- Urban agriculture

Urban farming option cultivates climate resilience and food security

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AS THE impacts of climate change continue to challenge global food security, innovative solutions are emerging.



Among them is urban farming, a practice that has gained significance as cities become more populated and space for traditional agriculture dwindles.

With climate change altering weather patterns and reducing arable land, urban farming offers a resilient alternative, helping to reduce the risk of supply chain disruptions.

A notable example of this is the City Ordinance No. SP-2972, passed by the local government of Quezon City in 2020.

The ordinance encourages property owners to transform idle lands into productive urban farms.

Rather than leave their lands unused while still paying taxes, many property owners have embraced urban agriculture and food production.

To qualify for the idle land tax exemption, the entire land must be devoted to urban agriculture for a minimum of three years and must yield agricultural produce for either personal or public consumption.

As a result, these farms now supply fresh vegetables to the community, reduce the need for long-distance transportation and cut down on greenhouse gas emissions.

As of December 31, 2023, there are 1,026 urban farms in Quezon City. Beyond providing food, the program has created livelihoods for around 25,650 urban farmers, who are now engaged in green jobs.

One of the most efficient techniques in urban farming is hydroponics, which involves growing plants in a nutrient-rich water solution instead of soil.

This method uses up to 90 percent less water than traditional farming and can be implemented in compact spaces such as rooftops, balconies, and even indoors.