

Urban Food Policies: The importance of networks and participative approaches

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*There's a tremendous gap between
public opinion and public policy.*

Noam Chomsky, 2006

URBAN

FOOD

POLICY

Complexity
Interaction
Relations

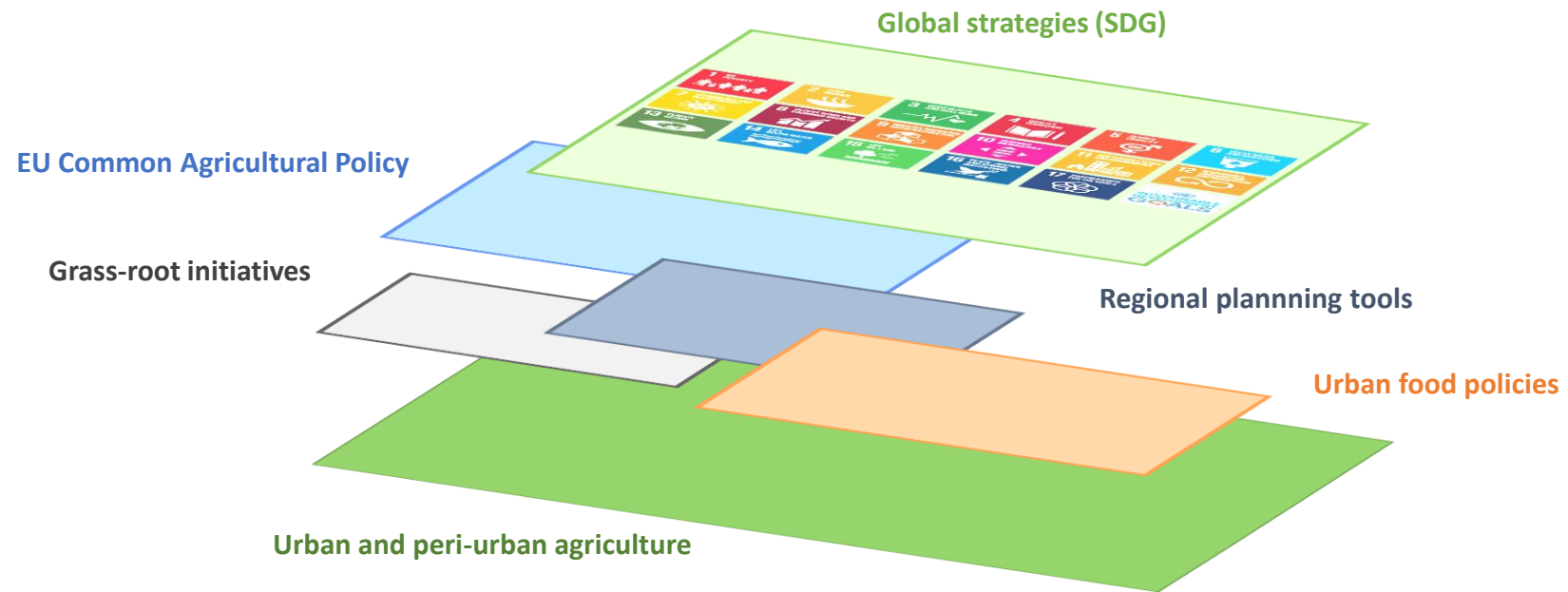
Multi-disciplinary
Multi-level
Multi-actor

Consensus
Consultation
Negotiation

*A process consisting of how a city envisions
change in its food system, and how it strives
toward this change*

Ana Moragues-Faus

The multi-layered nature of agricultural policies



Municipality councillors
 Institutional actors
 Farmers
 Third sector/associations
 Agents of the processing/distributing phases
 Researchers
 Urban planners
 Citizens
 Food Movements

Level of participation

Comprehensive
 representatives
 of the UFS



- 1 «Cosmetic» Urban Food Policy Council
- 2 «Dirigiste» Urban Food Policy Council
- 3 «Enlarged» Urban Food Policy Council
- 4 «Effective» Urban Food Policy Council

Sectoral
 councillor

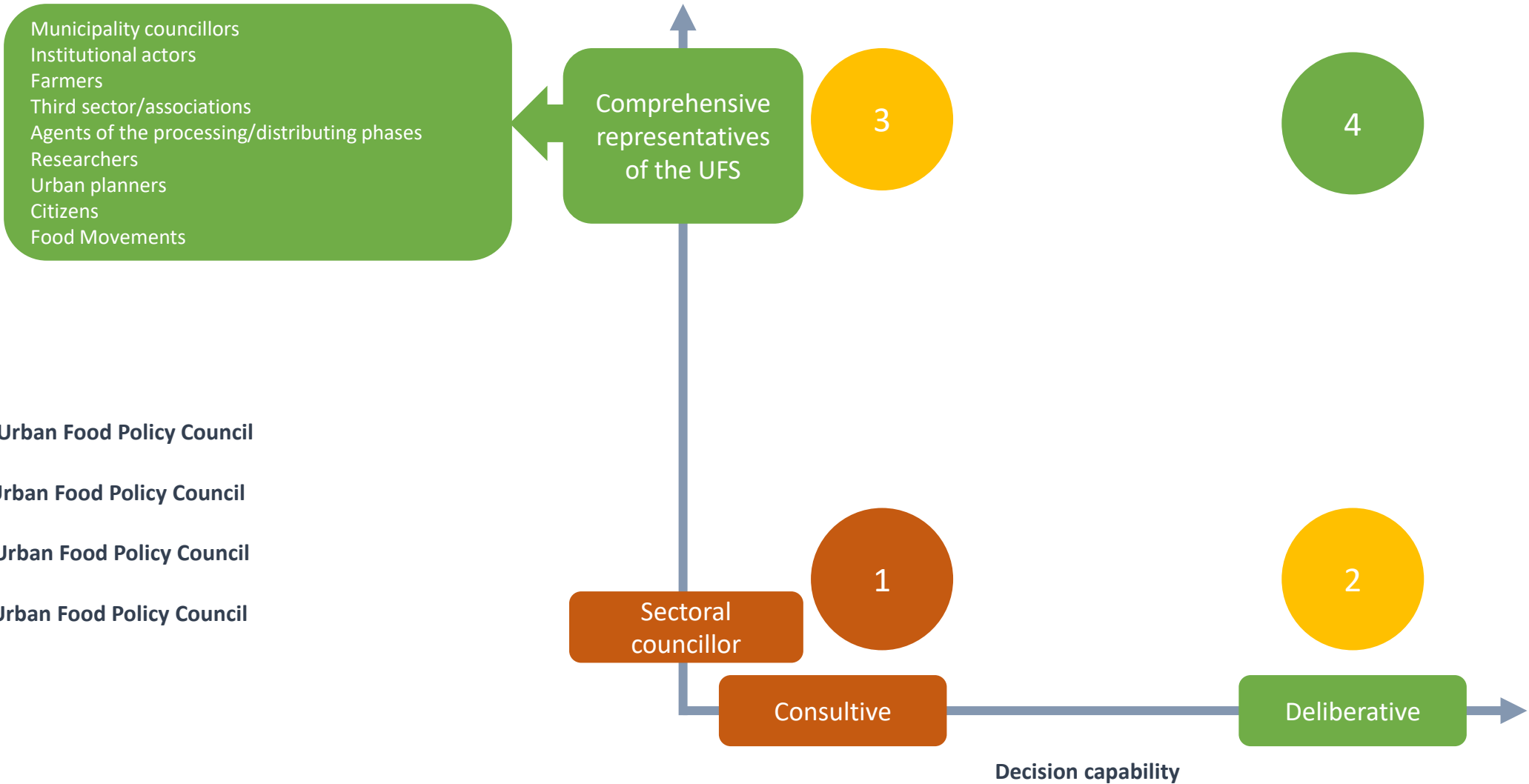


Consultive



Deliberative

Decision capability



Urban Food Policy Councils

They are the spaces in which the Urban Food Policy is coordinated, discussed, improved and where **decisions** relating to projects, resources and implementation methods are taken

The ability to govern the complexity and direct it toward shared and **innovative trajectories in food systems** has, in many cases, been entrusted to the Urban Food Policy Councils

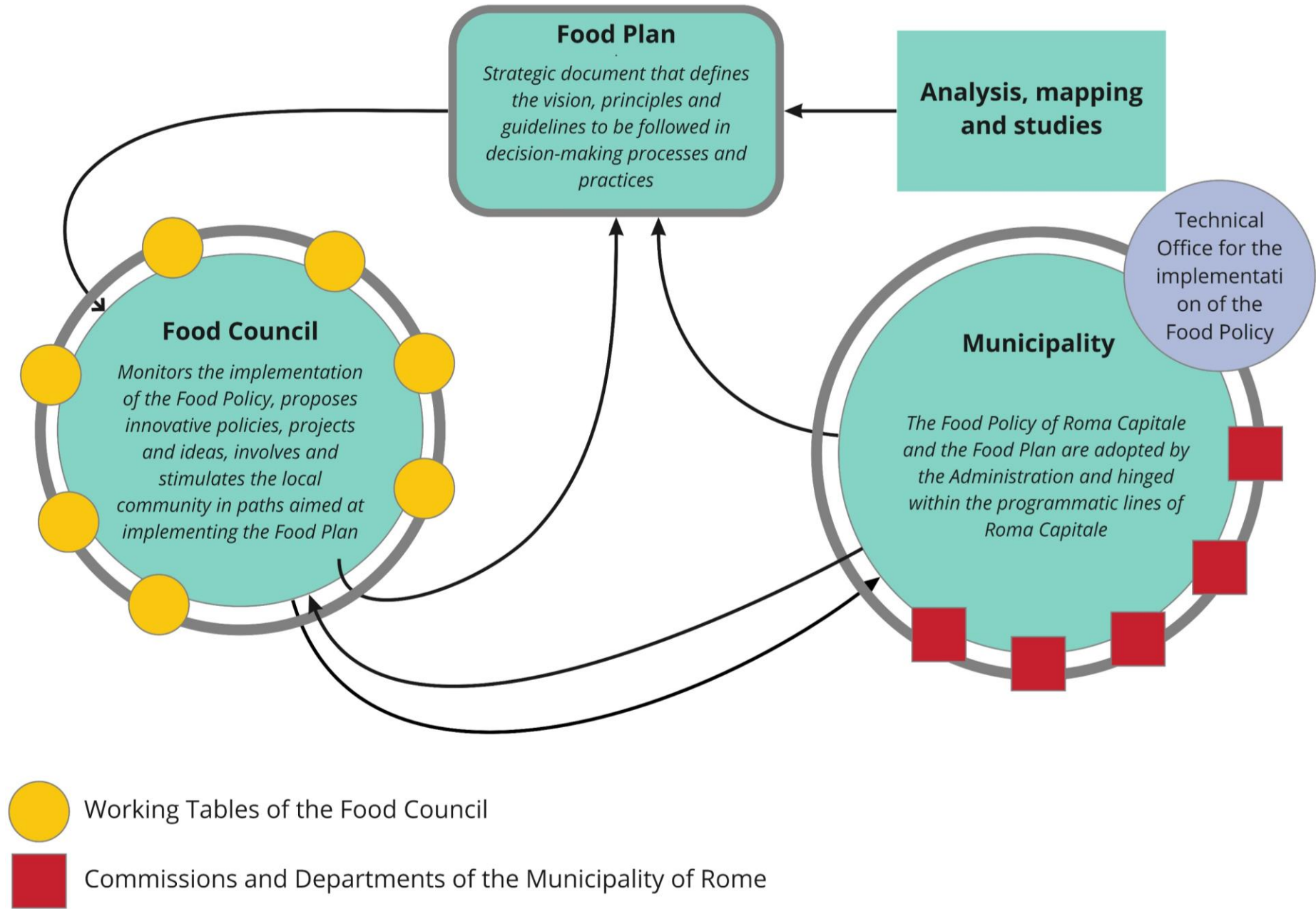
Steering Committee «A Food Policy for Rome»



Castel del Giudice «Food Council»



Rome Food Policy governance



The Food Council of Rome

The Rome Food Council consists of the activities carried out in seven working groups:

- Food Governance
- Access to resources, local production and agroecology
- Local markets and local commerce
- Solidarity economy and alternative supply chains
- Fight against food waste and poverty
- School catering, collective catering and food education
- Gastronomic culture, catering and food processing

The seven working groups coincide with the Living Labs of the H2020 project FUSILLI



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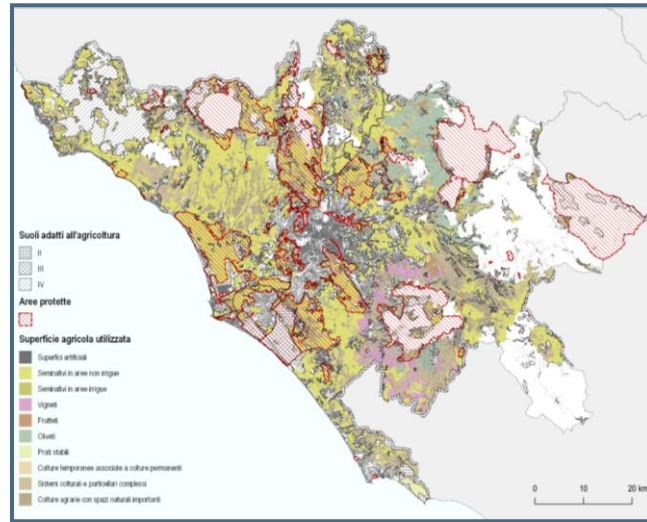
The importance of knowledge – mapping the food system



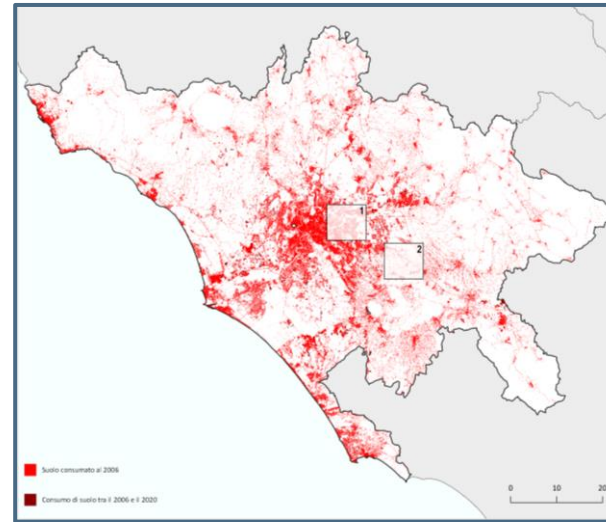
Atlante del cibo

UNO STRUMENTO PER LE POLITICHE LOCALI DEL CIBO

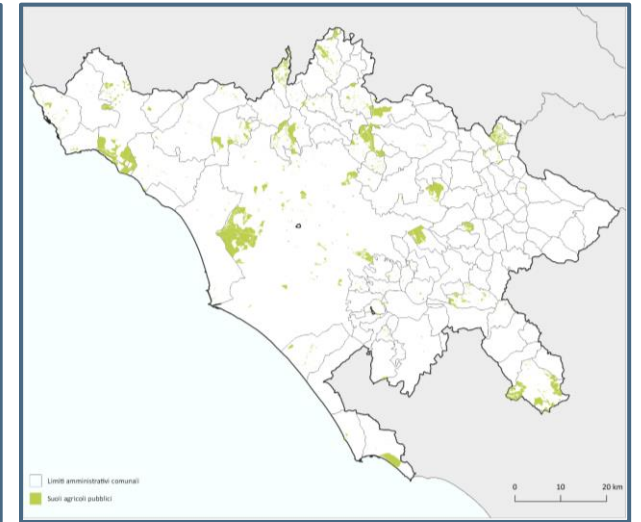
Agricultural areas with high productive value



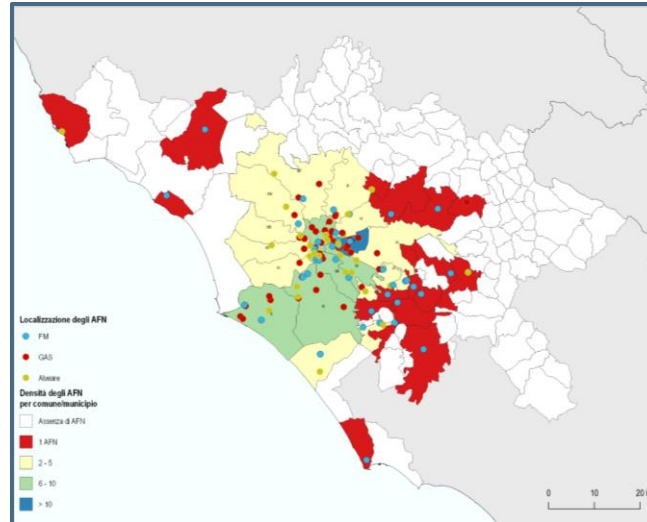
Land consumption



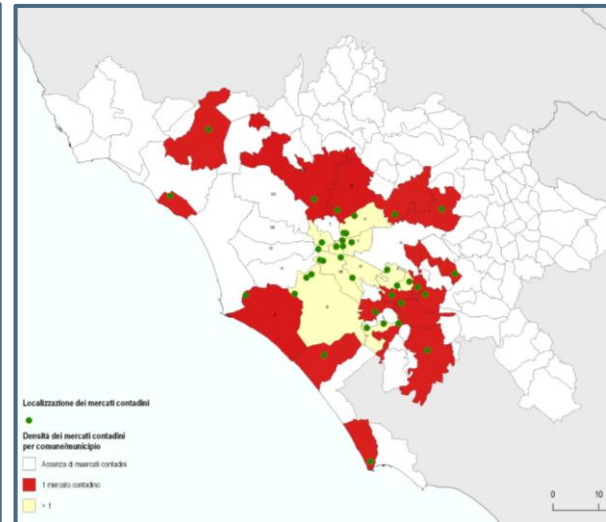
State-owned lands



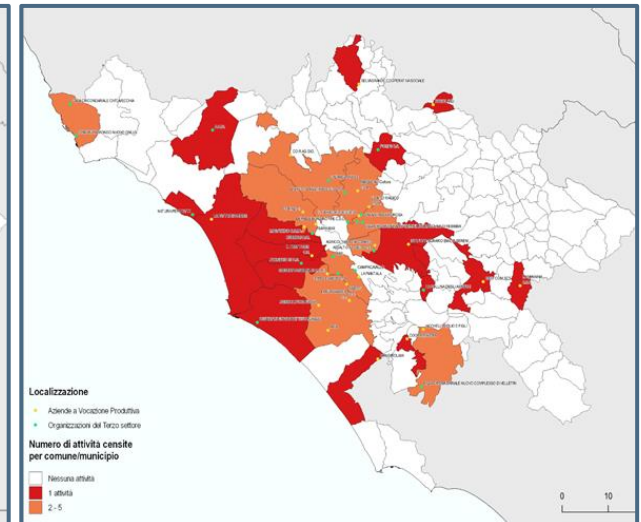
Food outlets and Alternative Food Networks



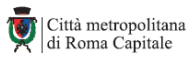
Farmers' markets



Farms and food aid associations



PIANO STRATEGICO DELLA CITTÀ METROPOLITANA DI ROMA CAPITALE



The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact



MILAN URBAN FOOD POLICY PACT

Its main aim is **to support cities wishing to develop more sustainable urban food systems** by fostering city to city cooperation and best practices exchange.



1. Governance

6 recommended actions
SDG targets: 16.6 - 17.14



2. Sustainable Diets and Nutrition

7 recommended actions
SDG targets: 2.1 - 2.2 - 3.4 - 6.1



3. Social and Economic Equity

6 recommended actions
SDG targets: 8.3 - 8.2



4. Food Production

7 recommended actions
SDG targets: 2.3 - 8.4 - 12.2



5. Food Supply and Distribution

7 recommended actions
SDG targets: 9.1 - 12.6 - 12.7



6. Food Waste

4 recommended actions
SDG targets: 12.3 - 17.7

The Italian Network on Local Food Policies

A network of researchers, activists, experts, technicians and administrators (around 600 individuals)

An informal network, to connect those in Italy who deal with urban and local food policies and related issues

A space for discussion, sharing of knowledge, co-training, support and promotion of research-action

A connection between different contexts of interaction: research, public institutions, third sector, movements, agents, trade organizations, citizens



The Italian Network on Local Food Policies – Re|Cibo, the journal



RE|CIBO

Rivista della Rete Italiana delle Politiche Locali del Cibo



The Italian Network on Local Food Policies – The Annual National Gathering



- 2018 1st Annual Gathering, Rome
- 2019 2nd Annual Gathering, Florence
- 2020 3rd Annual Gathering, Florence
- 2021 4th Annual Gathering, Pisa (online)
- 2022 5th Annual Gathering, Milan (online)
- 2023 6th Annual Gathering, Rome
- 2024 7th Annual Gathering, Bari

Take-aways

- ➔ Urban Food Policies require structured governance systems: rules and roles
- ➔ Creating consensus, in some cases, can not be the main goal. The more are the partners, the more is difficult to reach it
- ➔ Existing bottom-up movements, activists, associations and advocacy groups can significantly determine the success or failure of the policies
- ➔ The method of consultation is crucial for the effectiveness of UFP: deliberative/consultative
- ➔ Representativeness of food system actors must be promoted in Food Council

Thank you!

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