



**Milan 2015-2020  
Food Policy  
guidelines**



# Milan 2015-2020 Food Policy guidelines

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# FOREWORD

## Milan 2015-2020 Food Policy Paper

- It is a tool to support city government promoted by the Municipality of Milan and the Fondazione Cariplo to make the city more sustainable starting from food-related issues.
- It covers many aspects. Some of these aspects are components of the food cycle, such as cultivation, distribution and consumption of food, the related waste and its treatment. Others directly or indirectly involve or are affected by the food chain, such as environmental factors and territorial production, cultures and ways of life, welfare, economy, research, infrastructure and others.
- It helps to define a systematical view of all these elements in the city of Milan and its territory, carrying out a general overview and promoting actions for implementing this vision.
- It focuses on actions that unfold in the short, medium and long term and promotes anything already available that can contribute to the implementation of food policies.
- It crosses ordinary and special policies that the Municipality promotes in its fields of competence.
- It was defined by the active involvement of citizens and all those operating in the city as part of the food system, in order to capitalise on the different resources (ideas, skills, investment, planning, etc.) able to trigger a multiplier effect.
- It was inspired by existing similar experiences in other major world cities.

# THE PATH FOR DEFINING THE FOOD POLICY FOR MILAN

In July 2014, the Municipality of Milan and Fondazione Cariplo signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote and implement a comprehensive strategy on food for the city of Milan called Milan Food Policy and promote international dialogue aimed at defining and signing an international pact on urban Food Policies called Milan urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP). The MUFPP is the result of a collective effort of 46 cities around the world and an advisory group of institutions and foundations operating internationally. Shared goals were identified with respect to which each signatory undertook to take steps according to its abilities, possibilities and availability.

This document entitled "Guiding Principles of the Milan Food Policy 2015- 2020" (hereafter simply "Food Policy") is the result of a journey that lasted 12 months and was divided into two main phases: Phase 1. Analysis , Phase 2. public consultation.

The **first phase**, devoted to an analysis of the characteristics of Milan's food system, focused on:

- The urban cycle of food exclusively (production, processing, logistics, distribution, consumption, and waste);
- The context in which the Milanese food system is divided (e.g. Demography, territory, biodiversity, energy aspects, water, connected economies, health, culture, education, etc.);
- Policies and projects of the Municipality that have interrelationships with the food system;
- The planning of social and economic actors operating in the city on food matters

also with a view to creating public goods.

At the end of this phase, a paper called "The 10 Issues of the Milanese Food Policy" was published, summarising the results of all the analyses made and highlighting ten key issues which contain both the condition of the food system in Milan, and stimulation for public debate.

The **second phase** was devoted to a public consultation in which, starting from the "10 Issues" paper, priorities for action were identified. The consultation was carried out in five months (February-June 2015) and involved about 700 people. The consultation was divided into:

- Meetings with administrators and City counsellors;
- Meetings with citizens in each of the 9 districts of Milan;
- Meetings with universities and the research community, the third sector and the profit and non-profit companies;
- A town meeting attended by about 150 people from social, economic and institutional circles of the city.

This paper summarises the results of the analysis and the recommendations implemented during the public consultation carried out and sets them within the objectives defined at the international level in the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact, identifying issues on which the Municipality of Milan has decided to focus efforts.

# DATA AND INFORMATION ON THE FOOD CYCLE IN THE MILANESE CONTEXT

## Population

1.353.882 resident population  
about 1.930.000 daytime population

245.567

Meals delivered home, provided by the Municipality for old or dependent persons



2.700

Beds for the homeless with food support

120

lunches organised by Social Chef with groups of elderly persons

9 Soup kitchens in the city run by religious or charitable organisations



Organisations for the distribution of food parcels



Annual meals by Milano Ristorazione

13,70,000 for schools  
600,000 for nursing homes  
830,000 special services (holidays, first reception centres)  
460,000 third party customers  
1,900,000 raw meals

## Poverty



225.000 people  
108.000 families  
in relative poverty  
2.263 registered homeless



NEET youths (Not (engaged) in Education, Employment or Training)  
76.000 in Milan of which 42.000 women  
13% of youths less than 30 years old

Unemployment rate under 30 years old



6.5% unemployed in Milan



442 €/month  
Monthly food expenses per Milanese family

218 €/month

Monthly food expenses per foreign family  
264,238 resident foreigners



Where can you buy food in town?



Milanese

12% hypermarkets

78% supermarkets

6% hard discount stores

5% retail stores



Foreigners

14% hypermarkets

54% supermarkets

20% hard discount stores

12% retail stores



Adult Obesity  
17% Europe  
10,4% Italy  
10,3% Lombardy region



Child Obesity (3-17 years)  
5% Europe  
10,6% Italy  
6% Lombardy region



94,000 elderly persons over 80 years old  
40,000 dependent elderly persons  
32,000 carers for elderly persons



6% Obese Adults in Milan ("Passi" project)

7,2% - 9 year old obese children in Milan ("Carabinieri salute" project - focus on your needs)

Obesity: risk factor for...

Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellito  
Dyslipidemia  
Breathing problems  
Hypertension  
Acute vascular syndromes  
Heart disease  
Diseases of the liver and biliary tract  
Osteoarthritis  
Different forms of cancer

Direct annual costs for obesity

8 billion euro  
7% National Health Service costs  
138 € NHS cost for an obese person  
More than double the cost of a normal person

10 risk factors related to dietary habits of the Milanese:

- ! 44% drink less than 1.5 litres of water per day
- ! 29,4% eat cheese and salami on a daily basis
- ! 21,8% eat less than 2 servings of fruit and vegetables a day
- ! 14,3% eat meat daily
- ! 27,9% do not pay attention to salt intake
- ! 10,1% skip lunch or breakfast
- ! 14,9% drink sodas on a daily basis
- ! 13% consume sweets and snacks on a daily basis
- ! 38,7% eat fish less than once a week
- ! 9,1% often consume alcohol without food



Informal Education

Without educational intention



Every 5 minutes a child is induced to eat something.

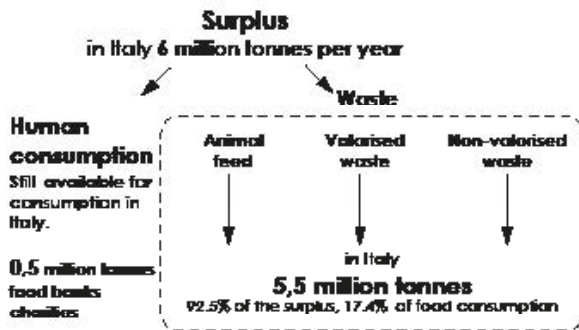


A child watching TV for 3 hours a day is subjected annually to 32,850 food ads.

### Food availability



**Organic waste**  
54 kg per capita  
in Milan



### Contribution to food surplus of the components of the food system

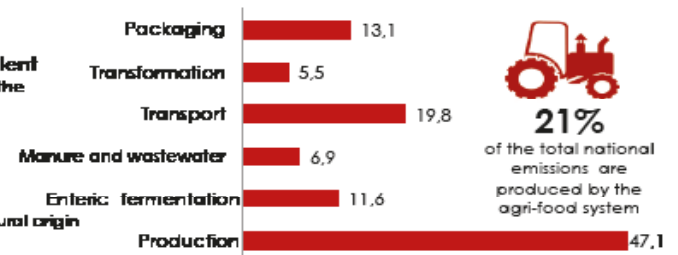


**442€ / month**  
Monthly food expenditure of a Milanese family

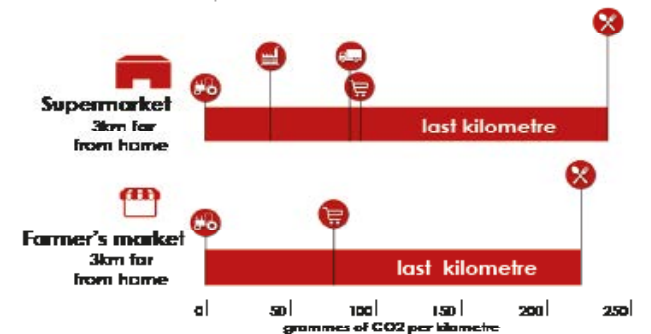
**450€ / year**  
household waste of a Milanese family  
**35%** fresh products  
**19%** bread  
**16%** fruit and vegetables

The household waste of a Milanese family is equivalent to a monthly food expenditure

**Greenhouse gas emissions: 104 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent** for the various sectors of the food system in Italy  
**9,5% gas senta** in Lombardy is of agricultural origin  
**0,4% greenhouse gas** in Lombardy is of agricultural origin



**Impact in terms of CO2 per kg of food during the various stages of the food system**  
A few kilometres by car from home to the supermarket are sufficient for the last kilometre to have more impact than all the rest of the food system



**Daily footprints associated with the food consumption of the Milanese resident and commuters**  
10% vegetation  
90% meat and fish

**Footprints of Carbon**  
5,468 tonnes of CO2 equivalent

**2000 Hectares** cultivated with maize

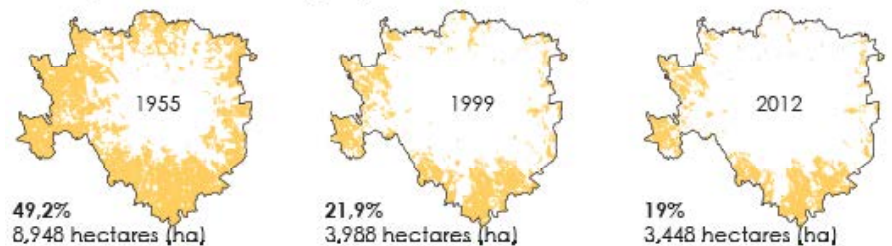
**Water**  
4,077 million litres

**1,2 Seaplane base**

**ecological**  
3,846 hectares

**20%** municipal area

### Farming surface in the municipality of Milan (DUSAF database)



# THE VISION AND PRIORITIES OF THE MILANESE FOOD POLICY

The priorities of the Milanese Food Policy are:

## **1. To ensure healthy food and sufficient drinking water as primary nourishment for everybody**

Ensure access to healthy drinking water and sufficient food to all citizens as primary nourishment in order to protect human dignity and improve the quality of life.

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## **2. To promote the sustainability of the food system**

Facilitate the consolidation of all the components and activities necessary for managing a sustainable food system and promote local production and consumption of fresh and seasonal quality food.

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## **3. Understanding food**

Promote a culture oriented to consumer awareness of healthy, safe, culturally appropriate, sustainable food, produced and distributed with respect for human rights and the environment.

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## **4. Fight against waste**

Reduce surpluses and food waste during the different stages of the food chain as a tool for limiting environmental impact and to contrast social and economic inequalities.

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## **5. To support and promote scientific agri-food research**

Fostering the development of Milanese agri-food scientific research with connotations or implications related to the urban system, aiming at improving processes and developing cutting-edge technologies.

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In its policies, the Municipality describes the guiding principles and orientations encoded at international level on issues related to the right to food, to develop a food system that is able to ensure healthy food and drinking water in sufficient quantity and equally accessible to everybody, resilience and sustainability articulated in its social, economic and environmental components.

For this reason it is committed to include the choices which directly or indirectly affect food and water, in the framework of its institutional prerogatives and in the activities of its subsidiary companies, in order to improve the quality of life of people and the quality of its territory and to play an innovation role on the national and international level. The International Food Policy is a project for the whole Municipality: the Municipality, therefore, also assumes a role of support, stimulation and facilitation of all forms of social, technological and organisational innovation which meet the principles set out in the International Food Policy itself and that can contribute to the implementation of the guidelines it contains.

# GUIDELINES PRIORITY 1

## Guaranteeing healthy food for everybody

*To ensure that all citizens have access to healthy food and to water to protect the dignity of the person and improve the quality of life.*

### SUMMARY OF BACKGROUND DATA

- In Milan, the resident population aged 65 and over is about 320,000 people, corresponding to 24% of the total.
- There are about 225,000 people in relative poverty, of which 132,000 assisted by municipal structures and local charitable organisations.
- In this context, the meals on wheels provided by the Municipality for elderly or dependent persons are about 250,000 per year, plus other forms of food aid related to humanitarian and emergency interventions.
- 52.7% of households are made up of single persons.
- Milano Ristorazione (Milan Catering), a company owned by the Municipality, provides about 85,000 meals a day for school catering and homes for the elderly.
- Milano Ristorazione, società partecipata dal Comune, fornisce circa 85.000 pasti al giorno destinati alla ristorazione scolastica pubblica e alle residenze per anziani.
- Metropolitana Milanese provides public water to all citizens, at a cost of 0.64 Euro/cu.m., The lowest among the major Italian cities

## PRINCIPLES<sup>1</sup>

- The municipality is aware of the importance for the citizens to have “physical, social and economical access to drinking water as a human right, to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their needs and preferences in order to lead an active and healthy life”<sup>1</sup>.
- Access to quantitatively and qualitatively adequate food is a right for all citizens managed in different ways: some concern aid policies and basic assistance, others are aimed at creating social and economic conditions that enable to improve access to food.
- Access to healthy food for everybody must take into account the beliefs, cultures, traditions and food preferences that characterise the different communities, balancing the need to maintain cultural identities with the processes of integration and social cohesion.
- To increase access to healthy food for everybody, the Municipality is open to new forms of relationship between those involved in production, distribution and consumption, facilitating the promotion of other private initiatives and the third sector and promoting their coordination in a public and common wellbeing perspective.
- Water, as the basic element of life and as an integral part of food, is a right that the Municipality promotes ensuring universal and public access to drinking water.

<sup>1</sup> Definition of food safety World Food Summit, 1996

## GUIDELINES AND ACTIONS

Guidelines	Actions
1. The Municipality shall have an active direct or indirect role in providing healthy food produced in a sustainable way that caters to several categories: students, elderly people, vulnerable groups and city employees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Increase the supply of local quality, sustainable food in school catering and public homes for the elderly;</li> <li>b) Increase the supply of local quality food produced in a sustainable way, for the elderly and persons in need in all areas of Milan, with new forms of organisation and distribution, also improving existing solutions (e.g. opening school canteens for elderly persons from the neighbourhood);</li> <li>c) Strategically enhance the role of community catering agreements as a tool for guiding the development of a sustainable food system and being an active part in promoting healthy and sustainable eating habits.</li> </ul>
2. The Municipality shall ensure that in each district of the city affordable, healthy and sustainable food is available within short distances that can be covered by people with restricted mobility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Promote instruments to ensure the purchase of healthy food for the most vulnerable categories of the population (e.g. social cards, vouchers, etc.) that at the same time promote sustainable local production.</li> <li>b) Encourage a plurality of food distribution solutions in every neighbourhood (e.g. municipal markets, shops, sustainable mobile means, collective purchases, home deliveries, etc.) and their integration as a tool to control food insecurity and local coverage.</li> <li>c) Strengthen the role of social proximity services through information and training for condominium carers and social guardians so that they promote eating habits consistent with the principles expressed in this paper.</li> <li>d) Spread the adoption of similar behaviour among private operators of home care services.</li> </ul>
3. The Municipality shall actively work to promote and facilitate various forms of urban agriculture and horticulture, as well as the establishment and consolidation of networks and activities for creating social inclusion and providing food to the vulnerable population (community canteens, soup kitchens, forms of social aggregation for sustainable food production and consumption, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Allocate all public agricultural areas to agricultural and horticultural production, both professional and for direct consumption and small local businesses.</li> <li>b) Define with organised urban horticulture individuals, guidelines shared at the city level for promoting and managing horticulture both on public and on private land, ensuring that a proportion of public land is intended for gardens for low-income people.</li> <li>c) Integrate the applications and activities of the Forum Città Mondo (World Cities Forum) in guidelines for urban horticulture as a tool for integration and social cohesion.</li> <li>d) Provide information and training on sustainable methods of cultivation aimed at existing practicing communities (gardeners) and citizens broadly speaking.</li> </ul>



# GUIDELINES

## PRIORITY 2

### Promote the sustainability of the food system

*Facilitate the consolidation of all the components and activities necessary to organise a sustainable food system and promote local production and consumption of quality fresh and seasonal food.*

#### SUMMARY OF BACKGROUND DATA

- In the area of the Municipality of Milan there are about 100 farms that cultivate 2,900 hectares, of which 90% is dedicated to arable. In addition to this there are around 800 surveyed orchards.
- The Distretto Agricolo Milanese – Milanese Agricultural District (DAM) includes 31 farms operating within the municipal boundaries which have established a special agricultural cooperative consortium to promote agricultural activities and support businesses of the sector operating in the Municipality of Milan.
- Also the metropolitan context must be taken into consideration for the Milanese production, with more than 3,600 farms that cultivate about 67,000 hectares of agricultural area, with 19 certified products, 60 organic farms (including 13 in Milan) that cultivate a total of 1,440 hectares, as well as 19 certified products (5 DOP; Slow Food).

1 IGP; 13 Traditional and 1 Slow Food Presidium).

- The DAM, along with 3 other agricultural districts, the Municipality of Milan, the Metropolitan City of Milan and the Lombardy Region, signed the so-called “Milano Metropoli Rurale”, a Framework Agreement for Territorial Development (AQST) with the aim of enhancing the rural origin of the Milanese metropolitan area, promoting the economy and quality of the environmental and territorial context with a view to sustainability.
- All these productions of the territory have several local distribution channels including: 9 factory stores (and 164 in the metropolitan area), 15 weekly, fortnightly or monthly farmers markets, about 80 ethical purchasing groups (EPG) surveyed plus others not officially detected, as well as fair-trade and ethical shops and a wide range of restaurants and bars that use local products.

#### PRINCIPLES

- Sustainability of the food system is a goal that can be pursued only by acting in a coordinated manner on all system components.
- The Municipality shall promote local, sustainable food systems in order to create values social relationships for the bene-

fit of the local economy and as a tool for creating environmental quality and increasing the overall resilience of the city.

- Agriculture is a component of the city and helps to create material values and public goods. In this perspective the Municipality shall undertake to limit the use of agricultural land and promote a reversal of trends in land degradation as part of a more holistic approach to qualification and defence of the territory, which already forms the basis of the Framework Agreement for Territorial Development “Milano metropoli rurale”.
- The promotion of the entire water system of Milan and its sustainable management is a strategic point of view for controlling the delicate balance between irrigation, sewage treatment, civilian use, agricultural production, ecosystems and landscapes.
- To achieve these objectives, the Municipality shall operate by combining the urban and territorial planning instruments, rural planning and environmental and social policy within a unified setting for a sustainable conversion of the territory, environment and landscape. All these policies must be seen in perspective of circular economy, and as a structural contribution to the resilience of the city and its

metropolitan context.

- The Municipality shall enhance the different forms of organisation starting from partnerships between those involved in the food chain who contribute to improving the balance between the urban and rural components of the Milanese region including, in particular, agricultural districts, civilian initiatives and of social and ethical economy, and other local market systems.

## GUIDELINES AND ACTIONS

Guidelines	Actions
1. The Municipality shall facilitate access to land through its institutional instruments, the co-promotion of specific services (e.g. Mortgage credit, local land trusts, public lands, etc.) and the spread of multi-functional agriculture that contribute to the objectives set out here.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Introduce agricultural production qualification criteria in assignment notices for land and municipally owned farms in order to facilitate the spread of local and sustainable production.</li> </ul>
2. The Municipality shall encourage agricultural activities and wineries throughout the municipal area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Promote the diffusion and qualification of all forms of urban agriculture and horticulture (e.g. cultivation of crops on the ground, terraces, roofs, walls, hydroponics, etc.), using waste water wherever possible.</li> <li>b) Implement specific reward measures to increase the supply of local, fresh products in public procurement specifications.</li> <li>c) Support the creation and consolidation of new forms of organisations of farmers and of those involved in the food chains.</li> <li>d) Strengthen the Municipality's commitment to enhancing local production also through diversified certification tools that help implement the guidelines of the International Food Policy.</li> </ul>
3. The Municipality shall support social, technological and organisational innovation in processing, distribution, logistics and trading activities to facilitate the transition to a sustainable food system..	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Support the diversification of the sales channels for local quality products (e.g. shops, restaurants, markets, etc.), facilitating forms of marketing that privilege sharing management responsibilities and the production of relational and cohesion values among those involved (e.g. farmers' markets, ethical purchasing groups networks, consumer cooperatives, etc.).</li> <li>b) Develop specific guidelines for reducing the environmental impact of grocery supply in the food retail, catering and public venue sectors (e.g. insert dedicated measures in the PUMS - Plan for Sustainable Urban Mobility).</li> <li>c) Promote the assignment of spaces or facilities for storage service and local food distribution in privately owned areas (e.g. apartment buildings), public areas and areas based on municipality agreements.</li> </ul>

# GUIDELINES PRIORITY 3

## Understanding food

*Promote a culture oriented to consumer awareness of healthy, safe and culturally appropriate food that is sustainable, produced and distributed in respect of human rights and the environment.*

### SUMMARY OF BACKGROUND DATA

- The rates of obesity and related diseases connected with food styles are slightly below the national average, but among adults, the percentage of obese people surveyed is 6.5% of the total, and among minors it is 5%. Obesity is a problem both for people and for the National Health Service which quantifies in about 8 billion euros per year direct costs alone associated with it, to which you must add related systemic effects (e.g. cardiovascular disease, tumors, diabetes, etc.).
- Nutrition education has its main local institutional channels in the Municipality, in Milano Ristorazione, in schools and in the NHS, which have educational programs intended mainly for children and young people of school age that are managed either directly or through agreements with third sector entities (associations, NGOs, foundations, etc.).
- In Milan we have counted 120 educational vegetable gardens run by schools and associations that work with schools on educational projects.
- 70% of projects implemented in the city by third sector entities has implicitly or explicitly an educational content.
- Milan has the highest concentration in Italy of educational, training and research facilities related to food and in the field of non-formal education, i.e. not of the formal school type but with an explicit educational intentionality. Milan represents a

very rich context, with hundreds of associations, groups, fairs, publishers and social networks that are active in the field of sustainable and informed consumption.

### PRINCIPLES

- The education, training and information system is an essential element for the support and promotion of food culture in all its dimensions.
- The education, training and information system contributes to a balanced development of the person and increases awareness on the effects of eating habits on the overall sustainability of the socio-economic and environmental system.
- The education, training and information system should be integrated with all the related social and economic practices and processes of change that have educational content (non-formal and informal education). The primary resources for this integration are constituted by the large panorama of technical and scientific skills available locally and by the widespread presence of embedded knowledge in all parts of society that is already applied to issues related to food: associations, groups, fairs, ethnic communities and the active citizenship in general.
- In education processes, specific attention should be paid in preventing obesity, diseases and disorders that are associated with inadequate diets, paying particular attention to reducing the intake of sugar, fat and meat acids and increasing the consumption of fruits, vegetables, unprocessed food and public water.
- In education actions, specific attention should be paid in preventing food waste.

## GUIDELINES AND ACTIONS

Guidelines	Actions
1. The Municipality shall expressed its commitment to education either directly or through its subsidiaries, or through agreements with schools, other institutions and educational agencies and the industry, by promoting initiatives that increase the level of awareness of all the citizens of Milan.	<p>a) Establish guidelines on sustainable diets in order to guide the programming of public and private operators and the eating habits of citizens. In defining these guidelines, take as their starting point the indications that are already provided by higher-order institutions regarding a healthy diet and integrate them with further elements, emphasizing primarily the best Milanese experiences relating to sustainability, ethics and justice of the food systems.</p> <p>b) Facilitate the spread of educational practices in public and private non-conventional contexts such as city markets, decentralised offices of the municipality, municipal property farmsteads, public residences, workplaces, etc.</p>
2. Education and training to healthy, sustainable nutrition shall concern both the basic content for all citizens, and more specific content for operators, which are designed to accompany the sustainable innovation of all stages of the food cycle.	<p>a) Develop communication campaigns aimed at all citizens in order to promote healthy and sustainable eating habits and informed purchasing practices.</p> <p>b) Promote access to fresh and seasonal local food, and public water in municipal buildings and schools through various supply methods (e.g. fresh fruit distributors, delivery platforms, water containers for offices, etc.) helping to reduce the consumption of sugary drinks, sodas and junk food.</p> <p>c) Promote partnerships between schools and local farms with particular reference to companies that use municipal property, as part of its educational strategy.</p> <p>d) Promote direct cultivation experiments in every school as an opportunity for learning and improving curricular subjects.</p> <p>e) Promote the use of public water in private catering, public events and sporting events.</p> <p>f) Increase the number and spread of Water Houses and public fountains.</p> <p>g) Promote training initiatives on social, economic and environmental sustainability of all components of the food system for operators of the city's food system.</p> <p>h) Promote educational initiatives for vulnerable groups of the city (children, the elderly, migrants, etc.) and carers (carers, babysitters, etc.).</p>
3. Spreading the contents and orientations of the Food Policy through the enhancement of existing experiences consistent with the principles expressed in this paper.	<p>a) Promote awareness-raising through partnerships with public, private and associative entities so that the guidelines of the Food Policy are also promoted in private retail, wholesale distribution, in markets, in private catering and social and health facilities.</p> <p>b) Define forms of public recognition for the people involved and virtuous actions (e.g. awards, trademarks, sponsorships, etc.).</p>

# GUIDELINES PRIORITY 4

## Fighting waste

***Reduce surpluses and food waste during the different stages of the food chain as a form of preventing social and economic inequalities and as a tool for reducing the environmental impact.***

### SUMMARY OF BACKGROUND DATA

- In Italy, more than 40% of food surplus is related to the purchasing and consumption habits of households and the average value of the domestic waste of each family is about 450 Euro per year.
- There are a number of food surplus recovery and redistribution projects that are handled largely by the third sector and with respect to which there is no overall monitoring from a quantitative point of view. The Siticibo project alone, involving Milano Ristorazione and the Food Bank Foundation, in 2014 allowed to supply 67 charitable organisations with 54,822 kg of bread and 100,386 kg of fruit.
- Finally, there is a niche of companies with significant growth rates that apply recovery technologies to food waste by reusing it in the field of design and production of natural fibres.

## PRINCIPLES

- The Municipality shall adopt and define in its actions the classification established at the international level that favours, in order of importance, the reduction of surplus food at all stages of the food chain, the recovery of surplus food for human consumption, the recovery for animal feed, the recovery of waste products for returning organic substance to the earth and the recovery for other non-nutritional purposes.
- The policies relating to the reduction of waste and surplus food should be combined with those relating to the waste cycle management to increase overall sustainability of the system with an approach to circular economy (e.g. Use of fertilizers derived from food waste, wastewater reuse, etc.), while ensuring that these activities do not conflict with human consumption.

## GUIDELINES AND ACTIONS

Guidelines	Actions
1. The Municipality, in cooperation with the local actors, shall promote actions devoted to the citizens and operators involved in the food cycle in order to reduce surpluses and waste.	a) Promote information campaigns and education and training actions aimed at increasing the awareness of citizens in relation to purchasing, consumption, storage, inventory and household waste management behaviour. b) Identify tools for establishing and promoting activities to reduce waste to be used by citizens and private operators in the industry (including public businesses – e.g. the “I do not waste” initiative of Milano Ristorazione - as well as large retailers).
2. The Municipality, in cooperation with local actors, shall promote the recovery and redistribution of surplus food.	a) Establish mechanisms for comparison with other operators engaged in the recovery and redistribution of surplus food in order to monitor, evaluate and direct the food system towards more transparent and efficient recovery and redistribution mechanisms of the surplus to those in need. b) Promote mechanisms for recovery and redistribution of unavoidable surplus at all levels (condominiums, market, distribution, canteens, etc.) and in all areas of the city.
3. The Municipality shall promote partnerships with institutional, economic and social entities to promote the rationalisation of packaging and the reduction of waste throughout the food chain.	a) Promote campaigns for rationalising packaging related to the distribution of water and food and promoting recyclable packaging. b) Encourage to disregard aesthetic standards (e.g. not liking the colour, shape, etc.) as a criterion for selecting vegetables, through mobilisation campaigns and institutional lobbying actions, etc.
4. The Municipality shall apply the principles of material and energy cycle closing to the food system from a circular economy and bio-economy perspective.	a) Promote the reuse of organic waste to produce compost to be used locally, by facilitating the dissemination of composting plants in the area and at the neighborhood and condominium level.

# GUIDELINES PRIORITY 5

## Supporting and promoting scientific research in the agri-food sector.

*Fostering the development of Milanese agri-food scientific research with connotations or implications related to the urban system, aiming at improving processes and developing cutting-edge technologies.*

### SUMMARY OF BACKGROUND DATA

- There are seven universities in the Territory of the Municipality of Milan, (the University of Milan, Milan Polytechnic, the University of Milano-Bicocca, the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, the Bocconi University, the Free University of Languages and Communication IULM and the Vita-Salute San Raffaele University) with 44 faculties, and about 174,000 new students every year, equal to 10% of the entire Italian university population.
- In the Territory of the City of Milan there are also more than thirty research and training institutes.
- The Parco Tecnologico Padano (PTP - Science Park) is a Science and Technology Park based in Lodi engaged in the agribusiness and bio-economy sectors. The City of Milan is an honorary member of the Foundation connected with it. The Parco Tecnologico Padano carries out research aimed at innovation and creation of value for production chains; it develops national and international R&D projects and has created a network extending to over 40 countries, involving more than 500 research institutions. Alongside research and services, the Parco Tecnologico Padano assists businesses and supports the creation of new enterprises through its business incubator and accelerator, Alimenta.

### PRINCIPLES

- The Municipality builds and offers experimental fields and visibility channels to research and knowledge intended as public assets for the citizenship;
- The Municipality processes and introduces, where possible, the contents of research in order to make its policies more able to interpret social impact and intervene more effectively in improving the life and development of the city;
- The exchange of information, knowledge and skills among several subjects characterising the world of scientific research at local, national and international level (including for example universities, research institutions and private individuals) is vital for the development of effective and efficient research methods;
- The Municipality stimulates and supports the creation of organisations that, leveraging on scientific research activities, develop innovative products and services in the agri-food sector;
- The development of strong relations among public, private and non-profit organisations engaged in the food sector and the world of research is a necessary condition for the development of a collaborative system through which the results of scientific research generate impacts in the urban system, supporting the improvement of processes and the development of cutting-edge technologies.

## GUIDELINES AND ACTIONS

Guidelines	Actions
1. The Municipality shall promote the development of a system of collaboration in agri-food research involving Universities, Research and Training Centres, public, private and non-profit organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Map the most relevant entities involved in the agri-food research system with connotations or implications related to the urban system.</li> <li>b) Facilitate the creation of meeting opportunities among all those involved in the Research System in the local, national and international agri-food sector, oriented to the exchange of knowledge and the creation of multi-stakeholder projects with connotations or implications related to the urban system.</li> <li>c) Develop data and information related to the agri-food system of the vast area of Milan for all the interested parties</li> <li>d) Promote the meeting of resources between demand and supply to fund the world of agri-food research with connotations or implications related to the urban system.</li> <li>e) Facilitate the entry of students specialised in the urban agri-food field in public, private and non-profit organisations operating in the same field.</li> <li>f) Support actions aimed at attracting international talents working in the research and innovation sector of urban agri-food, set up by public, private and non-profit organisations.</li> </ul>
2. The Municipality shall promote the development of Milanese agri-food scientific research with connotations or implications related to the urban system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Provide support to organisations involved in scientific research (e.g. universities, research centres, etc.), in order to identify opportunities of European and national financing (with particular reference to Research Programmes) and international financing through structured signalling activities and/or the creation of specific partnerships.</li> <li>b) Facilitate the creation of national, European and international academic networks for exchanging agri-food knowledge with connotations or implications related to the urban system.</li> <li>c) Promote the creation of partnerships between organisations involved in scientific research (e.g. universities, research centres, etc.) and national, European and international technology parks</li> <li>d) Test directly or facilitate the testing of innovations produced by the agri-food research system, through the collaboration with public, private or non-profit organisations.</li> </ul>
3. The Municipality shall encourage the development of innovative projects in the agri-food sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Map the most relevant agri-food needs for new technologies and processes with connotations or implications related to the urban system and disseminate the mapping results to all interested parties.</li> <li>b) Allocate resources aimed at supporting the creation and development of innovative projects, operating or intending to operate at different stages of the food chain.</li> <li>c) Support the creation of competitions and awards aimed at identifying, developing, accelerating and disseminating ideas and/or organisations related to the improvement of processes and cutting-edge technologies in the agri-food field with connotations or implications related to the urban system.</li> </ul>

In order to:

- a) plan and implement measures dedicated to the priorities and the mentioned orientations;
- b) implement these orientations within all policies, programmes and own-initiative projects or that refer to their subsidiaries (in particular Sogemi, municipal markets, Milano Ristorazione, AMSA and AMAT);
- c) facilitate the spread and adoption of these guidelines also by the metropolitan cities;
- d) plan and implement these guidelines in collaboration with other levels of government, with private entities, with the third sector, with informal social actors, with schools, universities, the research community, the world of innovation and start-ups, philanthropists, etc;

and owing to the complexity of the issues involved, the Municipality of Milan has identified **the following tools:**

## **1. Metropolitan Food Council.**

The Food Council shall promote co-responsibility processes of the actors of the Milanese food system (large area) through specific participatory processes that have an inclusive character. This joint responsibility has its reasons in the complexity of the issues, which require the work of many in order to ensure ade-

quate space to all components of the Milanese food system in the initial phases and periodic evaluation of the Food Policy in identifying additional targets and planning, acknowledging the value of city practices and economic and organisational innovations as part of a design that sets the institution as a reference point. This joint responsibility activity has a procedural nature and may take the form of town consultations, a steering committee or other similar bodies similar to food councils, food boards or other similar tools available in other linguistic, cultural and institutional contexts.

## **2. Monitoring system.**

The Food Policy actions and guidelines monitoring system will allow not only to analyse, evaluate and monitor over time the issues, guidelines and actions and their related impacts, but also indirectly to increase knowledge with respect to the issues in question. This action responds to the need to build an information system that enhances what is already available in the Municipality structures and in the institutions, in the world of research and in social bodies, and makes it accessible and functional to support decisions and actions. The construction and dissemination of this knowledge in an open source perspective, is functional to make the institutional action, and that of all those involved in the city, more effective.

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