

# 18<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN WEEK of REGIONS and CITIES

05>09 OCTOBER 2020

12>16 OCTOBER 2020

19>22 OCTOBER 2020

RESTART  
EUROPE  
Together

#EURRegionsWeek



European Committee  
of the Regions



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Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS

## Synergies between the FAO Framework for the Urban Food Agenda and the EU Farm to Fork Strategy

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# FARM TO FORK: Aiming at fundamental food system transformation



Make sure Europeans have **access** to healthy, affordable and sustainable **food**



Tackle **climate change**



Protect the **environment** and preserve biodiversity



Ensure a **fair economic return** in the supply chain



Increase **organic** farming





# URBAN FOOD SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION KEY TO FOOD SYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY



The Farm to Fork Strategy recognize the key role of **Cities** and the importance of **Sustainable Urban Food Systems**

## KEY MESSAGE 1

Urban Food Systems are key for Food Systems Transformation



## KEY MESSAGE 2

The 2 Frameworks can be applied  
beyond their main geographic domains

### FAO FRAMEWORK FOR THE URBAN FOOD AGENDA: GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Rural-urban synergies  
*-Space matters/ influence agriculture-*
2. Social inclusion and equity  
*-Leave no one behind-*
3. Resilience and sustainability  
*-Safeguarding the future/climate change-*
4. Food systems (inter)connections  
*-Integrated perspective matters-*





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# THE FAO URBAN FOOD ACTION PROGRAMME AND THE COMPREHENSIVE AREAS OF SUPPORT (CASs)





## SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE URBAN FOOD AGENDA AND THE FARM TO FORK (1)

- Greater focus on shorter **Supply Chain** (intensified during the current outbreak)
- Promotion of **Sustainable Public Food Procurement** which will also boost Sustainable Farming Systems
- Favourable **Food Environment** that makes it easier to choose healthy diets
- Reducing and managing **Food Waste**, including recovery and redistribution of surplus food



### KEY MESSAGE 3/1

FAO Urban Food Agenda & EU Farm 2 Fork refer to the same key entry points for promoting Sustainable Food Systems transformation





## SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE URBAN FOOD AGENDA AND THE FARM TO FORK (2)

- Both strive towards **achieving the SDGs**
- They are inter-linked: **Vertical** (among different level of governments, from farm to fork) and **Horizontal** (links among the various food systems at national and global levels) integration
- They call for a **Multi-Stakeholder Approach**, including Governments, Private sector across the food value chain, Non-Governmental Organizations, Social Partners, Academics and Citizens

*KEY MESSAGE 3/2  
Even if they refer to limited geographic areas, they are both fundamental for national food systems transformation*

*KEY MESSAGE 3/3  
Even though Urban food systems are not the main focus for the Farm to Fork Strategy, food system management in cities will have reverberation on the entire sustainable food systems transformation*



## **FAO 2020 Survey to Assess the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Systems in Cities**

**861** responses  
**77** countries

57% - respondents  
from local & subnational  
governments

## **Measures taken by local governments to mitigate the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Systems in Cities**

80%

Direct food distribution  
particularly to  
vulnerable population

69%

Coordination with private  
sector and other non-  
governmental actors

60%

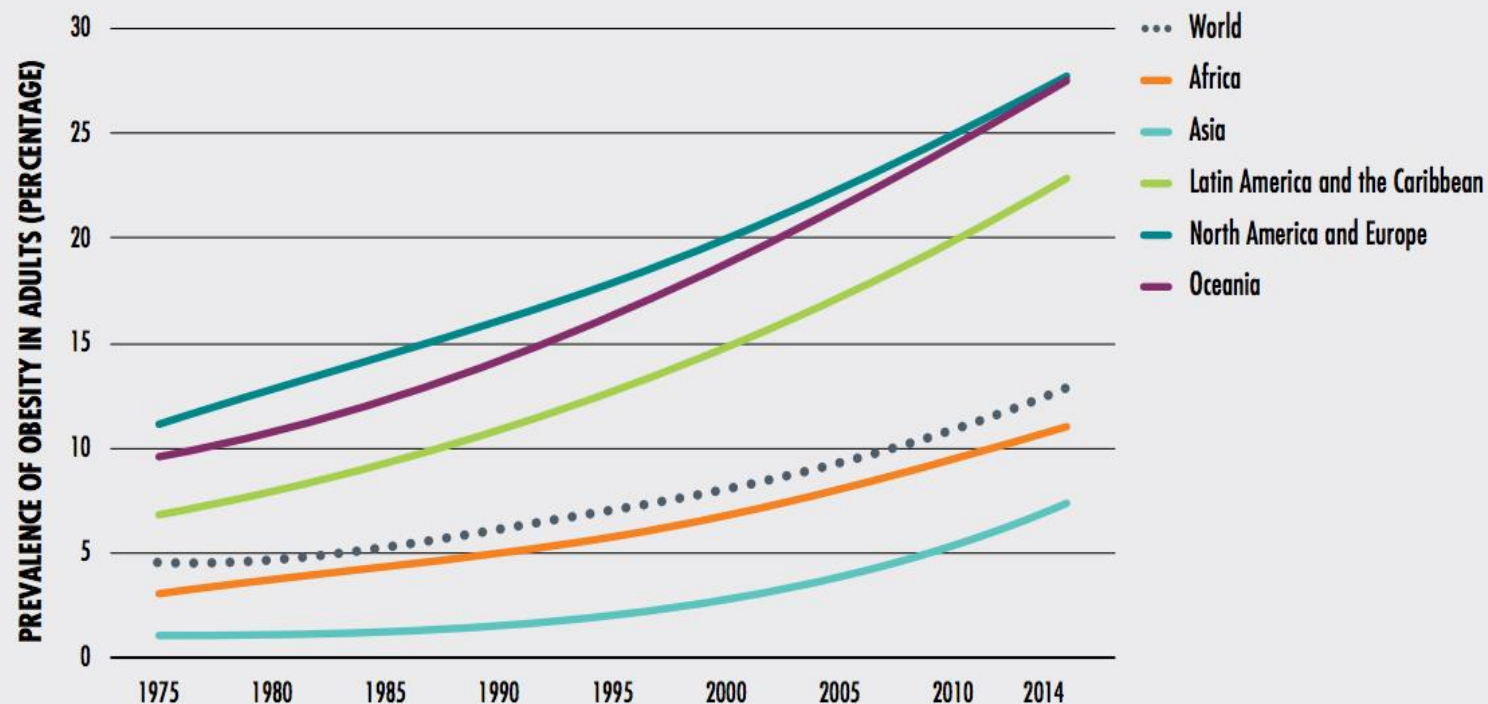
Monitoring food  
availability and prices  
in urban markets

### **KEY MESSAGE 4**

**Great potential of local governments to  
innovate and support livelihoods**



## THE COMMON CHALLENGE: ADULT OBESITY IS INCREASING WORLDWIDE (2)



NOTES: Prevalence of obesity in adults 18 years and over, 1975–2014.

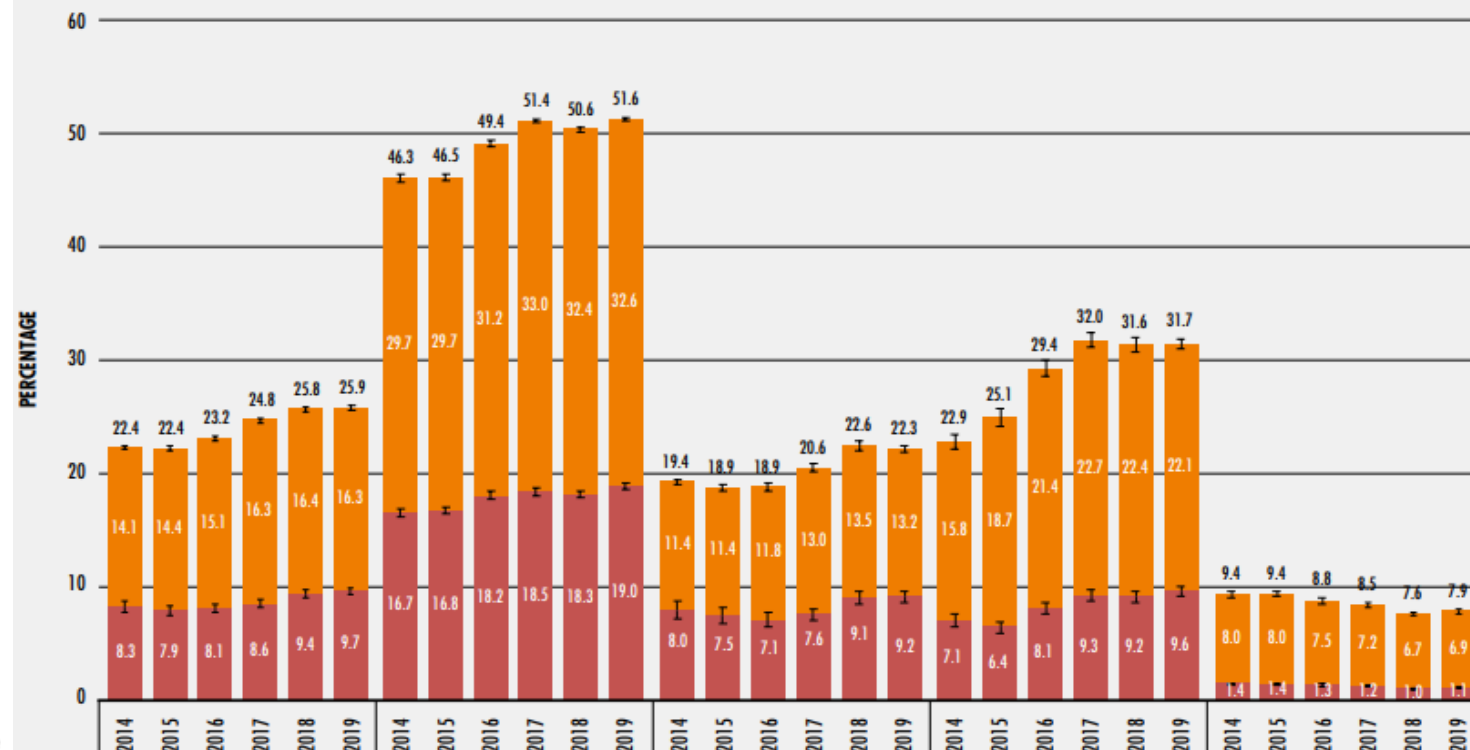
SOURCE: WHO/NCD-RisC and WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository, 2017.





# Developing countries are facing serious challenges moving towards a sustainable food system

MODERATE OR SEVERE FOOD INSECURITY AFFECTS ONE QUARTER OF THE WORLD POPULATION, AND IT HAS BEEN INCREASING OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS. OVER HALF OF THE POPULATION IN AFRICA, ALMOST ONE-THIRD IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AND MORE THAN ONE-FIFTH IN ASIA ARE FOOD INSECURE



**KEY MESSAGE 5**  
The city to city exchange:  
European cities can be crucial for addressing food security and nutrition challenges in developing countries



## WHAT COULD BE THE POSSIBLE JOINT NEXT STEPS TO MAKE THESE FRAMEWORKS A REAL LEVERAGE FOR CHANGE?

- Promote **evidence generation** on urban food systems, mapping the most vulnerable and understanding the root causes of vulnerability
- **City-to-city links**: Sister cities programmes with European cities can be promoted on capacity development and other technical support
- **Research and innovation for building back better** sustainable food systems beyond the emergency
- Promote the global transition to sustainable urban food systems in **international events** including the **Nutrition for Growth Summit** in 2021 and the **Food Systems Summit** in all of which we can seek ambitious policy outcomes



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### **FAO framework for the Urban Food Agenda:**

<http://www.fao.org/3/CA3151EN/ca3151en.pdf>

### **FAO Urban Food Agenda Website:**

<http://www.fao.org/urban-food-agenda>

### **The Urban food Actions Platform:**

<http://www.fao.org/urban-food-actions/>



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