

International Summit on Organic Food Systems Goesan, 19-20 september 2019



City Region Food Systems and Organic Food Systems: Converging Communities of Practice

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Emerging / Converging Communities of Practice

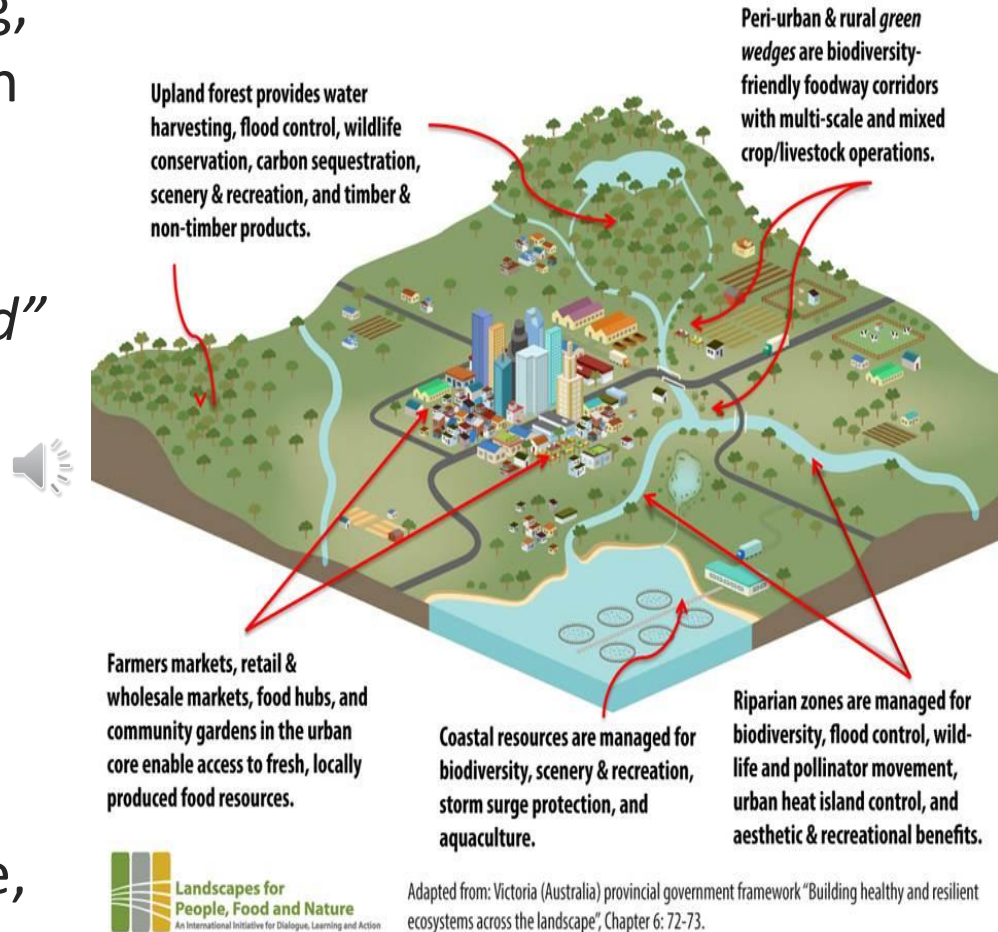
- ✓ Several innovative approaches to food system transformation emerged in recent years
- ✓ Respond to potential role of food systems in realizing UN Sustainable Development Goals
- ✓ Emerged in different and fragmented scientific and policy arenas
- ✓ Potentials for synergies and mutual strengthening of approaches
- ✓ Focus on two approaches: City Region Food Systems and Organic Food Systems in urban context

City-region food systems as policy approach

- ✓ Explosive growth of **bottom-up urban food policy plans and strategies** of city and regional governments
- ✓ **2013 Mayors Declaration** at ICLEI Resilient Cities Congress in Bonn (2 June 2013)
- ✓ **City region food systems and sustainable urbanisation: A call for global action.** *World Urban Forum7, Medellín, 7-11 April 2014*
- ✓ **New Urban Agenda Habitat III conference, Quito, 17-20 October 2016.** Food security. Sustainable Development Goals. Rural-Urban Linkages

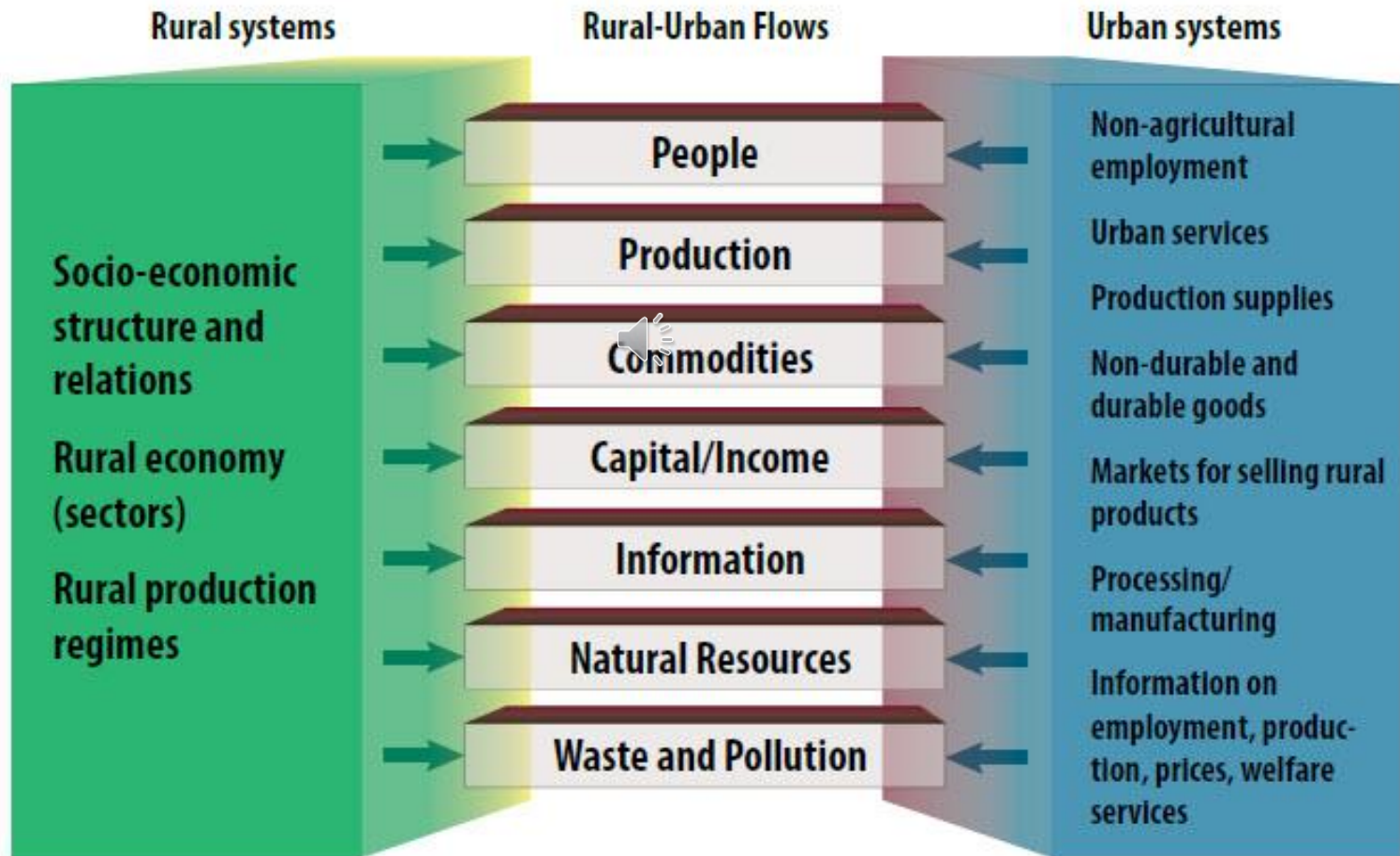
City-Region Food Systems: Focus and Scope

- ✓ Food production, processing, marketing and consumption
- ✓ Urban centres, surrounding peri-urban and rural hinterland i.e. the “foodshed”
- ✓ Exchange and flows of food, people, goods, nutrients/waste and ecosystem services (urban metabolism)
- ✓ Urban-rural linkages; nexus between people, agriculture, biodiversity, water and energy



City-Region Food Systems

Rural-urban linkages



Adapted from: Allen, A. 2010. Pathways to Sustainability: Agendas for a New Politics of Environment, Development and Social Justice. Presented at: Peri-urban Dynamics, 23 - 24 September, Institute of Development Studies, Sussex, UK.

Milan Urban Food Policy Pact

15 October 2015



Milan Urban Food Policy Pact

200 cities, ca. 500 million inhabitants



Elements of the Milan Pact

1. Work to develop sustainable food systems, that are inclusive, resilient, safe and diverse and provide healthy and affordable food while minimizing waste and adapting to / mitigating climate change impacts.
2. Encourage interdepartmental and cross-sectoral coordination at municipal and community level
3. Seek coherence between municipal food-related policies and relevant (sub)national, regional and (inter) national policies
5. Engage all sectors within the food system (incl. authorities, technical and academic org., civil society, small scale producers, etc.) in formulation, implementation and assessment of policies. Review and amend existing urban policies and regulations to encourage equitable, resilient and sustainable food systems.
6. In each city, use the Strategic Framework for Action as starting point to address the development of the own food system and share development with participating cities and (inter) national governments.
7. Encourage other cities to join the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact actions

Strategic Action Framework

1. Governance: ensuring an enabling environment for effective action (actions 1-6)
2. Promote Sustainable diets and nutrition (7-13)
3. Encourage Social and economic equity (14-19)
4. Promote and strengthen Food production in and around the city (20-26)
5. Improve Food supply and distribution (27-33)
6. Reduce Food waste and losses (34-37)

Agroecology / OFS in Milan Food Policy Pact

- ✓ Apply an **ecosystem approach** to guide holistic and integrated land use planning and management
- ✓ Enhance opportunities for **agroecological production, conservation of biodiversity and farmland**, climate change adaptation, tourism, leisure and other ecosystem services.
- ✓ **Support short food chains**, producer organisations, producer-to-consumer networks and platforms,
- ✓ Civil society-led social and **solidarity economy** initiatives and alternative market systems.
- ✓ Protect and enable secure **access and tenure to land** for sustainable food production in urban and peri-urban areas
- ✓ Provide policy and programme support for **municipal public markets**
- ✓ Review **public procurement** and trade policy aimed at facilitating food supply from short chains linking cities to secure a supply of healthy food and sustainable production

Organic Food Systems and 'Urban Agroecology'?

- ✓ Growing attention for organic food systems in urban context and 'urban agroecology'
- ✓ Until now agroecology concept was strongly focused on peasantry and rural-centred
- ✓ Need to further specify what is 'urban agroecology'?
Contradictio in terminis?
- ✓ Need to expand to urban context – with specific potentials and challenges from AE perspective - and fully address rural-urban linkages

What is specific about 'Urban Agroecology'?

Definitions of Agroecology:

- ✓ **Practice**, social movement, science
- ✓ the **study** of ecological processes applied to agricultural production systems
- ✓ the application of ecological concepts and principles to the **design and management** of sustainable food systems (Gliessman)
- ✓ **Normative definitions**, including social and political action towards sustainability and food sovereignty (e.g. Sevilla-Guzman)

Urban Food Strategy Quito, Ecuador

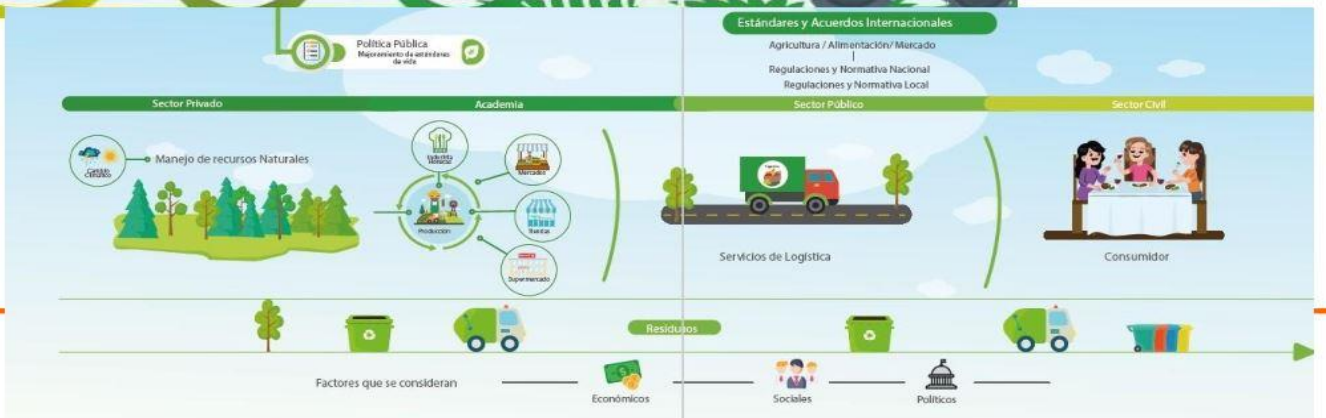


- ✓ Urban Agriculture programme AGRUPAR with focus on agroecological methods
- ✓ 50% production for home consumption, 50% for selling on local markets
- ✓ Municipality organizes Bioferias for marketing with specific focus on food insecure neighbourhoods
- ✓ Setting up of multistakeholder platform for developing Urban Food Strategy – Pacto Agroalimentario de Quito



Urban Food Strategy Quito, Ecuador

Food Strategy Quito



Municipal Urban Agriculture Programme Rosario Argentina

- ✓ City network of urban producer groups
- ✓ Training of producers in agroecological production methods
- ✓ Mapping of vacant land and setting up land bank to give out land to urban producers
- ✓ Establishments of “farmers’ markets” and home delivery schemes
- ✓ Including UA in urban infrastructure as ‘productive parks’ and ‘productive streets’
- ✓ Promotion of multi-functional land use in flood zones (production + agro-tourism + water storage + biodiversity and landscape management)



Organic City Munich

- ✓ Promoting consumption of organic food and agriculture in Munich
- ✓ Organic in public kitchens
- ✓ 100% organic food at public events and festivals
- ✓ Promoting organic food in hotels and restaurants

biostadt
münchen



City networks – Red de Ciudades por la Agroecología, Spain

- ✓ Network of 14 cities in Spain that collaborate on agroecological food policies
- ✓ Exchange of best practices
- ✓ Thematic working groups, for example food hubs / logistics, access to land, training services
- ✓ Joint lobbying and policy proposals



Convergences between CRFS and OFS / Urban agroecology

- ✓ Holistic approach, taking into account all elements and actors of food system
- ✓ Focus on food system transformation and transition strategies
- ✓ Importance of territorial approach, focussing on relocalization of food systems
- ✓ Ecosystem approach, closing of resource flows at local / regional level
- ✓ New mechanisms of stakeholder engagement and food democracy/sovereignty at local level
- ✓ New forms of economic development at local level based on social economy and regeneration

Further opportunities & challenges

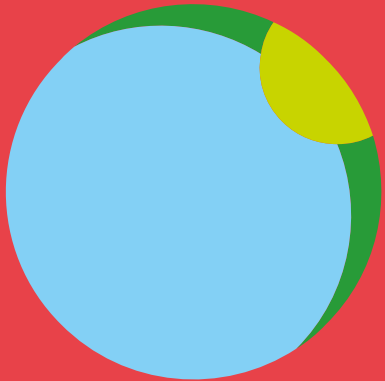
- ✓ Need to further connect different scientific, policy and societal communities engaged in CRFS and OFS
- ✓ Need to better document impact and underlying success factors of existing CRFS / OFS experiences
- ✓ Need to identify successful policy instruments to promote sustainable and inclusive CRFS / OFS and transition strategies
- ✓ Need to further disseminate and discuss successful CRFS / OFS experiences

Special issue Frontiers “Converging Communities of Practice – Method & Concept Developments in Regional Eco-Agro-Food Systems”,

<https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/11318/>

Thanks for your attention

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