the organization against natural
	disasters or inclement weather
	Sociopolitical:
	o Funding/revenue comes from non-political or socially
	independent non- sources
	Revenue streams are secure irrespective of changing social trends
	 Organization/food is accessible to people no matter that social or
	political affiliations
	• Economic:
	 Funding is provided by a financially secure, sustainable source
	Revenue is secure irrespective of declines to other economic
	sectors
	 Revenue does not decrease if consumers' income decreases
	 Provides consumers with an educational space to learn how to
	produce their own food
	 Provides consumers with increased direct or disposable income
	 Provide consumers with affordable food