URBAN AGRICULTURAL POLICY

FOR

THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN

June 2007
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of the policy
1.2 Primary objectives of the policy
1.3 Scope of the policy
1.4 The definition of urban agriculture
1.5 Declaration

2. THE VISION AND OBJECTIVES FOR URBAN AGRICULTURE

3. POLICY DIRECTIVES

3.1 The City’s perspective on urban agriculture

3.2 The City’s approach to urban agriculture:

   3.2.1 Household food security
   3.2.2 Economic opportunity

3.3 Strategic imperatives:

   3.3.1 Include urban agriculture in land use management and physical planning
   3.3.2 Create linkage with other strategies
   3.3.3 Establish urban agricultural consultative forums
   3.3.4 Build strategic partnerships
   3.3.5 Release municipal land for urban agricultural purposes
   3.3.6 Provide subsidized water to vulnerable groups
   3.3.7 A Specific strategy for livestock keeping
   3.3.8 Introduce a support programme for urban agriculture
   3.3.9 Integrate Urban Agriculture into Commercial Agricultural Industry

3.4 A basket of assistance for urban agricultural practitioners:

   3.4.1 Criteria for assistance
   3.4.2 Types of assistance
   3.4.3 A start-up kit for survivalist gardeners (community groups)

4. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

4.1 Service delivery model
4.2 Urban agricultural unit
4.3 Urban agricultural resource centers
4.4 Modus operandi

5. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

5.1 Introduction
5.2 Key actions and Time frames
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

The principle aim of this policy is to develop an integrated and holistic approach for the effective and meaningful development of urban agriculture in the City of Cape Town. It will be utilized as a guiding tool by all roleplayers to align and synergise efforts to maximize the positive impact of urban agriculture in the City.

This policy seeks to create an enabling environment wherein public, private and civil society agents can work collectively to create more real and sustainable opportunities for local area economic development.

Ultimately, this policy will give formal recognition and status to urban agriculture in the City Of Cape Town.

1.2 PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

This policy document strives to:

- Create a common vision for urban agriculture in the City of Cape Town.
- Identify key enabling imperatives and strategic objectives to guide urban agricultural development.
- Clarify the role and responsibilities of stakeholders.
- Introduce consultative forums for stakeholder participation and consultation.
- Establish an institutional framework that can facilitate the development of urban agriculture
- Determine an urban agricultural assistance programme by the City.

1.3 SCOPE OF THE POLICY

The primary focus of this policy document is on agricultural activities by the poorest of the poor within the urban (built) areas. It does not include commercial farming and other agricultural activities outside the urban edge of the City.

The policy covers the benefits, negative impacts, challenges and opportunities for the development of urban agriculture in the City. It introduces a range of strategic imperatives and practical steps to achieve the vision for urban agriculture in the City.
1.4 THE DEFINITION OF URBAN AGRICULTURE

The term urban agriculture refers to the carrying out of agricultural activities in an urban set up. “It is the production, processing, marketing and distribution of crops and animals and products from these in an urban environment using resources available in that urban area for the benefit largely of residents from that area”.

The aforementioned is a working definition most commonly used by international role-players and partners in urban agriculture.

1.5 DECLARATION

This policy is developed in the spirit of co-operative government and the building of strategic partnerships. It does not contemplate to encroach on the functional or institutional integrity of other spheres of government. The policy does not necessitate the delegation of functions, powers or authority from other spheres of government. Neither does it cause the revision or change of any by-laws or regulations. The policy aims to strengthen and re-enforce the urban agricultural development activities and initiatives of government and beyond.

2. THE VISION AND OBJECTIVES FOR URBAN AGRICULTURE

The City’s vision for urban agriculture is:

A prosperous and growing urban agricultural sector

This vision is supported by the following strategic goals:

- To enable the poorest of the poor to utilize urban agriculture as an element of their survival strategy (household food security)
- To enable people to create commercially sustainable economic opportunities through urban agriculture (jobs and income)
- To enable previously disadvantaged people to participate in the land redistribution for agricultural development programme (redress imbalances)
- To facilitate human resources development (technical, business and social skills training)

3. POLICY DIRECTIVES

3.1 THE CITY’S PERSPECTIVE ON URBAN AGRICULTURE

The City of Cape Town supports and promotes urban agriculture within the context that it will not degrade the quality of life of citizens, will not impact
harmfully on public health, the natural environment and will contribute to the social and economic well-being of people.

The City believes that urban agriculture can play a pivotal role in poverty alleviation (to improve household food security and nutrition status of people) and economic development (as economic activity it can contribute to job creation and income generation).

The City will ensure that urban agriculture will form an integral part of future development planning. This includes spatial planning, environmental planning, community development planning, economic development and infrastructural planning, environmental health, etc.

The City will provide support and assistance to community groups, NGO’s and private entrepreneurs (individuals and groups).

3.2 THE CITY’S APPROACH TO URBAN AGRICULTURE

The City will follow a dual approach to urban agriculture i.e. on the one hand it will focus on achieving household food security (poverty alleviation and improved nutrition) and on the other hand on the creation of income (economic development).

Primarily the City will act as a facilitator to create an enabling environment for urban agricultural development through reducing red tape, introducing and exercising appropriate regulations and management systems. However at a secondary level, the City can act as a catalyst which includes, inter alia, the provision of land, the construction of infrastructure and earth works. The City can also in some instances provide production inputs, project management and extension services.

3.2.1 HOUSEHOLD FOOD SECURITY

It is the intention of the City to contribute meaningfully towards the challenge of achieving household food security in South Africa, i.e. to contribute to ensuring that all people have access to adequate, safe and nutritious food at all times.

Within this context as part of its poverty alleviation strategy, the City will introduce a household level food production assistance programme with the following aims and objectives:

- To facilitate and support the establishment of food production initiatives in urban areas by groups of beneficiaries or individuals.
- Targeting groups of beneficiaries on the basis of vulnerability, with priority being given to initiatives involving women and children, youth and the differently abled.
• Mitigation of the level of household food insecurity and improvement in the nutritional status of households benefiting from projects through consumption of own production at household level, savings and reallocation of income in the household budget, and improved levels of household income through sale of surplus production.
• Effective co-operation and alignment of policies and strategies amongst national, provincial and local authorities.
• Promotion of partnerships involving NGOs, private sector and other stakeholders in implementing household level food production initiatives.

3.2.2 ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Urban agriculture can be a primary vehicle for job creation at the lowest cost. To this regard the City will accommodate urban agriculture in its Sector Support and Small Business Development programmes with the following aims and objectives:

• Facilitation of entrepreneurial and business development
• Creation of an enabling environment to start-up new business or to expand existing activities
• Enabling citizens to participate successfully in the land redistribution programmes of the country such as LRAD.
• Promotion of sustainable job opportunities and income generation.

3.3 STRATEGIC IMPERATIVES

The strategic imperatives embody those key issues and challenges that need to be addressed so as to coordinate and align development efforts in urban agriculture. These will result into specific actions that should be taken to achieve the required outcome (an improved impact of urban agriculture on poverty alleviation and economic development), namely:

3.3.1 INCLUDE URBAN AGRICULTURE IN LAND USE MANAGEMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANNING

In order to improve and make urban agriculture more sustainable it is necessary to give it a formal status. This will be done through the inclusion of urban agriculture as a multifunctional component in municipal land planning and standard development processes concerning land use and environmental protection, i.e. land use plans, zoning schemes and site development plans should provide for urban agricultural activities.

3.3.2 CREATE LINKAGES WITH OTHER STRATEGIES

The urban agriculture development programme cannot exist in isolation and will be linked to a number of supplementary and complementary programmes. Internally it will be linked and integrated with programmes such as the poverty alleviation strategy, urban renewal, new housing settlements, sector and business support, skills development, local area economic development
strategies, HIV/Aids campaign and others. Externally specific linkages will be created in particular with the programmes of the Provincial Department of Agriculture relating to farmer settlement and support, as well as to the integrated nutrition programme of the National Departments of Health and Education and the valiant efforts of NGO’s and private sector.

Furthermore it is essential to integrate the City’s urban agricultural development initiative with the programmes of the National Department of Land Affairs, especially with its Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development Programme (LRAD). This programme provides, inter alia, for:

a) grants that individuals can apply for to purchase commercial agricultural land, and
b) grants that local governments can apply for to acquire commonage land for agricultural activities by previously disadvantaged people.

In order to achieve these linkages the City will establish and maintain an appropriate intelligence and research database.

3.3.3 ESTABLISH URBAN AGRICULTURAL CONSULTATIVE FORUMS

There is a need for all the role players and affected parties in the City to come together to share experiences, identify and analyse problems and challenges and to re-assess the vision of urban agriculture in the City. This will shape around the following groupings and the City will promote and facilitate the establishment there-off:

- a plenary where all stakeholders will be involved which will be an annual urban agricultural summit – a consultative forum for urban agriculture (Plenary Forum)
- a grouping consisting of emerging and small food growers and farmers – mouth piece for urban agricultural practitioners (Urban Farmers Association).
- a grouping of state role players such as the City, Provincial Department of Agriculture, etc. – a co-ordinating mechanism (Intergovernmental Committee).

3.3.4 BUILD STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

The City realises that to achieve the maximum impact on poverty alleviation and economic development it will be necessary to co-ordinate, integrate and align all efforts of all stakeholders. The building of relevant partnerships will promote the elimination of contradictions, avoid overlaps and boost the common resource capacity.
The City will strive to create partnerships through consultation and mutual support. Where appropriate, the City will enter into service and co-operation agreements with relevant partners.

3.3.5 RELEASE MUNICIPAL LAND FOR URBAN AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES

The City will identify land in all urban areas suitable for urban agriculture. These pieces of land will be placed under the management of the Urban Agricultural Unit. The specific type of urban agricultural activity allowed per site will be determined by its location, size, accessibility, cost to provide basic infrastructure, environmental impacts, typography, and needs of the surrounding community.

The City will make these identified land parcels available to prospective urban agricultural practitioners in the following ways:

3.3.5.1 DISPOSAL OF LAND

The sale of land for urban agricultural purposes will be considered against competing uses such as housing, industrial development, conservation, roads or any other infrastructure. The standard procedure to this regard will be followed which includes disposal at market related prices.

3.3.5.2 LEASE OF LAND

In the event that applicants do not want to or cannot afford to buy the land it can be leased out to them. Furthermore, due to the nature and development dynamics of a City some pieces of land suitable for urban agricultural purposes cannot be disposed of, such as underutilized land around public facilities, road verges, etc. These pieces of land can also be leased out to prospective food growers/farmers.

The leasing will be done through a permit system and the duration of the permit, the rental price and the type of agricultural activity will differ from site to site and will also depend on the intention of the applicants (e.g. private entrepreneur for own income or community group to provide food for old age homes, etc.). It is required that the prospective lessee should be a legal entity with which the City can conclude a contract.

3.3.5.3 COMMONAGE LAND

The City will acquire commonage land for the purpose of urban agriculture through the Land Reform Programme of the Department of Land Affairs (DLA), i.e. grant funding from the DLA will be used to purchase commercial farm land which will be made available (leased to) to the emerging city farmers through a permit system.
3.3.6 PROVIDE SUBSIDIZED WATER FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS

The City will subsidize the provision of water to the gardens of vulnerable groups. These include survival gardens of women, gardens for old age homes, gardens for HIV/Aids facilities, gardens for soup kitchens at schools and gardens at orphanages. The subsidy will include the provision of 10 kl of water per month for free per institution or group.

3.3.7 A SPECIFIC STRATEGY FOR LIVESTOCK KEEPING

Livestock keeping in the City has severe negative environmental health impacts such as the transfer of diseases, pollution (dust, noise), road safety hazards (stray and free roaming animals), damage to property and landscapes and nuisance.

This section of the policy envisages the removal of all the livestock from the residential areas and road reserves in the City in such a way that the owners do not lose the economic opportunity that animal husbandry presents, i.e. the City in cooperation with the livestock owners and other role-players will acquire alternative suitable land where the people can keep their animals. This strategy is built around three interdependent elements, namely:

(a) The development of *community kraals* in the urban fringes. These facilities will be located as near as possible to the residential areas of the participant livestock keepers. It will cater for the small number livestock keepers (up to three cattle per owner), poultry farmers (space tolerant animals) and vegetable gardeners (where feasible). This concept provides for the keeping of animals under intensive farming conditions which means that animal food has to be sourced from the outside.

And to take people out of the City to the farm

(b) The acquisition of a large *commonage land* in the commercial farming areas to cater for the larger number livestock keepers. This will enable participants to become emerging small farmers with the prospect to become eventually commercial farmers in their own right.

(c) Assist larger number livestock keepers to participate in the *LRAD Programme* of the Department of Land affairs. Through this programme participants can acquire their own privately owned farms. This programme is part of the Department of Land Affairs’ initiatives regarding land reform and presents an excellent opportunity to urban dwellers to become commercial farmers and share in the benefits of land reform.

3.3.8 INTRODUCE A SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR URBAN AGRICULTURE

The City will introduce, in cooperation with other role-players, a support programme for urban agriculture which will include the following elements:
assistance to access land, basic infrastructure, production inputs, tools and equipment, and capacity and skills development.

3.3.9 INTEGRATE URBAN AGRICULTURE INTO COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY

The development of urban agriculture will be enhanced and expedited if it is integrated into the surrounding commercial agriculture, i.e. urban farmers should use the same suppliers, support services, market and research bodies as the commercial farmers.

3.4 A BASKET OF ASSISTANCE FOR URBAN AGRICULTURAL PRACTITIONERS

The City will selectively render assistance to urban farmers and food growers. The type and extend of the assistance will depend on the following criteria:

3.4.1 CRITERIA FOR ASSISTANCE

3.4.1.1 TYPE AND SCALE OF URBAN AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY

This classification of urban agricultural operations is mainly based on the type and scale of such activities.

*Home based activities* – home dwellers using their back or front yards to grow vegetables and/or to keep animals. It is of a very small scale and is looked after by the family with the objective to supplement their food basket. It is conducted on a part-time basis as part of a survival strategy.

*Community based activities* – this consist of a group of people from the community that came together to produce food collectively for themselves or a community institution like an old age home, orphanage, school, etc. Usually these activities take place around public facilities, on public open spaces or smaller pieces of unutilized land. It's conducted on a part-time basis as part of a survival strategy and includes both vegetable gardening and animal husbandry.

*Micro farmers* – this includes individuals or groups of people that are involved in urban agricultural activities (both vegetable gardening and animal husbandry) to create an income. It is a micro scale business activity aimed at a profit. It is located at small pieces of unutilized land (public or private) and could be regarded as an informal economic activity. This is conducted on a part-time basis as part of a survival strategy.
**Small emerging farmers** – this constitutes individuals or groups of people that are or want to be full time farmers. It is a formal business activity and needs to make a profit to survive.

The suitability of the type of the urban agricultural activity (vegetable gardening and/or animal husbandry) is a very important consideration. For example the keeping of large animals (cattle, goats, etc.) in back yards and in residential areas will not be supported.

### 3.4.1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE ACTIVITY

The objectives of the operation will be evaluated in terms of contribution to household food security, survival income, sustainable job and wealth creation. The objectives should complement the City’s poverty alleviation strategy and/or economic development strategy and/or community capacity building strategy.

### 3.4.1.3 NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES

The City endeavors to maximize the impact of its assistance and therefore, the number of beneficiaries will be taken into account.

### 3.4.1.4 FEASIBILITY OF OPERATION

Assistance will only be rendered if there is a proper business and management plan indicating that the operation will be feasible in the short term and sustainable in the long run.

### 3.4.1.5 LOCATION OF OPERATION

Not all types of urban agricultural activities will be allowed at all locations. It will be determined whether a proposed activity is suitable for a specific site, i.e. it should be reconcilable with the immediate surroundings. The assessment will include environmental health impacts, visual impacts, character of the specific area, etc.

### 3.4.1.6 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The City promotes sustainable development and will, therefore, require environmental impact assessments and environmental management plans where appropriate.

### 3.4.1.7 COMPLIANCE WITH INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

The operation should comply with the principles of integrated development planning and should fit into the IDP, spatial development framework, the Integrated Environmental Management Plan, Economic Development Strategy, etc.
3.4.1.8 AVAILABILITY OF WATER

It should also comply with the Water Services Development Plan, which should in future incorporate water supplies for urban agriculture and related activities.

3.4.2 TYPES OF ASSISTANCE

As facilitator, the City will not render directly all the types of assistance but will rely on the contribution of all roleplayers. A need analysis will be done for each applicant and strategic/critical elements will be identified for assistance by the appropriate role-player.

The following matrix indicates what type of assistance can be considered per category of activity:

**TABLE 1: TYPE OF ASSISTANCE PER CATEGORY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type Of Assistance</th>
<th>Home Gardens</th>
<th>Community Gardens</th>
<th>Micro Farmers</th>
<th>Small Emerging Farmers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A Access to land</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Acquisition of land</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Earthworks</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B Infrastructure</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Water supply including boreholes/well points</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Electricity supply</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Roads</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fencing</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Irrigation systems</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Containers</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Animal sheds</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Toilets</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C Tools / equipment / implements</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hand tools (rakes, spades, pliers, etc.)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Water pumps</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Power equipment (e.g. power hoes/rotovators)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Wheelbarrows</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Watering cans</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D Production inputs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Seeds / seedlings</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fertilizer / compost</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pesticides</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fuel</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Water</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Electricity</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Animal fodder (organic waste)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Veterinary products (animal health care)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E Capacity building and skills development</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Technical skills training (e.g. how to plant)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Business administration training (e.g. record keeping)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type Of Assistance</td>
<td>Home Gardens</td>
<td>Community Gardens</td>
<td>Micro Farmers</td>
<td>Small Emerging Farmers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrepreneurial training (e.g. business plan)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentoring and continuous operational advice</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information documents / data basis</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing advice</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental health advice</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irrigation systems advice</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4.3 A START-UP KIT FOR SURVIVALIST GARDENERS (COMMUNITY GROUPS)

As mentioned before, the primary focus of this policy is to assist the poorest of the poor and to facilitate this, a start up kit can be made available to community groups that wish to start gardening projects.

The start up kit will include the following basic items (per 5 people):

- Tools (pick axe, spade, rake, watering can)
- Production inputs (seeds, compost)
- Skills development (technical and business training)
- Mentoring and advice

At current prices (June 2006) the kit will cost the Council about R300 per group of five people.

4. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

4.1 SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL

The following constitutes a service delivery model for the City to lead and facilitate the development of urban agriculture. It provides a flexible approach which will minimize resource consumption and duplication, while increasing the ability to facilitate a wider range of initiatives. It comprise of an Urban Agricultural Unit (UAU) housed in the Directorate for Economic and Human Development which is linked to all relevant internal and external role players.

This unit will serve as:
(a) a clearinghouse for all urban agricultural development assistance rendered by the City, and
(b) a mechanism to align and coordinate the development efforts of all role players.

Services and development assistance will be rendered through the following channels:

Channel 1: UAU ———————> Urban Farmers
The UAU can interface directly with beneficiaries and play the lead role as facilitator.

**Channel 2: UAU → Urban Agricultural Resource Centre → Urban Farmers**

The UAU can render assistance through the to be established Agricultural Resources Centers

**Channel 3: UAU → Internal Departments → Urban Farmers**

The UAU can utilize other internal departments to interface with beneficiaries and to act as lead facilitators or project managers. This means that any internal department can initiate and implement a project or render a required support service as long as it has been cleared by the UAU.

**Channel 4: UAU → External Government Agents → Urban Farmers**

The UAU can utilize and/or cooperate with any external government agent to render assistance to urban farmers. These would include the departments (both national and provincial) of Agriculture, Health, Education, Poverty Alleviation, etc.

**Channel 5: UAU → NGO’s → Urban Farmers**

NGO’s can be utilized through material support to the NGO itself or to utilize the NGO as a project manager or service provider to beneficiaries.

**Channel 6: UAU → Private Firms → Urban Farmers**

The UAU can contract a private company to implement a project or render certain support services such as advice, construction of infrastructure, marketing, etc. Private sector initiatives or projects can also be supported through this channel.

4.2 **URBAN AGRICULTURAL UNIT**

This policy is primarily a sector support policy and will be best located in the Development Facilitation Branch of the Directorate: Economic and Human Development which is, inter alia, responsible for sector support. It will closely link with the Local Area Economic Development and Business Support branches of the same directorate.

The key performance areas or functions of this unit will be to:

- promote urban agriculture as an important element of poverty alleviation (survival strategy) and of economic development (access to economic opportunity)
- enhance and support research and policy formulation in this field.
- ensure the implementation of the urban agriculture policy and to facilitate
the development of urban agriculture

- establish partnerships, liaise and interact with all stakeholders
- deliver support services, directly or indirectly, to urban farmers
- act as catalyst by providing basic appropriate infrastructure (such as land, water, roads, markets, etc)
- facilitate capacity building of all stakeholders
- co-ordinate and rationalize Council’s involvement in projects (to forge common goals, integrated planning and teamwork).
- Manage and maintain areas demarcated for urban agricultural uses, including the issue of permits.

4.3 URBAN AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE CENTRES

The primary focus of the development of urban agriculture is on the poor which necessitates that the service should be brought as close as possible to them. Therefore, it is envisaged that urban agricultural resource centers will eventually be established in the poor areas of the city.

The functions of the Urban Agricultural Centre will be to:

- service as a reference point, i.e. customers looking for assistance will be directed to the appropriate unit or institution
- provide training, demonstrations and extension services
- sell materials, tools and equipment, seeds and plants to the urban farmers
- rent out tools and equipment to the urban farmers
- provide project management where required.

The establishment of urban agricultural centres will be founded on a thorough needs and location analysis so as not to duplicate support services and to prevent over-investment in service facilities. Furthermore the City will actively seek partners to establish and operate these centres.

4.5 MODUS OPERANDI

The establishment of sufficient urban agricultural centers will only be achieved over the long term and therefore, the following modus operandi will be followed to bring urban agricultural support services as close as possible to the people:

All service centers of the City will be enabled to give a first line of response to people looking for assistance, i.e. the center will have enough information to refer the client to the UAU or other collaborative agents.
5. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

5.1 INTRODUCTION

Achieving the vision, principles, goals and objectives set out in the policy will be a formidable challenge and needs to be worked towards progressively over time. A plan of action is therefore necessary to implement the policy. This section outlines the key elements of an action plan. The City of Cape Town will be the lead agent for implementing this action plan and will provide overall guidance and assistance to activities carried out by the whole spectrum of roleplayers.

5.2 KEY ACTIONS AND TIME FRAMES

The key actions will be introduced in a sequential and strategic way. Thorough needs assessments will be done and adequate resources secured before an action will be taken so as to ensure sustainability and impact achievement.

The following table indicates the key actions:

**TABLE 2: KEY IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Lead Agent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Establish and maintain a comprehensive database for all stakeholders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveys and analysis</td>
<td>Computerized database</td>
<td>City of Cape Town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information sheets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Profile documents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Introduce and maintain research programme</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigate alternative production methods</td>
<td>Booklets on various production methods</td>
<td>Dept. of Agriculture: Western Cape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design environmental guidelines for urban agriculture</td>
<td>List of references</td>
<td>City of Cape Town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrange farmer days</td>
<td>Booklet with guidelines</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture: Western Cape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Farmers informed / trained in newest technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Create Linkages with other strategies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoping exercise to identify other strategies</td>
<td>List of strategies</td>
<td>City of Cape Town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish contact and interaction</td>
<td>Regular meetings / interaction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Library of documents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Establish urban agricultural consultative forums</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convene annual urban agricultural summit</td>
<td>Summit event</td>
<td>City of Cape Town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitate formation of urban agricultural association</td>
<td>Urban agricultural association with regular meetings</td>
<td>Urban farmers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish urban</td>
<td>UA co-ordination group with regular meetings</td>
<td>City of Cape Town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Outputs</td>
<td>Lead Agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| agricultural co-ordination group | • Integrated policies  
• Joint project implementation | |
| **E. Build strategic partnerships** | | |
| • Identify and analyse needs of urban farmers  
• Identify and analyse needs of NGOs, CBOs, etc.  
• Match resources to implement projects | • Joint project management  
• Integrated projects | • City of Cape Town |
| **F. Design land release / utilization plan for urban agricultural purposes** | | |
| • Identify suitable land  
• Establish application procedures  
• Establish land administrative system and authority | • Computerized database on available land  
• Application flow chart  
• Application form  
• Proforma lease agreements | • City of Cape Town  
• City of Cape Town |
| **G. Establish urban agricultural unit** | | |
| • Provide for UA in organizational design  
• Allocate resources | • Organogram  
• Dedicated staff  
• Budget allocation | • City of Cape Town  
• City of Cape Town |
| **H. Establish urban agricultural resource centers** | | |
| • Conduct needs and location survey  
• Identify partners  
• Open and operate centers | • Research document  
• Co-operation agreements  
• One-stop contact points  
• Supply of production inputs / tools/etc.  
• Advice / extension service | • City of Cape Town, DOA  
• City of Cape Town, DOA  
• City of Cape Town, DOA |
| **I. Develop and introduce monitoring and impact assessment tools and mechanisms** | | |
| • Develop system and procedure to monitor production output  
• Design instrument to evaluate impact of urban agriculture | • Computerized database on outputs and beneficiaries  
• Econometric model | • City of Cape Town, DOA  
• City of Cape Town, DOA |