



Sustainability Week 3 - Step Up to the Plate!

IMPULSE: Food Systems - The Future under Our Forks

10.11.2021
16.00 - 17.00h
CEST

Online @Zoom

PROGRAMME

16.00 **Welcome**

Dr. Nele Fabian

European Affairs Manager, European Dialogue Programme of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation

16.05 **Panel Discussion: Transitioning toward innovative, sustainable, and profitable urban food systems**

Peter Defranceschi

Head Global Food Program and Head of Brussels Office, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability Europe

Dr. Bernd Pölling

Urban Farming Expert, Department of Agriculture, South Westphalia University of Applied Sciences, Dortmund

Diana Messa

Policy Advisor, Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, Renew Europe Group, European Parliament

16.30 **Spotlight on Liberals in sustainability: Sustainable entrepreneurship and urban short food chain initiatives in Ghent**

Mathias De Clercq

Mayor, City of Ghent (Open VLD)

16.35 **Panel Discussion Part II with Q&A**

Moderator: Susanne Hartig

Consultant, anchor21

*Please note that you will be forwarded to a Zoom registration page.

Photographs will be taken at the event for use on FNF website, social media, in the press, their marketing materials, and other publications. By entering this event, you consent to them filming, photographing and using your image and likeness.

REGISTER NOW

Kindly register for this event by 10 November at

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xr9wj54HR4-1f_6abXZpDw *

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information on how to join the webinar.

ABOUT THE EVENT

With 75 percent of citizens living in urban areas and food consumption rising, the production and circulation of fresh quality produce in Europe is facing new challenges that requires innovative, out-of-the-box solutions. The traditional food systems leaves a tremendous environmental imprint, with its impact ranging from loss of ecosystems and water loss over high carbon emissions, chemical pollution and transport emissions to food waste and unsustainable packaging. Low impact agriculture and recent forms of urban farming such as rooftop, vertical and indoor farms have the potential to counterbalance many of these negative aspects of food circulation. They bring food production closer to urban consumers, shorten food supply chains and save carbon emissions from transportation. They also allow for more transparency for the consumers. But how sustainable are they really – and how cost efficient will they be long-term? What support systems do they need to remodel the food system effectively?

The transition towards an innovative, sustainable, and profitable food system requires a well-balanced cooperation between local businesses that offer innovative, high-quality food products, open-minded consumers that are ready to change their habits around food consumption, and municipal authorities that support ambitious legislation, remodel food procurement, and share good local practice.

To achieve these goals, circular solutions play an important role in establishing new resource efficient, sustainable food production mechanisms – be it by developing smart food sharing solutions or by establishing ways to reuse waste, water and by-products of the agri-food and fishing industries.

This digital seminar explores the role of consumers, producers, and municipalities in their efforts to reconcile the food system with sustainability standards and citizens' growing preferences for healthy, equitable and low-impact food.

The European Dialogue Programme (EDP) of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom hosts a series of three digital Sustainability Weeks during the second half of 2021, which are dedicated to aspects around sustainability and the economy with a particular focus on circular economy models. The present public panel discussion concludes our third Sustainability Week, which is designed to foster knowledge building around liberal approaches to low-impact food production, food consumption in urban areas, and innovation in food tech.