

City Livorno	
Country	Italy
Population	160,000
Title of policy or practice	Food Strategy of Livorno
Subtitle (optional)	
URL video	
Category	Governance
SDGs	<p>SDGs: 2,3,4,11,12,13,14,15,17.</p> <p>The Food Strategy of Livorno (FSL) has been developed throughout an institutionalised participatory-deliberative food planning process (SGD 11). It is a new governance arrangement of the Municipality of Livorno to ensure access to healthy and sustainable diet to all citizens by re-connecting the city with rural areas and the sea through the development of a sustainable local and regional agri-fish-food system (SDG13-14-15).</p> <p>The FSL involves concrete actions to meet specific SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • alleviating food poverty (SDG2); • increasing access to healthy food from local and regional sustainable agriculture and fisheries (SDG 3); • promoting food literacy (SDG4); • reducing food waste (SDG 13-14-15).
Brief description	<p>The reasons behind the development of the Food Strategy of Livorno (FSL) rise from the understanding that the transition to sustainable and fair food systems is pivotal to secure healthy and environmentally sustainable cities. Furthermore, cities can be drivers of this transition by re-orienting their food supply and distribution systems toward the re-construction of sustainable local food systems.</p> <p>Throughout a participatory-deliberative food planning process, co-financed by the Tuscany Regional Law on Participation, citizens and all local cross-sectors food system stakeholders of Livorno co-constructed together with experts and the local government the FSL, an innovative food governance arrangement structured as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Food Plan (FP): integrates the full spectrum of urban food system issues within a single strategic plan. The FP of Livorno identifies the vision, strategy and actions to ensure access to healthy and sustainable diets to all citizens of Livorno in a healthy and safe environment. • the Integrated Food Policy (IFP): is a metapolicy aiming at integrating in a coherent framework all the fragmented and disconnected municipal policies impacting on the food system. The IFP identifies the concrete actions every single member of the executive body of the municipal government will take to implement the FP accordingly to their individual competences. • the Food Citizenship Pact (FCP): which, on one hand, defines the citizens' right to food as a citizenship right and, on the other, identifies the corresponding responsibilities of citizens and businesses. • the Food Council (FC): a group of people representative of the different actors involved in the food system - from producers to consumers, which functions, among others, as Advisory Committee of the Municipality, to evaluate, provide recommendations and assist the local government in implementing updating, and innovating the FSL.

Date of start and state (ongoing/completed)	01/2017 Ongoing
Actors and stakeholders involvement	The FSL has been developed involving citizens and all cross-sectors local food system stakeholders. The group of participants included: citizens, civil servants of the municipality, representative of farmers and fishermen association and organizations, teachers involved in food education, farmers, fishermen, food businesses, other sectors' associations and organisations.
Approach	The four phases of the participatory-deliberative food planning process: 1. Community mobilization engagement and network building. 2. Discuss, design and deliberate: participants were empowered in policy design and decision making: FP, FC and FCP. 3. Institutionalised commitment: experts assisted the Local Executive Committee (<i>Giunta Comunale</i>) in developing the IFP. 4. Final deliberation: participants discussed and deliberated the final version of FP, FC and FCP. The FCP was signed by both participants and the Vice-Mayor.
Innovation	The first innovation is the structure of FSL, it is the first experience where a Food Strategy has been conceptualised and developed as a single institutionalised governance arrangement combining in a coherent framework a FP, an IFP, a FCP and a FC. The second is the IFP. It is the very first experience, where every single member of the executive body of a local government committed individually to implement a food policy according to a formalised document. The third is the FC, it is the first case in Italy of a FC created by a local government and it was institutionalised by the City Council as <i>Consulta Comunale</i> , an advisory committee of the Municipality. The fourth is the institutionalisation of the right to food. The City Council of Livorno introduced the right to food within the Principles of the Statute of the Municipality of Livorno. The fifth is that the FSL is the first experience of institutionalised participatory-deliberative food planning. Unlike other experiences of urban food strategies, where citizens and stakeholders have been "consulted" or at most "involved" in decision making, in the FSL planning process they were empowered to deliberate decisions and then the local government adopted their decision. The FSL was financed by the Tuscany Law on Participation, which is bounded, among others, to the signing of a Declaration of the Local Authority by means of which the local authority commits to implement the decisions taken during the participatory process.
Impact	<p>The evaluation of the impacts of the FSL it is not applicable since the planning process of the FSL ended in April 2018. Nevertheless, the local government is already implementing the FSL. At social level the Municipality financed the project "3 S": aiming at, first, promoting food education among primary schools' students, their parents and teachers and, second, developing a new model of school meal system coherent with the principles of the FSL. As part of the "3 S" project, the Municipality renovated a public building and built a "Public Kitchen".</p> <p>The Municipality got the funding from the Regional Law on Participation for the project "Right to Food". The aims of the project are, first, to act on food waste prevention through education and, second, on food waste reduction through donation to charities that provide free meals for vulnerable people.</p> <p>One of the most relevant environmental problems in Italy is the hydrogeological instability. As part of the IFP, the new Urban General Plan acts to: re-orienting to a zero urban sprawl strategy, re-defining the land use destination of peri-urban areas from park to agricultural areas considering local agriculture as a mean for reducing hydrogeological instability, mapping all green areas within the urban settlement and transforming most of them into urban gardens thanks to the Regional project "100,000 Urban Gardens".</p>
Inclusion	The FSL addresses thematic inclusion integrating all the MUFPP categories. Indeed, the goal of

the IFP is to integrate in a coherent framework all the fragmented and disconnected municipal policies impacting on the food system. To make this possible also at an administrative level, the local government formally created a specific “coordination group”, composed of civil servants from different administrative sectors in order to coordinate their activity coherently with the IFP.

Social inclusion is the quintessence of the FSL which has been co-constructed through an institutionalised participatory-deliberative process. Also in the implementation of the IFP the local government is promoting the co-construction of public policies involving citizens, civil society organizations and businesses. A concrete example of this co-production of a public policy and more specifically of a social policy is the project Right to Food where alleviation of food poverty and reduction of food waste are co-produced among the Municipality, charities and businesses.

Considering the territorial inclusion, the FSL should be extended to Regional level to be more effective. The FSL represents the best practice that the Regional Government can adopt to develop a Regional Food Strategy. The Municipality of Livorno is supporting the idea of a Regional Food Strategy and it is working to develop a network among the Tuscan municipalities working on Food Policies.

Adversity coefficient

As described above, one of the most relevant environmental problems in Italy is the hydrogeological instability mainly due to land abandonment in rural areas and urban sprawl.

The night between the 9th and 10th a devastating flooding due to heavy rainfall in a very short period of time and to hydrogeological instability caused nine deaths and millions of euros of damage to property and infrastructure in Livorno.

How should this issue be tackled?

The local government decided to direct its urban planning toward a structural risk prevention policy by, among others, reinforcing local agriculture. Indeed, agriculture in addition to the production of food, also provides many ecosystem services including land management and therefore the prevention of hydrogeological instability.

The Municipality of Livorno coherently developed and approved (9th April 2019) the new Urban General Plan - to be considered a core part of the IFP - acting to:

- re-orientation toward a zero urban sprawl strategy;
- re-definition of the land use destination of peri-urban areas from park to agricultural areas;
- mapping of all green areas within the urban settlement and transformation of most of them to urban gardens thanks to the Regional project “100,000 Urban Gardens”.