Title of policy or practice: Menús "Hemengoak - De aquí" ("Hemengoak - From Here" Menus)

Subtitle (optional): Menudos Menús Menudos – A collaboration project for social change in which the Pre-Schools planted the seed and the Navarre Autonomous Community made it flourish.

URL video: https://youtu.be/Z3NoxwjVK4k

Category: Sustainable Diets and Nutrition

SDGs: 2,3,4,8,9,10,11,12,13,15.

The project directly or indirectly addresses 10 of the 17 SDGs. The implementation of policies at the local level with a regional approach favours cross-cutting actions with an impact on several Sustainable Development Goals.

2. No Hunger: In Pamplona's Pre-Schools children from low-income families have access to ecological, fresh, seasonal and local food.

3. Good Health: Through the use of healthy products in the menus of the Pre-Schools, we promote the good health of the children and of the school staff.

4. Quality Education: This project is in close relation with the Educational Approach of our Pre-Schools. It's a project that seeks well-being, respect, support and inclusion in initiatives related to respect for the culture of childhood and of environment.

8. Good Jobs and economic growth: The project stimulates local economic growth by improving the conditions of producers and distributors, especially those in the ecological sector.

9. Innovation and infrastructure: The project has allowed, through collaboration with the Government of Navarre, the creation of the EKOALDE Collection Centre – an initiative within the framework of the Rural Development Programme (PDR) to generate innovation and knowledge about ecological production and short marketing channels.

10. Reduced inequalities: Thanks to children's access to quality food, we reduce inequalities. The at-risk-of-poverty rate in Navarre is 21.7% of the population.

11. Sustainable cities and communities: The project helps to improve the relationship between urban and rural areas in Pamplona and its surroundings, and provides the inhabitants of the city with locally produced quality food, increasing the resilience of the territory.

12. Responsible Consumption: The project helps to raise awareness of local production and distribution processes within the families of boys and girls who access Hemengoak menus and provides an incentive to improve the nutritional habits of society in general.

13. Climate action: The project is integral: it promotes sustainable agriculture and rewards ecological agriculture, while reducing transport emissions and intermediaries. It also eliminates food processes such as freezing which has a high energy consumption.

15. Life on land: The sustainable and ecological crops that sustain this project prevent soil degradation and promote the recovery of ecosystems.

Brief description: The "Hemengoak - De aquí" project aims to promote the creation of a sustainable and healthy local food system in Pamplona's Pre-Schools (11) and is part of the strategy toward food sustainability adopted by the Pamplona Municipality after the signing of the Pact of Milan in 2016.

We started working in collaboration with regional entities (INTIA and CPAEN), the Grupo de Compra pública de Navarra [Public Sales Organization of Navarre] and different areas of Municipal government. The underlying idea is that a change in the Public Recruitment Local Policy will give a boost to the local ecological and productive sector, allowing the Pre-Schools to have a quality and short supply chain food.
We would like to highlight two goals of the project: The new LEY FORAL 2/2018, OF APRIL 13, on PUBLIC CONTRACTS and the direct municipal management of the Pre-Schools, which now have their own kitchen, dining rooms and staff.

The overall aim was to introduce healthy menus (50% ecological and local) in the 11 Pre-Schools of Pamplona, offering 1,106 meals a day for children and educators – with 1,000 direct beneficiary families. This starts a new model through which the dining room project is seen with a holistic vision: a circular economy philosophy goes hand in hand with training and transformation of the food habits, toward a concept of alimentation as a collective thing. It encourages a healthy relationship between children and food, hoping that this will be the basis of enduring healthy habits.

With this project, we created a pioneering public tender in Spain, favouring the improvement of the productive and distribution fabric, while building a model for other Municipalities. It is currently active in two schools with great success and, after the allocation of the supply and management lots, currently in process, it will be extended to the other 9 Pre-Schools.

**Date of start and state (ongoing/completed)**

10/2016
Ongoing

**Actors and stakeholders involvement**

- Local Government. Pamplona Municipality:
  - Education Department - Pre-Schools,
  - Mayor’s Office, Pamplona Municipality Strategic Office,
  - Environment Department

- Regional government:
  - INTIA-Tecnologías e Infraestructuras Agrarias de Navarra [Technologies and Agricultural Infrastructures of Navarre].
  - CPAEN: Consejo de la producción agraria ecológica de Navarra [Council for Organic Agricultural Production in Navarre].

- Civil Society:
  - Grupo de compra pública de Navarra [Public Sales Organization of Navarre]
  - Menjadors ecologics

**Approach**

Link to the box with bullet list:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vo8Z49ToJVQDgow9Bsn7APUL6ra___gAY/view?usp=sharing

We put the link because the program does not allow to introduce bullets.

**Innovation**

“Hemengoak - De Aquí” [“Hemengoak - From Here”] is a pioneering project at municipal, autonomous community and state level, due to its magnitude and holistic philosophy. It strives to unite interdependent and inseparable elements within the notion of the Public as common good, and it promotes the welfare of people and the environment.

It combines political decisions and logistic organization to structure the local small and medium production. Through that, a new creative relationship between the urban and the rural areas is established. Moreover, this can be seen as a laboratory to test the future expansion of this project – that will be achieved through public tender – gradually complying with the values of the Spanish Urban Agenda – “El camino para conseguir pueblos y ciudades más humanos” [The Way to Achieve More Humane Towns and Cities] and the SDGs of 2030 Agenda.

This project is coherent with the Educational Approach of the Pre-Schools: a unique scenario that unifies the direct management of all the school staff (direction, educators, cooks, cleaning and technical staff), that has its own kitchens and dining rooms, that – for pedagogical coherence –
think that the educators should be in charge of food education, without the need of subcontracted
staff, and that wishes together with the families to propose conscious changes for a local and
sustainable food system.

| Impact | The social impact of the project is significant; on one hand, it develops in public Pre-Schools that
|        | provide their services to vulnerable populations, mainly children aged 0 to 3. Public schools
|        | provide their services to families from different social and economic backgrounds, favouring
|        | access to those with fewer resources – some under the poverty line. It was found that there are
|        | children whose main meal of the day (sometimes the only meal) is given at school. Pre-Schools
|        | are spaces of care, quality and multiculturalism, spread throughout the city.

|        | Another aspect of impact is the price of the menu: there has been no increase in budget due to
|        | the change of menus whatsoever, which helps to dismantle the idea that healthy and ecological
|        | eating is more expensive and allows to reduce resistance in public opinion. This phase has
|        | required major menu planning and extensive work with child nutritionists.

|        | There is also a computer system, created ad hoc, to determine the exact number of direct and
|        | indirect diners who benefit from the Hemengoak menu, alongside with the percentage of organic,
|        | fresh, local, seasonal and short circuit products consumed, the amount of food served and the
|        | waste generated.
|        | A monitoring system based on 31 indicators that enables to quantify the social, cultural and
|        | economic impact as well as fulfilment of goals, improvement of the quality of education and food,
|        | of the local productive system.

| Inclusion | This is a transversal project that contemplates three forms of inclusion:
|           | Thematic: It involves several municipal areas: Municipality, Environment, Urbanism and Education
|           | Departments.

|           | Territorial: This strategy, cooperative by its nature, builds a force for territorial inclusion that
|           | creates strength and brings a political, social, cultural and economic model to life. Since the
|           | beginning, work has been done with regional public bodies that work directly with the local
|           | productive sector: INTIA (www.intiasa.es) and CPAEN (www.cpaen.org). Without their
|           | collaboration and that of Grupo de Compra pública de Navarra [Public Sales Organization of
|           | Navarre], this project would have been unfeasible.

|           | Social: This is a multi-stakeholder project that has strengthened the local production and
|           | distribution system, bringing products and producers closer to the citizens, in particular to Pre-
|           | School students and their families.

|           | It combines education with the values of a healthy and resilient diet with ecological values and co-
|           | responsibility. In order to make this project real, we create alliances, relationships, interdependent
|           | and complementary communication channels that give strength and identity to our idea of
|           | territorial and social relations – that of a sustainable and real utopia.

|           | A project is being initiated to transfer the practice to other cities through the Ciudades por la
|           | Agroecología network [Network of Cities for Agroecology]. Moreover, communication and diffusion
|           | actions will be launched in the city at the end of 2019.

| Adversity coefficient | The adversity conditions have been mainly administrative and social.

|           | The greatest difficulty or weakness of the project, with regard to one of its fundamental aspects –
|           | the organization of the complex public tender – consisted in the lack of any reference points. It
was thus necessary to "invent" and imagine the characteristics of a public tender that complied with the Public Contracts Law, while at the same time being coherent with the principles of the project and finding a way to overcome as much as possible the limitations and rigors imposed by the Law itself and the administrative bureaucracy.

Another challenge has been to guarantee Food Safety, which has required an integrated approach with a prior risk and control points analysis, alongside with new general and specific hygiene rules and quality control.

The specifications created and approved establish a reference base at national level to serve as a model, inspiration and example for other cities and Municipalities, near and far from the city. These specifications are intentionally structured in different lots to facilitate the incorporation of small and medium producers, and give value to proximity, short supply chains, an educational relationship with the project, traceability, social and environmental commitments including gender equality and promotion of youth employment.

On the other hand, it has been important to face from the beginning a possible weakness: any transformation and change project involves forming teams that are committed and involved in it. This project can count on a political majority, but not a political consensus in Pamplona Municipality, which adds a problem not to be underestimated, that could affect its future development. This project also generates resistance to change in some families because it breaks with their cultural eating habits or because it causes fear of introducing it.

In addition, being a new multi-stakeholder project, it’s difficult to coordinate all the involved parties, also because many of them had never worked together before. This implies an extra difficulty in the coordination (also due to the fact that this sector of producers is still in a structuring phase). But all these challenges can be surpassed by the passion for the fundamental values of the project.