

About

EStà (Economia e Sostenibilità) is a non-profit research center that believes in a robust, systematic approach to sustainability. It works together with government agencies, research centers, economic groups, and actors at local, national, and international level.

EStà works to foster development guided by principles of sustainability, resilience, and circular economy. Every aspect is considered in its full complexity through the drafting of studies and scenarios for change, as well as support for their practical implementation.

EStà cultivates relationships between actors, employs approaches and methods emphasizing research, action, and active participation by all actors, to build the basis for shared knowledge and action.

EStà rejects simplistic approaches to sustainability, believes in the interdependence of all social, economic, and environmental aspects.

EStà is composed of associates, collaborators, and members of its scientific committee, who belong to various fields of study and knowledge: economics, the environment, regional planning, industry, social entrepreneurship, methods of democratic participation, education, and communications.

EStà has been contributing to the international debate through the conceptualization, design and participation of different local and global initiatives related to food and the city.

Selection of EStà activities related to innovative urban strategies.

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2015_Milan Food Policy

EStà (Economia e Sostenibilità) has been the technical and scientific support in the project "Milan Food Policy" signed by Milan municipality and Fondazione Cariplo (01/07/2014 - 30/06/2019) with the aim to develop a Food Policy.

Addressing food as a key to the sustainability of the city means reading and governing the relationships that link Milan to cities and territories in the global economy, starting from the aspects of physical proximity and the organization of social and economic relations in the Milan and Lombardy area. The city is seen as a complex organism, a highly-dependent-on-the-outside ecosystem that inputs energy, water, soil and food and outputs discards, waste, emissions.

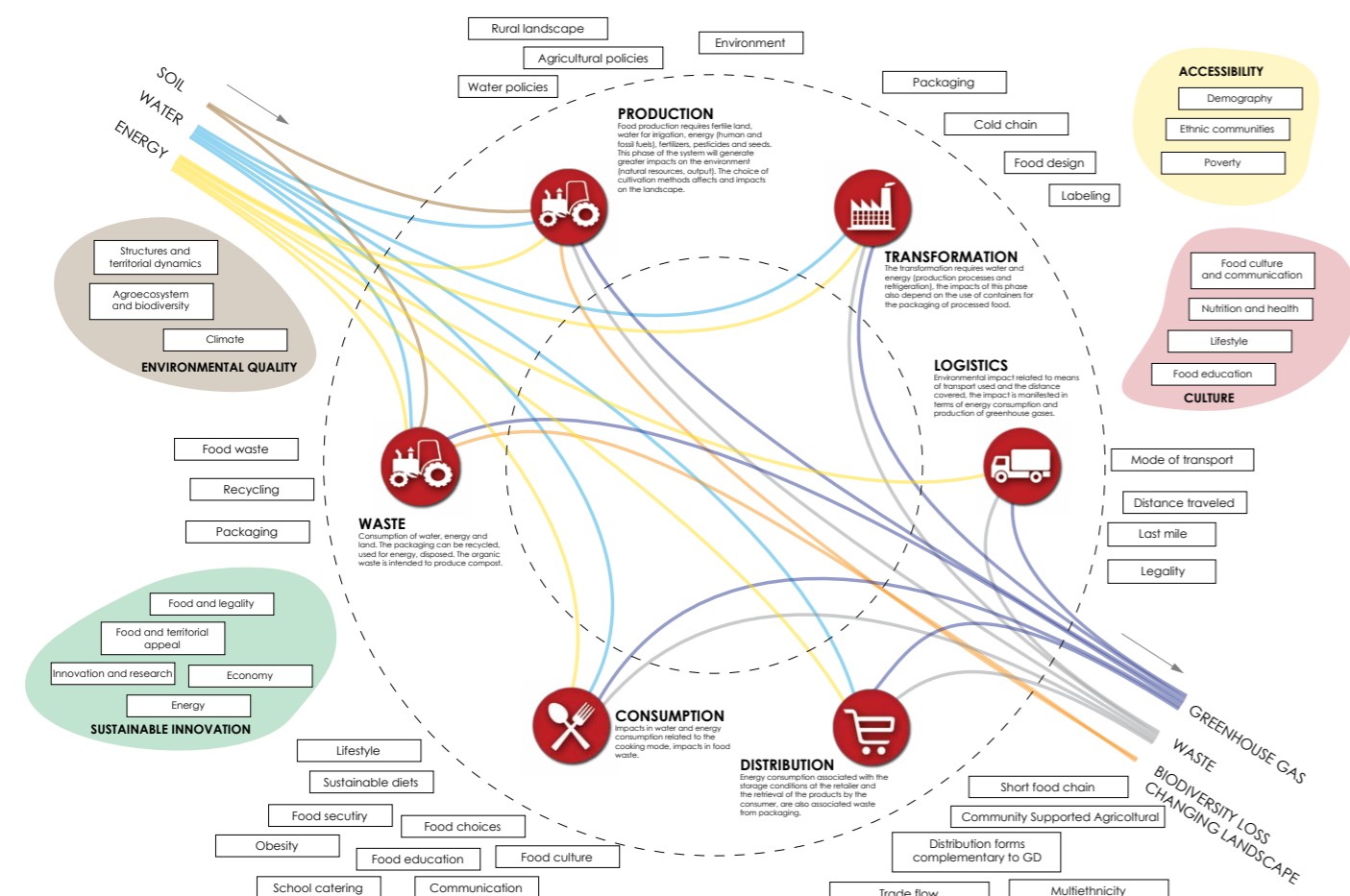
Improving the management of input and output of substances and energy in urban areas has significant and systemic effects both locally and globally.

Cross-disciplinary approach

The first step of the project has been the analysis of Milan Food System; the analysis covered the food chain and its relations with society, economy and environment in Milan; focusing the attention on the city of Milan but trying, from time to time, to understand what happens in the city and at larger scales. This choice stems from the fact that the issues at stake are many and develop, articulate and are interconnected at different scales. That is why several of the issues that were considered (e.g. production, consumption, logistics, ecosystem, health, etc.) were analysed extending the field of investigation also outside the perimeter of municipal administration, in order to understand and show the relations between the city and its wider contexts. The assessment identified Ten Issues that summarize the complexity of the world of food in Milan, facilitating the reading of its many joints.

The Ten Issues concern the city as a whole, and so they include issues that are dealt by a plurality of actors that operate with different logics and with different organizations also outside the field of municipal intervention.

Analysis of the Milan Food System



The first aim of the Ten Issues is to show the interdependence of the many phenomena related to food, to encourage the promotion of innovative actions which allow a system of interventions, punctual and sectorial, favouring at the same time an integrated approach within the same municipality. The 10 component issues are in fact interwoven with all the skills and interventions of the City, but they do not correspond to the names of the departments and to their internal organization. During the assessment phase many researchers and competence centres were actively involved: they are

Milan Food Policy is compliant to the european RRI-Tools

The project has been considered an inspiring practice by Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI Tools): as synthesized in the web page http://www.rri-tools.eu/-/milano_food_insp_practice#!tab1; the motivations are the following:

- **Diversity and Inclusion:** there is no direct focus on gender, ethnic and socio-economic diversity, but the project is attempting to be inclusive and open to diverse perspectives: consultation and engagement platforms are being developed with the active involvement of citizenry and diverse stakeholders (scholars, industry, innovators, municipal and district councillors, and so forth). More focus is given to the diversity

representatives of organizations and research and study institutes such as: water, agro-ecosystems, urban environment, food and communities, wholesale and retail, fair trade, communication-data visualization, food preservation, systemic design, right to food and food security, public International law, nutrition education, social policy, solidarity canteens, food emergency, green economy, innovation, mobility and logistics, nutrition and health, agricultural production, recycling and reuse, waste, soil, food waste, participation, food transformation, urbanistic.

of research topics, which will naturally result from the broad range of stakeholders involved.

- **Anticipation and reflection:** This project will map existing practices, knowledge and research regarding food and food disposal. At this stage it is working to address the risks associated with misinformation about these issues by closing knowledge gaps and modifying ways of thinking.
- **Responsiveness and adaptative change:** The project is actively working to facilitate communication across different stakeholders and include stakeholder feedback in the policy's development. Thus, it is actively responding to developing knowledge and mapping changes occurring within the Milano area and facilitating inclusion rather than reacting to external factors.

The Ten Issues of the Milan Food Policy

Governance
Supporting innovative forms of urban governance represents a fundamental element for the development of food policies as well as their implementation: the manifold nature of the issues surrounding food in fact requires the integration of themes, actors, and instruments that provide particular attention to the methods by which these subjects are addressed.

Education
The theme of education is another component that can be found across almost all our cases: in fact, even more than as the subject of individual initiatives, education is an omnipresent element in other initiatives and policies to foster the change in perspective necessary to move from a view of food as a sector to one more capable of grasping its full complexity.

Waste
Waste refers to the many impacts generated both by lifestyle and consumption as well as the organization of the food cycle in all its phases.

Access
The theme of access encapsulates all the ways in which needs and rights to food are articulated by or on behalf of various social groups: children, adults, the poor, immigrant communities, refugees, etc.



Wellness
It takes into considerations the relations between health and lifestyle, both within pathology and daily life.

Environment
The urban food cycle has several implications for the environment that interact directly with the constituent components of the environment itself (air, water, soil, energy) or with its surroundings more generally.

Agricultural ecosystems
It focuses on the interactions between agricultural production and its territory and environment.

Production
It takes into account all topics related to food production, ranging from urban urban green roofs to big productions, from local markets to the international ones, innovations in terms of quality and organizations.

Business and Finance
It is seen as the group of topics related to investments and fiscal issues linked to food and its context.

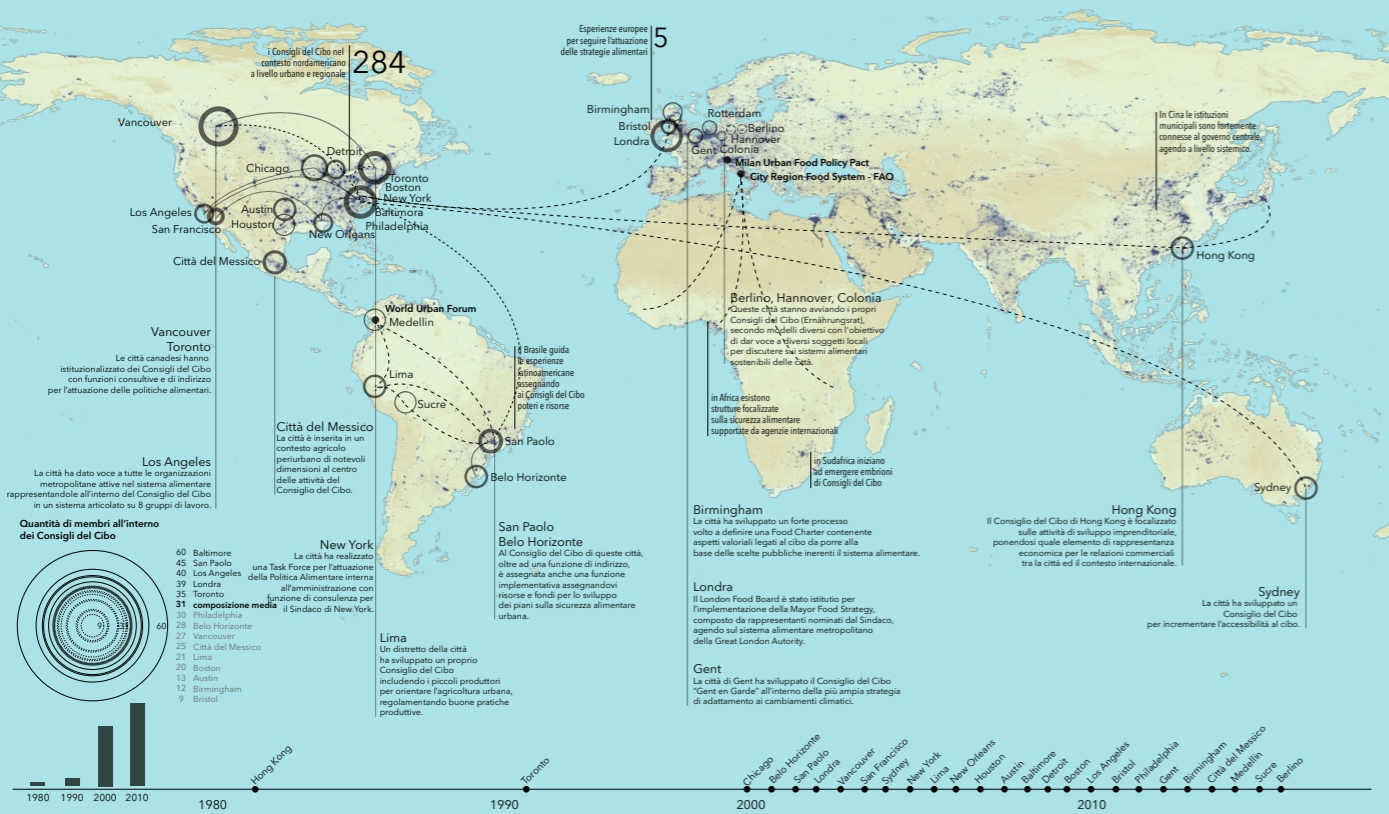
Trade
It gathers all the topics related to distribution systems and food trade and relations that they generate with cities and social dynamics.

2016_Thought for Food Initiative (T4F)

ESTà (Economia e Sostenibilità) is a part of the core group in the project “Thought for Food Initiative”, commissioned by Agropolis Fondation, Cariplo Foundation and Fondation Daniel & Nina Carasso. The overall objective is the following: “over the years, there is an increasing number of initiatives on urban systems, including urban food policies, many of which claim beneficial impacts of adopting and promoting localism which are not necessarily supported by existing knowledge and information. This project is intended to contribute in providing a rigorous analysis of the dynamics in the urban area as they transition towards more sustainable food systems”. The Core Group has focused the project proposal on urban driven innovations: “undestand, evaluate and support the changes for a more sustainable food system through the study of the urban driven innovations”.

Some project activities focus on the mapping of relevant or strategic stakeholders for specific policies or interventions in order to identify possible fields of innovations: institutional stakeholder mapping and policy analysis, with the aim of understanding the changing levers; stakeholder and innovative project/activity mapping, with the aim of understanding how cities (and regions) can influence food systems (and vice versa). The mapping will be conducted in detail in Milan and as an expeditious analysis in the Cities participating in the MUFPP Award (53 Cities in the 2016 edition). Besides, the project will be focused mainly in the consumption area (food habits, povetry, public procurement for school canteens,...) and the supply chain area (innovative food chains in food aid sector).

Mapping international cases of Food Council



Promoting Food Councils

ESTà is managed by action-researchers with a long on field experience on public participation and some ESTà members have also a long experience in supporting and leading food movements at local, national and international level in different institutional contexts (Civil Society Mechanism of FAO, thematic groups on participation in local economy in the Council of Europe, etc.).

Because of this cultural approach, ESTà is continuously monitoring the evolution of hundreds of bottom up actions on urban food as well as a number of Urban Food Councils all over the world (e.g Detroit, Belo Horizonte, New York, London, Toronto, etc.) by producing scientific reports and technical evaluations in order to feed both the concrete experiences that are carried on by cities and socioeconomic actors and the legislative frameworks that allows the promotion of Urban Food Councils ad different institutional levels (from the local one to EU).

2016_Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Award

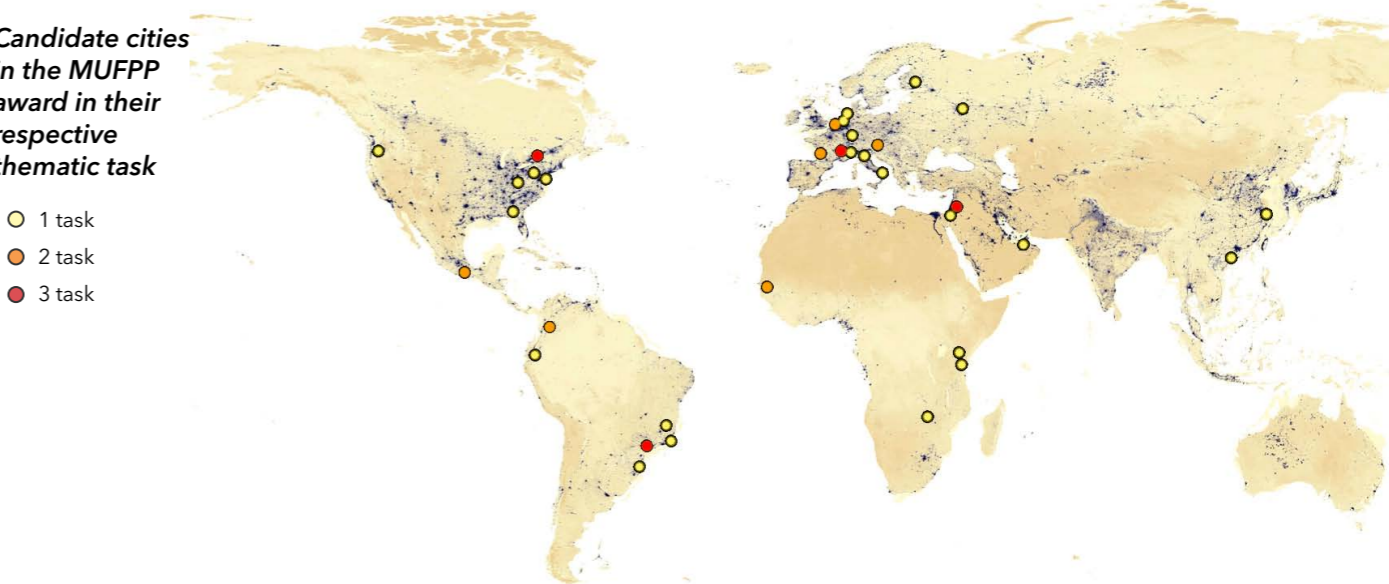
ESTà is providing the technical and scientific assistance for the 2016 MUFPP international meeting and the related MUFPP Award as one of the several follow up areas of work commissioned by the MUFPP Secretariat in 2016 with the partnership of Fondazione Cariplo and FAO. The design of the MUFPP Awards project began through the elaboration of inputs coming from different cities immediately after the launch of the Pact on 16 October 2015 and its purpose is to stimulate Mayors’ action on food policies by learning and exchanging practices between signatory cities to the Pact. All the practices are related to the Framework for Action of the MUFPP (Governance, Sustainable diets and nutrition; Social and economic equity; Food production including urban rural linkages). Each participant city is sending detailed documentation to the MUFPP Secretariat. ESTà is together with an international evaluation committee. The MUFPP Award ceremony will take place in

ROME in the FAO Headquarter on 14th October 2016 and, by now, there are 53 participating cities from all over the world.

- In this context ESTà is in charge of:
- defining thee general design of the Award process (scan of similar awards at international level, definition of the steps of the Award, identification of key actors to be involved, etc.);
 - supporting the MUFPP Secretariat for the organization of the Award (identification of members of the Evaluation Committee, selection criteria for participating cities, evaluation critera, agenda setting, etc.);
 - coordinating and facilitating the activities of the Award Evaluation Committee (co-organization of the meetings, participation to the evaluation, reporting, etc.)

Candidate cities in the MUFPP award in their respective thematic task

- 1 task
- 2 task
- 3 task



City	Country	Continent	Governance	Sustainable Diets and Nutrition	Social and Economic Equity	Food Production	Food Supply and Distribution	Food Waste
Nairobi	Kenya	Africa	X			X	X	
Dakar	Senega	Africa		X				
Arusha	Tanzania	Africa			X			
Lusaka	Zambia	Africa						
Guangzhou	China	Asia	X					
Shangai	China	Asia				X		
Dubai	United Emirates	Asia	X					
Bruges	Belgium	Europe	X			X		
Bordeaux	France	Europe	X					
Lyon	France	Europe	X					
Molfetta	Italy	Europe		X			X	
Parma	Italy	Europe		X	X			
Turin	Italy	Europe	X	X				
Riga	Latvia	Europe					X	
Amsterdam	Netherlands	Europe		X				
s-Hertogenbosch	Netherlands	Europe	X				X	
Moscow	Russia	Europe					X	

City	Country	Continent	Governance	Sustainable Diets and Nutrition	Social and Economic Equity	Food Production	Food Supply and Distribution	Food Waste
Ljubliana	Slovenia	Europe	X				X	
Basel	Switzerland	Europe		X				
Birmingham	United Kingdom	Europe		X				
Tel Aviv	Israel	Middle East		X				
Hebron	Palestine	Middle East		X			X	X
Toronto	Canada	North America	X		X		X	
Vancouver	Canada	North America	X					
Baltimore	United States	North America	X					
Pittsburgh	United States	North America				X		
Belo Horizonte	Brazil	South America	X	X				X
Porto Alegre	Brazil	South America	X			X		
Rio de Janeiro	Brazil	South America	X					
Sao Paulo	Brazil	South America	X					
Medellin	Colombia	South America	X			X		
Quito	Ecuador	South America				X		
Mexico City	Mexico	South America		X	X			

Candidate cities within the award in their respective thematic task.

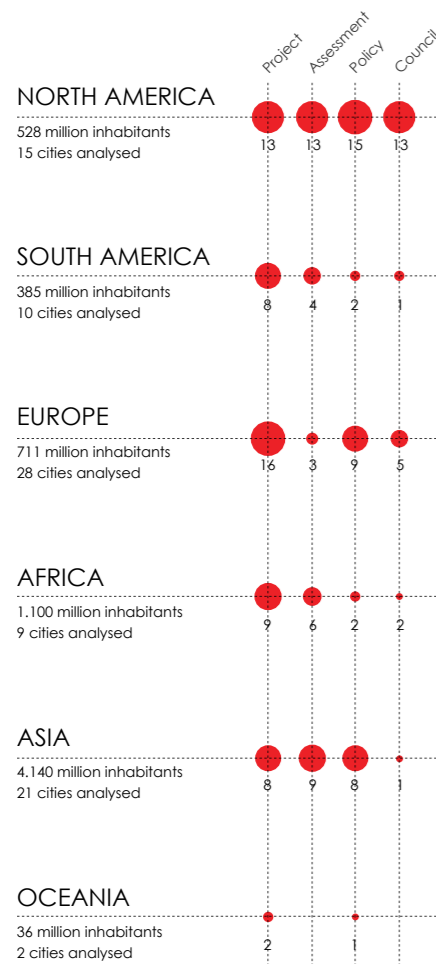
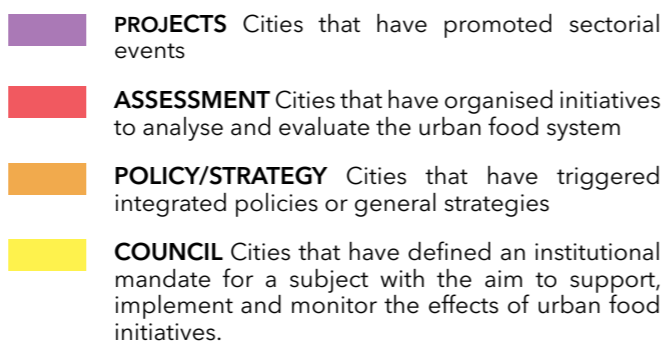
2014_Overview of Urban Food Initiatives

In the following pages a series of figures summarize some of the primary structural elements that characterize urban food policies in European and North American cities along with Melbourne that, though being in Australia, shares many characteristics with metropolitan areas throughout North America.

These pictures are an example of the infographics that EStà usually uses to communicate researches and knowledge. In the EStà approach infographic are not only a way to publish and to disseminate the results of a research, but a way to share knowledge while producing it. The use of infographics in analysis and interpretation can facilitate the connections between issues and phenomena and allows to involve in the discussion different kinds of people.

Two of the picture show how the primary actions related to the creation of a food policy in each city evolved over time, putting into evidence the role of key documents (e.g. declarations of principles, assessment reports, public lists of projects, etc.) or of public deliberations to influence or to generate the policies of a city (such as strategy documents, action plans, etc.).

All the pictures synthesize several of the key recurring phenomena discussed in the third section of the book “Food for the Cities”, which describes certain aspects of governance (public decision-making, the role of technical-scientific actors, civil society, etc.), the geographic scalability of the process, and the drafting of documents to outline the content of policy.



Area with a long tradition of urban food policies, especially related to the struggle with diet-related pathologies and to fight the decline of access to fresh food (food desert). The food systems have been included not only as a subject of the processes of economic planning but also, and especially, as means of urban development.

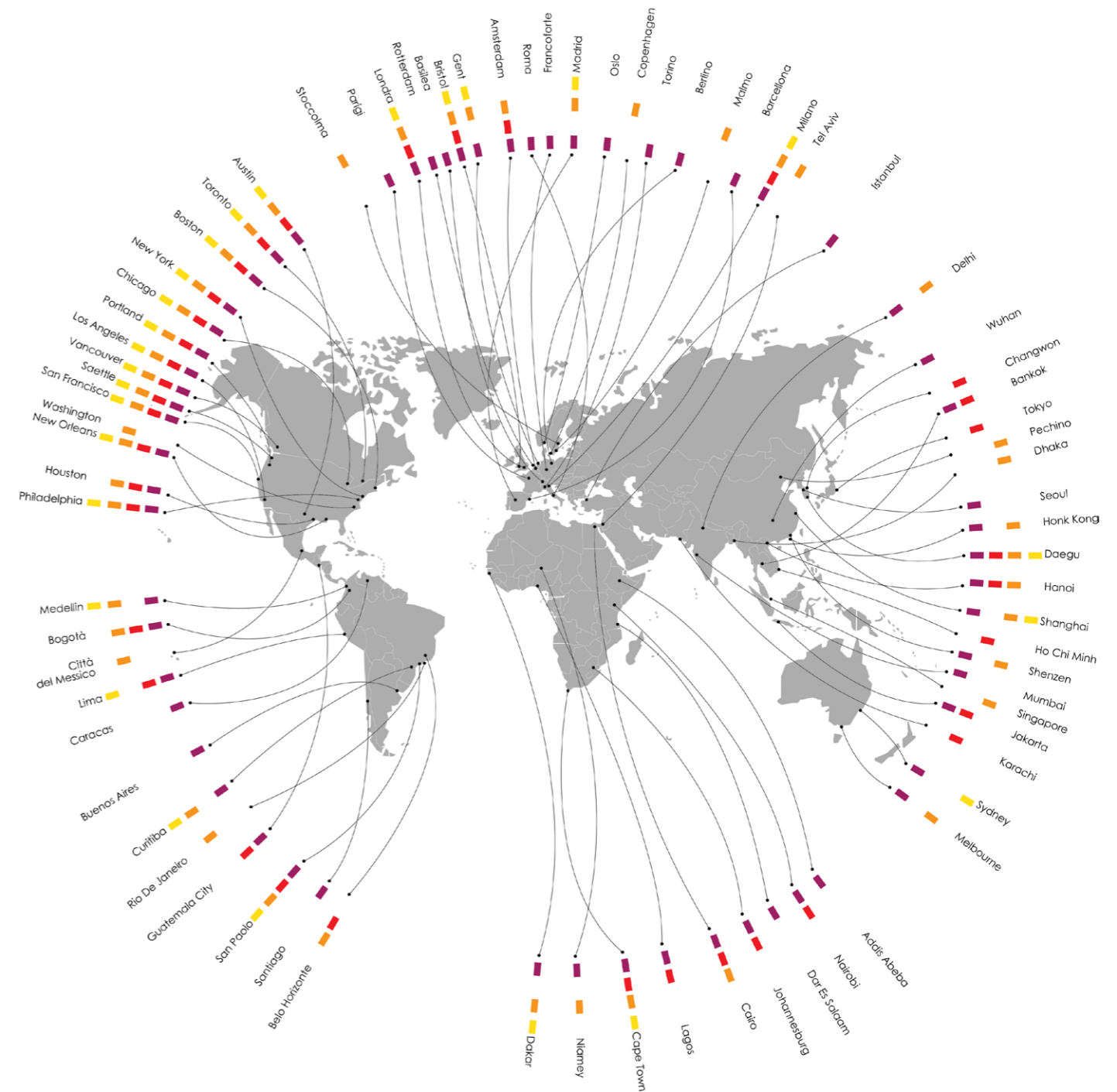
Latin America is recently witnessing a steady social and economic growth. In this region the food issues are shaped in initiatives to ensure food security and to promote the local economic development, which finds in food a strong growth element.

In Europe the issue was first articulated around the experiences promoted by the civil society, later it reached the institutional levels and the technical and scientific debate. If initially the experiences mainly involved the equity of markets and the relationship between producer and consumer, in recent years different systemic contributions have been emerging.

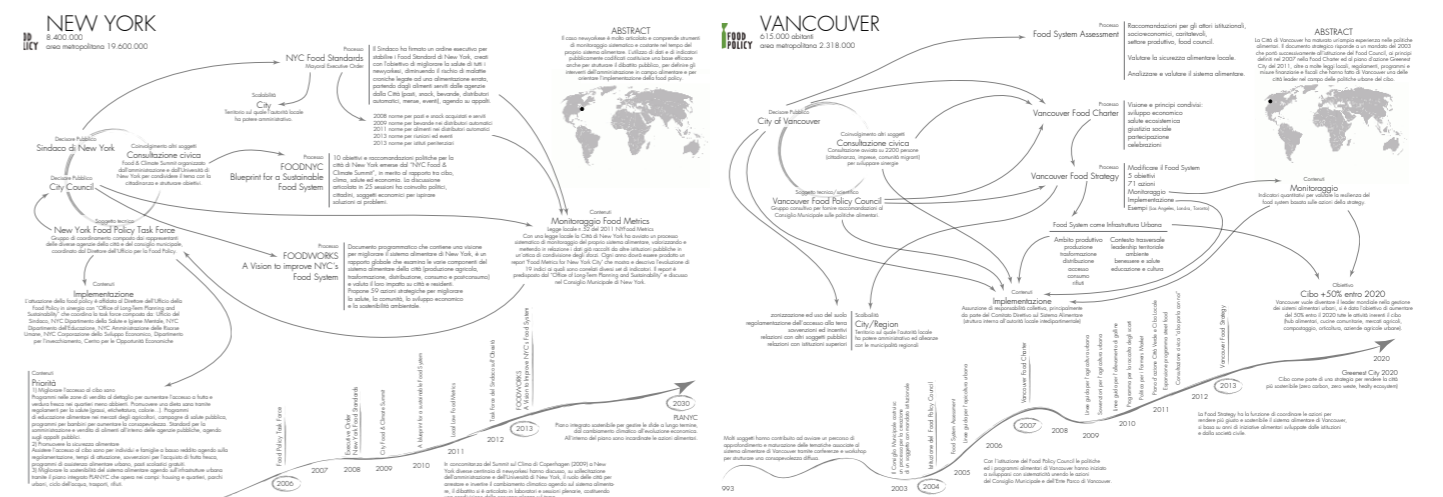
On the African continent the declination of food issues within the rapidly expanding cities is mostly implemented in projects of urban agriculture and to monitor the state of food security. Initiatives are often carried out with the support of international cooperation or of agencies and international institutions.

In the rapidly economic growing Asian context the theme of food within cities is often managed by national governments, in order to monitor the status of food security and mainly to develop experiences of urban agriculture.

Oceania conforms to European and North American experiences, considering the food as a driver for the urban development within systemic policies.



In this study ESTà has scrutinized the experiences developed by Bristol, Gent, London, Melbourne, Milan, New York, San Francisco, Toronto, Vancouver.




Network of urban and rural actors in the agricultural park of Milan

This map was designed in 2006-2009 in the context of a national project of MIUR (Italian Ministry for University and Research) with the partnership of "Politecnico di Milano" and other Italian universities to visualize the main elements of a sustainable food system for the metropolitan area of Milan.

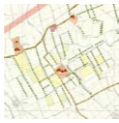
The map integrates information concerning the main elements of the most innovative local food chains from the countryside to the city (quality production, distribution flows, local markets, etc.); diffusion of local food activism; territorial values and impacts of the food system on the landscape.

The map is the result of a long and circular participative process in which the research group promoted a lot of interactions with institutional and non institutional actors to collect both quantitative and qualitative information. The map was based on a customized GIS tools to have the possibility to visualize all the information during public meetings and more private workshops to immediately use them in the next meetings. The map was also used for some years to feed different institutional planning process and the information eased the implementation of urban food issues in a lot of projects, actions and local policies.





Start-up and expansion of experimental quality agricultural production.



Agroecology practises improving landscape quality



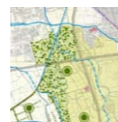
Impacts and relations with the water system



Social actors involved in agricultural sustainable systems.



Hubs and nodes of local food chains

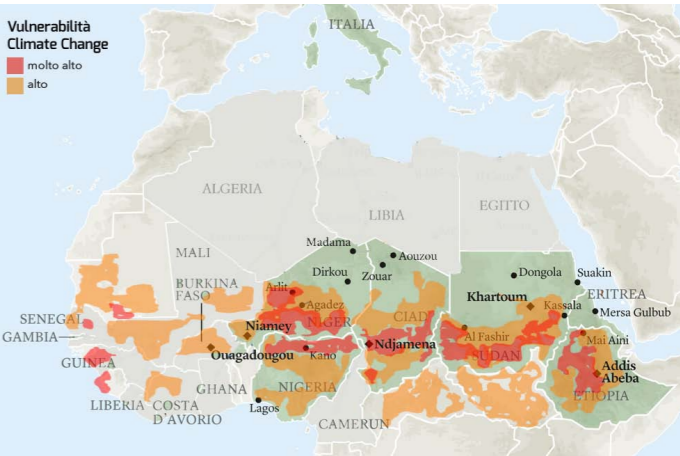
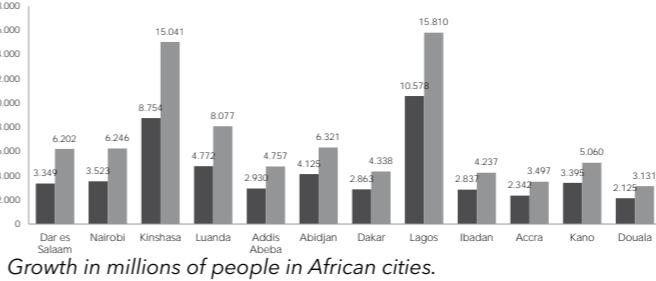
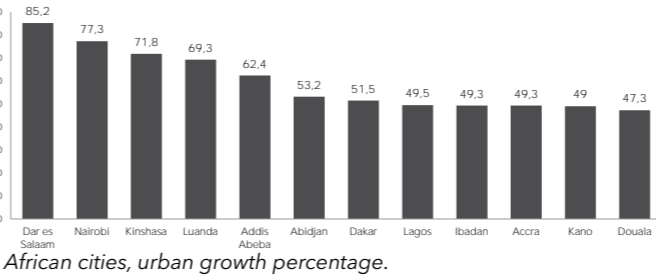
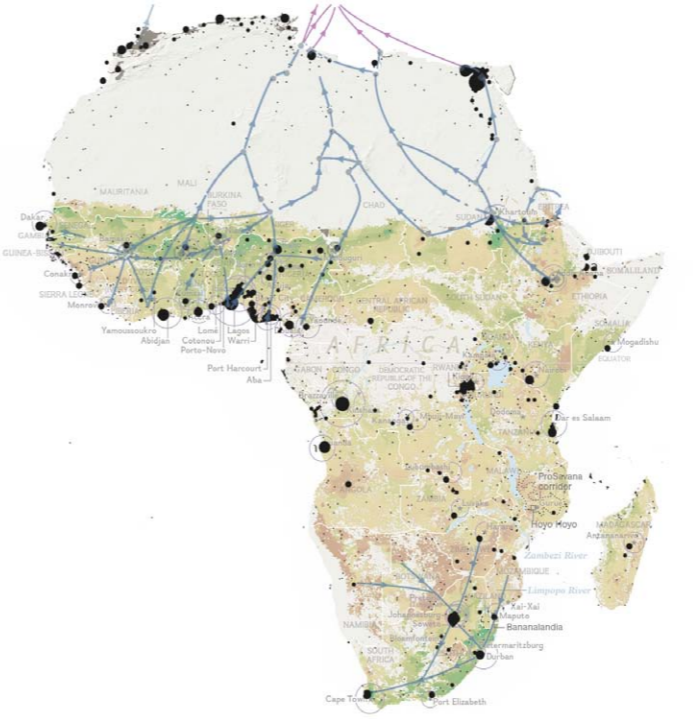


Impacts and relations with the naturalistic areas

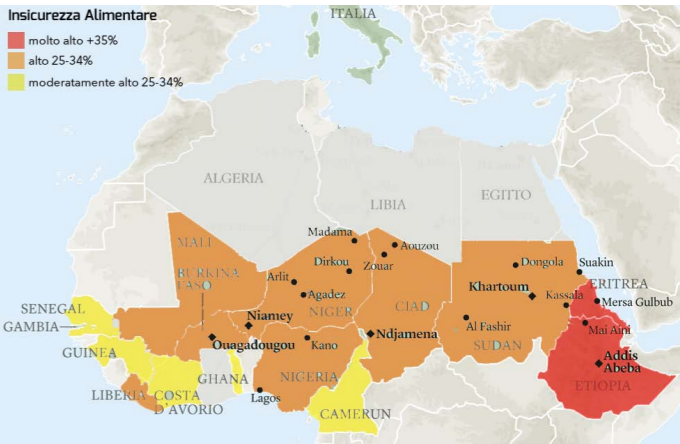
2016_Climate change and migration in urban African context

In a world organized on urban base, the rapid growth of cities and megacities is a big challenge for a sustainable future. In Sub-Saharan Africa the explosion of urban issue threatens to stifle cities due of their own success. In this continent, until now largely organized on rural areas, the theme appears unusual and full of challenges and opportunities. EStà, in synergy with other partners (African Center for Cities, University of Cape Town), within the new Italian institutional framework of "Africa Act", has been producing an analysis of the experience of Urban Food Initiatives active in the continent, tying the issue of migration, climate change and social tensions in the Sahel.

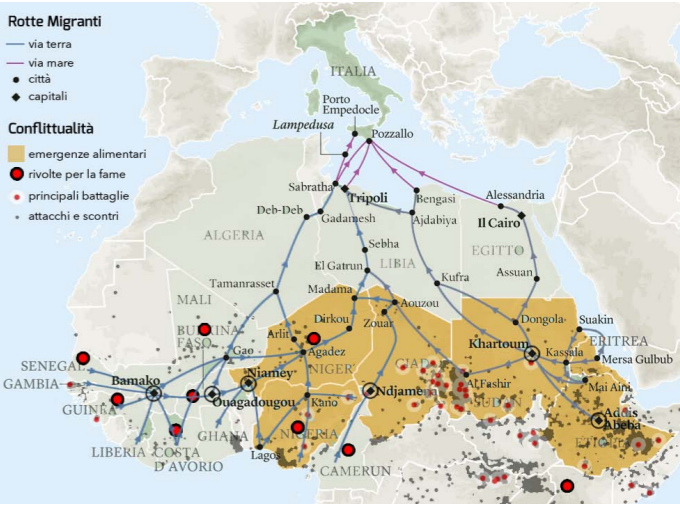
The research is still ongoing and is focusing on food initiatives developed in 41 African cities, of various size and regional importance: Abidjan, Accra, Addis Ababa, Algires, Arusha, Baidoa, Bamako, Bandundu , Banjul, Bobo-Dioulasso, Brazzaville, Cairo, Cape Town, Dakar, Dar Es Salaam, Douala, Durban, Huambo, Ibadan, Johannesburg, Kano, Khartoum, Kinshasa, Kitwe, Lagos, Luanda, Lusaka, Maputo, Nairobi, N ' N'Djamena, Niamey, Nouakchott, Oran, Ouagadougou, Qardho, Tamale, Tshwane, Tunis, Windhoek, Yahoundè.



Vulnerability to climate change.



Food insecurity level.



Social tensions, hunger riots and conflicts: migration routes.

2016_Municipality of Genoa (Genova, Italy)

ESTà is supporting the Municipality of Genoa in identifying project opportunities concerning issues that are related to the whole food cycle of the city. These projects are part of an ongoing process to define a comprehensive framework of actions to empower the capability of the city to be more sustainable and resilient in which the food cycle is part of a more general approach to circular economy.

In this context ESTà is working as hub of knowledge to connect the Municipality to different kind of innovators (universities, research centers, innovative private companies, etc.) for different EU projects (DEAR; Life; etc.) by providing technical and scientific support.

2015_Circular Conferences

“Circular Conferences” is an innovative format, developed and implemented by ESTà in the years 2015 and 2016 to connect circular economy, innovative policies and relevant socio-environmental topics (urban policies, food, energy, Mobility). In the conferences some international and Italian experts were hosted as speakers:

- Robert Costanza, ecological economist and Professor of Public Policy at the Crawford School of Public Policy at The Australian National University.
- Mariana Mazzucato, economist, Professor in the Economics of Innovation at the University of Sussex.
- Pavan Sukhdev, environmental economist, Special Adviser and Head of UNEP’s Green Economy Initiative, was also the Study Leader for the ground breaking TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity).
- Gianni Silvestrini, Italian researcher of National Research Council in the fields of solar technology and energy policy. General Director at the Ministry of the Environment (2000-2002).
- Gianfranco Bologna, Scientific Director of WWF Italy.
- Luca Mercalli, well known for his appearances on TV shows..

2014_Milano Ristorazione - ActionAID Italy
Food and catering public procurement

Milano Ristorazione is a public company created and 99% owned by the Municipality of Milan. Milano Ristorazione prepares and distributes 80,000 meals a day (more than 17 million per year) to nurseries, kindergarten, primary and secondary schools, retirement homes, disability care centers and “meals on wheels” services of the Municipality of Milan. Together with ActionAid Italia and Milano Ristorazione, ESTà in 2015 provided a policy oriented research connected to public procurement of healthy, sustainable and organic food in schools, analyzing the impact of the company strategy on a urban food policy.

In terms of the sustainability of its work Milano Ristorazione replaced plastic tableware with a biodegradable and compostable alternative (that saves 240,000 kg plastic a year), facilitates the procurement of local products in its public tenders (privileging quality over price in a 70:30 ratio, mainly organic rice, vegetables, fruit and cheese from local production) and serves Fair Trade products.

Its work focuses mainly on children who receive a healthy, good and nutritious meal along with educational activities regarding sustainability, waste prevention and socio-cultural integration. It places high value on the choice of ingredients used for the dishes and has a high focus on organic products. The products are 100% organic in all the nurseries, 66% organic or from integrated pest control in other services, 25% local. Moreover 57% comes from short distribution chains.

Actionaid Italia developed the “io mangio giusto!” program, based on ESTà research. It teaches children the right way to eat, serving them organic and healthy food in school canteens. With this campaign Actionaid wants to raise the parents’ awareness about the program.

2014 Lavazza, Novamont, Il Giardinone -
Growing mushrooms from coffee grounds: applied research on upcycling in urban scale for food production

In a continent where consumers are increasingly sensitive to environmental issues this applied research developed a sustainable food production with very low environmental impact in urban scale. It specifically consists in a large scale production and commercialization of high-quality mushrooms from coffee grounds, without any further production of waste.

This is possible thanks to the partnership developed between ESTà, Il Giardinone and Lavazza (the most important coffee producer and distributor in Italy), with an applied research pilot project carried out during Milan Expo 2016, in which coffee waste produced by the Italian Pavilion was upcycled, introducing an important novelty to avoid the use of plastic bags for mushroom growing, which consists of Mater-Bi bioplastic bags supplied by Novamont, the leading company in the field of bioplastic materials in Italy.

2013_Sustainable Milan

“Milano Sostenibile” (Milan sustainable) is a participatory mapping project of the best good urban innovation practices in sustainability, produced by ESTà between 2013 and 2014. Subject of the mapping are: a) the best of urban sustainability policies adopted by European cities ; b) the best of urban sustainability policies adopted by the major Italian cities.

2013_Lorenteggio Market (Urban Public Hall)

Research project on innovative urban solutions through the connection between economy, territory and urban anthropology, financed by Fondazione Cariplo. ESTà was responsible in particular for regeneration of one of the most important public food markets of the city of Milan. The Italian context is giving life to some interesting phenomena of spatial and product reorganization of municipal markets. From their original function of moderating prices and facilitating the matching of demand and supply, these particular facilities of the public city

are increasingly diversifying themselves as practical tools for urban renovation, capable of improving the social relations among citizens, subjects of cultural promotion and local economic operators, often in the peripheral parts of the city.

ESTà in 2013 started with other local partner the demo-pilot developed in the public market hall of Lorenteggio, correspond to a possible spatial variation of these interactions, led by a logic of complementarity with the issues of learning, promoting a new food culture and improving the cooperation between public and private actors.

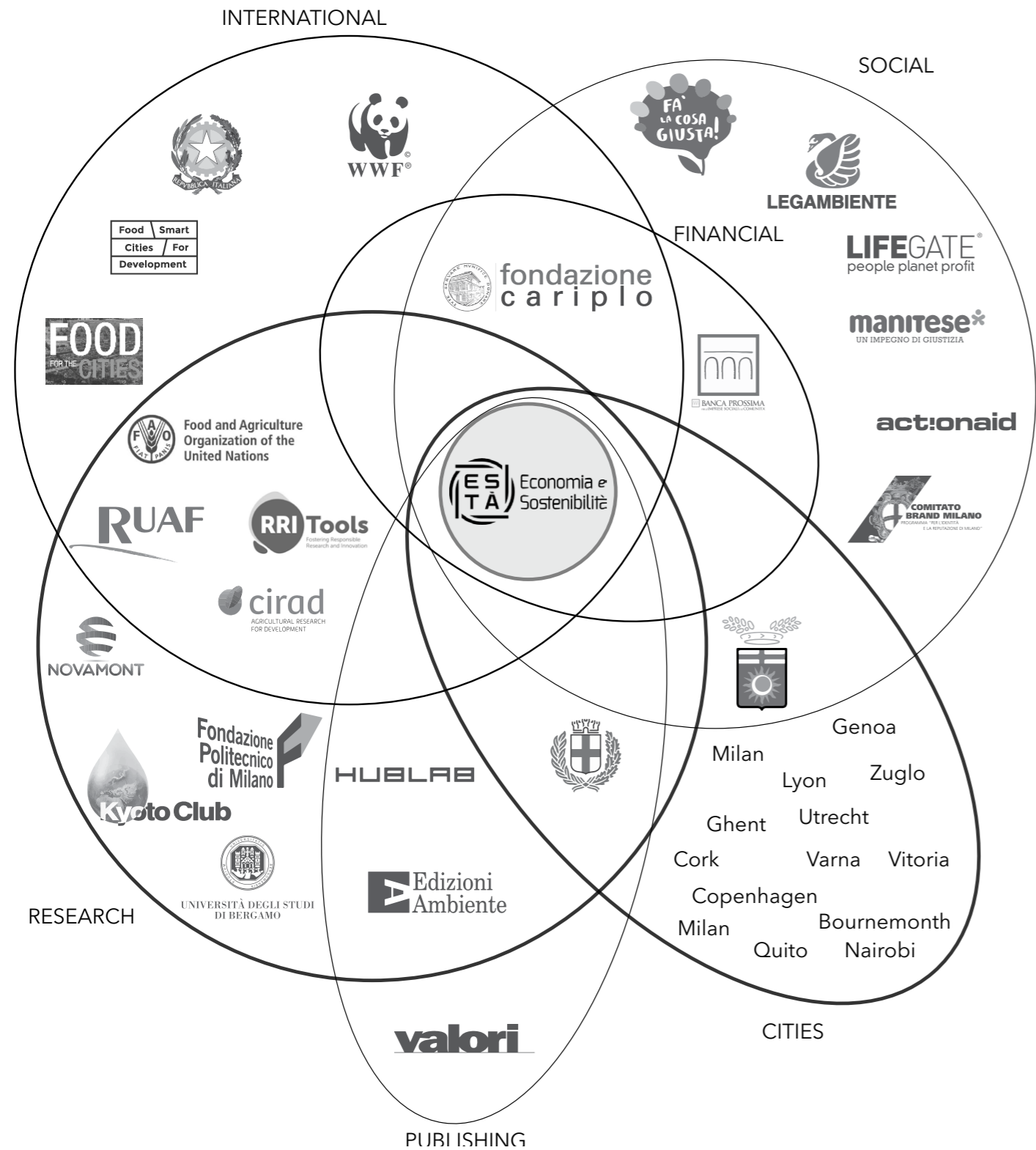


Selection of EStà network of partner

For EStà, the core motivation for being a non profit and independent research center, is to play the role of hub of knowledge for a variety of institutional, social, economic and research actors. In this role EStà produces directly researches and scenarios and, at the same time, it works to activate, to bring together and to manage interdisciplinary

researches, by leading universities, research centers as well as other know-how that are embedded in institutional and non institutional actors.

EStà act as hub of knowledge to support both social innovations and new contents and approaches for public policies.



Selection of EStà urban related publications

- EStà. "Economia Innovatrice" a cura di Andrea Di Stefano e Massimiliano Lepratti. Edizioni Ambiente. Milano, 2016.
- EStà. "Elementi di scenario per la costituzione di un Consiglio Metropolitano del Cibo di Milano". 2016
- EStà. "Food and the Cities. Food policies for sustainable cities" by Andrea Calori and Andrea Magarini. Edizioni Ambiente. Milano 2015
- EStà. "The governance of the Urban Food System for a Sustainable City. Methodological document for the analysis of the city and the participatory definition of priorities of actions for the Milan Food Policy" by Andrea Calori, Francesca Federici, Andrea Magarini, Andrea Vecchi, Massimiliano Lepratti, Claudia Casini, Carla Sedini. Milano, 2015.
- EStà. "Vademecum di Politica Urbana Sostenibile" by Andrea Calori, Massimiliano Lepratti, Elena Peluso. Milano, 2014
- EStà. "Analisi Internazionale. Politiche alimentari urbane nel contesto internazionale" by Andrea Calori, Andrea Magarini. Milano Food Policy. Milano, 2014.
- EStà. "Progettualità nel contesto milanese. Analisi di una selezione di progetti ed iniziative sui temi alimentari." by Andrea Calori, Alessandro Beloli. Milano Food Policy. Milano, 2014.
- Andrea Calori. Coltivare la Città. Giro del mondo in dieci progetti di filiera corta. Terre di Mezzo. Milano, 2009
- Massimiliano Lepratti. "Nutrire il mondo per cambiare il pianeta". Europeaid Project "From food security to food sovereignty". Mani Tese e CISV, 2010.

1, 3
Edizioni Ambiente is the leading Italian publisher on environment and sustainability issues, operating since the early 90's. ESTA is a collective author of Edizioni Ambiente on circular economy issues and food policy.

2, 4, 5, 6, 7
Projects Deliverables, products of research projects carried out by ESTA and coherent with objectives of the service contract.





Andrea Calori, research coordinator

Andrea Calori (1966) graduated in Architecture and Planning in 1993, got a PhD in Urban, Territorial and Environmental Planning and, from 2001 to 2010, he was Assistant Professor at Politecnico di Milano in "Planning and Local Development", "Urban and Regional Systems Analysis" and in the "Laboratory of Urban Planning".

Since the early 90's he has been working on local development policies with a participatory and self-sustainable approach. He has developed these issues in Italy and abroad working on the relationships between land, environment, social networks and rural development, with a particular focus on issues connected with urban and periurban food systems.

He works both in Italy and around the world with on-field-projects, theoretical and methodological research with social, economic and institutional actors at different levels (Local Authorities, regional and national governments, OECD, European Commission, Council of Europe, FAO, UNDP, etc..), teaches in courses, seminars and lectures in universities and institutions in Italy and abroad.

These activities integrate original research skills, process management, organization of social networks and consultancy to institutions that have been developed and implemented even in the areas of integrated planning of the Local Authorities (Pisl, PIT, Local Agenda 21; AQST, Projects Leader, etc..), in the evaluation of urban and regional planning (PGT, PTCP, area plans, SEA, EMAS, etc..) and in legislative and regulatory activities.

He has used these skills to contribute to the foundation and to moderation of solidarity economy networks at local, national and international level, with a particular emphasis on issues related to the role of consumers as a fundamental driver for socially-driven economy based on the agro-food cycles within a food sovereignty perspective.

Andrea Calori is:

- Scientific Director of the Assessment of the Food System of Milan and research in the field of Milano Food Policy. Member of the Control Room of the Municipality of Milan and the Cariplo Foundation.
- former-President of Urgenci, a worldwide association that brings together the different types of networks and associations of Local Partnerships between Producers and Consumers (Community Supported Agriculture) in their various national and continental forms (eg Teikei in Japan, AMAP in France, CSA in the English-speaking world, ASC in Canada, etc..)
- Participant of Technical Consultation Groups of the "Food for cities" multi-disciplinary group that unites the different FAO operative units working on issues of urban and peri-urban agriculture.
- Working on research and technical support activities to the Council of Europe on issues related to the role of consumers and local communities in creation of local food systems and sustainable development policies, based on the Forum that was established in 2004 by the Social Cohesion Division of the Council of Europe to build a common platform on the relationships between EU institutions and solidarity economies.
- Former member of the Working Group "Constructing indicators of progress and wellbeing with the citizens and the communities" within the OECD Global Project "Measuring the Progress of Societies Beyond GDP".
- One of the creators of RES (Italian Network of Social Economy) and a member of the European Platform of RIPESS (Intercontinental Réseau pour la Promotion de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire) and IRIS (Inter-réseau des Initiatives Solidaires).
- Responsible for Italy's communication of the European Commission's LIFE program in 2000-2001.
- And has worked in the past ten year in several European projects (Tacis City Twinning, Interreg, Equal, Life, 7 th Framework Programme) and is active in a number of international cooperation projects in Africa, Asia, Middle East and Latin America (EuropeAid UNDP, IFAD) on issues related to agriculture and territorial planning.

Andrea Calori is the author of books:

- ESTà. "Food and the Cities. Food policies for sustainable cities" by Andrea Calori and Andrea Magarini. Edizioni Ambiente. Milano 2015.
- Andrea Calori. Coltivare la Città. Giro del mondo in dieci progetti di filiera corta. Terre di Mezzo. Milano, 2009.

Andrea Magarini, international

Andrea Magarini is an expert in strategic planning processes, international cooperation and food systems. He graduated in Architecture at Politecnico di Milano, is a partner of Economia e Sostenibilità, active in the design of urban food systems and in the definition of the strategic planning process for territorial development.

From 2008 to 2014 he worked in the Ecological Design Laboratory (LPE) of Politecnico di Milano on the issues of land use planning, local development, international cooperation and food systems. Within LPE he created methods and territorial interpretation tools in territories of Milan South-Agricultural Park and in different norther Italian provinces.

He participated in projects of International Cooperation (EuropeAid) in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, designing a planning processes for several food value chains, to ensure food security and local development. At the end of these activities on the field he designed an initiative of knowledge transfer (EduLink Programme of the European Commission). In these territories it has partnered with the initiative ART (Support to Territorial Networks) of the Development Programme of the United Nations (UNDP).

For Economia e Sostenibilità, he made the analysis of food initiatives developed by a hundred of international cities. The research work was published as the book "Food and the Cities" by Edizioni Ambiente in 2015.

Andrea Vecchi, economy

Andrea Vecchi is a social entrepreneur and innovator who has devised and guided the launch of many social enterprises.

Born in Milan in 1974, he studied ecology at the "Università degli Studi di Milano". He is vice-president of ESTà and he has lead the Milan Food Policy project management from the beginning. He has been behind various social-cooperative start-ups in the fields of tourism, social housing, urban regeneration, personal social services, landscape management, environmental education, and cemetery management.

In 2011, he contributed to the drafting of Serbia's social-enterprise law, working with the Unicredit Foundation.

He is a co-founder of Welfare Milano, one of the first private medical centres providing healthcare

at social prices. He is vice-president of the social cooperative Il Giardinone, with which he has developed on-field experimentation, in partnership with ESTà and Lavazza, about growing mushrooms from coffee grounds at urban scale.

For CGM Group, the largest network of Italian social cooperatives, he has led the national Family Audit study, the model of work-family reconciliation policies sponsored by the Autonomous Province of Trento and by the Office of the President of the Council of Ministers. He has contributed to the work of the Italian Advisory Board for the international Social Impact Investment Task Force (G8 SIIT). He also writes a column and a blog on social innovation for Valori, the social-economy, ethical-finance and sustainability magazine.

Massimiliano Lepratti, society

European cooperation expert, active in research projects of circular economy, he applies a careful approach to managing complexity and participatory processes.

His publications include "Why Europe conquered the world" (EMI 2006), and "Economics is simple" (EMI 2008); It is also co-author of the book "Feeding the world to change the world" published in Italy in 2010 under the action EuropeAid on food sovereignty "From Food Security to Food Sovereignty".

Expert on public consultation processes for public policies he has been the director of the Milan Food Policy social and academic consultation process.

He is author of the book "Innovative Economy: why it is imperative to make circular economy, finance and society", published by Edizioni Ambiente in May 2016.

Francesca Federici, environment

Expert in research, analysis, processes and methods for urban sustainable policies with territorial approach. She does consulting and research work for the government and the academic sector; in particular she deals with methods, processes and tools for local sustainable self development.

In the Milan Food Policy she worked for the develop process of Milan Food System Assessment by the analysis and interpretation of several elements of food cycle at urban scale.

Head office



Cascina Cuccagna is one of the oldest farm in Lombardy and it is located in the heart of Milan, hidden among the buildings of the city. Sustainable example of a regeneration project, the farm was reopened to the public in 2012, following a complete renovation, entirely funded by a group of associations and social cooperatives.



Governance of EStà

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Claudio Conti, data scientist

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