

| City | | Valencia |
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| Country | Spain | |
| Population | 798,538 | |
| Title of policy or practice | Estrategia Agroalimentaria València 2025 (Valencia Agrifood Strategy 2025) | |
| Subtitle (optional) | The Food Council of Valencia in the process of defining a new model of agri-food system for its territory. | |
| URL video | https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=BGnRlgtp5s | |
| Category | Governance | |
| SDGs | <p>SDG: 17.</p> <p>Valencia Agrifood Strategy 2025 has been elaborated from a multidisciplinary participative body and gathers different views on the challenges of the municipal agrifood system. For this reason, the vast majority of the SDGs are addressed. We mark the number 17 as the most representative of this broad list.</p> | |
| Brief description | <p>In the Municipality of València, during the last decade, there have been important mobilizations in defense of the urban and peri-urban agricultural territory, the Horta of Valencia (La Huerta de València). At the same time, a social fabric was progressively formed around the demand for Food Sovereignty and sustainable food. These social energies shaped by the idea of defending the territory and of the food sovereignty developed in the last ten years. This lead to the creation of the Department of Agriculture, Horta and Towns of Valencia (Concejalía de Agricultura, Huerta y Pueblos de València) in 2015. In 2016, this Department implemented the Integral Action Plan for the Promotion of Municipal Agricultural Activity and Space (Plan de Acción Integral para la Promoción de la Actividad y el Espacio Agrícola Municipal: PAIPATA, 2018).</p> <p>The PAIPATA, a sector-specific plan, considers as a key strategic line the development of a Municipal Food Agenda, which in cooperation with the whole local administration and with the participation of the local socio-economic fabric, consolidates a favorable framework for the co-creation of municipal food policies. This commitment has led, between 2016 and 2018, to the city of Valencia providing a space for coordination and participation such as the Municipal Food Council and a strategy paper to guide municipal food policies in the next seven years as it is the Estrategia Agroalimentaria València 2025 (Valencia Agrifood Strategy 2025).</p> | |
| Date of start and state (ongoing/completed) | <p>07/2016 Ongoing</p> | |
| Actors and stakeholders involvement | <p>Financers: Municipality of Valencia/ the Department of Agriculture, Horta and Towns of Valencia. Daniel and Ninna Carasso Foundation.</p> <p>PROMOTERS: Municipality of Valencia.</p> <p>SOCIAL PARTNERS Cátedra Tierra Ciudadana-Universidad Politécnica de València. Justicia Alimentaria. Centro de Estudios Rurales y Agricultura Internacional. (Centre for Rural Studies and International Agriculture) Mundubat Foundation.</p> <p>MEMBERS: https://hortaipoblesvalencia.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/LISTADO-MIEMBROS-DEL-PLENO-DEL-CONSEJO-ALIMENTARIO.pdf</p> | |

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| Approach | <p>1. STEP 1 THEMATIC PARTICIPATIVE DIAGNOSIS: workshops, interviews, bibliographic study.</p> <p>2. STEP 2 DRAWING UP A DRAFT STRATEGY: short channels, governance, public procurements, agri-food entrepreneurs and fisheries.</p> <p>3. STEP 3 RESULTS:</p> <p>3.1 FOOD COUNCIL VALENCIA</p> <p>3.2 VALENCIA AGRIFOOD STRATEGY 2025</p> <p>On page 14 of the "Estrategia Agroalimentaria València 2025" pdf attached, you can have an overview of the main steps.</p> |
| Innovation | <p>In the case of the Municipality of Valencia, the process that led to the creation and approval of the Municipal Valencia Agrifood Strategy 2025 has meant the introduction of sustainable food as an incipient thematic axis in the city model of the Municipality.</p> <p>The Valencia Agrifood Strategy 2025 and the Municipal Food Council have managed to introduce sustainable and healthy food as a thematic area for the development of public policies in the Valencia Municipality. Food is conceived as an important axis in the configuration of the "city model" that the Municipality wants to promote.</p> <p>In the case of Valencia, agri-food policies are particularly relevant in relation to the city model insofar as the municipality is facing the challenge of revitalizing its productive agricultural environment, the Horta of Valencia.</p> <p>The Valencia Agrifood Strategy 2025, therefore, represents a very important step in the creation of its own Urban Food Agenda, in line with those strategies that at a metropolitan and regional level are progressing in the construction of sustainable food systems, such as the Plan for the Organization and Dynamisation of the Horta, the Plan for the Agricultural Development of the Horta or the 1st Plan for Ecological Production of the Valencian Community.</p> |
| Impact | <p>1. Placing sustainable food within the framework of social policies.</p> <p>Valencia Agrifood Strategy 2025 includes a whole strategic line of action in the field of the "Right to Food and Wellbeing". In the process of the development of the Valencia Agrifood Strategy 2025, actions on "food poverty and inclusion" were included in the 2019-2023 Social Services Plan.</p> <p>In 2019 the Department of Social Services of the Municipality of Valencia plans to launch a "diagnosis" on food poverty in the city. This diagnosis will be supervised and supported by different bodies of the Municipal Food Council that have been working on these issues in the city. In 2020, and as a result of this diagnosis, pilot projects are expected to be carried out by the Department of Social Services of the Municipality.</p> <p>2. Favoring and boosting access to land.</p> <p>The Municipality has created the municipal Land Bank. This tool seeks to promote access to land for people who wish to start productive projects, connecting and interfacing with people who own disused or not cultivated lands in the Horta of Valencia. Two transactions have been carried out so far.</p> |
| Inclusion | <p>Thematic Inclusion:</p> <p>The process of developing the Agrifood Strategy has required a significant effort to improve and strengthen intra-municipal coordination and communication.</p> <p>Short Commercialization Channels:</p> <p>The revision of the Ordinance Regulating Non-Sendental Sales, the creation of new Tiras de Contar (zero-kilometre local markets), the development of the APHORTA label or the design of the ECOTIRA have been coordinated by the Department of Markets, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Education and the Observatory of Climate Change.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture has also worked in coordination with the autonomous department of Health and Agriculture for the development of the Decree on Short Channels of Commercialization.</p> |

Adversity coefficient

Territorial Inclusion:

The Department of Agriculture has worked in coordination with the regional government in the creation of the Council of the Horta, a metropolitan governance body.

Social inclusion:

The creation and development of the Municipal Food Council, as well as many actions of the Integral Action Plan for the Promotion of the Municipal Agricultural Activity and Space have counted on social entities, socio-economic organizations. On the website of the Department of Agriculture you can check all the institutions that are part of the Municipal Food Council.

A Local Agro-ecological Dynamisation Project has been launched.

1. The critical condition of the Horta of València and the importance of sustainable food policies for its revitalisation.

In the case of Valencia, the development and consolidation of an Urban Food Agenda is a great challenge and an imperative need in the short term. This need is in response to the condition of serious deterioration of the Horta of València as an urban and peri-urban space when it comes to producing and supplying fresh food in close proximity to the local population.

The Horta of Valencia, due to urban expansion policies, has suffered significant environmental, cultural, economic and heritage degradation in recent decades.

A high percentage of the productive territory of the Horta has been replaced with urban land. There is a high percentage of abandoned lands. Small agricultural enterprises face many problems in order to be economically sustainable. Culturally it is necessary to redefine and value the role of the producer. It is necessary to protect and guarantee the existence of agricultural territory of the Horta.

The changes and the policies to be developed must rely on the needs of the producing population. For this purpose, a process of Local Agroecological Dynamisation has been undertaken in three territories of the Horta of Valencia with the goal of identifying possible solutions to the aforementioned challenges, while at the same time conceiving the productive sector as a collective subject with the power of influencing and making proposals.

2. The difficulties of structuring an integral and transversal food policy that goes beyond the sectoral approaches: horizontal and multilevel coordination.

One of the obstacles for the development and the creation of the Strategy has been the coordination between the different areas and departments of the Municipality of Valencia. It has been very difficult to link different departments with their own agendas, although significant progress has been made.

Coordination with other levels of the administration, especially in the metropolitan and autonomous area, is also an important challenge. The creation of the Metropolitan Council of the Horta of Valencia and the approval of the First Metropolitan Agricultural Development Plan should be highlighted as an important step in the whole process.