

Acronym - OnFoodAtlas

Title – Italian local Food Atlases as basis to build a national observatory on local food policies: Watching, Organizing, Researching and sharing Knowledge through a digital participatory platform for citizens and policy-makers

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Iuav role – Partner

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Iuav funding – € 36.115,00

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Description – Food Atlases (FA) are useful tools to analyze, map, represent and promote territorial food systems. FA serve as a participatory platform for the design, decision-making and evaluation of local, integrated food policies. In doing so FA foster dialogue, strategy development and the identification of innovative solutions for the transition of the food system towards sustainability. FA facilitate the interaction between science and politics and promote food policies based on scientific evidence, thereby enhancing citizen science through the involvement of multiple stakeholders.

Starting from existing FA in Italy – with a specific focus on the areas of Rome, the metropolitan city of Turin and the Venice lagoon – the OnFoodAtlas project aims at:

- 1) Creating a Local Agencies model which can be adopted by local administrations in the development of integrated food policies, as well as creating a digital platform that may connect Local Agencies to support the National Observatory on Local Food Policies in the monitoring and analysis of the development of integrated local food policies in Italy;
- 2) Activating 4 new local FA in relevant geographical Italian contexts (“follower areas”), characterized by peculiar conditions of vulnerability / potentiality in the development of the local agrifood system, including through creative tools aimed at including vulnerable groups;
- 3) Developing a digital ecosystem, a toolkit and easy-to-access guidelines for all the actors involved in local agrifood systems, as a support for local FAs and the National Observatory, in order to improve participatory processes in the definition of integrated local food policies;

Obiettivi – The project aims at enhancing the ability to produce and share contextual knowledge on food systems in order to support actors at a local level, as well as playing an active role in food governance and in the shaping of food policies for the transition of food system towards a more sustainable approach. Fields of intervention include the promotion of healthier and more sustainable diets, waste management, enhanced food accessibility and the promotion of social inclusion, with a particular focus of vulnerable groups.

OnFoodAtlas will support the creation of a network of Local Food Atlases in a mutual exchange of knowledge and practices with the aim of informing and supporting local administrations and other interested subjects in the development of food policies. Based on the experience of existing LFAs, the general objective will be twofold: on the one hand, the design of a LFA model with a series of supporting toolkits and a basic platform to be tailored to specific territorial needs (ONFOOD Digital Platform for Local Food Atlases); on the other hand, the definition of a platform and related methodologies for the collection, selection and re-elaboration of data and metrics as a tool for the Italian Observatory on Local Food Policies (ONFOOD Digital Platform for National Observatory)

