



## Peri-urban agriculture, local markets and healthy food



The Foodlinks members held their 4<sup>th</sup> project meeting in Vitoria-Gasteiz (Spain), European Green Capital 2012. We focussed on finding the cross-cutting links between the themes of short food supply chains, public sector food procurement and urban food strategies. Furthermore, we reflected on what value we create in working together in heterogeneous communities of practice (CoPs) consisting of academia, policy and civil society. In addition, Foodlinks partner Neiker organised a public conference at the City hall (see photo). About 150 people from the municipality and local administration, farmers' and consumers' associations, NGOs and researchers attended the conference. Foodlinks and the City Council of Vitoria-Gasteiz shared ideas and initiatives related to sustainable food. A new project around Vitoria-Gasteiz is *Basaldea*; a programme to promote entrepreneurship in organic peri-urban agriculture. More information on this programme can be found [here](#).

## Upcoming Events

**27-28 November**  
*Malmö, Sweden*  
Meeting on urban food strategies and revaluing public sector food procurement.  
More info contact: [Gunilla Andersson](#)

**February 2013**  
*Tukums, Latvia*  
Urban food strategies CoP meeting

**April 2013**  
*Scotland*  
5th Foodlinks project meeting

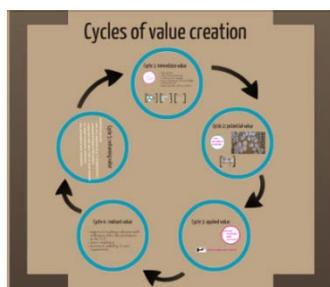
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## Past events

**June 2012**  
*Skype call with Robert Pederson, Manager European Agriculture and Health Consortium*  
We talked about what sort of tangible EU policies would be optimal to promote short food supply chains and local/regional food systems, and how current European public procurement policy should be changed to facilitate this. Contact [Julie Smith](#) to find out more.

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## Measuring value creation in our communities



In Foodlinks we apply the [framework](#) by Wenger, Trayner and De Laat. Through stories and group reflection exercises, members share what value they get from participating in the CoP. This ranges from meeting new people in their field, to learning how to collaborate online and applying new ideas and tools in practice. In the Foodlinks newsletters we share some of these stories with you (see below).

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## Stories of value creation from the urban food strategies CoP

“Seeing a growing interest outside the project in related themes of sustainable food systems and cities has also been an important confirmation of the timeliness of the project aims. I am particularly appreciating where processes of collaboration are central, and when the overcoming of knowledge gaps between the research community, practitioners and policymakers are visible constraints, this tends to take on added confirmation that Foodlinks efforts have potential for wider lessons-sharing.” – *Arthur Getz, PhD researcher at Cardiff University, School of City and Regional Planning*

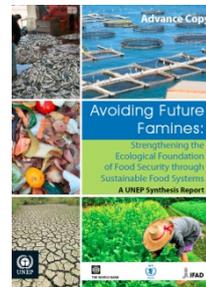
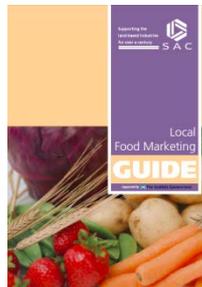
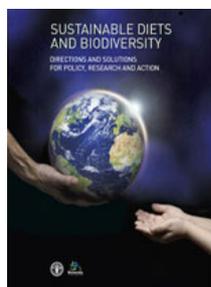
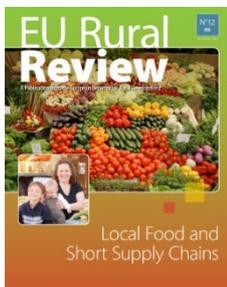
“I have gained a lot of knowledge about urban food strategies in other regions. I have a sense of achievement when I talk about our work in Malmö. It is inspiring to hear about other cities and learn from them.” – *Helen Nilsson, Project officer at the Environment Department of the City of Malmö (Sweden)*

“I very much enjoyed the discussions in our first CoP meetings on Urban Food Strategies. It made my understanding of the different dimensions of food in urban contexts so much richer and opened the perspective for me to be able to see food as a lens through which to analyse a variety of urban problems – from social policy to urban-region relations, climate change, the limitations of urban policies or the role of civil society activities in changing the food system. Of particular value were the different experiences and backgrounds of the other CoP participants in this discussion and their different interests in if, why and how to change the urban food situation. Without the ideas developed in the CoP meetings my take on urban food issues would have remained more limited to issues I had dealt with earlier, such as green procurement or the climate impact of food.” – *Harald Rohrer, Associate Professor at IFZ / Dept. of Science & Technology Studies, University of Klagenfurt (Austria)*

## July 2012

*Short food supply chain CoP meeting in Rennes, France. We visited Brin d'Herbe. A group of 20 farmers, who have been selling local and organic products in two stores on the outskirts of Rennes for 20 years. Brin d'Herbe is one of the cases the CoP has studied. Find this and other case studies on the [Knowledge Hub](#).*

## New library resources



## New CoP members

### Short food supply chain CoP:

- Logan Strenchock (Central European University)

### Urban food strategies CoP:

- Matthew Griffiths
- Eva Lachkovics (Grüne, WIDE)
- Hannah MacMorran
- Philipp Stierand (Speiseräume)

### Revaluing public sector food procurement CoP:

- Duncan Campbell (West Yorkshire Analytical Services)
- Lisa Campbell (University of Dundee)
- Mark Davies (ISS Education)
- Ana Moragues Faus (Cardiff University)
- Adrian Morley (BRASS)
- Alexander Vines
- Jon Walker (Sustain)



- [Beyond Divides: An International Winter School and Forum on Contemporary Agri-food Issues](#)
- [Sweet exile](#)
- [Unilever prepares for return of poverty in Europe](#)
- [The Doritos Loco Taco](#)
- [Good Food for London conference](#)
- [Public procurement of food is a political act.](#)

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**Also like to become a member of one of our communities?** Sign up for the [Short Food Supply Chain](#), [Revaluating Public Sector Food Procurement](#) or [Urban Food Strategies](#) CoP!



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Foodlinks is an EU FP7 project with the purpose of evaluating knowledge brokerage activities to promote sustainable food consumption and production: linking scientists, policymakers and civil society organizations.

Foodlinks partners: Wageningen University, Interdisziplinäres Forschungszentrum (IFZ), Forschungsinstitut für biologischen Landbau (FiBL), Cardiff University, City University London, Pisa University, Baltic Studies Centre, Scottish Government, Malmo City, Tukum Municipality, Province of Limburg, Neiker, FRCIVAM, Via Campesina.



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