MILAN URBAN FOOD POLICY PACT

REPORT

MUFPP Global Forum 2025

Building on a decade of joint success. Envisioning the future of urban food systems

Milan, 13-17 October 2025



Comune di Milano

Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale

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MILAN URBAN FOOD POLICY PACT

GLOBAL FORUM MILANO 2015-2025

Building on a decade of joint success.
Envisioning the future of urban food systems

13-17 October 2025

mufppglobalforum2025.org

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Furthermore, the MUFPP Secretariat and the Food Policy Department would like to thank the **other colleagues from the Municipality of Milan**, in particular: the Agriculture Unit, the Culture Department, the Direct Funds Unit, the Green and Environment Department, the International Relation Department, the Mayor's Cerimonial Office.

A special thanks to the **interns from the University of Milan** for their work and contribution to the Global Forum and this report: Sofia Cesarano, Martina Dell'Acquila, Gaia Donghi, Ginevra De Simone, Younes El Ouafiq, Hoang Le Giang.

The MUFPP Secretariat would also like to thank the **Master of Cerimonies** of the MUFPP Global Forum 2025: Natasha Foote, journalist and longstanding collaborator of the Secretariat.

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Photo credits: Municipality of Milan

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Summary

From 13 to 17 October, over 500 delegates from more than 130 cities gathered in Milan for the most extensive MUFPP Global Forum ever held: **five days with more than 50 sessions spread across 17 venues.**

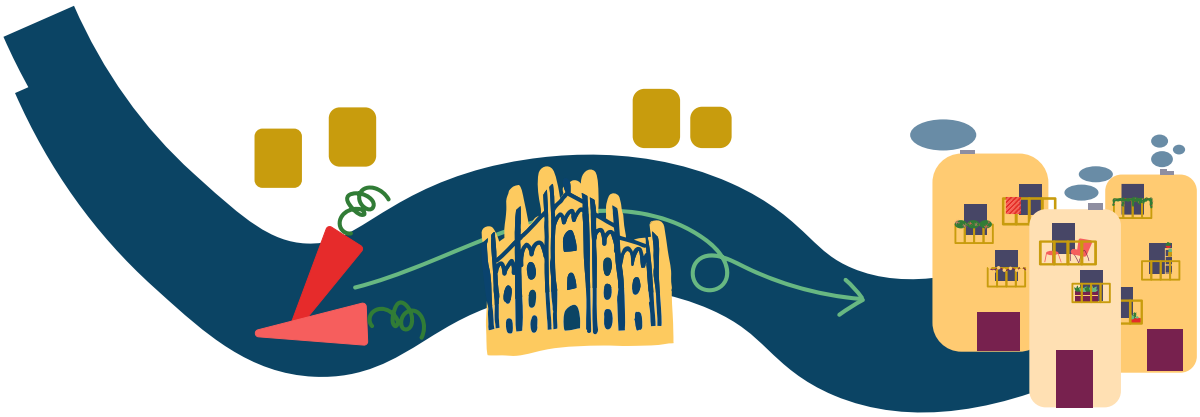
In 2015, during EXPO Milano, **the Mayor of Milan invited mayors from around the world** to begin the MUFPP journey with a simple question: How can we feed the planet and ensure a just life for all? **Today, the Milan Pact is a living network representing over half a billion people** and has become the key organisation for knowledge and implementation of urban food policies.

For this reason, **the MUFPP Steering Committee decided to celebrate the tenth anniversary in the city where it all began**, where the Pact was signed, and which coordinates efforts to support cities in implementing transformative local actions.

The Forum aimed to give participants first-hand experience of some of the key places that contribute to Milan's Food Policy: universities, markets, school canteen central kitchens, and food aid hubs. **The main venue of the event was the University of Milan, which served not only as a venue but also a critical content partner.** Sessions were also hosted in symbolic sites such as the **Assolombarda Building** and the **Piccolo Teatro – Teatro d'Europa**, as well as in several venues from the first MUFPP convening, including **Milan City Hall**, the **Royal Palace**, and **MIND – Milan Innovation District**, the former EXPO area.
To make this journey more engaging, the MUFPP Secretariat created a small game: a "passport" that attendees could fill in with stamps as they visited the various venues and took part in the Forum's activities.

Watch the highlights

On the occasion of the Forum, **the Municipality of Milan wanted to make mealtimes a meaningful moment**: first of all by offering delicious, healthy, tasty, vegetarian food, prepared and served **by Milano Ristorazione, the municipal agency responsible for school meals.** Furthermore, MM S.p.A., the local company in charge of public water treatment offerd water in paper cartons.

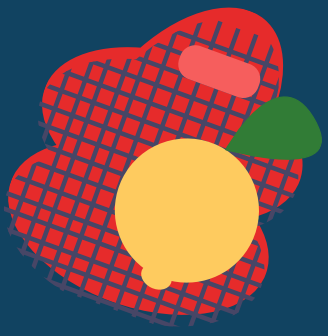


BUILDING ON A DECADE OF JOINT SUCCESS

Today, ten years after its launch, **the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact stands as the world's largest commitment of cities working on food policies.** Over the past decade, more than 330 cities, representing over 500 million people, have shared visions, practices, and solutions to tackle urban food challenges, building a shared political agenda that has transformed food into a strategic lever for sustainability, inclusion, and resilience.

Celebrating the Pact's tenth anniversary marked an important moment to recognize achievements towards fairer, healthier, and more sustainable urban food systems.

It also provided an opportunity to assess the current state of the Pact and to collectively shape its future: if the past ten years have been about building the foundations, the next ten must focus on deepening and accelerating change.



Milan's Mayor and MUFPP's Chair, Giuseppe Sala (left) and Milan's University Rector, Marina Brambilla (right) giving the institutional greetings as the MUFPP Global Forum officially opened on the 14th of October 2025





Opening Plenary



On October the 14th, over 500 international delegates attended the Opening Plenary of the Global Forum, held in the Aula Magna of the University of Milan.

The Opening Plenary inaugurated the three days of main programme of the Forum, filled with dialogues and exchangess to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Pact, highlighting the milestones while acknowledging the challenges ahead through the voices of keynote speakers, high level international representatives and key political leaders.

The Mayor of Milan, Giuseppe Sala, officially opened the Global Forum, reflecting on the 10-year journey of the MUFPP and the shared vision that unites over 330 cities across the world. As he emphasized, ten years of commitment to urban food policies have shown that **cities can act as laboratories of innovation, translating values into policies, and policies into tangible improvements** in the daily lives of millions of citizens.

The Forum's opening session was also an opportunity to thank the main host of the Global Forum 2025, **the University of Milan**, a key institution in the heart of the city where, as highlighted during the **welcome remarks delivered by the Rector Marina Brambilla**, interdisciplinary research on sustainable food systems, food security, and agri-food innovation is carried out. - **Read more.**

Keynote speech

Read the article

Watch the recording

The first keynote speech of the Opening Plenary was given by **Jane Battersby, Associate Professor at the University of Cape Town** and an internationally recognized urban food system expert. She recalled the importance of the network looking back on these 10 years, when in 2015 the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact established the strategic role cities must play in developing sustainable food systems. Since then, tremendous progress has been witnessed in the urban food agenda and a phenomenal growth in interest and action on urban systems by UN agencies and stakeholders worldwide.

The importance of cities in food policies

"Local government is the level of government closest to its citizens and therefore has innovative ways of working with civil society, and, in some parts of the world, local government has considerable political and economic power to influence change beyond the bounds of the national government."



Jane Battersby, Associate Professor at the University of Cape Town

Institutional remarks

Institutional remarks were made by high-level representatives of international and national institution, to place at the forefront international cooperation and food security for sustainable food systems. Firstly, **H.E. Stefano Gatti, Director General for Development Cooperation and Special Envoy for Food Security, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation**, highlighted how Italian food diplomacy started together with EXPO 2015 and led to interventions on food systems and climate change mitigation in several cities across the world.

Afterwards, **H.E. Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile, Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), Ambassador of South Africa to the United Nations Agencies in Rome**, reinforced the mission of the CFS of building the conditions for the right to food for all and expressed how **cities play a central part for the UN approach to ensure food security**, as recognised by the CFS plenary decision on "Policy Recommendations on Strengthening Urban and Peri-urban Food Systems to Achieve Food Security and Nutrition in the context of Urbanization and Rural Transformation", adopted one week after the Global Forum.



H.E. Stefano Gatti and H.E. Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile on stage during the conversation facilitated by Natasha Foote, Master of Cerimonies of the MUFPP Global Forum 2025.





Political roundtable

The Political roundtable provided an opportunity to share best practices, challenges and insights drawn from diverse experiences. **Key political leaders shared how cities worldwide, each with their own governance structure, are leading the transition towards more sustainable, inclusive and resilient food systems.** The Governor of Bangkok, the Mayors of Bethlehem and Quelimane and the Vice Mayor of Paris and Milan took part in the rich and powerful discussion.

The collective role of cities has emerged as a critical strategy to achieve peace, alongside with the reduction of the impact of supply chains in climate crisis exacerbation. Recognising the paramount importance of ensuring sufficient food for all, the **universal right to food and water** has been strongly pointed out by each of them as an undeniable component for sustainable food systems.



Chadchart Sittipunt,
Governor of Bangkok

The Governor of Bangkok, Chadchart Sittipunt, recounted their experience by sharing the key challenges of the local food system, fully understood after **a comprehensive diagnosis of the situation of the metropolis of Bangkok**, such as the lack of equitable distribution. They decided to focus on three fundamental aspects: sustainability, equity, and quality. He emphasised **the crucial role played by a dedicated team on food policy and a concrete strategy**, especially after signing the Milan Pact in 2021. Trust between citizens and the municipality is crucial and led over the years to effective projects that benefit the community, as the outstanding **adoption of Bangkok Food Policy 2023-2027**.



Maher Canawati,
Mayor of Bethlehem

The Mayor of Bethlehem, Maher Canawati, recalled the role of the **Bethlehem Women's Market as a symbol of emancipation and inclusion through a food system infrastructure.** The project was developed to strengthen women's economic participation and social visibility, as, due to occupation, high unemployment rates in Palestine produce cyclic job and land loss and resources limitations, largely for farmers. The project ties in with the city's broader vision for inclusive urban development, involving women to showcase their products in Bethlehem's central square each week. The experience has great potential for replicability not only in Bethlehem, but throughout Palestinian territories. **He also had the chance to thank the participants of marches across the world for their solidarity with Palestine.**



Anna Scavuzzo,
Vice Mayor of Milan

Anna Scavuzzo, Vice Mayor of Milan, reaffirmed the importance of this year's celebrations, looking back at the past decade. She has been supporting the MUFPP since its very beginning, before it was launched as a legacy for the future of cities at the World EXPO 2015. At that time, the municipality of Milan recognised that **food was , and still is, a global but also a local challenge, and that urban food policies could play a key role in addressing food challenges.** Moreover, this anniversary was not only about the MUFPP: iit was, indeed, linked also to the City Council's adoption of the Milan Food Policy. Through a multi-stakeholder approach, involving over 700 stakeholders, the Milan Food Policy has evolved in one of the most advanced in the world today.

The Vice Mayor of Paris, Audrey Pulvar, brought to the discussion the bold measures taken by the city **to transform collective catering to promote more sustainable and equitable food systems.** As the city's food system accounts for around 25% of their GHGs emissions, the municipal administration has decided to focus specifically on climate impact and social justice, to ensure that the population has fair and broad access to sustainable food. She pointed out that **public procurement is a very powerful tool for local authorities, recalling how the 30 million meals per year provided by their collective catering service** has an impact on multiple areas of the urban system. Paris is aiming to build a network of reciprocity by creating new opportunities for farmers, organic farmers, processors and logisticians, and by investing in equipment, trucks and trains to ensure a comprehensive approach to the food system, from suppliers to citizens.



Audrey Pulvar,
Vice Mayor of Paris

Manuel De Araujo, Mayor of Quelimane and long-standing signatory of the MUFPP, outlined efforts to reach vulnerable communities, while strengthening local production and resilience to climate challenges. A key issue the city face is nutrition: the Mayor reported evidence that showed that **55% of children in Mozambique are malnourished.** This motivated him to pursue the bold vision of using **food as a starting point to address multiple challenges, especially aiming at improving the children's nutrition levels and ensuring a better future.** To achieve this, they started taking action from both the farmers' and consumers' perspectives, and they succeeded in bringing the issue of food to council meetings, convincing them of the centrality and importance of food policy, bringing it to the attention also of the media and the wider public.

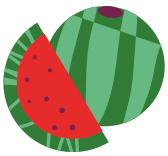


Manuel De Araujo,
Mayor of Quelimane

The five poltical representatives on stage during the conversation facilitated by Filippo Gavazzeni, Director of the MUFPP



Closing Keynote



The first Plenary Session was closed by **Carlo Petrini, founder of Slow Food**. He recalled how, ten years after the launch of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact, cities have been and are continuously demonstrating how food is fundamental to build happier and more informed communities, understanding how **food fits into a multidisciplinary vision of life: social, cultural, and political**.

Having witnessed first-hand its launch in 2015, he highlighted how the MUFPP has gained importance and authority, in some contexts greater than that of governments. **By fostering experiences, exchanges, and knowledge around food, the Pact has generated a positive impact on local communities** that no government policy has managed to achieve. These are reasons to be proud of, proving the path chosen was right, even though there is still a long way to go.

Carlo Petrini concluded his speech by calling on cities to become drivers of real change, especially in addressing **three important challenges ahead** that are common to all regions of the world, albeit often in different ways:

Protecting biodiversity

"We need to protect thousands and thousands of food products from the land and sea that are at risk of disappearing due to the standardization of industrial production. In 100 years, humanity has lost 70% of this biodiversity. **We have the duty to stop this disaster and save this biodiversity from industrial production that homogenizes food.** Defending local products is the most innovative and modern thing imaginable. The right to quality food is a right for everyone; this is the great challenge you face."

The relationship between food and health

"Never before will the relationship between food and health be as crucial as it is in the coming years. **Food is pleasure, there's no doubt about that, but it's also medicine.** Food culture aims to promote nutrition education among young people, as well as inform and educate citizens about what they eat."

Food as a tool for peace

"Food is not a commodity, food is life, and therefore must be a vehicle for peace. **It is criminal to have witnessed hunger used as a weapon of war for two years.** Food policy is innovative if it doesn't support this or that economy, but if it supports the life of communities, and in this sense it can only be a policy of peace."



Carlo Petrini in conversation with Anna Scavuzzo

State of the Pact

The plenary "State of the Pact" aimed to provide **a picture of the state of the art of the MUFPP network up to its 10th anniversary, highlighting key results and achievements.**

The network has seen a huge increase in its ten years of activity, going **from the first 100 cities to counting today over 330 signatory cities worldwide**, with 30 new ones joining only in 2025. The Milan Pact has also achieved a very well-balanced participation among the different areas of the world, currently representing 99 countries and more than half a billion people.

The session also highlighted how **the Milan Pact released a variety of resources** (35 publications overall) and contributed to knowledge sharing thanks to the **Milan Pact Awards** and capacity building opportunities such as the **Fellowship Programme**.

Over the years, **the Milan Pact has consolidated an increasing number of partners**, ranging from international organizations to universities, research centers and NGOs, gathering opportunities and linking them to signatory cities. Thanks to these meaningful partnerships, the Milan Pact was able to engage in advocacy actions, but also in international projects.

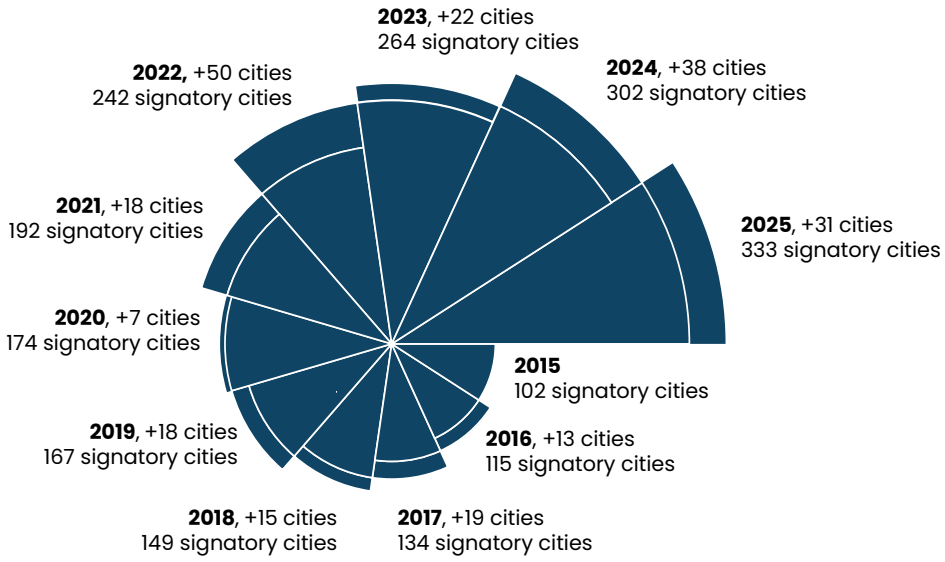
Thanks to the work carried out through the Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate with the City of Barcelona, Red de Municipios por la Agroecologia, RUAF and FAO and thanks to the support of the Carasso Foundation, **the Milan Pact was also able to integrate climate actions in the Milan Pact's text,** thus further enriching a very important tool for the whole community.

All of this was possible thanks to the Milan Pact Secretariat's ability to attract **international funding** and strengthen the long-term sustainability of its initiatives. Since 2019, the Secretariat has secured 25 funding opportunities, **mobilising €32.4 million in directly managed budgets**, benefitting over 130 MUFPP cities and involving 300 organisations across all regions.

The session also provided **an overview of the extensive work carried out along with the Steering Committee members at regional level**. Key highlights by the Steering Committee representatives include the organisation of 3 Regional Fora, the launch of new partnerships and the implementation of future projects. - Read more.

Read the article

Watch the recording



On this page: the growth of MUFPP signatory cities per each year since its launch in 2015.

On the right page a timeline with Global and Regional Fora organised over the years.

A decade of joint success

GLOBAL FORUM 2015 EXPO Milan

MUFPP launch

2016

GLOBAL FORUM 2016 Rome - FAO

1st African Regional Forum 2016, Dakar

1st European Regional Forum 2016, Bruxelles

2017

2nd European Regional Forum 2017, Birmingham

3rd European Regional Forum 2017, Valencia

GLOBAL FORUM 2017 Valencia

2018

GLOBAL FORUM 2018 Tel Aviv - Yafo

3rd African Regional Forum 2018, Brazzaville

5th European Regional Forum 2018, Lyon

4th European Regional Forum, 2018, Amsterdam

2019

5th European Regional Forum, 2019, Ghent

1st South American Regional Forum, 2019, Rio de Janeiro

4th African Regional Forum 2019, Niamey

6th European Regional Forum 2019, Montpellier

GLOBAL FORUM 2019 Montpellier

2020

8th European Regional Forum, 2020, online

GLOBAL FORUM 2020 Online

7th European Regional Forum, 2020, online

2021

9th European Regional Forum, 2021, online

5th African Regional Forum 2021, Ouagadougou

1st Eurasia & South West Asia Regional Forum 2021, Kazan

GLOBAL FORUM 2021 Barcelona

2022

GLOBAL FORUM 2022 Rio de Janeiro

1st Asia Pacific Regional Forum, 2022, Bandung

10th European Regional Forum, 2022, Almere

2023

6th African Regional Forum 2023, Dakar

11th European Regional Forum, 2023, Bordeaux

2024

2nd Asia Pacific Regional Forum, 2024, Bangkok

7th African Regional Forum 2024, Addis Ababa

12th European Regional Forum, 2024, Warsaw

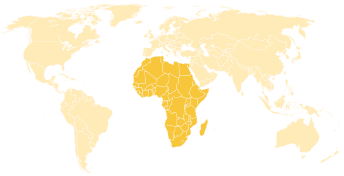
GLOBAL FORUM 2025 Milan

Towards the next decade of urban food systems.

2023-25

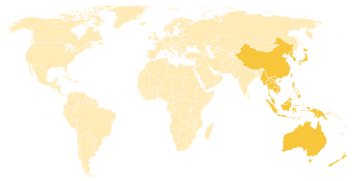
Regional updates

Africa



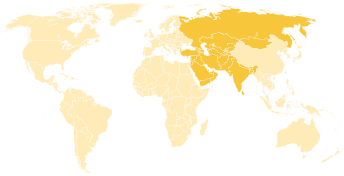
Africa welcomed 13 new cities, while 50 Milan Pact Awards submissions were collected from signatory cities. In October 2024 celebrated its **6th Regional Forum in Addis Ababa** around the theme of school meals programmes. The **EU-funded AfriFOODlinks project**, which connects 15 African cities with 5 European cities, continues to accelerate urban food system transformation in the region.

Asia Pacific



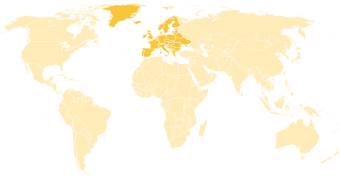
Asia Pacific saw a significant increase in the number of signatory cities, with 16 new members counting a total 50 cities across the region, furthermore 52 practices were submitted to the Milan Pact Awards. The project **"Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities"** has promoted knowledge around schools meals programmes in the region. The **2nd Regional Forum was held in Bangkok** in December 2024.

Eurasia & South West Asia



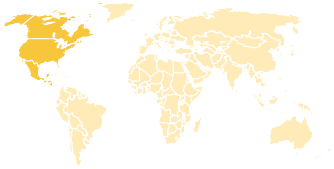
Eurasia & South West Asia Region welcomed 10 new cities and contributed with 35 food policy practices to the latest edition of the Milan Pact Awards. **A project developed with FAO and Let's Food facilitated the exchange of good practices** between the cities of Amman and Milan, as well as the peer-learning lab on food loss and waste for Mediterranean cities.





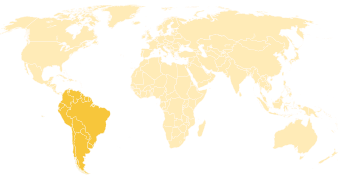
Europe

Europe reported solid progress, welcoming 26 new member cities and contributing with 119 food policy practices to the Milan Pact Awards 2025. Several key initiatives continued to advance the region's work, including the **Horizon projects** and the **Urban Agenda for the EU Food Partnership (UAEU)**. European cities continue their tradition of gathering annually for the Regional Forum: **Bordeaux hosted the 2023 edition, while Warsaw welcomed cities in 2024**.



North & Central America

North & Central America reported an increase of 8 new cities and contributed with 33 food policy practices to the MPA 2025.
The region will celebrate its 1st Regional Forum in Austin in March 2026, a significant milestone for strengthening collaboration across North & Central American cities.



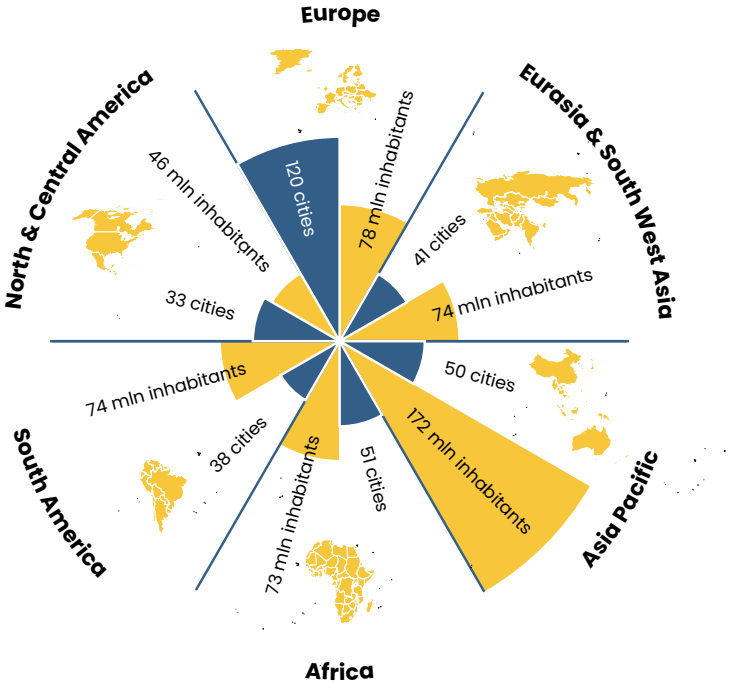
South America

South America welcomed 8 new member cities and this year submitted 58 practices to Milan Pact Awards.
A key achievement has been the partnership with Mercociudades, which has already generated important outcomes: the creation of a **thematic unit** on urban food policies within the Mercociudades network, a **joint webinar series**, and sessions on the occasion of the Mercociudades Summit.



On this page: a representation of the number of signatory cities and number of their inhabitants per region

On the left page: facilitated by Serena Duraccio, MUFPP officer, representatives from the MUFPP Steering Committee (from left to right Dakar, Bandung, Istanbul, Milan, Baltimore and Belo Horizonte) speaking about the achievements of the 2 years of mandate.



Cities Feeding the Future

The Plenary Session on the School Meals Coalition's Initiative "Cities Feeding The Future" delivered an overview on the **current situation of school meals worldwide**, sharing **key tools and projects** within the MUFPP, followed by a **political debate** with inspiring cities that are implementing exceptional school meals programmes.

The session was opened by the presentation of the new "State of School Feeding Worldwide 2024" - a World Food Programme publication, with data from school meals around the world and **enriched for the first time with bold examples from MUFPP cities**. Key figures were shared: **80 million more children** are reached by school meals programmes compared to four years ago, with **double investment** (99% from domestic budget) and **with evidence showing that investing $1 in school meals generates between $7 – $35 dollars in economic benefits**.

Further, the Global Database, developed by the **Data and Monitoring Initiative**, was showcased: essential to highlight **school feeding programmes around the world, it collects data from a variety of sources**, with key indicators on education, funding, policy and nutritional quality of the meals. **City-level data were included**, showing how at the local level school meals can be different as for coverage and challenges faced. Cities are already at the forefront of school meals improvements and showcasing their efforts can be inspiring for others. At the session, the Case Study on Milan's school meals system was illustrated, demonstrating how **a dedicated and scalable template** was developed, in collaboration with the **Research Consortium for School Health and Nutrition**, to support cities in mapping and analyzing their programmes.

Read the article

Watch the recording



Representatives from cities selected as Champion Mayors in the dedicated part of the session.



From left to right: Ottavia Pieretto, MUFPP; Andrea Magarini, Milan; Serena Duraccio, MUFPP; Espedito Nastro, Data and Monitoring Initiative; Maria José Rojas, School Meals Coalition; Anna Scavuzzo, Milan; Giorgio Mariani, Milano Ristorazione; Filippo Gavazzeni, MUFPP; Lídia Andrade Lourinho, Fortaleza; Papa Mamadou Fam, Rufisque; Julienne Alyson Rae Veloso, Quezon City; Gautier Chapuis, Lyon

The "Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities" project, developed with **ASEAN** and funded by the **Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation**, added further international insights, with the school meals summer school in Bandung organized with **UNPAR**, and the outline of feasibility studies with the **technical support of Milano Ristorazione**. To turn these into reality, a new follow up project was announced: the ***"Boosting school meals in ASEAN cities: from knowledge to action"***.

In the second segment of the session, some of the cities of the **new cohort of Champion Mayors** were welcomed on stage. Champion Mayors are city leaders from MUFPP cities belonging to countries that are **member of the School Meals Coalition**, who are leading **outstanding school meals programmes. Semarang** (Indonesia), **Fortaleza** (Brazil), **Rufisque** (Senegal), **Lyon** (France), **Quezon City** (The Philippines), and **Bandung** (Indonesia), demonstrated **strong political leadership and transformative action**, showing how school meals can drive health, equity, sustainability, and education at the local level while inspiring change globally. - **Read more.**

Cities Feeding the Future Initiative

Cities Feeding the Future
MILAN URBAN FOOD POLICY PACT

September 2021, New York
UN Food System Summit
Launch of the School Meals Coalition.

October 2023, Paris
School Meal Coalition First Global Summit, with launch of the Cities Feeding the Future Initiative
Identification of first Cohort of Champion Mayors.

March 2024
"School Meals: the transformative potential of urban food policies" Publication presenting virtuous examples coming from the MUFPP community.

17-18 June 2024, Copenhagen
"The Power of Public Food Procurement" technical workshop

23-26 July 2024, Bandung
"Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities" MUFPP & ASEAN Summer School

10-11 October, 2024, Addis Ababa
6th MUFPP Regional Forum in Africa "School Meals Programmes for Healthier and Sustainable African Cities"

29 October 2024, Nairobi
2nd Ministerial Task Force Meeting of the School Meals Coalition
"Empower cities and municipalities to make progress" as a key priority.

3-4 December 2024, Bangkok
2nd MUFPP Asia Pacific Regional Forum "Nourishing Growing Cities: Enhancing School Meals and Supporting Local Communities"

March-April 2025, Milan
Two field visits for 6 ASEAN cities to facilitate the development of tailored feasibility studies.

18-19 September 2025, Fortaleza, Brazil
2nd Global Summit of the School Meals Coalition
"State of School Feeding Worldwide" publication with insights from MUFPP cities and Global School Meals Database of the DMI enriched with city-level data.

13-17 October 2025, Milan
"Cities Feeding the Future Initiative" Session at the MUFPP Global Forum

World Food Day

On the 16th of October, the MUFPP network celebrated the **World Food Day**, established by the FAO in 1979. For this occasion, **special thematic school meal menu** were created by **ten of the MUFPP Champion Mayors**. Each city prepared **unique dishes** that represent their culture, engaging school chefs to prepare a healthy, sustainable, and locally typical dish that is especially enjoyed by children. Here below are the special dishes served in these cities on World Food Day:

Visual representation of the dishes prepared by school meals services around the world on the 16th of October, the World Food Day, as part of the Cities Feeding the Future initiative.

São Paulo - Brasileirinho: rice and black beans with traditional vegetables.





Addis Ababa – Beyeaynetu: assortment of vegetable stews on teff injera.

Milan – Organic pasta with organic tomato sauce and peppers, omelette with organic julienne carrots.





Copenhagen – Ramen with local mushrooms, eggs and edamame.

Bangkok – Sweet and sour fish curry with pineapple and vegetables from the educational garden.





Seoul - Bibimbap: rice, seasonal vegetables, meat, egg and gochujang.

Montpellier - Lentils à la gardiane with Camargue rice.





Nairobi - Rice with bean stew and fresh vegetables.

Belo Horizonte - Chicken with okra and angu





Fortaleza – Pratinho dish





Above: delegates having lunch in Sala Otto Colonne, in Milan's Royal Palace, on the 16th of October.

Below: Anna Scavuzzo, Milan's Vice Mayor, and Davide Vincenzo Dell'Acqua, President of Milano Ristorazione, explaining Milano Ristorazione's daily work and the idea of collaborating for the catering of the Global Forum.

Milano Ristorazione

Champion Mayors' special dishes were showcased at the Global Forum through a dedicated board in Sala Otto Colonne, where delegates enjoyed a lunch prepared by Milano Ristorazione, Milan's public company in charge of the city school meals programme.

The collaboration with Milano Ristorazione was especially meaningful, not only on the World Food Day, celebrated together with the company's President and the Vice Mayor of Milan, but throughout the entire five days of the Forum.

Milano Ristorazione provided coffee breaks, lunches, aperitifs and breakfasts during the field visits to central kitchens, offering delegates a first-hand experience of what children eat every day in Milan's school canteens. The menu featured a variety of dishes typically served in schools and placed great emphasis on the quality and origin of ingredients, engaging numerous local farmers and offering fully vegetarian meals, with vegan and gluten-free options available.

The water cartons offered to participants were supplied by MM, the municipal company that manages Milan's Integrated Water Service.



MILAN PACT AWARDS

The MUFPP constantly promotes knowledge sharing among signatory cities, and to support this goal, the Municipality of Milan and Cariplo Foundation launched the Milan Pact Awards (MPA) in 2016. The Milan Pact Awards aim at recognizing innovative food policy efforts and tracking cities' progress. In each edition, an international Evaluation Committee selects the most innovative initiatives. Over time, **the Pact has collected 968 approved food policies**, reflecting growing global commitment. **In 2025, the Milan Pact Awards received 347 submissions from 173 cities** across the six MUFPP categories. The Awards Ceremony took place on October the 15th in Milan at Piccolo Teatro Studio Melato, where six cities were recognized as winners, while 24 cities received special mentions.

Watch the highlights



Representatives of the 6 MPA 2025 winning cities with representatives from Fondazione Cariplo, Municipality of Milan and MUFPP. From left to right: Claudia Sorlini, Fondazione Cariplo; Anna Scavuzzo, Milan; Natalia Cardona, Medellín; Yang Gwang Suk, Seoul; Valentin Bayiri, Ouagadougou; Pekka Timonen, Vantaa; Abdelkarim Sedir, Jericho; Edwin Marty, Austin; Basel Hijazi and Mohammed Isayed, Jericho; Filippo Gavazzeni, MUFPP.



Milan Pact Awards Ceremony 2025

Watch the recording

Read the dedicated page

The Milan Pact Awards Ceremony took place on October the 15th in the truly evocative setting of Piccolo Teatro Studio Melato. **During the evening, the six winning cities that stood out among the 347 submissions of the Milan Pact Awards 2025 were revealed.** More than half of all signatory cities took part in this edition of the MPA, making it the most participated edition ever, while demonstrating strong commitment to shaping the future of urban food systems.

The Food Production category was the most popular, with 70 submissions, followed by Sustainable Diets & Nutrition with 64 proposals. In terms of geographical distribution, Africa, Asia Pacific, and South America made significant contributions: Asia Pacific increased from 18 submissions in 2022 to 52, Africa from 36 to 50, and South America from 37 to 58. Eurasia & South West Asia also increased their number of submissions, collecting 35 practices, and Europe reached the milestone of 119 submissions.

Nominations were evaluated by an international Evaluation Committee, composed of experts from academia, international organizations, and NGOs, who selected the six winning cities and, due to the high number and outstanding quality of submissions, recognized **4 Special Mentions for each category**. Each winning city received **a monetary prize of €20,000** to support the transfer of their good practice to other signatory cities and/or to boost their existing initiative. - Read more.

GOVERNANCE

GOV

Winner
Austin

Special Mentions
Copenhagen, Grenoble Alpes Métropole, Jangseong, Kisumu

SUSTAINABLE DIETS & NUTRITION

SDN

Winner
Seoul

Special Mentions
Baltimore, Berlin, Quezon City, Turin

SOCIAL & ECONOMIC EQUITY

SEE

Winner
Medellín

Special Mentions
Bangkok, La Paz, Nairobi, Nilufer

FOOD PRODUCTION

FP

Winner
Jericho

Special Mentions
Belo Horizonte, Chone, Nantes Métropole, Sukabumi

FOOD SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION

FSD

Winner
Ouagadougou

Special Mentions
Liège, Mbale, Paris, Tandil

FOOD WASTE

FW

Winner
Vantaa

Special Mentions
Bandung, Barcelona, Bogotá, Colombus

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE OF URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS

On World Food Day, the 16th of October, **the Forum agenda focused on outlining the future of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact** by strengthening existing collaborations and launching new multilevel commitments with strategic partners.
The goal was to consolidate the MUFPP's role as a global platform for exchange, supporting signatory cities in the development and practical implementation of urban food policies.

In the new decade, **the core of MUFPP will lie in the strengthening of technical capacities and local leadership.** The Pact's strength rests in the human capital of its cities and in the ability of public officers to drive change.

During the closing ceremony, Anna Scavuzzo, Vice Mayor of Milan, formally presented, and invited the community to approve, **the Final Declaration of the MUFPP Global Forum 2025**, a collective document reflecting the dialogue and renewed commitments forged during these three days in Milan.

Over the past decade, cities have demonstrated that food policy is a pillar of sustainable development, linking climate action, social justice, and public health. **Through the Final Declaration, it was reaffirmed the shared commitment to advancing these goals with stronger partnerships, innovation, and solidarity among cities.**



Participants of the "Global Forum 2025 - Building on a decade of joint success. Envisioning the future of urban food systems."

Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Global Forum 2025 marked a moment of collective recognition and renewed ambition for the decade ahead through **the approval by consensus of the Final Declaration**. The ceremony highlighted **the Pact's evolution into a global community capable of shaping agendas on climate, equity, and public health**. Partners emphasized how the MUFPP has transformed collaboration into concrete action, guiding cities towards more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient food systems, reaffirming that the commitment of cities remains essential to confronting a rapidly changing world.

The ceremony also looked toward the future, pointing to the expectations and responsibilities that will shape the MUFPP community in the coming years. **Speakers highlighted the need to translate shared intentions into concrete outcomes**, strengthen regional collaboration, and ensure that cities have a stronger voice in global debates on climate and food. It was a moment that blended closure with momentum, encouraging cities to invest in people, knowledge, and partnerships to drive real change. As the event came to an end, the message was clear: **food can be a force for inclusion and environmental care.** The Final Declaration sets a forward-looking agenda for the next decade, emphasizing collaboration, evidence-based action, and transformative change, while reinforcing the role of cities as key drivers of equitable, regenerative, and peaceful food systems for all.

Keynote speech – Fabrice DeClerck, Chief Science Officer at EAT, presented the newly launched **2025 EAT–Lancet Commission Report**, the most updated scientific resource on what defines a healthy, sustainable, and just food system, developed by over 70 experts from six continents. Building on the landmark 2019 report, it updates the planetary health diet, assesses food impact on all planetary boundaries, introduces new research and modelling insights, and identifies solutions to guide the transition.

Roundtable of partners – At the Closing Ceremony of the Global Forum 2025, MUFPP strategic partners took centre stage. These organisations reinforce the MUFPP's efforts to support cities with research, technical expertise, funding, and a shared vision to advance sustainable urban food policies worldwide.
Representatives from the **Agroecology Fund, GAIN, WRI, UNPAR, Eurocities and Mercociudades shared reflections** and upcoming commitments soon to be formalised in new agreements. - Read more.

Anna Scavuzzo, Vice Mayor of Milan, reading out the MUFPP Global Forum Declaration for its approval by consenus.

On stage, representatives from the Partners Roundtable: Angela Cordeiro,Agroecology Fund; Ann Trevenen-Jones,GAIN; Edwina Hughes,World Resources Institute; Pius Sugeng Prasetyo, UNPAR; Madeline Coste, Eurocities and Olivia Bertolini, Mercociudades.

The Closing Ceremony took place in Sala Alessi, within Palazzo Marino, where the Mayoral offices are located.

Read the article

Watch the recording



MUFPP Global Forum Final Declaration

Ten years after its signature in Milan, the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP) has grown into the world's largest community of cities working to make food systems more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient.

The 2025 Global Forum brought together over 500 delegates, from 130 cities, for five days of dialogue, collaboration, and field visits across the city.

A decade of urban food leadership

Since 2015, cities have shown that food is a strategic driver of sustainable development.

Through the MUFPP Framework for Action, cities have advanced policies on governance, sustainable diets & nutrition, social & economic equity, food production, food supply & distribution, food waste, aligning local strategies with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement and The 2025 EAT-Lancet Commission.

Over the past decade:

- More than 330 signatory cities representing over 520 million citizens worldwide signed the MUFPP, making it the global reference for urban food system transformation.

- More than 950 policy practices have been collected through the Milan Pact Awards, creating the most extensive living library of innovation for replication.

- The Fellowship Programme, organised concrete training opportunities to over 2,600 city officers from 130 cities, strengthening individual and collective capacities worldwide.

- 9 Global Fora and 23 Regional Fora have built bridges across continents, translating international principles into local action.

- Through 25 international projects and partnerships, the MUFPP has mobilised €87 million in collective investments, supporting 132 signatory cities.

- Through joint work with the School Meals Coalition and the Cities Feeding the Future Initiative, the MUFPP has positioned cities as key actors in linking local food policies with global efforts on child nutrition, education and social protection.

- Thanks to the extensive advocacy at all levels, cities' perspective and needs have been recognised and addressed in national and international policies, organisations and platforms.

Towards the Next Decade

As cities face new and interlinked challenges, such as climate disruption, social inequality, conflicts and food insecurity, the Milan Pact community looks ahead with renewed determination, confident in the strength of the path built together. **The next decade must be one of implementation, integration and inclusion.**

Therefore, the cities gathered in Milan for the 2025 Global Forum:

1. Acknowledge the deep connection between climate crisis and food systems by endorsing the new and adapted MUFPP Framework for Action and Monitoring Framework to better integrate climate mitigation and adaptation into urban food policies.

2. Recognize school meals as a key instrument of social protection, ensuring that every child has access to a nutritious and equitable meal every day. Cities commit to strengthening and expanding school meal programmes as an effective pathway to advance food security, social inclusion and child well-being.

3. Invest in people, infrastructures and partnerships, improving the skills of the urban food policy teams with learning programmes, promoting technical assistance and mobilising resources from governments, UN agencies, academia, the private sector and civil society.

4. Reaffirm the role of research to develop evidence and ambition, guided by data and measurable impact, to transform the health, economic and social dimensions of urban food systems.

5. Act regionally, connect globally, strengthening regional cluster to turn shared principles into local results, engaging in global and regional processes to ensure that the voice of cities is increasingly heard.

The founding principles of the MUFPP recognize access to adequate, healthy and safe food as a fundamental human right, to be guaranteed under all circumstances: we reiterate that hunger can never be used as a weapon. Together, we believe that the right to food for all is our shared responsibility to build food systems that nourish people, restore the planet and sustain peace.

Adopted by consensus during the Closing Plenary of the MUFPP Global Forum 2025, held on 16 October 2025, World Food Day, in Milan, Italy.

PARTNER-LED SESSIONS

Within a synergic collaboration with global organisations, local and regional institutions, national governments, civil society, universities and research centers, a multitude of international projects have been implemented, leading concrete changes in food policies in cities around the word. By working together with local communities, it was possible to act with full knowledge of the specific context in which the project was to be implemented, identifying priorities and possible barriers, and actively collaborating with the beneficiaries. **A significant component of the Global Forum was dedicated to partners-led parallel sessions** with the aim of sharing the successes achieved in cooperation over the first 10 years, of discussing food system issues from different global perspectives and of promoting knowledge sharing between cities and partners.

Partners' deep expertise and strong engagement were pivotal in ensuring the quality and the relevance of these discussions, further enriched by showcasing the results achieved in implementing food policies through the fruitful project partnerships. Numerous themes were explored, organized into **12 parallel sessions and 10 side events** scheduled throughout the five days in different locations, involving city representatives who brought their voices in a continuous exchange of ideas.

"The success of this initiative would not have been possible without our partners. Their expertise has been crucial. Their dedication has shaped the MUFPP and provided cities with tools to act. Thanks to their support, our commitments became stronger and our collaboration deeper."

"These partnerships have made a difference, and they have prepared cities to face the evolving challenges of the future. For this, we extend our deepest gratitude. The Pact is, and will remain, a collective effort."

Giuseppe Sala, Mayor of Milan

Parallel sessions

New actions and indicators

Partners

for integrating climate mitigation and adaption into urban food policies - The session presented the journey to better integrate climate mitigation and adaptation into the *MUFPP Framework for Action and Monitoring*. It highlighted the development process, drawing on the *Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate*, refined through a pilot testing phase and extensive stakeholder engagement. The Municipality of **Barcelona** shared its piloting experience, while **Porto Alegre, Birmingham**, and **Ghent** showcased practical examples of climate action.
Read more.

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Beyond project lifetime

Partners

Ensuring lasting impact for Food Policies in Africa - The session explored how four *AfriFOODlinks* cities — **Chefchaouen, Dakar, Mbale, and Ouagadougou** — as well as the European city **Grenoble Alpes Métropole**, are working to turn short-term projects into lasting food policies. It highlighted the importance of governance tools, co-creation, and institutional continuity in achieving sustainable impact. The discussion emphasised that local ownership, inclusion, and social structures are essential to ensure that today's initiatives can become tomorrow's policies.
Read more.

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Agroecology-based food systems in municipal policies

Partners

AGROECOLOGY FUND

Lessons from the Global South - This session focused on the central role of municipal policies in advancing agroecology and resilient food systems. **Denpasar, Murang'a, Cabaiguán, Chone** and the **JIBIOPUUC Intermunicipal Council** shared successful initiatives to integrate agroecological principles into their food systems, promoting sustainable agriculture, enhancing food security, and protecting biodiversity. One of *Agroecology Fund*'s key initiatives for the development of bottom-up initiatives is the *"Grassroots Evidence for Agroecology"*, which supports organizations in documenting their impacts. **- Read more.**



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Countdown to 2030

Partners

Supporting cities to reduce Food Loss and Waste as a catalyst for agrifood systems transformation - This session, organised under the framework of the *Food is Never Waste Coalition*, highlighted the importance of reducing food loss and waste to build more sustainable and resilient agrifood systems. *FAO* and *UNEP* presented key evidence-based tools and digital innovations — including the *Food Loss Index, FLAPP, and OptiWaste* — to identify and prevent losses. Leaders from **Mbale, Paris, Greater Amman Municipality, Bangkok**, and **Bogotá** shared practical local initiatives, while global partners explored ways to support these efforts through governance, financing, and partnerships.
Read more.



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C40's "Good food for healthy cities" guide

Partners

How your city can work with business to deliver a climate-friendly food sector - This session explored how cities and businesses can join forces to build climate-friendly, equitable food systems. Organized by *C40 Cities* and the *Laudes Foundation*, it showcased experiences from **New York, São Paulo, London**, and **Austin**, proving that cooperation between public and private sectors is key to achieving healthier diets, lower emissions, and resilient local economies.
Read more.

Watch the recording

Read the article



Transforming urban food systems through food markets

Partners

This session examined the pivotal role of food markets as entry points for locally led and equitable food systems transformation. Cities like **Nairobi, Bogotá, Bogor** and **Jangseong** shared how they leverage municipal and farmers' markets to enhance food and nutrition security for vulnerable communities, secure fair and stable incomes for smallholder, indigenous, and family farmers, and promote local economic development, social protection, and sustainable food systems. The session further highlighted the contribution of markets to encouraging healthy, diversified, and culturally appropriate diets, preserving biodiversity, and supporting family farming. - Read more.

Watch the recording

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Innovative finance for urban fresh food markets

Partners

Resilient cities and healthy diets - The session explored innovative approaches to financing urban food markets, with a focus on reaching vulnerable communities and sharing lessons learned. Keynotes highlighted that food markets remain undervalued by city authorities and pointed to the significant investment gap — particularly in Africa — needed to meet basic hygiene and functionality standards. The World Bank emphasized the role of public and blended finance in reaching actors with limited access to capital. Contributions from **Kisumu, Bogor**, and *HealthBridge Vietnam* offered diverse perspectives on market investments and governance. **-** Read more.



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Local food system transformation through agroecology

Partners

Tools and succesful cases from South America, Africa and Europe – This session explored how cities are strengthening urban food policies through agroecology. Key tools such as the *OASIS indicator* system and European initiatives integrating cultivated biodiversity into municipal policies were highlighted. Cities shared concrete experiences: **Niamey** presented its *AfriFOODlinks* pilot agroecological nursery; **Mouans-Sartoux** showcased school meal transformation and agricultural revitalization; **Tandil** implemented a "Km 0" strategy and an agroecological farm; **Recife** promoted urban agroforestry for social well-being; **Porto Alegre** emphasized intersectoral coordination and trust-building networks, while **Ouagadougou** focused on its Green Belt initiatives. **-** Read more.



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Partners

WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

SCHOOLFOOD 4CHANGE

Beyond the lunch tray

Building sustainable school food systems - The session explored how school meals can drive health, inclusion, and sustainability. Framed by the *School Food For Change* project and the *Cool Food Pledge*, it showcased strategies for linking procurement, education, and climate action. Cities including **Leuven, Lyon, Mbale, Ghent, Copenhagen,** and **Matosinhos** shared experiences showing how school meals can drive meaningful change — from policy shifts to innovative partnerships — while using procurement strategies and data to promote healthy and sustainable food. By highlighting both what is served and where it comes from, the session proved that systemic change can start on a plate.- Read more.

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Partners

Cornell University

The role of participatory research

Assessing economic, social and environmental impacts of municipal food procurement policies - This interactive session explored cities' public food procurement policy goals and implementation strategies, with a specific focus on understanding impacts and trade-offs through participatory action research. It examined how cities worldwide use values-based public food procurement as a strategic policy tool to transform food systems. The *"City Food Policy"* Project, which supports cities in assessing trade-offs and co-benefits of different procurement choices, was highlighted. The session featured group discussions and the sharing of key reflections emerging from the collective work.
Read more.

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Food Policies and the climate agenda

City experiences and urban/national collaborative policies - This session explored how local governments are uniquely positioned to translate global climate goals into tangible local action. By integrating food policies into their climate agendas, cities can combat climate change. This approach goes beyond reducing emissions — it transforms how communities produce, distribute, and consume food, linking environmental action with equity, health, and sustainable development. Representatives from **Helsinki, Minneapolis, Osasco**, and **Seberang Perai** shared concrete approaches for building sustainable, equitable, and climate-resilient food systems. - Read more.

Partners

CNCA

Ministério do Desenvolvimento e Assistência Social, Família e Combate à Fome

Governo Federal Brasil União e Reconstrução

ESTA Economia e Sostenibilità



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Building youth agency for just and resilient urban food systems

This session showcased how youth agency — the ability of young people to make choices and take action — can drive transformation in urban food governance and food system resilience. Key resources were highlighted, including *ActionAid*'s report on adolescent food poverty and *HIVOS*'s Urban Futures programme. Cities such as **Milan, Medellín,** and **Mbale** shared how they are operationalising youth participation. The session closed with a challenge from the host to involve young people under 30 in future engagements with the MUFPP, emphasizing representation as the first step toward intergenerational capacity-building. - Read more.

Partners

Hivos people unlimited

Università degli Studi di Milano

rikolto

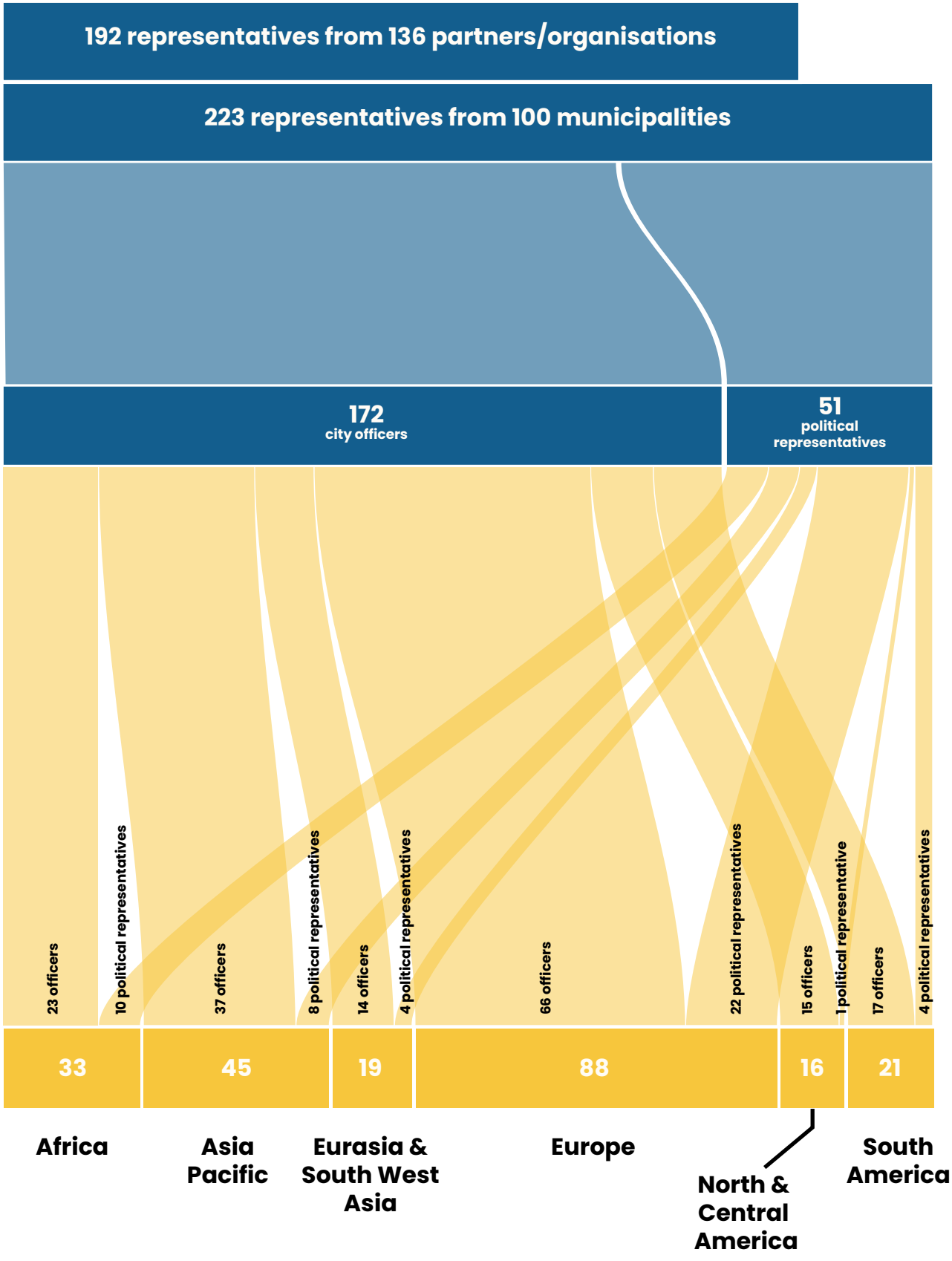
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RUAF



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192 representatives from 136 partners/organisations
223 representatives from 100 municipalities
172
city officers
51
political representatives
23 officers
10 political representatives
37 officers
8 political representatives
14 officers
4 political representatives
66 officers
22 political representatives
15 officers
1 political representative
17 officers
4 political representatives
33
45
19
88
16
21
Africa
Asia Pacific
Eurasia & South West Asia
Europe
North & Central America
South America

Side events

Towards Sustainable food systems

Partners

The right to food sovereignity, and Resilience. Best practices and succesful projects - The session explored the right to food, sovereignty and resilience through diverse global experiences. Speakers emphasized structural food inequalities, the urgency of agroecology, and the role of communities in driving change. Examples from Europe and Africa showed how cities advance inclusive policies, strengthen local networks, reduce waste, and promote justice. This collective vision points toward fair, sustainable urban food systems rooted in shared responsibility for all people, everywhere.

Tackling food waste together: Cultivate Milan Policy Dialogue

Partners

49 people from 10 countries, explored the nexus between Food Waste Reduction, Public-Private Partnerships and Sustainability, showing how this model can be applied to urban challenges in **Barcelona**, **Milan**, **Utrecht** and the rest of Europe. A Keynote speaker explored the PPP at the core of Milan Innovation District, to spark the group discussion leading to 17 recommendations. The policy dialogues were backed by the Marketplace, a physical showcase of the Food Sharing Compass tools developed in the Horizon's Cultivate project.

Food that educates

Partners

School meals programmes as lever for sustainable communities – Hosted by the University of Bergamo, the masterclass explored school meals as a lever for sustainable communities, designed as an exchange among institutions, universities, cities, and food organisations. It highlighted how school meals can educate, promote inclusion, support local economies, and protect the environment. City representatives shared experiences, challenges, and best practices, showing how school meal programmes can guide young people and communities toward sustainable, participatory food systems.

Multilevel Governance and learnings

Partners

on local food supply chain from EU-Brazilian Dialogues – The session fostered an exchange between Brazilian and European cities on advancing urban food policies. It highlighted Brazil's multilevel governance through the "Food Cities Strategy" and the "Cities and Food" project, and also shared insights from **Curitiba**, **Turin**, **Recife**, and **Ghent**.

City Bites: Local Innovation for resilient Food Futures

Partners

"City Bites" hosted by OpenDot, gathered around 40 institutional stakeholders to foster dialogue and collaboration on sustainable urban food futures. Participants mapped their roles and strengths, heard insights on European best practices, and collectively tested the CIFOS game to explore scenario-based pathways for food policy transformation.

Mediterranean Diet: a tool for the Agenda 2030

Partners

In this session, organised by LILT and the Mediterranean Diet Observatory, key experts emphasised the vital role of the Med diet: more than a dietary model, it is a holistic lifestyle that simultaneously addresses disease prevention, sustainability and social cohesion. Guidelines for promoting it (UNI/PdR 170:2024) were presented, and the experiences of the cities of **Caggiano** and **Milan**, which promote healthy and inclusive school food systems, and the municipality of **Ereğli**, whose Mayor shared their experience in Türkiye, were illustrated.

Sustainable Food Systems: Urban and Global perspectives

Partners

A dialogue between 4EU+ Universities and cities – This session, organised in the framework of the 4EU+ Alliance's 1CORE project, was the opportunity for students, researchers, professors, and city representatives from the cities of **Copenhagen**, **Milan** and **Paris** to engage in dialogue about the future of urban food policies. The session focused on developing more sustainable, fair, and inclusive models, as well as the skills required to train new professionals working across disciplines in sustainability and food policy.

AfriFOODLinks Conference

Partners

Urban Food Action Plan: Why and How to invest in African Food Policies – The AfriFOODlinks Conference launched the Urban Food Action Plan and Vision 2035, placing African cities at the heart of food system transformation. The event showcased city-led innovations, governance platforms, and partnerships, highlighting African-led, context-specific models. It set a continental investment framework to scale urban food action, drive sustainable development, and shape global food system policy.

CleverFood: EU Roundtables

Partners

Two EU roundtables, organised as contribution of the Cleverfood project to the Global Forum, gathered cities, policymakers and researchers for two key discussions: one examined frameworks to assess urban food systems and emerging approaches in Europe, while the other explored the challenge of reforming the EU School Scheme toward a child-centred, city-driven and sustainability-focused approach.

Food Policy Training

Partners

The session aimed to strengthen urban food policies through shared learning and collaboration. Experts from **Milan**, **Lisbon**, and other cities discussed strategies to reduce food waste and promote sustainability. Key outcomes highlighted the importance of data, governance, and community engagement. Resources such as the MUFPP Handbook and NRDC Toolkit were presented to guide cities in building resilient, circular food systems.

FIELD VISITS

Throughout the week, **nine field visits were organized to some of the most representative places of Milan's Food Policy**, allowing participants to observe and experience key initiatives driving urban food system transformation.

From the **Food Aid Hubs** created to tackle food waste and redistribution, to **Milano Ristorazione's kitchen centers** which prepare thousands of school meals every day; from the **wholesale market** where daily distribution of fresh food and vegetables is managed, to the **historic urban dairy farm** producing zero-kilometer food for school canteens; and finally, from a **wastewater treatment plant** that returns reclaimed water to agriculture to an **integrated waste center** that transforms organic waste into energy and compost.



The locations of the Field Visits during the MUFPP Global Forum



Partners

Food Aid Hub Cuccagna

The field visit to Cascina Cuccagna offered participants an insightful look into **a refurbished urban farm that now serves as a hub for sustainable food practices and community engagement**. Delegates explored its governance model, food aid and educational initiatives, and circular economy projects. The visit concluded with a networking aperitivo featuring local, seasonal products.





Partners

Food Aid Hub Centro

The field visit at Milan's Food Aid Hub Centro, managed by Fondazione IBVA, showcased **an integrated model combining a social market, community kitchen, and bakery that recover and redistribute surplus food**. Delegates explored the hub's operations and engaged in discussions on sustainability in food recovery, the role of corporations in urban food policies, and social empowerment as a pathway to more inclusive and equitable food systems.





The Independent Food City

Partners

During this sessions, officers and partners from all over the world explored how to prepare food systems for future crises. **Through crisis simulations and immersive storytelling, they identified vulnerabilities and creative responses.** Discussions on real emergencies and a visit to a sustainable school canteen highlighted the value of resilience, collaboration, and empathy in shaping future food policies.





From science to city action:

Partners

Shaping healthy, sustainable and just food system. - A dialogue on city pathways inspired by the 2025 EAT–Lancet Commission. Co-hosted by EAT, C40, and MUFPP, the event brought together city representatives and partners to explore concrete actions and pathways toward healthy, just, and sustainable food systems. **Building on the science of the 2025 EAT–Lancet Commission and the City Action Brief co-developed by 35 cities**, participants shared experiences and identified collaborative opportunities for joint action on food system transformation, in line with Planetary Health Diets.





Partners

SogeMi
MERCATO ALIMENTARE MILANO

General Wholesale Market

Around fifty delegates visited SogeMi, the general wholesale market managed by a company owned by the Municipality of Milan. The visit started with a route through the fish products, flowers and meat sectors, and then to the fruit and vegetable sector. Amongst the wholesalers met by the group, Gala Fruit: holder of the "L'orto di Jack" shop chain that creates a direct connection with Milan's local neighbourhoods. The visit ended with a stop at the Foody Hub, where the five NGOs managing the food rescue hub presented how they fight food waste in SogeMi by **capturing and redistributing more than 440 tonnes of food per year**. The delegation was enthusiast to see this infrastructure of the city that allows the municipality to have a deep footprint in Milan's food system.





Partners

MILANO RISTORAZIONE

School meals kitchen center - Sammartini and Quaranta

Field visits to the Sammartini and Quaranta Kitchen Centres showcased Milan Ristorazione's activities: the Quaranta centre, recently renovated, prepares around 8,000 meals daily for schools and public services, whereas the Sammartini centre, located in the former municipal fish market, produces approximately 15,000 meals each day. **Delegates observed the full process from cooking to packaging, including the preparation of nutritionally balanced and plant-based dishes** designed to meet diverse dietary needs, and reflected on how efficient large-scale operations can deliver healthy, equitable meals while minimizing environmental impact.





A2A AMBIENTE: Biowaste Management Plant Lacchiarella

Partners

A2A's bio waste management site *Lacchiarella* is located just outside Milan and **processes over 100,000 tons per year of municipal solid waste, special waste and organic fraction from separate collection of the city of Milan and part of its province**. During the site visit, delegates had the opportunity to tour the Integrated Center which includes: the Organic Fraction of Municipal Solid Waste Plant; the Biomethane Plant; the Bio-Drying Plant and the Inertization Plant. In particular, the visit showed how organic waste is repurposed into energy and resources, supporting the city's sustainable food waste management system and showcasing a model of Milan's circular economy.



Food Policy Tour

Partners

The Food Policy Tour explored the key points of Milan's Parco Agricolo Sud (Southern Agricultural Park), an important area for the city's Food Policy and **an exemplary model of integration between urban and agricultural contexts**. The tour began with a visit to Cascina Campazzo, an urban farm that produces milk and yogurt also enjoyed by students in Milan's public schools. It then continued to MM's Nosedo water treatment plant where Milan's wastewater is cleansed and then used to irrigate by neighbouring farmers. Finally the tour ended in the Abbey of Chiaravalle with its mill, an example of cultural heritage protected and enhanced by the park.





On the right: the report produced by the Municipality of Milan on how to replicate the Food Aid Hub system around the world.

Below: delegates visiting Food Aid Hub Centro.







Above: delegates within the flower section of SogeMi, Milan's wholesale market.

Below: Andrea Magarini, Milan's Food Policy Director, explains the processes of SogeMi and how the renovation works were carried out to restore the premises.



CONCLUSIONS

The MUFPP Global Forum 2025 marked a pivotal moment for the international community committed to reshaping urban food systems. Returning to Milan a decade after the Milan Pact's launch offered cities **the chance to celebrate progress, but also to confront the complexities that will define the years ahead**: strengthening multilevel governance, accelerating climate-resilient food policies, placing social inclusion at the core of decision-making, while bridging innovation with food traditions to ensure more equitable and sustainable outcomes.

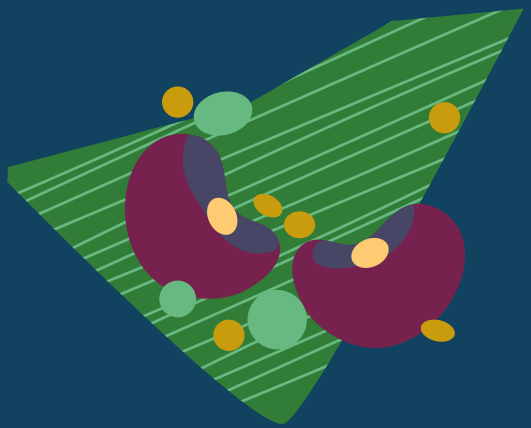
The dialogue among political leaders and cities' officers enriched by the perspectives of experts, international organisations and civil society, revealed **a network capable of advancing with shared purpose, while embracing the diversity of local realities**. Throughout the discussions, cities also reaffirmed that food policies can be powerful drivers of peace, reducing inequalities, and creating spaces for cooperation even in times of global tension.

All together, **the participants collectively agreed on five key points**:

1. recognizing the profound connection between the climate crisis and food systems;
2. recognizing school meals as a fundamental tool for social protection; investing in people, infrastructure, and partnerships;
3. reaffirming the role of research in transforming the health, economic, and social dimensions of urban food systems;
4. committing to transforming shared principles into local outcomes;
5. intervening in global and regional processes to ensure that the voice of cities is increasingly heard.

Together, these five points form the foundation of a collective effort rooted in **the idea that access to adequate, healthy, and safe food is a fundamental human right, to be guaranteed under all circumstances, and that hunger can never be used as a weapon**: the right to food for all is a shared responsibility, along with the commitment to building food systems that **nourish people, regenerate the planet, and support peace**.

The five days of exchange and collaboration, reaffirmed that the MUFPP has grown into a global network able to mobilize concrete action, inspire ambitious commitments, cultivate long-term partnerships and mobilize resources to develop social and financial capital. The Forum concluded with a renewed sense of collective responsibility and a clear message: **the next decade must turn vision into systemic transformation, empowering cities to lead the way toward sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and peaceful urban food futures.**



MILAN URBAN FOOD POLICY PACT

GLOBAL FORUM MILANO 2015-2025

Building on a decade of joint success.
Envisioning the future of urban food systems

13-17 October 2025

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REPORT

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