

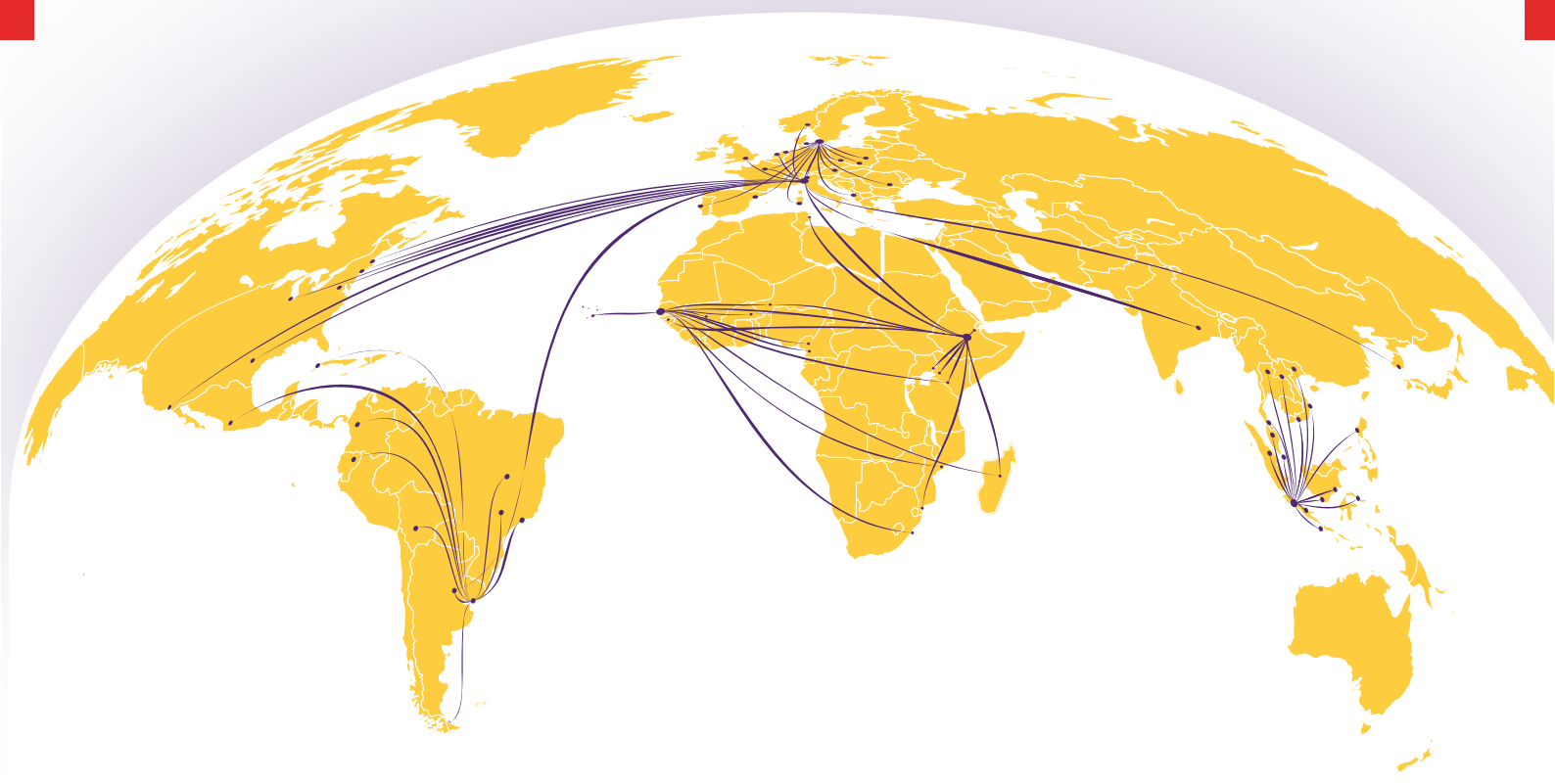


Comune di
Milano



The MUFPP Fellowship Programme

Report



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Municipality of Milan

Anna Scavuzzo, Vice Mayor of Milan
Beatrice Arcari, Director of Education Division
Andrea Magarini, Director of Food Policy Department
Filippo Gavazzeni, Head of the MUFPP Secretariat
Serena Duraccio, MUFPP Secretariat Officer
Francesco Cagnola, MUFPP Secretariat Officer
Mara Petruzzelli, MUFPP Senior Officer for School Feeding Programme

This report would not have been possible without the contributions from fellow colleagues from the Food Policy Department of Milan: Alice Casiraghi, Elena Fassi, Chiara Mandelli, Matteo Matteini, Cecile Michel, Andrea Patrucco, Emanuela Plebani, Elisa Porreca, Cristina Sossan

www.milanurbanfoodpolicypact.org

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Fondazione Cariplo

Working group MUFPP

Direction
Filippo Gavazzeni and Andrea Magarini

Project Management
Mara Petruzzelli

Graphic design, maps, infographics, cover and support to project management
Francesco Cagnola

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The MUFPP Fellowship Programme Report



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Foreword

The Impact of the MUFPP Fellowship Programme

The MUFPP stands as a legacy to the collective commitment of cities that started in 2015 with the EXPO in Milan, addressing pressing challenges of sustainable food systems worldwide. **Since the beginning, the MUFPP has served as a platform for knowledge exchange, fostering collaboration among cities that share the goal of creating more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban food policies.** It is within this framework that the MUFPP Fellowship Programme was designed, marking a milestone in our shared journey towards meaningful actions.

The 2022 Milan Pact Awards, an initiative launched together with Fondazione Cariplo, was the trigger for the development of **the Fellowship Programme, which has, since 2023, empowered MUFPP cities through a wide range of learning and capacity-building activities.** The Programme has played a crucial role in strengthening the skills of many local governments, enabling them to implement innovative solutions. By engaging in the wide range of activities, cities created stronger connections that will have lasting impacts beyond the Programme itself.

The success of this initiative would not have been possible without the crucial support and contributions of our partners. Their expertise and dedication have been instrumental in shaping the Fellowship Programme, providing cities with the tools and knowledge needed to drive tangible progress on urban food policy. Through formal commitments and ongoing collaboration, these partnerships have strengthened the impact of the MUFPP, ensuring that cities are prepared for the evolving challenges of the future.

The momentum generated through this initiative underscores the power of collaboration and knowledge-sharing in advancing sustainable urban food policies. Milan remains committed to fostering these global partnerships and supporting cities in their journey towards more sustainable, just, and resilient food systems.



Anna Scavuzzo
Vice Mayor of Milan,
in charge of the Food Policy



Comune di
Milano

The Power of Collaboration and Innovation

In recent years, urban food systems have garnered increasing attention worldwide. More cities, regions, and countries now recognize the pivotal role of food policies in advancing sustainability, resilience, and social well-being. **The transformation of food systems is no longer a marginal issue**—it has become a central pillar of urban and national policy agendas.

At Fondazione Cariplo, we have embraced this shift from the outset, bringing a philanthropic perspective to food system transformation. Our journey began in 2014 in collaboration with the City of Milan when we committed to supporting the city in developing its urban food policy. This partnership laid the foundation for a broader effort to enhance knowledge and best practices in urban food systems.

Two years later, we launched the Milan Pact Awards (MPA), an initiative aimed at recognizing and amplifying the most innovative food policies globally. **Through the MPA, we have played a key role in bridging the information gap on successful urban food policies.** By collecting and showcasing best practices from cities striving to improve their food systems, we have built a global repository and fostered peer learning exchanges to inspire innovative approaches worldwide.

The MUFPP Secretariat has been instrumental in facilitating collaboration among cities, ensuring that knowledge-sharing translates into concrete action. **Through its coordination of the Fellowship Programme, the Secretariat has strengthened inter-city relationships, supporting direct exchanges and capacity-building initiatives.**

The strong partnership between the City of Milan and Fondazione Cariplo has been a driving force behind these achievements. **Our shared vision and long-standing collaboration have kept food policy at the forefront of our agendas.** By continuing this joint effort, we reaffirm our commitment to empowering cities and reinforcing their role in shaping national and global food policies

Claudia Sorlini
Vice President
of Fondazione Cariplo



Strengthening the impact of the MUFPP

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) places great emphasis on areas of action that align with the scope of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP), recognizing its crucial role in promoting more sustainable, equitable, and resilient urban food systems.

With this perspective in mind, **AICS and the Municipality of Milan signed an agreement in 2022, a strategic alliance aimed at strengthening the MUFPP**, supporting its activities with an innovative and participatory approach. This collaboration has also facilitated engagement with our field offices to expand the MUFPP to new cities and further develop local urban food policies.

In this context, **AICS has been honored to actively contribute to the co-design and shaping of the Fellowship Programme**, a significant initiative for the growth and dissemination of urban food policies at the international and national levels. Supporting the implementation of the Fellowship Programme has allowed structuring and developing fruitful activities, providing participants with concrete tools and innovative methodologies to face the challenges of transforming urban food systems.

This report tells the story of the journey and the results achieved by the Fellowship Programme, a testimony of a joint commitment that has strengthened cooperation networks among cities, institutions, and actors in the food sector. It serves as a foundation to inspire further developments in capacity building, fostering stronger skills, deeper collaborations, and more impactful urban food policies



Marco Riccardo Rusconi
Director of the
Italian Agency for
Development Cooperation (AICS)



Key Dates

2022



October 2022

Announcement of the MUFPP Fellowship Programme

2023



March 2023

- **Advocacy towards the European Commission**
- **Exchange with Singapore**



13th-16th of June 2023

MPA Retreat



June 2023

- **Milan Food Waste Study Tour**



July 2023

- **5th MUFPP African Regional Forum in Dakar**



September 2023

- **11th MUFPP European Regional Forum in Bordeaux**



October 2023

- **Launch of the “Cities Feeding the Future” Initiative**
- **“Food and Nutrition in ASEAN cities” webinar series**



November 2023

- **Launch of the Bangkok Food Policy**

2024



December 2023

- **“Embedding Food Justice into Food Policies” webinar series**



February 2024

- **Launch of the “School Meals” report**



May 2024

- **12th MUFPP European Regional Forum in Warsaw**



June 2024

- **“The Power of Public Food Procurement” conference in Copenhagen**



July 2024

- **“Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities” summer school in Bandung**



September 2024

- **Launch of “The Potential of Urban Food Policies in Latin America” webinar series**



October 2024

- **6th MUFPP African Regional Forum in Addis Ababa**
- **Food Trails final conference in Bruxelles**



November 2024

- **Launch of the “Wholesale Markets” report**



December 2024

- **2nd MUFPP Asia Pacific Regional Forum in Bangkok**
- **Participation in Mercociudad's annual meeting**
- **“From Waste to Worth” webinar series**
- **Amman-Milan Triangular Cooperation**

2025



February 2025

- **Launch of the “Integrating Mitigation and Adaptation into Urban Food Policies” tool**
- **Exchange with Tunis and La Goulette**



March 2025

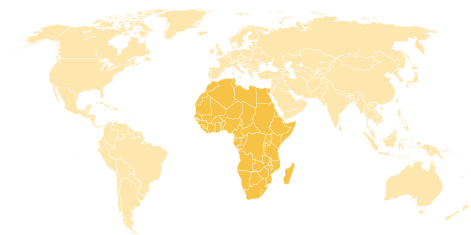
- **Launch of the “Water and Food systems” report**



1st April 2025

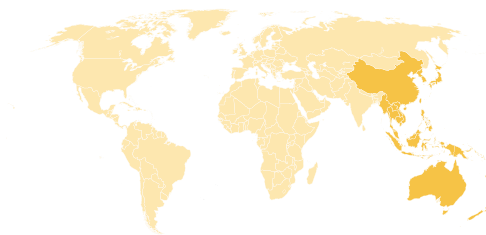
Launch of The MUFPP Fellowship Programme Report

Africa



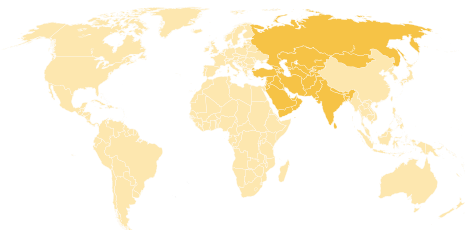
2 Regional Fora
2 Knowledge exchanges
1 Webinar series

Asia Pacific



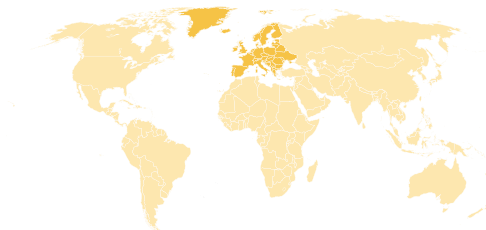
2 Advocacy
1 Regional Forum
1 Knowledge exchange
1 Webinar series

Eurasia & South-West Asia



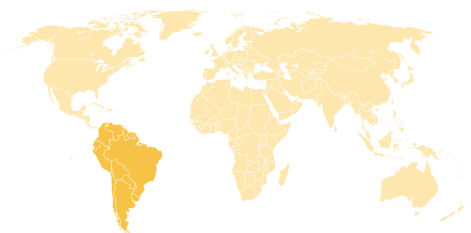
1 Knowledge exchange
1 Workshop

Europe



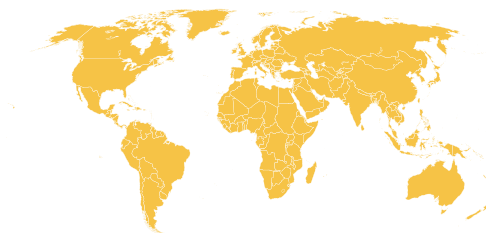
2 Advocacy activities
2 Regional Fora
7 Knowledge exchanges
7 Workshops
1 Webinar series

South America



2 Advocacy activities
1 Webinar series

Global



2 Advocacy activities
1 Knowledge exchange
3 Workshops
6 Webinar series

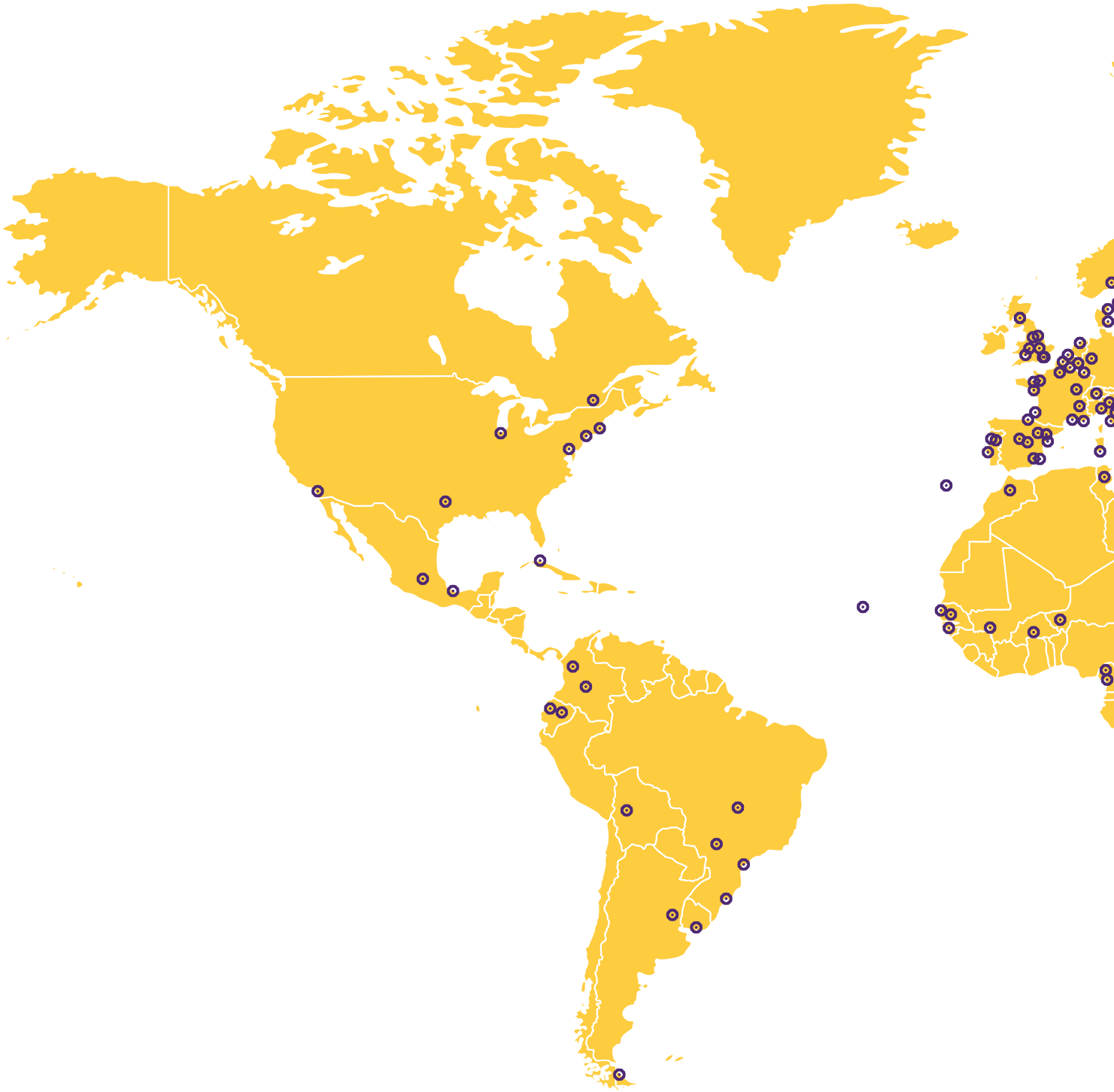
Introduction

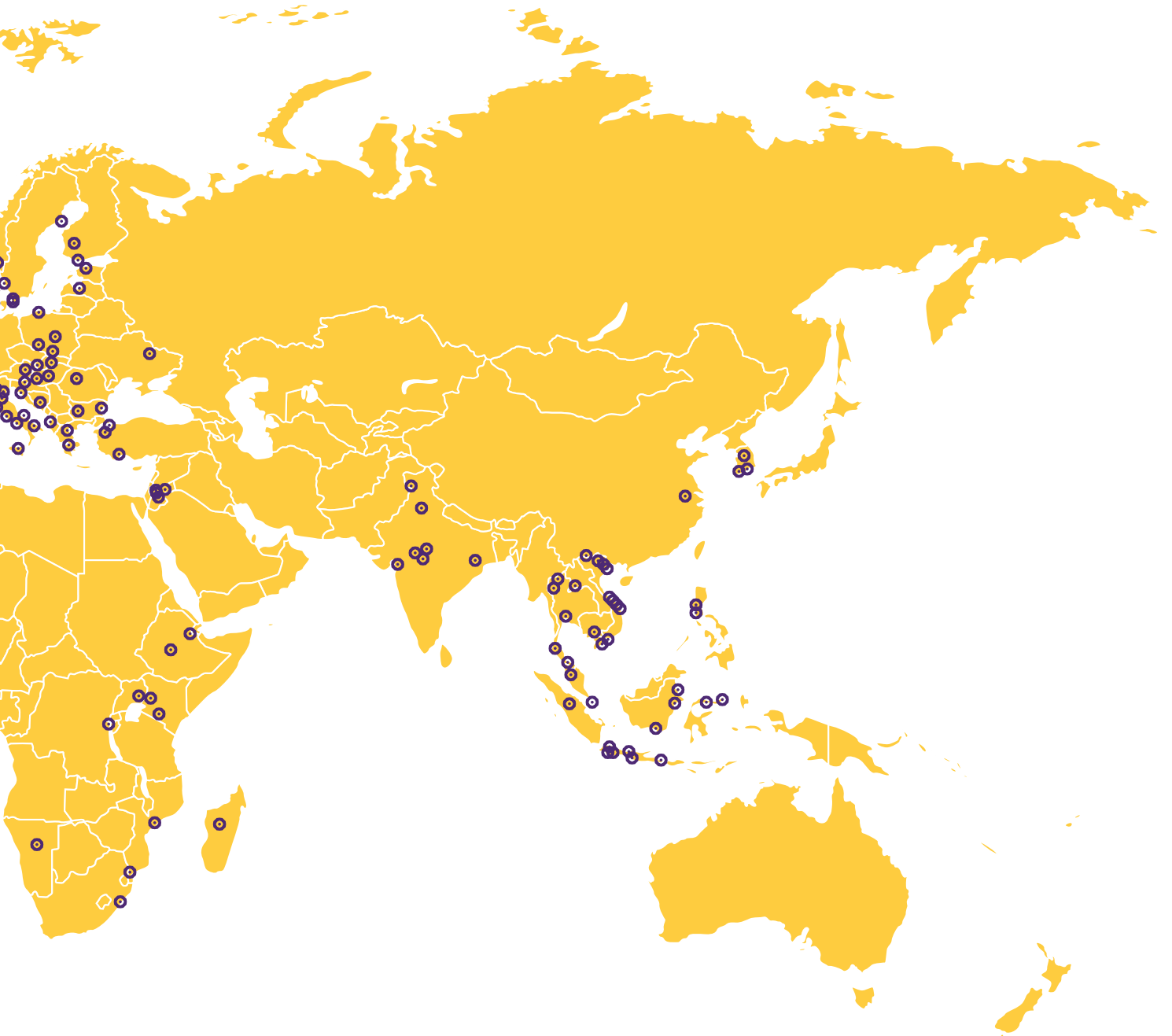
The Milan Pact Awards 2022 edition has been the trigger for the development of the MUFPP Fellowship Programme, a comprehensive learning and capacity building programme involving the Awards winning cities and the wider community of the Milan Pact. The MUFPP Fellowship Programme run from 2023 until the beginning of 2025, and engaged MUFPP cities in capacity building activities, in order to develop and strengthen their skills and capacities, test new tools and learn how to achieve their food policy objectives. The Fellowship Programme included various activities such as: field visits, webinars, workshops, online and in-person trainings, peer-to-peer exchanges, participation in research and mapping activities, publications development, networking opportunities, joint organization of events and conferences. These activities were facilitated by the MUFPP Secretariat together with the important contribution of MUFPP's **key partners**.

The present report provides an overview of the MUFPP Fellowship Programme, structured into key thematic sections that reflect the core pillars of the initiative. **The Advocacy section** highlights efforts to advance urban food policies on a global scale through strategic engagement with institutions and stakeholders. **The Knowledge Exchange section** explores the mechanisms and methodologies employed to foster mutual learning among cities, and the variety of projects that contributed to it. **The Regional Fora** section describes the role of regional fora, in the regions where they took place- Africa, Europe and Asia Pacific - in promoting cooperation among cities. **The Workshop and Webinar** section present an overview of the capacity-building activities conducted throughout the Programme, focusing on the tools, frameworks, and skills developed to enhance urban food governance. Each section collectively contributes to a comprehensive understanding of the impact of the Fellowship Programme and the progress achieved by MUFPP cities.

Regarding the role of partners in the work of the MUFPP, under the Fellowship Programme and beyond, it is worth highlighting that **the collaboration, contribution and fellowship among the partner organizations have enabled the achievement not only advancements on the issue globally, but also concrete results available to the signatory cities.** In light of this, some partners have formally committed to collaborating with MUFPP and are presented in the following section.

Participating cities to the MUFPP Fellowship Programme





Partners



AICS - Italian Agency for Development Cooperation

In 2022, the Municipality of Milan and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) signed a 3-year agreement for the strengthening of the MUFPP. Within this framework, a variety of activities have been jointly developed with three key goals in mind: the strengthening of the MUFPP Secretariat, the development of new skills and tools for food policy development in signatory cities, the dissemination of MUFPP issues in the national and international debate. The collaboration builds upon the experience gained over the years by the MUFPP and its network of signatory cities and the experience of AICS in the field of development cooperation.



ASEAN - Association of South East Asian Nations

In March 2023, the MUFPP Secretariat began its cooperation with ASEAN, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, presenting a project proposal which was endorsed by the ASEAN Health Sector through ASEAN Health Cluster 1 on Promoting Healthy Lifestyle which is responsible for the Promotion of Good Nutrition and Healthy Diet. A webinar series on Food and Nutrition in ASEAN cities was developed as a result, with the aim of introducing the theme of urban food policies among ASEAN Member States along with the work of the MUFPP Secretariat to the wider ASEAN community. **In February 2024, the MUFPP submitted a project proposal Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities that was approved by ASEAN.** The project, funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation within the ASEAN-Italy Development Partnership, aimed to increase the capacity of city officers and member states from ASEAN countries to develop school meals programmes and policies that can multiply positive health, environmental, economic and social outcomes in local communities. Within this collaboration, a variety of activities are targeting MUFPP cities from ASEAN Member States.

Cariplo Foundation



Fondazione Cariplo and the MUFPP have built a strong collaboration aimed at advancing sustainable urban food policies globally. **Since 2014, Fondazione Cariplo has supported Milan's food policy efforts, contributing to the city's work both at local and international level.** A key milestone of this partnership was the creation of the Milan Pact Awards (MPA) in 2016, which recognises innovative food policies and fosters knowledge exchange among cities. Through this initiative, Fondazione Cariplo has helped to collect and disseminate best practices, empowering cities to implement innovative solutions globally. This long-standing collaboration has strengthened the MUFPP's mission, ensuring cities have the tools and resources needed to transform their food systems sustainably.

Eurocities



The regionalisation process of the MUFPP in Europe is based on a strong alliance with Eurocities, the largest network of European cities, counting over 200 large cities among its membership, representing more than 150 million people across 38 countries, within and outside the European Union. **Thanks to a strong collaboration between Eurocities and the MUFPP, in 2016 the Eurocities Working Group Food was established:** a creative hub for knowledge sharing, co-design innovative solutions related to urban food policies and advocacy towards European institutions. It is chaired by Milan and Warsaw and it involves 51 cities that gathered 12 times in Brussels, Birmingham, Valencia, Amsterdam, Lyon, Ghent, Montpellier, Milan, Barcelona, Almere, Bordeaux and Warsaw. The Working Group is composed of officers who, in various capacities, deal with food policy issues and who, over the years, have been able not only to bring the exchange of knowledge to a higher level, but also to actively participate in projects, funded through grants, that have made a quantum leap in food policy in Europe. Some examples are: Food Trails, FoodShift2030, FUSILLI, Cities 2030, CLEVERFOOD, Cultivate and AfriFoodLinks.



Mercociudades

Mercociudades is a network of cities from Mercosur (the Southern Common Market) and associated countries in South America which signed a LOI with the MUFPP in December 2023 **to strengthen the presence of the Milan Pact in the region and spread the urban and systemic approach to food amongst all cities in the Mercociudades' network.** The joint efforts lead to the currently ongoing **webinar series** "El potencial de las políticas alimentarias urbanas en Latinoamérica" and the creation of a **urban food policies Thematic Unit** within Mercociudades: the proposal was kickstarted by MUFPP's Steering Committee Members Rosario and Belo Horizonte and is co-lead by them as well as another MUFPP signatory city: Porto Alegre. **These efforts are evidences of the strong links and shared will between the two organisations** and the common aim of keep collaborating to foster food resilience, security and sovereignty in the whole Region.



World Food Programme

In October 2023, the School Meals Coalition hosted by the World Food Programme paired up with the MUFPP to develop its fourth initiative: the Cities Feeding the Future. The Initiative, which complements the three existing ones, aims at more effectively aligning the efforts and commitments of the over 100 Coalition Member States and facilitating their successful implementation at the city level. **It seeks to support municipalities in their responsibility of implementing school meals programmes, while bridging the gap between local and national governments.** A variety of activities have been developed under this umbrella, following three main areas of objectives: empowering the role of cities in implementing school meals, facilitating the sharing of knowledge among peer cities and global actors; and supporting decision-making processes at local level.



Red de Municipios por la agroecología

The Red de Municipios por la Agroecología (RMAe) is a Spanish network promoting agroecology-based food policies by bringing together municipalities, farmers and associations, interested citizens, farmers markets and other stakeholders. **RMAe is MUFPP's national focal point in Spain, responsible for supporting and expanding its activities amongst Spanish cities.** The two networks collaborate on advocacy efforts, events and webinars organization, city-to-city cooperation facilitation and knowledge exchange: in particular there is a MUFPP Special mention in RMAe's awards. Recently, after a shoulder-to-shoulder effort with **RUAF** as well, this partnership launched a policy tool that includes the food-climate nexus into food policies development and the MUFPP pact itself.

Urban Agenda for Europe - Thematic Food Partnership

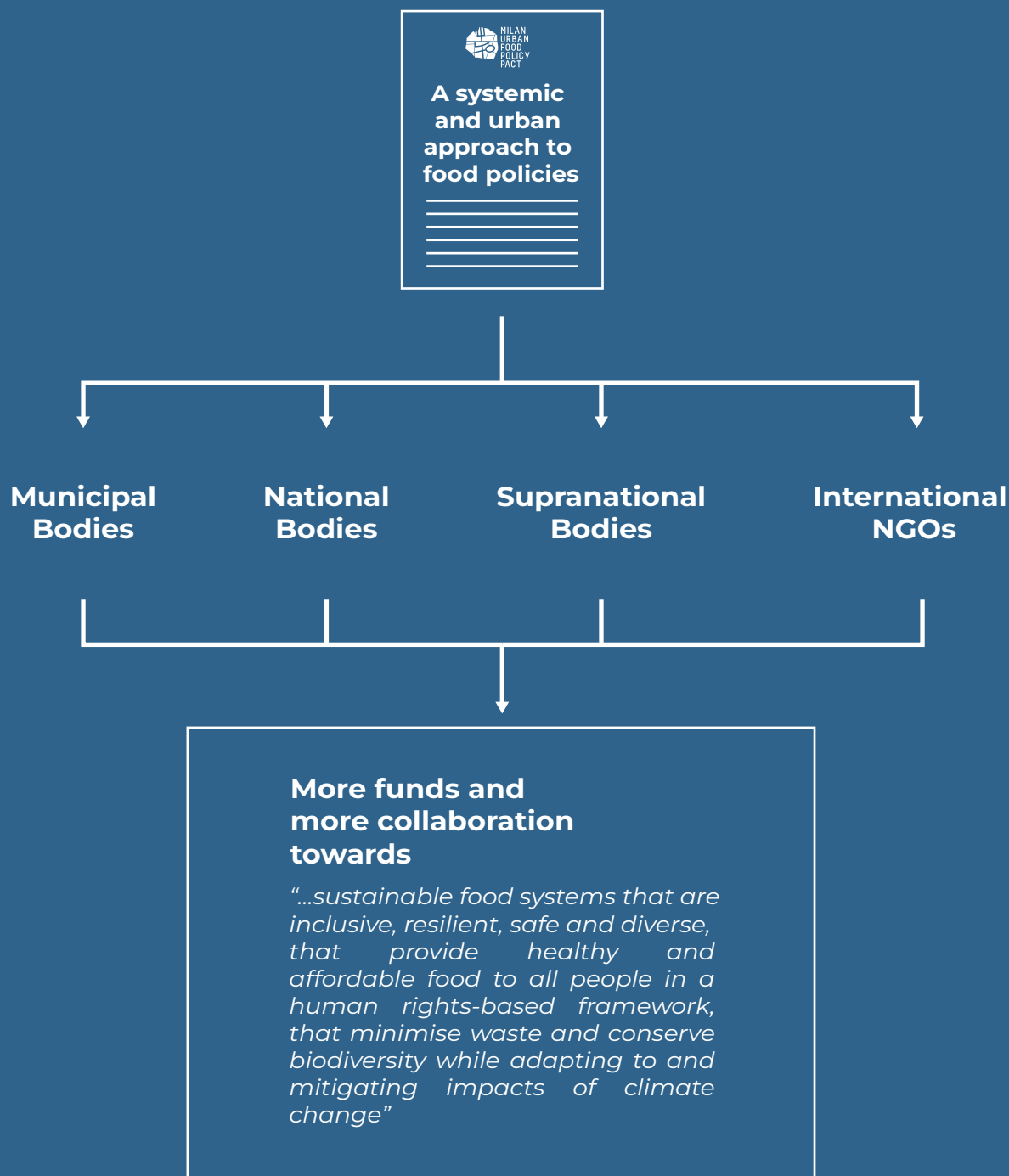


The Urban Agenda for the EU Partnership on Food was launched in January 2024 and gathers twenty-six relevant stakeholders from different sectors and levels of governance **to build consensus around shared goals and priorities for sustainable food systems, and advocate for these at the national and EU levels.** It is coordinated by the City of Milan and the Metropolitan Area of Lisbon, in close collaboration with the EUI Secretariat, that facilitates the daily life of the Partnership, and DG REGIO, as the leading DG of the European Commission on urban matters. **The transformation of food systems requires a systemic approach, and the Food Thematic Partnership prioritizes the role of cities in leading this transformation by adopting innovative urban food policies.** The adoption of a multi-level governance, multi-sector, and multi-stakeholder approach, in line with the Urban Agenda for the EU framework, will serve as the cornerstone of the Partnership's overall strategy, enabling to find a holistic and inclusive response to the multifaceted challenges of the food system.

UNPAR - Universitas Katolik Parahyangan



In 2023, a letter of intent was signed between the Municipality of Milan and Parahyangan Catholic University of Bandung (UNPAR) with the aim of developing a centre of excellence on urban food policy in Asia Pacific. Within this agreement, a variety of activities have been developed such as the organisation of joint moments of knowledge sharing, support to Asia Pacific cities in the development of urban food policies, and setting up of joint knowledge exchange workshops for cities.



The infographic represents the process of advocacy: activities aim to a different range of stakeholder sponsoring the urban and systemic approach to food policies in order to secure political approval and fund allocation for their realisation.

Advocacy

Advocacy activities towards national governments, supranational bodies and international organisations are a key domain of action within the Milan Pact. They serve to highlight the role of cities or policymaking purposes and for unlocking funding for urban food policies.

Advocacy activities bring concrete impacts for shaping the policy agenda around multiple addressed topics. The dedicated efforts have been crucial to strengthening city roles for achieving sustainable food systems in line with the international ambition.

8

**Advocacy
activities**

113

**Cities
involved**

300+

**Officers
involved**



Governance

11

Cities
involved

Partner

Eurocities

30

Officers
involved

Advocacy towards the EU Commission

“Lunching on Urban Food Policies”

2023, Bruxelles - Milan engaged in the “Lunching on Urban Food Policies” communication campaign over 2023 to advocate on the role of cities, doing the same at the CLEVERFOOD project event “FOOD 2030 Networks Conference - Transformative Food System Innovation” held in Brussels in March 2024. Additionally, Milan co-coordinates the Urban Agenda for Europe - Thematic Food Partnership alongside the **Lisbon Metropolitan Authority**, advocating for enhanced recognition and support of urban food policies at the EU level.

“Bringing Urban Food Policies to the Table”

2023, Bruxelles - The City of Milan, as Chair of the Eurocities Working Group Food and member of the MUFPP, has been at the forefront of advocating for the recognition of urban food policies within the European Union. In collaboration with Eurocities and the MUFPP, the city of Milan organized the high-level event “Bringing Urban Food Policies to the Table” on March 9th, 2023. **This gathering brought together 11 deputy mayors and 8 European Commission representatives to discuss the Legislative Framework for Sustainable Food Systems (FSFS)**, a key component of the EU’s Farm to Fork Strategy. The event underscored cities’ pivotal roles in transforming food systems and emphasized the need for their active involvement in shaping EU food policies.

Through these efforts, the City of Milan has engaged in several ways with the European Commission, involving along the way several municipalities and discussing with many Directorate Generals to positively influenced discussions, ensuring that urban perspectives are integral to the development of sustainable food systems across Europe.





**Sustainable Diets
and Nutrition**

Partner

WFP

Cities Feeding the Future Initiative

School Meals Coalition First Global Summit

2023, Paris - On the occasion of the School Meals Coalition First Global Summit in Paris in October 2023, the Milan Pact officially launched the Cities Feeding the Future Initiative.

The Initiative, which complements the three existing ones in supporting member states' actions, aims at highlighting municipalities' responsibility in implementing school meals programmes, while fostering links between local and national governments. During the session, Champion Mayors on school meals from all around the world presented their outstanding experiences. From **Nairobi**, with their innovative Tap2Eat watches, to the extensive school meals programme in **Addis Ababa**, from **Copenhagen**, with a strong focus on sustainable public food procurement, to **Montpellier** with a specific interest in supporting the local economy; to Milan showcasing its long-lasting experience in ensuring healthy and sustainable meals for all the children of its public schools.

Emphasising the importance of developing such systems at urban level, helped to bring governments' attention to the importance of involving local governments in the discussion.

Regional School Meals Coalition Summit

2024, Siem Reap – In November 2024, the Government of Cambodia co-hosted the Regional School Meals Coalition Summit for ASEAN+3 countries in Siem Reap, together with the governments of the Philippines and the Republic of Korea.

The summit represented an opportunity for the region to advance in shaping policies that support children's health, education, and future potential through sustainable school meals programmes. The MUFPP participated in the summit bringing the experience of the Cities Feeding the Future Initiative, with the objective of highlighting the role of cities in the implementation of school meals programmes.

The MUFPP had the chance to showcase the work that cities in the region are carrying out thanks to its project **"Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities"**. This was the opportunity also to advocate the role of cities in shaping school meals programmes towards other levels of government and international organisations.



Governance

Partner

Mercociudades

Advocacy in South America

Letter of intent with Mercociudades

2023, São Paulo - The 2023 annual summit of Mercociudades marked the official signing of a Letter of Intent (LOI) between Mercociudades and MUFPP, setting the foundation for a strategic collaboration aimed at fostering sustainable and inclusive food policies across the region.

The LOI establishes a framework for collaboration to advance sustainable urban food policies. Key commitments include: raising government awareness, promoting policies aligned with the Milan Pact, facilitating knowledge exchange, and advocating for food policies on national and regional agendas. It also emphasizes organizing events, engaging stakeholders, and seeking funding for initiatives. This partnership strengthens cities' roles in addressing food insecurity, urban agriculture, and waste reduction.

Participation in Mercociudades' annual meeting

2024, Esteban Echeverría – Following the signature of the Letter of Intent, the MUFPP played a key role in advancing urban food policy discussions during the 2024 Mercociudades annual summit.

A significant highlight of the summit was the MUFPP's co-organization of the panel session "Innovations in Local Public Policies: Partnerships for a Systemic Approach to the Transformation of Urban Food Systems." This session featured academic insights from the Universidad Nacional Guillermo Brown and best practices from the Prefecture of **Porto Alegre** and Municipality of **Rosario**.

The summit concluded with a milestone achievement: the official approval of Belo Horizonte, Rosario and Porto Alegre' proposal for a Thematic Unit on Urban Food Policies within Mercociudades. The newly formed unit will serve as a platform for knowledge exchange and collaboration, fostering policies that drive sustainable food systems within the network. It is a testament of MUFPP and Mercociudades' mutual commitment to shaping sustainable and inclusive urban food policies for cities and communities across South America.





17

Cities
involved

50

Officers
involved

Food Wave Final Conference

2023, Milan – The Final event of the Food Wave project involved all the cities and partners of the 3 year-long DEAR (Development Education and Awareness Raising) project Food Wave. **This event had a great success in terms of the results achieved by the cities that involved young people (from 15 to 35 year-old) in street actions, public events and campaigns dedicated to food issues** such as sustainable food systems, reduction of food waste, healthy school meals, and much more.

The event in Milan was participated by representative of the EU Commission, the partner of the project and by all cities who shared visions and results of the actions implemented at local level, and designed the follow up path toward the engagement of young people in food system transformation. Hackaton and world cafes were the methodologies used to connect ideas and actions.



3

Cities
involved

Partners

The World Bank
CGIAR

Urban Food Systems White Paper

2024, online - The MUFPP contributed to a World Bank white paper developed in collaboration with CGIAR, focusing on **innovative frameworks for urban food system transformation**. A central objective was aligning the framework with the World Bank's investment channels, ensuring practicality and scalability.

MUFPP enriched the paper with insights into its history, governance model, strategic partnerships, and tools such as the Food Policy Action Canvas. Additionally, the MUFPP highlighted the success stories of **Addis Ababa, Yeosu, and Araraquara**—municipalities recognized for their innovative practices under the Milan Pact Awards. These contributions underscored MUFPP's role in fostering collaborative, actionable solutions for sustainable urban food systems through the participation in collective writing and research.



The infographic represents cities participation to Regional Fora organised in 2023 and 2024, according to MUFPP region and year of organisation.

Regional Fora

The MUFPP Regional Fora serve as a powerful reflection of the Milan Pact's regional diversity and vitality. During these events, signatory cities, as well as national and international stakeholders, come together to exchange ideas and experiences within their regions, making significant progress in localizing the MUFPP's recommended actions.

These Fora provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss shared challenges and prioritize actions to be tackled collectively. They also offer opportunities to explore potential collaborations in strengthening urban food policies. The Regional Fora are also key moments for welcoming new cities into the MUFPP community and raising awareness of available learning opportunities.

5

**Regional
Fora**

89

**Cities
involved**

206

**Officers
involved**

MUFPP African Regional Fora

2023 - 2024, Dakar and Addis Ababa - In 2023, the 5th MUFPP Regional Forum in Africa took place in Dakar, bringing together city officials, NGOs, and youth activists to advance sustainable urban food systems. Organized by the MUFPP, ACRA, Mani Tese, and the City of Dakar, **the forum introduced the Food Policy Action Canvas (FPAC), a tool developed within the Horizon2020 Food Trails Project.** Participants used FPAC to analyze local food policy actions, focusing on governance, sustainable diets, social equity, food production, supply chains, and waste management. Stakeholder mapping and assessments of barriers and drivers facilitated dynamic plenary discussions. **FoodWave youth climate activists played a prominent role, advocating for inclusive policy design and emphasizing the importance of integrating their voices into urban food system transformation.** A roundtable with development agencies and international organizations promoted the exchange of replicable strategies across Africa, highlighting growing international interest in collaborating with cities and local governments on urban food system interventions.

Building on this momentum, the 6th MUFPP Regional Forum in Africa was held in Addis Ababa in 2024, focusing on city-led school meal programs. This forum emphasized the transformative potential of integrating school meals into broader urban food policies, showcasing successful initiatives from cities across the continent. Participants explored how such programs can promote sustainable diets, reduce food waste, and foster inclusive urban development. Field visits provided practical insights into effective school meal delivery. **The event also marked the launch of the “Agreement and Ways Forward of the 6th MUFPP Regional Forum in Africa,” a document co-created by participating cities to advocate for stronger support from national governments and international partners.** The African Union reaffirmed its commitment to advancing school meal programs, aligning them with AU’s Agenda 2063 goals, and pledged to champion the forum’s recommendations. Together, these forums underscore the growing influence of African cities in shaping sustainable and inclusive food policies.


Governance


Social Economic
Equity

26
Cities
involved

38
Officers
involved

Partners
AICS
ACRA

Hosting Cities
City of Addis Ababa (2024)
City of Dakar (2023)



Download
the report
here





16

Cities
involved

70

Officers
involved

Partner
AICS

Hosting City
Metropolitan
Administration of Bangkok



Download
the report
here

MUFPP Asia Pacific Regional Forum

2024, Bangkok – On December 3rd and 4th, the Municipality of Milan - MUFPP, and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), within the Cities Feeding the Future Initiative of the School Meals Coalition, organised the 2nd MUFPP Asia Pacific Regional Forum titled “Nourishing growing cities: enhancing school meals and supporting local communities”.

The event brought together 16 cities from 8 Asia Pacific countries, all committed to supporting their local communities through strengthened school meal programmes, urban agriculture, and sustainable food waste management. With a food system approach, **the Forum examined the importance of school meal programmes in urban food policies and their integration with urban farming practices, strategies to reduce food waste, and food bank donations.**

Featuring speakers with diverse governance levels, including Chadchart Sittipunt, Governor of Bangkok, **the Forum provided a platform for sharing inspiring perspectives from across the region and beyond, fostering the exchange of innovative and transformative strategies being implemented by cities.** Panel debates and discussions have been complemented by field visits both to the well-known Bangkok Food Bank network and to primary school canteens and productive gardens.

The Forum was also the chance to welcome 4 new cities in the Milan Pact community, marking a very special moment and reiterating their willingness of working jointly for the improvement of urban food systems.



MUFPP European Regional Fora and Eurocities’ Working Group Food

2023 - 2024 Bordeaux and Warsaw - Over the years 2023 and 2024, activities related to the promotion of food policy issues among European cities focused on several specific tools, reinforced by the volume of active European projects on sustainable food systems. **This has increased the group of active municipalities and strengthened the group of EU stakeholders able to support cities. A concrete example are the projects that were part of the group called FOOD 2030 Project Family: FoodShift2030, FoodE, Food Trails, Fusilli and Cities2030.** The momentum on the topic thus enabled the MUFPP Steering Committee, the EU and Eurocities to maximise knowledge exchange and organise advanced workshops. Besides the Food Trails Cascade Learning Programme, which is explored further in this report, two key moments were the annual in-person meetings.

In 2023, the MUFPP Regional Forum & Eurocities Working Group Food meeting was hosted by Bordeaux Metropole (France) on the topic of food justice and collaborations between food policies and social affairs, that focus on a more systemic approach. On this occasion, 21 officers from 13 cities met to share experiences of integration for the promotion of the right to food, participated in workshops co-organised with the Food Foundation, and had the opportunity to visit key locations in the city where the local food policy is implemented.

In 2024, the MUFPP Regional Forum & Eurocities Working Group Food meeting was held in Warsaw (Poland), the event featured, on the one hand, an in-depth study on the topic of the food crisis applied to the urban context, and on the other hand a workshop open to the 28 participating European cities present was held, concluding the Cascade Learning programme. Both meetings were made possible thanks to funding from the Horizon2020 Food Trails project.



Social Economic Equity



Supply Chain and Distribution

46

Cities involved

98

Officers involved

Partner Eurocities

Hosting Cities

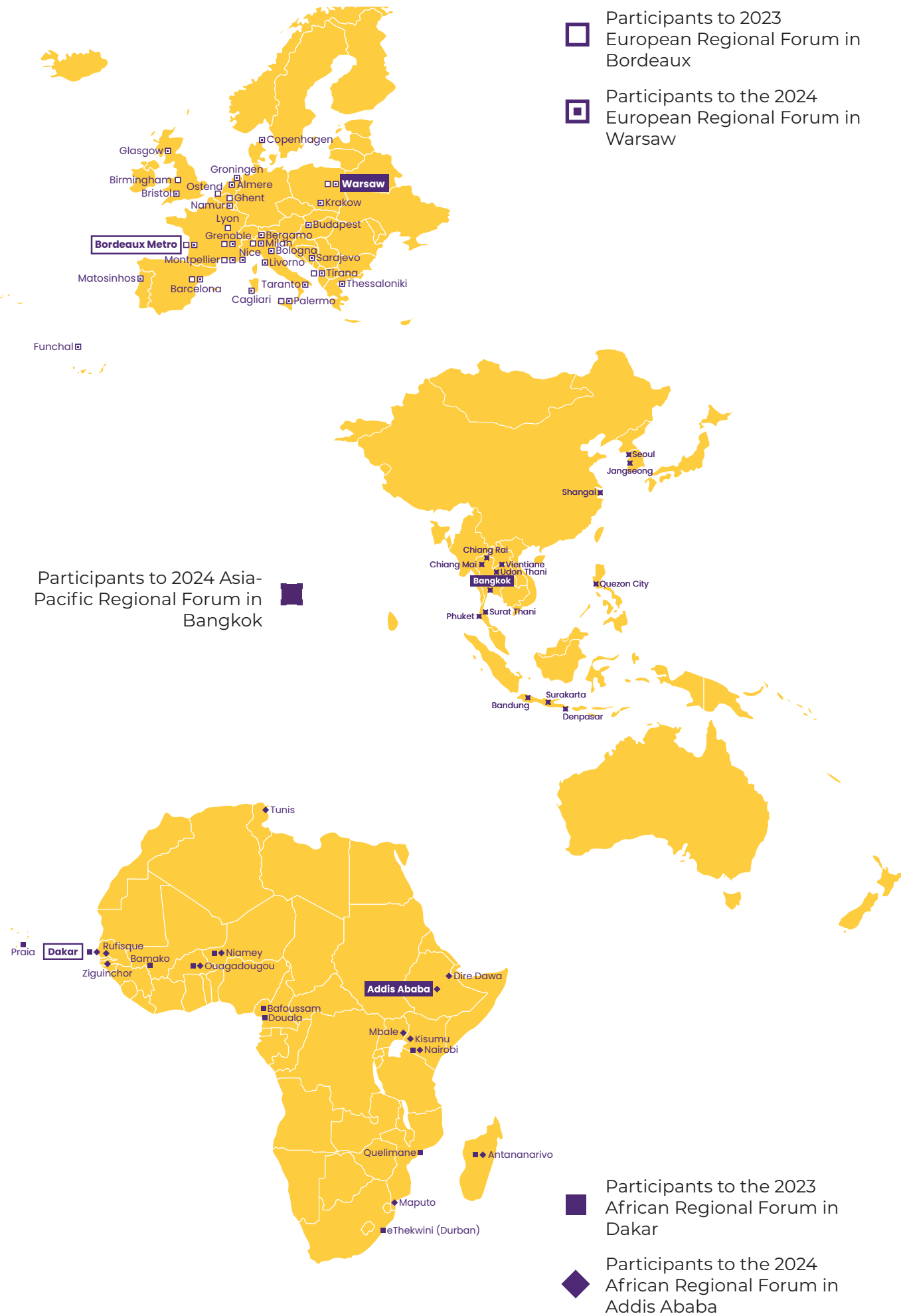
Bordeaux Metropole (2023)

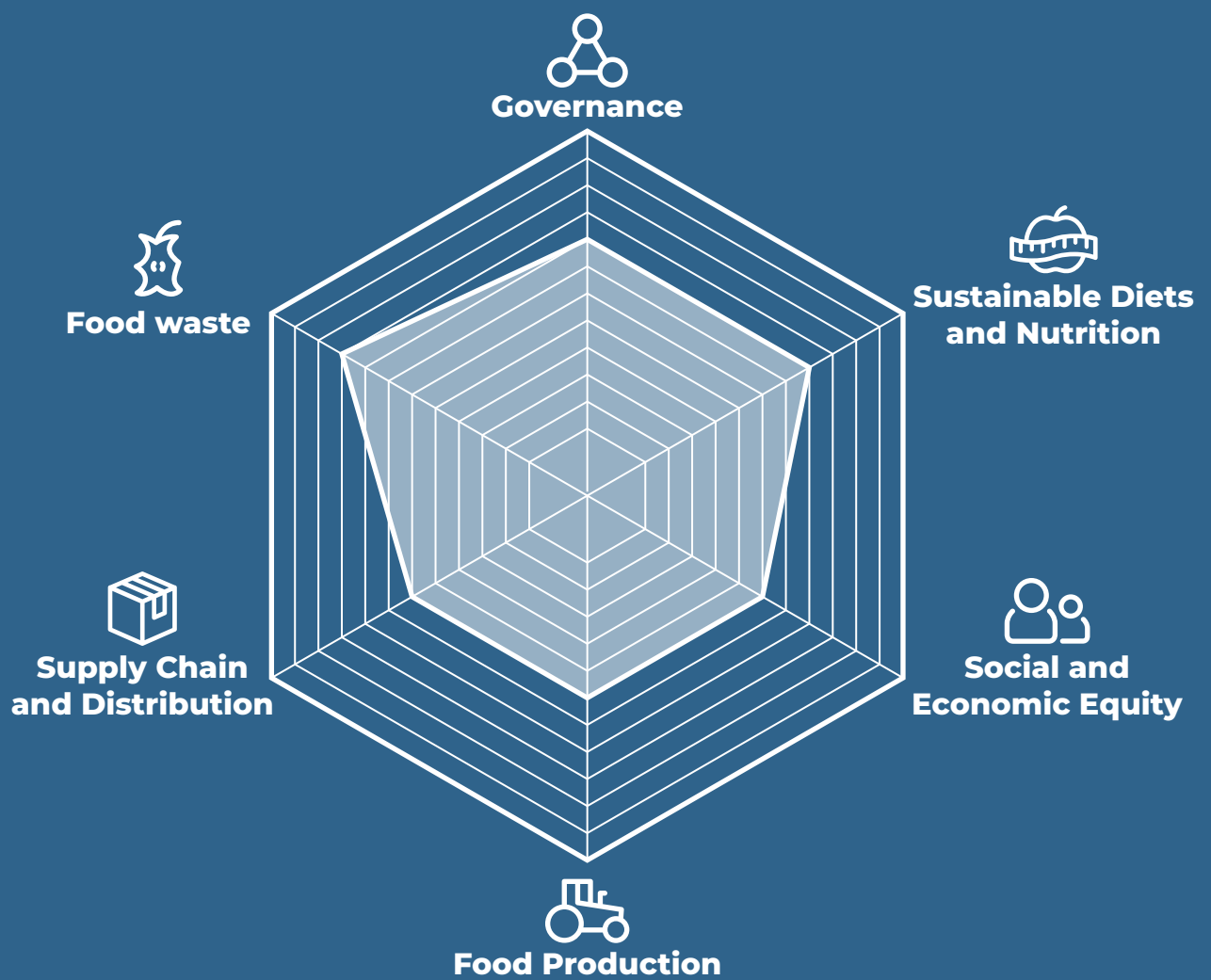
City of Warsaw (2024)



Download the report here







The infographic represents the thematic subdivision of the knowledge exchanges in the MUFPP Fellowship Programme: 5 out of 12 focused on all categories of the MUFPP, highlighting the systemic approach of the framework.

Knowledge exchanges

Knowledge exchanges within the Milan Pact are collaborative events or platforms where cities share insights, experiences, and best practices related to their urban food policy experiences.

These exchanges often involve discussions, presentations, and case studies that highlight successful strategies, challenges, and innovations in addressing food security, guaranteeing sustainable and healthy diets, and supporting local food production in urban areas.

By facilitating dialogue and the transfer of knowledge across different regions and topics, these exchanges help inform and improve urban food policies approaches, encouraging the adoption of effective solutions to create more resilient and equitable food systems in cities.

12

**Knowledge
exchanges**

136

**Cities
involved**

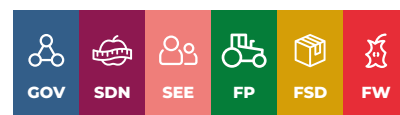
323

**Officers
involved**

FOOD2030 Project Family

2023, Europe - Fifty-two cities across Europe were involved in five EU Horizon-funded projects investing €48 million by 2024 to innovate local food systems. FoodSHIFT 2030, FoodE, Food Trails, Cities 2030 and FUSILLI constituted the EU FOOD 2030 Project Family. **The collaboration consisted in coordinating synergistic cross-project initiatives toward a sustainable transformation of the European food system aligned with the European Commission's FOOD 2030 and Farm to Fork Strategy.** The FOOD2030 Project Family was first and foremost a cities' network. **Each city addressed the food system transformation through Living Labs: open innovation ecosystem of stakeholders that engage different food system actors;** a permanent space to share ideas and co-create meaningful solutions.

For these labs to continue having a positive impact, they need long-term funding and support. Policymakers should prioritize these labs to ensure they keep driving food system transformations in line with the European Commission's Farm to Fork Strategy. To ensure the continued success of the Food System Living Labs (FSL) beyond the lifespan of individual projects, FOOD2030 Project Family developed a policy brief to provide policy makers of the European Commission, national governments and municipal leaders with recommendations focusing on prioritising FSLs long term funding and guidelines to support them in implementing effective strategies to expand the impact of FSLs.



50

Cities
involved

50

Officers
involved

Partners

City of Milan

CARTIF

Ca Foscari University- Venice

Alma Mater University - Bologna

University of Copenhagen



Download
the policy
brief here

Regional gathering of School Food 4 Change

2024, Milan - The city of Milan and Milano Ristorazione hosted more than 30 representatives of European cities partner of the School food 4 change project, with the aim of sharing knowledge and best practices on school meals services.

The gathering in Milan offered the opportunity to see the management of the service at city level but also to discuss different approaches through the presentation of the report of the MUFPP on School Meals. Additionally, the cities have presented their experiences in a tailored workshop dedicated to education, realized in a very special location called "Labzerosei", where educative tools are used to involve children and families.

The gathering was one of the two opportunities for the regional partners of the project, where MUFPP is also participated, to provide a framework of action on sustainable food systems.



8

Cities
involved

30

Officers
involved

Partners

City of Milan

Rikolto

ICLEI



11

Cities involved

53

Officers involved

Partner

City of Milan

Food Trails Final Conference

2024, Bruxelles - The Food Trails Final Conference, held on 3 October 2024 in Brussels, was the conclusion of a four-year journey to advance urban food policies across 11 European cities.

Led by the City of Milan under Horizon 2020, the project fostered collaboration among local governments, researchers, and EU stakeholders. The conference highlighted the achievements of 31 pilot actions and Living Labs, which engaged over 179 local stakeholders in reshaping urban food systems. **Discussions centered on policy integration, food governance, and impact investment for cities active on food policies. A key moment was the debate on the future of legislative initiatives for an EU Food Policy, where city leaders and EU representatives stressed the need for stronger policy commitments.**

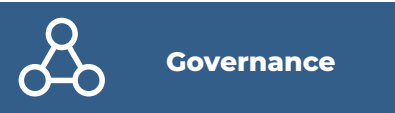
The event featured knowledge-sharing sessions as well, emphasizing replication and scale-up strategies. As the project concludes, its legacy continues through the MUFPP and Eurocities, ensuring that the momentum for sustainable urban food policies persists.



Re-watch the final conference



View all the publications here



37

Cities involved

63

Officers involved

Cities involved



Partner

Eurocities

Food Trails Cascade Programme

2024, Multilocation - The Food Trails Cascade Learning Program was a key initiative designed to extend the project's impact by sharing knowledge and best practices with cities beyond the consortium. Through a structured peer-learning approach, the program engaged 37 cities via three main activities: 11 in-person cascade visits, 8 targeted webinars, and a replication workshop during the Eurocities Food Working Group and MUFPP Regional Forum held in Warsaw in May 2024.

These activities facilitated direct exchanges between city officers, fostering hands-on learning, discussions on urban food policies, and the development of action plans. Thanks to the Food Policy Action Canvas, a key tool for action planning, cities were helped to cities structure and implement their strategies effectively. The webinars reached a global audience, providing concise insights on sustainable food systems. The final replication workshop reinforced long-term collaboration, allowing cities to refine and scale their planned initiatives. **While challenges such as political and financial support remain, the programme strengthened networks and empowered cities to integrate sustainable food strategies into governance, leaving a lasting impact on urban food policies.**

Healthy Wave study visit

2024, Milan - From June 24th to 26th, a delegation from Rotterdam visited Milan as part of the Healthy Wave project under the Erasmus+ program. The goal was to exchange experiences and identify strategies to improve access to healthy and sustainable school meals, in line with the European Child Guarantee.

The first day featured an introductory session at Milan's Food Policy Headquarters, where local representatives presented the city's school meal system, managed by Milano Ristorazione, which serves over 15 million meals annually. Discussions covered MUFPP's activities and how to foster school meals programmes in Europe. **The second day focused on a field visit to Milano Ristorazione's Kitchen Centre,** where participants learned about logistics, quality control, and sustainability practices. Later, a workshop on food education showcased Milan's approach to integrating nutrition awareness into early childhood education. **On the final day, discussions centered on Rotterdam's challenges** and the development of an action plan to adapt Milan's best practices to the Dutch context. With guidance from experts and Erasmus MC, participants outlined priorities and next steps to enhance Rotterdam's school meal system.

This exchange strengthened collaboration between the two cities, laying the foundation for a replicable model of healthy and sustainable school meals.

**Food waste**

1
Cities involved

6
Officers involved

Partner
City of Rotterdam

FUSILLI Final Conference

2024, Nilüfer - On the November the 19th, the Municipality of Milan, as leader of H2020 Food Trails project, participated in the final event of the H2020 FUSILLI project, part of the EU FOOD 2030 Project Family. The Municipality of Milan – Food Policy Unit – participated in the opening panel discussion: “Impacts of Food 2030 Living Lab in policy development enhancing urban food systems”.

Milan focused on the key lessons learned from the Food Trails, supporting 11 cities in reflecting on their challenges on food system. **The discussion highlighted the crucial role of cities in driving change, emphasizing the need for strong political commitment and dedicated staff to lead the process.**

The discussion underscored the importance of testing, exchanging, and replicating best practices, structured as learning experiences that require identifying knowledge gaps in advance and designing activities where the host city can effectively transfer expertise. The session covered practical tools such as the Food Policy Action Canvas and the Multilevel Policy Grids, which provide valuable frameworks for strategic planning, also shared with global cities through MUFPP's exchange programmes.

**GOV**

**SDN**

**SEE**

**FP**

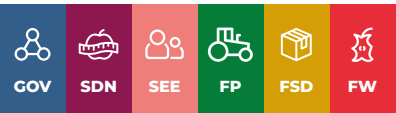
**FSD**

**FW**

11
Cities involved

35
Officers involved

Partner
CARTIF



11

Cities involved

22

Officers involved

Cities exchanges



Partners
ICLEI
ACRA

AfriFOODlinks city exchanges

2024, Multilocation - In the framework of the Horizon Europe AfriFOODlinks project, this initiative lead ICLEI Africa, in collaboration with the MUFPP, has facilitated city-to-city exchanges of city officers in **Dakar** (January 2024), **Antananarivo** (February 2024) and **Windhoek** (March 2024).

The city exchange played a crucial role in building the capacity of city officers, identifying city’s food priorities and integrating lessons from other cities. Through field visits to the main urban food infrastructures (markets, urban agriculture sites, social food initiatives etc) discussions and intercity dialogues, participants gained insights into urban food systems, innovative practices and stakeholder engagement strategies.

These exchanges have been instrumental in enabling participating cities to draft their pilot projects tailored to their specific needs. The policy dialogues organized during these exchanges have facilitated the engagement of local stakeholders to inclusively address urban food challenges.



2

Cities involved

7

Officers involved

Partner
ICLEI

Cultivate Buddy Program

2024, Brighton and Milan - After over six months and 11 webinars deepening vital aspects of **Food Sharing Initiatives**, a space to deepen the sense of community and practical learning was needed. Under ICLEI’s supervision, the Buddy visit programme took place. The City of Milan was paired with the Brighton and Hove Food Partnership for a **back-to-back visit** in April 2024.

On the 11 and 12 April, two officers from Brighton and one from ICLEI had the opportunity to visit the food aid **Hub Cuccagna**, meet with the **Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP)**, and explore the social supermarket **Solidando**. Conversely, on the 18 and 19 April two officers from the City of Milan learned more about **Pankhurst Pantry**, the **FareShare** charity and its model for combating food waste, as well as the **Real Junk Food Project**, a **social café** serving surplus food where customers pay as they feel.

Thanks to the Buddy visits, participants were able to showcase their work and gain deeper insight into their buddy’s activities, projects, philosophy and strategy. The buddy visits transformed what had been a somewhat abstract and theoretical understanding of each Food Sharing Initiative work into a more **hands-on and practical experience**.

Participation to the launch of Bangkok Food Policy

2023, Bangkok – In November 2023, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) officially launched its very first food policy.

The process that led to its development started back in 2022 when, within the framework of the International Urban and Regional Cooperation (IURC) programme, the Municipality of Milan and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration started actively working together on the topic of urban food policies. During the first study visit in Bangkok, Milan had the chance to visit main food system infrastructure of the Thai capital.

During the meetings, a clear goal stood out for BMA: the development of its first food policy. Therefore, in the occasion of the visit in Milan, BMA officials started to collaborate on this with the support of the Municipality of Milan. **This year long process led to the launch of the Bangkok Food Policy 2023-2027**, a comprehensive document in which BMA addresses the different dimensions of the food system to ensure that food is sustainably produced, safe and of good quality, while reducing environmental impact.

At the launch, relevant MUFPP cities from Asia Pacific were invited to learn from Bangkok's experience.

Exchange with Singapore

2022, Milan & Singapore – Under the ICP-AGIR programme, funded by the EU and managed by the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) of the European Commission, **Milan and Singapore, within the framework of the MUFPP, started a fruitful collaboration and learning exchange journey.** Over the months, through respective visits in June and December 2022, Milan (Food Policy Department) and Singapore (Centre for Liveable Cities) had the chance to experience and see first-hand the different innovative practices that each city is carrying out.

The programme has mainly focused on food loss recovery, food waste management solutions and innovative ways to promote sustainable development. In March 2023, as a follow-up of the fruitful exchange on circular economy for food, **the MUFPP welcomed in Milan a delegation of over 35 representatives from different governmental agencies of Singapore, interested in visiting key infrastructure of Milan food system.** The study visit worked as key outcome of the cooperation within the ICP Programme, giving the opportunity once again to have Milan and Singapore working together to identify innovative solutions to cope with very similar challenges.



Governance

3


Cities involved


Partner


UNPAR


4


Officers involved


GOV

SDN

SEE

FP

FSD

FW

2

Cities involved

Partner

ICP

35

Officers involved



Food waste

4

Cities
involved

15

Officers
involved

Partners

FAO

Let's Food

Amman-Milan Triangular Cooperation

2024, Amman - The FAO's "Achieving Sustainable Urban Food Systems" programme, in partnership with Let's Food and the MUFPP, is supporting Greater Amman Municipality in tackling food loss and waste (FLW) as a key entry point for urban food system transformation.

Drawing on Milan's expertise, the initiative developed a food waste management action plan for Amman through participatory assessment and knowledge-sharing. **Five online meetings and a hybrid workshop, "Together in Action on Food Losses and Waste," held in December 2024, fostered collaboration between Amman and Milan.** Milan also shared relevant cases from other MUFPP signatory cities. The workshop showcased Amman's FLW action plan, aligned with national initiatives like the National Food Council, and explored innovative solutions. Participants emphasized integrating municipal strategies into broader frameworks and creating a regional community of practice to sustain collaboration.

This initiative strengthens efforts to reduce FLW, advancing resilient, inclusive, and sustainable urban food systems.



Food waste

3

Cities
involved

11

Officers
involved

Partner

FAO

Exchange with Tunis and La Goulette

2025, Milan - On 18th and 19th of February, city delegates from Tunis and La Goulette visited Milan to explore urban food waste reduction strategies. The itinerary included technical meetings with the MUFPP Secretariat and the Food Poverty Office, as well as field visits to Food Waste Hubs such as Cuccagna, Gallarate and Centro. These hubs exemplify effective food surplus recovery and redistribution, addressing both waste reduction and food insecurity.

FAO played a pivotal role in organizing this exchange, collaborating with the MUFPP to facilitate knowledge sharing among cities. This effort aligns with FAO's broader mission to promote sustainable urban food systems and reduce food loss and waste.

This field visit significantly impacted the participating cities by providing practical insights into successful food waste management practices. It underscored the value of international collaboration and the necessity of institutional support to tackle urban food challenges effectively.



The infographic represents the movements done by cities to participate to workshops within the Fellowship Programme. Cities that hosted the physical workshops are highlighted in white.

Workshops

The Milan Pact workshops are collaborative occasions that bring together city officers, policymakers, experts, community members, and stakeholders to discuss and develop strategies for addressing food-related challenges in urban areas. These workshops focus on topics pertaining to all MUFPP categories.

Participants share knowledge, explore innovative solutions, and work on creating policies that improve food access, support local agriculture, and promote sustainability within cities. These workshops play a key role in shaping the future of urban food systems and fostering community-driven approaches to food policy.

13

Workshops

127

**Cities
involved**

335

**Officers
involved**

Milan Pact Awards retreat



2023, Milan - The Milan Pact Awards Retreat, held from 13th to 16th of June in Milan, convened representatives from six winning cities of the 2022 Milan Pact Awards (MPA) edition: New York City (USA), Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Rourkela (India), Rosario (Argentina), Yeosu (South Korea), and London (UK). This exclusive event provided a platform for cities to exchange knowledge and strengthened their commitment to sustainable food systems.

Its dynamic program included:

- **Day 1: Presentations from each city**, highlighting their award-winning practices in transforming urban food systems. This session facilitated an initial exchange of innovative ideas and strategies.
- **Day 2: Field visits** to Milan's food system infrastructures, including:
 - **Milan's School Canteens:** Observing initiatives promoting healthy eating among students.
 - **Foody-Sogemi Wholesale Agri-Food Market:** Understanding the logistics of food distribution within the city.
 - **Local Farms and Short Supply Chains:** Exploring sustainable agricultural practices and direct farmer-to-consumer models.
 - **Food Waste Hubs:** Examining efforts to prevent and redistribute food waste.
- **Day 3:** A workshop on transferability strategies was conducted, led by the Horizon 2020 Food Trails project team. This session focused on adapting and implementing successful practices in diverse urban contexts using tailored tools such as the **Food Policy Action Canvas, the Stakeholders Ecosystem Map and the Investor Service Model.**
- **Day 4:** A **global webinar**, featuring:
 - Presentations of the week's outcomes.
 - Keynote speeches by international experts.
 - A roundtable discussion on replicating practices among MUFPP cities.



6

Cities
involved

6

Officers
involved

Cities involved



Partners

AICS

Fondazione Cariplo

The MPA Retreat provided a platform for cities to:

- **Exchange Best Practices:** Cities shared their successful initiatives, offering insights into effective urban food policies.
- **Enhance Policy Implementation:** Through workshops and discussions, participants gained practical tools to refine and implement food strategies tailored to their local contexts.
- **Strengthen Networks:** The event fostered connections among city leaders, technical specialists, and policymakers, promoting ongoing collaboration.
- **Capacity Building:** Field visits and expert-led sessions equipped participants with knowledge to address food system challenges more effectively.

The MPA Retreat reinforced the MUFPP network's role as a catalyst for urban food policy transformation and served as a pivotal event for advancing sustainable urban food policies, offering participating cities actionable strategies and strengthening the global MUFPP community's commitment to food system transformation.

Finally, the MPA retreat was the occasion for **the official launch of the Fellowship Programme.**



“Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities” summer school



2024, Bandung - It is within the Cities Feeding the Future Initiative that the Municipality of Milan - MUFPP, in partnership with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), and supported by Parahyangan Catholic University (UNPAR) and the Municipality of Bandung have launched the Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities project, funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The core of the project was a summer school held in Bandung (Indonesia) **from the 23rd to the 26th of July 2024 to offer extensive guidance and practical tools for ASEAN city officers on the sustainable implementation of school meals programmes.** The event was attended by representatives **from 29 cities from 8 ASEAN Member States** participated, for a total of **80 participants**. By adopting a multidisciplinary lens to the topic, summer school attendees were engaged into **4 days of discussion**, covering different topics relevant for school meals programmes. **Technical sessions** from international experts in the morning were complemented with **interactive sessions** in the afternoon to exploit the acquired knowledge using a group approach.

Additionally, field visits were conducted to provide attendees with first-hand experience on urban practices for connecting local agriculture with school food procurements. The summer school represented a **great opportunity for cities to strengthen knowledge sharing in the region** and paved the way for the development of a **project work proposal** from each city with the objective of designing a project to be executed in their home cities for improving school meals programmes.

The summer school was concluded with an **advocacy document** through which the attendees defined the final agreement and way forward, shared with the MUFPP Secretariat and ASEAN Secretariat.



**Sustainable Diets
and Nutrition**

29

Cities
involved

80

Officers
involved

Partners

**Italian Ministry of Foreign
Affairs and International
Cooperation**

ASEAN

UNPAR

City of Bandung

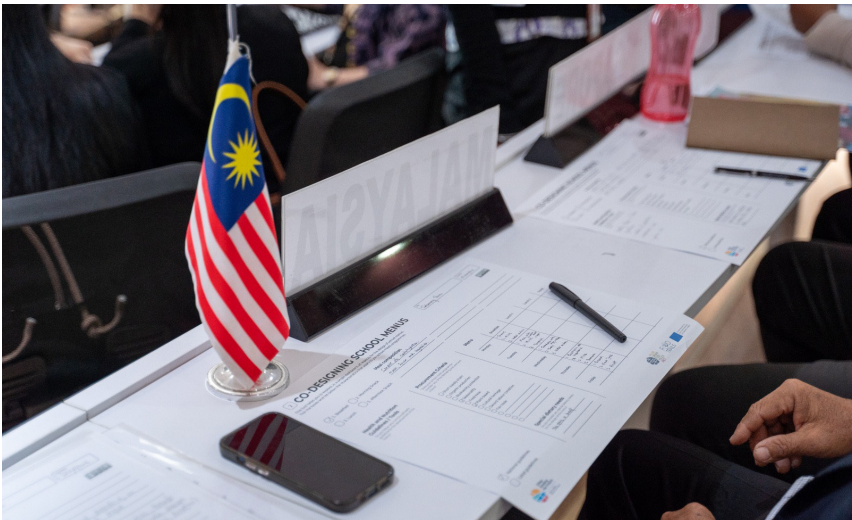


Watch the
video recap
here



Download
the report
here

Participating cities



Vietnam Exchange Mission

2024, Vietnam – Thanks to the precious support of the **Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)** and the **Italian Embassy in Hanoi**, in May 2024 the MUFPP organised a **joint mission** in Vietnam within the context of the agreement among AICS and the Municipality of Milan for the strengthening of the MUFPP.

The main objective of the mission was to promote the participation of Vietnamese cities in the activities of the Milan Pact, specifically to the **“Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities”** project. The mission was also possible thanks to the crucial support of local stakeholders such as **Slow Food in Hanoi and Rikolto Vietnam**, which through their activities established the connection with relevant local governments. Furthermore, the **National Institute of Nutrition (NIN)** under the Ministry of Health provided insightful information on the status of school meals programmes in the country.

During the mission, the MUFPP Secretariat and AICS had the possibility to meet and learn about best practices from 10 Vietnamese cities: **Can Tho, Da Nang, Hai Phong, Hoi An, Ho Chi Minh, Hue, Lang Son, Phuc Yen, Sa Pa, Tam Ky**.

GOV

SDN

SEE

FP

FSD

FW

10

Cities involved

30

Officers involved





Sustainable Diets and Nutrition

14

Cities involved

100

Officers involved

Participating cities



Partner and Hosting city

City of Copenhagen



View all the publications here

“The Power Of Public Food Procurement” conference

2024, Copenhagen - On June 17th and 18th, the MUFPP Secretariat, the Municipality of Copenhagen and Roskilde University within the framework of the Horizon 2020 Food Trails project and the Cities Feeding the Future Initiative organised the European conference **“The Power of Public Food Procurement. The transformative potential of school meals for children aged 1 to 16”** in Copenhagen.

The two-day event highlighted **the crucial role of public food procurement in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals** and served as a moment for reflection and action on sustainable school meal programs. The conference equipped European cities with the skills and tools needed to leverage public procurement for more sustainable food systems and healthier school meals. In parallel, it aimed to **inspire politicians** to fully capitalize on public food procurement as a tool for advancing more sustainable food systems and healthier meals for children.

Focused on **food policy officers and stakeholders from European cities** responsible for school meals for children aged 1-16, the conference included **technical workshops, peer debates, and field visits**, alongside opportunities for sharing knowledge and best practices. With 100 participants from over 14 cities across 20 countries, the event fostered valuable exchange within the Milan Pact community.



Sustainable Diets and Nutrition

19

Cities involved

31

Officers involved

Partner

EAT Foundation

EAT Action Dialogue on Cities

2025, Online – In preparation for the launch of **the EAT-Lancet 2.0 Commission (EL2.0)**, EAT together with the MUFPP and C40 hosted an EAT Action Dialogue entirely dedicated to cities, with the aim to engage with different stakeholder groups and co-create solutions for transforming food systems, in support of the new recommendations of the EL2.0 report. Key cities from the MUFPP network were invited to participate in **an inclusive and engaging discussion** to design key **actions and solutions to accelerate progress** and advance existing work on the ground, following main topics of interest such as land use & rural-urban linkages, reducing food loss and waste, the adoption of planetary health diet and justice & equity in food systems. The outcomes of this dialogue will feed into the development of **EAT-Lancet 2.0 Commission Stakeholder Brief for Cities**, taking into account recommendations from the dialogues on actions that can be taken, in combination with the report's targets.

Milan Food Waste Study Tour

2023, Milan – The Milan Food Waste Study Tour was organized together with **C40**, the **Natural Resource Defense Council** (NRDC), and **Bloomberg Associates** (BA) with the purpose of inspiring, informing, and motivating senior city officials to implement ambitious climate actions by showcasing the award-winning Milan's Food Waste Hub model.

Ten cities were identified from both the United States and Europe to participate in the tour, namely **Austin, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., Barcelona, Madrid, Paris, Amsterdam and Oslo**. During the three days, cities had the chance to learn more about Milan's model, by visiting two different hubs in the city, but also exploring **Foody Wholesale Market and Milano Ristorazione** kitchen centers for school canteens, both actively working towards the development of activities related to the reduction of food waste.

Dedicated sessions were organized for cities to present their ongoing activities. The last day was devoted to an in-dept workshop where cities had to develop their own **Food Waste Action Plan** with the aid of the tools developed by the **Food Trails EU H2020 project**.



Governance

10

Cities involved

25

Officers involved

Partners

The Earthshot Prize

C40 Cities

NRDC

Bloomberg

EU City Lab on Land Strategies to Feed the City

2024, Milan - The EU City Lab held in Milan on October 23rd and 24th positively impacted the discussion on food policies and land use across Europe. **As the third meeting in a series co-organized by URBACT and the European Urban Initiative, this event, developed with the support of the MUFPP, focused on sustainable land use and its role in enhancing local food systems.**

Participants from various European cities engaged in knowledge-sharing sessions, exploring strategies to make land more accessible for urban agriculture and community projects. **The exchanges highlighted the importance of cross-departmental collaboration within municipalities to effectively address food system challenges.**

The City Lab also touched upon the potential of existing EU and national legal frameworks as tools for facilitating sustainable food initiatives, encouraging cities to navigate and leverage these regulations to support their objectives.

By showcasing practical examples and fostering dialogue, the EU City Lab in Milan empowered cities to implement innovative land-use practices, thereby strengthening local food systems and contributing to broader sustainability goals.



Governance

10

Cities involved

21

Officers involved

Partner

URBACT



Governance

4

Cities
involved

10

Officers
involvedPartner
ICLEI

Cultivate Bootcamp

2024, Lisbon - The legacy of the “Buddy Visits” went far beyond knowledge sharing and mutual learning, ensuring ongoing support in the Food Sharing Initiatives’ common endeavour. **An accelerator of such collaboration was the Lisbon Bootcamp.**

Upfarming, the Bootcamp host and organiser, led representatives of four cities to pair up again, reflect on the buddy visits, collectively envision their action plans (amplification projects), break them down into tasks and subtasks, anticipate challenges and opportunities, and develop strategies to overcome the former and leverage the latter. This intensive yet deeply rewarding work was balanced with formative experiences, vegan meals, and insightful excursions into Lisbon’s food-sharing landscape, including **RizomaCoop and Fruta Feia.**

The tangible outcome of the bootcamp was a draft of each FSI’s respective Action Plan, but the true success lay in the human community that emerged. A caring, supportive, and passionate family, rich in diverse backgrounds and united by an unwavering passion for food sharing. The three officers representing the City of Milan drafted their action plan named **CARE: Cargobike Action Rescuing Edibles.**



Food waste

7

Cities
involved

12

Officers
involvedPartners
CEMAS
EUFIC
UCLG

Workshops on food waste reduction strategies

2023 - 2024, Valencia – Both in 2023 and in 2024, CEMAS and EUFIC organized an international event focused on food loss and waste: in 2023 the focus was the multistakeholder engagement and perspectives on waste, whereas in 2024 the focus was a capacity building day aimed at city officers.

In 2023, the event was titled “A multi-stakeholder perspective on food loss and waste reduction strategies”. The morning sessions featured key speakers from FAO, the European Commission, and national ministries, focusing on policy frameworks and city networks’ roles in addressing food waste. The afternoon was dedicated to sectoral discussions through case studies across the food chain, including agriculture, industry, distribution, civil society, research, and media. The event concluded with a plenary session summarizing key insights and fostering collaboration for future initiatives.

The second event, in 2024, was titled “Capacity building for food loss and waste prevention and reduction in cities”. The morning featured presentations from representatives of the European Commission, JRC, and EUFIC, who introduced the topic, shared activities, and discussed funding opportunities. City representatives, including signatory cities **Cagliari, Warsaw, and Milan,** alongside **Courbevoie** and **Gothenburg,** shared their experiences. In the afternoon, three parallel workshops—focused on stakeholder collaboration, food loss measurement, and consumer food waste—facilitated discussions among city officials, associations, and intergovernmental representatives to foster idea exchange and collaboration.

FAO's Regional Event

2023, Cairo - The **FAO** hosted the event **“Engaging Cities in Sustainable and Inclusive Agrifood Systems Transformation”** held in Egypt in November 2023.

This gathering emphasized the pivotal role of urban actors and beyond in reshaping agrifood systems to be more sustainable and inclusive. **Discussions highlighted the challenges posed by rapid urbanization, such as land use changes and food insecurity in low-income urban areas and underscored the importance of integrating food systems into urban planning.** The event fostered knowledge exchange among cities, with participants sharing successful practices and policies.

Notably, Amman, Jordan, joined the MUFPP network in 2023. The Cairo event further solidified partnerships being the occasion of the **official launch of the Amman-Milan Triangular Cooperation on food waste management through city-to-city exchange**, focusing on reducing food loss and waste as an entry point for urban food system transformation.



Governance

11

Cities involved

Partner
FAO

11

Officers involved

The SFS-MED Experience

2024, Rome - The **“Agrifood Systems Learning for Change – The SFS-MED Experience”** workshop was held at **FAO Headquarters**. This two-day event, **organized under the SFS-MED Platform initiative in June**, convened diverse participants to foster learning and reflection on **agrifood system transformation in the Mediterranean**.

The workshop emphasized **vertical integration among national and city governments**, investment in human capital, digitization with a focus on equity, and shifting perceptions of rural livelihoods. The MUFPP was actively involved, contributing to discussions on **inclusive decision-making and multi-level governance**. This activity underscores the importance of collaborative learning and shared measures in advancing sustainable agrifood systems.

Participants highlighted the **need for convening spaces for collective learning, promoting inclusive decision-making**, developing contextually relevant shared measures of systems change, partnering with the private sector and effective communication to advance collaborative action. The workshop's insights aim to guide future initiatives in agrifood systems transformation.



Governance

2

Cities involved

Partner
FAO

4

Officers involved



Governance

Partners

Rete Semi Rurali

Red de Municipios por la Agroecología

Let's Liberate Diversity

2022, Budapest - From the 27th to the 29th of October, the 11th Forum "Let's Liberate Diversity" took place. In this framework, the Network of Spanish Municipalities for Agroecology and Rete Semi Rurali organised the workshop "**Cultivated biodiversity in urban food systems with MUFPP**".

The workshop explored **the potential of CSO-local authority collaboration under the MUFPP to integrate cultivated biodiversity into urban food systems**. Experts presented case studies and facilitated discussions, **leading to concrete policy recommendations and recommended actions**. The insights gathered inform future municipal policies, reinforcing biodiversity as a cornerstone of resilient, equitable and sustainable urban food systems.



Food Production

4

Cities involved

6

Officers involved

Partners

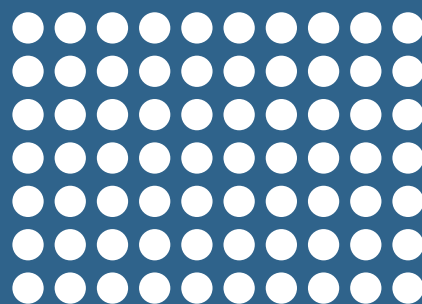
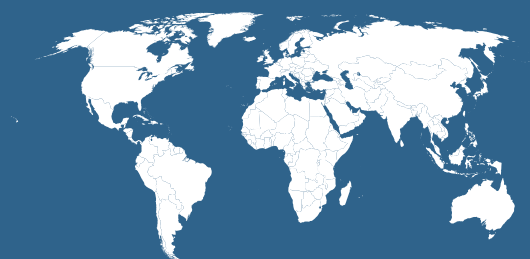
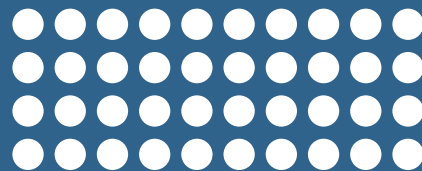
Rete Semi Rurali

Red de Municipios por la Agroecología

Liveseeding project event

2024, Milan - MUFPP co-organized a policy event in Milan as part of the Liveseeding project, managed by FIBL (Switzerland) and the Network of Municipalities for Agroecology (Spain). **The project promotes organic seeds, breeding, and cultivated biodiversity within urban food policies across Europe, aiming to foster agroecologically oriented and organic local food systems**. The event featured discussions by entities like FAO, INRAE, and UCLG, with MUFPP signatory cities, **Milan, Geneva, Rennes, and Granollers** sharing their best practices.

A workshop encouraged cities to adopt actions promoting cultivated biodiversity, following the MUFPP Framework. The day ended with a field visit to Cascina Battivacco, a Milanese farm cultivating rice, cattle, soy, and corn using sustainable methods. The Liveseeding approach aligns with urban food policies, sustainable public procurement, and the restoration of traditional diets, which MUFPP supports for its signatory cities.



● 10 officers involved

The infographic represents the amount of officers that have been involved in webinar series with a regional focus and those involved in webinar series with a global focus. Each white dot represents 10 officers who benefitted from the webinar series organised by the MUFPP Secretariat.

Webinars

Webinars, or webinar series, organized within the Milan Pact community are online seminars or workshops that allow signatory cities to engage in real-time presentations, discussions, or training sessions on the sustainability of urban food systems.

Throughout the years MUFPP webinars have covered multiple topics, ranging from school meals programmes, wholesale markets, water management, food waste and climate justice. Being webinars characterized by remote participation, they have the convenience of being accessible to the global audience guaranteeing the broadest coverage.

10

**Webinars
or webinar
series**

268

**Cities
involved**

1441

**Officers
involved**

Webinars on three reports in collaboration with AICS

Within the context of the strong partnership sealed with the Italian Agency for Development and Cooperation, the MUFPP produced three reports having three different objects that urban food policies should be looking at in more depth in the future in order to become mature and serve even better their citizens.

The first report, in collaboration with the World Food Programme and in the context of the Cities Feeding The Future Initiative, **explored school meals programmes**, a topic that is recognised worldwide as a priority not only in the context of human rights but also because it has strong health, educational, ecological implications if managed with a certain ratio.

The second report, in collaboration with the World Union of Wholesale Markets, **approaches the role wholesale markets** can have in the context of a city and the role municipalities can have to manage them with the focus of benefitting citizen and the planet over profit-making logics.

Finally, **the third report deepens the food-water nexus** with a urban perspective on infrastructures to channel drinkable water from the source to the citizenship and treat waste-water as well as urban agriculture.

Each report was presented in two webinars to facilitate the participation from different timezones.

“School Meals - The transformative potential of urban food policies”

2024, online – Within the framework of the agreement among AICS and the Municipality of Milan for the “strengthening of the MUFPP” and the Cities Feeding the Futuru initiative, in February 2023 there was the launch of the report School Meals: the transformative potential of urban food policies.

The report moves from the idea that school meals hold significant potential for urban food policies. They offer a promising arena for pursuing several objectives by addressing a particular aspect of the food system: **fostering sustainable dietary practices among children, promoting the transition to a healthy and sustainable diet, contributing to combating food poverty, contribute to combating food poverty, promoting awareness to children about food waste.**

The report illustrates the infrastructures involved and the various management models, while showcasing key experiences of MUFPP signatory cities in building such a key system.



158
Officers
involved



Download
the report
here



Supply Chain and Distribution



125

Officers involved



Download the report here

“Wholesale markets - Public spaces for interconnected food policies ”

2024, online – Two webinars were organised to launch the “Wholesale markets” report that was funded by AICS and co-produced with the World Union of Wholesale Markets. The report explores the role of wholesale markets in urban food systems in being a vital asset to a healthy, sustainable development of cities and, henceforth, the reason why they should be integrated in urban food policies.

Following MUFPP’s categories, the report highlights why integrating wholesale markets into urban food policies enhances food security, economic development, and community well-being. They serve as essential public infrastructure with different governance models that can vary from publicly owned and managed to privately owned and managed. **Integrating wholesale markets with public procurement is a powerful strategy to provide students and elderly with nutritious, healthy and possibly organic foods coming from farmers that can organise themselves according to different models as well.**

The report ends with case studies from all over the world to concretise the theory and allows readers to have an overview from cities to be inspired by.



Governance



115

Officers involved



Download the report here

“Water and Food Systems - A key nexus for sustainable food policies“

2025, online – At the end of March, two webinars presented the third and final report, “Water and food systems” which explores the crucial connection between water and food systems, emphasizing the role of cities in sustainable water management through food policies.

It highlights challenges such as climate change, water scarcity, and pollution, advocating for resilient infrastructure, equitable access to safe drinking water, and sustainable agricultural practices. With agriculture consuming 70% of global freshwater, efficient irrigation, rainwater harvesting, and wastewater reuse are essential.

Cities play a key role in water governance, managing aqueducts, wastewater treatment, and irrigation while adopting innovative solutions like smart metering and green infrastructure.

Case studies showcase successful initiatives worldwide, demonstrating integrated approaches to water conservation, food security, and urban resilience.

Webinar series

Food and Nutrition in ASEAN cities

2023, online – In October, the MUFPP started a fruitful cooperation with the ASEAN through the ASEAN Health Sector, with the aim of strengthening the relations and expand the presence of the MUFPP in the Asia Pacific region.

To introduce to ASEAN Member States the work of the MUFPP and the importance of developing urban food policies, the Milan Pact organized a series of 4 webinars titled “Food and Nutrition in ASEAN cities.” The series engaged city officers and experts from international organisations working on the themes of nutrition, sharing best practices and lessons learned on food and nutrition programmes in global and ASEAN cities. Throughout the 4 webinars, the series touched upon main topics to promote food system transformation in cities.



35

Cities involved

400

Officers involved

Partner

ASEAN



Download the report here



Watch the webinars here

Webinar series

The Potential of Urban Food Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean

2024 - 2025, online – The webinar series “The Potential of Urban Food Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean,” starting in September 2024 and continuing into 2025, focuses on urban food systems’ role in fostering sustainable cities and creates networking opportunities for cities.

The series includes 7 webinars aligned with MUFPP’s six categories. The structure of the webinar sees a theoretical introduction by the Secretariat followed by the presentation of case studies from signatory cities with the aim of having a coverage of the whole region and city-size to support relevance as well as diversity in visions and cross-pollination between cities.

The webinar series is the very first step to an increased involvement and presence of the MUFPP in the South American region which aims to create possibilities of cooperation between signatory cities and within the MUFPP and Mercociudades networks with the objective of spreading the systemic and urban approaches to food policies.



42

Cities involved

300

Officers involved

Partner

Mercociudades



Read more here



Watch the webinars here



Webinar series

Midday Munchies with urban food policies

2024, online – From March 26th to June 25th, the Horizon 2020 Food Trails project hosted the 8 webinars in the “Midday Munchies with Urban Food Policies” series.

This webinar series provided **a dynamic platform for exchange among members of Food Trails consortium, and external stakeholders, fostering the replication of successful solutions** developed within the project and enhancing knowledge on urban food policy implementation.

Discussions highlighted the critical role of cities in transforming local food systems, focusing on how they can leverage their unique position to drive substantial, lasting change in food policies.

Topics covered included: the importance of urban food policies, engaging citizens for behavioral change, tools to support cities in urban food policy design and implementation, strategies for food waste prevention and reduction, sustainable public food procurement, fostering local and quality food production, financing food initiatives, ensuring equitable access to healthy and quality food for all.

The series attracted 382 participants and the webinar recordings on YouTube achieved 1,150 views, illustrating its wide-reaching impact.

Partner
Food Trails



Watch the
webinars
here



69

Cities
involved

308

Officers
involved

Partners
City of Milan
Milan Food Policy
The Earthshot Prize
Assolombarda
SNAM Foundation
Politecnico of Milan
Cariplo Foundation



Watch the
webinars
here

Webinar series

From Waste to Worth

2024, online - From December 9th to 17th, 2024, the MUFPP Secretariat and the City of Milan, within the framework of the Earthshot Prize, organized the 5-part webinar series “From Waste to Worth: Rethinking Food in Cities.”

The series showcased Milan’s ‘Local Food Waste Hubs Network,’ a flexible, collaborative, and scalable model for cities worldwide. This initiative transforms surplus food into valuable resources, addressing food waste while promoting social equity and advancing sustainable food systems.

The series was supported by local partners, including Politecnico di Milano, Cariplo Foundation, SNAM Foundation, and Assolombarda.

Attracting over 308 participants from 69 cities across the globe, the webinars underscored the need for systemic, collaborative approaches and the importance of forging public-private partnerships to tackle food waste, food insecurity, and social inequity. **Other MUFPP cities, such as Bangkok, have already scaled the Hubs model, demonstrating the potential for cities to implement similar solutions to drive more sustainable food systems worldwide.**

Webinar series

Embedding Food Justice into Food Policies

2023, online - Between December 2023 and March 2024, the Food Foundation, in partnership with **Birmingham City Council** and the MUFPP, hosted a series of three webinars focusing on embedding food justice in urban food strategies.

The first webinar “Exploring Urban Food Justice” focused on African innovations and experiences. Speakers included representatives from MUFPP cities **Nairobi** and **Durban**.

The second webinar “Embedding Food Justice in Urban Food Strategies and Activism: Perspectives from the Americas” featured MUFPP cities speakers from **Baltimore, New York City and Araraquara**.

The final webinar, “Food Justice with Perspectives from Asia and the Pacific”. Speakers included MUFPP representative from **Sukabumi**.

MUFPP’s involvement included engaging its member cities as speakers, sharing their experiences and strategies in promoting food justice, and placing their experience on a global platform for further knowledge sharing.



Social and Economic Equity

Partner

The Food Foundation

School Food 4 Change replication cities

2024, online - The MUFPP Secretariat participated to the **planning and selection of replication cities for the transfer of best practices from the School Food 4 Change project (SF4C)**. Due to its knowledge, partnership and context the Milan Pact provided some useful inputs for the identification of replication cities and some of them have been inserted into the program and matched with the cities of the SF4C project.

The MUFPP therefore organised some online meetings with the city of **Sarajevo** in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the city of **Mbale** in Uganda to spread the knowledge of its activities and the experience of the city of Milan.



Sustainable Diets and Nutrition

3

Cities involved

10

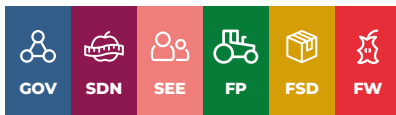
Officers involved

Partners

Rikolto

ICLEI





20

Cities
involved

25

Officers
involved

Partners

RUAF

Carasso Foundation

Red de Municipios por la
AgroecologíaDownload
the tool
hereWatch the
webinar
here

“Integrating Mitigation and Adaptation into Urban Food Policies” tool

2025, online - The MUFPP, in collaboration with Red de Municipios por la Agroecología (RMA), RUAF and key partners, worked on **a new tool to help cities strengthen the food-climate connection. This voluntary resource provides complementary actions and indicators for local governments seeking to enhance environmental policies related to urban food systems.**

Rooted in frameworks like the Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate, the MUFPP Monitoring Framework and other international frameworks, **it offers practical guidance for impactful local action. By supporting climate-responsive food policies, the tool enables cities to reduce emissions, improve food security and enhance resilience against climate change.**

Piloted in select municipalities, it was refined through real-world implementations and feedbacks. The initiative fostered collaboration, knowledge-sharing and policy innovation, ensuring the scaling up sustainable solutions. The finalized tool was presented at the webinar: MUFPP Approach to Food Action on Climate, held on 26th February 2025, with over 150 participant city officers and partners.



The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact & Climate Action:

Integrating Mitigation and Adaptation into Urban Food Policies

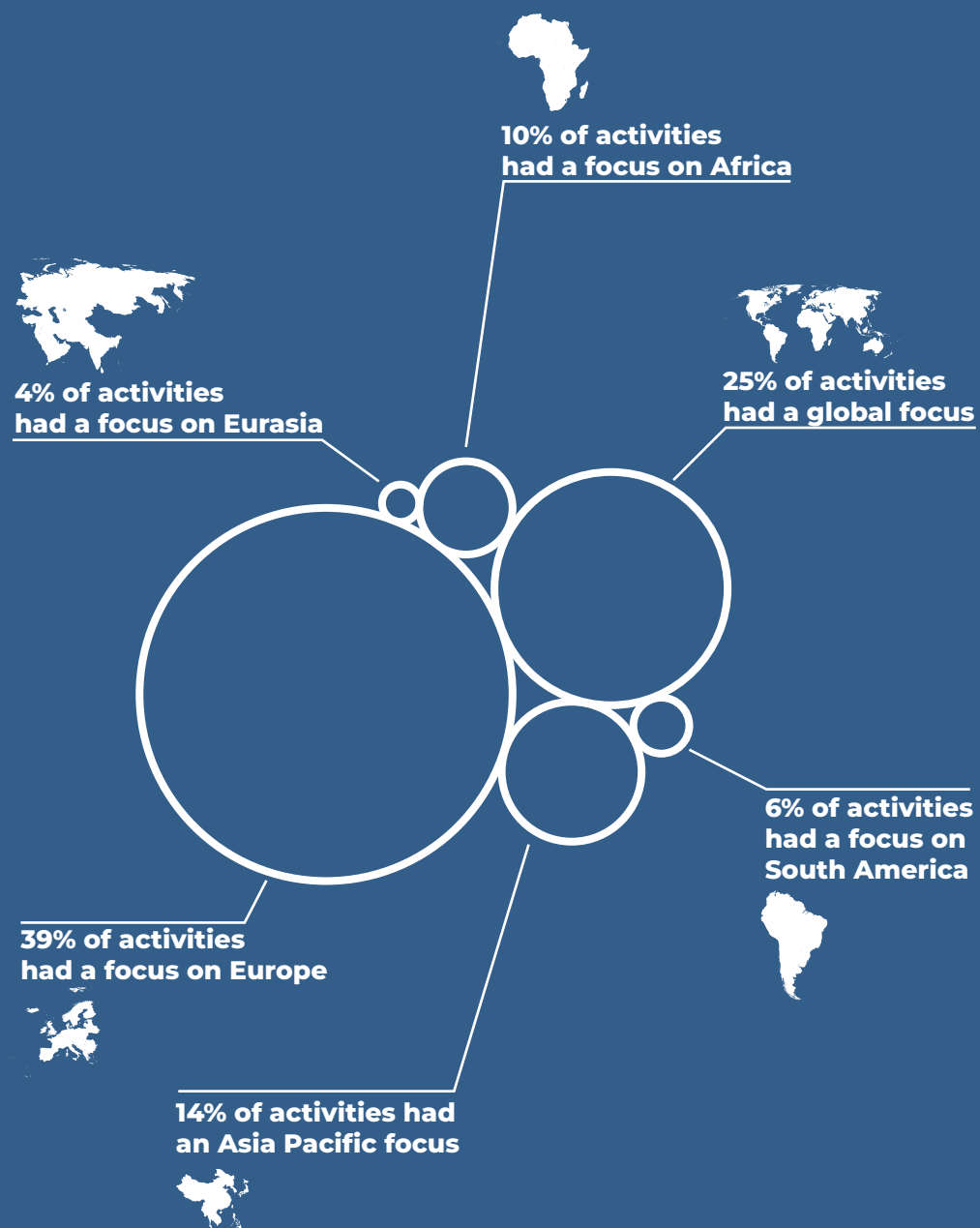
February 10, 2025

Prepared by Brian Cook, RUAF Consultant

Reviewers:

Cecile Michel (MUFPP Secretariat),
María Carrascosa García (Red de Municipios por la Agroecología),
Joy Carey (RUAF),
Filippo Gavazzeni (MUFPP Secretariat).





The infographic represents the distribution of all activities of the MUFPP Fellowship Programme per each MUFPP region. Activities in North and Central America have focused on strengthening ties with the MUFPP network, especially in Europe, and have been therefore counted as global.

Impact and conclusions

The impact of the MUFPP's Fellowship Programme

Being the MUFPP Fellowship Programme **a comprehensive learning and capacity building programme to strengthen city officers' skills to achieve their food policy objectives**, the multiple activities conducted have generated a comprehensive set of impacts at local, regional and international levels.

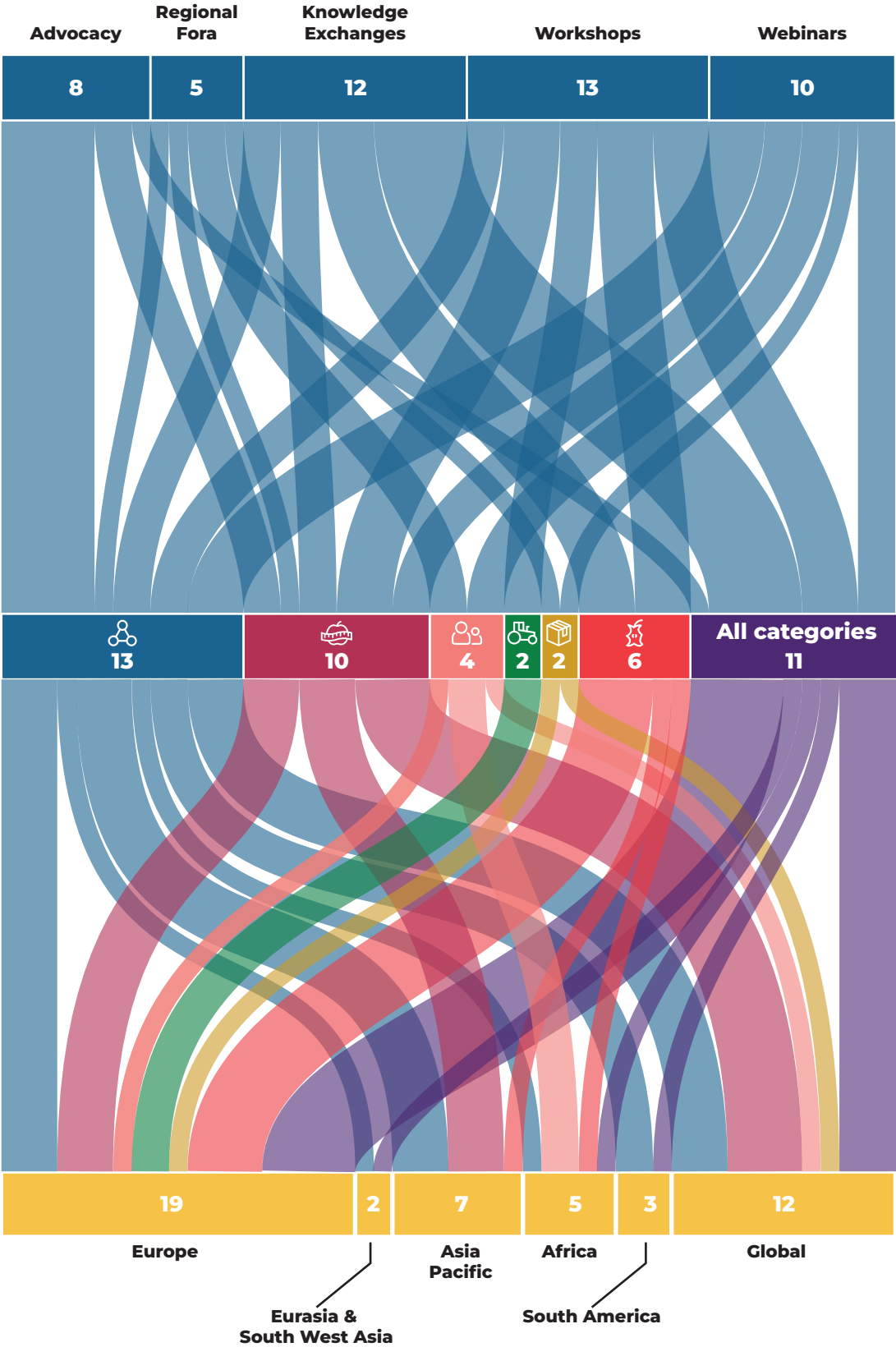
From the MPA 2022 to the beginning of 2025 around **50 activities** have been conducted within the Programme engaging a total of **more than 2600 city officers** from MUFPP signatory cities. The Programme offered a large variety of opportunities. More specifically, the activities lead to the organisation of 13 Workshops, 12 Knowledge exchanges, 10 Webinars, 8 Advocacy actions, and 5 Regional Fora.

Besides the main partners of the MUFPP, namely the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), the World Food Programme, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the Parahyangan Catholic University of Bandung (UNPAR), Mercociudades, CARIPLO Foundation, Eurocities, Red Ciudades Agroecologia, and the Urban Agenda for Europe – Thematic Food Partnership, **an additional plethora of international partners have contributed to co-lead the activities**. Examples refer to the FAO, World Bank, Rikolto, EAT Foundation, C40, ICLEI, URBACT, ACRA, The Food Foundation, the European Commission, and the World Union of Wholesale Markets, and the consortia of various European projects. This has always guaranteed a comprehensive coverage of perspectives from all MUFPP Regions and **has promoted the adoption of a multilevel governance approach throughout all implementation steps**.

The activities have specifically addressed one or more MUFPP Categories. Approximately the 27% refer to the “Governance” category, 21% to the category “Sustainable Diets and Nutrition”, while the 13% and 8% focus on the categories “Food Waste” and “Social and economic equity” respectively. The 8% of activities are equally shared between “Food supply and distribution” and “Food Production”. Finally, the remaining 23% of the activities target all MUFPP categories simultaneously. **By covering multiple topics, all signatory cities have had the chance to participate in the Fellowship Programme based on their specific learning needs** for their local food policies. They have succeeded in gaining adequate knowledge able to facilitate actions within their main domain of interest.

When looking at the geographical distribution of activities, **one-fourth have had a global focus, reflecting the ambition of the MUFPP network**. The most single-targeted MUFPP Region is Europe where around two-fifths of the activities have been implemented. One-seventh of activities were entirely dedicated to Asia Pacific, one-tenth to Africa, and the remaining ones to South America, Eurasia & South West Asia. As in the case of North and Central America, the activities have been entirely centered around the reinforcement of relationships of this region with the MUFPP international network, and specifically with Europe. Hence, such activities have all been labelled as Global ones.

It is worth noting that considering years 2023 and 2024, where 92% of activities are concentrated, a considerable increase in activities is clearly detectable in most regions. Specifically, activities in Europe grew by almost 160%, in South America they doubled, in Asia Pacific they grew by 33%. Additionally, from 2023 to 2024, the total number of city officers involved grew by 165%, while the number of involved cities doubled.



The infographic represents the links between the type of activities and the relevant MUFPP category and the link between each MUFPP category and the relevant MUFPP Region.

Conclusions

From the MPA Edition 2022, the MUFPP Fellowship Programme marked a significant path for the Milan Pact community. **The Programme has made visible the increasing rates of cities involvement across the multiple activities organised with a broad range of strategic partners.** The deriving commitment testifies the redoubled international interest in participating in the MUFPP activities, and it is a concrete testimony of the positive impacts that the Fellowship Programme has managed to create.

All available opportunities had offered city officers and beyond concrete learning exchanges, resource packs and inspirational insights for strengthening good urban food practices. On top of this, the emerging synergies between involved stakeholders have further reinforced the MUFPP network, ultimately creating fertile ground for a positive continuation of activities in the years to come towards sustainable, inclusive, and future-proof food systems.

The legacy of the Programme sets a promising path forward for strengthening collaborations, empowering cities, and positioning them as protagonists in the transformation of urban food systems. **Empowering cities to lead this transformation is essential since they can concretely pilot innovative approaches and scale them to larger regions.** Whether it's through school meals programmes, urban agriculture, reducing food waste, improving food access, or fostering green spaces, cities have the opportunity to design systems that directly benefit their residents while contributing to broader environmental, social and economic goals.



Comune di
Milano

