

Food Safety Perspectives from Adults in Peri-Urban Tanzania and the Context of National Food Safety Policies Change



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Foodborne Illness

- Public health concern
- Sub-Saharan Africa
 - Per capita burden
 - 91 million acute illnesses & ~137,000 deaths
- People living with HIV (PLHIV) are especially susceptible
- The DECIDE Study
 - Perceptions of food safety



DECIDE Study Team



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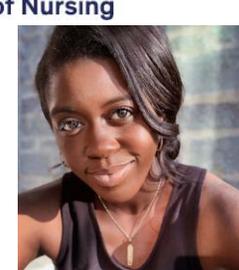
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Qualitative Interviewing

- 40 interviews, July 2019 – March 2020
 - 20 PLHIV (30.8 years)
 - 12/20 female
 - 20 caring for a PLHIV (39.5 years)
 - 14/20 female caring for PLHIV
- Conducted in Swahili, transcribed, and translated



FINDINGS

"I never have doubts, truly I
am not worried, I see
everything is safe"
- 39-year-old female caregiver



COLLATING FOOD SAFETY INFORMATION



MEDIA



EXPERIENTIAL



OBSERVATIONAL

MEDIA

Why people believe the myth of 'plastic rice'



By Anisa Subedar
BBC Trending

🕒 5 July 2017



Here is The Prove of The Plastic Rice 🍚 being in The Gambia 🇬🇲.

YOUTUBE

A video which falsely claims to "prove" the existence of fake plastic rice in the food supply

Despite little evidence that it's a widespread problem, rumours of "plastic" rice being sold in Africa and elsewhere persist on social media - driven in particular by viral videos which show bouncing rice balls.

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-trending-40484135>

Fresh-squeezed Juice: Media + Own Observations

- 2015 Newspaper article
- “... do not make it in a clean environment.”
- female caregiver, age 40



Media & Health Promotion

“...to a washroom without washing your hands with soap and then you touch food.”

- Male participant



Improved Chickens

- Worries about how the chickens are raised
 - Antibiotics
 - Growth rate
 - Coops



Agricultural Chemicals

- Pesticide residues on leafy greens and tubers



Production Conditions

“..you can not tell whether these [vegetables] are grown in sewage channels [or whether they] were grown in clean water”

- Location
- Exposures





“...recently my husband was sick, he had bacteria which were caused by the food he ate at a place where he works.”

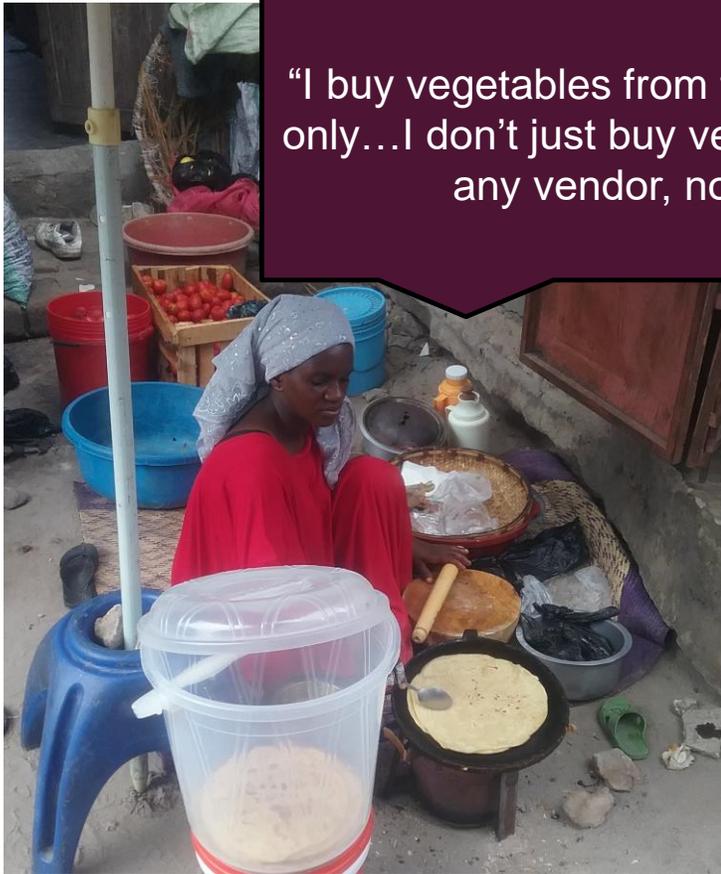
“I worry about chemicals in vegetables that is why I try to plant my own vegetables”

Protective Strategies

- Home
 - Eat in
 - Grow your own
 - Wash foods
- Purchasing
 - Vendor loyalty
 - Hygiene

Food Safety: Vendors

“I buy vegetables from two women only...I don't just buy vegetables to any vendor, no!”



Familiarity with the vendor



Professionally looking vendor

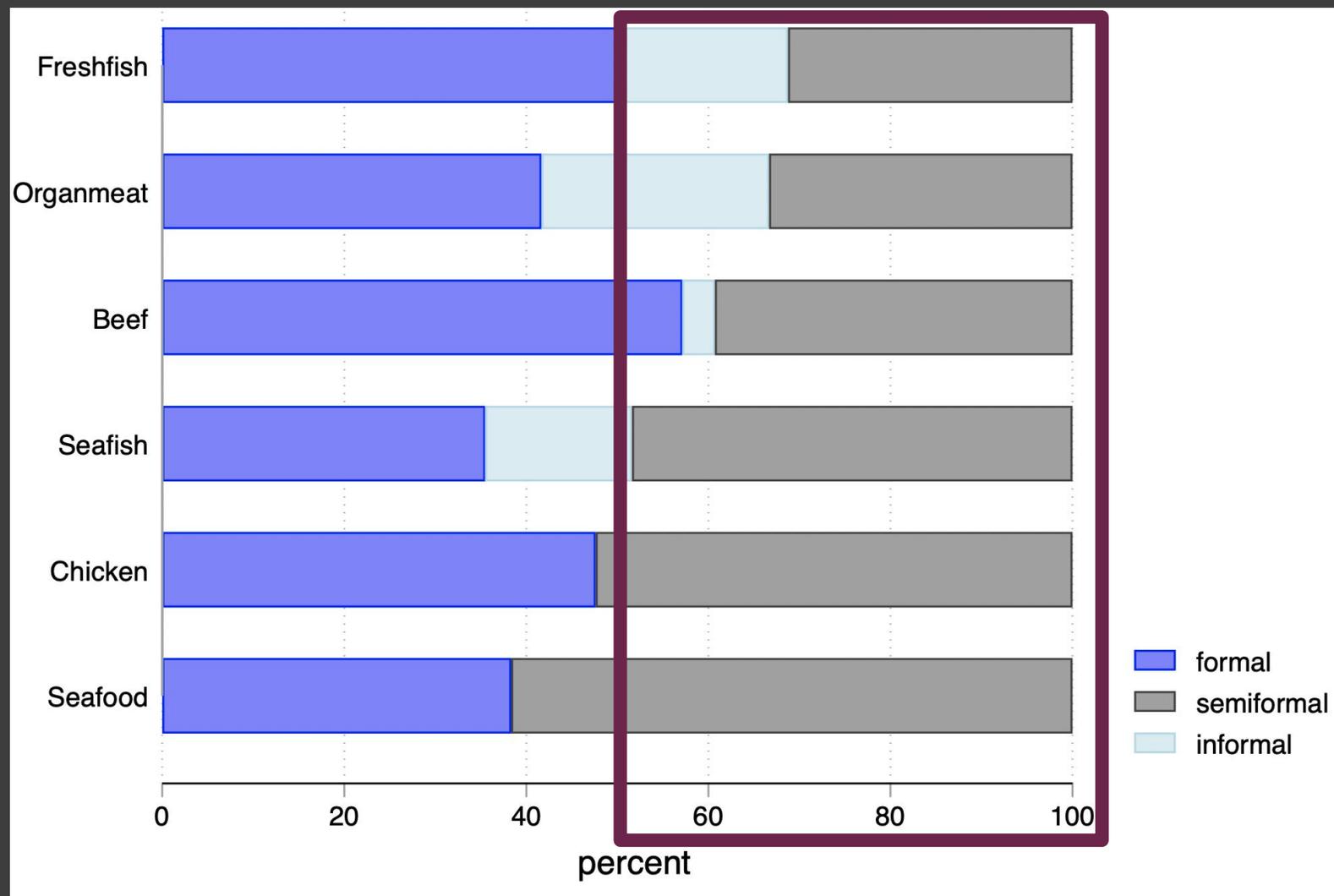
“I normally buy meat in a specific butcher, its environment is clean, it is made with glass and they cut meat with a machine”



Physical infrastructure and presentation of food

SURVEY DATA: MEAT PURCHASES

- Informal and semi-formal food vendors are a significant source of meat purchases



Source: Ambikapathi et al. 2021, Informal food environment is associated with household vegetable purchase patterns and dietary intake in the DECIDE study: Empirical evidence from food vendor mapping in peri-urban Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. *Global Food Security*, 28: 100474.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gfs.2020.100474>

Conclusion

- Limitations
- Regulation and policy
- Next, Dr. Leyna



1. Introduction

- National food safety programs govern a wide range of topics:
 - Food production and consumption
 - Food trade (export/import)
 - Legislation and guidelines (codes for practices and standards),
 - Food control and surveillance.
- The programs have been set to protect the public from consuming unsafe food
- As the result, several **Acts and Regulations** have been put in place.



2. Institutions

The National Food Control Commission

Established under the Food (Control of Quality) Act. 1978

Key Functions:

- Regulate importation, manufacture, labelling, marking or identification, storage and sale and distribution.
- Prescribe minimum standards of quality.
- Test or facilitate the testing of food manufactured in or imported into the URT.
- approve and register foods manufactured or intended to be manufactured in URT.
- Where possible, take legal measures on, complaints made by consumers against food manufacturers.



2. Institutions

The Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority (TFDA)

Established under the Tanzania Food, Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 2003

An authority that was a regulatory body for the products regulated under the Act

Key Functions:

- Regulate matters relating to quality, and safety of food, drugs/herbal drugs, medical devices, poisons and cosmetics;
- Regulate the importation, manufacture, labelling, marking or identification, storages promotion, sell and distribution.
- Prescribe standards of quality
- Where possible, take legal measures on complaints made.
- Take measures as are, in the opinion of the Authority



3. Regulations and Guidelines

Regulations made under TFD Act

Importation of food regulations of 2006

Food hygiene regulations of 2006

Food labelling regulations of 2006

Treatment and disposal of unfit food of 2006

Iodated salt regulations of 2010

Transport of meat regulations of 2006

Control of food promotions regulations of 2010

Marketing of breast milk substitutes and designated products regulations of 1994 amended 2013

Food fortification regulations of 2011



3. Regulations and Guidelines

Conducting risk-based inspection in food premises

Investigation and control of foodborne diseases

Import and export of food

Post marketing surveillance of food

Program on monitoring of food contaminants

Part VII of the Act: Amendment of the Standard Act (CAP. 130)

Part VIII of the Act: Amendment of the Tanzania Food, Drugs And Cosmetics Act, (CAP. 219)

Guidelines

Financial Act, 2019





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Thank you for Listening

