

Sustainable food systems for city regions international hub

IUFN's mission consists in facilitating access of local authorities and decision-makers to the results of international research on this topic. Our action relies on the management of a dedicated on-line open source knowledge platform and on innovative and cross-disciplinary knowledge generation.

IUFN is governed by a **Board of Directors**, composed of an Executive Board – President, Secretary general, Treasurer – and of 3 Administrators. The **Strategic Advisory Board** is a guarantee of the objectivity and the relevance of the strategic choices proposed by IUFN's Board of Directors. It is an advisory body that works alongside the Board of Directors. It is composed of international experts with a variety of backgrounds, reflecting the multidisciplinary nature of food system-related issues. The Board of Directors relies on an **Operational team**.

With more than 80% of the world's population living in cities by 2050 (FAO, 2011), guaranteeing food supply within the limits of available natural resources is one of the biggest challenges of our world. Beyond the question of food security, feeding urban populations brings about a whole series of challenges, from food safety, logistics, and accessibility to rising problems such as public health, environmental impacts and social integration.

- Recognizing the need of international awareness raising around alternative food systems for cities and participatory food governance mechanisms positive potential;
- Identifying the lack of cooperation between local authorities, decision-makers and the international research community on the topic of sustainable food systems for cities issue;
- Highlighting the need of a shift from isolated and temporal research and projects to larger scale programs; from pilot local food initiatives to a wider uptake to facilitate up-scaling;
- Identifying the need of a better information dissemination and knowledge sharing in order to enhance the issue's visibility on international level, especially among political leaders;

IUFN – the International Urban Food Network – was launched and established as a non-governmental body in December 2012, during the HUNGRY CITY, Feeding the city of tomorrow international conference in Paris (France).

Today, IUFN acts as an international research and cooperation hub on sustainable food systems for cities, focusing on alternative food systems ensuring urban populations' food security particularly in OECD countries and in Brazil, India, China and Russia.

IUFN campaigns for the promotion of city region food systems as a relevant driver for the construction of resilient territories and sustainable cities. In this perspective, IUFN acts as:

INFORMATION HUB on Alternative food systems for cities

Raising awareness and highlighting the potential of city-region food systems when tackling environmental, social and economic challenges.

MONITORING BODY

Regularly updating a WHO's WHO of sustainable food systems for cities and monitoring the issue's progress on international level.

FACILITATOR

Facilitating knowledge diffusion and transfer between decision-makers and international research community mainly through participatory cross-disciplinary events organization.

THINK TANK

Enhancing innovation and co-producing a multi-level and cross-disciplinary knowledge as a support for national and international decision-makers.

What we can do for you

IUFN acts as a positive change-driver, as a stimulating agent, promoting the transformational potential of alternative food systems for cities. Our position as a connector between decision-makers and the research community, convening experts, cities, and civil society, helps in defining local food policies as a territorial added value for more resilience and global sustainability.

If you are a local authority, city-network, research institution, NGO, or enterprise, willing to better understand underlying challenges and opportunities of alternative food systems for cities, if you want to join an international dynamics around food for cities issue or you simply want to deepen your comprehension of local food policies' positive power: **Check below how we can help, or reach us at contact@iufn.org!**

AWARENESS RAISING

Starting from scratch, IUFN helps raising awareness on the fundamental challenges of our current conventional food system and on the major role local authorities play in the definition of a more sustainable future for food.

- **Stakeholders mobilization**
- **Conferences and Short kick-off lectures**
- **Cross-disciplinary workshops** (possible also on-line via webinar)
- **Thematic focuses** (possible also on-line via webinar)
- **Lecture series** featuring international experts/researchers and practitioners

GOING INTERNATIONAL

IUFN promotes innovative processes and initiatives on the international level in order to help these surpass national frontiers and become an inspirational resource on a global level.

- **National initiatives/good practices/existing national networks promotion** on international level
- **Peer to peer** international meetings
- **Reports and fact sheets promoting national initiatives** to be diffused on international level

**For more information,
get in touch at contact@iufn.org
or check our web www.iufn.org.**

Or write to us at IUFN/AgroParisTech
16 rue Claude Bernard
75231 Paris Cedex 05 (France)

KNOWLEDGE & SOLUTIONS CO-DESIGN

IUFN facilitates innovation and interdisciplinary knowledge production on sustainable food systems for cities as a support for city administrators, national and international decision-makers.

- **Thematic studies, reports, briefs**
- **Sectorial co-design workshops**
- **Cross-disciplinary co-design workshops**

PARTICIPATORY EVENTS ORGANIZATION

IUFN proposes the conception and the facilitation of international cross-disciplinary events bringing together a large scope of actors around the challenges of sustainable food systems for cities, helping to create new food links.

- **International conference** – designed to provide an international update on best practices, on pioneer local authorities' action on local food policies and more globally on the progress of this issue in IUFN's focus countries (OECD countries and BRICs)
- **Open forum** – creative interactive cross-sectorial meetings designed to gather points of view of the local community on the potential of launching local food policy or on a specific alternative food systems challenge
- **3D** – three-day participatory event with an Open forum for the general public, a dedicated time for a more expert audience and Local elected representatives workshops designed to help local authorities to kick off their own local food strategy
- **Eat in** – convivial, impact driven, local food-centred festive events designed for building a sense of community around the transformational power of local food systems.