REINFORCING ADOPTION OF BEHAVIOUR TO DEVELOP A SUSTAINABLE FOOD SUPPLY

At the heart of the Sillon Lorrain European metropolitan centre, in a mainly rural environment for its population of 433,788 inhabitants, Grand Nancy Metropolis coordinates a wide range of initiatives relating to the food supply that affect multiple territorial issues such as economic growth, agriculture, the environment, social justice and health.

The objective is to rethink the metropolitan food supply strategy in order to respond to current and future societal issues. To achieve this, the Grand Nancy Metropolis is taking action for:

- access to a healthy diet, particularly for disadvantaged people,
- the maintenance of peri-urban farming, and the encouragement of new supply channels,
- the promotion of practices that have the least possible impact on natural resources in particular the fight against food waste,
- the development of a PAT (Projet Alimentaire Territorial - Territorial Food Project) beyond its territory

A METROPOLITAN STRATEGY

Its social and territorial action aims to be supportive and pro-active. In the interests of territorial coherence and knowledge of all of the actors responsible for food aid, the Metropolis has enabled the creation of a network of the existing food aid organizations.

It also provides financial support for associations providing food aid to disadvantaged populations, such as the Food Bank and Restos du Cœur (charity providing food for the homeless during the winter). It provides facilities for food storage and authorizes the occupation of public spaces to launch and promote winter campaigns, improving the visibility of actions

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- Number of inhabitants:
  - metropolitan area: 254,788
  - urban area: 433,788
- Metropolis area: 14,230 ha
- Area dedicated to agriculture: 3,056 ha, i.e. 21.5% of the territory
carried out in the fight against economic insecurity and the promotion of equal opportunities.

In parallel, it builds and supports a network of “distributors”, consisting of numerous charitable associations operating in the City’s social priority districts and community grocery stores, proposed by the cities or their C.C.A.S. (Centre Communal d’Action Sociale - Municipal Social Action Centre) [Stores organized by the Nancy C.C.A.S. in Plat’Haut and Haussonville with job integration training, the Vandoeuvre C.C.A.S. community grocery store, two community solidarity-based grocery stores in Maxéville, the Placieux solidarity community centre in Villers-lès-Nancy, the Grémaillon community centre in Essey-lès-Nancy, and the “Si l’on se parlait” (“Let’s talk about it”) association, etc.

A “Food supply and Insecurity” roundtable

Grand Nancy Metropolis has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to improving the health of all its inhabitants, in particular taking action with the first Contrat Local de Santé (CLS) (Local Health Contract) (2013-2017) on the major determinants of health inherent to human, urban and economic activity. At the time of committing to a second generation CLS, the Metropolis wished to position the issue of social accessibility for disadvantaged populations to an appropriate, good quality, sustainable food supply.

In this way, as part of the fourth strategic policy orientation, “Reinforcing the practice of physical activity and the adoption of dietary habits conducive to good health, and appropriate to age”, an action entitled “eating on a low budget” was adopted.

Proposed by the AD2S association and the Grand Nancy metropolis Réseau Santé Précarité (Health and Vulnerability Network), it aims to promote a healthy diet for young people and people in difficulty and to encourage dignified, sustainable access for all to a good quality food supply, enabling social inclusion and citizen participation.

The fight against food waste

Waste prevention has also been revealed to be a valuable local public action in relation to subjects that may not seem to be immediately related to the preservation of the environment, such as health.

For several years, Grand Nancy has voluntarily undertaken waste prevention actions, mobilizing resources and partners in relation to various aspects of waste prevention, including the fight against food waste.

These actions consist in initiating virtuous processes to improve the quality of the food supply in volunteer collective catering establishments, from savings generated by reductions in food waste. Each establishment is invited to examine its practices (purchases, specifications, organization of mealtimes, etc.) with the help of a specialist advisor from the Metropolis. In 2018, 5 establishments (3 schools, a health care centre and a prison) benefited from support in carrying out an assessment and the development of a customized action plan.

The methodology incorporates joint training and sharing of experience sessions which enable professionals to go beyond the context of their own establishment, to share good practices and to connect with a territorial dynamic, in particular the Projet Alimentaire Territorial (Territorial Food Project).

In 2019, this initiative was continued with seven establishments, including two new ones. Special attention was brought to the quality and the origin of the products (short supply chains, quality certification, etc.).

This action is implemented within a “Health Solidarity Insecurity” Roundtable

Grand Nancy fully supported a meeting bringing together a hundred people on 17 October 2019, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

The Roundtable was intended for social work professionals, managers of social structures (CCAS, community solidarity-based grocery stores) and health professionals.

The roundtable was accompanied by experimental workshops and enabled discussion and reflection regarding solutions to food supply and insecurity issues.