

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE
OF THE REGIONS'
OPINION



European Committee
of the Regions

TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE EU FOOD POLICY



RAPPORTEUR:
ARNO KOMPATSCHER
(EPP/IT)



MAIN PROPOSALS:

PUSHING FOR A ROADMAP DESIGNED TO IMPLEMENT A SUSTAINABLE EU FOOD POLICY

Introducing a common and long term vision in all relevant policy areas

- Develop a comprehensive, sustainable EU food policy that will address food production and nutrition in a more comprehensive manner, establishing a link across different policy areas creating jobs and growth in Europe's regions and cities
- Ensure consistency between all relevant EU legislation and financial incentives

Supporting agricultural productivity and resilience via a healthy ecosystem

- Preserve biodiversity and higher animal welfare standards supporting environmentally-friendly farming and production methods
- Stimulate and sustain, also financially, the development of small-scale farming systems, especially those located in vulnerable areas and on the periphery of cities



Ensuring access to healthy diets, especially for low-income families

- Establish long-term health programmes targeting obesity and food related diseases
- Promote the availability of, and accessibility to local, fresh and seasonal food
- Reduce unnecessary bureaucracy which hinders the redistribution of healthy foods

Developing a comprehensive and comparable terminology on sustainable food systems

- Create a comprehensive terminology on sustainable food systems
- Standardize the methodology for collecting and reporting data on the environmental impact of food products, including food waste, to ensure data comparability
- Improve the transparency of food labels, including comparable information about the impact of food on the environment

“Greening” public procurement guidelines

- Clarify existing constraints within public procurement rules
- Introduce sustainability criteria like e.g. territorial preferences

Facilitating the implementation of a sustainable EU food policy concept by a multilevel governance approach

- Foster strategic planning at regional and local level for reducing the overall environmental impact of the food system
- Support local and regional authorities to initiate and manage targeted environmental measures like e.g. local food councils

