

The Role of Systematic Review in Understanding Population Health and Differential Livelihood Impacts of Urban Agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa

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This thesis consists of two sections; both involve systematic reviews and analysis of health from a social sciences perspective. The first section is an examination of the problems and possibilities of using systematic reviews to analyze complex systems in population health. I introduce a typology of four categories of systematic reviews, characterized by distinct research questions, theoretical approaches, and methods. To map discourse on methods and theory, I conduct a semi-systematic search of peer-reviewed literature and of information published by international review organizations. The second section is a systematic review of differential livelihood impacts of urban agriculture on population groups in Sub-Saharan Africa. While there is extensive research on urban agriculture and associated risks and benefits, there is little analysis of the pathways by which these impacts affect livelihoods of different urban dwellers. This review adopts a realist approach and draws from research in both the peer-reviewed and grey literature.

Location of Studies Included in Systematic Review

