INTEGRATED INSTITUTIONAL ACTIONS OF THE CITY OF MILAN IN FOOD LOSSES AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Andrea Magarini
Milan Food Policy coordinator
City of Milan – Mayor’s Office
The City of Milan developed in 2015 the Milan Food Policy that acts on the urban food system with a multidimensional approach around 5 key priorities, 16 guidelines, 18 actionos: food losses and waste reduction being one of the most important, engaging several local actors such as research centers, food businesses, food banks, non profit organizations, foundations.

4 GUIDELINES FOR FOOD LOSSES AND WASTE

The Municipality in cooperation with local actors

1. Promote actions of information and education addressed to citizens and local actors in order to reduce losses and waste.

2. Promote recovery and redistribution of food losses creating relations among the local players (charities and food banks).

3. Promote more rational use of packaging.

4. Promote circular economy in the field of food system.
In 2018 Milan adopted a reduction on the waste tax for food losses donation. This new regulation aims to reduce 20% of the tax for the first year in favour of food businesses (supermarkets, restaurants, canteens, producers etc.) that donate their food losses to charities.

Multi-departments action:
- Fiscal dpt.
- Environmental dpt.
- Food Policy Office
- Environmental Municipal Agency

Indirect effect: the measure will also support the mapping, strengthening and spreading of food donation ongoing initiatives led by non profit organizations in the city.

Technical consultation
Food system and charities actors

CITY COUNCIL VOTE
max 50% 20% for the pilot year (2018)

Food businesses need to send at Municipality an INITIAL COMMUNICATION

At the end of the year the food businesses must send a FINAL REPORT TO THE MUNICIPALITY containing the amount of food donation

OCT 2017
FEB 2018
30 APRIL 2018
DEC 2018
2
30 APRIL 2019

FIRST pilot year: 20% reduction

from SECOND year: max 50% reduction
106 school canteens on a total of 418 connected by charities food donation system

150 Tons
91 Tons of fruit
50 Tons of bread
9 Tons of complete meals from cooking centers

31,000 reusable doggy bags to bring home non-perishable leftovers.
Waste Management Municipal Agency is supporting a non-profit association active in the open street markets for food recovery and donation by engaging people in need.

11 pilot market on total of 86

150kg / market / week

90 Tons per year
To support the recovery from small local actors, the municipality facilitated an agreement among a university lab (model management and data analysis) and a private sector union (that gathers supermarkets and companies with canteens) to develop a pilot project in three neighborhoods for food losses redistribution at local level.

Food Losses: **70 Tons** per year for each hub (250kg per day)

The first “Local Food Waste Hub” will be **hosted in a space** offered by the Municipality of Milan.

**Actors in the first pilot area**
- 5 private canteens, 3 supermarket, 1 street market,
- 5 non-profit organization

In the course of the pilot year the **input and output flows** of donation in the hub will be monitored and this knowledge will be spread to **another 35 local organizations** mapped by the Food Policy.
Building **common initiative** through workshops involving **35 local actions**. Presence of **funding opportunities** build by Municipality (1 mln euro), and Cariplo Foundation (5 mln euro).
The city is part of the Interreg CircE stakeholder group, led by Regional Authority, on circular economy focused on food waste.

Milan is supporting the Regional Authority for spreading the Tax Reduction in other Lombardy municipalities.
ENGAGING OTHER ITALIAN MUFPP SIGNATORY CITIES (2018)

Political talk with other Italian cities for sharing knowledge:
- **Rome** – Local network of food donation
- **Milan** – Tax reduction for food donation
- **Turin** – Redistribution from local markets
- **Genoa** – ICT platform and local network
- **Modena** – Food bag in canteens and restaurants
- **Cremona** – Actions in school canteens
1. Cities need to **analyze their food system** and public drivers **to discover food losses** (municipal agencies, public markets, school canteens, etc.).

2. Cities need to **understand and reinforce the local actors** active in networks of FLW for food donation.

3. Cities need to **create umbrella initiatives** (like platforms, networks, incentives, campaigns etc.) in order to offer concrete actions to their stakeholders and reach common goal.

4. **Urban networks** (Eurocities, FoodWIN, C40, etc.) play a fundamental role for exchanging experiences, inspire and train city officers.

5. Cities need **municipal officers dedicated to food policy** that will work with multidimensional approach engaging and facilitating common initiatives to different city departments, municipal agencies, research centers, food banks, main stakeholders and local actors, major food businesses.