



NANTES METROPOLIS



A LOCAL, SUSTAINABLE FOOD SUPPLY, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY WITH EVERYONE AND FOR EVERYONE

The Nantes Metropolis benefits from many different types of land and agricultural production. Woodland, orchards, water-meadows, vine-covered hillsides and market garden valleys mean that a substantial amount of the food consumed can be produced within the region. Processing facilities and distribution networks make almost everything immediately available. But is this produce accessible to everyone? What are the logistical, socio-cultural and economic constraints that prevent some of our fellow citizens from having access to a healthy, balanced diet? And more importantly, how can these constraints be overcome?

"ENABLE EVERYONE TO HAVE ACCESS TO A HEALTHY, BALANCED DIET"

Nantes Metropolis has been committed to a regional food project "for a local, sustainable food supply, accessible to all" since 2015. While the concept of sustainability applied to food naturally integrates a social component, the organizations mobilized in the project prioritized the development of an inclusive project, "for everyone and with everyone", with a strong social and cultural dimension. In other words, combining pleasure with health, gastronomy with accessibility, and festive occasions with responsibility.

This focus is reflected in the metropolis' food strategy and in the roadmap voted in 2018, with one of the 8 collective commitments: "enable everyone to have access to a healthy, balanced diet". To validate this policy, the Urban Planning Agency for the

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- 630,000 Nantes Metropolis, 24 municipalities
- 50,000 hectares for Nantes Metropolis, including 31,000 ha classified as zone A (agricultural) or N (natural), 13,500 ha UAA
- 15 priority districts with a population of 54 000 inhabitants, 40% below the poverty threshold

Nantes Agglomeration carried out a survey of the population's food purchasing and practice¹:

- 7% of households spend less than €25/week on their food
- 29% of households cook to "save money"
- 50% of households of the more educated households regularly buy organic food, compared to 20% of less educated households
- 51% of households with high environmental awareness consider that a healthy diet consists of "non-processed products without additives", compared to 19% of households with low environmental awareness.

¹ "How to provide Nantes' 630,000 inhabitants with a good quality food?" 2018 survey of 1500 households in Nantes Metropole

As a result, the Nantes Metropolis PAT (Regional Food Project) is focused on its inhabitants, and after 6 months of collective production with all the organizations involved in the food system, 71 quantified objectives and policy goals were determined² for 2020/30. They concern the production system and the improvement of practices, the supply and low-carbon logistics, the fight against food waste, innovation and experimentation, education and the raising of awareness, living together harmoniously and outreach, and of course, accessibility and health. The efficiency, resilience and sustainability of the food system are at the heart of the project, without ever forgetting the stakeholders, who all play a role as "proactive responsible consumers". Some examples among the 71 objectives that highlight accessibility and the inclusion of all social categories:

- an area for eating in all parks and gardens
- a map of commercial distribution food to avoid "food deserts"

- 100% of the population having physical and financial access to drinking water
- 100 AMAPs (Associations for the maintenance of local farming) in the greater urban area
- 200 households experimenting with collective purchasing without commitments or prefunding, such as bulk orders and direct grouped orders
- 400 households involved in "food challenges"
- Introduction of "PAT compatible" products in emergency food aid
- 1 food "carte blanche" facilitating financial access to sustainable products
- 1001 eco-events that include a sustainable food supply
- 1 access for all to local food production sites
- 1 transversal action plan, "PAT à l'école" ("Regional Food Project in the Classroom") in 24 municipalities
- ...

Sustainable food in schools

Since education starts at an early age, Nantes Metropolis and its partners are supporting 24 municipalities in a programme to raise awareness about sustainable food in schools. This project is based on the introduction of local organic products into state purchasing contracts, the "zero-waste" programme in canteens and at school events, and awareness-raising activities/materials for all schoolchildren. These activities include the creation of kitchen gardens at all schools, cooking workshops, and "1 farm / 1 school" partnerships.

The initiative will be tested in 2020/25 with 5 pilot establishments being invited to submit projects (1 public primary



school, 1 private primary school, 1 secondary school, 1 high school, and 1 higher education establishment), before being extended on a voluntary basis in 2025/30 to all establishments in the greater urban area.

Sustainable food in priority districts

In partnership with the organizations involved in the planning and management of priority districts (providers of social housing, CCAS (municipal social action centre), socio-cultural centres, community centres, etc.), the challenge is to make healthy, sustainable food available to everyone, taking into account the priority criteria of economic and cultural accessibility.

This project includes the creation of eating areas in all green spaces and outside apartment buildings, the development of urban micro-farms including shared spaces for market gardening / fruit trees, chickens, and the production of mushrooms for example. It also incorporates a "zero-waste" strategy via the development of collective composting and experimentation with biowaste channels. In some cases, the possibility of farms dedicated to professional production are being studied.

In addition to this production objective, the distribution/logistics component plans to organize collective orders



of local products available for direct sale, without prior commitment or prefunding. Suitable partnerships are planned between collectives of inhabitants and local producers, with a possible contribution from local distributors.

These initiatives are generally supported by the "Family Food Challenges" which structure the collective dynamic within and between districts and encourage a social mix.

Finally, a "food carte blanche" will be tested by the Nantes CCAS to facilitate access to seasonal fruit and vegetables for people who are vulnerable or experiencing food insecurity.

² cf. PAT roadmap, resolution of 4 October 2019