

Open research needs & most interesting innovation

In the DG RTD study “**Food in Cities**” delivered in 2016 by **City of Milan, Eurocities** and **Cardiff University**, it emerges that urban food policies are challenging conventional development theories and established planning models. Cities are beginning to have an integrated approach toward their food systems:

1. Bottom-up process

Cities see the role of local authority as that of a facilitator, creating space for community-led food initiatives.

2. Inclusive governance

Cities are devising innovative governance approaches and mechanisms that aim to enhance civil society participation, collaborating with municipal policy makers.

3. Local empowerment

Enhanced participation in urban food policy is pursued to find support for a city's food vision and, crucially, to empower all food system actors and to enhance social inclusion.

4. Shortening chains

Cities are actively working to decrease or even eliminate the physical distance among food system actors.

5. Systemic thinking

Moving beyond the production-consumption divide, food policy making at global and national levels, urban governments are focusing their interventions on making the food system evident.

6. Translocalism

City governments are the establishment of translocal networks that aim to enhance knowledge exchange and cooperation between urban areas.

<https://bit.ly/2sdjtCk>

Open questions

What **other cases** can you think of which are an inspiring example of bringing about change in the food system related with this FOOD2030 priority?

What **other factors** do you think are important to consider when assessing whether an initiative is a leading initiative to bring about change in the food system?

What are the **main strengths/weaknesses** of these cases related with the FOOD2030 priorities?

What contributions can **research and innovation actors** bring about within the FOOD2030 priorities applied at city level?

IPES-Food 15 enabler factors for Food Policy actions success

The urban food policies actions take shape within a variety of political-economic contexts and has very different origins in terms of the actors and sectors that generated and led the processes.

Nevertheless, some common enabling processes emerge from cities. A number of ways in which these enablers could be harnessed were identified by IPES-Food study, focusing on a sets out of the factors that enabled the urban food policies. The absence of any of these enabling factors presented barriers to policy development and delivery.

www.ipes-food.org/cities

Enabler factors defined in 2016 by IPES-Food:

DATA, MONITORING AND LEARNING

1. Background and baseline research has been carried out to inform the policy.
2. Impacts are monitored and new data are collected throughout implementation.
3. Policy is continually or regularly reviewed and renewed.

'VERTICAL' MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE

4. The necessary policy powers and responsibilities exist at the local authority level.
5. Policy at the national level is supportive.

'HORIZONTAL' CITY-LEVEL GOVERNANCE

6. The 'institutional home' of the policy lends it strategic importance and/or provides channels of influence.
7. A governance body has been established to oversee the policy, it promotes accountability and efficiency.
8. Multiple city government departments are engaged and committed.

PARTICIPATORY PROCESS, FUNDING, POLITICAL COMMITMENT

9. Policy is developed through participatory process, involving food system actors.
10. Conflicts between actors are acknowledged and managed.
11. Part-funding is provided by city government.
12. Overall funds obtained are sufficient for implementation.
13. There are no restrictive conditions attached to funding.
14. High level political commitment from city government is secured and leveraged.
15. Political commitment transcends electoral cycles.

