

VISION

Quito Metropolitan District (QMD) aims to promote a sustainable and resilient food system based on sustainable production and processing, eco-efficient logistics and distribution, fair and inclusive marketing and responsible consumption. It also seeks to empower young people and women's participation throughout the system.

Concerned about reducing and utilising waste, QMD plans to increase food self-sufficiency and territorial resilience to ensure food is nutritious, balanced, sufficient and locally sourced as a people's right. It will strengthen links with its agri-food region and help reduce inequality gaps between the city and the countryside, preserve agrobiodiversity and mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.

AGRI-FOOD AGREEMENT (PAQ)

GOALS

- 1) Promoting a comprehensive approach to the QMD food system. This approach should be sustainable, fair, inclusive and resilient and consider economic, political, social, cultural and environmental factors. It should also cover all parts of the food chain (production and processing, marketing, storage, distribution and transport, and consumption and waste management).
- 2) Helping to improve the food and nutrition situation by ensuring all Quito residents, especially the most vulnerable, have access to a variety of safe, locally sourced foodstuffs and by strengthening the city's food resilience.
- 3) Fostering a sustainable agricultural and livestock production system in urban, peri-urban and rural areas with an emphasis on family farmers and based on responsible environmental management of agroecosystems. This especially concerns soil and water use and protecting production areas to ensure ecosystem services can be regenerated, and healthy quality food is available and accessible to current and future generations.
- 4) Supporting social and solidarity economy activities, especially in the agri-food sector. This includes agroecological and organic farming and artisan food processing to promote decent and sustainable livelihoods for the entire population.
- 5) Establishing networks and inclusive alliances between small-scale producers and food processing and distribution companies, regardless of their size, to promote direct trade in QMD markets; encouraging inclusive marketing systems and promoting family and community farming at private points of sale, in fair-trade stores and public procurement.

- 6) Encouraging entrepreneurship and innovation in the agri-food sector with a sustainable approach; fostering alliances between stakeholders in the chain, with the support of the public, private and academic sectors; generating a production agenda based on decent, quality jobs and fairness, inclusion and equity.
- 7) Establishing agreements to meet standards for social inclusion, environmental responsibility, food safety and processing technologies throughout the chain, including strategies to strengthen the skills of all production and processing stakeholders in every area.
- 8) Fostering food supply and distribution chains that are fairer, more efficient and less polluting and that respect shared ethical principles to guarantee a better link between food production and consumption.
- 9) Encouraging the setting up of networks and supporting civil society food initiatives by establishing places where system stakeholders can interact to ensure residents, especially the vulnerable population, can access food.
- 10) Strengthening the relationship between producers and consumers with an emphasis on the origin of food, its cultural and territorial identity and production methods; these can be recognised as agroecological and organic, or as any other means of differentiating quality and diversity, including certification and seals.
- 11) Encouraging joint action by stakeholders in the food, education and health sectors to promote healthy lifestyles. This can include media campaigns with comprehensive information on food sold as part of a responsible consumption culture, recognising different food preferences and promoting the use of local produce.
- 12) Preventing and reducing food loss and waste by introducing innovation throughout the chain; reducing the use of, reusing and recycling containers by raising awareness among the population; promoting responsible consumption; separating and classifying waste at source; rescuing and redistributing food that is still suitable for human consumption and making use of organic waste.
- 13) Developing a risk management strategy to deal with catastrophes and measures to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change in the city's food system to improve resilience.
- 14) Consolidating participatory, inclusive, co-responsible and collaborative governance of all system stakeholders and a public policy that acknowledges the human right to food and food security and sovereignty and that incorporates agri-food policies into land-use planning and coordination between different tiers of government.

- 15) Encouraging cities to share what they have learned about sustainable food systems at local, national and international levels, and to cooperate to implement projects linked to the city's Food Charter and agri-food policy.
- 16) Establishing new urban and rural links in the food system that help reduce inequality gaps between the city and the countryside by making access to opportunities and services fairer.
- 17) Developing and strengthening a culture of research and innovation, building and use of data, information and knowledge, systematisation and dissemination of results to aid decision-making and management transparency.