



LETTER OF INTENT

for engaging Spanish cities in the MUFPP towards food system transformation

BETWEEN

The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact established within the Food Policy Department of the Municipality of Milan, with headquarters in Milan, via Sile 8 (Tax Code 01199250158), represented by the Director of the Food Policy Department Mr. Andrea Magarini

AND

Red de Municipios por la Agroecología, with headquarters in Avenida de la Constitución 106, 1º. 12520 Nules (Spain) represented by its Technical Coordinator, Jorge Molero Cortés, authorized by its Board of Directors

WHEREAS

- The **Milan Urban Food Policy Pact** (MUFPP), launched and chaired by the Milan Municipality, is the main international legacy of the Milan Expo 2015 “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”, being an international agreement amongst cities around the world that consider food as a gateway to the sustainable development of cities. Signatory cities committed themselves “to develop sustainable food systems that are inclusive, resilient, safe and diverse, that provide healthy and affordable food to all people in a human rights-based framework, that minimize waste and conserve biodiversity while adapting to and mitigating impacts of climate change”. It represents the foundational framework for cities and international stakeholders working to shape innovative urban food policies for the management and governance of local food systems. Currently, the Milan Pact brings together over 270 signatory cities from all over the world.
- The **Red de Municipios por la Agroecología** (RMAe) is a network of local authorities with food policies based on agroecology active in Spain. It aims at generating a dynamic among Spanish municipalities in order to build local, environmentally friendly, sustainable, inclusive, resilient, safe and diversified food systems to ensure the right to healthy and sustainable food for the whole population, and to promote local employment, in line with the perspectives of agroecology and food sovereignty. Currently, the Red de Municipios por la Agroecología brings together 25 cities in Spain.
- The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact is composed by a preamble and a Framework for Action listing 37 recommended actions, clustered in 6 categories. For each recommended action there are specific indicators to monitor progress in implementing the Pact. The Milan Pact Awards, promoted by the Municipality of Milan and Cariplo Foundation, offer concrete examples of the food policies that cities are implementing in each of the 6 Pact categories now gathers 621 food policy practices collected within the MUFPP community since 2016.
- The MUFPP and the RMAe started working together in 2020, jointly working on the preparation of the 7th MUFPP Global Forum hosted by the city of Barcelona in Spain. One of the main outcomes has been the co-creation of the “*The Barcelona Challenge for Good Food and Climate*”, a call for local governments and their residents to engage in a series of commitments related to the transformation of their food systems in order to tackle the climate emergency. The Challenge strongly contributed to positionate the climate emergency as the core field of actions of the food policy development for the MUFPP signatory cities, as a platform to showcase the commitment and leadership of cities on the food-climate nexus.

- Considering the need for the MUFPP to have organizations that can act as focal points, active on food system transformation, competent in city-to-city cooperation, as well as familiar with the MUFPP community, and considering the willingness to continue to work with the RMAe in order to strengthen the MUFPP in Spain and to support Spanish cities in the development of sustainable, healthy and fair food systems;
- Considering the experience gained by the RMAe in supporting the development of food policies among the 26 Spanish cities, the preparatory and monitoring activities of The Barcelona Challenge, and the willingness to continue working with the MUFPP;

NOW, THEREFORE, the MUFPP and the Red de Municipios por la Agroecología (hereinafter jointly the “Parties”) intend to establish a collaboration for engaging Spanish cities in the MUFPP towards food system transformation, in the following terms:

1. The MUFPP established within the Municipality of Milan, recognizes the Red de Municipios por la Agroecología as a strategic partner for the development of the MUFPP among Spanish cities and therefore designates it as its national focal point in Spain;
2. The Red de Municipios por la Agroecología agrees to support the MUFPP Secretariat in the development of the MUFPP in Spain, working with Spanish cities and other national stakeholders and institution to further promote the food system transformation at city-region scale;
3. The MUFPP shares with the Red de Municipios por la Agroecología the visibility of all the practices submitted to the Milan Pact Awards from Spanish cities part of the network;
4. The MUFPP will serve as juror for the Award of COS¹ and RMAe “Premios Ciudades y Pueblos que Alimentan”;
5. The RMAe and the MUFPP will support each other while developing advocacy actions towards the Spanish national government and other spaces for the positioning of urban food policies;
6. The RMAe and MUFPP will organize events and webinars with all interested Spanish cities, member of the MUFPP, of the RMAe or simply interested in joining them, on specific topics of national interest and to present the progress of the activities of this LOI;
7. The RMAe will support the MUFPP in developing the MUFPP Fellowship Program as advancement of the Milan Pact Awards;
8. The Parties agree to work for a joint participation in funding opportunities for calls for philanthropic foundations, European funds and national funds, also agree to share relevant information relating to the activities developed in Spain in funded projects in which the Parties are members;
9. The Parties agree to share information related to and to jointly work together for further advancement of the MUFPP Monitoring Framework;
10. The MUFPP will share with RMAe the reflections, tasks developed and other related information generated by the WG of Food Systems in Eurocities and will collect and bring in the European group its suggestions and comments if any;
11. The Parties might organize joint communication actions, to give visibility to the activities developed under this LOI;
12. The Parties might regularly exchange information regarding their respective relevant activities and agreed to jointly produce a simple and brief annual report to be sent to the MUFPP Steering Committee - specifically to the attention of its European cities and to the Board of the RMAe;
13. Any divergences among the Parties related to the present Letter of Intent shall be settled amicably between the parties;

¹ COS is the Council of Social Organisations, a consultative and monitoring body for the actions of the RMAe. It consists of a group of organisations that accompany the RMAe and its members in the development of their agroecological policies.

14. This Letter of Intent is a statement of intent and creates not legally binding obligations on the Parties, the letter shall have effect as of the date of signature by the Parties and will be effective until the 31st December 2025, with the possibility of renewal through a simple exchange of letters;
15. This Letter of Intent is drawn up only in the English language and consists of 3 (three) pages.

The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact
City of Milan
Director of Food Policy Department
Andrea Magarini

Red de Municipios por la Agroecología
Technical Coordinator
Jorge Molero Cortés