

MILAN URBAN FOOD POLICY PACT

2ND MUFPP ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL FORUM

NOURISHING GROWING CITIES: ENHANCING SCHOOL MEALS AND SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

3-4 DECEMBER 2024 | BANGKOK

CONCEPT NOTE & PROGRAMME

Comune di Milano

Cities Feeding the Future
MILAN URBAN FOOD POLICY PACT

AGENZIA ITALIANA PER LA COOPERAZIONE ALLO SVILUPPO

Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale

Background

Over the last years **a strong interest in urban food systems** has been observed in the Asia Pacific region. This trend has been confirmed by the growing participation of Asian cities in the **Milan Urban Food Policy Pact** (MUFPP), a global commitment of mayors that consider food as an entry point for the sustainable development of their cities. To date, the Milan Pact has been signed by **43 cities from the Asia Pacific**. In this regard, the MUFPP has been actively working in the region, developing a multitude of activities thanks to the support of strategic partners such as the **European Commission** (through ICP and IURC programmes), the **Italian Agency for Develpment Cooperation** (AICS), the **Parahyangan Catholic University** along with the leadership of the MUFPP Steering Committee cities of **Bandung and Seoul**. A strong support was also brought by the newly established partnership with **ASEAN**.

Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) joined the Milan Pact in August 2021. A fruitful collaboration has been carried out thanks to the European funded project IURC, which saw Bangkok and Milan actively exchanging for over one year and half. The key outcome of this collaboration saw the Municipality of Milan supporting Bangkok Metropolitan Administration in drafting its first food strategy. The crowning moment of this process was celebrated in Bangkok last November with the official launch of **Bangkok Food Strategy 2023-2027**.

Following this remarkable achievement, the **Governor Chadchart Sittipunt** decided to convene the **2nd MUFPP Asia Pacific Regional Forum** next 3-4 December. The Forum titled "***Nourishing growing cities: enhancing school meals and supporting local communities***" aims at representing an opportunity to showcase innovative and transformative examples coming from emerging cities in the region. The Forum will cover the most recurring and relevant matters and challenges that growing cities are nowadays facing. Moving from the outstanding initiatives carried out by BMA, the Forum will be a chance to showcase best practices from diverse perspectives in the region.





Objectives

The Forum will revolve around three main issues to support our local communities:

- **School meals programmes** are a powerful driver of food policies through which cities can achieve **multiple cascading objectives**.
- **Urban Agriculture** as a driver to engage local farmers and enhance food security.
- **Food Bank & Food Waste Management** to improve the circularity of our food systems.

Adopting a food system approach, the Forum stands to explore the significance of **school meals programmes** for urban food policies, and their integration with **urban agricultural practices**, strategies to **tackle food waste and donations to food banks**. School meals programmes represent an opportunity to intervene in multiple aspects of urban food systems.

1.



Via well-designed procurement practices, school meals have a driving force to stimulate sustainable demand from agriculture, since they can determine what food is procured and from which type of farming. Recognizing **urban agriculture** as a practice able to strengthen access to fresh and seasonal food, promote urban-rural linkages, reinforce social cohesion and foster resilience at multiple scales, school meals programmes through their procurement practices can strive to create valuable opportunities for products coming from urban boundaries and maximize their added value.

2.



In parallel, school food environments represent a crucial occasion to educate children on appropriate consumption practices, including the key objective of **minimising food waste**. By introducing awareness activities and training for children where ethical, environmental and social impacts of wasting food are made visible, schools can shift eating habits of children and ensure reduced food waste generation. Such activities could involve also families, teachers and the wider community for addressing food waste determinants at the larger scale and design appropriate strategies accordingly.

3.



Finally, food surplus from school meals can play a vital role in supporting the livelihood of the local community. Via the cooperation of volunteers, health professionals and social workers, **food banks** can open collaboration opportunities with schools to distribute healthy and nutritious food to people in need. Such partnerships would have the two-folded objective of tackling excessive amounts of food waste at school, while addressing food poverty within the urban boundaries.

Objectives

The **Bangkok Food Bank** project collects surplus food and distributes to vulnerable groups of poor people or people affected by disasters and public disasters in emergencies in all 50 districts. It is a collaboration between **Bangkok Scholars of Sustainability Foundation (SOS)** and VV Share Foundation to solve the problem of food waste that may cause both environmental and economic damage. The BMA has implemented in a supermarket format by creating a mechanism for transferring assistance between donors and recipients sustainably and formulating a system for accumulating points to allow those vulnerable groups bringing their points to exchange for products that meet their needs. The BKK Food Bank is carried out in **2 models**:
1) Each District Office is the recipient – forwards surplus food from sharers and provides assistance to vulnerable groups in each area, 2) Establishing BKK Food Bank in each District Office, as a place to receive and distribute food, consumer goods, necessary items for living and pass them on to the recipient. The project has led to a large reduction in the amount of wasted food since it first started in October 2022.



PROMOTERS

Spreading experiences and knowledge on school meals programmes in ASEAN cities

Within the **Cities Feeding the Future Initiative**, the **Municipality of Milan** - **Milan Urban Food Policy Pact** (MUFPP), in partnership with **ASEAN**, and supported by **Parahyangan Catholic University (UNPAR)** and the **Municipality of Bandung** have launched the Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in **ASEAN Cities** project, funded by the **Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation**. The project aims to increase the capacity of city officers and member states from ASEAN countries to **develop school meals programmes and policies that can multiply positive health, environmental, economic and social outcomes in local communities**. By building on the needs and priorities of ASEAN cities and member states, the project increases opportunities for **capacity building and city-to-city exchange within the MUFPP community**, which can support ASEAN mayors and city officers in maximising the transformative potential of school meals for local food systems transformation.

Milan Urban Food Policy Pact

The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact is the main legacy of the Universal Exhibition "Expo Milan 2015" Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life. The Milan Pact is a global **commitment of mayors** from around the world who consider food as an entry point for the sustainable development of growing cities. It represents the main framework for cities and international stakeholders active in the definition of innovative urban food policies. With its **Framework of Actions** that consists of 37 recommended actions clustered in **6 categories**, the Milan Pact provides a holistic approach to urban food systems. Today, the Milan Pact gathers more than **290 cities**, representing a total of 490 million inhabitants over the 6 MUFPP regions.

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale

In September 2020, Italy was assigned by ASEAN the status of Development Partner. In order to substantiate the efforts of the two parties, potential **areas for cooperation** have been identified and have been included in the **ASEAN-Italy Development Partnership: Practical Cooperation Areas (2022-2026)**. This project contributes to the achievement of Measure 18 (Area Food, Agriculture and Forestry), Measure 39 (Area Health) and Measure 54 (Area ASEAN Smart Cities Network).

PROMOTERS

AICS - Italian Agency for Development Cooperation

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) is the operative platform of the **Italian cooperation system**, and it is called to perform activities associated with the elaboration, development, financing, management and control of international cooperation initiatives. Among the **19 field offices**, a dedicated one is present in Hanoi, overseeing activities in the region. In 2022, AICS and the City of Milan signed a **3-year Agreement to strengthen MUFPP's action** to support the government policies of signatory cities, facilitate contacts and relations with AICS field offices to support urban/peri-urban food policies, promote the expansion of signatory cities, and disseminate food policies in the Italian and international debate on development cooperation. AICS, indeed, considers **achieving food security, improving health and nutrition, ensuring quality, equitable and inclusive education among its primary goals**. To achieve so, several initiatives funded by AICS and implemented by AICS field offices, local partners, international organizations and NGOs include the provision and implementation of school meals programmes.

Cities Feeding The Future Initiative

Led by the MUFPP, Cities Feeding the Future is one of the initiatives of the **School Meals Coalition** (SMC), launched in 2021 with the aim of driving actions to urgently improve and scale up school meal programs to **ensure that every child has the opportunity to receive a healthy, nutritious meal in school by 2030**. The Coalition gathers today more than **100 governments** keen to move forward on improving school meals programs around the world.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Day 1 - Tuesday, 3 December 2024

8:45	**Registration** Venue: Ballroom 3
9:15	**Opening Video** Anna Scavuzzo, **Vice Mayor of Milan in charge of Food Policy**
9:20	**State of the Pact in Asia Pacific** Filippo Gavazzeni, **Head of the MUFPP Secretariat**
9:45	**Signing ceremony** City of Phuket City of Surat Thani City of Udon Thani City of Vientiane **Moderator**: Serena Duraccio, Officer for Asia Pacific, MUFPP Secretariat
10:00	**Opening remarks** Chadchart Sittipunt, **Governor of Bangkok** Paolo Dionisi, **Ambassador of Italy to Thailand** Samir Wanmali, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, **World Food Programme** Video message from Rodora T. Babaran, Director for Human Development Directorate, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Department, **ASEAN Secretariat**
10:20	**Keynote speech** Chadchart Sittipunt, **Governor of Bangkok**
10:30	**Group Photo**
10:35	**Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities – Awarding ceremony** Winning cities of the Summer School Project Work Proposals **Moderator**: Filippo Gavazzeni, Head of the MUFPP Secretariat
11:00	**Coffee break**
11:15	**Peer learning within the Milan Pact network: opportunities for exchange between Bangkok and the awarded cities**. Being cities the central nodes to shape school meals programmes that deliver benefits for the wider community, the Milan Pact community has served as a catalyser to accelerate the progress of school meals programmes. Starting from the remarkable school meals programme initiatives of Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, the session will be a chance to explore opportunities for Awarded cities from the Project Work Proposals to gain knowledge from Bangkok. The panel gathers insights from awarded cities, via the exploration of their current status, their context-specific practices and their desired direction of change. Awarded cities will also provide concrete evidence on the way Bangkok school meals programmes can serve to inspire them to build more sustainable school meals programmes. **City of Bangkok**, Pissamai Rueangsil, Director-General of Education Department (Thai) **Awarded cities of the Summer School Project Work Proposals** **Moderator**: Serena Duraccio, Officer for Asia Pacific, MUFPP Secretariat

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Day 1 - Tuesday, 3 December 2024

12:30	**Lunch break**
13:30	**Employing urban agriculture practices for cities and school meals programmes** Acknowledging the potential of urban agriculture to improve the resilience of urban food systems and strengthen community involvement is today a priority. Speakers in the session are called to investigate the multiple social, environmental and economic benefits generated by urban agriculture, and particularly to unveil innovative solutions able to connect school meals programmes with urban agricultural practices. The session also discusses common barriers that cities face along with strategies used to overcome them. **City of Bangkok**, Pareena Prayukvong, Secretary General of the NETWORK **City of Bandung,** Gin Gin Ginanjar, Director Food Security and Agriculture Department, City of Bandung **Quezon City**, Francis Ian L. Agatep, Senior Environmental Management Specialist **City of Jangseong**, Kim Hyeon-young, Head of the agriculture and distribution department **Moderator**: Sridhar Dharmapuri, Senior Food Safety and Nutrition Officer, FAO, Regional Office for the Asia-Pacific
14:45	**Coffee break**
15:05	**Education and awareness raising: from healthy diets to food waste minimization and food banks** Adequate education and awareness raising activities within the urban school community, cities and beyond can serve the scope of improving children long-lasting well-being and encourage sustainable practices for their lifetime. The session aims to present tailored solutions to improve dietary habits across different target populations, stimulate the reduction of food waste and engage food banks in the recovery of food at urban level. Mechanisms for facilitating the transfer of the most effective solutions across different contexts will also be explored. **City of Seoul**, Yang Gwang-Suk, Director of Food Policy Division **City of Milan**, Mara Petruzzelli, Senior Officer School Meals, MUFPP Secretariat **City of Bangkok**, Pornphrom Vikitsreth, Adviser to Governor of Bangkok and Chief Sustainability Officer of the BMA **Moderator**: Bich Pham, Founder and Spoke person, Slow Food Community in Hanoi
16:15	**Wrap-up session**
19:00	**Welcoming Banquet hosted by the Governor of Bangkok** Venue: Ballroom 3

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Day 2 - Wednesday, 4 December 2024

08:30	**Depart from Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel & Towers**
09:30	**1st study visit site (Urban Garden + School Meals and Food Safety @Phrom Rat Rangsan School)** **Phrom Rat Rangsan School** is BMA affiliated School located in Bang Bon District. The school aims to improve the students' quality of life and help the underprivileged and needy people by solving the problems relating to food insecurity, unhygienic environment and inadequate public utilities. The effective long-term solution as an investment was to increase agricultural productivity for School Lunch Project, simply starting from planting vegetables and raising flocks of laying hen in school and turning farm produce to food for their lunch. Not only do they gain immediate result as an important meal of the day, but their eating habit and nutritional and health condition were also improved. Their farming skills would also be developed for their home farming or possibly as future farming vocation.
11:30	**2nd study visit site (Food Bank @ Bang Khun Thian District Office)** Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) established BKK Food Bank Centre in all 50 districts of Bangkok. **BKK Food Bank Centre Bang Khun Thian District** was one of four pilot districts in Bangkok (Huai Khwang District, Bang Khun Thian District, Bang Phlat District, Phra Khanong District), which are implementing the policy of Governor Sittipunt to deliver food and essential items to elderly groups, bedridden patients, disabled groups, vulnerable groups, underprivileged groups, low-income individuals, and those affected by emergencies and disasters. BMA was also inspired by the Milan's Food Waste Hub model that delegates from the city has the opportunity to experience first-hand back in 2022. This Food Bank Centre has supported more than 3,500 people after it was opened on 22 June 2022.
13:30	**Lunch**
15:00	**Delegation departs for hotel(s)**



Additional information

Contact persons

1. Ms. Serena Duraccio — Email: mufpp.secretariat@comune.milano.it
2. Mr. Thanaphon Nukuea — Email: ccd.iaobma@gmail.com

Meeting Venue

Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel & Towers
Address: 2 Charoen Krung 30, Bang Rak, Bangkok 10500, THAILAND
Map: https://maps.app.goo.gl/DayLo6k53dEetMe9A

Please confirm your participation by registering to the link/QR Code provided by 15th of November 2024

https://shorturl.at/71Mag

Notes:

1. Bangkok Metropolitan Administration will be responsible for expenses as follows:
   - Meals during official meetings.
   - Transportations from 2 - 5 December 2024 as follows:
     - Vehicles from Suvarnabhumi/Don Mueang airports to the hotel
     - Vehicles from the hotel to Suvarnabhumi/Don Mueang airports
     - Vehicles for study visit trip on 4 December 2024

2. If participants confirm their participation by 15th November, a fixed rate at Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel & Towers will be guaranteed (i.e. 4000 THB for single and 4500 for twin room per night)
3. Other nearby recommended hotels for your choice will be sent to you by e-mail shortly.

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