



SAINT-ETIENNE METROPOLIS



THE PROMOTION OF SHORT AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY CHAINS FOR BETTER FOOD SOLIDARITY

Agriculture is an important feature of the Saint-Etienne Metropolis, occupying 38% of the territory's area (75% including forest) and providing a living for more than 1,000 farms, of which 600 are larger than 10 hectares. 38% of farms in the Metropolis sell their produce in short supply chains (19% within the Loire département). This agricultural production offers a wide range of local farm produce. Processing of farm products is relatively substantial and varied (cheese, yogurt, meat, charcuterie (cooked pork products), fruit, vegetables, honey, etc.); dairy processing is the most widespread.

The Saint-Etienne Metropolis conducts an agricultural policy characterized by the development of local supply chains and environmentally friendly farming, and the preservation of agricultural land. It has implemented several food solidarity initiatives, including:

- ensuring that farmers in the territory are able to earn a fair income
- promoting healthy, sustainable eating habits by raising children's awareness and using good quality local products in the preparation of school meals.

This work is supplemented by the approach proposed in the PEEDD (plan d'éducation à l'écocitoyenneté et au développement durable, or the Eco-citizen and Sustainable Development Educational Plan) which aims to raise children's awareness of these two cross-cutting themes. In this framework, intervention modules are offered to primary schools on the subjects of "Eat Locally!" and the fight against food waste.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- Number of inhabitants:
 - Saint-Etienne Metropolis: 404,859
 - Greater urban area: 515,398
 - Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region: 7,820,966
- 31 family gardens
- 3 urban permaculture projects
- 53 municipalities, 27 of which have fewer than 2,000 inhabitants
- 1,000 farms using 27,000 hectares

Support for municipalities in the long-term introduction of local, organic products into collective food services

This action is part of one of the strategic aims of the Saint-Etienne Metropolis' agricultural policy which promotes the development of short supply chains for the territory's farm produce.

The flagship initiative has been the support of municipalities wishing to encourage the long-term introduction of local, organic products into collective catering operations, in particular school canteens. Since 2011, the Saint-Etienne Metropolis has offered this support free to its member municipalities with the help of the Loire Chamber of Agriculture and the association locale pour le développement de l'agriculture biologique (ARDAB - Association Rhône-Loire for the development of organic agriculture).

Objectives and issues for the territory:

- to introduce local and/or organic products into public collective food services on a long-term basis;
- to support the local agricultural economy by buying products required for the preparation of meals from farmers in the territory at a price that enables them to maintain their activity;
- to offer, particularly to children, high-quality meals using local produce.



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A recent review of the initiative indicated that 32 municipalities have been supported; with the preparation of 10,300 meals/day. Municipalities directly managing production have introduced an average of 27% of local, organic products.

In order to continue the initiative's momentum, two tools have been designed and made available to municipalities:

- a directory of local producers that supply collective catering operations
- 2 guides for the drafting of public contracts favouring the integration of local and/or organic products into collective catering operations

Finally, the Saint-Etienne -Metropolis is currently studying the implementation of a territorial food strategy. An assessment will be carried out in the near future for this purpose.

Populations concerned: the metropolis's 53 municipalities for the management of their collective catering operations: mainly canteens in schools, but also for administrative departments, retirement homes, hospitals and crèches.

Raising children's awareness of the "importance of healthy eating"

The Saint-Etienne Metropolis' elected representatives' office voted on 7 July 2016 for the continuation of a policy for raising young people's awareness of environmentally friendly practices with a view to responding to the challenges of the Saint-Etienne Metropolis' Agglomeration and Sustainable Development Strategy Project, the Territorial Climate and Energy Plan and various public policies conducted by the Saint-Etienne Metropolis.

2 actions in the framework of the PEEDD

- Organization of educational workshops in 12 classes/year subject to registration:
- from 2017 to 2019 accompanied by the regular distribution of local, organic fruit
- in 2019/20 accompanied by visits to educational kitchen gardens

Objectives and issues for the territory

- Raising children's awareness of seasonality
- Developing ethical and responsible behaviour in relation to health and the environment
- Promoting local production
- Encouraging responsible buying that does not use up a lot of energy
- Raising awareness of concepts relating to food waste



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- Raise awareness of concepts relating to packaging/bulk buying
- Making a link with the introduction of local products to school canteens

The PEEDD enables the structuring of an awareness-raising initiative for young people in partnership with the National Education authorities and associations for environmental education.

The actions proposed in the framework of the PEEDD should be continued in the future, and even reinforced on the theme of health and the food supply.

This programme is for elementary and primary school children in the territory's 196 schools and their teachers.