



# The Kanyanya food challenge: the first results of mapping the food system

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The NOURICITY project is part of LEAP-Agri, a joint Europe Africa Research and Innovation (R&I) initiative related to Food and Nutrition Security. The objective of NOURICITY is to initiate and implement partnership agreements between stakeholders of the urban food system on healthier food choices to improve food and nutrition security in urban areas. These partnership agreements should be set up for now and the future. NOURICITY is explored in three urban areas in Africa that face food security and sustainability challenges: Accra (Ghana), Cape Town (South Africa) and Kampala (Uganda). The project is funded by the EU and donors from Germany and the Netherlands. For the Kampala case, the project is executed by Wageningen Economic Research, the alliance Bioversity-CIAT, and BoP innovation centres. Kanyanya parish was selected to further investigate the urban food system and to map the challenges in the food system. Kanyanya is densely populated, has little agricultural activities and has serious food and nutrition security challenges, such as poor food safety, high food prices and environmental contamination of water used for preparing meals. Kanyanya serves as an example for other urban centers in Africa.

**Table 1** Key characteristics of Kanyanya

Variable	Kanyanya parish	Kawempe division	Kampala City*
<b>Demographics</b>			
Population	26,844	338,665	1,507,080
Number of households	7,086	94,202	414,406
Average hh size	3.79	3.60	3.64
Share female-headed hh (%)	29.7	30.8	30.3
<b>Share of age classes (%)</b>			
0-17	45.2	42.4	41.3
18-30	33.9	36.3	36.5
21-59	19.0	19.5	20.3
60+	1.9	1.8	1.8
<b>Share of labor market participation per age class (%)</b>			
10-17	11.6	11.9	12.2
18 and above	69.4	67.4	67.8
<b>Illiteracy rate per age class (%)</b>			
10-17	5.5	6.3	6.8
18 and above	5.9	5.8	5.6
60 and above	20.9	24.4	21.7

Source: Uganda Bureau of Statistics (2016). The National Population and Housing Census 2014 – Main Report, Kampala, Uganda.

\* Kampala City consists of 5 divisions: Central, Kawempe, Rubaga, Makindye, and Nakawa division.

## Kanyanya

Kanyanya is a parish in the Kawempe Division in Kampala. It has 26,800 inhabitants and is predominantly a lower and middle-class residential area. The demographics of Kanyanya are rather similar to the characteristics of Kawempe division and Kampala City, see Table 1. In addition, 16.1% of households in Kanyanya consume less than 2 meals per day, which is above average of Kampala city.

In Kanyanya, informal value chains are systemic drivers of urban food and nutrition security.

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The food system is dominated by small producers, transporters, processors and retailers.

## Challenges

In the first workshop in October 2019, retailers, farmers, and village leaders participated in mapping the urban food system. The workshop provided a first picture of the food system and a list of key challenges and urgencies in the food system in Kanyanya.

Many issues were mentioned by the workshop participants related to serious food safety risks, availability of healthy food and affordability of healthy food.

**Food safety is perceived as poor.** Food safety risks are the overuse and misuse of pesticides at the farm level, the handling of the food by traders and retailers, and the unhygienic way of preparing and serving food.

**Healthy food is not widely available and affordable.** The availability of healthy food, which includes vitamins like fruit and vegetables, and its seasonality are challenges due to the lack of storage facilities. Prices of healthy food like fruit and vegetables are high. Poor people in Kanyanya often can only afford one meal and they do not have the opportunity to set aside some budget for buying vegetables. In addition, preparation of meals at home is costly since it requires charcoal which is scarce and therefore expensive.

**Food processing facilities hardly produce for Kanyanya consumers.** The participants in the workshop identified various (food) processing activities in Kanyanya. The processing activities range from curry powder factory, tea factory, banana brewery with the focus on the (inter-)national market.

**Surface water is contaminated.** Participants indicated that Kanyanya has many hills and that the downstream flows of rainwater are creating serious environmental issues during the rainy season. Also, the use of pit latrines is contaminating the water during the rainy season due to overflowing.

**People consume poor dietary meals.** The people in Kanyanya eat traditional meals which most often include matooke or pocho. These meals are carbohydrate-rich and not divers in nutrients. Micro-nutrient-rich food (vegetables) is expensive and unaccessible due to the low income, attitude, mindset, and ignorance. Moreover, meals are usually prepared at home, and these home meals lose micro-nutrients due to long cooking times. Out of home consumption is gaining importance because it is often cheaper than preparing own food.

**Food is partly wasted which causes environmental problems.** The poor hardly waste food as they often use leftovers for making juices or feeding animals. Richer people Although there is a service of waste collection offered, richer people tend to dispose their food waste on the streets, which creates environmental and health issues.

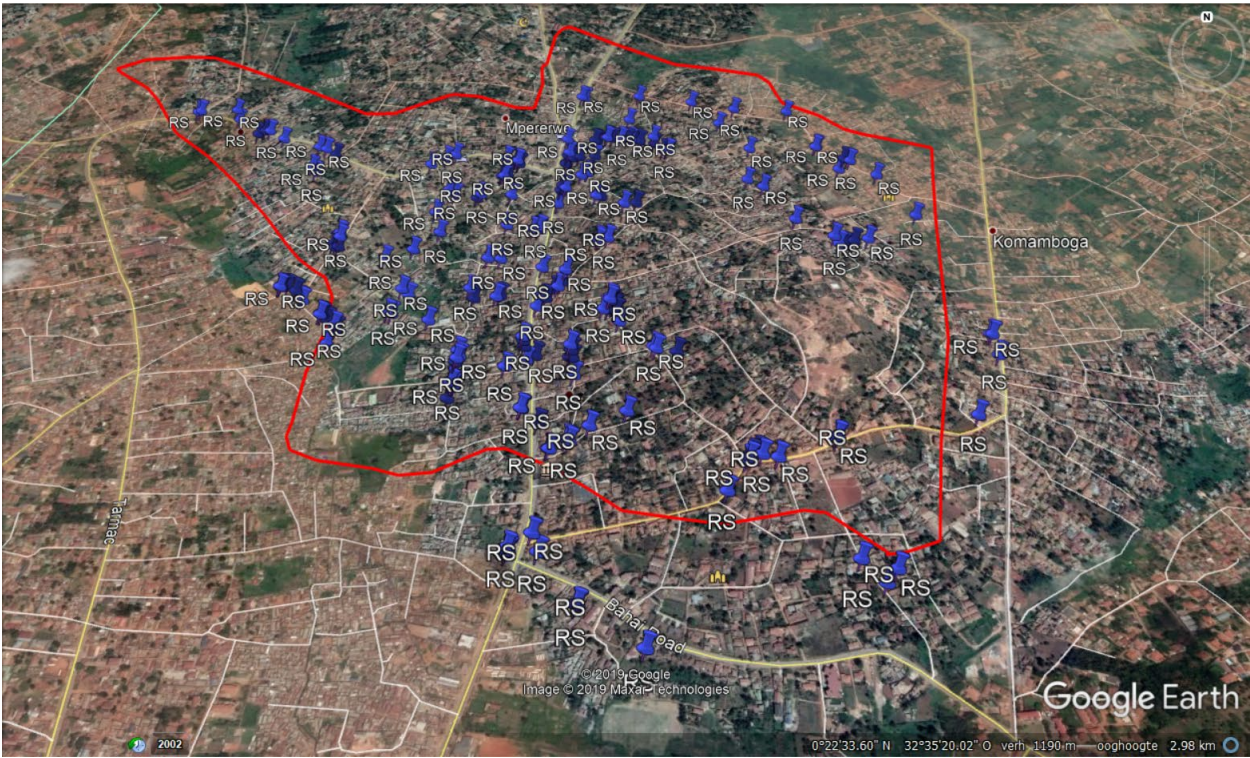
## Food system maps

To improve the sustainability and food safety of food supplied in Kanyanya, we first identify the locations where people in Kanyanya can buy their food. During the workshop, we mapped the first locations and after the workshop, we collected the locations with geo-referenced information by visiting Kanyanya. We collected information on 500 locations where people can buy fresh, processed or cooked food. We distinguished the following food outlets:

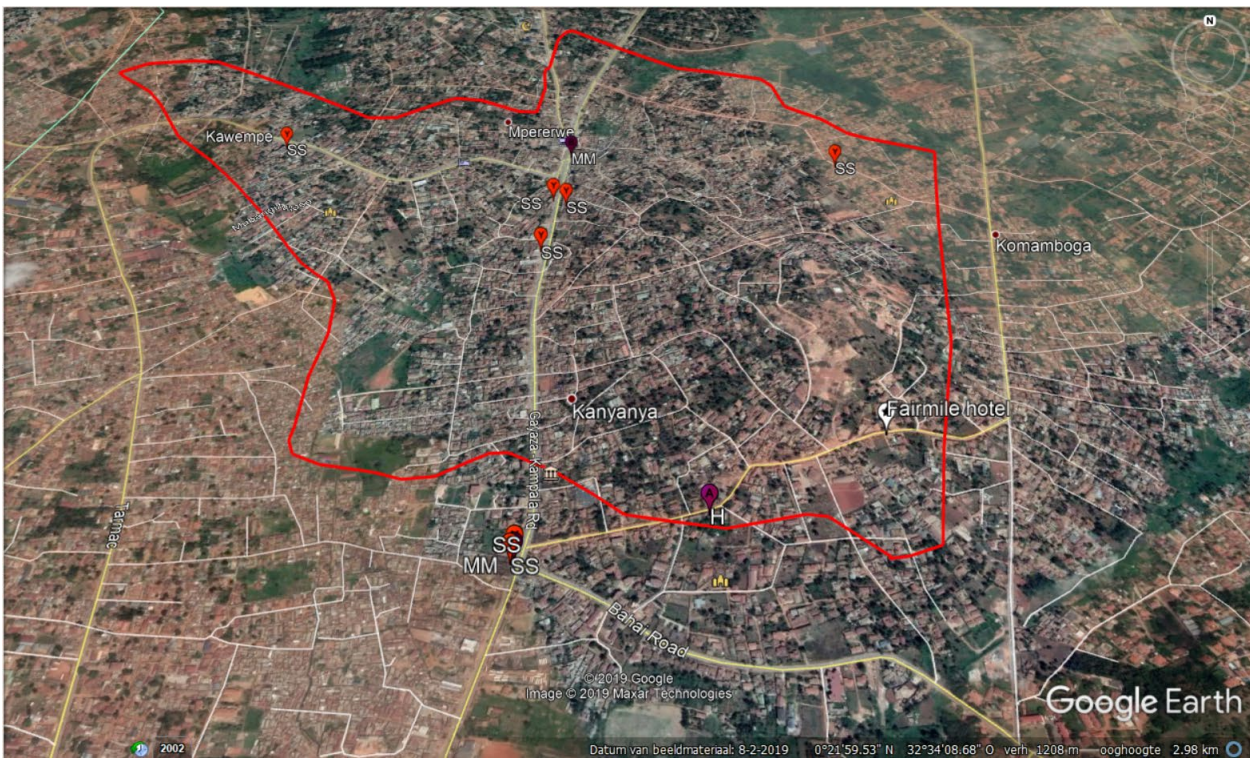
- Butcheries (B)
- Dairy shops (D)
- Food kiosks/stalls (K), see Figure 3
- Hotels, see Figure 2
- Ice cream shops (IC)
- Food markets (MM), see Figure 2
- Pork joints/outlets (J)
- Poultry shops (PS)
- Restaurants (R)
- Retail shops (RS), See Figure 1
- Supermarkets (SS), see Figure 2
- Wholesale shops (WS)

In Figure 1 to Figure 3, we illustrate three maps of the exercise.



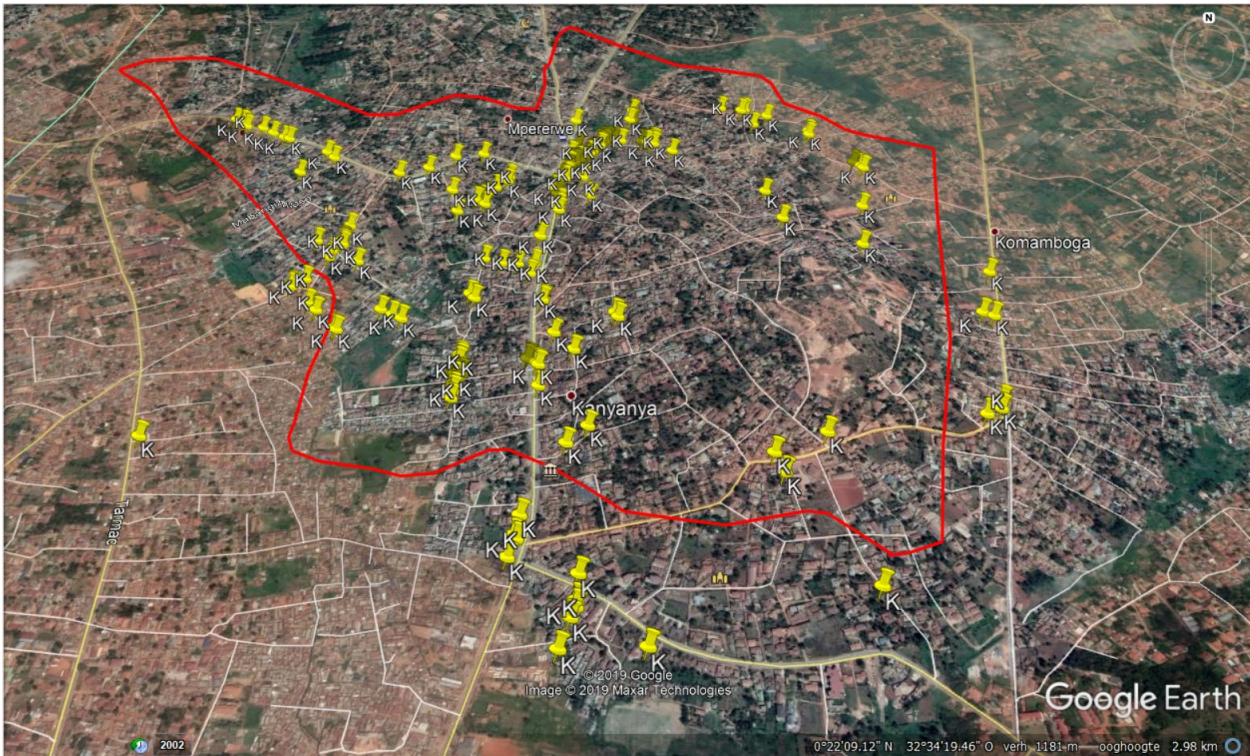


**Figure 1** Retail shops (RS) in Kanyanya parish, Kawempe division, Kampala, Uganda



**Figure 2** Supermarkets (SS), Markets (MM) and hotels in Kanyanya parish, Kawempe division, Kampala, Uganda





**Figure 3** Food kiosks (K) in Kanyanya parish, Kawempe division, Kampala, Uganda

### Next steps

The next step is to identify possible designs for an intervention to improve the choice for healthier food and diets in Kanyanya. The impact of a selection of interventions will be tested in 2020. For this, we will conduct a baseline survey among 500 households in Kanyanya early 2020. After the baseline, we will do an effect measurement among the same households to analyse the effects of the upcoming interventions.

### More information

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