

Food democracy and meta-organizations

Partners
University of Haute-Alsace, University of Strasbourg, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Universität Basel
Project duration / Amount granted
01/10/2020 - 30/09/2022 / 43 000 €
Brief description of the project
The project aimed to create a consortium of 13 researchers from social science disciplines (Sociology, Economics, Management, Geography, Philosophy, etc.) from four Eucor member universities to collaborate on the theme of food democracy and meta-organisations. The objective was to share experiences and data on initiatives in the territories on the development of an alternative agri-food model, with the eventual submission of a project for European funding.
Concrete implementation of the project (how were the funds used?)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding of a coordinator post: Cyril Villet, then Lena Bloemertz • Internships in France and Germany on sustainable food systems • Four workshops/seminars organised by each of the partner universities. • A conference contribution in June 2021 • A conference on 29 and 30 September 2022 with travel, accommodation, catering for participants, etc. • A written report on the Freiburg Workshop • Translations of academic papers at conferences and articles on the topic of democracy for food transition • Implementation of a comparative study of the initiatives of territorial meta-organisations (assimilated to "Food Policy Councils"), of their democratic practices and impact on the food transition between Basel, Freiburg, Mulhouse and Strasbourg.
Result(s) of the project and perspectives for this collaboration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consortium collaborating in the construction of a joint INTERREG VI project on transnational sustainable food chains (pre-project accepted; final project in June 2023). • Papers and articles on the theme of transition and food democracy in particular. • A book with the papers from the symposium planned for spring 2024.
Additional information (links, articles, photos)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michel, S., Wiek, A., Bloemertz, L., Bornemann, B., Granchamp, L., Villet, C., Gascón, L., Sipple, D., Blanke, N., Lindenmeier, J., & Gay-Para, M. (2022). Opportunities and

challenges of food policy councils in pursuit of food system sustainability and food democracy-a comparative case study from the Upper-Rhine region. *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems*, 6, 916178. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsufs.2022.916178>

- Wiek et al. Ideas for Trinational Research Projects on Sustainable Food System Governance in the Upper Rhine Region. Report on the EUCOR Workshop from December 2, 2021.