



# BARCELONA CHALLENGE

Good Food and Climate

ONE YEAR  
AFTER REPORT



**8<sup>th</sup> MUFPP Global Forum**  
Rio de Janeiro  
17th-19th October 2022

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# PREFACE

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Food systems -entailing activities that allow for the production, transformation, distribution and consumption of food- are responsible for over a third of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions<sup>1</sup>. Due to all that, food and agriculture are key triggers to cool down the planet.

The effort to promote local food systems (proximity) from an agroecological perspective (sustainable, healthy and decent) provides a roadmap, an alternative, since it has a high mitigating capability<sup>2</sup> for climate change and a potential for adaptation, it strengthens Food and nutrition security<sup>3</sup>, and has a key role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Local, agroecological based food systems promote<sup>4</sup> the recovery of a balanced relationship between nature and economy as proposed by the European Union Green Deal<sup>5</sup>. In addition to that, these food systems are less susceptible to incur in global markets price increases and promote fair, direct relationships between production and consumption preventing financial speculation<sup>6</sup> over food.

The alternative is already here and we must head towards it with firm and clear public policies that send a coherent message to society.

Although cities are not where food is produced, they consume over 70% of the world's production<sup>7</sup> and they often are where cultural norms are created regarding nutrition. Local entities lack significant jurisdiction over food systems but can promote food policies with relevant effects in the face of climate change, because they are closer to citizens and are more innovative and dynamic. For instance such actions as promoting deep changes in our diet<sup>8</sup> -opting for fresh plant based food that is locally and sustainably grown- together with the reduction of food waste in every step of the food chain, can be translated into a reduction of GHG emissions coming from cities

agrifood systems by 15%<sup>9</sup>. Thus, cities can develop various actions that contribute to the construction of local agrifood systems that guarantee access to sustainable, healthy, nutritious and sufficient diets and prevent food vulnerability at a time of global emergencies, such as the situation we are living in today.

Some cities are already on this journey and articulate international joint mechanisms such as *The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate*<sup>10</sup>, launched in 2021 by the Barcelona City Council, the Network of Spanish Municipalities for Agroecology, Red de Municipios por la Agroecología in Spanish (RMAe), the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP) and C40, among others. This is an international call for cities and its residents to make a commitment towards the transformation of their food systems in order to confront the climate emergency. So far it has been signed by 24 cities that bring together over 36 million people. Its goal is to reduce GHG emissions up to 11.17 million tCO<sub>2</sub>e per year, that is, the equivalent of the emissions of 2.4 million polluting cars, through fostering policies that make their food systems more sustainable and healthy. This initiative was launched during the MUFPP Global Forum that took place in Barcelona in October 2021 and will be relaunched in this year's edition, from the 17th to the 19th of October in Rio de Janeiro.

This report presents the coordinated effort of cities for the development of policies fostering the development of local, healthy, fair, and sustainable food systems and it provides current initiatives that promote food security and care for our planet's health. Projects like these showcase the kind of political decisions that cities can take nowadays to properly face historical challenges. From our position as municipalities we summon national authorities to reinforce the food transition for climate action.

1. <https://www.fao.org/news/story/pt/item/1379490/icode/>

2. <https://www.tierra.org/la-urgencia-de-una-transicion-agroecologica-en-espana/>

3. [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/HLPE/reports/HLPE\\_Report\\_14\\_ES.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/HLPE/reports/HLPE_Report_14_ES.pdf)

4. <http://www.fao.org/3/i9021es/i9021es.pdf>

5. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal\\_es](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_es)

6. <https://news.mongabay.com/2022/07/did-wall-street-play-a-role-in-this-years-wheat-price-crisis/>

7. <https://www.fao.org/3/i7658e/i7658e.pdf>

8. <https://eatforum.org/learn-and-discover/the-planetary-health-diet/#targetText=The%20planetary%20health%20diet%20is,of%20fruits%2C%20vegetables%20and%20nuts>

9. [https://c40.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2405\\_C40\\_Good\\_Food\\_Cities\\_Declaration\\_EN\\_Final\\_-\\_CLEAN.original.pdf](https://c40.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2405_C40_Good_Food_Cities_Declaration_EN_Final_-_CLEAN.original.pdf)

10. <http://thebcnchallenge.org/>



# THE ROLE OF THE MILAN URBAN FOOD POLICY PACT IN TRANSFORMING URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS

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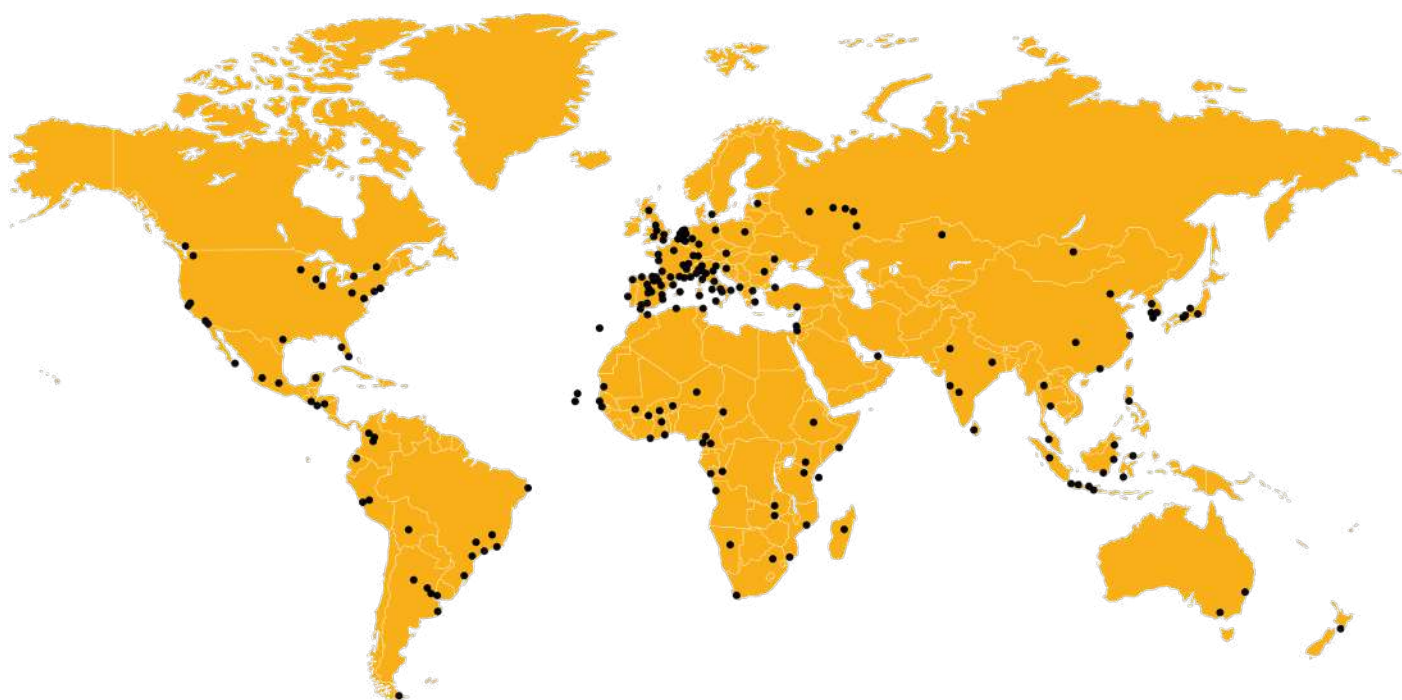
Since 2010, the number of people that live in urban areas have surpassed those that live in rural areas. Today, approximately 55% of the world's population lives in urban areas, and that figure will increase up to 68% by 2050, with almost 90% of this increase happening in Asia and Africa. The growing urbanisation suggests that cities are home to the majority of people whose daily food choices have the power to shape food systems at the local and global scale.

Current challenges at the national and international level such as climate emergency, rising inequalities, depletion of fossil fuels, population increase and restricted agricultural resources are problems that states and cities are attempting to address in various ways. Some of the main concerns for citizens and policymakers are: access to healthy food at affordable prices, consumption of seasonal fruits and vegetables, protection of rural farmers and their lands, shortening of the food supply chain, and the establishment of school meals with local-grown produce.

Because of the increased population that lives in urban areas, food has turned into a crucial aspect of the political agenda, both at the local and the international level. Fast urbanisation and climate-related hazards are impacting food production, food and nutrition security altogether. It is thus essential to redesign food systems by considering all of its dimensions such as sustainability, planet, climate, health, equality and fair access to resources.

The MUFPP is an international agreement between Mayors *to develop sustainable food systems that are inclusive, resilient, safe and diverse, and that provide healthy and affordable food to all people at all times*. Increased food prices, economic crisis, geo-political turmoils, disruptions in production and transportation directly impact consumers, especially the most vulnerable groups in city regions that are highly dependent on affordable food.

In 2014, the Mayor of Milan started to work on an international protocol to address food-related matters at the urban level to be adopted by as many cities worldwide as possible. The Expo Milan 2015, with the theme "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life", was seen as an opportunity to formally launch the MUFPP. The Pact was signed on 15 October 2015 by more than 100 cities and represents one of the major legacies of Expo Milan 2015. As of September 2022, 243 cities from 79 countries have signed it.



11. <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb4181en>

The Steering Committee, elected every two years on a regional basis, is in charge of governing the Pact and has the duty of representing the cities belonging to the different areas of the world. It is composed of 13 members, two per each MUFPP region and the Mayor of Milan, as permanent Chair.

The aim of the Pact is to support and encourage cities' exchange on food policies and to provide concrete tools to cities wanting to make their food system more sustainable. Food is seen as an entry point to tackle some of the most urgent challenges: from climate emergency to food waste reduction, from biodiversity conservation to water management, from better nutrition for all to the fight against noncommunicable diseases. Indeed, cities and their citizens are on the front line facing the most pressing issues mentioned above. At the same time, they represent perfect test-beds for innovative approaches that can be scaled up and adopted in other cities.

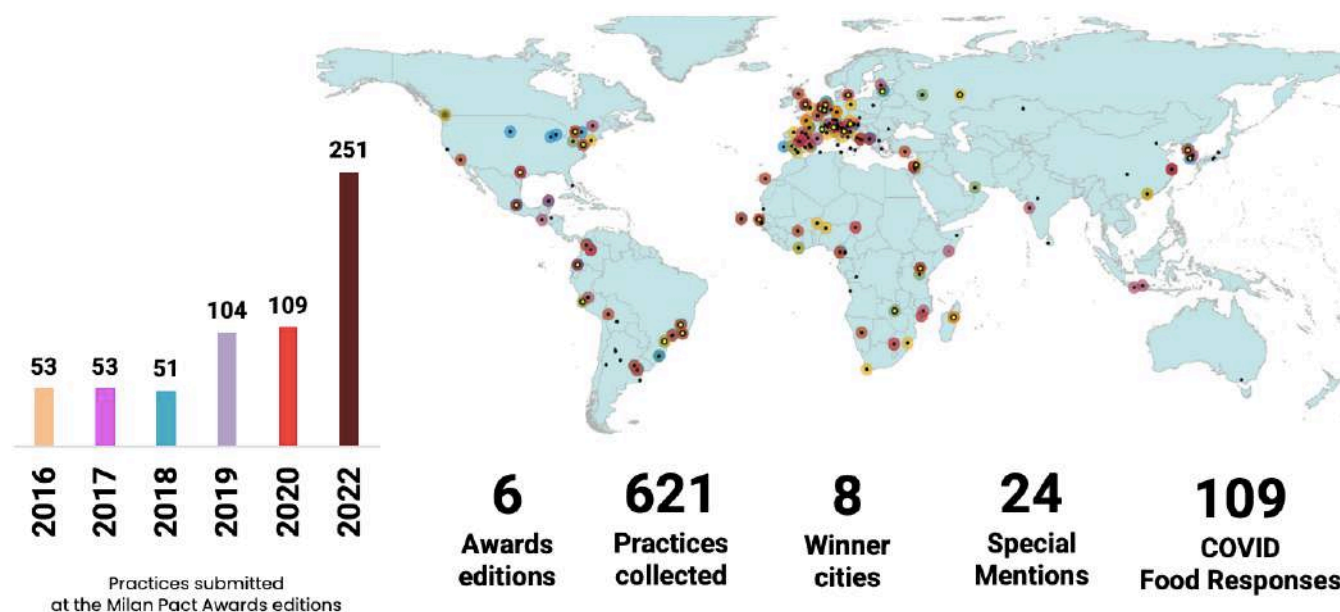
The Pact is composed of a Preamble and a Framework for Action listing 37 recommended actions, clustered in 6 categories (Governance, Sustainable Diets & Nutrition, Social & Economic Equity, Food Production, Food Supply & Distribution, Food Waste). Cities that join the Pact can decide to implement all recommended actions or choose just a few, adapting them to their local context and needs.

Thanks to the collaboration with the FAO and the RUAF, each recommended action of the MUFPP Framework for Action has its own specific indicators. The whole Monitoring Framework is composed of 44 indicators that

monitor progress while implementing the Pact and help cities transition to sustainable food systems. A practical handbook provides guidance on how to implement an urban food policy monitoring framework, with further guidance for each of the 44 suggested indicators<sup>11</sup>.

Among the main objectives of the Pact is the exchange of knowledge and learning between cities. The different challenges and experiences of cities inspired the design of the Milan Pact Awards (MPA). Signatory cities are invited to submit their best food practices in the six categories of the Pact, promoting city-to-city peer-learning for the development of stronger and sustainable urban food systems. An international committee of experts coming from universities, civil society and international organisations, evaluates the submissions in order to identify winners in each category. In this way, the Milan Pact Awards represents an opportunity for cities to showcase their work at the international level and inspire action of other member cities. The 2022 edition of the MPA was the most successful so far: 133 signatory cities submitted 251 best practices, confirming that cities and their governments are aware of the role that food has in achieving fair and inclusive food systems. Since the beginning of the MPA, 621 best practices from cities all over the world have been collected. Indeed, cities and their territories are recognizing that their role is fundamental in generating adaptive responses across a wide range of social, economic and environmental challenges.

## Milan Pact Awards





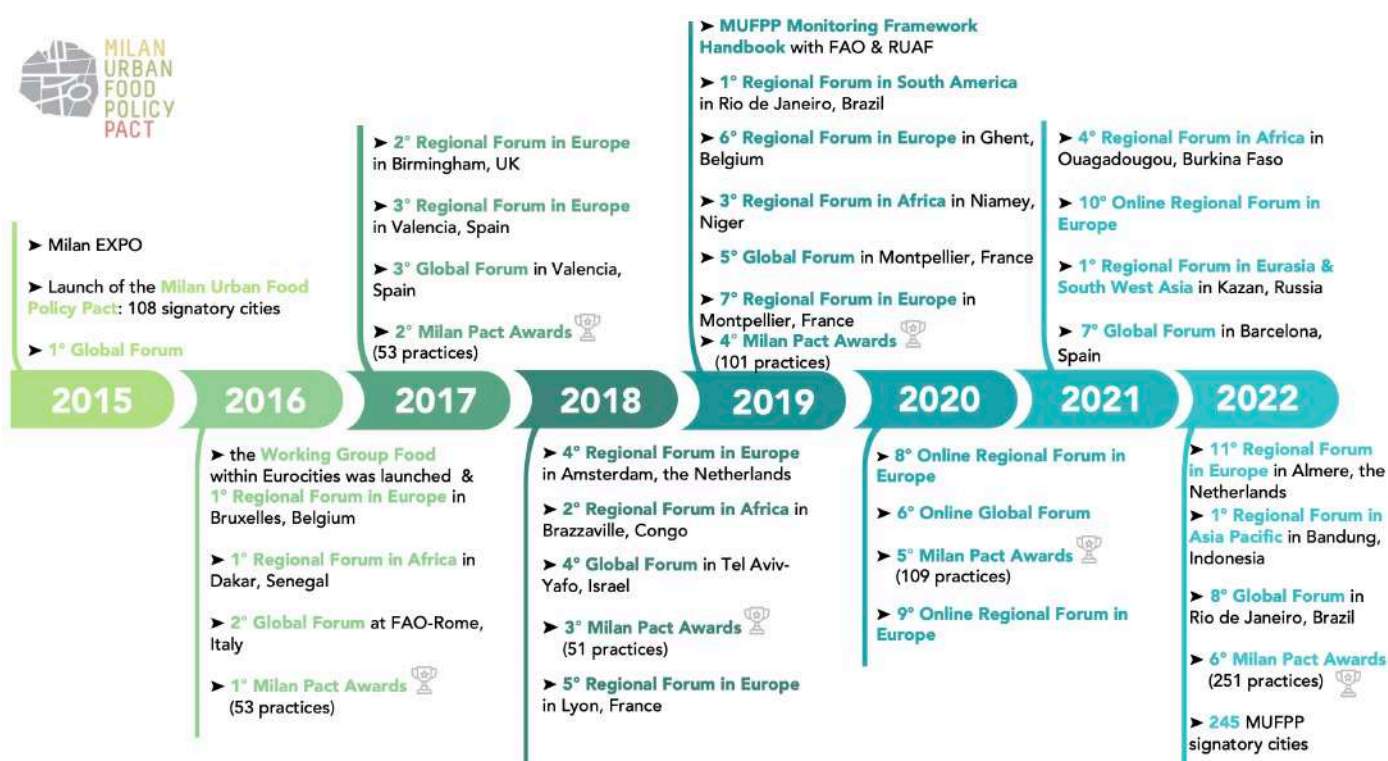
## Tracking food policies for climate action: Inclusion of climate action focus in the MUFPP Framework for Action

The Framework for Action builds upon the direct experience of participating cities and takes into account diverse commitments, goals and targets. While the recommended actions have been organised in thematic clusters, they should be seen as entry points towards achieving the common goal of sustainable food systems. In fact, cities can select, adapt and group the recommended actions into guidelines as necessary to suit their context and needs.

As for the existing focus on climate in the MUFPP Framework for Action, cities can take various steps to make their food systems more environmentally friendly. These include the adoption of sustainable approaches to urban and peri-urban agriculture, applying an ecosystem approach to guide holistic and integrated land use planning and management, enhancing opportunities for agro-ecological production, climate change adaptation, improving wastewater management and reuse in

agriculture and food production through policies and programmes that use participatory approaches. More climate-related actions include reducing carbon emissions through alternative fuel use or providing means of transportation for food delivery to low-income and underserved neighbourhoods, raising awareness on food loss and waste which can result in a reduced amount of wasted food and lower CO2 emissions, and saving food by facilitating recovery and redistribution. A number of the MUFPP monitoring framework indicators relate to these actions and can be further customised.

The year 2025 will mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the MUFPP. This will represent an opportunity for the integration of updated climate-related actions based on the latest scientific evidence and the cities' experience. In fact, over the past decade, the expertise and innovation of cities have skyrocketed and today they are ready to lead the global agenda in climate related actions connected to their food systems.





## NATIONAL CITY FOOD NETWORKS, A POWERFUL TOOL TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE, HEALTHY AND FAIR FOOD TRANSITIONS

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Local governments across the world are stepping up to the challenge of a healthy, fair and sustainable food transition while being confronted with the complexities of the food system which drives them to an increased collaboration with other local stakeholders, with different expertise and levers for change. Local food partnerships, food policy councils or other similar entities are emerging across the world and experimenting with new governance mechanisms that make the most of the varied experiences and resources of the public sector, civil society, businesses, researchers etc.

They are being confronted everywhere with a glass ceiling of national and international policies and regulations which prevent ambitious local action. For local governments working individually, these systemic barriers are almost impossible to lift, but when working together, things become much easier.

National city food networks are emerging in a number of countries due to the double imperative: learning from peers to find inspiration and support far and wide to inform new complex local food strategies; and, joining forces to make stronger demands from national and international governments to change the wider food ecosystem.

National city food networks vary in their remit, scope and degree of maturity. Spain, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Belgium, the Netherlands, Canada, the United States, and other countries are somewhere in the process of having up and running national city food networks.

### National City Food Networks' Core Functions

At their heart, a number of common core functions can be observed, which all contribute to enhancing the overall impact of local food projects and policies:

1. Providing a space for exchanging and learning about good practices, resources and acquiring expertise.
2. Promoting a systemic approach to food by welcoming and inspiring action on all aspects of healthy, fair and sustainable food (adapting production, transformation, distribution, tackling food poverty, food waste; promoting health, fairtrade, social cohesion; protecting climate, biodiversity, water, soil, air, etc).
3. Facilitating cooperation between a diverse range of local practitioners belonging to the public sector, such as civil society, businesses, researchers, etc; and national practitioners, such as NGOs, government departments, unions, public health, etc.
4. Providing technical support to its members for developing food policies and programmes.
5. Creating a shared positive vision of the future towards which they are working.
6. Facilitating the emergence of common demands and engaging in national and international advocacy

Above all national city food networks bring energy and a sense of common purpose to ambitious local governments and their local partners and, with the adequate set-up, they can act as an effective counter-power that can actually shape an alternative narrative to the current agribusiness model.

## National City Food Networks In Practice

Common activities observed in these networks include:

1. Tools for internal and external communication (website, social media, newsletters, email exchange lists ...).
2. Thematic workshops and webinars.
3. Annual conferences.
4. A resources toolbox.
5. Partnership building with national and international organisations and networks.

The vast majority of national city food networks are run by either a non-profit organisation or a partnership of them. This allows greater strategic flexibility as opposed to a government-run network.

The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate has been supported by 3 national city food networks, Red de Municipios por la Agroecología<sup>12</sup> (RMAe), Terres en villes<sup>13</sup> (TEV-FR) and Sustainable Food Places<sup>14</sup> (SFP-UK) which have experience in the practical details.

The networks have a national team made up of an operational team and a management board that together add up to different support capacities for their members: 2 FTE for RMAe, 5 FTE for TEV and 8 FTE for SFP. As to funding, it is a split between private foundations (54% for RMAe, 100% for SFP), members (15% for RMAe and TEV) and project-funding (30% for RMAe and 50% TEV).

The membership base also varies from a range of local administrations such as municipalities and other local entities for RMAe, urban inter municipalities and Chambers of Agriculture for TEV and local food partnerships for SFP.

Beyond the nature of the structure of the applying organisation, membership criteria are based on sharing a common ambition regarding food and farming transition (expressed via commitment to a Charter).

All networks work towards government recognition of their provision of a key support infrastructure for local governments and other practitioners working towards transforming food systems. This aims to ensure a certain level of future-proofing of the networks.

Increasingly, national city food networks are becoming intermediaries to better link and coordinate local, national and international scales of action to steer food systems' change. The voice of local governments and partners and the range of levers for change at their disposal are gaining visibility, as well as being better shared and valued thanks to the complementary work of their local agents and the support and coordination of national and international networks as can be seen in *The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate*.

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12. <https://www.municipiosagroeco.red/>

13. <https://terresenvilles.org/>

14. <https://www.sustainablefoodplaces.org/>

### 3 THE BARCELONA CHALLENGE FOR GOOD FOOD AND CLIMATE: A COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS GLOBAL HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHALLENGES FROM A MUNICIPAL PERSPECTIVE

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Drawing on the C40 Good Food Declaration<sup>15</sup> and the MUFPP, The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate is a call for cities and their residents to engage in a series of commitments related to the transformation of their food systems in order to tackle the climate emergency. This Challenge presents a set of core metrics, in the form of a toolkit, to help grasp the positive impact that these commitments could entail in practical terms for the city, its residents and the climate. In addition, the Challenge provides a platform to showcase the commitment and leadership of cities on the food-climate nexus in the context of the 2021 and 2022 MUFPP Global Fora and the United Nations Climate Change Conferences of the Parties.

The promoting organisations of this initiative are the Barcelona City Council, and the following city networks: RMAe, the MUFPP, C40, Terres en villes (France) and Sustainable Food Places (UK). Additionally, seven organisations are supporting it: RUAF, IPES -Food, the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration, Daniel and Nina Carasso Foundation, EAT, UCLG and Rikolto.

All of the information needed by the cities such as requirements, the process of commitment, and the resources generated for its fulfilment, are available on the website of *The Barcelona Challenge*<sup>16</sup>.

#### ***The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate proposal***

The Barcelona Challenge addresses two key issues: the mitigation of the climate emergency and the adaptation to it, through a commitment to transform local agri-food systems to ensure access to sufficient, sustainable, healthy and nutritious diets for all, therefore preventing food vulnerability and enhancing food justice.

#### **CHALLENGE 1**



#### **MITIGATION**

Reduce the GHG emissions of agri-food systems to limit global warming<sup>17</sup>.

#### **CHALLENGE 2**



#### **ADAPTATION**

Adapt local agri-food systems to enable them to be more resilient during extreme climate events.

15. [https://c40-production-images.s3.amazonaws.com/press\\_releases/images/415\\_C40\\_Good\\_Food\\_Cities\\_Declaration\\_EN\\_Final\\_-\\_CLEAN\\_3\\_.original.pdf?1570699994](https://c40-production-images.s3.amazonaws.com/press_releases/images/415_C40_Good_Food_Cities_Declaration_EN_Final_-_CLEAN_3_.original.pdf?1570699994)

16. <https://thebcnchallenge.org/>

17. Cities will be able to commit to a specific reduction in their agri-food systems' GHG emissions. The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate Toolkit can be used to estimate the projected magnitude of this reduction based on the proposals established in international scientific research. The toolkit also enables the user to estimate other multi-dimensional benefits (socio-ecological benefits and economic returns) of adopting healthy and sustainable diets for all. Cities are encouraged to commit beyond the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) which are at the heart of the Paris Agreement.

It aims to overcome these challenges by inspiring and supporting specific actions under the six action categories of the MUFPP. Each category encompasses a main focus for the actions to be undertaken and proposes specific action lines, 28 in total.



**1. Ensuring an enabling environment for effective action (governance):** The main focus for *The Barcelona Challenge* in this category is to establish coherent and participative governance mechanisms that allow for the co-production of public policies on climate, food justice, nutrition security and nature, in order to strengthen food systems resilience in the face of extreme climate events, and include food in local Climate Action Plans.



**2. Sustainable diets and nutrition:** The main focus is to ensure the transition to sufficient, sustainable, nutritious and culturally appropriate diets for the entire population, in line with the Planetary Health Diet guidelines by increasing overall healthy, plant-based food consumption and fully aligning public food procurement with the Planetary Health Diet by 2030.



**3. Social and economic equity:** The main focus is to embed the Planetary Health Diet and sustainable (agroecological) food supply approaches within services and programs addressing food vulnerability and poverty with special consideration given to the diet of children and other vulnerable groups.



**4. Food production:** The main focus is to promote sustainable, socially fair and equitable forms of production and processing of local, healthy food by ensuring the territorial planning and management of local resources.



**5. Food supply and distribution:** The main focus is to re-territorialise and restructure socially and economically viable food distribution and logistics networks (through wholesale, municipal, or farmers markets, local food networks, small food retailers and public food procurement services) to adapt them to extreme events and to reduce impact on nature and communities.



**6. Food waste:** The main focus is to reduce food loss and waste by 50% by 2030 (from a 2015 baseline), and reuse and recycle food and other food-related waste.

## From 2021 to 2022 Action Plan

The year 2021 became a turning point in which cities were recognized as key agents in shaping food and climate actions. The UN Food Systems Summit<sup>18</sup> culminated in September 2021 demonstrating the decisive role that food systems will play in achieving the SDGs, and highlighting the wide range of possible strategies for change (“game changers”) that can be put in place by a multitude of actors, including cities. Likewise, these two aspects were identified as critical issues at the COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference held in November 2021 in Glasgow. In this sense, the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration<sup>19</sup>, officially presented during COP26, represents a unified commitment by subnational governments to put food and farming at the heart of the global response to the climate emergency. The two aforementioned UN Summits have created a promising opportunity to put-forward political action regarding the food-climate nexus.

Within this context, an alliance of cities, city networks, expert groups and governmental agencies identified a window of opportunity to address the food-climate nexus by relaunching the Good Food Declaration in the context of the 7<sup>th</sup> MUFPP Global Forum held in Barcelona in October 2021: *The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate*.

2022 is considered as another strategic year to catalyse and make visible local food policies for climate action and *The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate* has developed three main actions. The first one involves the monitoring of cities’ commitments through the present report, “*The Barcelona Challenge, one year after*”, that compiles cities’ good practices on food policies<sup>20</sup>, presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> MUFPP Global Forum. The second

action consisted in the creation of a programme of learning exchange meetings for council technicians and elected officials from cities addressing climate change through sustainable and healthy food policies: the Peer to Peer (P2P) International Exchange meetings, held in May in Spain (Barcelona and Granollers), and in July in France (Metropolis of Lyon and Mouans-Sartoux). The third, and last action involved the dissemination of communication materials to visibilise the positive socio-ecological impact of the actions conducted by the cities. This was done through two common international communication moments aiming at generating more awareness of the Challenge. All the reports and materials generated are accessible in the Resources section of *The Barcelona Challenge* webpage<sup>21</sup>.

The 8<sup>th</sup> MUFPP Global Forum<sup>22</sup>, taking place in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) from 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> October, is an ideal platform to present the food policy initiatives carried out by the cities committed to The Barcelona Challenge. The theme of the event, “Food to Feed the Climate Justice: urban food solutions for a fairer world”, is aligned with the Challenge. The Forum will enable important discussion spaces to tackle the food and climate nexus from a municipal perspective.

In addition, the COP 27 UN Climate Change Conference<sup>23</sup> to be held in Sharm el-Sheikh (Egypt) from 7<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> November, will be key in the development of the international strategy for mitigation and adaptation to the climate emergency and *The Barcelona Challenge* aims to bring its proposal into the Conference.

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18. <https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit>

19. <https://www.glasgowdeclaration.org/>

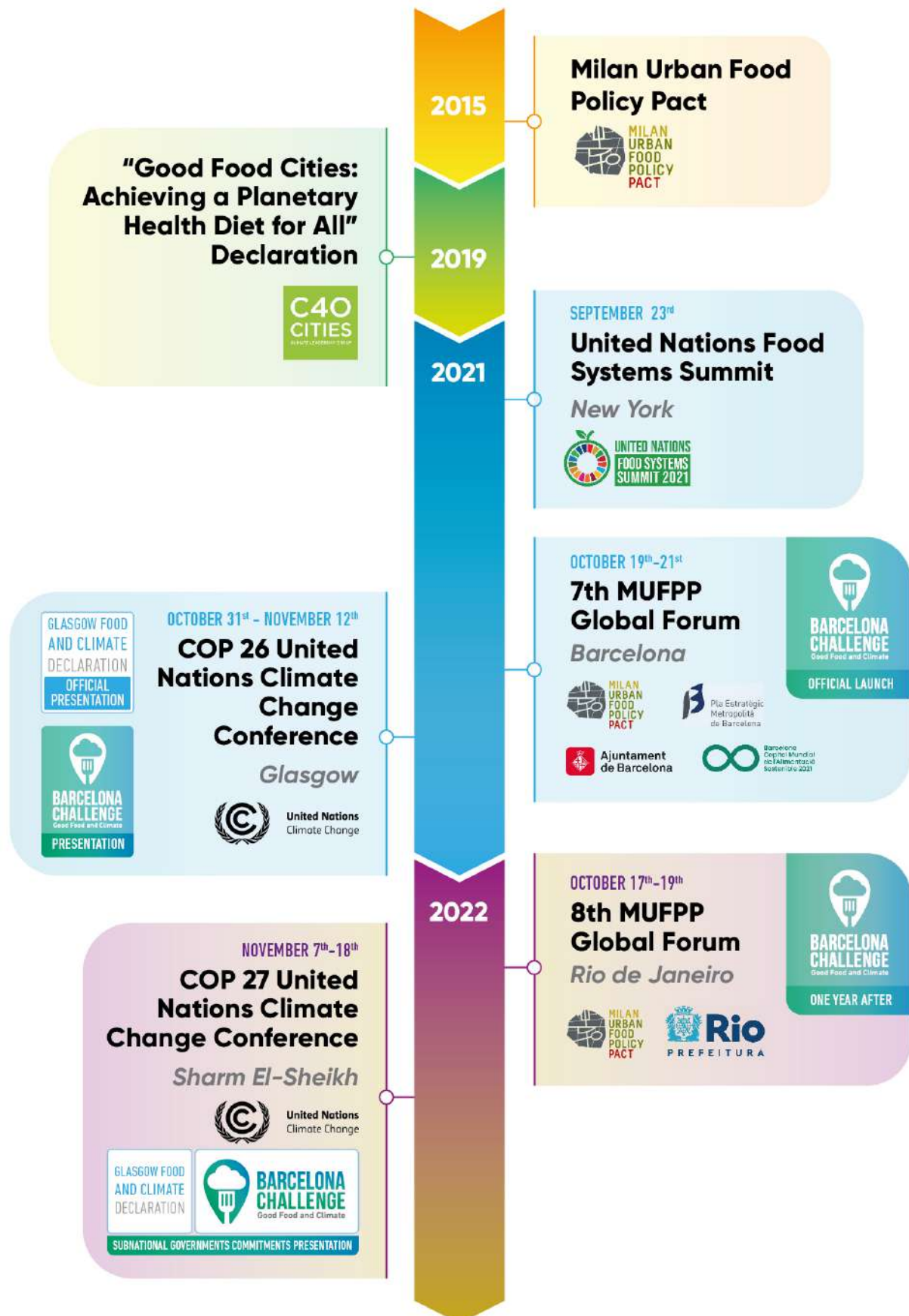
20. <https://thebcnchallenge.org/innovative-food-policies/>

21. <https://thebcnchallenge.org/resources/>

22. <https://www.milanurbanfoodpolicycompact.org/global-forum/barcelona-2021-2/>

23. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/conferences/sharm-el-sheikh-climate-change-conference-november-2022>

# ROADMAP



## 4

## THE OVERALL PROPOSAL OF THE MUNICIPALITIES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE BARCELONA CHALLENGE

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Since its launch in Barcelona in October 2021 during the 7<sup>th</sup> MUFPP Global Forum, *The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate*, has managed to ensure the commitment of 24 cities from 12 different countries to develop sustainable and healthy food policies for climate action. This global effort involves over 36 million people who, hand in hand with local food policies, are moving forward towards building fairer food systems that contribute to the mitigation of the climate emergency.

Cities have committed to *The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate*, via *The Barcelona Challenge's Toolkit*<sup>24</sup>, registering the actions already in motion or those set to be developed in the timeframe 2021-2030, under at least three of the categories of the MUFPP Framework for Action. This toolkit can be used to estimate the projected magnitude regarding the reduction of GHG emissions of the food policies adopted by cities committed to *The Barcelona Challenge*, based on current international scientific research. The toolkit also enables the user to estimate other multi-dimensional benefits (socio-ecological benefits and economic returns) of adopting specific actions to deliver healthy and sustainable diets for all. The scientific data on which the estimations are based can be consulted on the Methodological notes to *The Barcelona Challenge's Toolkit*<sup>25</sup>.

To obtain an estimation of the projected positive impacts, cities must first introduce the actions they are committed to deploy within the framework of *The Barcelona Challenge*, and the aspirational general quantitative targets of those actions.



24. <https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/>

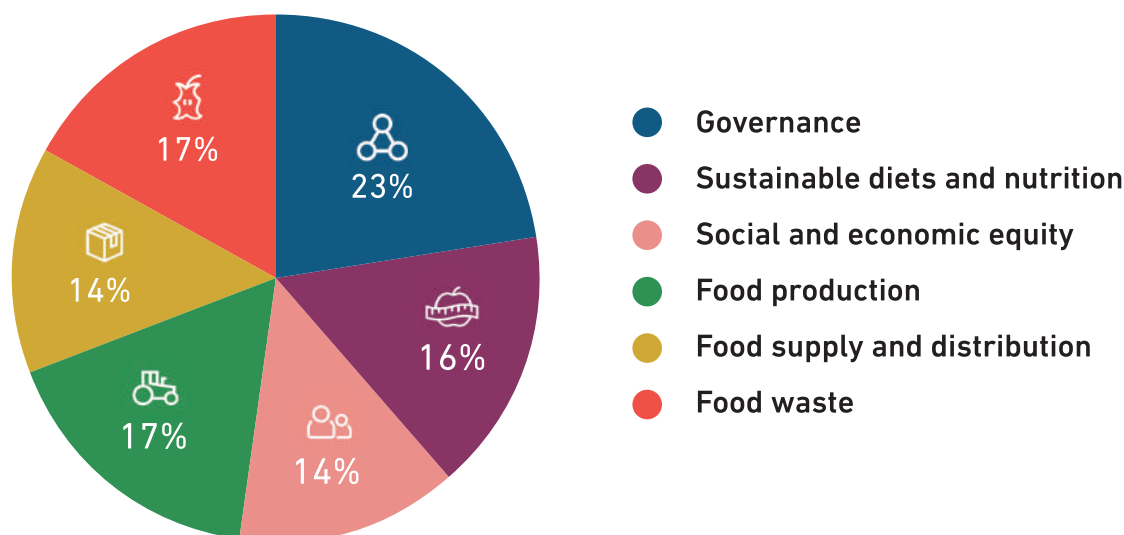
25. [https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/docs/MethodologicalNotesToolkit\\_EN.pdf](https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/docs/MethodologicalNotesToolkit_EN.pdf)

## Main actions committed

66.7% of cities committed to the Challenge suggest actions in each and every category, making up the core group of local entities that catalyse the development of comprehensive and innovative local food policies for climate change and that dynamise the addition of other cities, with high standards of commitment, to the process.

The signatory cities of *The Barcelona Challenge* propose to implement policies related to all suggested actions. Furthermore the Challenge framework understands that it can be tailored to local contexts and thus allows to present actions not contemplated within the core proposition. Two cities have proposed the development of six further actions (one in each category thus increasing the initial sum to 34).

### PERCENTAGE OF COMMITTED ACTIONS BY CATEGORY



Cities are working more intensely than ever in creating actions related to food systems governance. In this manner they seek to establish coherent and participative governance mechanisms that allow for the co-production of public policies regarding climate, food justice, nutrition security and nature. One main action is to include food in local Climate Action Plans, in order to strengthen food systems resilience in the face of extreme climate events. Within this framework it is worth noting that 79% of them have suggested creating a working group or department responsible for coordinating sustainable and healthy food policies within local government, ensuring transversal cooperation between at least the following municipal departments: economic development, health, environment, education, security, social rights, and equality. The aforementioned cooperation will strengthen the agro-ecological transition, provide multilevel policy coherence, all while ensuring urban/rural partnership (Action 1.1).

In the scope of Sustainable Diets and Nutrition, the commitment of 66.7% of cities to the development of campaigns to raise public awareness stands out. More specifically, such actions aim to involve residents with the Planetary Health Diet or a similar one that is based on locally produced, sustainable and healthy food, mostly plant-based (fruit, vegetables, cereals, legumes and nuts), and a reduced consumption of meat, dairy and ultra-processed food, high in fat, sugar and salt (Action 2.2).

Related to other policies to achieve social and economic equity, 62.5% of cities opt for the design of policies that enable access to local, sustainable and/or organic food in social facilities for food provision such as food banks, community kitchens, social supermarkets, delivery services for the vulnerable, and voucher schemes, aligned with the requirements of the Planetary Health Diet or a similar diet (Action 3.1).

In Food Supply and Distribution, 58.3% of cities are focused on working in providing public and accessible spaces for the distribution of local, nutritious and organic produce: wholesale, municipal or farmers markets; local food networks; small food retailers, etc. (Action 5.2).

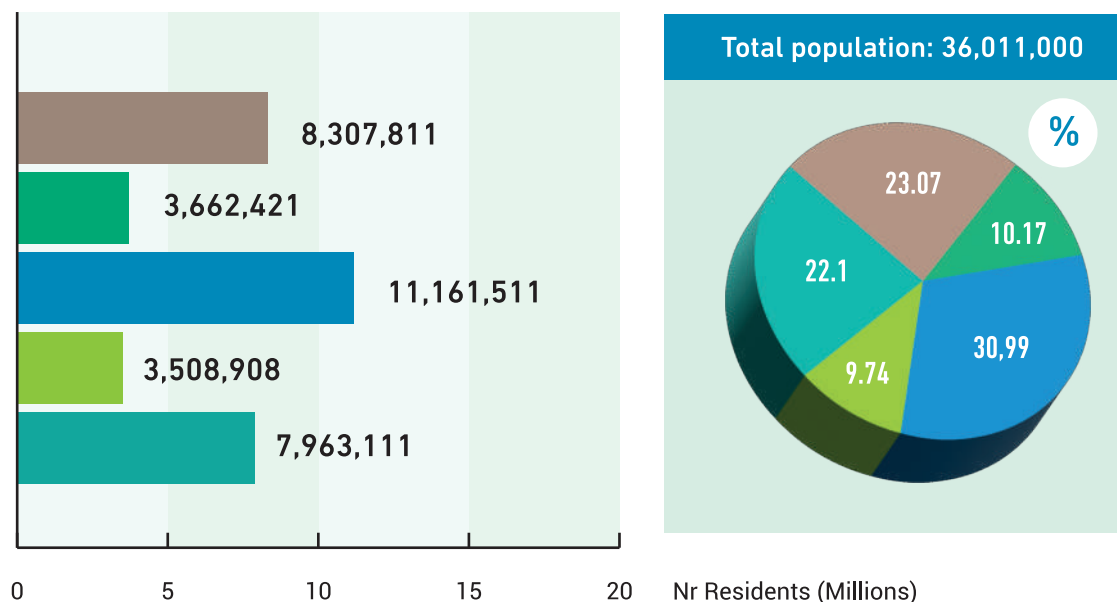
When analysing the actions that are of greater interest for the signatory cities of the Challenge it is obvious which are the priorities at the moment: planning and constructing physical and social infrastructures that create fair, healthy and sustainable food systems; creating tools that promote citizen participation as well as cooperation and coordination between municipal departments and administrations; and reinforcing the role of citizens as educated and informed actors.

In the opposite sense we can underscore several actions that have been less implemented by the cities, two of them related to Food Waste, which amounts to close of 6% of GHG emissions of food systems. Less than 12.5% of municipalities seek to move forward in developing a regulatory framework that limits food waste and the practices that increase it, throughout the supply chain (i.e. for producers, processors, the food service industry, and retailers) (Action 6.2) and support business initiatives that reduce packaging, promote its reuse and create and use sustainable alternatives that reduce plastics throughout the food supply chain (Action 6.5). It would be necessary to tackle the limitations that prevent the advancement of cities in these lines of action.



## Aspirational quantitative targets

The continuous bid of the 24 cities can be seen in the following figure.



- Nr. of residents assuming the Planetary Health Diet
- Nr. of residents shifting to an organic diet
- Nr. of residents consuming food regionally and locally produced
- Nr. of residents shifting to an organic and regionally/locally produced diet
- Nr. of residents adjusting food intake and assuming food waste reduction options

It is worth noting that the largest quantitative goal established by all cities is to increase the number of residents consuming regionally and locally produced food. The aspirational quantitative target established for this parameter amounts to 30.99% of the total sum of the population of the cities.

As seen in the *Methodological notes to The Barcelona Challenge's Toolkit*, the impact on GHG reduction of incorporating an organic food diet is on average larger than what the adoption of the Planetary Health Diet, the consumption of locally or regionally produced food or adjusting food intake and assuming food waste reduction options would yield. However the cities' proposal gives priority to building city-region food systems that contribute to increased food sovereignty in its territories.

Within that territorial context cities intend to convert to organic farming schemes a total of 1,998,589 ha, that represents 81.98% of the certified organic crop land in Spain, which ranks first in Europe and third in the world<sup>26</sup> in terms of its extension of organically certified land and organic production.

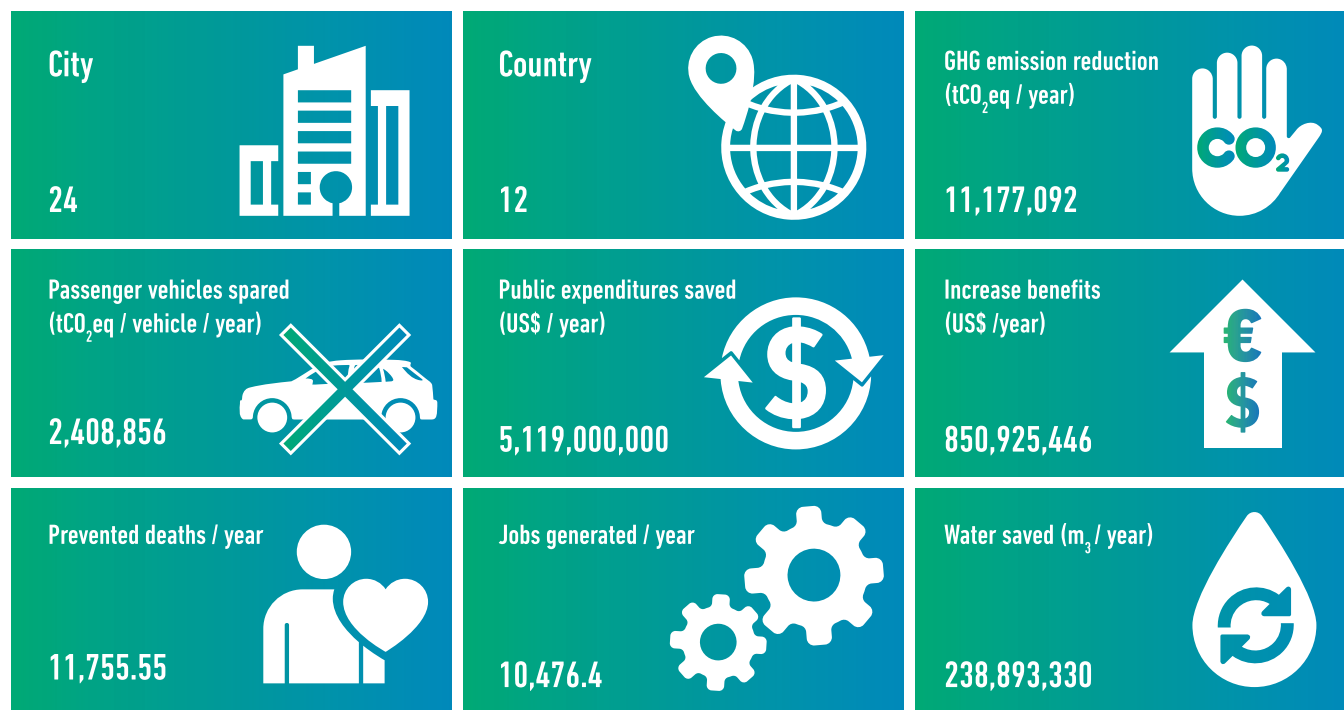
One of the most relevant proposals of the member cities of the Challenge is to allow for continuity and to promote new municipal, non-sedentary and farmers markets until we reach the amount of 3,749.

26. <https://www.mapa.gob.es/es/prensa/ultimas-noticias/el-10--de-la-superficie-agraria-en-espa%C3%B1a-ya-es-ecol%C3%B3gica-y-supera-los-24-millones-de-hect%C3%A1reas-en-2020-/tcm:30-565760>

## Expected annual projected benefits

The toolkit estimates the projected benefits of the food policies overall and annually. These benefits are distributed along different territorial and administrative levels, beyond city boundaries.

The following figures show the expected benefits of the joint aim of the cities of the Challenge.



## Expected outcomes of The Barcelona Challenge

The target that the European Union and its Member States established in the nationally determined contribution (NDC)<sup>27</sup> is a economy-wide net domestic reduction of at least 55% of GHG emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 and with a timeframe implementation from 01/01/2021 to 31/12/2030.

The proposal of cities as related to GHG emissions is remarkably powerful as it amounts to 46.96% of the goal established by the European Union in the NDC.

In second place stands the proposal for public spending savings by the increased yearly benefits. Both figures represent 7.64% of Spanish public health expenditure in 2021<sup>28</sup>.

Related to yearly prevented deaths, the joint commitment of cities amounts to 59.37% of road deaths in the EU in 2021<sup>29</sup>.

Job creation through the Challenge represents 0.36% of Spain's current unemployment<sup>30</sup>.

Finally, the cities make a joint submission for yearly water savings that amounts to 3.78% of what the population of Spain uses in a day<sup>31</sup>.

The comparisons established with the quantitative proposal of cities from *The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate*, bring us to a reassuring scenario in terms of climate mitigation that could expand significantly with more ambitious goals by local governments as well as a larger number of member cities.

27. [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/EU\\_NDC\\_Submission\\_December%202020.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/EU_NDC_Submission_December%202020.pdf)

28. Spanish public health expenditure in 2021 was 81.6 billion euros: <https://www.redaccionmedica.com/secciones/sanidad-hoy/el-gasto-sanitario-en-espana-crece-5-600-millones-en-2021-2691>

29. 19,800 road deaths in 2021 in Europe: <https://www.epe.es/es/internacional/20220328/muertes-carretera-europa-datos->

30. 2,883,812 unemployed people in July 2022 in Spain: <https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/serviciosdeprensa/notasprensa/trabajo14/Paginas/2022/020822-datos-paro.aspx>

31. Average home water consumption was 133 litres per person in 2020: [https://www.ine.es/prensa/essa\\_2020.pdf](https://www.ine.es/prensa/essa_2020.pdf)



# MUNICIPAL INNOVATIVE FOOD POLICIES

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*Secretariat Red de Municipios por la Agroecología*

**María Carrascosa**

*Head of Food and Climate, Red de Municipios por la Agroecología*



**Sustainable diets  
and nutrition**

Action 2.1

**FOOD POLICY**

**Healthier and more sustainable  
school canteens**

**KEY WORDS**

School canteens, sustainable diets,  
sustainable public bidding

**✓ OBJECTIVES**

- To support the transformation of school canteens towards a more sustainable and healthier food model.
- To enhance the health of children using school canteens.
- To tackle climate emergency by promoting a more sustainable diet in school canteens.
- To foster the activity of the local primary sector and to promote short distribution channels, through the demand of school canteens.
- To prioritise menus that include seasonal and sustainable foods.

**📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION**

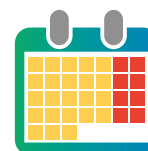
"Healthier and more sustainable school canteens" consists of a multiannual programme addressed to primary schools. The Barcelona City Council issues an invitation to tender where interested schools can apply. A commitment by the school, the canteen management company and the students' families association is required.

The project intervenes at different levels within the schools. Firstly, the technical team undertakes a diagnosis of the management of the kitchen (staff, spaces and equipment) and the school menus, by applying sustainability and health criteria. Later on, a group counselling programme is designed based on the previously identified needs. Recommendations are aimed towards reducing the consumption of animal protein, modulating the frequency of some food items in the menus (red meat, fried foods, dairy desserts, ultra processed food), promoting the use of olive oil and filtered water and increasing the percentage of local, fresh, seasonal and organic food products. Every school is accompanied to define and implement its own action plan, based on its initial situation. Progress occurs on an ongoing basis in order to facilitate the implementation of change. In addition, the programme offers practical training to all actors involved, from kitchen staff to canteen supervisors and family members. An assessment of the implemented changes is carried out at the end of the school year, to measure the progress made.

The policy's governance body of the initiative (formed by the City Council, Barcelona Public Health Agency and the Technical Office) identifies and creates materials and infographics tackling frequently asked questions in order to deconstruct myths hampering change such as introducing vegetal protein and reducing meat in the menus.

Within the City Council, the Sustainable Food Policy Department aspires to increase the number of participating schools in the near future. It also advocates with the Education and Agriculture Departments, for the introduction of sustainability criteria within public procurement bidding documents.

**CONTRIBUTION TO  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**



The pilot phase lasted from April 2020 to July 2021 with 6 participating schools. In September 2021, the project was scaled reaching 42 schools and is currently ongoing.

**🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE**

Sustainable Food Policy  
Department

*Barcelona Public Health Agency*

*Barcelona Education Consortium*





## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

*Menjadors Ecologics*, technical office implementing the project with the school canteens

Students' families associations

*Xamec*, Catalan Agroecological School Canteens Network

School management staff

Canteens' supervisors

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

To reach 80 education centres during the school year 2022-2023, with the following food frequencies in the school menus: 1) 1 day of pasta, 1 day of rice, 1-2 days of vegetables and 1-2 days of pulses per week; 2) reduce ready-made food to a maximum of twice per month; 3) reducing the amount of fried side dishes, prioritising raw vegetables or other cooking options (steam, oven...); 4) serve animal protein a maximum of 3-4 times per week and only in main dishes, fish once per week, eggs once per week, meat once or twice per week (twice every 2 weeks); 5) avoid serving red and processed meat more than 0-1 times per week (maximum 6 times per month) and white meat 1-2 times per week; 6) reduce fish consumption to 1 day per week; 7) ensure that vegetal protein is the basis of the main dish (6 times per month); and 8) serve salad as a side dish 3-4 times per week.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/246>

## BENEFICIARIES

42 schools

## BUDGET

45,000 € yearly

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

The main strength of the project is the transversality of its governance system, involving different thematic areas (sustainability, health and education) and bringing a comprehensive overview to the initiative. The proposal also contributes to the improvement on the quality of schools' menus, with the subsequent impact on children's health, and it ensures equal access to a healthy diet for all children.

Part of the success is linked to the adaptability of the supported actions and the suggested improvements to every school's rhythm and needs. Ultimately, school canteens become a leverage for territorial transformation, contributing to the reduction of GHG emissions and the impact of the climate emergency.

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

A recurrent obstacle are the cultural barriers to change by all stakeholders: from City Council technicians, to members of students' families associations, to kitchen staff and children. This complexity requires time to design ad-hoc strategies. Thus, the coordination team is developing communication and awareness raising campaigns and trainings with all of them.

The rigidity of the public procurement system hampers discrimination between small and big food providers. The coordination team is working to identify windows of opportunity to introduce sustainability criteria in the public biddings such as proximity and organic production.

## CRITICAL POINTS

The level of schools' implication is satisfactory, as the decision to participate is theirs. However, to scale the initiative, it should become a part of structural food policies for the common good. This step needs to be undertaken during further development of the project.



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## FURTHER INFORMATION

Website of "healthier and more sustainable schools' canteens"



## Governance

Action 1.4

### FOOD POLICY

**Urban agroecological food production  
for citizens in vulnerable situations**

#### KEY WORDS

Access to food for all,  
urban farming, agroecology

### ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To improve access to quality and healthy food for residents living in vulnerable situations.
- To facilitate income-generating activities for residents in vulnerable situations.
- To utilize unused public land.
- To allocate urban land for agricultural production and improve citizens' food autonomy.

### 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

Despite lacking any rural agrarian areas, the Belo Horizonte City Council decided to promote the use of urban spaces for agroecological production, specifically targeting residents in vulnerable situations, from the perspective of the right to healthy and sustainable food for all. Thus, in 2020, the City Council established a yearly open call for tenders for citizens interested in urban farming. The selection of candidates is based on social and vulnerability criteria as defined by the City Council (poverty level, minority race, gender, etc.) The surface area of each plot of land given to the selected urban farmers ranges between 2,000 and 10,000 sqm (averaging around 500 sqm). Beneficiaries must be at least 3 people from 3 families per plot, with no maximum number and they can use the plot up to 5 years, respecting existing rules (organic management, not living on the plot). Also, beneficiaries participate in an initial 4-month training on agroecological techniques and can request further training depending on their interests. To increase urban farmers' knowledge, the City Council adapts the training offer to better suit their demands.

Regarding inputs, the City Council delivers agricultural tools and seedlings. Urban farmers have access to small common facilities (toilets, composting container, etc.) and access to water and electricity (paid for by the City Council for a year). They can choose how to work on their plot, but they need to organize in a group to interact with the City Council. Social-service workers accompany the initiative. Farmers can decide what to do with their production (self-consumption, donations, sales) and since 2021, the City Council organizes a weekly farmers' market in the vegetable gardens area to facilitate product sales.

### CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

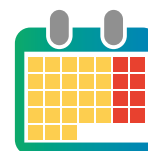
2

ZERO  
HUNGER



11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



Between 2017 and 2019 the testing and experimental phase was developed and in 2020 the policy initiative was launched.

### 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Department of Promotion of  
Agroecology and Food Supply  
(within the Secretariat for  
Welfare, Food Security and  
Citizenship).





#### KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Service of Infrastructure Maintenance (within the Secretariat for Public Works and Infrastructure).

Agronomists within the department in charge of social-service workers.



#### BENEFICIARIES

350 farmers



#### BUDGET

380,000 – 570,000 € / year

#### ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

At least 5 production units of agroecological urban agriculture on municipal land per year;  
110 ha of urban agriculture land;  
350 new farmers per year.

Overall aspiration of the Belo Horizonte's food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:  
<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/226>

#### STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

This policy enables the use of derelict municipal land. In addition, it provides citizens with an example of tangible action that in turn has increased the number of people interested in starting a farm. The initiative has generated a good perception among civil society as a response to the critical social, economic and environmental context.

#### CRITICAL POINTS

The potential impact of a change in municipal authorities (the next election is expected to take place in 2024) since most of the staff have temporary contracts and only a few of them are civil servants.

#### OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

Although the food and nutrition security policy is organized following a systemic logic, there is no legal provision facilitating co-funding among the different government levels. Thus, there is no transfer of federal and state resources to fund the food and nutrition security policy of Belo Horizonte, that is fully dependent on municipal resources.



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#### FURTHER INFORMATION

Urban food production website



**Food supply  
and distribution**  
Action 5.2

## FOOD POLICY

**Farmers' markets as food  
citizenship territorial meetings**

## KEY WORDS

Farmers' markets,  
short distribution channels

## ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To guarantee access to and availability of fresh and healthy food at a fair price to the population, close to their places of residence.
- To ensure a selling space for small and medium-sized producers and to improve their income and quality of life.

## 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

The farmers' markets in Bogotá were formalised through a municipal agreement in 2010. In 2019, the public policy on food security was regulated, having Food Citizenship as a point of reference, through the integration of the idea of creating a collective awareness towards responsible food production and consumption. In 2021, there was a new municipal development plan, with the goal to implement 1,600 weekly farmers' markets (2021-2024).

*Encuentros territoriales de Ciudadanía Alimentaria* (Food Citizenship Territorial Meetings) are spaces for the interaction and participation among supply actors for the construction of Food Citizenship. The gatherings seek to promote the meeting of small and medium-scale producers with end consumers; but also to raise awareness about reducing food loss and waste, responsible food purchasing and consumption, healthy nutritional habits, and healthy culinary preparations. Participation in the markets is inclusive: integrating different ethnic and population groups as well as conflict victims.

These Food Citizenship Territorial Meetings promote regional integration and facilitate the networking among small and medium-scale producers to increase their income and to improve the supply of healthy and local food products.

## 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Rural Economy and Food Supply Directorate

## CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

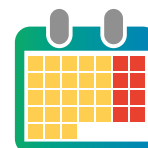
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ZERO  
HUNGER



11  
SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



12  
RESPONSIBLE  
CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION



In 2002, the farmers' organisations launched the initiative. In 2006 they started the formulation of a regulatory framework and in 2010 the farmers' markets were formalised and are currently running.





## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Bogotá surrounding provinces, as Bogotá's food pantry.

*Rural development agency*



## BENEFICIARIES

Producers and processors:  
1,000 per year.



## BUDGET

An average of 238,000 € per year for the implementation of the initiative.

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

3,600 residents adopting the Planetary Health Diet.

30,000 residents eating regionally and locally produced food.

3,000 weekly municipal non-sedentary farmers' markets promoted by local authorities.

236,000 residents adjusting their food intake and adopting options for food waste reduction.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/371>

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

Bogotá has a large potential demand (with a population of approximately 8 million) and this policy initiative gives producers the possibility to respond to it through direct sales.

Other positive impacts of the initiative are the reduction in the number of intermediaries and associated costs, so farmers have a higher profit; the improvement of the traceability of food (keeping record of who grows it and how) and respecting the principles of clean production, as this is a requirement to participate in the markets (reduction of pesticide use).

Moreover, farmers' markets contribute to the recognition of the peasant economy in the city, which represents a high percentage of the nation's supply.

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

Several aspects hamper the development of this type of initiative. First, producers have a low level of organization among them and they do not develop the joint crop planning that could optimise commercialisation. Another important issue is logistics. Adequate transport options are missing for small producers to efficiently reach the market and to allow for the aggregation of the supply at the regional level. Other limiting factors are the need to develop and adapt technical product sheets, the packaging and conditioning of products and the difficulty in stabilising prices, due to the volatility of input costs.

## CRITICAL POINTS

It is necessary to develop actions that support the collective organisation of producers to optimise transport processes and to reinforce the technical support provided in the fields, which is insufficient and inadequate in this moment.



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## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Farmers' markets website*

*Economic development Secretariat website*



**Social and  
economic equity**

Action 3.1

Action 3.2

**FOOD POLICY**

**La Mimosa, an inclusive experience in an  
agroecological consumer cooperative**

**KEY WORDS**

Empowering food aid,  
food access for all,  
inclusion, agroecology

**✓ OBJECTIVES**

- To facilitate access to agroecological and healthy food for citizens in positions of vulnerability.
- To involve them and to take joint responsibility about their food choices.
- To enable their participation in collective projects.
- To reduce stigma within food aid initiatives.
- To support organised agroecological consumer cooperatives and groups, involving them in food access policies, and contributing to diversify their members and partners.
- To support agroecological production.
- To increase the demand for agroecological products.

**📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION**

While recent crises have increased the number of families depending on external aid to access basic rights such as food; existing food aid initiatives mostly offer processed industrial food products from large distribution chains while excluding agroecological products and small-scale local producers and retailers, and also stigmatising the beneficiaries.

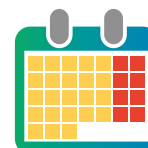
This pilot project proposes a new way for families in positions of vulnerability to access healthy food, avoiding the stigmatising situations that conventional food banks generate and the industrial and highly processed food that they supply.

The City Council Social Services in collaboration with the Red Cross selected 6 households in vulnerable situations that were not benefitting from food aid programs (and avoided those families in the most vulnerable situations).

The selected beneficiary households became members of a local agroecological consumers' cooperative called La magrana vallesana (composed of 400 member families) and had their membership fee waived. Their beneficiary status remained anonymous in order to avoid stigmatisation and facilitate their integration in the group. The City Council gives them a monthly amount in euros and three additional payments per year (in July, August and December) through a card-wallet-type credit system, to be spent in food products. The monthly amount depends on the household size and ranges from 65 € per month for one person, to 100 € per month for a four member household. They can also buy additional products if they so wish by paying for them.

In the future, the City Council plans to organise specific training and events on sustainable diets for the consumers' cooperative members, in collaboration with the Public Health Department.

**CONTRIBUTION TO  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**

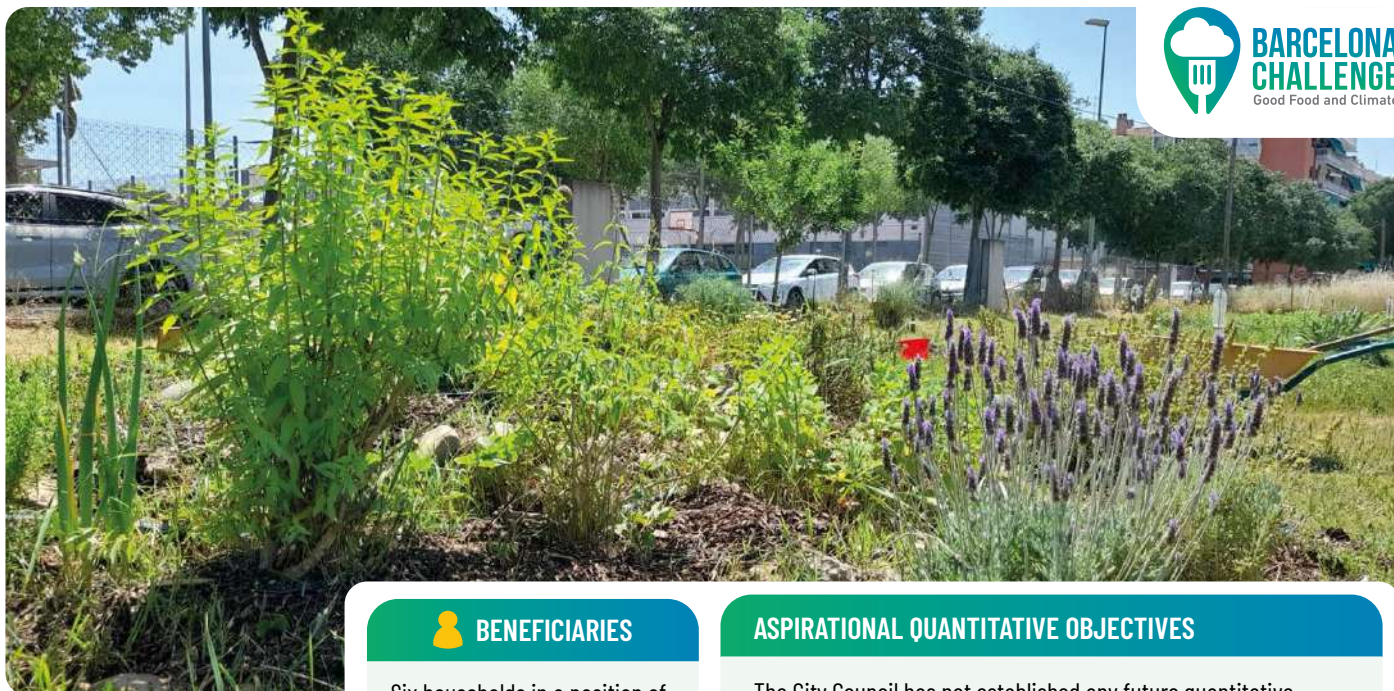


The project started in November 2021 and it will run for 2 years, as a pilot. This 24-month test period enables beneficiaries to get acquainted with a full cycle of product seasonality.

**🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE**

Economic promotion department  
Social services and elderly department  
Public health and consumption department  
Environment and green spaces department





### KEY STAKEHOLDERS

The Red Cross  
The members of *La magrana vallesana*: 400 member families, of which 15 are producers.



### BENEFICIARIES

Six households in a position of vulnerability (14 people).



### BUDGET

6,500 € yearly in food vouchers from the City Council for the six selected families.

### ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

The City Council has not established any future quantitative targets. The current goal is just to understand the elements of success of this type of initiative and to attain them, the City Council is organising bimonthly monitoring meetings with the consumption cooperative and the Red Cross.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/220>

### STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

This initiative allows households in vulnerable situations to access healthy and quality food and to have the possibility to improve their eating habits. In addition, it promotes the increase of the demand for agroecological products and it contributes to strengthen local retail initiatives. The beneficiary families and the consumer group members can diversify their social and cultural contacts, contributing to strengthen community relationships. It adds humanity to the project, by facilitating the integration of beneficiaries in the cooperative without any stigmatisation.

A particular added value of the policy is the transversality of the involved stakeholders: public bodies, private initiatives and different City Council services and its potential to be scaled and replicated.

### CRITICAL POINTS

Privacy of the beneficiaries; it is necessary to be very cautious to guarantee it. That is why only the staff of the cooperative shop and some members of the board of directors know who they are.

### OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

The risk that interaction between beneficiaries and the consumers' cooperative members is reduced to the mere shopping act. In order to avoid this situation, the cooperative should organise activities enhancing interaction between all members.

The possibility that beneficiaries give more importance to food quantity than quality for the same amount of money is high. In order to avoid so, the selection process has tried to reach households that value healthy food and who can commit to the project.



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### FURTHER INFORMATION

*Mimosa, an inclusive agroecological project*



## Food waste

Action 6.3

### FOOD POLICY

## Fight against food waste in school canteens

### KEY WORDS

Food waste,  
school canteens

### ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To support municipalities in their reduction of food waste to 50% by 2030.
- To boost the local food economy (local short trade channels).
- To bring together local producers and collective catering actors to reduce food waste and improve the taste quality of meals.

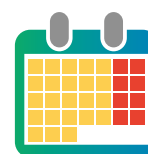
### 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

This policy stems from two national policies: the *Egalim law* and the *Agec law*, which recommend a 50% reduction of food waste between 2015-2025. Within the framework of the PAT (Project Alimentaire Territorial, a French proposal to develop territorial food projects), the Urban Community of Le Havre Seine Métropolis has set up a collective catering scheme to support the municipalities and their school collective catering (at nursery and primary levels) to reduce food waste and to reinject the economic savings generated into healthier, more local and better quality food.

The first step is to conduct a diagnosis to measure the amount of food waste generated and to understand how the canteen functions (number of staff, on-site or central kitchen, self-service or served food). Then, actions to reduce food waste are conducted. Some of these actions can be implemented easily and immediately (such as distributing bread at the end of the meal service) and others are more complex and are rather introduced in the medium term (changes in the service provider, in how the system operates). The implementation of the policy is guaranteed by an external provider specialised in food waste, and in some municipalities by the Urban Community. At the end of the school year, an assessment is carried out based on indicators of the weight of the food waste.

The Urban Community has supported several municipalities simultaneously and has set up a collective approach through the organisation of meetings between agents and councillors to share experiences and facilitate exchanges among peers. In this sense, there is an online platform available for the municipalities with two sections: food waste and food supply. In addition, a complementary action called "Empty Plate Challenge" is carried out twice a year, in which the municipalities have the same menu for a week and weigh and compare the results in terms of food waste.

### CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The scheme started in 2020 with the aim of being maintained until 2023. Then, an assessment will be carried out. The objective is to extend it beyond the educational sector, to companies, hospitals and nursing homes with collective canteens, all being subject to the Egalim and Agec laws.



### 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Directorate of Economic and Agricultural Development (at the initiative and implementation of the project)

Partnership with the Directorate of Waste Cycle (for the contractualisation with partners for food waste reduction and implementation of the weighing system)



#### BENEFICIARIES

15,300 nursery and primary school children.

#### BUDGET

12,000 € for the initial launch of the project.  
12,000 € on average per year for food waste reduction actions contract with an external company.

#### KEY STAKEHOLDERS

2 external actors specialised in food waste reduction:

**CREPAN:** environmental association

**ECOGEOS:** consulting company

#### ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

15,300 meals served in nursery and primary schools, integrating the criteria of the Egalim and Agec laws.  
30 grams of avoided food waste per user per day, representing an average of 7 tonnes per year for primary and nursery schools.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/239>

#### STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

One of the strengths achieved by the initiative is the elimination of barriers between communities and fostered exchanges among them. Another aspect is linked to taste education, which is an indispensable component of the policy. A very brief training course is planned as part of the initiative, but it is not enough and further work is still needed. The school of taste is a permanent component set up by the commune of Harfleur and it has been extended to two other municipalities.

The transversal approach of the initiative is one of its successful aspects: bringing together an elected official, a cook, a canteen worker, etc within a municipality. Also, the change produced in the way some municipalities operate; for example, moving from working with an external service provider, to working with a local caterer that uses local products.

#### CRITICAL POINTS

The involvement and training of the staff accompanying meal times is crucial, as they play a very important role regarding children. Another challenge is the significant staff turnover. Indeed, in the municipalities where staff are very active, the policy works very well. In those where the staff do not stay long, there is little involvement.

#### OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

The constraint linked to public bidding that establishes quantities with the suppliers. One solution to that was to hold meetings with them to make those quantities more flexible and adaptable to what is actually needed.

It would be helpful to enable the municipalities to consider another way of operating for collective catering and accompanying them in that change. For instance, the Urban Community has sourced service providers with the municipalities.



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#### FURTHER INFORMATION

#BienMangerauHavre à la cantine aussi / Restaurant scolaire et menus



**Food supply  
and distribution**  
Action 5.3

## FOOD POLICY

# Local food consumption in Metropolis of Lyon

## KEY WORDS

Short distribution channels,  
local products, open-data,  
participatory tools

## ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To allow citizens to find points of sale offering local products in their own neighbourhood.
- To allow economic actors to give visibility to their points of sale.
- To position the population as actors of their own food consumption, by giving them the possibility to fill in the map and to extract the data.

## 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

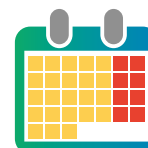
Since 2014, the Metropolis of Lyon has regularly published a paper map of local markets, which they wanted to transform into a digital one. At the same time, in 2020, in the context of the coronavirus crisis, the associations *Bellebouffe* and *Zéro Déchet Lyon* imagined a collaborative digital space to help citizens locate the points of sale where they could get food during lockdown.

In this context and as a part of its open-data policy, the Metropolis of Lyon wished to give continuity to the paper map project by supporting a map dedicated to “eating locally” for the wider public, creating an open database and an interactive and participative mapping tool. In specific terms, this is an online map that lists the various points of sale of local and quality food products (farm shops, markets, community-supported agriculture initiatives (called AMAP in France), social and solidarity grocery stores, etc.). Additional outlets could be included later (independent grocery stores, restaurants...).

This is a participatory process, which is open to everyone (residents and professionals) by filling an online form. Citizens are invited to complete the tool with their addresses, while the professionals can enter their services directly online. For each entry, location, opening hours, type of products, geographical origin of production and labels are included. When the map was launched in May 2022, there were 236 markets, 22 farm shops, 8 producer shops, 9 AMAPs and 12 social and solidarity grocery shops.

In order to give publicity to this map and raise awareness among the wider public on the importance of eating locally, there have been events planned at the markets by the Bellebouffe Association to teach the difference between the various offerings (producer/retailer, local and seasonal products, labels, etc.) and to contribute collectively to the initiative.

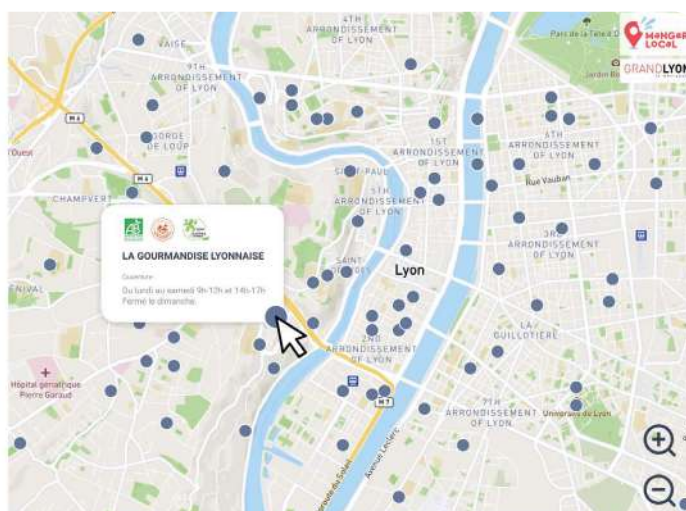
## CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The proposal went online in May 2022, with the idea that it will be developed and will keep functioning in the long term.

## 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Ecological and Energy Transition Directorate  
Digital Innovation and Information Systems Directorate  
Association Bellebouffe  
(co-leaders of the project)





## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Rhône Chamber of Agriculture

*Ardab* (association of organic producers)

Organic cluster

*City of Lyon*

*Lyon urban planning agency*

Associations on responsible consumption:  
*The Greener Good, Anciela, Zero déchet Lyon*

*Granvillage* (maps on food)

*Only Lyon* (tourist office)

*Apidae* (a database cooperative)

## BENEFICIARIES

The total population of Metropolis of Lyon: 1,400,000 inhabitants  
Food producers and retailers.

## BUDGET

50,000 € in two years for the launching (30,000 € for the Bellebouffe Association and 20,000 € for IT services). In the future, the budget needs to be better defined, since the initiative is being extended, but the proposal is to allocate approximately 15,000 € per year.

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/228>

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

It needs to be taken into account that it is quite a complex system to set up for the first time in this type of format: combining a participatory mapping tool and open-data. It is necessary to consider the legal, data security and logistical aspects, etc. The prelaunch process took two years.

Furthermore, it is important to involve all the internal skills of the Metropolis staff, to rely on existing internal resources in order to allow them to contribute through their know-how.

## CRITICAL POINTS

The visibility of the initiative remains a challenge, for it to be widely known and used by the citizenship and the economic actors involved. It is also important to test the perceived usefulness by its users and to be able to adapt the tool to meet their expectations.



## CONTACT PERSON

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## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

A strong point of the initiative is the collaboration both internally between departments and externally with local actors. It also has the ambition to involve citizens, by offering them the possibility to choose what they want to put forward. The fact that the map is produced in an open-data format brings transparency to the information collected.

Another element of success is the political support for the initiative and the partnership dynamics that have been created as they facilitate the progress and acceptance of the project.

Finally, even if the Metropolis of Lyon works through a very formal and official framework, the fact that they have worked in partnership with an association to carry out this initiative has helped to bring the action closer to the actors on the ground, in a more informal way.

One conclusion is that this tool could be used by other local public policies and for other issues by relying on the technological base that has already been established.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Eat locally - website / Participatory map*

## FOOD POLICY

# Zero Food Waste Hub

### KEY WORDS

Food waste, food aid, food access  
for all, circular economy



**Social and  
economic equity**

Action 3.4

## ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To reduce food waste by engaging a diversity of local actors such as institutions, research centres, private sector, foundations and social actors.
- To offer innovative food assistance options for people in vulnerable situations by designing and experimenting a new model of collection and redistribution of food surpluses, based on local neighbourhood networks.

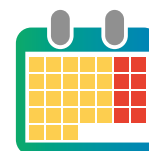
## 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

Reducing food waste is one of the priorities of the Milan Food Policy Area and that is being done through the engagement of a diversity of local actors and sectors, from institutions and research centres to the private and social sectors. In order to translate this priority into concrete actions, the City Council signed an agreement with two partners in 2016: *Assolombarda* (a network of local businesses) and *Politecnico di Milano* (a public university). Together with *Fondazione Cariplo* and *Programma QuBi* they launched the initiative 'Zero Sprechi' (Zero Food Waste Hub), aiming at reducing food waste and innovating food assistance options for people in vulnerable situations, designing and testing a model for recovering and redistributing food surpluses based on local neighbourhood networks.

The Zero Food Waste Hub model allows to work with all types of collected food: fresh, dry, fruits, vegetables and bread. The hubs are equipped with a cellar for handling fresh food, shelves for dry and packaged food items and an administrative workstation. The use of vans equipped with a cold store allows surplus to be collected daily. Food from supermarkets is stored at the hubs to be prepared and redistributed, and food from company canteens (only done pre Covid) is directly distributed to non-profit organisations that offer a canteen service for people in vulnerable situations or can be collected directly at the hub. The project involves important large-scale distribution supermarkets and company restaurants.

In addition, in 2021 the City Council and its partners launched "Foody Zero Sprechi": a replication of the food waste hubs at the Milan fruit and vegetable wholesale market. Currently, four hubs are operational at four different neighbourhoods: Isola (2019), Lambrate (2020), Gallarate (2021), Foody Zero Sprechi in the wholesale market (2022). A 5th is coming soon to the city centre.

## CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The initial alliance was created in 2016 and the first pilot Hub was launched in 2019 in City Hall 9, Isola, with three replications in other neighbourhoods (2020-2022). The initiative is still ongoing and a 5th Hub is planned for late 2022.

## 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Education Department,  
Food Policy Area

Since 2022, the Food Policy Area is assigned to the Education Department. It also covers school canteens, agriculture and MUFPP (Milan Urban Food Policy Pact)

This is a transversal policy, involving several departments within the City Council.





## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

*Cariplo foundation*

*Milan Foundation*

*Programma QuBi*

*Assolombarda* - Local companies network

*SogeMI* - Company managing wholesale food markets in Milan

*Banca di Credito Cooperativo*

*University of Milan*

*Politecnico di Milano* - Food sustainability observatory

*Banco Alimentare della Lombardia* - Food bank

*Terre des Hommes Italia* - NGO

*Avis Milano* - Association

*Recup association*

24 third sector entities

9 supermarkets with more than 20 collection points in the city

4 company canteens

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

9 Zero Food Waste Hubs in the 9 city neighbourhoods, within the mandate 2021-2026.

10 tonnes of food saved per month.

260,000 equivalent meals per year.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/203>

## € BUDGET

There is no overall budget and every hub has its own, depending on its initial situation.

Initial support is needed to renovate the identified spaces for the hubs and to provide certain equipment such as the cellar, shelves, and a desk with a computer.

## 👤 BENEFICIARIES

3,800 people in vulnerable situations are reached every year.

## CRITICAL POINTS

There is not a unique way to set up a hub and it needs to be adapted to local needs. Therefore, it is crucial to undertake an initial diagnosis to better understand the context of the action and to identify the involved actors. A continuous monitoring and follow-up of the project that integrates revisions and updates when needed is also key.

The identification of an appropriate place for the hub also appears to be critical, so all the organisations can easily access it and the collecting point is not too far away. Another important aspect is to maintain the process at the local level and to keep the hubs close to collection and distribution points.

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

It is necessary to support partners to increase their capacity to manage the hubs. When problems arise, support is needed.

The City Council has to coordinate the whole process regularly and keep an updated programme, holding specific and frequent meetings for the partners.

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

A strength of the initiative is the creation of a network of diverse actors and also its effectiveness, thanks to the competencies and skills by the involved actors on methodology and technical issues regarding food waste management. Another positive aspect is the increased capacity of Milan City Council to involve new actors in each new hub and to maintain a cooperative environment in them. Also the visibility generated for the partners involved in the hubs.

A success point is the capacity to scale the initiative from a pilot project to four hubs and the ability to be aware of the districts' needs and adapting and improving the hubs through the years to better respond to them. Other aspects are the capacity to involve new services, such as education and social services, to work towards sustainable and healthy diets; the action in the wholesale market, transforming food waste into animal feed; and the fact that food hubs become places for innovation through good practices.



## CONTACT PERSON

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## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Milan Food Waste Hubs*

*Video Arte: Italie, stop au gaspillage alimentaire*

*The earth shot prize: winner the city of Milan Food Waste Hubs*



## Food Production

Action 4.2

## FOOD POLICY

**A municipal farm to supply the local schools' canteens**

## KEY WORDS

Food sovereignty, local production, municipal farm, organic canteen

## ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To rebuild food sovereignty at the local level and give back to municipalities the power of choosing the food type and quality they provide to children.
- To relocalise organic production.
- To feed citizens with local resources and reduce dependence from other territories.
- To generate a political movement to avoid the rapid urban growth of the city and protect agricultural land.

## 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

Mouans-Sartoux had been wanting since 1998 to transform into organic the canteens of their three schools. The mad cow disease triggered their will for change.

First, the City Council modified the relevant public contracts to introduce sustainable criteria that favours local organic products; however, local production was insufficient and thus the idea to create the municipal farm emerged. With that purpose in mind, the municipality decided to buy and put back into production six hectares of abandoned land in the municipal territory.

Between 2008 and 2010, the first experimental phase took place with a few crops. A diagnosis was undertaken in partnership with schools to understand the demand in terms of production volume and the related offer (number of producers and land need). That showed that four hectares were enough.

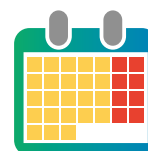
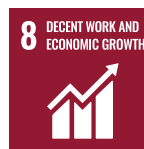
In 2011 the first farmer was hired and 10 tonnes of vegetables were produced (fulfilling 30% of school needs). 2012 was the first year of full organic production. Then, in 2014, the second farmer was hired and in 2015 fruit trees were planted. In 2018 the third farmer was hired and 25 tonnes of vegetables were produced (i.e., 85% of school needs). The remaining 15% was acquired through public tenders, mainly from local producers. The three farmers working on the farm are municipal public workers and the City Council offers them accommodation.

The production is certified organic since the first year of production and is not to be sold. When not absorbed by the schools' demand, it is given to the municipal social grocery shop (where people in vulnerable situations can access food at reduced prices).

The farm has a teaching garden for the schools. With the aim of getting more flexibility to introduce vegetables in the menu based on the municipal farm's availability, the description of school menus became less specific.

In the coming years, the municipality intends to start sharing its experience with other cities and provide technical support to those interested in replicating their initiative.

## CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The project began in 2005. 2012 was the first year with full production and the project is still on-going.

## 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Department of Education – Education House on Sustainable Food (Maison de l'Éducation et l'Alimentation Durable – MEAD). It manages the Territorial Food Project, a French initiative to connect food production and consumption.

Department of Green Spaces (in charge of managing the farm).





### ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

85% of the school canteens vegetables needs are produced at the municipal farm.

1,300 organic meals are served in the 3 schools' canteens where all kids are given equal access to fresh and organic food.

The municipal farm is managed by 3 farmers working as municipal employees.

Its 4 hectares are managed following organic principles.

The objective for the coming years is to increase the amount of fruit yield in the municipal farm.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/347>

### BENEFICIARIES

1,100 kids and 200 municipal employees.

### BUDGET

60,000 € as initial investment and 60,000 € every year.

### KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Gilles Perole (Deputy Major of the Education Department)

Head of Green Spaces Department

The Majors

Canteen staff in schools

Education staff in schools

### STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

Thanks to the fact that the quantity of food produced is continuously adjusted to actual needs, production can be adapted in real time to the demand. Furthermore, producing in tunnels allows for the extension of the season.

As the farm is within the municipality's budget, its management is easier and helps the City Council avoid public tenders for vegetables, reducing the administrative burden.

The project has positive externalities in terms of education and environment. The farm has available space to organise meetings with other cities and the Summer University (Université d'été). Also, this is a pioneer initiative in France that gives high political visibility to the municipality.

### CRITICAL POINTS

It appears necessary to undertake an initial diagnosis of the demand in order to adapt production to actual needs; as well as to accompany the initiative with education and awareness raising actions that involve school actors.

### OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

The setting up of this type of initiative is complex, as jurisdiction and administrative tasks are extremely time consuming. Another important obstacle is the high speculative pressure on land. Therefore, a strong political vision and commitment are required to implement this kind of initiative.



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### FURTHER INFORMATION

[MEAD website](#) / [Mouans-Sartoux action sheets](#)



## Food waste

Action 6.4

## FOOD POLICY

**Clean Quelimane: organic compost from food waste to improve agricultural production**

## KEY WORDS

Compost, circular economy, waste management

## ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To enhance the city's cleanliness through a sustainable solid waste management system.
- To improve the health of the population by transforming solid waste into compost.

## 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

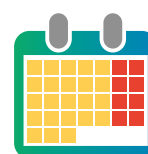
Quelimane used to have a waste management problem that contributed to diseases outbreaks like diarrhoea, cholera..., which represented a big challenge for the city. A second problem was the high prevalence of children malnutrition (33%). The initiative "Clean Quelimane" emerged to respond to these problems by setting up a solid waste selection project that transforms waste into compost and distributes it to urban farmers and schools orchards, allowing for an increase in production and productivity. Participating schools are selected based on their available land and students' level of interest.

The City Council works in areas where the poorest citizens reside, the malnutrition rates are the highest, and where there are the most vulnerable situations in terms of climate change related risks.

MUSA (the Municipal Sanitation Enterprise) collects waste and works with groups of private cooperatives that are trained and paid to select the waste at the delivery point, the waste is then taken to the transformation unit, where it becomes compost. Farmers can then go to the distribution centre and get the amount of compost that they need, without any limitation regarding quantity. In addition, the City Council sets up a demonstration plot managed by municipal technicians. This plot is divided into cultivated parcels of land with and without compost, to show farmers the impact of its use, since at the beginning they were a bit reluctant to do so, due to lack of practice and knowledge. The municipal technicians train farmers at their plot and in the demonstration centre. Nutrition classes are also organised for farmers and students on how to have a balanced and healthy diet. The production of the demonstration centre is donated to social institutions such as hospitals or nursing homes.

Furthermore, the City Council holds yearly food fairs where food related workshops are organised and every farmer can showcase and sell their production.

## CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The initiative started in 2018 and it is still ongoing, aiming at long term continuity.

## 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Directorate of Sanitation, Waste Management, Environment and Climate Change – Department of Sanitation and Waste Management  
Directorate of Economic activities – Department of Agriculture.

City councillors

Geographical leaders from the five city districts

Directorate of Education – Department of Education and Social Affairs.





## BUDGET

27,000 € as an initial budget.  
3,217 € as a yearly budget.



## BENEFICIARIES

480 farmers, organised in 4 farmers' associations, with 120 members each, namely: Associação dos Camponeses do Namuinho, Associação dos Camponeses bons sinais, Associação dos Camponeses do Sangariveira e a Associação do Gogone,  
40 students  
5 schools

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

400 kg of compost per week

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/337>

## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

*Celim* and *Manitese*: two Italian NGOs. The City Council created a consortium with them and applied for a European funded project.

*Milan municipality*

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

The initiative creates social inclusion and brings in support for farmers through technology transfer and training, improving production volume and productivity.

One of the successful aspects of the policy is the improvement in terms of the city's cleanliness. It also contributes to the improvement of children's nutrition; since there is an increase in the productivity and quality of plants, there is more and better quality of food available.

Furthermore, this initiative gives visibility to the city and the City Council has been invited worldwide to explain it. Hence, it has opened new funding opportunities to apply for new projects.

## CRITICAL POINTS

It is important to consult with people, listen to them and involve them in all stages of the project. In that sense, the project must be led from the bottom up to make sure it responds to people's needs. It is also crucial to find dedicated people with the right qualifications and to obtain the financial resources needed.

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

At the beginning, farmers did not engage with the project. The City Council analysed the reasons behind that and set up the demonstration plot, which contributed to increase their involvement.

Another obstacle was the fact that the city did not have any prior experience or knowledge on this kind of project so mistakes were made and corrected through trial and error and listening to people. Thus, the project was monitored on an on-going basis to make the necessary adjustments.



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## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Quelimane City Council Facebook page*



## Food Production

Action 4.1

Action 4.2

Action 4.3

Action 4.4

## FOOD POLICY

### Soto del Grillo

### Agroecological Park

## KEY WORDS

Agroecology, agrarian park,  
local production

## ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To facilitate the launch and consolidation of local agroecological production projects.
- To highlight the multi functionality of agroecological activities.
- To promote the Southeast Regional Park's landscape environment, which is a SPAB (Special Protection Area for Birds) and SIC (Site of Community Importance) of Natura 2000 network, and the cliffs of the River Manzanares and the River Jarama.
- To transform a unique area of Europe into an ecological and sustainable food production environment.
- To generate a sustainable food system facilitating the consumption of local agroecological food.
- To promote a governance system that allows the participation of producers in the decision-making process and that integrates citizen participation in the management of the park.

## 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

Part of Rivas Vaciamadrid municipality is located in the Southeast Regional Park. The City Council intended to generate a sustainable food system through the park, aiming at supplying the municipality with local quality products and creating a link between the land and the residents. Thus, a land bank with irrigated and dry land was set up. Initially, each producer had access to two hectares of land; but currently the surface is adapted to each producer's capacities and needs. Out of 43 hectares of land, 28 are allocated (of those 17 are irrigated and 11 rain-fed) and 15 are still unoccupied. Land allocation is awarded based on the results of a viability technical study of every request. If the project is already active, it receives a 10-year allocation; if it is starting, it joins an entrepreneurship nursery for one year, renewable for up to five years, with access to 1,000 - 5,000 square meters. The rent is subsidised by the City Council and is 200 € per year per hectare, including water consumption and access to the storehouse and the irrigation system. Supporting services are offered, such as counselling on agronomy, business, sales and company inter-cooperation.

A specific brand, "Fresh Products from the Park", has been created and is promoted in local shops and restaurants. The City Council also accompanies local consumption groups and offers product baskets from the park as a prize in other initiatives. In 2009, the City Council held an agroecological producers market, which has progressively disappeared as agroecological products become available elsewhere.

School visits to the park are also organised and three agroecology neighbour associations have free access to two hectares of land since 2009.

Towards the 2030 horizon, different actions are foreseen for the Agroecological Park:

- Agroecology training for residents, open days to get to know the place and the agricultural activity, environmental internships, and an agroecological fair to bring the park closer to the city.
- An interpretation centre of food sovereignty and agroecology.
- A sustainable compost platform.
- A project with beekeepers.

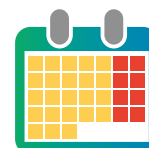
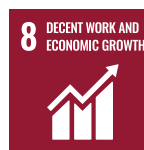
## 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Ecological Transition Councillorship

Mayor's office

Economic Development and Maintenance Councillorship

## CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



In 2008 the Agroecological Park started to be designed, with the transfer of municipal urban and rural land and the allocation of the first land plots. In 2012 it was established with its own regulations.





## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Heliconia: outsourced company to ensure the coordination of the Agroecological Park.

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

2,500 residents shifting to an organic diet.

800 residents eating regionally and locally produced food.

800 residents shifting to an organic and regionally/locally produced diet.

14 hectares converted into organic farming schemes.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/359>

## BENEFICIARIES

In the Agroecological Park there are 8 organic horticulture projects (around 16 people directly involved) and a cattle breeding one (2 people).

3 neighbours' associations on agroecology: with a total of approximately 40 to 50 members.

## BUDGET

Initial investment: 200,000 €

Yearly budget of approximately 80,000 € (45,000 € for coordination and counselling and 35,000 € for maintenance, paths, irrigation, etc.)

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

The Agroecological Park offers comprehensive support to producers: from access to land, to acquisition of the required technical and management skills. Another key aspect is the promotion of a sustainable food system and the practice of agroecology, through City Council led initiatives. This action allows to create networks in the municipality and favours the presence of local agroecological producers and short distribution channels, allowing local products to be more accessible for residents. The park itself represents a significant share of organically certified land plots within the region of Madrid.

The park contributes to the City Council's willingness for Rivas to become a living city, rather than just a dormitory town.

## CRITICAL POINTS

The lack of entrepreneurs in agriculture and the fact that the few there are lack the required skills, experience or capacity for investment.

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

One of the main obstacles is that the global subsidy system for agroecological producers is very demanding, rigid and complex, especially in the region of Madrid. Another challenge is to establish the commercialisation channels at the beginning of the activity. Therefore, the Agroecological Park technical team accompanies producers on these topics.

Product and equipment loss caused by theft or wild fauna are also an issue for producers.

Infrastructure's maintenance (paths and irrigation) represents a constant expense year after year. Thus, it is crucial to anticipate maintenance contracts between the City Council and service providers to ensure appropriate responses are provided when the need arises.



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## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Rivas Vaciamadrid website - Soto del Grillo Agroecological Park*

 **Social and economic equity** **Action 3.4**

 **Food Production** **Action 4.1**

## FOOD POLICY

**Agro-ecological urban and peri-urban food production**

## KEY WORDS

Food sovereignty, urban gardens, local production, food access

## ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To care for the population in conditions of social vulnerability and improve their life quality.
- To produce healthy local food for the population, allowing a nutritious and pollutant-free diet.
- To promote the food autonomy of Rosario, and reduce its dependence on distant products.
- To mitigate the effects of climate emergency by increasing permeable surfaces and heat and carbon dioxide absorption.

## 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

The Urban Agriculture Programme was created in 2002 to guarantee food security for people in vulnerable situations, in a context of strong dependence on distant food and deep social, economic and political crisis. The aim was to improve the habitat, giving value to degraded spaces by converting them into productive ones. The municipality mapped the most appropriate and permanent unbuildable spaces and, based on soil mapping, identified the most suitable soils for food production.

In 2008, several vegetable gardens were established and equipped with productive infrastructure. The municipality granted the right to use them for food production for an unlimited period of time to socially vulnerable people, as long as they respect certain production criteria (agro-ecological management) and provides technical assistance and training.

In response to the greater demand for agro-ecological products and aiming at scaling up the programme, in 2016 the Green Belt Programme was launched on private land (either owned or leased) in the peri-urban area. Thus, 800 hectares were protected in the peri-urban area and additional vegetable gardens were created within the urban area.

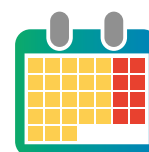
Both programmes offer to users:

- Technical support in agroecology and production monitoring.
- Market differentiation of agroecological products.
- Access to commercialisation points in 50 non-sedentary markets (fairs) operating once a week, daily markets and agroecological shops.
- Networking with other neighbouring cities to commercialise the products.

The municipality is currently working on:

- The design of more sustainable food diets, introducing legumes as a vegetable protein and favouring home-grown food.
- The transition of food aid programmes by including urban and peri-urban products.
- Trials with freeze-dried food for people in vulnerable situations without food refrigeration or conservation infrastructure, aiming at ensuring access to quality and safe food (through simple handling and without risk of contamination).
- Developing a participatory guarantee system.
- The use of renewable energies in the productive spaces.

## CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



In 2002 the Urban Agriculture Programme was created and in 2016 the Green Belt Programme was generated, integrating the peri-urban area. In the coming years, the aim is to scale up production by articulating urban, peri-urban and metropolitan areas of Rosario and to develop a quality label through a participatory guarantee system.

## 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Cabinet Coordination - Strategic Programme for Innovation in Food Quality (Articulation of Food Policies).

Secretariat of Human Development and Habitat - Sub-secretariat of Social Economy (Urban agriculture).

Secretariat for Economic Development and Employment (Green belt).





## BUDGET

480,000 € for 2022.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

*Secretariat for the Environment and Public Space*

*Secretariat of Planning*

Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Engineering and Hydraulics

*Food Institute*

*College of Nutritionists*

*INTA - National Institute of Agricultural Technology*

Social organisations

Environmental NGOs

## BENEFICIARIES

1 million inhabitants of Rosario, potential consumers. Around 3,450 families (400 in a situation of social vulnerability, 3,000 in family gardens and 50 producers in the peri-urban area).

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

20%-30% of Rosario's population with access to healthy food.

800 hectares of land turned into agro-ecological production.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:  
<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/233>

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

The main strength is the fact that the municipality has considered these programmes as an investment and not an expense; being the promoter of the initiative and providing technical assistance and investment in equipment, as well as including the trade aspect to ensure the sale of the production.

Another element is the inclusion of agroecology and urban and peri-urban agriculture in public policies and providing an enabling regulatory framework for the initiative.

From the beginning there was a transversal coordination (networking with local organisations), with participatory governance, facilitating the appropriation of the project by the community.

A success point has been the creation of a civil association of gardeners (Network of Gardeners). Other aspects are the established links with the health area of the municipality (medicinal gardens, healthy diet in health centres), introducing a circular economy approach by reusing organic waste to produce compost and involving public bodies as important consumers of the generated production, through public food procurement.

## CRITICAL POINTS

A mayor critical point is land tenure, in the sense of ensuring secure and stable access to productive spaces in and around cities. Also mapping the land and protecting productive spaces as such by incorporating them into land use planning as green infrastructure.

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

It is necessary to raise awareness among the population about conscious and responsible consumption, emphasising that by buying food products from these initiatives they are rewarding this kind of healthy and local production.

Another important aspect is to achieve community ownership of the project, making its permanence possible beyond the current government administration.

Also, to have stable spaces for commercialisation through short and local distribution channels.



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## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Website Urban Agriculture Rosario*

*Website Green belt, sustainable food production*

*Report: The Green Belt project, a public policy for a sustainable peri-urban area in Rosario.*

*Metropolis, article on Food-based responses to the climate emergency and urban inequality in Rosario*

*2020-2021 Grand Prize Winner: Sustainable Food Production for a Resilient Rosario | World Resources Institute*



**Sustainable diets  
and nutrition**

Action 2.2

Action 2.4

**FOOD POLICY**

**Promotion of  
healthy food habits**

**KEY WORDS**

Awareness raising, planetary healthy  
diet, organic food production

**✓ OBJECTIVES**

- To increase awareness and motivate residents to adopt the planetary healthy diet.
- To promote the consumption of fresh food and vegetables.
- To promote hygienic food practices both among citizens in vulnerable situations and food retailers and stalls.
- To increase the number of food retailers by organising them around the food plazas.
- To make citizens aware of livestock production systems and their impact on the environment.

**📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION**

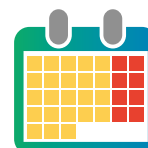
Young generations are transforming their eating habits towards unhealthy diets based on fast and junk food, which will have consequences on their health. The City Council identified the need for citizens to adopt a healthier diet and wanted to emphasise its importance through awareness raising campaigns promoting the consumption of fresh vegetables and organic, healthy food.

In this respect, they organised several actions: a "No gas cooking competition" among women, to promote healthy food and share new recipes; a video game on Play Store called "Healthy Warrior Dau" for children and youngsters starring a cartoon character who promotes healthy food habits and sends key messages about healthy eating, such as the idea of having a longer life, if you eat healthy food, and a shorter one if you eat junk food. Warrior Dau gets healthier and stronger by eating spinach and sprouts and he uses his power to protect others.

The City Council also organises weekly webinars called "Benefits of a healthy lifestyle" with the participation of nutritionists and dieticians, where people can ask questions and experts can give specific advice and promote healthy solutions for them. They also conduct a campaign targeting farmers from all over the state to encourage them to switch to organic practices.

Another initiative called "Hygienic Food Plazas", consists of registering, organising, maintaining and monitoring food stalls on covered premises, contrary to food stalls that are normally unhygienic and unorganised. Thus, retailers can benefit from an organised set-up, a more permanent place to sell their products and can reach customers who are increasingly aware about hygiene issues.

**CONTRIBUTION TO  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**



The initiative started in 2020-21  
and will keep going until 2030.

**🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE**

Food Department, Sagar Smart  
City Limited, State Administration  
at the district level.

Food Safety Administration  
Department.





## BUDGET

9,218 € per year.



## BENEFICIARIES

Sagar population is about 2,378,458, including rural and urban (30% urban, 70% rural), 11 cities, 2,075 villages and 22 towns. Retailers and food businesses.

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

- 100% of food businesses get their licence.
- 4 campuses are registered into the Eat Right certification.
- To run drives to gather and recycle waste.
- To convert 100% of restaurants and hotels of Sagar to Hygiene Rated certified.
- To curb 100% of food waste by 2023.
- To reach 100% of citizens through the awareness campaigns.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/340>

## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

NGOs: *Rotary Club, Nature Welfare Foundation, Sagar Cycling Club, Sita Ram Rasoi.*

Local office of the *Pollution control board (PCB).*

Medical practitioners, dieticians and nutritionists.

*Iskcon Centre Sagar* – an international organisation.

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

The main strength of the policy initiative is the fact that it addresses all the city residents, treating everybody as equally important. Another strength is the registration of almost all food vendors, thus making it easier to support them.

As a success point, there are food retailers that have increased their incomes after having switched from the traditional kiosks to the food plaza.

## CRITICAL POINTS

It is crucial to gather the audience at the initial stages and make them aware that all these initiatives will be of benefit to them and contribute to keep them healthy and physically fit.

Another important aspect is to create a sustainable food environment, using benchmarking and certification to help identify complying actors.

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

FBOs (food businesses operators) need to be more aware and further trained on the requirement and compliance process, as highlighted when licensing and registering FBOs and conducting surveillance drives, where few adulterants from rural areas samples were identified.

Also, the collection of data at the initial stages is very important but also challenging, as information was scattered. There should be dedicated resources for data collection and management.



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## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Video on healthy eating habits  
Prescriptor on healthy eating habits  
Images on Eat Right Challenge  
Eat Right Sagar video  
Hygienic food plaza  
Nutrition game for children "Healthy Warrior Dau"*



### Social and economy equity

Action 3.1

Action 3.2

Action 3.3

## FOOD POLICY

### Food Bank for Asylum Seekers in Tel Aviv Yafo

#### KEY WORDS

Food security,  
food banks, food aid

## ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To minimise food insecurity of vulnerable groups.

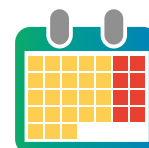
## 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

In March 2020, as a consequence of the restrictive measures in effect due to the Covid-19 crisis, 80% of the asylum seeker community found themselves unemployed. Without access to a livelihood or government financial assistance, the community struggled to meet daily basic needs. Access to nutritious foods proved to be a critical challenge; an official study conducted in 2020 by the Ministry of Health and the Tel Aviv-Yafo municipality found that 86% of asylum seekers endured food insecurity.

In 2021 the municipality established the first "client choice" food bank for asylum seekers and undocumented people to address the acute food insecurity. This holistic solution aims to tackle the four pillars of food insecurity: availability, access, utilisation, and sustainability. The program serves 782 among the most vulnerable families (3,076 individuals in total), who shop for "free" at the food bank twice a month. The space is set up just like a grocery store, promoting a culture of respect and customer service among a vast array of cultures, traditions and diversity of backgrounds and needs. Shelves are filled with culturally adapted items and fresh vegetables. Signs in various languages display suggest quantities clients can select based on nutritional standards. Clients shop independently and choose what they want, thus cutting down on food waste while supporting autonomy and encouraging self-efficacy; all of them critical factors in strengthening resilience and recovery in times of crises.

The program aims to serve 1,000 families in total. The plan includes developing a nutrition education program; offering materials, learning opportunities, parental guidance, and tools for healthy habits.

## CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



It started in July 2021 and is currently undergoing, with the intention to continue.

## 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Environment and Sustainability  
Authority





## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Tel Aviv Municipality Welfare Division: (*MESILA* – Treatment for Families of Migrant Workers and Asylum-Seekers)

Ministry of Health and Ministry of Justice

Nutrition research department

*The Volcani Institute*, agricultural research.

NGOs: *Lasova*, *Leket Israel* (the National Food Bank), *Latet*, *Eritrean Women's Center*, Sudanese Community Center

*Strauss* and *Teva*, private companies.

Philanthropic Funds: *Tel Aviv Foundation*, *Shapiro Foundation*, *The Asper Foundation*



## BENEFICIARIES

3,076 individuals, 782 asylum seeker families directly benefited from the bank.

## BUDGET

Annual project budget – 614,561 €

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

To reach 1,000 families of asylum seekers.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/363>

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

The program provides an innovative approach to food assistance by mitigating food waste and promoting cultural and diet diversity, dignity and resilience as integrated components of addressing food insecurity. Instead of dictating clients diets with pre packed boxes of food, the grocery store shopping experience supports freedom over one's diet, recognising how food and mealtimes can not only influence the physical health of a family, but also their socio-emotional wellbeing. This model of "client-choice" food bank is the only of its kind that supports asylum seekers and undocumented people in the MENA region. Additionally, the program aims to limit environmental impact and food waste by partnering with Israeli food rescue NGOs, Latet and Leket, who supply in-kind dry foods redistributed from grocery stores and food suppliers, and fresh vegetables from local farms. The environmental impact is also limited by the food bank by growing its own leafy greens.

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

The initiative presents certain challenges related to the level of engagement and ownership of the beneficiary population. In that sense, the aim is that the beneficiaries will engage themselves rather as leaders of the food bank, by enabling their self-organisation and potentially adapting the model to include a more cooperative approach. In addition, clients will be encouraged to work around 2 hours per week in the co-op store, thus investing in their own food and nutrition security, strengthening ownership, self-efficacy, and sustainability.

Sustainability practices are also at stake and the City Council is thinking about how to promote them and decrease the environmental impact, by scaling up the supply of rescued food items, providing alternatives to plastic packaging and limiting waste wherever is feasible to do so.

## CRITICAL POINTS

The program provides free food to over 3,000 individuals and reduces food and monetary resources via rescue and redistribution efforts, amounting to 57,000 € worth of dry food. Within the past three months approximately 900 kilograms of fruits and vegetables were distributed. Clients of the program save an average of 200 € each month on groceries and, as mentioned, clients shop for a "food basket" of items and quantities based on nutritional standards by family composition.



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## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Mesila summary report*



**Sustainable diets  
and nutrition**

Action 2.2

Action 2.5

**FOOD POLICY**

**Done me Do Na: campaign to reduce single-use plastic in the food industry and promote healthy food practices**

**KEY WORDS**

Awareness raising, biodegradable, packaging, healthy diets

**✓ OBJECTIVES**

- To motivate food retailers and vendors to reduce single-use plastic and adopt biodegradable options for food cutlery and packaging through communication campaigns.
- To promote good food practices and raise awareness on diet-related diseases for the general population via public events.
- To celebrate local cuisines; promote local, organic and hygienic food options and related practices (like gardening and home composting) through food events.
- To promote good health practices via large public events linked to walking, cycling and yoga practice.
- To implement a distinct food waste collection system in the city, working in collaboration with Ujjain's Municipal Corporation.

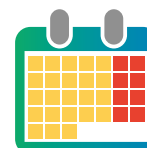
**📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION**

The communication campaign – “Done me do na”, which in Hindi literally means “please give it to me in a leaf plate” is an exclusive initiative launched by Ujjain Smart City Ltd. in collaboration with Ujjain Municipal Corporation, [Food and Drugs Administration](#), Dona-Pattal Association and other private food retailers and vendors. The goal is to reduce single-use plastic usage in the food industry for both serving and packaging and shift towards more sustainable alternatives, while simultaneously encouraging users to demand sustainable options of biodegradable cutlery such as leaf or paper plates and steel or copper utensils. The initiative will organise different actions in that sense: distribution drives of cloth and paper bags, provide easily accessible and affordable food tests, monthly events on the use of biodegradable cutlery like Dona-Pattal (leaf-based cutlery), food festivals promoting sustainable diets and community engagement.

Indeed, several research works have observed that poor grade plastic is one of the major causes of the many diseases and health issues suffered by individuals. The massive non-biodegradable waste that goes into landfills or is left unattended, results in biodiversity loss and environmental pollution.

Ujjain is an historic city deeply associated with its natural resources, like River Kshipra, forests and several unique waterbodies that need to be preserved. Therefore, it is expected that with the help of this campaign, the local government should be able to preserve and safeguard the environment. Along with plastic reduction, the campaign is conceptualised to raise awareness regarding healthy food habits and lifestyles.

**CONTRIBUTION TO  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**

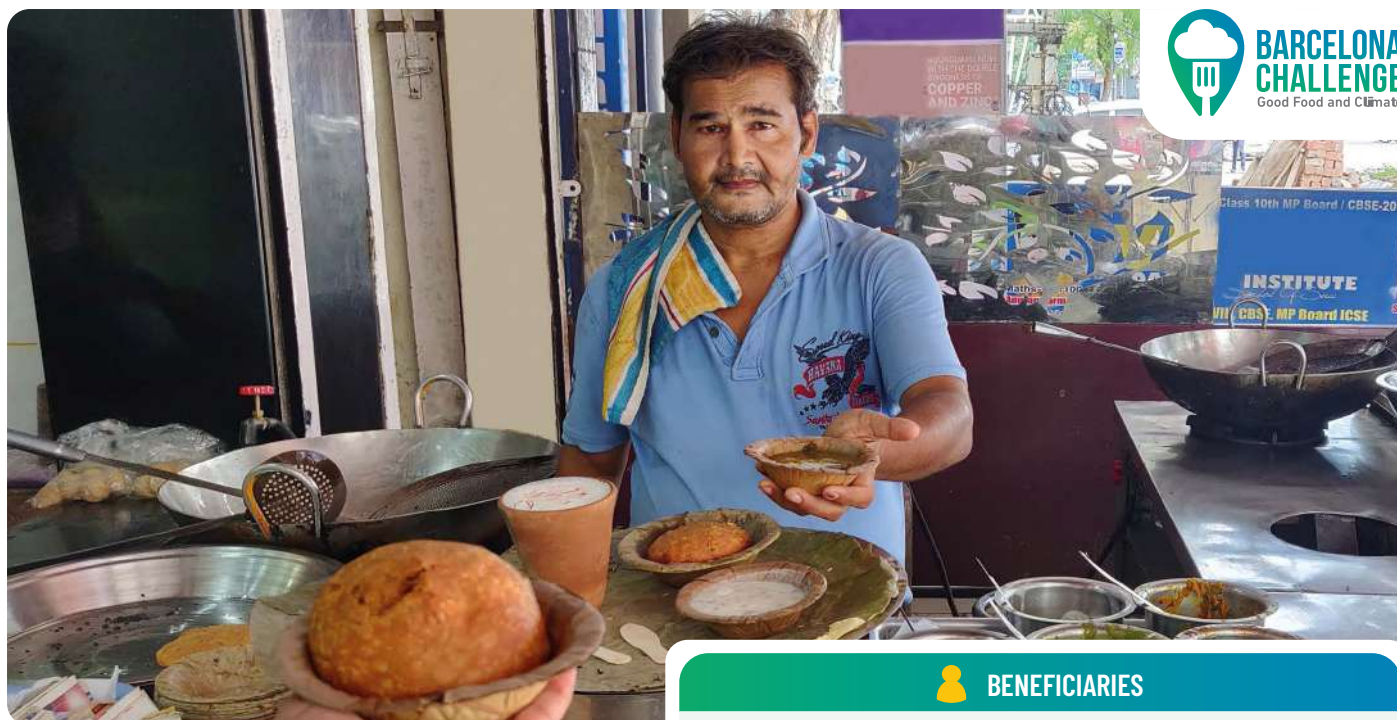


The policy will be in action during 2022-2033.

**🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE**

Food and Drugs Administration  
Food Committee and working  
group framework adopted by  
Ujjain City





## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Municipal departments: District Education Department, District Program Officer-Woman and Child Development, Food and Civil Supply Consumer Protection Department, Agriculture Department, Horticulture Department, Public Relation Department.

*NABL Laboratory* – a public institution

*Robinhood Army* NGO

Public schools

Dona-Pattal Association and Hotels Association

Volunteers and tourists



## BENEFICIARIES

50,000 people, including students, citizens, tourists, volunteers, etc.



## BUDGET

Around 20,000 € to be funded jointly by the Municipal Corporation and Ujjain Smart City Ltd budget and with the support of private stakeholders.

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/335>

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

Due to limitations in the budget at governmental departments, infrastructure and qualified human resources related to food and health policies, it is challenging to implement tasks adequately and within the stipulated time frame. Therefore, in most cases the interdepartmental coordination approach is the solution.

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

The policy – “Campaign - Done Me Do Na” would enable implementation of activities via interdepartmental coordination and support, which reinforces the holistic working framework of the city and contributes to create confidence among the stakeholders and general citizens on the government initiatives. Furthermore, it would mobilise community engagement for common goals and benefits regarding a good healthy lifestyle; contributing to the city's livability index.

## CRITICAL POINTS

Ujjain city has a huge floating population that ranges between 100,000 to 500,000; it varies every month due to temple pilgrimage and festive events. Thus, it is critical to address the needs and aspirations of the whole population. Also, the Covid-19 situation over the last three years has generated pressure on the different economic groups, affecting especially small vendors. Therefore, there is no support for many of the policy initiatives which may affect people's livelihoods or create communal tension.



## CONTACT PERSON

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## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Ujjain Smart City Facebook page / Ujjain Smart City Instagram page*  
*Eat Right Challenge Facebook page / Eat Right Ujjain Instagram page*  
*Done Me Do Na Campaign documents*

**KEY WORDS**

Food council, participatory  
food policies



**Governance**

Action 1.1

Action 1.2

**FOOD POLICY**

**Municipal Food Council**

**✓ OBJECTIVES**

- To create a food policies participatory space, involving the economic and social fabrics, aiming at co creating and driving transforming food policies.
- To consolidate local food policies.
- To improve the relocation of the local food system, promoting local production to be consumed locally.
- To contribute to a cultural change in terms of how food is produced and its impact on health, the local economy, the territory and the climate.
- To generate economic food structures that allow local food farmers to increase their sales through short distribution channels.

**CONTRIBUTION TO  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**



**📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION**

The Valencia Municipal Food Council is a consultative and sectorial participation body belonging to the Valencia City Council whose aim is to promote a more sustainable, healthier and fairer local agri-food system, in line with the commitments adopted by the Valencia City Council through the signature of the [Milan Urban Food Policy Pact](#).

During a year, three workshops took place with local organisations to consider which local food governance space would be the most convenient to improve local food policies. From this process emerged the decision to establish a food council, as a formal space within the City Council, aiming at defining a food policy framework, based on some ground principles:

- Create a space of governance and local participation within the City Council (aiming at existing beyond the political mandate).
- Promote processes of joint construction of local food policies among civil society, the economic and social fabric and local administration actors.
- Channel upwards propositions coming from civil society.

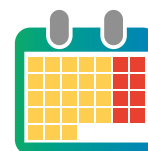
The food council has 4 working areas:

- Joint creation of projects coming from civil society towards the public administration.
- Intra-municipal coordination among different departments.
- Definition of a food policy monitoring and evaluation system emerging from the economic and social fabrics.
- Promotion of multilevel coordination spaces with supra local entities driving food policies. Coordination with the *L'Horta Council* (*L'Horta de València* is a very fertile stripe of land in this mediterranean region famous for its vegetable crops) at metropolitan level and with the network of cities for agroecology at national level.

One additional aspect is the work towards local agrifood good governance from a territorialised food system perspective.

The food council comprises seven working groups on the following topics:

- Public food procurement.
- Local markets and short distribution food channels.
- Right to food and vulnerable groups.
- Traditional local fishing.
- Climate change and food.
- Agroecological transition.



The process started in 2018. In 2109, the Municipal Agri-food Strategy was approved and the work framework created. By the end of 2022 it is expected that the Food Council will be consolidated with seven operational working groups. Since 2022, the Technical Secretary is integrated into the Department of Agriculture.

**🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE**

Agriculture, Sustainable food  
and *Horta*





## € BUDGET

The Municipal Food Council does not have a specific budget as such. It depends on the proposals presented by the working groups each year.

## 👤 BENEFICIARIES

40 entities participate in the Valencia Food Council, related to agriculture, agroecology, agribusiness, social fabric, economy, consumption, nutrition and ecology.

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

- To introduce public food procurement for the 9 municipal schools integrating social and ecological criteria.
- To create of 3 local farm markets as direct selling points in Valencia.
- To create an integral project to reduce by 80% the waste of fruits and vegetables in Mercavalencia (wholesale market), the largest public food hub in Valencia.
- To create a network of organic farmers at *L'Horta de València*, to improve their sales to schools.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/238>

## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Social economy organisations, associations linked to food sovereignty and agroecology.

Department of agriculture, *Horta* and sustainable food.

College of nutritionists

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

The presence of a strong social and economic fabric linked to food sovereignty and protection of the territory and a tradition of vegetable cultivation in the area, with high social and historical values, and a citizenship engaged and motivated regarding these topics are the blocks that have built the Municipal Food Council. Another key aspect has been the engagement of a local administration that is highly sensitive to sustainable food and local agriculture with a strong technical will and a favourable international context, as Valencia is committed to the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact.

Another strength is the integration of a larger approach within food policies: broadening to other thematic areas such as health, trade... and mainstreaming sustainable food as a municipal policy.

Valencia's Food Council is the first of its kind at national level. It is a space where social entities can evaluate the City Council's actions and where the City Council can take proposals down to the field and get actors' feedback.

One of the success points is the inclusion of sustainability criteria in public tenders for schools food suppliers, thanks to the job of the public food procurement working group.

## CRITICAL POINTS

Even if the Food Council can be a powerful initiative, it becomes necessary to strike a balance between its potential communicative outreach and the evaluation of the real impact of its actions.

It is also essential to ensure that the participation and discussion space yields specific actions, to minimise the risk of perceived greenwashing.

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

In order to ensure the continuity of the Food Council, a high level of political commitment is required, as well as establishing a coordination structure.

The fact that this is a very diverse, hybrid institutional space (public administration and civil society), makes it essential to find a balance within that diversity and to integrate complex working approaches for its management.

As it is an institutional initiative, it can be hard to reach field actors. To overcome that, the Food Council should approach them and find appropriate ways to reach them, adapting itself to sectors specificities, like the agricultural one.



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## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Food Council website*



## Food production

Action 4.2

## FOOD POLICY

**Basaldea municipal agroecological  
business incubator**

## KEY WORDS

Farm business incubator,  
agroecology, farming land

## ✓ OBJECTIVES

- To promote organic agriculture development in the territory.
- To promote the settling of new producers, facilitating access to the means of production.
- To support primary production commercialisation.
- To preserve local ecosystems.
- To connect local quality food production with the city consumption.

## 📄 POLICY DESCRIPTION

A political, technical and institutional consensus occurred on top of a set of favourable circumstances that facilitated the emergence of this initiative:

- Construction sector crisis and existing municipal land.
- Need to develop new sources of employment.
- Changes in consumption habits: growing interest on quality and local food products.
- A regional agrarian school in the territory.
- Creation of a land bank.
- Green ring in Vitoria-Gasteiz surrounded by an agrarian ring of about 11,000 hectares

This initiative is part of the Agro-food strategy. A diagnosis on the local primary sector was undertaken and improvement points were identified: generational replacement, preservation of farms and training promotion among other elements.

In 2012 the involved entities signed a collaboration agreement.

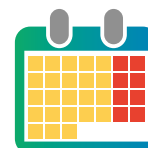
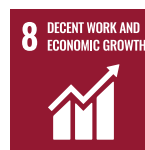
Between 2013 and 2017, the business incubator was defined, with the selection and setting up of 21 hectares of land, split up in 11 plots (1 - 1,5 hectares), equipped with irrigation infrastructure, 11 greenhouses and common services: parking space, toilets, changing room, shared tools and equipment, tool warehouse, washing and product handling area and information and counselling services.

In 2017, the City Council issued the first tender addressed to people with previous experience or education in organic agriculture presenting a business project and a viability study. Selected producers must become certified organic and register at the official farms registry and as a company.

The participation includes: the right to a 5-year land tenure, rent of 300 € per hectare per year (50% of the rent is subsidised by the City Council during the first year), free access to water and common services. Producers have access to specific training, to storage facilities and a selling stall in the municipal food market. Since 2020, there is also a direct sale spot in the farm.

A modification of the incubator's regulations is undergoing; one of the main changes being the extension of the land tenure term to 10-15 years.

## CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



In 2013 the preparation of land and infrastructure started. The policy officially started in 2017 and is currently undergoing.

## 🏠 DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE

Department of Economic  
Promotion, Employment, Trade  
and Tourism

*CEA (Environmental Studies  
Centre)* of the City Council

Green ring and biodiversity  
unit and rural area service  
(Department of Territory and  
Action for Climate)

Department of Agriculture  
(provincial level)

*HAZI Foundation*

Euskadi's Organic Food and  
Agriculture Council (*Ekolurra* –  
regional level)

Municipal food market





## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Professional producers

Territorial associations: *Bionekazaritza*, *UAGA*, *Naturaraba*, *Slow food Araba*

*Arkaute Agrarian institute* CIFP (regional level)

## € BUDGET

600,000 € were invested during the first 4 years of preparation of the project. Then, approximately 100,000 € per year.

## ASPIRATIONAL QUANTITATIVE OBJECTIVES

To reach full occupation of the agroecological business incubator by 2030 (currently 4 out of 11 land plots are in use).

To create at least 7 new jobs and/or businesses linked to the production and distribution of organic agriculture products from the province by 2030.

To triple organic vegetable production in the incubator within 3 years.

To consolidate the food products direct sale point by 2024.

To integrate at least one pilot and/or innovative project adding value to the local agroecological agriculture.

To train at least 15 people per year on organic agriculture.

Overall aspiration of the food policies committed to The Barcelona Challenge:

<https://toolkit.thebcnchallenge.org/challenges/report/307>

## 👤 BENEFICIARIES

4 producers (2 full time and 2 part time).

1 association: regional seeds network managing a cultivated biodiversity centre (6 people).

1 company: providing services for monitoring, managing and counselling in agroecology for the incubator (outsourced by the City Council).

2 employees for maintenance work.

2-4 interns per year.

80-100 consumer families.

## STRENGTHS AND SUCCESS POINTS

One of the strengths is the collaborative nature of the project, which involves political consensus and implies collaboration between institutions and the primary sector.

At the economic level: creation of local employment and businesses linked to organic agricultural production and distribution.

At the social level: facilitate access to land and connect quality local food production to the actual city's consumption.

At the environmental level: reduce energy consumption linked to transportation and conservation of food products; increase local agro-biodiversity, as a key factor for resilience against climate emergency; and to maintain the local landscape common heritage, combining Vitoria-Gasteiz's agrarian landscape and its biological diversity.

## OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

Overall the level of interest and perceived value of agricultural work by society is low. As a consequence few people are willing to work as farmers.

Another aspect is the difficulty to make the incubator's producers work collaboratively. In order to improve that, specific support is required.

## CRITICAL POINTS

It has to be taken into account that the administrative and economic management of such an initiative slows down the whole process.



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## FURTHER INFORMATION

*Basaldea website*

PROMOTED BY



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