







METROPOLI AGRICOLE

Uno sforzo collettivo per un'agricoltura sana, equa e sostenibile

From the CAP to the CFP: **CAP** reform as a step towards a Common Food Policy

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IPES-Food

The mainstream food system and its crises

Low wages and low farmgate prices, but subsidies

Economies of scale, large mechanised monocultures

Cheap energy and no cost internalization

The« low cost » food economy

Environmental impacts: GHG emissions, erosion of genetic diversity, soil and water pollution

Social impacts: 'bigness' and economies of scale rewarded, depopulation of rural areas, weak bargaining position of food industry workers

Public health:

'cheap calories' as a substitute for social policies; obesity and related NCDs







What are the obstacles to change?

Socio-technical

- Infrastructure: storage, processing, communications
- Technologies: suited to agronomic choices prioritizing monocultures and mechanisation

Socio-political

- Veto power of powerful actors
- Unwillingness of the elites to make healthy foods affordable by reducing inequalities

Socio-economic

- Economies of scale
- Agricultural policies favoring uniformity and market competitiveness
 - Distorted subsidies and lack of full accounting of externalities

Socio-cultural

- Consumers' choices shaped by advertising and prices
 - Loss of food culture and cooking skills
 - Time poverty, single-parent families

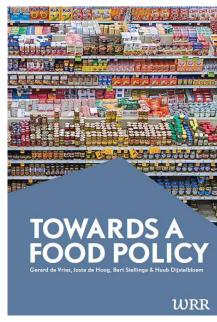






- Cross-sectorial a transversal strategy
- 2. Learning from national experiences





- Common Agricultural Policy
- Circular Economy Package and tackling food waste
- Marketing (Regulation No. 1169/2001 on the provision of food information to consumers), additives (Regulation No. 1925/2006) and food safety (General Food Regulation (No. 178/2002))
- Environment (Directive 2015/412 on cultivation of GMOs, Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), future Soil Health Directive)
- Health and the fight against obesity
- Trade and regulation of global supply chains (Art. 208 TFEU policy coherence for development)
- Public procurement rules and regional policies





3. Linking the short-term reforms to the long-term vision: the adequate role of strategic thinking

A multi-year approach – with targets and indicators of success: the « EU sustainable food scoreboard »

- Independent monitoring of progress
- Set objectives focused on well-being rather than on GDP growth or other economic objectives
- Aligning EU policies with the SDGs
- Making a transition avoid being hostage to the short term

- EESC opinion on "More sustainable food systems" (NAT/677), May 2016
- CoR opinion "Towards a sustainable EU food policy", March 2017
- EESC opinion on "A possible reshaping of the CAP" (NAT/703), June 2017
- EESC own-initiative opinion, "Civil society's contribution to the development of a comprehensive food policy in the EU", Dec. 2017









4. Supporting local initiatives at city/regional-level, to support experimentation and a « race to the top », as well as a relocalization of food systems

Bristol Food Policy Council

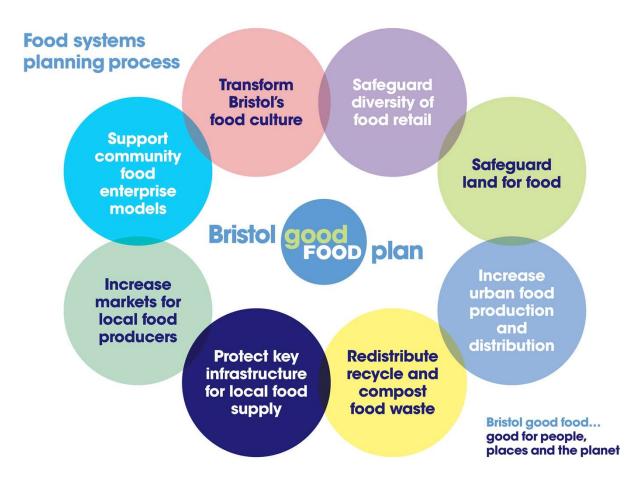
- Food Policy Council established in 2011 to favor a change in the food culture of the city to challenge « food poverty »
- Includes a delegate of the mayor and addresses recommendations to the municipal council
- Adopted a « Charter » and a «Good Food Plan » developed in a participatory fashion defining certain targets and supporting initiatives (urban agriculture, complementary currency, ...)



















Malmö: a policy for sustainable development through reforming the city's food system (2010)

- Main objective: to reduce the levels of GHG emissions
- Reduction of meat in meals served in public collectivities, replaced by legumes (lentils, peas, beans)
- Aims to achieve 100% organic food in public entities by 2020 (55% in 2015)









The significance of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact









Breaking the vicious cycle by a territorial and democratic approach to food systems reform

Flexible territorial definition, depending on the project concerned

Participatory structures of governance

Various motivations (citizens, economic actors, public entities)



Definition of a project fulfilling different objectives: local economic development, environment, health, quality of life, poverty alleviation



Building of « social capital » and trust between stakeholders







- 5. Establishing food democracy, by encouraging participation and accountability at all levels: the role of food policy councils
- as a means not to compete
 with representative democracy,
 but to stimulate policy
 imagination
- as a means to identify how to overcome superficial oppositions (between producers and consumers, between low-income households and higher-income households)
- as a means to overcome the apparent dilemma between legitimacy and efficiency

