



July 21st, 2021
Rome | FOCSIV headquarters

THE "FOOD GREEN DEAL IN AFRICAN CITIES"

A strategic alliance proposal

The **Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP)** is an international agreement amongst cities and local authorities committed to make their food systems more equitable, sustainable and resilient. Launched in 2015 by the City of Milan on the occasion of EXPO 2015, it has been signed by more than 200 cities from all over the world to date.

The Pact Secretariat, headquartered in Milan, with the support of ACRA and other institutions and civil society organizations, supports the MUFPP regionalization process in the African continent through the organization of events at regional level, specific exchanges and city to city cooperation activities in Africa, and supporting African cities in participating in the Milan Pact Awards regarding community engagement or advocacy activities.



The event will be held in presence in Rome and online, in English.

TO PARTICIPATE

Please contact: info@mufpp-afrique.org



On February 18th, 2021 at the end of the 4th African Regional Forum of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP) held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, the **Ouagadougou Declaration** was signed, in which a clear will to strengthen the cities role in food systems global governance, alongside national governments and non-state actors, is expressed. **The Declaration is the expression of the African cities commitment to improve their own urban food systems** and continues the path started with the previous Forums and Declarations (Dakar 2016, Brazzaville 2018, Niamey 2019).

With the Ouagadougou Declaration, the signatory cities offer themselves as active subjects for the realization of the MUFPP framework of actions, with reference also to the main documents signed at international level about different themes regarding cities and food systems sustainability.

ACRA, EStà, Rete Semi Rurali, FOCSIV and Azione TerrAE

(Coalition for the agroecological transition) intend to respond to the call closing the Declaration, asking

for the **creation of an “enabling environment for coordinated policies”**, proposing a facilitation path to bring together the action of different actors who work, in various capacities, within the themes of the Declaration. Such actors are cities, national governments, government agencies, foundations, universities, research centers, NGOs, in addition to networks.

The aim is to give value to the peculiarities of each of these actors, making a well-structured mosaic of political-institutional, relational, economic and technical-scientific resources needed to create the “enabling environment” indicated in the Declaration.

This path is defined as a strategic alliance towards a “Food Green Deal in African cities”, a multi-level working table to facilitate an effective multi-stakeholder dialogue thanks to the already established framework of the Pact, in

his role as a collector of skills, needs and political visions of African cities.

The meeting to be held in Rome on July 21st, 2021, represents an

important step of this path and it aims at bringing to the same table actors interested in development cooperation and other forms of institutional, scientific, cultural and socioeconomic relationships with the African urban context.

Central moment of the meeting will be the presentation of a position paper in which the connections among the key elements of the alliance will be explained.

The position paper will be focused on the connection among food systems, climate change and cities, food poverty fight and research role, that represents one of the reading key of the Ouagadougou Declaration.

To support this perspective, two documents included in the Ouagadougou Declaration are mentioned, amongst others: the 2019 **Montpellier Declaration** that indicates the MUFPP as a tool for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda, the **Good Food Cities Declaration** promoted in 2019 by the C40 cities and the 2020 **Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration**.



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The set of these documents indicates how the desertification processes caused by climate change and the cultivation changes generated by it affect way beyond the agricultural sector in the strict sense. They have very relevant effects on food and nutrition safety, on economic systems endurance, on different forms of vulnerability and exclusion and they are a triggering or contributing factor to many conflicts.

In the African continent, these dynamics create one of the main push to the migration processes and to the uncontrolled urbanization dynamics that, in turn, bring along further forms of poverty and impacts on environmental and socioeconomic systems.

This is why the sustainability of food systems as a whole, that includes the needs both to promote a different production and distribution model through the agroecological transition and to build a balance, always delicate, between cities and their surrounding territories, is a key goal to be achieved through specific policies having cities as main actors, in the spirit of the multilevel governance indicated in the MUFPP and in all the related documents. These policies are the specific subject of the alliance proposed here.

The alliance proposal is addressed to the guests of the seminar and specifically:

- to the network of African cities signatories of the MUFPP and policies think tanks able to

combine the urban food demand with an economically, socially and climatically sustainable agricultural supply;

- to the NGOs and other civil society actors, their networks and associations capable of bringing the lessons learnt from the field in a reflection on strategic perspectives of cooperation in this area;
- to researchers offering innovative readings of the discussed phenomena, data, analysis and scientific evidence;
- to technical and financial partners and institutions who want to direct their strategies and actions towards these calls and these themes.

SCHEDULE

> 10.30 to 13.00:

Institutions and proposing subjects greetings

> 14.00 to 15.30: Discussion amongst actors interested to co-promote the alliance

The event will be held in presence in Rome and online, in English.

TO PARTICIPATE

Please contact:

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- **Ouagadougou Declaration**
https://www.milanurbanfoodpolicypact.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Declaration-of-Ouagadougou-EN_FR.pdf
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The activity is financed by AICS and falls within the sphere of different projects and partnerships, in particular:



- *“Imprese sociali innovative e partecipazione dei migranti per l’inclusione sociale in Burkina Faso”*, AICS funding. Leader: Mani Tese, Partners: ACRA, City of Milano, CesPi, Chico Mendes, Watinoma, City of Ouagadougou, FIAB, Fenaferb.
- *“Jardins urbains inclusifs pour la sécurité alimentaire dans la ville de N’Djamena”*, AICS funding. Leader: ACRA Partner: City of N’Djamena.
- *“Latte e Miele: due filiere ad alto valore aggiunto come risposta all’insicurezza alimentare ed economica delle zone rurali ed urbane in Niger”*, AICS funding. Leader: Africa’70. Partners: ACRA, City of Milano (and AMSA specialists), University of Turin, University of Niamey, GAJEL, Associazione SALAM ONG, SIVtro Veterinari Senza Frontiere ONLUS, TRIM - Translate into Meaning.