The City of Milan, during Expo Milano 2015 “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”, adopted one of the most innovative urban food policies in Europe. In 2014 Milan started an action-research process that produced an analysis of its food system, articulated in 10 main issues. After that, the city launched a public consultation engaging its different departments, universities, civil society organizations, start-ups, private sector and ended the process with a vote in the City Council of 5 priorities, 16 guidelines and 48 actions of Milan Food Policy:

1) ensure healthy food and water for all citizens;
2) promote the sustainability of the food system;
3) promote food education;
4) fight against food waste;
5) support scientific research in agrofood sector.

The policy defined two institutional tools for its implementation: the Metropolitan Food Council and the Monitoring Framework. The policy definition process was included inside the RRI-Toolkit as a European best practice for Responsible Research and Innovation.

During the same period, Milan engaged itself in an international city-to-city diplomacy action that led to the launch in 2015 of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP), now signed by 161 cities worldwide. In Europe the Eurocities Working Group Food (51 cities) was established thanks to the input of the MUFPP.

In 2017 the Vicemayor was designated for Milan Food Policy by the Mayor, with a role of coordination and with the technical support of the newly established Food Policy Office.

The food policy acts with three main approaches: creation of projects that can generate institutional legacy, streamline of ordinary activities, building incentives capable of generating impacts.

Milan activated strong relations with other European cities, organizations, networks and EU bodies. A special relation with the EU Commission started in the different frameworks of Milan Food Policy and MUFPP with DG SANTE, DG RTD, DG DEVCO, DG REGIO.
Milan Food Policy multiple aims in 5 priorities

1. Ensuring **ACCESS** to healthy food and water as primary nourishment for citizens, increasing the supply of local quality food in public spaces, facilitating the local agriculture and consolidating social inclusion for vulnerable categories.

2. Promoting the **SUSTAINABILITY** of the food system. Facilitating the consolidation of all components and activities necessary for managing a sustainable food system and promoting local production and consumption of fresh and quality food.

3. Food **EDUCATION**. Promoting a culture of consumer oriented awareness of healthy, safe, culturally appropriate, sustainable food, produced and distributed with respect for human rights and the environment.

4. Fight against **FOOD WASTE**. Reducing food losses and food waste during the different stages of the food system to limitate environmental impact and to contrast social and economic inequalities.

5. Supporting scientific agro-food **RESEARCH**. Fostering the development of a Milanese scientific research related to the local food system, aiming at improving processes and developing cutting-edge technologies.

Multi-level implementation of Milan Food Policy

The ongoing actions of Milan Food Policy are characterized by a process that follows the Milan Food System Assessment. Each action implements one or more of the 5 Milan Food Policy priorities and is developed under a multilevel governance that engaged different municipal departments (L), metropolitan (M) and regional (R) authorities, universities (U), social (S) and private (P) actors. The approach defines 3 kinds of tools: new projects (P), reorientation of ordinary actions (R) or new incentives (I).

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<td>Sustainability</td>
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<td>Waste</td>
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<td>New skills for new jobs in the field of Urban Agriculture through a start-ups incubator</td>
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Metropolitan Food Council & Monitoring Framework 38,8 Millions € (32.8 already allocated)
In 2012 the Municipality of Milan developed a Framework Agreement for Territorial Development “Milan Rural Metropolis” which connects the Municipality, the Metropolitan authority, the Regional authority, 4 Agricultural Districts, 2 river basin authorities, in a public-private partnership (PPP) to act on rural-urban linkages with a 102 actions plan for a total value of 144 Million Euro, of which 22 already allocated through the strategic reorientation of ordinary funds. The Food Policy is part of this agreement through rural-urban links actions. In 2016, the Food Policy acted to connect school canteens public procurement in Milan with the supply chain of rice through the Milanese Agricultural District (180 tons/year for a value of € 300,000/year). The know-how of this experience works now as grounds for further scalability by making available 19 horticultural supply chains for school canteens public procurement.

Within the Rural Development Program managed by Regional Authority, an Integrated Area Plan was created with 31 Milanese partners and it was presented for funding in January 2018, reorienting investments of agricultural farms for the value of 5 million Euro. Inside this Plan, agroecology/biodiversity investments are connected to the conversion of cultures related to the horticultural supply chains.

This process capitalizes the outputs of 13 different projects, started in 2010 and promoted by foundations, social actors, Regional authorities and the Municipality.

This experience will be discussed and included in the three-year reflection process “Towards a European Common Food Policy” promoted by IPES-Food within the definition of the future CAP with DG AGRI.

Lessons learned:

- It is necessary to fill in the information gaps between rural and urban areas and stakeholders.
- The presence of facilitators among farmers, agricultural districts, municipal agencies and urban actors is fundamental to improve common plans with added value.
- Existing institutional tools must always be used at their best to share goals for common opportunities.
New space for City diplomacy at European and global level

From 2014, Milan is at the centre of an integrated strategy on Food that capitalized the experience of the bidding to the 2015 Universal Exhibition Expo campaign (2006-08) and the work on the contents Expo Milan 2015 itself (2008-15):

- 2015-ongoing, launch and follow-up of Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (161 cities worldwide);
- 2016-ongoing, launch and follow-up of Eurocities Working Group Food (51 European cities) active in sharing knowledge on urban food policies with workshops in Birmingham, Valencia, Utrecht, Amsterdam, Brussels, Tel Aviv;
- 2016-ongoing, launch and follow-up of C40 Food Systems Network (37 cities) working on food as entry point to tackle climate change (Bloomberg Foundation);
- 2015-ongoing, engagement in the 100 Resilient Cities Initiative (Rockefeller Foundation);
- 2016-ongoing, participation to the EU Commission DG SANTE “EU Platform for Food Losses and Food Waste” and its sub-group on Food Donation;
- 2016-ongoing, launch and follow-up of two editions of the Milan Pact Awards (MPA) with the support of Cariplo Foundation, a monetary prize to collect and share practices. The MPA so far collected 106 food policy practices from MUFPP signatory cities. MPA winning cities are: Antananarivo, Baltimore, Mexico City, Toronto;
- 2016-ongoing, partnership with FAO for the support and promotion of the MUFPP;
- 2016-ongoing, advocacy actions on global agenda: UN Habitat III in Quito 2016 for “New Urban Agenda”, Global Nutrition Summit hosted in Milan 2017 (under the G7 Italian Presidency), World Urban Forum (WUF9) 2018 in Kuala Lumpur;
- 2017-ongoing, EU projects with London (Life+ TrIFOCAL on food waste reduction), Ghent and Porto (Urbact 1° phase FoodGov), DG RTD “Food in cities: study on innovation for a sustainable and healthy production, delivery, and consumption of food in cities”, Horizon2020 Fit4Food on multi-stakeholder platform inside EU goal Food2030, Future of CAP toward a Common Food Policy with IPES-Food.

Milan Food Policy cross-sectorial governance model

The most significant challenge for the implementation of urban food policy is finding an integrated and efficient governance model. In Milan an holistic model will be defined to allow the City to go beyond silos mentality of the different Municipal departments and agencies, engage the relevant local stakeholders (horizontal integration) and connect with Metropolitan and Regional authorities (vertical integration).

The Vicemayor was designated for Milan Food Policy by the Mayor, with a role of coordination and with the technical support of the newly established Food Policy Office. This Office works for the integration among departments, agencies, urban and multilevel actors engaged in the Food System and, within the MUFPP Secretariat, shares methodology and best practices within the Milan networks (MUFPP, WG Food, C40).