Urbanisation, démographie, raréfaction des ressources, alertes sanitaires, nouvelles attentes citoyennes... autant de facteurs qui interrogent le système alimentaire actuel et poussent à envisager un système plus durable et plus responsable.

Cette transition s’inscrit dans un contexte particulier, celui d’une urbanisation croissante à l’échelle mondiale, qui ne va pas sans poser un certain nombre de défis, au premier rang desquels celui de l’alimentation d’une population plus nombreuse. Mais au-delà de la seule fonction nourricière des territoires, la question alimentaire fait également écho aux objectifs de durabilité des villes et de réduction des inégalités sociales. Agir sur le système alimentaire d’un territoire nécessite donc de développer une réflexion transversale intégrant les aspects économiques, sociaux, environnementaux, sanitaires, éducatifs, urbanistiques et culturels.

Manger mieux et consommer des produits locaux sont, aujourd’hui, des exigences prégnantes des Français, quel que soit le territoire sur lequel ils évoluent. Les initiatives se multiplient et les citoyens réinvestissent les différents champs d’actions et l’ensemble de la chaîne de production, du maraîchage ou de l’élevage à la gestion des déchets.

Conscientes de ces enjeux, les collectivités se réapproprient progressivement la question alimentaire et font de la nature et de l’agriculture de véritables atouts pour contribuer à relever les défis qui se posent à l’échelle nationale et internationale. Cette démarche volontaire des territoires urbains nécessite un renforcement des relations entre les villes et les territoires périurbains et ruraux, dont l’interdépendance est croissante sur la question. L’alliance des territoires apparaît dès lors comme une étape clé de la transition vers un modèle alimentaire et agricole plus durable.

Fort du soutien du ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires étrangères, France urbaine a pu recenser, à travers cette publication, 33 initiatives développées par les grandes villes et métropoles françaises dans le domaine de l’alimentation et de l’agriculture. France urbaine s’attache, avec ses partenaires, à faire connaître au-delà de nos frontières les solutions développées par nos territoires pour contribuer à la redéfinition du système alimentaire et agricole, en France et à l’international ;

France urbaine est ainsi fière de pouvoir montrer la diversité, la richesse et l’originalité des actions conduites dans les grandes villes et intercommunalités de France, toujours dans une démarche de concertation avec l’ensemble des acteurs. De la création de fermes urbaines à la remise en productions de friches agricoles, en passant par la végétalisation des toits et des murs, le lancement d’un agrobiopole ou l’accompagnement de projets innovants, les collectivités urbaines inscrivent la transition alimentaire et agricole dans l’identité territoriale française.

En valorisant l’excellence de nos cultures alimentaires et culinaires, ces méthodes innovantes et concrètes contribuent au rayonnement de la France, pionnière d’un modèle de transition pour un monde plus durable et solidaire.

Jean-Luc Moudenc
Président de France urbaine, Maire de Toulouse, Président de Toulouse métropole

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Urban development, demographics, the scarcity of resources, health warnings, evolving citizen expectations... the current food system is being impacted by a variety of factors, with attention increasingly turning to a system that is more sustainable and more responsible.

The context for this transition is quite specific, namely growing urban development throughout the world, a phenomenon that brings with it considerable challenges, not least of which is that of producing enough food for an expanding population. But beyond territorial food production, the food issue in general echoes the objectives of sustainability in cities and the reduction of social inequalities. Acting on a territory’s food system thus requires the development of a cross-cutting reflection process, incorporating economic, social, environmental, health, educational, urban planning and cultural aspects.

People in France today want to eat better and consume local produce, irrespective of where they live. Initiatives are multiplying and citizens are getting involved in various projects and the entire production chain, from market gardens and livestock farming through to waste management.

Conscious of what’s at stake, local authorities are gradually taking back ownership of the food issue and turning nature and agriculture into genuine assets to help address the national and international challenges we face. This proactive approach on the part of urban territories requires a reinforcement of relationships between cities/towns and peri-urban and rural areas, where interdependence is becoming pivotal. Territorial alliances now appear to be a key step in the transition process towards a more sustainable food and agricultural model.

Through this publication and buoyed by the support of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the France Urbaine association has identified 33 initiatives developed by major French cities and metropolises in the field of food and agriculture. With its partners, France Urbaine will focus on disseminating the solutions developed by our territories beyond our borders, thereby contributing to the redefinition of the food and agriculture system, in France and around the world.

France Urbaine is proud to be able to showcase the diversity, wealth and originality of the participative initiatives under way in cities and inter-municipal areas throughout France. From the creation of urban farms to the return to production of agricultural wasteland, via the planting of roofs and walls, the launch of an agrobiopole (investment project to reallocate land to the production, processing and promotion of local products) and support for innovative projects, urban authorities are placing the food and agriculture transition at the very heart of French territorial identity.

By promoting the excellence of our food and culinary cultures, these innovative and concrete methods are contributing to the influence of France as a pioneer of a transition model for a more sustainable, socially-conscious world.
Many congratulations for this France Urbaine publication, which brings together 33 contributors, including every French metropolis as well as major towns and cities, enabling them to present their territorial food strategies along with some of their projects, using the same format and the same indicators. Around 20 million people live in metropolises across France, representing one third of the French population and national food consumption.

FOOD POLICIES: ILLUSTRATION OF THE INTERDEPENDENCE BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORIES

Their surface area and the average population density in these urban areas reflect the fact that there is enough space to host the agricultural and food activities required to sustain the consumption needs of city dwellers, as well as the fact that they these activities have a fundamental need for an agricultural and food basin that goes far beyond their specific territory. Interdependent relationships are being constructed between cities and neighbouring peri-urban and rural territories, characterised by the development of short supply chains, while other products will come from different French regions, and even beyond, driven by globalisation. The shares of each of these flows and their respective evolutions tell us about the role played by metropolises in local, regional, national and international development, as well as the interdependent relationships they maintain with rural territories. The latter require an urban food demand that is relatively local in order to grow, while cities rely on the vitality of the countryside in order to thrive. These mutually beneficial interactions lie at the heart of territorial and regional planning and development. The legitimate ambition of metropolises to break into the inner circle of world cities - within the framework of the world economy - in no way negates their responsibilities with respect to local and regional development.

THE DIVERSITY OF URBAN EXPERIENCES IN THE FIELDS OF FOOD STRATEGY AND URBAN AND PER-URBAN AGRICULTURE

For those interested in the food system and its necessary evolution, the sample of 33 metropolises and cities presented by France Urbaine is remarkable on many fronts.

It reveals the diverse nature of the experiences of each of the metropolises: diversity of local initiatives, diversity of “food governance” frameworks set up by local authorities, diversity of strategies and public policies, diversity of territorial dynamics. Behind the projects, carefully selected for their quality by each contributor and individually presented, there are numerous pioneering initiatives highlighting the creativity of food system players. The actions presented illustrate the efforts, dynamics and paths underpinning the transition towards a more sustainable and responsible approach to food production and consumption. The educational value of these contributions is also worthy of note: beyond the local benefit, these experiences provide useful lessons for other players and other territories. Today’s largely globalised food system leaves much to be desired and many people are prepared to get behind these pioneers as they seek an effective transition towards an improvement in the social, environmental and cultural performances of territorial food systems.
EXPLOITING THE STRENGTH OF A NETWORK TO DISSEMINATE GOOD PRACTICES

Beyond the contributions of each of the contributors - metropolises and major cities/towns -, France Urbaine is well placed to exploit the "network effect". The network it is responsible for managing has the dual advantage of representing almost half of the French population and bringing together all the members of the same family, who, despite their diversity, face common problems and challenges. The conditions are ripe to enable everyone to interact and learn from one another. Indeed, where food is concerned, there are numerous common issues and questions to be addressed. An organisational, social or technical innovation that has appeared somewhere in one of the network’s metropolises can generate ideas for another urban community. Lessons learned from an initiative or an experience can be disseminated for the benefit of all... Once network members have identified the principal questions requiring answers, discussions can very quickly turn to the innovations and experiences of each of the contributors. An exchange and communication mechanism could enable metropolises to promote their advances and benefit from those of others.

Beyond diversity and exchange, there is also the issue of what these 33 major national players and potential international partners can do, build and express together. Many contemporary challenges relate to the agricultural and food system: employment – 50% of jobs across the world are in the food system -, health - food deficits and dietary imbalances sit side by side, health warnings are proliferating -, climate – 30% of global greenhouse gas emissions are generated by the food system - natural resource management – 75% of fresh water is consumed in or by the world food system, mainly via agricultural activities... The construction of a shared vision and the implementation of partnerships and joint initiatives can generate a tenfold increase in the capacity to tackle the negative externalities of a largely globalised food system, but also reinforce the capacity of metropolises and major cities to work towards a transition and, in doing so, defend the renewed excellence of our food and culinary cultures.

FRENCH CITIES ENGAGED AROUND THE WORLD FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD

Lastly, building on the image of our country in the fields of agriculture and food and their determination to promote a food transition, France Urbaine and its network have an important role to play on the global stage. Cities and regions have a duty to work together to defend urban and rural territories, territories that are socialised, governed and carefully developed. The process began at Expo 2015 when some French metropolises signed up to the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact of the International Urban Food Network (IUFN), echoing the Declaration of Rennes, “For Territorial Food Systems”, and led by Régions de France. This advocacy is set to guide the international negotiation process and become established at the heart of intergovernmental organisations. There is a real need to bring an increased share of the food system back to the territories and enable citizens and economic players to gradually reconfigure territorial food systems. This process will lead to a revival in local economies and drive the transition toward responsible and sustainable food.
The Aix-Marseille-Provence Metropolis is unique. The largest metropolitan area in France and twice the size of that of London, it incorporates agricultural, urban and industrial spaces within the same territory. An attractive and dynamic region and a magnet for tourists, it is the leading export gateway to the Mediterranean thanks to its port, the biggest in France. A young metropolis, it is conscious of the need to protect its natural areas from fast-growing urbanisation. Its natural and renewable resources (sun, sea, wind, arable land, water, terroir) represent a major asset and the engineering sector is present to optimize their use.

At the end of 2016, it signed up to a PAT (Projet alimentaire territorial or local food project, a French initiative to reinforce local agriculture) in partnership with the Bouches-du-Rhône département and the Pays d’Arles, as part of its core strategic aim of promoting sustainable food production.

The project’s steering committee is co-chaired by the metropolis and the Pays d’Arles. The other principal members include the local département, the region, the French State (DRAAF – the French Regional Directorate for Food, Agriculture and Forestry, and DREAL – French Regional Directorate for the Environment, Planning and Housing), and the Chamber of agriculture. Around one hundred regional players (public and private) will spend three years developing a global and coherent strategy hinged around 5 priority areas within a framework of shared governance.

1. Develop an agricultural plan built upon a local food strategy;
2. Promote local, healthy, high-quality agriculture;
3. Protect the agricultural land and agricultural production of Provence;
4. Bring producers, processors and consumers closer together by structuring the various sectors;
5. Promote the Mediterranean diet and the terroirs (the combination of climates, soils, aspect, etc.) for which the region is known.

Marseille leads the way with its pioneering facilities aimed at raising awareness about the world of agriculture and nature

Between 1980 and 2004, the city of Marseille set up three municipal educational farms. Located at evenly distributed points across the territory, the farms reflect the city’s determination to raise local people’s awareness of agricultural and environmental issues, and protect a heritage under threat from significant urbanisation.

The gulf separating children living in urban areas from nature is such that they are completely unaware of their reliance on agriculture for their food needs and of their connection to nature and the living world. The educational farms set up by the city of Marseille are designed to help bridge this gulf: genuine farming businesses located within the grounds of former bastides (traditional country houses in Provence), they represent a very concrete means of re-establishing contact between (young) city-dwellers and the rural world.

The three farms are managed by delegated public service farmers, in liaison with a municipal team of environmental educators. Primarily aimed at schools and recreation centres, they also open their doors to families on festive occasions or for the sale of farm produce, very popular with the people of Marseille.

Everything produced on the three farms is sold via short supply chains: directly at the farm, AMAP (a consumer network to assist small local farmers using organic farming methods), restaurants in Marseille, etc. The Le Collet des Comtes educational farm (3 hectares in the 12th arrondissement (district) of the city), and the Le Roy d’Espagne educational farm (2.5 hectares in the 9th arrondissement) produce a variety of fruit and vegetables. The La Tour des Pins educational farm (6 hectares in the 14th arrondissement) focuses on goat farming and the production of goat’s milk products. The city’s public service delegation contracts stipulate that production methods employed should comply with organic farming principles.

Be it for their educational, economic, food, social or ecological aspects, these unique structures have contributed to the municipal sustainable development strategy for more than 30 years, and represent innovative tools that the city of Marseille intends to maintain and develop.

The PAT will identify good practices implemented across the region and facilitate their dissemination as broadly as possible. The urban agriculture initiatives launched by Marseille, with educational farms and community gardens, are excellent examples of beneficial links between producers and consumers.

Community plots for city gardening

To meet an ever-growing demand from residents, around ten years ago, the city of Marseille initiated a community garden development policy – shared and family – across its territory.

In March 2010, the city of Marseille adopted a “City Community Gardens Charter” in order to develop gardens of this type within the context of increasing numbers of resident initiatives. It acts upstream to facilitate the integration of community gardening plots into new green space or development projects, or following a request from residents seeking a patch of land where they can satisfy their desire to garden and interact with others. The city of Marseille then examines abandoned roads and paths, areas outside apartment buildings, urban wasteland and reserved land awaiting development in order to identify potentially suitable plots for the creation of community gardens. It also provides project leaders with methodological and technical support. The strong involvement of residents is central to this policy. Community gardens bring generations and cultures together, reinventing neighbourhood relations, facilitating the sharing and exchange of experiences and knowledge and developing a spirit of solidarity. They also help make the city more attractive and preserve biodiversity, since Marseille’s “City Community Gardens Charter” stipulates the use of environmentally-friendly gardening methods.

Marseille currently boasts 52 community gardens, with a further 10 in the process of being created. 35 of these gardens have been established on municipal land, representing a total area of 4.5 hectares.

Also conscious of the social benefits of family gardens, the city of Marseille is developing the initiative across its territory. It currently has 12 family gardens, 4 of which are located on municipal land. Two further family gardens are currently being created by the city, at two locations over the city’s new bypass. Family gardens currently occupy 24 hectares of land across the Marseille region.
ANGERS LOIRE METROPOLIS
URBAN COMMUNITY

2017-2021 AGRICULTURAL PLAN

The second largest urban agglomeration in the Pays-de-la-Loire region and third biggest city in western France, Angers Loire Metropolis has a unique position, located at the meeting point of several agricultural regions and the centre of a dense river system. These factors form the bedrock of the territory’s agricultural diversity. Livestock and specialised plants are its flagship sectors.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- 271,405 inhabitants (INSEE, RP 2013), of whom 150,000 live in Angers
- 30 municipalities (31 from 1 January 2018)
- Area of the urban community (UC): 550 km²
- Utilised agricultural area (UAA): 27,000 ha, i.e. 53% of the UC area, of which 9.5% used for organic farming
- Cultivated area across the UC: 49.7% grassland, 40.5% arable crops and 9.8% specialised crops (market gardening - horticulture - nursery - fruit tree growing - seed production - vines)
- 343 farms of which 30% sell directly
- Specialised plant” sector: VEGEPOLYS, global competitiveness cluster
- Observation: 7 years from now, around 50% of businesses will be affected by the retirement of a farm manager
- Commitment: over the next ten years, through its PLUi (local inter-municipal urban planning scheme), the local authority has committed to use up less than 66 ha of land per year for development

Via its 2016-2030 regional development plan, Angers Loire Metropolis repositioned agriculture at the heart of its ambitions, hinged around a set of objectives such as: preserving and developing natural resources, ensuring a balance between urbanised zones and agricultural and natural zones, turning the Angers region into a “shared garden” underpinning social cohesion, promoting high-quality, local food, etc.

A first agricultural plan covering the period 2009-2015 was drawn up by the Maine-et-Loire Chamber of Agriculture, drawing on the work of the SCoT (French territorial coherence plan).

The 2017-2021 agricultural plan was drawn up jointly by Angers Loire Metropolis and the Chamber of Agriculture, following a much wider consultation process involving workshops with players from the worlds of agriculture, higher education and research (producers, processors, logistics specialists, etc.). It establishes the following principles:

1. Balance land use;
2. Pass on businesses and know-how, mobilise the workforce and harness its expertise;
3. Contribute to the development and economic performance of agricultural businesses;
4. Create a structured local food production offer;
5. Maintain a virtuous momentum between environmental protection and agricultural practices;
6. Promote local agriculture production, and city/country dialogue.
In line with the joint approach that guided the drawing up and writing of this document, Angers Loire Metropolis and the Chamber of Agriculture will work together to oversee its political and technical implementation within the context of a partnership agreement.

A PAT focused on establishing a structured local food offer

Research conducted by the École Supérieure d’Agricultures (the ESA school of agriculture) on behalf of ALM and the Chamber of Agriculture confirms it: the act of purchasing is governed by criteria that go well beyond price (ranked 3rd on the list of product selection criteria). When choosing their food, the region’s inhabitants primarily seek local, seasonal, high-quality products.

Having already championed the development of short supply chains as part of the previous agricultural plan, ALM and the Chamber of Agriculture want to work with the region’s players to implement an Urban Community food strategy and conduct a programme of initiatives to achieve their objective. As far as the ALM perimeter is concerned, this involves a strategic reflection process to tackle the questions “how can we better feed the region?” and “how should local agriculture be maintained and/or developed to achieve this?” Having carried out a needs analysis concerning food and the available “product” offer, either via short supply chains or longer, local channels, players will focus on defining a regional food strategy and implementing shared action plans, from production through to consumption.

The objectives of this PAT are as follows:

- **Carry out a shared food assessment:**
  - Evaluating the region’s food requirements, covering the needs of individual consumers and the catering industry;
  - Identifying existing initiatives relating to food issues.

- **Define a food strategy and an action programme for the region:**
  - Bringing public and private players together to consider the food issue: local authorities, producers, processors, distributors, the social and solidarity economy (SSE), financiers, associations, citizens, etc.
  - Defining and choosing a shared strategy and an action programme in the light of the assessment carried out.

- **Implement an action programme for the food strategy chosen for the territory, incorporating, in particular, some initiatives already developed:**
  - Identifying the “local agricultural product” offer, its availability, its diversity and its processing and distribution methods;

Creation of a Protected Agricultural Area (ZAP)

The Sainte-Gemmes-sur-Loire/Les Ponts-de-Cé horticultural and market-gardening area is a dynamic production sector occupying a strategic position at the gateway to the city of Angers. However, the resulting land and speculative pressures are considerable.

In order to develop and welcome businesses, there is a need to protect land in order to preserve its long-term agricultural use. Accordingly, in March 2016, the Pôle Végétal Loire Maine Association (a consortium of professionals from the area) requested the introduction of a Protected Agricultural Area (ZAP), of around 650 hectares, which is supported and overseen by Angers Loire Metropolis.

The aim is to bring agricultural activities under the protective umbrella of a ZAP, a tool that is more far-reaching than the urban planning document. This will provide future businesses or those already present with greater certainty when it comes to establishing their development and investments. There will also be better control of land prices.

Several steps are laid down to achieve this:

1. Consultation between local authorities/the agricultural profession/institutional partners (Government departments – Chamber of Agriculture – INAO (French national institute guaranteeing origin and quality) – Pôle Végétal Loire et Maine Association) to share the project and establish the procedure;
2. Perimeter proposal and justification;
3. Agreement of the local authorities (municipalities and ALM);
4. Written opinion of the various associated partners (INAO – Chamber of Agriculture and CDOA, the local agricultural policy commission)
5. Public survey;
6. Local authority deliberation and order of the prefect.
The largest agglomeration in Franche-Comté, located at the heart of Western Europe on the Rhine-Rhône axis, a stone’s throw from Switzerland and the Jura mountains, Grand Besançon occupies a strategic position within the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region. The agglomeration is made up of 69 municipalities and the city of Besançon, surrounded by 7 hills, nicknamed la Petite Rome (Little Rome). The area’s specific virtues afforded by its topography mean that the majority of its population is either neo-rural or neo-urban. Aware of the challenges associated with the energy transition and safeguarding agricultural land, Grand Besançon is implementing an ambitious policy with its citizens aimed at enabling everyone to take ownership of their territory. Accordingly, the local authority is championing a new form of agriculture as a social, environmental and economic stimulus.

RURBANITY - A DEVELOPMENT ASSET IN GRAND BESANÇON: THE EMERGENCE OF A NEW FORM OF AGRICULTURE

The largest agglomeration in Franche-Comté, located at the heart of Western Europe on the Rhine-Rhône axis, a stone’s throw from Switzerland and the Jura mountains, Grand Besançon occupies a strategic position within the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region. The agglomeration is made up of 69 municipalities and the city of Besançon, surrounded by 7 hills, nicknamed la Petite Rome (Little Rome). The area’s specific virtues afforded by its topography mean that the majority of its population is either neo-rural or neo-urban. Aware of the challenges associated with the energy transition and safeguarding agricultural land, Grand Besançon is implementing an ambitious policy with its citizens aimed at enabling everyone to take ownership of their territory. Accordingly, the local authority is championing a new form of agriculture as a social, environmental and economic stimulus.

One of the current challenges faced by territories concerns their capacity for social, environmental and economic resilience in the context of the urgent need for sustainable development – locally and globally –, particularly in the field of food self-sufficiency. It is for this reason that Grand Besançon is establishing effective and virtuous synergies underpinned by a dynamic rural fabric and an active urban centre (Besançon). Accordingly, the Agglomeration and the City of Besançon have turned their attention to rURbanity as a major asset to increase the attractiveness of their territory. Agriculture has always featured heavily here, both in the city and throughout the agglomeration. However, over the past 20 years, 16% of agricultural land has disappeared.

In such a context, it is vital to rethink the role of agriculture and the opportunity it provides in terms of creating a circular economy supporting the food sector. Based on this observation and for the benefit of as many people as possible, Besançon is actively committed to supporting the entire food chain, from production through to consumption, in line with the associated societal and...
Besançon’s ongoing commitment to citizens

Besançon has a policy of ensuring all areas that can be potentially exploited for agricultural purposes are put to good use. The city already had a history in this respect and is increasingly embracing current agricultural forms. Over time, the region has facilitated the creation of family gardens (450 plots at 20 sites), community gardens (8 sites), and, over the past 10 years, community orchards, community hives and hen-houses, vines (including a 30-are organic municipal vineyard established in 2016), eco-grazing (a herd of 67 goats managed directly), community or individual farm businesses, etc., all on common land or public spaces. A land initiative is in place to support market-gardening and fruit projects. In 2017, a framework agreement was drawn up concerning 5 hectares of land belonging to the City of Besançon earmarked for two market gardens emerging from the inter-municipal incubator. A policy of promoting neighbourhood markets has led to the creation of several of them.

A drive to encourage the restoration of private orchards has been underway since 2013. The city of Besançon manages 1.6 hectares of orchard in partnership with owners. The “Col- line en tête” association manages these spaces, providing its members with access to nature and fruit. The “domino effect” has really taken hold, encouraging the owners of neighbouring orchards to take back ownership of the public space.

This momentum to boost food production has extended to the spaces around the foot of buildings. Residents’ groups wishing to cultivate a plot of public land or private municipal land can take advantage of the “permis de végétaliser” (licence to plant) initiative. In 2017, this innovative initiative led to the setting up of 16 projects – mainly shared gardens and orchards – in priority neighbourhoods. Two participative workshops were held in 2016 with further workshops planned annually. An environmental charter emerged from these workshops as well as an enthusiasm for “growing”.

Hence the City of Besançon and its Agglomeration have established a genuine growing culture.

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Rehabilitating land and gardens: the SAUGE project

In 2004, Grand Besançon and the City of Besançon launched an initiative aimed at galvanizing agricultural activities, in the form of the SAUGE project (Agricultural and Urban Solidarity for Economic and Environmental Gain), with job creation at its heart.

In 2010, Grand Besançon, the Interdepartmental Chamber of Agriculture, the Dannemarie agricultural high school, the City of Besançon, the Doubs local council, the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region and AFIP, the local Association facilitating access to the workplace, signed up to an Agricultural Charter with a view to reinforcing the objectives of the SAUGE project and promoting sustainable development in agriculture. A steering committee meets twice a year.

One of the results of this initiative came in 2013 with the creation of an agricultural business incubator for the agglomeration. The incubator was set up to provide support for three project leaders for a period of three years to enable them to test and fine-tune their technical, economic and commercial model. Land initiatives are conducted for the benefit of project leaders emerging from the incubator.

A survey of municipalities carried out in 2016 regarding supplies to their catering sector was used to evaluate the needs of the latter with a view to setting up a fruit and vegetable facility missing from the production/processing/distribution chain.
In 2011, Bordeaux Metropolis launched an initiative aimed at supporting urban agriculture across its territory, with a dual objective: the development of its natural spaces within a framework of sustainable development and food security for its inhabitants. With one day of food self-sufficiency with respect to local annual production, the challenge for the metropolis is to recreate a dynamic circular economy hinged around local food, production and consumption. The idea behind this new, social and solidarity economy is that it should contribute to the climate plan set out by the metropolis, meet stringent environmental requirements, help improve the health of inhabitants and remain accessible to all. The expectation is also that it should lead to local recognition of the agricultural profession and be integrated into the metropolis' global urban plan. Lastly, it is a member of the new sustainable food governance advisory body (CCGAD) created in 2017.

Located near the Atlantic coast, Bordeaux is the prefecture of the Gironde département and the capital of the Nouvelle Aquitaine region. All traffic travelling from Paris and Northern Europe to the Spanish Atlantic coast passes through the dense road and motorway network in and around Bordeaux. Historically, the Bordeaux region owes its economic development to the river Garonne and its vineyards. Today, the metropolis is an urban territory with a development plan stipulating that at least half of its area should be given over to natural and agricultural spaces, with a view to ensuring a living environment of the highest quality.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- Number of inhabitants:
  - municipality: 246,586 in Bordeaux (2013)
  - metropolitan area: 760,956 (2014)
  - nouvelle Aquitaine region: 5,879,144 (2014)

- Number of local authorities in Bordeaux Metropolis: 28 municipalities

- Area of the territory:
  - city of Bordeaux: 49.36 km²
  - metropolitan area: 579.27 km² i.e. 58,000 ha, of which 50% natural and agricultural spaces

- 27.7% of the population of Bordeaux Metropolis is concentrated in Bordeaux. The metropolitan area contains 49.8% of the population of the Gironde Département and more than 13% of the population of the Nouvelle Aquitaine Region.
Maintain agricultural areas (PLUI) and contribute to the further development of wasteland for agricultural purposes;
Develop sustainable, diversified and environmentally-friendly agriculture that contributes to the maintenance of biodiversity, the variety of our landscapes and the protection of green and blue networks and natural resources;
Maintain agricultural businesses and facilitate the creation of a variety of new agricultural businesses, agricultural support and incubator;
Enable state-assisted land purchase schemes;
Support professional training and technical support structures to help the development of organic practices;
Develop short, local supply chains within the framework of a coherent regional network;
Bring farmers and city dwellers closer together by encouraging consumption habits that favour local, seasonal products and ensuring the promotion of the agricultural sector.

Project

Farmers of the Metropolis - The 2017 AGORA Biennial of architecture and design

As part of the 2017 AGORA biennial of architecture, planning and design, the theme of which was “Landscapes”, Bordeaux Metropolis wanted to highlight the organic relationship between landscape and farmers, the latter playing a major role in shaping the former. The aim was to promote the region’s farmers as the people who, on a daily basis, build and manage the landscapes through which urban dwellers pass without ever really considering the role man plays in producing them. The target public was thus all inhabitants, elected representatives and local authority technicians.

The project was structured around three components: a photo exhibition highlighting metropolitan farming landscapes in their various forms; a film documentary containing 14 portraits of farmers from the city explaining their relationships with landscapes and the urban environment; a conference-debate during which two experts held discussions with three of the farmers seen in the film.

The 14 contributors in the film were selected to give people an idea of the diverse nature of urban agriculture: types of production, gender and personal background of the farmers, production methods, etc. The three components of the project attracted considerable interest and the metropolis intends to take the project out to the 28 municipalities in 2018 to raise awareness among elected representatives and residents about the issues concerning urban agriculture and promote metropolitan initiatives in this field.

The objective was also to promote farmers and their production to inhabitants, developing the principle of short supply chains. From this point of view, the benefits for farmers are clear to see. Incidentally, the metropolis also wanted to show the real day-to-day lives of these shapers of the landscape and move beyond the clichéd image people tend to have of farmers: they are economic players, creators of food resources and jobs, but they also carry with them social responsibilities of which they are all aware.

Metropolitan farmers ensure the provision of sustainable, high-quality food and as such make a vital contribution to public health and well-being. But they are also knowledgeable managers of natural and agricultural spaces who take their environmental responsibilities very seriously. Lastly, they all emphasised the importance of the social link, particularly those selling their products through short supply chains. All in all, the picture that emerged from this promotion project was one of urban farmers fully engaged in the life of the city. Because apart from their profession, they were shown to be urban dwellers like any other, mindful of city amenities.

The momentum is set to be maintained via a longer-term study conducted by an anthropologist and involving more contributions from farmers (30 interviews and portraits) in a quest to give more voice to metropolitan farmers. The results of this testimony-gathering and analysis work will be published in 2019, possibly in conjunction with another documentary. The idea is to extend the experiment promoting these particular players in terms of their backgrounds, their experience, their businesses, their produce, their economic success, their relationship with the city and their social integration.
Brest Metropolis, a metropolis of West Brittany, a historically integrated inter-municipality (urban community from 1973), conducts an ambitious planning and development policy. Its last PLUi, approved in 2014, thus constitutes a PLH (local housing plan), an urban transport plan and a territorial energy and climate plan.

It sets out, for the metropolitan area, the objectives of the SCoT for the Pays de Brest region led by the metropolitan centre. The development model set out in the SCoT and the so-called “facteur 4” (factor 4) urban development plan is hinged around ambitious objectives regarding the production of housing and economic premises within the context of urban renewal, the densification of urban development and the preservation of agricultural land.

Agricultural activities are widely present throughout the territory covered by the metropolis, occupying 43% of the land and generating a turnover of €34 million. 42% of agricultural businesses primarily operate in the market-gardening and horticultural sectors. Businesses focusing on greenhouse fruit and vegetables can be found throughout the region.

Agriculture in the area is also supported by a powerful food-processing sector. It is in Finistère that Brittany has seen some of its most impressive industrial successes emerge, with companies exporting around the world. Hence agriculture is an important economic activity, but it also plays a vital role in contributing to food independence as well as maintaining and enhancing landscapes.

The purpose of intervention - still recent for Brest Metropolis - in the area of agricultural land is to ensure the long-term future of agriculture across the territory, in harmony with carefully managed urban development.

**KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY**

- Brest: 143,000 inhabitants
- Brest Metropolis: 207,000 inhabitants
- 218 km²
- Urban perimeter: 400,000 inhabitants
- 8 municipalities
- 1 PLUi
- 215 farms, 285 non-salaried workers and 997 full-time equivalent agricultural workers
- Around 30% of businesses sell via short supply chains
**Project 1**

A land initiative to support agriculture

Supporting the objectives relating to a reduction in the use of agricultural land for development as set out in its PLU and reflected in its zoning as well as its planning and development actions, in 2012, Brest Metropolis launched a new initiative aimed at – partly at least – compensating for the loss of farmland in areas designated for urban development.

The process operates as follows: Brest Metropolis becomes the owner – by amicable agreement or on a pre-emptive basis – of perennial agricultural land (zones A (where only agriculture-related construction is allowed) or N (protected area where no construction is permitted), which is then made available on a rural lease basis to farmers affected by public urban development projects planned in zones earmarked for urban development (AU zone (future development area)). The methods of agricultural land acquisition employed by Brest Metropolis are diverse, increasingly favouring amicable and global approaches (whole farm acquisitions in cases where there is no successor, for example). These methods are guided by an agricultural assessment that is regularly updated and supported by a close and solid partnership with the Chamber of Agriculture and SAFER (the French land agency).

Once acquired, the land is allocated to farmers affected following discussions by a land committee on the basis of a set of specified criteria.

Some of the more complex situations (significant impact on utilised agricultural area, concerns regarding the very future of the business, etc.) are prioritised, particularly in those areas of the metropolitan territory where the acquisition of agricultural land for compensation purposes is the most constrained (agricultural land market in which demand far outstrips supply). In parallel, via the annual urban development dashboard, each year, Brest Metropolis informs farmers working in zones earmarked for urban development of the scheduled date for the launch of urban development, affecting private land or land reserves systematically rented on a temporary tenancy basis. This approach is conducted in line with the urban development model negotiated with private operators developed by Brest Metropolis over a number of years, and which constitutes an essential additional element in the field of urban development involving a public general contractor (ZAC, or joint development zone, in particular).

**Project 2**

Creation of a local agricultural land committee

In order to get the compensation scheme up and running, a local agricultural land committee was set up in 2012. Among others, it brings together, alongside the Chamber of Agriculture and the metropolis, all the institutional players concerned by the agricultural land issue, including the SAFER and the DDTM (French Departmental Directorate for Territories and the Sea), along with other territorial bodies (departmental council, metropolitan centre). The aim is to ensure the initiative can be scaled up to incorporate residential and economic dynamics, as well as factors operating at the farm and food market level.

In addition to dealing with agricultural compensation, the land committee is also designed to be a platform for global exchange whereby the metropolis and the agricultural sector can discuss points of view on all matters. The dialogue, while focusing initially on the “land” component, may potentially be extended to cover other operational avenues.
Caen is emblematic of Normandy, between land and sea, where protected natural space rubs shoulders with outstanding historical heritage. From the time of William the Conqueror to the beaches of the Normandy landings in 1944, Caen has been the economic and administrative capital of West Normandy, at the heart of a vast agricultural area framed by the Orne – river, canal and estuary – and by its port and seaside resort facilities. The agglomeration is supported by its powerful food-processing sector and highly respected research facilities. The 30,000 students who study in the city annually contribute to its influence. This metropolitan hub represents more than half of the population of Calvados and is a magnet for tourists, drawn to magnificent landscapes stretching to the hills of Swiss Normandy.

Reputed for its fertile cereal plain and its livestock pasture, the territory in and around Caen adapted to the food-processing sector’s post-war export objectives. Today, the need to save energy and protect health via access to high-quality water and food is driving the creation of new sectors serving the city; agricultural land, long seen as a resource for urban development, is becoming increasingly protected as emerging challenges are identified, from issues concerning the living environment through to the food sector.

Initial actions, hinged around the territorial coherence programme (SCoT) ratified in 2011, were aimed at protecting peri-urban agricultural land, which serves as peri-urban parks, equipped with facilities enabling city dwellers to gain a better understanding of farming and enjoy their surroundings: cycle paths, picnic areas, walking trails...

This decision needs to be highlighted in a territory marked by urban sprawl, driven by its vital industrial and port activities, the obvious requirement for individual housing and the fact that its topography lends itself to such development. A first charter concerning rural and peri-urban spaces ratified in 2007 between the Caen la mer agglomeration and the Calvados Chamber of Agriculture succeeded in stemming the tide of agricultural land loss.

**KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY**

- 135,000 inhabitants
- 208 municipalities
- 380,100 inhabitants and 167,820 jobs
- 1,717 farm businesses, 2,466 farmers
- UAA of 117,100 hectares, i.e. 72% of the total surface area
- 4.1% of UAA dedicated to organic farming in 2017 (compared to 2.4% in 2010)
- 1,168 food-processing companies representing 9,257 jobs
- i.e. 50% of all food-processing activities in the Calvados region
- Price of available agricultural land: €10,500 per hectare
In 2015, the perception of agriculture evolved with help from geography researchers at Caen University, working in partnership with the Aucame urban planning agency: the FRUGAL (formes urbaines et gouvernance alimentaire or urban forms and food governance) action research programme underpinned the re-emergence in Caen of the whole issue surrounding the relationship between the city and agriculture.

Elected representatives from the Calvados Chamber of Agriculture and Caen Normandy Metropolis soon realised the advantages of working together on agricultural matters, which led them to launch the territorial food project currently under way. And in June 2017, they signed a shared strategy agreement concerning agriculture.

The territory has now adopted a cross-functional approach at various territorial levels: agricultural issues are systematically managed jointly by the metropolitan centre, the urban community, the Calvados Chamber of Agriculture and the urban planning agency.

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**Project 1**

**FRUGAL, an action research initiative focusing on urban forms and food governance**

FRUGAL is an action research programme aimed at bringing together the rural and urban worlds to address the shared issue of territorial food in cities. Caen is an active participant, alongside ten other agglomerations and metropolises, and can draw upon comparative case studies on a population basin scale focusing on four research areas: metropolitan food flows, local food process players and governance, links between urban forms and food governance.

Answers to unresolved questions began to emerge: where does the food consumed by the people of Caen come from? Can local agriculture meet the increasing demand for locally produced food? Does the mass catering sector act as a lever? Caen boasts numerous gardens and vegetable gardens that supply 10% of all vegetables consumed in the home. Land pressures are such that hosting new farming projects is extremely challenging but research has enabled players to address areas hitherto unsupported by any form of consultation body; for example, researchers and players are rallying to find legal and technical avenues that will enable the last market garden within the city of Caen to continue to produce vegetables. The impact of the wholesale market’s move away from the city centre to a peri-urban location is being examined and the issue of the protection of market gardening land within the planning process has been raised. The relationship between research and decision makers has proved highly productive in terms of launching coordinated initiatives.

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**Project 2**

**A shared strategy partnership agreement concerning agriculture**

Signed on 22 June 2017 between Caen Normandy Metropolis and the Calvados Chamber of Agriculture, this agreement is aimed at sharing the challenges associated with the territory’s agriculture, coordinating land management activities and addressing new local challenges. A steering committee composed of elected officials and technicians defines the year’s priority initiatives and proposes tools adapted to the needs identified. The agreement contains six chapters, the first two of which are the most significant because the local authority has launched the process to revise its SCoT and is examining ways to swallow up less agricultural space:

1. Production and sharing of information on agriculture, farmers and the territory’s agricultural and natural spaces;
2. The shared management of space and agricultural land;
3. Support for the development of agriculture-related economic sectors;
4. Balanced management of the environmental approach;
5. Introduction of a territorial food policy;

The territorial food project sets out to produce, by the end of 2018, an action plan based on a shared assessment involving all of the territory’s players. At the same time, the Caen la mer urban community has launched a preliminary survey to inform the drawing up of a local agriculture programme.
The city of Clermont-Ferrand is an economic, university, cultural and sports capital. One in ten inhabitants of the Auvergne region lives in Clermont-Ferrand while one in four lives within the urban community. The nearby volcans d’Auvergne (volcanoes of the Auvergne) nature park represents an outstanding natural heritage site that helps to forge the collective identity. Clermont-Ferrand is the future metropolis for the western part of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, the second largest region in France. It is a modern and dynamic city driven by a strong determination: to reconcile the city project with the lifestyles of its residents.

**INTERPLAY BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL**

Clermont Auvergne Metropolis is characterised by a strong peri-urban component requiring the preservation of natural, forestry and agricultural spaces. Grand Clermont’s SCoT, the city of Clermont-Ferrand’s PLU and the urban community’s future PLUi reinforce the presence of nature in the urban space. The development of peri-urban agricultural activities and the promotion of short supply chains are two of the territory’s economic development objectives. Organic produce and short supply chains play a prominent role in school canteens across the city of Clermont-Ferrand with one organic food item per day and 40% of all foods coming from sustainable agriculture. Similarly, 100% of the bread served in school canteens is produced using flour from the Auvergne region.

Global reflection is under way within the framework of the SCoT, particularly via the PAT steered by Grand Clermont (Greater Clermont) and the Livradois Forez Regional Nature Park, in which Clermont Auvergne Metropolis is a stakeholder, alongside the DRAAF and the ADEME (French Environment and Energy Management Agency).

The objective is to work together to build a food and territorial strategy and an action plan with a view to:
- developing the consumption of local, healthy, high-quality products accessible to all;
- establishing a structured system of food-processing production players to galvanize the local economy;
- developing environmentally-friendly production models that generate an income for the farmer.

**KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY**

- Number of inhabitants:
  - city of Clermont-Ferrand: 145,520
  - Clermont Auvergne Metropolis urban community: 290,000
- 21 municipalities in the Clermont Auvergne Metropolis urban community
- Area:
  - city of Clermont-Ferrand: 42.67 km²
  - Clermont Auvergne Metropolis urban community: 300.62 km²

The project will also provide a platform for working on the relationship between various stakeholders across the territory, particularly between urban and rural zones. This relationship will be reinforced with the official transition of Clermont Auvergne Metropolis from an urban community to a metropolis on 1 January 2018, with the signing of a territorial agreement concerning nutrition, food and agriculture as well as – and in particular – short supply chains.
Promoting healthy, environmentally-friendly agriculture and reinforcing the presence of nature in the urban space is one of the major objectives of the Energy and Ecological Transition Plan (STEE) that Clermont Auvergne Metropolis will ratify during the 1st half of 2018.

Project

The Shared City - A Network of Community Spaces

At the request of the inhabitants of Clermont-Ferrand, the city created family gardens at two separate sites representing a total area of 40,216 m², i.e. 172 allotment plots, in the city’s priority neighbourhoods. In 2010, a new way of growing appeared, along with a new demand for nature within the city, with the emergence of so-called “community” gardens. The city of Clermont-Ferrand got involved and helped to support their creation.

But beyond – and associated with – the garden, numerous participative projects were also launched: Associations for the Maintenance of Local Farming (AMAP), Collaborative Workshop (FabLab), Federation of Associations for the Protection of the Environment (FRANE), Conservatory of Natural Spaces, Permanent Centre of Environmental Initiatives, the Clermont-Ferrand Self-Managed Collective Build Project – PARCC Oasis, Jerecycle Park (recycling facility), etc. In 2015, these projects and networks were brought together into the newly formed “Network of Shared Spaces”.

The network is led by the city’s Community Project’s department, the aim being to establish dialogue between associations and the local authority with a view to the joint construction of integrated, adapted and innovative projects as part of a collaborative approach with a shared community spirit. With their expertise and sense of innovation, members of this new network are committed to developing urban agriculture, waste management, short food supply chains, the protection of biodiversity, environments and resources, sustainable engineering, etc.

They reinforce social cohesion through their contribution to life in the city and its temporal and spacial evolution. Their involvement is cornerstone for the development of local life.

The city delivers support in a variety of forms: the provision of land, financial support, joint construction of projects, the organisation of themed days, links with various city departments and referral to structures that can provide project support.

For example, with the PARCC (Projet Autogéré de Réalisation Collective à Clermont-Ferrand, or Clermont-Ferrand Self-Managed Collective Build) Oasis project, around 40 associations, individual volunteers and social and solidarity economy entrepreneurs are working to build a community project at the heart of the Clermont-Ferrand agglomeration. The project, located on an area of land covering 4,400 m² provided by Clermont-Ferrand city hall, involves the installation of eco-constructions, community gardens, permaculture, etc., but more broadly, it provides a platform for all efforts promoting initiatives designed to serve the common good. For example, an improvised meeting on the theme of biodiversity guided the design of the first gardens surrounded by low dry-stone walls beneath a walkway in the trees, the future orchard and spaces of hives, the composting platform and analysis and pollution-reducing methods using plants on some areas of the site. The PARCC Oasis project is a veritable incubator of collaborative citizen projects. It facilitates proximity between people from all walks of life and, above all, it enables everyone involved - volunteers, associations, resource structures - to imagine and consider the future together. The PARCC Oasis project was selected to be presented at the COP 22 climate conference in Marrakesh.
A GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF URBAN AGRICULTURE INTEGRATED INTO NEW TERRITORIAL OBJECTIVES

Dijon Metropolis is the capital of the newly created Bourgogne-Franche-Comté region. Located on strategic rail and motorway routes, Dijon boasts double recognition from UNESCO, one for the Climats du vignoble de Bourgogne (Climates of Burgundy’s Vineyards) and one for the repas gastronomique des Français (Gastronomic Meal of France). The city’s International Gastronomy and Wine Centre is currently being built.

Successfully navigating the ecological transition is one of the major challenges facing Dijon Metropolis, particularly regarding the preservation of biodiversity - cultivated or uncultivated - within the city and in peri-urban zones across the territory. When it comes to peri-urban agriculture, this challenge is reflected in the introduction of an ambitious action plan aimed at supporting the emergence of sustainable agricultural projects integrated into territorial objectives.

Beyond this agricultural ambition, Dijon Metropolis is now targeting territorial food self-sufficiency, within a context of its regional excellence in the fields of agro-ecology, flavour, gastronomy, vines and wine, nutrition and health.

These objectives have been defined as Dijon prepares for the inauguration of its International Gastronomy and Wine Centre, and within the context of the inclusion of the “Climates of Burgundy’s Vineyards” on UNESCO’s list of heritage sites. The operational objectives are:

- to preserve agricultural land on the outskirts of towns and establish economically viable agricultural businesses,
- bring about the emergence of sustainable agricultural projects that contribute to territorial objectives, particularly regarding ecological continuity,
- facilitate the emergence of innovative, experimental projects in the field of agro-ecology, feeding “short supply chains”, integrating local, symbolic produce with a “high territorial value” (Burgundy truffles, revival of Burgundy vineyards, Crème de cassis liqueur, etc.),
- reinforce the link between agriculture and city dwellers, developing citizen approaches (community garden network, participative sciences, events initiatives, discovery trails, citizen planting initiatives and grape-picking, etc.), supporting the introduction of short supply chains aimed at local residents and the catering sector, creating “contact points” between producers and residents across the territory.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- Number of inhabitants:
  - Dijon (city): 157,338 (on 1 January 2017)
  - The metropolis: 249,845
  - Urban perimeter: 382,590
  - The region: 2,820,623
- Number of peri-urban agricultural projects: 16
In the context of this momentum and the cross-cutting nature of the initiatives carried out, a wide governance structure is in place:

- integrated approach within the local authority, incorporating the strategic priorities of territorial public policies in the areas of agriculture, food, biodiversity and the environment, territorial attractiveness, citizenship, education, etc.,
- a close partnership with the governance structure of the agricultural community and its various sectors,
- collaboration with research partners present across the territory.

The work already undertaken is now being pursued through the implementation of a PAT. This will enable the initiatives already launched or being planned by the Metropolis and municipalities to be brought together, with a wider governance structure involving all the stakeholders (economic players, producers, processors, territorial authorities and consumers-citizens).

Project 1

**The Domaine de La Cras Estate and the ferme de la Motte Giron**

To contain urban development and prevent the disappearance of agricultural land, in 2013, the local authority purchased the domaine de La Cras wine estate, in the hills above Dijon. The Côte-d’Or Chamber of Agriculture is responsible for managing the 166-hectare estate. Dedicated committees and working groups involving a variety of players support the implementation of viable, environmentally-friendly and diversified agricultural projects embracing experimental agro-ecological methods. In addition to winemaking, the estate is also introducing lentils, blackcurrants, orchards, truffle plots and beehives (“guardians of the environment”).

Marked footpaths with information signs have been created and there are plans for a “Nature Walk Application”. Each year on the site, a tree is planted with families for every child born and living in the Metropolis: this gradually-expanding “Children’s Forest” is a way of getting inhabitants involved in protecting and enhancing the territory’s biodiversity.

In a similar vein, in 2017, Dijon Metropolis purchased the Ferme de la Motte Giron, comprising an ideally-located farm building and 59 hectares of agricultural land.

Project 2

**Dijon, wine-producing Metropolis**

Once powerful and considered to produce some of the region’s best wines, the Dijon vineyards gradually disappeared. Today, the Metropolis is reconnecting with its history via the implementation of a policy aimed at reviving its illustrious terroir. The inclusion of the Climates of Burgundy’s Vineyards on UNESCO’s list of heritage sites and the impending inauguration of the International Gastronomy and Wine Centre, located at the very beginning of the Route des Grands Crus wine route reinforce the importance of the vine and wine for Dijon Metropolis.

This multi-partner led project, bringing together professional sector and research representatives, consists in establishing and developing vineyards at the heart of the territory, balancing economic development, environmental issues, agro-ecological research and territorial influence:

- wine-growers working AOC land acquired by the local authority (more than 30 hectares returned to vines over the next 2 years) undertake to implement environmentally-friendly growing practices, and contribute to research conducted by research bodies,
- working with sector partners, the creation of a Pinot/Chardonnay conservatory on a ten-hectare plot, to address the requirements of the viticulture of the future in the region (adaptation to climate change, disease resistance, consumer expectations, etc.).

Through these various initiatives, the objective for Dijon Metropolis is to restore the characteristics of a wine growing territory as a key player in the sector: recognition and promotion of the terroir, agro-ecological innovation, conservation and evaluation of the genetic heritage to invent the vines of the future, economic development, wine tourism, the development of a plant material production sector adapted to current and future challenges and, lastly, the acquisition of an additional “Côte de Dijon” appellation, as the ultimate recognition of Dijon Metropolis’ wine-growing pedigree.
AN AGRICULTURE BETWEEN CITY AND MOUNTAIN

With more than 450,000 inhabitants, Grenoble-Alpes Metropolis is one of the biggest agglomerations in the Alps region. Located at the edge of the Isère and Drac valleys, between the Belledonne, Vercors, Chartreuse and Oisans mountain ranges, the metropolis boasts an exceptional environment. At the crossroads between France, Switzerland and Italy, it also enjoys a strategic position within the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region, one of the most prosperous and dynamic anywhere in Europe.

Actually, the Grenoble metropolitan area is extremely constrained and the “three greens” (three components of the agglomeration’s “green” space: agriculture, forest, natural areas), while recognised as being outstanding and making up a significant part of its identity, lifestyle and appeal, remain confronted by numerous contradictory challenges and exposed to various urban pressures.

In terms of agriculture, with close to 8,200 hectares farmed by 225 farmers (15% organic), Grenoble Metropolis has a dynamic socio-economic fabric supported by more than twenty years of regular initiatives aimed at agriculture. In 2015, the metropolis revamped its strategic agricultural and food plan via a framework resolution hinged around the two priorities below:

- preserve and develop agricultural potential for quality production;
- roll out a territory-wide agricultural food strategy and its tools.

This framework resolution is the joint creation of elected metropolitan representatives, socio-professional players (4...
agricultural unions, the Chamber of Agriculture, ADDEAR (Association for the Development of Agricultural and Rural Employment), etc.), various associations (environmental, consumer, etc.) and civil society (parents association representatives, development board, Terres de Liens, an association that promotes land preservation and access to farm-land for organic farmers), etc.) developed within the context of the local “Agriculture and Forest Steering Group”, which continues to coordinate, manage and evaluate the policy.

The protection of agricultural land is the first priority: there can be no agriculture without agricultural land. In parallel, the metropolis has developed the strategy, tools and resources required to support a land policy aimed at enabling the creation of new farms. It has also introduced a call for projects system to support farmers starting their businesses and those seeking to launch production or commercial diversification projects, as well as any initiatives contributing to the opening up of hill-sides and the improvement of agricultural practices. The various forms of aid are available to all farmers. However, extra help is available for those involved in organic agriculture and collective and commercial local market initiatives are favoured.

Beyond this, in order to take on a new economic dimension and create economically viable territorial sectors, the metropolis has drawn up an inter-territorial agricultural and food strategy in partnership with its neighbouring territories and it has developed a “food-processing hub” in partnership with the department and various representatives. Lastly and more recently, the metropolis has extended its support for a more “urban” agriculture to include project leaders from community associations or civil society. For example, it launched a call for community garden and beehive projects and supports innovative initiatives involving alternative production and marketing practices.

Project 2

The ferme des Maquis: an inter-municipal educational farm

The colline du Murier et des Quatre Seigneurs, the hillside surrounding the towns of Gières, Saint-Martin-d’Hères, Poisat and Eybens and overlooking Grenoble, is recognised as an essential place of escape, enhancing the living environment and well-being of the metropolis’ inhabitants. However, at the end of the 2000s, the agricultural sector appeared to be under severe pressure from the probable and imminent disappearance of all farms and the absence of livestock buildings available in the sector. Hence the creation of the first inter-municipal farm, the “Fermes des Maquis”, opened in 2013.

The operation is an organic goat farm, managed by a young couple on an environmental lease basis. The business, which produces cheese sold through short supply chains, is operated as an educational farm aimed at children.

EVALUATION

With the benefit of almost five years’ hindsight, it is possible to determine the factors behind the success of this endeavour, which stems above all from the multi-partner nature of the initiative:

• the full and combined involvement of territorial players and hillside residents in the project, which represents the direct implementation of one of the principal strategies jointly ratified within the context of the territorial plan for the hillside;
• the dynamic political and financial involvement of the four associated municipalities alongside the metropolis;
• the mobilisation of all institutional and financial partners, particularly the region, the French State and Europe;
• the mobilisation of the relevant technical partners, particularly the Association for Agricultural Development in the Y grenoblois region (Isère, Drac and Grésivaudan valleys) concerning the emergence and management of the project, the SAFER for the land negotiation and acquisition aspects and the Chamber of Agriculture for the technical and economic feasibility of the project, research and support for farmers;
• a project design structured around the site’s potential and the quasi-urban context of the hillside;
• the drawing up of a fair and balanced lease between the community and farmers, which, without distorting local competition, does not penalise the facility financially;
• the implementation of a regular monitoring and support mechanism for farmers by the metropolis’ agriculture department, during and after the set-up phase;
• lastly and above all, the dynamic and professional approach adopted by the young farmers selected during the call for applications process, who made a full contribution to the design and implementation of the project from the outset.

Finally, the metropolis helps reinforce the economic vitality of its agricultural sector while addressing society’s demands concerning food quality and climate issues impacting the supply of local products: modernisation and development of facilities within the industry via the complete renovation of the slaughterhouse, the creation of an inter-territorial fruit and vegetable facility, and supporting the transformation of the MIN (wholesale market of national interest) into a sustainable local logistics platform.
AGGLOMERATION COMMUNITY OF LE HAVRE

Where agriculture is concerned, the issues of quality, sustainability and proximity can be tackled within the context of a territorial food approach. Encouraging local production and distribution can help change the food practices and habits of the population of Le Havre, thereby improving the territory’s health indicators.

In 2014, the Agglomeration Community of Le Havre (CODAH) launched a Local Plan for Agriculture with specific initiatives to support an economically-viable local agricultural sector that generates job, preserves the quality of the environment and provides at least some of the high-quality food products required by its towns. One of the avenues pursued as part of this strategy concerns the implementation of a Territorial Food Project, particularly via the development of local sectors, as a means of reconnecting the urban and rural worlds.

It was in this context that, in 2013, the CODAH began contributing to the work of the French national Terres en Villes network relating to territorial food governance and, more recently, the RnPAT (French National Network for a Territorial Food Plan) of the French Rural Network. In 2017, the CODAH won the call for projects launched by the French Ministry of Agriculture concerning the National Food Plan.

OPTIMISING THE LOCAL AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD ECOSYSTEM

With agricultural land occupying 42% of its territory, the Le Havre agglomeration benefits from everything the Normandy terroir has to offer: fishing resources on its doorstep and agronomically rich soils, ideal for the production of a wide range of crops. It is also a livestock region with 7 AOPs attached to it. But the region’s economic model is primarily based on export, with little of what is produced locally destined for the local market. So one of the territory’s main objectives is to reconnect the rural world with the urban world.

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**Project 1**

**Agricultural test space: supporting market gardening in the territory**

In a context in which fewer and fewer family-run market garden businesses are passed on, leading to the potential disappearance of local fresh vegetable production, the CODAH has come up with an innovative approach to supporting the setting up of market gardening businesses.

There are new profiles of farmers without a farming background who wish to set up business close to Le Havre but do not have the family land and support required to do so. On the basis of this observation, in 2012, the CODAH began working to bring together structures specialising in the setting up of agricultural businesses (Chamber of Agriculture, networks of associations, organic producer groups, agricultural education establishments, SAFER) in order to devise a new form of territorial cooperation supporting such endeavours hinged around an agricultural test space initiative.

Testing an agricultural activity enables future farmers to try out their idea before setting up their business, in terms of its economic viability and operational feasibility.

Testing the business allows future farmers to reinforce their practical experience and develop a marketing network.

The agricultural test space managed by the CODAH and specialising in organic market gardening, was launched in June 2015. Three market garden operations are currently being trialled on a farm managed by the CODAH. Beneficiaries thus have access to a fully-equipped production facility, as well as additional support (business management, plant production, marketing, set-up preparation) provided by technicians from local agricultural support structures.

Alongside the agricultural test space, the CODAH finances a number of other market garden support initiatives across its territory: assistance for the passing on of businesses, investment support, the development of direct sales structures, etc.

**Project 2**

**Building a food web**

Within the framework of the PAT, the CODAH wanted to develop a tool to promote knowledge of local food chain players (from the producers, through to distributors, industry and restaurants). By identifying flows and the relationships between each of these players, the idea is to gain an appreciation of local food system development opportunities (promotion of players present, business creation potential, potential logistical synergies and pooling, etc.).

The objective of the Food Web is thus to provide a knowledge, analysis and prospective tool to support the local food ecosystem.

The data entered can be visualised in the form of tables, flow charts or a dynamic map locating players and outlining the relationships between them (food flows, partnership/contractual relations, influence systems).

The Food Web is designed to be a collaborative tool to support players across the territory. A first prototype of the Food Web was launched in the autumn of 2017.

Developed by the Le Havre and Seine Estuary Urban Development Agency, the Food Web operates along similar lines to the *Toile Industrielle®* (Industrial Web), a locally developed tool launched in 2016 aimed at analysing the industrial-port ecosystem of the Seine estuary.

www.codah.fr/agriculture
EUROPEAN METROPOLIS OF LILLE

METROPOLITAN AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD STRATEGY

Ratified in 2016, it is hinged around 5 priorities:

1. Reinforce agriculture as a metropolitan economic sector
2. Create an agricultural observatory and preserve land
3. Encourage, support and develop sustainable agricultural practices
4. Facilitate the relocation of food consumption and establish a structured local produce offer
5. Bring the urban and rural environments closer together: urban agriculture, agri-tourism and leisure.

The European Metropolis of Lille (MEL) is an EPCI (French Public Inter-Municipal Cooperation Establishment) created by the French law of 31 December 1966. A vast territory bringing together 90 municipalities and more than 1 million inhabitants, the MEL is characterised by the combined rural and urban nature of its space. It also boasts a strategic cross-border position.

Agriculture represents a major asset for the balanced development of the MEL. A dynamic sector that generates jobs and preserves natural resources, it is one of the pillars of the economy and of the development of the metropolitan territory. Today, the sector crystallises society's expectations when it comes to food and the long-term future of the profession in the peri-urban environment. It is the responsibility of the MEL to channel its expertise into addressing these issues.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

• 1,133,920 inhabitants (INSEE 2014)
• 90 municipalities including two attached to Lille (Lomme and Hellemmes)
• 1,785 inhabitants/km²
• 4th largest agglomeration after Paris, Lyon and Marseille
• 61,145 hectares
• 46% of the territorial area cultivated (the most agricultural metropolis in France)
• 774 farms
Project

The Wavrin market gardening and horticultural zone

The European Metropolis of Lille decided to support the development of a local, sustainable and environmentally-friendly agricultural sector, identified as a lever for job creation and economic development in the rural belt of the peri-urban territory. Accordingly, the MEL asked its partners (Nord Pas-de-Calais Chamber of Commerce, GABNOR (Nord Pas-de-Calais organic farmers group), Pôle Légumes (Vegetable Pole), SOGEMIN (responsible for managing the Lille wholesale market), the French State, the Nord Pas-de-Calais regional council, the Nord Departmental council, the Artois-Picardie Water Agency, SAFER, education establishments, FRCUMA (regional federation of agricultural equipment cooperatives), etc.) to promote this idea by creating a zone entirely dedicated to this type of agriculture, on the La Vallée site in Wavrin (Nord département).

This site provides 47.7 hectares of arable land alongside route 41, made available to SAFER following an EPCI request.

The zone’s development addresses 3 principal objectives:

1. To support the creation of new agricultural production units, focusing, in particular, on the market gardening, fruit tree and horticultural sectors. In a context of the scarcity of available agricultural land, the aim is to help farmers (young, career change and metropolitan relocation) establish their businesses through the provision of established, viable plots on a rural lease basis agreed between the MEL and the project leader.

2. To develop environmentally-friendly agricultural practices. Promote and develop organic agriculture to address the growing demand for organic products in the Lille Metropolis – Promote and reinforce initiatives carried out in recent years by the agricultural sector, reflecting its commitment to numerous practices aimed at improving the environment. The land has been converted to organic agriculture.

3. Create a “showcase” zone for the profession, integrated into its territory. The aim is to encourage collective projects between the farmers present in the zone, reflecting the territory’s needs.

7 project leaders have been selected to take part in the initiative. They receive support from the various partners throughout the individual project set-up phase, as well as for the construction of a collective project (pooling of resources, preparation for future management of the zone). The project leaders have created a CUMA (agricultural equipment cooperative).

This production space is the first step; the MEL is currently working on a test space project. This space will have four principal purposes: the provision of land and equipment resources, legal, tax, social and accountancy services through an agricultural business incubator (allows sales) and a support and administration function.

The MEL is also committed to the joint construction of a PAT targeting high-quality food for all, a project founded on a shared vision between players and residents and a multi-player food governance structure.

The cost borne by the local authority and its partners, i.e. the Hauts-de-France region and the Artois - Picardie Water Agency, relating to the creation of the market gardening zone amounts to €2.8 million.

Contact: agriculture@lillemetropole.fr
Lorient agglomeration is made up of 25 municipalities incorporating the bay, 17 km of coastline, valleys and extensive woodland. A fishing, arable crop and livestock region, Lorient Agglomeration works closely with the Blavet Bellevue Océan community of municipalities and the chamber of agriculture to implement an agricultural land preservation policy as set out in the PLUs (urban development plans) and the SCoT (territorial coherence programme), along with a policy aimed at increasing the provision of locally-produced organic food for its residents.

MAKE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD A CROSS-FUNCTIONAL LEVER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Project 1

The agriculture and food charter

In 2001, Lorient Agglomeration and farming sector representatives signed Lorient Agglomeration’s first Agriculture Charter.

A new charter drawn up with the territory’s socio-economic players

Field surveys, steering committees, stakeholder workshops and citizen participation: the new charter, the result of a collective process, set out a joint vision of the evolution of the agriculture and food sectors.

The Agriculture and Food Charter: the priorities

This charter is a document setting out policy and strategic priorities. It consists of a reference document specifying the undertakings to which the associated organisations and stakeholders have signed up. It is hinged around a planned action programme. Targeting territorial quality, the charter will focus on everything that symbolises the pays de Lorient region, in terms of its land-sea dimension, complementing Brittany’s other territories.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

LOREINT AGGLOMERATION
• 207,000 inhabitants

THE PAYS DE LORIENT
• 225,000 inhabitants
• 30 municipalities
• 600 farms of which
  - 20% short supply chains
  - 10% organic farming methods
FOUR MAJOR CHALLENGES:

CHALLENGE 1. Preserve and develop agricultural resources and jobs
The territory’s men and women, their expertise and cooperatives, agricultural land, farm buildings, livestock and crops make up the agricultural resources present in the pays de Lorient. From time to time, increasing urban sprawl and economic crises undermine these resources, which the Charter aims to protect, consolidate and revive.

CHALLENGE 2. To collectively build a sustainable and shared Territorial Food Project
The Charter sets out to promote and develop quality food, with responsibility shared between all food chain players, from producer through to consumer. Numerous citizen initiatives reflect the determination of consumers to play an active role when it comes to their own food. The Charter is designed to underpin the construction of a virtuous food system for the benefit of local residents, economic players and the territory as a whole.

In addition, it targets greater equity in terms of the distribution of added value, along with increased social accessibility. Its ambitions also include environmental benefits (water, carbon, energy, etc.). To achieve its aims, the charter sets out to concretely contribute to:

- consumer education (production, seasonality, cooking, food waste, etc.) and awareness-raising with respect to the impact of food on health;
- the relocation of food, drawing on all agricultural sectors (long and short supply chains, organic, conventional, etc.) and expertise in order to feed the population and supply food- and food-processing sector professionals, as well as the mass catering and distribution sectors, with local agricultural products.

This State labelled PAT (territorial food plan) is initially being implemented via food education initiatives and actions targeting the increased availability of locally produced – particularly organic – food for the mass catering sector.

CHALLENGE 3. Cultivate territorial quality throughout the pays de Lorient area and facilitate the transition
Heritage, landscapes, biodiversity, water, agricultural and culinary know-how, creations and innovations lie at the heart of the territorial quality policy. The Charter is designed to support this differentiation strategy, structuring local agricultural and food policy around everything that symbolises the pays de Lorient, in line with the public policies of neighbouring territories and Brittany as a whole. In particular, it encourages the adoption of new practices with a positive social, economic and environmental impact, facilitates experimental initiatives aimed at generating links and promotes products with official quality signs, specifications, etc.

CHALLENGE 4. Act to ensure the adapted, concerted and proactive implementation of the Charter
The implementation of the planned action programme will primarily be hinged around actions led by a broad range of project leaders ready to launch their initiatives. The aim will be to coordinate all the partners, monitor the Charter mechanism and contribute to the implementation of actions. Pilot structures will be responsible for these aspects, supported by specific resources.

An agricultural and food board made up of pilot structures and partner bodies will meet at least twice a year to monitor the implementation of the Charter and its planned action programme.

Project 1

The SCoT

The Pays de Lorient’s SCoT is managed by a mixed body bringing together Lorient Agglomeration and the neighbouring Community of municipalities: Blavet Bellevue Océan. These 30 municipalities launched a new SCoT in October 2013, 7 years after a previous SCoT had been approved concerning 24 municipalities, with a view to integrating 6 additional municipalities, primarily agricultural and undeveloped. Hence the SCoT, which had initially been urban and coastal in nature, evolved to also become rural and agricultural.

WIDE-RANGING CONSULTATION WITH THE AGRICULTURAL PROFESSION

Elected representatives soon realised the urgent need to protect agricultural land. The mixed body, working in partnership with the chamber of agriculture, conducted a study on the agronomic quality of land (in 2011) and the territory’s strategic agricultural space (in 2012). There is significant uncertainty surrounding the future of agricultural land in a number of sectors subject to substantial pressures: agglomeration centres, alongside major roads, in coastal areas.

PROTECTED AGRICULTURAL/NATURAL SPACES

In its priorities and objectives document (DOO), the mixed body decided to identify and map 13 protected agricultural/natural spaces, corresponding to spaces of interest for the local agricultural sector and subject to significant urban development pressures (residential or economic activity zones). These spaces occupy some 6,500 hectares, including 3,500 hectares of agricultural land declared for the purposes of the CAP, and concern 52 farms. In these spaces, no zone A or N classification changes are permitted in PLUs throughout the duration of the SCoT (20 years). In other words, farmers already present or those setting up their businesses have a guarantee that their productive land will be protected. Moreover, this protection also extends to prevent land speculation on the part of owners.
AGRICULTURE, A TERRITORIAL RESOURCE THAT NEEDS TO BE REINVENTED

Lyon Metropolis was created from the merger of the Rhône département and the Lyon urban community. Its position between the rivers Saône and Rhône in an area of convergence between several climatic influences provides a pleasant living environment, a diversity of landscapes and a broad variety of agricultural produce. With 350 farms, agriculture features prominently, occupying 25% of the metropolis’ territory. The challenges facing the sector include the ageing of its farmers and competition for access to land, but it is also characterized by the dynamism of its producers. The variety of distribution modes (collective sales outlets, AMAP, etc.) operating reflects an increasing demand among local people to regain ownership of their food. In the purest gastronomic tradition of Lyon and its region, people seek high-quality, healthy food via 125 weekly markets, community gardens, allotments and gardener/chef associations.

The main challenges to be addressed in the coming years include the need to diversify production activities and to establish ever closer links between production and consumption.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- 1.35 million inhabitants
- 59 municipalities
- Area of the territory: 538 km², of which
  - 12,881 ha agricultural land
  - 9,558 ha natural areas
  - 2,040 ha green spaces
- 143 community gardens (allotments or community) occupying around 88 ha

Project 1

Custom support for innovative community projects

Following the definition of the SCOT’s armature verte (green infrastructure) in partnership with the Rhône département and the communities of municipalities of the Est lyonnais and the pays de l’Ozon and members of the SCOT, the decision was taken in 2008 to define perimeters for the preservation of peri-urban natural and agricultural spaces (PENAP/PAEN) to reinforce the protection of agricultural spaces and enable farmers to continue to farm long into the future. These perimeters were decreed in February 2014 for 52 municipalities, covering a total area of 12,653 ha.

The perimeters defined were supported by a programme of PSADER (strategic agricultural and rural development pro-
The development of collective gardens across the metropolis’ territory really enjoyed a revival with the arrival of the concept of community gardens (a plot cultivated collectively) in the 2000s. In 2006, the local authority decided to support their emergence and the maintenance of existing gardens. These gardens reinforce social cohesion. More recently, gardeners have focused their interest on regaining ownership of their food, food education and the seasonal nature of products. The recent emergence of the concept of permaculture lies behind the trend towards the use of these gardens for food production. The Passe Jardin initiative, supported by the Metropolis, has delivered training sessions aimed at promoting the use of permaculture in community gardens, encouraging the routine consumption and distribution of garden produce among gardeners.

In 2016, in preparation for its food strategy reflection process, the metropolis decided to support the “Le Passe Jardin” community garden network in a survey aimed at assessing the food-producing dimension of community gardens.

GOVERNANCE

The Le Passe Jardin association brings together gardeners’ associations responsible for managing a community garden. It is active across the region, and is in partnership with the city of Lyon, Lyon Metropolis, the Auvergne Rhône Alpes region and the French State.

For its study, the association also enlisted the help of Lyon 2 University, the ISARA (Rhône Alpes Higher Education Institute of Agronomy, Food and the Environment), the La Légumerie association, the city of Lyon, the metropolis and the region.

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Many community gardens are located in neighbourhoods defined as priority areas for the purposes of the City’s public policy. They thus become levers for supporting social inclusion initiatives enabling members and neighbours to get to know each other better, have access to community activities and become integrated into neighbourhood life. The produce harvested from these gardens, which are often managed by a designated person, is distributed among the gardeners themselves. Awareness-raising initiatives concerning the environment, health, local products and seasonal products are conducted via cooking workshops.

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Metz Metropolis and the city of Metz plan to place urban agriculture at the heart of innovative projects. In Metz, agricultural land is being turned into strategic spaces rather than left as empty urban plots. The city is investing in urban agriculture in the broadest sense of the term: agrobiopôle (investment project to reallocate land to the production, processing and promotion of local products), community gardens, community orchards, professional projects based on agro-ecology, permaculture and agro-forestry, etc.

In 2010, Metz Metropolis included the revival of agricultural activities in its economic development programme to reflect consumer demand: traceability, proximity, quality, development of the territory’s resources.

To achieve these objectives, Inspire Metz, the territorial economic development agency, established a network of partnerships to initiate the roll-out of urban and peri-urban agriculture.

The major challenge is to stimulate the development of the local food production offer - preferably organic -, which is currently inadequate to meet demand, and gradually create a complete and structured sector.

Several objectives are being pursued:

- agricultural land management and preservation, particularly through urban planning documents, as well as the agricultural development of wasteland;
- support for the creation of small market gardening and fruit tree-growing businesses as well as small livestock farms;
- secure market outlets particularly via the organisation of organic markets, adaptation of public purchase contracts for out-of-home catering and awareness-raising campaigns aimed at citizens based on sustained communication.
Project 1

The agrobiopôle:
The epicentre for the production, processing and development of agricultural products to support a "food ecosystem"

Ce projet a trois objectifs :
• To develop minority produce (fruit and vegetable production, animal production);
• To enable producers to create more added value by turning base products into more sophisticated products;
• To develop new modes of distribution for short supply chains.

70 hectares of the site, to the south of former airbase 128, will form the epicentre of the project, which is part of a global policy: to support existing agricultural activities and mobilise abandoned spaces. 750 hectares of agricultural wasteland have been quantified across the agglomeration. The objective is to bring this land back into use in order to galvanize the local production of high added value produce.

For the time being, the agrobiopôle is focusing its efforts on two priority areas: the setting up of the pays messin beekeeping cooperative, responsible for purchasing and selling beekeeping equipment, housed in a building of more than 800 m², and the creation of a test space for organic market gardening. Operated in partnership with the Courcelles-Chaussy agricultural high school, CAS7 (Moselle Chamber of Agriculture), CGA (accredited professional accounting centre), Terres de liens, Jeunes Agriculteurs 57 (Moselle Young Farmers), this test space will incorporate an incubator (site development with provision of production equipment and materials, legal services for project leaders) and provide support for organic market gardening project leaders with no land.

In the medium term, the agrobiopôle will grow further:
• a dedicated animal welfare pole. Animal practices hinged around animal welfare (in partnership with La protection mondiale des animaux de la ferme, a lobbying association campaigning for the development of responsible production and consumption);
• field market gardening aimed at supplying produce to the traditional and mass catering sectors, fruit tree-growing and why not, a methanisation facility;
• innovative initiatives: phytoremediation to clean up soil, bio-indicators for monitoring the environment with bees, etc.

Metz Metropolis’ peri-urban agricultural policy ambitions are reflected in the agrobiopôle. The territory is mobilising its agricultural wasteland, supporting and consolidating the economic sector associated with agriculture across Metz Metropolis and, lastly, creating an epicentre for the production, processing and development of local agricultural products. The innovative nature of the project has attracted interest from European competition applicants. It is also being supported within the framework of the Pacte Lorraine territorial economic development initiative.

Project 2

The Ferme de Borny:
a social diversity facility where organic produce is accessible to all

A symbol of urban agriculture at the heart of a ZUS (sensitive urban area), the Borny market gardening and educational urban farm opened its doors in March 2017. A veritable focal point of neighbourhood community life open to organic producers, the farm’s activities include: a shop, an educational farm, integration initiatives, training initiatives, experiments, a processing workshop and various events (themed festivals, cooking workshops, etc.).

Located on a wooded 9-hectare site, this project forms part of the neighbourhood’s wider urban revival project. The Ferme de Borny is a highly visible facility crossed by a public footpath leading to the nearby park. Local residents and the neighbourhood committee had long been campaigning to enhance the park and the farm represents an ideal solution.

What sets this project apart - it is the only one of its type in France - is that it came about as a result of the creation of a SCIC (multi-stakeholder cooperative), which already has 272 members. They include private individuals (228), companies (18), associations (4) and local authorities, all of whom are supporting this urban and solidarity farming initiative. It is a project that is both firmly rooted in the immediate neighbourhood (54 members within a radius of 1 km) and also extends across the territory (79 members in a radius of between 1 and 5 km – 92 members in the metropolitan area – 57 members further away still), which is promising in terms of social diversity.

A SCIC member, the city of Metz is making 5 hectares of land available to the farm on a long-term basis, as well as a range of facilities that it will continue to own: shop, cloakroom, technical area. The farm has 4 full-time employees and also employs people on workplace integration schemes (20 full-time equivalent posts), thanks to a partnership with a neighbourhood association. Regular participative workshops are organised, as well as site tours, particularly aimed at schoolchildren.
A TERRITORY ENGAGED IN AN AGRO-ECOLOGICAL AND FOOD TRANSITION POLICY

Framed by the Montagne Noire and Cévennes mountain ranges, at the foot of this vast amphitheatre overlooking the Mediterranean sea, Montpellier Méditerranée Metropolis has established itself as an attractive European capital. Today, with 29,000 companies, 60,000 students and its excellence centres in the field of health, water, agronomy and cutting-edge technologies, Montpellier Méditerranée Metropolis is building on its strengths via the development of cooperation agreements with China, Russia, Brazil and the USA. It also boasts and exceptional climate, making it one of the most popular tourist destinations for French people!

Since 2015, the metropolitan project implemented by Montpellier Méditerranée Metropolis has been hinged around seven pillars, including agro-ecology and food. Accordingly, the Metropolis has been engaged in a genuinely collaborative approach to drive the development of this ambitious agro-ecological and food policy. Determined to ensure the long-term sustainability of its policy, in October 2015, the metropolis signed up to the Milan urban food policy pact, alongside some one hundred cities around the world. This territorial policy is underpinned by close cooperation with its 31 municipalities, food and agricultural ecosystem players, the scientific community and neighbouring territories. The objective is to develop the territory’s capacity to feed the people living in and around the metropolis. The roadmap is constructed around five goals:

- To provide healthy, locally-produced food to as many people as possible;
- To support the agricultural and agri-food sector and jobs;
- To preserve the landscape and natural resources (biodiversity, ecological water, soil and air quality);
- To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change;
- To promote social cohesion, underlining the link with nature, city/country relationships.

Eminently cross-cutting in nature, this policy builds on other areas of public policy administered by the metropolis. In particular, it is an integral component of the revised SCoT currently being discussed, which sets out measures designed to achieve the sustainable preservation of 2/3 of natural and agricultural spaces covering the period to 2040. This SCoT project, which quali-
fies territories on the basis of their specific agricultural characteristics and defines the principles governing their return to use, represents the foundation for the roll-out of an agro-ecological system and the relocation of food production. In 2017, the agro-ecological and food policy gained ministerial recognition as a territorial food project.

Project 1

“Good and local” bowl: an initiative to support the agro-ecological transition

Identifying local, seasonal products distributed via short supply chains, the BoCal (bowl) initiative facilitates access to sustainable food for all, the aim being to feed residents with healthy products that respect local ecosystems. The philosophy guiding the BoCal project is one of transparency: consumers have a clear vision of product traceability and the expertise that has been used via environmentally-friendly production techniques and methods. In concrete terms, the project has been constructed around a collaborative platform (bocal.montpellier3m.fr) and a paper guide currently containing details of 275 distribution outlets. It also incorporates a pooled calendar of “BoCal”-backed local produce festivals and events. The platform is the fruit of collaboration with agricultural and food players from across the territory (the Chamber of Agriculture, INPACT (Initiatives for local, organic and sustainable agriculture), CIVAM Bio 34 (Hérault), Boutiques Paysannes (farm shop network), MIN (wholesale market of national interest) and neighbouring territories (Grand Pic Saint Loup and Pays de l’Or initially). BoCal is aimed at:
• Promoting the adoption of the agro-ecological message across the territory, making the connection between people already committed to the issue and gradually reaching out to those who need further convincing;
• Facilitating the transition from “I’d like to garden...” to “I garden”! ensuring people know who to contact to learn how to go about it.

In the near future, the metropolis and its partners will be signing an agro-ecological and sustainable food transition charter.

Project 2

The MIN, the short supply chain vector

With 220 companies, 80 producers and 3,000 buyers, the Marché d’intérêt National (MIN or wholesale market of national interest) represents an agro-ecological policy tool for the development of healthy and sustainable food produced locally while contributing to economic development and supporting local jobs. The Metropolis has jurisdiction over the MIN within the context of Economic Development.

FOOD PROCESSING CENTRE
In 2016, the MIN acquired an innovative food processing centre bringing together 6 companies specialising in fruit, vegetable and meat processing and employing around 60 people (30% on workplace integration contracts). The Centre is an incubator designed to help food-processing businesses develop an innovation. They move from the R&D phase through to the industrial production phase at the MIN.

THE 1ST ORGANIC AND LOCAL WHOLESALE MARKET IN FRANCE
The carreau Bio & Local (local organic wholesale market), reserved for professionals, reflects changes in local consumption, with a growing demand for local, organic produce. The new service provides organic producers with rapid access to a broad-based professional clientele: greengrocers, conventional markets developing an organic range, wholesalers/agents supplying organic shops (networks or independent), restaurants and the mass catering sector.

A VIRTUAL “CARREAU DES PRODUCTEURS” (PRODUCERS’ WHOLESALE MARKET) aimed at professionals developed by a start-up supported by the Metropolis. The MIN wants to raise the profile of the carreau des producteurs, informing buyers (restaurant owners, greengrocers, wholesalers, super/hypermarkets and mass caterers) in real time about the diversity of products available, with weekly updates. The MIN is also going to create a virtual identity card of producers, presenting their production methods, production sites, etc.
Mulhouse Alsace Agglomeration presents a set of characteristics unique in the French landscape. Its position at the crossroads between German and Latin influences, against the backdrop of the Alps, gives it a particularly important European dimension that reinforces the increasing development of relations across three borders. The proximity of urban centres (Basel, Strasbourg, Colmar, Belfort and Fribourg) and easy communications allow the agglomeration to be a stakeholder in numerous networks, within systems built around intersecting flows and functional complementarity.

This territory is first and foremost the product of the proactive drive and innovative spirit of the people who live there. Beyond their remarkable diversity on numerous fronts (landscapes, sociology, history, economy, etc.), its municipalities share many common traits (lifestyle, the importance of associations, thirst for pragmatism, technological culture) that cement their ties within the agglomeration.

THE FOOD PLAN DRIVING TERRITORIAL POLICIES

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A shared determination between the territory and project leaders

The agglomeration and the city of Mulhouse have been mobilised on the environmental front for a number of years now, focusing on issues surrounding urban agriculture and food. In 2006, these issues guided the drawing up of the Territorial Climate Plan.

Substantial progress was made across the territory in the space of ten years: more than 1,900 baskets distributed weekly via short supply chains, 100 hectares of land preserved and numerous projects conducted by various territorial players aimed at promoting environmentally-friendly agriculture and ensuring access to healthy food products for all, heralding the development of the local food or “locavore” sector.

At the end of 2016, this convergence of projects and interests within the sector led Mulhouse Alsace Agglomeration (m2A), the
MACIF Foundation and their partners to launch a territorial food project (PAT) involving players from the entire “field to plate” chain and aimed at constructing a joint vision, i.e. the creation of: "a collective and organised approach enabling multiple structures and players to cooperate on a territorial level with a view to attaining a common goal: to give everyone equal and fair access to healthy, local food produced using environmentally-friendly methods", the founding principle of the territory’s PAT initiative.

This vision is backed by objectives:
1. to develop the territory’s food autonomy;
2. to develop and promote agricultural practices with a low environmental impact: local agriculture, organic farming;
3. to give everyone access to healthy, high-quality food;
4. to maintain and develop jobs throughout the local food sector;
5. to be fair.

The initiative finalised over the course of this year is hinged around a participative and collaborative, cross-functional and iterative principle, with a steering committee, a coordination team, a technical committee, working groups and a plenary session.

Players and projects as the foundations underpinning the construction of the PAT: Overseen by m2A, the MACIF Foundation, the ISSM (institut supérieur social de Mulhouse) and the Mulhouse Regional Urban Planning Agency (AURM), actions are supported by established and emerging players: the OPABA (Alsace professional organic farming organisation), Terres de Lien, Ecooparc, Rhenamap (association for the maintenance of local farming), the chamber of agriculture, FDSEA 68 (the local branch of the FNSEA - French National Farmers’ Union Association), the Haut-Rhin Département, the DRAAF (Regional Food, Agriculture and Forestry Department), the City of Mulhouse, social and solidarity economy associations.

Moreover, this initiative is open to neighbouring territories in southern Alsace and is consolidated by m2A’s application for the TIGA (Territory of Innovation and Great Ambition) French investments for the future programme project “Champs du possible, Villes du futur” (Fields of the possible, Cities of the future).

The shared ambition is to make agriculture a powerful lever driving the economic, social and environmental transformation of the whole of southern Alsace. The territory’s vision of agriculture can be broken down into four priority areas:
• An agricultural sector that is productive but one that is based on a production model requiring fewer inputs, that protects resources as well as the health of local people;
• An innovative form of agriculture that enables the “farm of the future” to be productive irrespective of size and to be incorporated within innovative economic models;
• Subsistence agriculture, providing high-quality food for everyone and creating social links;
• Remedial agriculture, contributing to the circular economy via wasteland clean-up based on planting.

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**Project 1**

**m2A aid programme**

Since 2010, m2A has allocated €145,000 of aid to support some twenty projects.

The Mulhouse agglomeration boasts a wealth of natural, agricultural and urban resources. m2A’s role is to support project leaders – particularly municipalities – who contribute to the preservation – or indeed the revival – of these resources. To do so, m2A, working in partnership with the Haut-Rhin departmental council, is coordinating a rural and peri-urban space management plan (GERPLAN).

**Project 2**

**Community gardens in Mulhouse**

The community garden development project in the city of Mulhouse was proposed by the Town Hall and municipal council back in 2014. More generally, it is an extension of the Ville Nature (Nature City) project and the “zero pesticides” action plan initiated by the City. Since 2015, some fifteen community gardens have been established in Mulhouse.

Project leaders are invited to sign a community garden supervision and implementation charter, setting out common objectives in line with the local authority’s environmental and social policy, the conditions to be met, the commitments of the City of Mulhouse in terms of methodological and technical support for the creation of gardens, and the undertakings of project leaders. This framework also enables the City to create a network between different project leaders sharing common objectives.
FORGING A LINK BETWEEN AGRICULTURE AND THE URBAN WORLD

At the heart of the Sillon Lorrain European metropolitan centre and home to 433,788 inhabitants, mainly rural, Grand Nancy Metropolis supports the development of peri-urban agriculture. The objective is to ensure the balanced management of territories within the framework of the PLUi, but also to promote agricultural sectors as levers for economic development, meeting the demand for local, high-quality and sustainable food.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- 254,788 inhabitants in the Grand Nancy (Greater Nancy) metropolitan area
- 433,788 inhabitants in the Grand Nancy urban area
- Metropolis area: 14,230 ha • Area dedicated to agriculture: 3,056 ha, i.e. 21.5% of the territory
- 40 farms in 2016, 99 jobs, of which 35 full-time
- 9 farms market products directly
- Objective to reclassify land reserves as natural or agricultural areas in the PLUi currently being drawn up: 150 ha

Although it has disappeared from several municipalities in the Grand Nancy metropolitan area, agriculture nonetheless continues to occupy an area of 3,056 hectares, i.e. 21.5% of the territory. Permanent grassland accounts for 49% of all agricultural land (the share has increased over the years); arable land accounts for 51% of UAA. Over the past ten years, 123 hectares of land reserves have been reclassified as natural or agricultural areas in various local municipal urban development plans; the objective of the PLUi currently being drawn up is 150 hectares.

The 40 or so farms, primarily concentrated in the East of the metropolitan area, are highly diverse in nature, in terms of production, size (from small horticultural businesses to large multi-crop/livestock operations) and legal structure. While livestock represents a significant share, the same is also true for leisure equestrian activities (eleven farms).

A METROPOLITAN STRATEGY

In order to gain a better understanding of the productive spaces across its territory as well as to guide the development of its PLUi and identify avenues for supporting peri-urban agriculture, in 2016, the metropolis conducted an agricultural and forestry assessment. A consortium made up of the Chamber of
Agriculture and the local office of the French National Forestry Agency (ONF) conducted the assessment.

Alongside this inventory, Grand Nancy designed a metropolitan strategy with a view to reflecting on themes relating to the maintenance and development of agricultural resources, the galvanisation of specific sectors and new demands from society concerning food issues.

Within this context, the metropolis forged a number of partnerships:

- with the Chamber of Agriculture within the framework of a future objectives agreement, aimed at preserving and developing agricultural land, enhancing the environmental quality of peri-urban agriculture and supporting innovative initiatives.
- with the Meurthe-et-Moselle Departmental council, within the framework of the solidarity territory contract and, more specifically, the PAT, paving the way for closer cooperation with Grand Nancy and wider implementation covering the southern half of the Meurthe-et-Moselle département.

Focal points for exchange and co-production have to be created in order to make people want to live and work in a particular neighbourhood. For example, in the Haut du Lièvre sector, the emblematic Cèdre Bleu building has been partially demolished to make way for a green project, a community “live and do together” garden initiative, incorporating the need to improve the nutrition – and hence health – of low-income households. 59 family gardens have been created, side by side, with a gardeners’ house, a school beehive, an open kitchen with a capacity to feed 200 people for lunch and dinner and a social and solidarity grocery. In addition, an urban farm combining permaculture and an aquaponics facility is being set up in the grounds of a botanical garden to facilitate social cohesion, educate, bring together and reconnect inhabitants to nature.

### Project 1

**The territorial food project (PAT)**

Numerous initiatives are emerging across territories supporting the development of local, high-quality and sustainable food. These initiatives need to be better coordinated. That is the aim of the PAT, supported by the French Ministry of Agriculture.

Within the framework of the 2016-2017 call for projects, the département, the metropolis, Multipôle Sud Lorraine1, the Regional Nature Park (PNR), the Chamber of Agriculture as well as neighbouring territories wanted to join forces in a shared approach, with the aim of designing a collaborative project encompassing the entire perimeter to galvanise links between production, consumption and the production chain.

This project consists in analysing practices and food needs throughout the perimeter, production and processing practices and the links between them. The assessment will identify development potential and the room for manoeuvre available for each food-related activity and each category of players, with results available by mid-2018.

More particularly, Grand Nancy will be joining forces with Multipôle Sud Lorraine to launch a “logistics chain” study, which will specify needs and implementation methods in terms of wholesale, semi-wholesale and/or processing facilities.

### Project 2

**An urban farm on the Haye plateau**

Over the last ten years, thanks to the joint efforts of the metropolis, cities, social landlords and inhabitants, the Haye plateau has been transformed to become a new area of town, reflecting the “forest town” concept, with the support of Alexandre Chemetoff, architect, town planner and landscape gardener.

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1 South Meurthe-et-Moselle Association of Inter-Municipalities, principally responsible for urban planning (SCOT).
Lamb’s lettuce, lily of the valley, Chantenay carrot, Nantaise cattle, valleys of market gardens, vine-covered hillsides, wet grasslands... Nantes boasts a rich and varied heritage of products and production environments emblematic of the region. Producers, men and women alike, have successfully made full use of this rich territory and turned a constraint - urban pressure - into a strength. The Nantes basin is a jewel in the agro-industrial environment of Western France. But it is also a territory of innovation and experimentation when it comes to sustainable food and urban agriculture.

Since the end of the 1990s, the “agriculture” programme has been constructed around technical and political partnerships with the Chamber of Agriculture and various associations to tackle urban sprawl.

Early initiatives focused on the protection of agricultural land and support for economic activities, before being extended to include direct sales and short supply chains, the environment and biodiversity. Maintaining the momentum of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (2015), Climate Chance (2016), the great energy transition debate (2017) and the Nantes Food Forum (annual from 2017), Nantes Metropolis encourages the “production of local, sustainable food accessible to all”. Supported by the Chamber of Agriculture, the Terres en Villes network and the IUFN (International Urban Food Network), it has hinged its PAT around 3 objectives: to support the economy and jobs; reinforce the consideration given to the environment; contribute to social cohesion and facilitate access for all to healthy food.

The illustration of local expectations and initiatives, the bridge between professionals and citizens and a reflection of producer/consumer convergence, urban agriculture conjures up and paves the way for some interesting opportunities. Agriculture and the city have turned their backs on each other for a number of decades. What if this trend towards territorial alliances and multi-player collaboration were to provide the solution?
Spotlight on the agricultural wasteland conversion and start-up project support programme

There can be no agriculture without production support and no agricultural space without a land preservation policy. The PLUs of 2007 offered farmers guarantees for a period of 20 years. The SCOT along with the PEAN of the Erdre, Gesvre and Cens Valleys (2013) reinforced this objective: The PLU currently being developed contains measures to maintain agricultural land and to reclassify plots (convert to zone A) with urban development potential. However, regulatory protection is not sufficient in itself to halt the progress of fallow land. In 2009, a thorough assessment of the land was conducted by the Chamber of Commerce in order to qualify and quantify the real occupation of land across all zone A and zone N designated spaces in the PLU. This assessment, shared with the municipalities and local professional networks (farmers, farmers’ unions, agricultural cooperatives, etc.), led to the identification of 155 so-called sites “with potential”, where farms could be reintroduced without significant investment, representing a total area of 2,000 hectares.

So the metropolis launched a multi-partner approach aimed at developing these hitherto abandoned sites, with a dual objective: clear one site per municipality from 2011 and return 500 hectares to crop by 2014.

A METHOD AND RESOURCES

Between 2011 and 2014, more than 300 local meetings were organised using a method adapted on a case by case basis to reflect local context. It was hinged around 3 pillars:

• A local group for each municipality bringing together various representatives (technical and/or political) from the municipality, Nantes Metropolis and the Chamber of Agriculture, as well as other local associated stakeholders consulted by the municipalities (owners’ associations, organic farmer groups, etc.). This group was responsible for validating the choice of sites to be cleared and supporting projects.

• A joint management/coordination group involving Nantes Metropolis and the Chamber of Agriculture, responsible for ensuring the cross-functional nature of the programme and incorporating the project into the various public policies implemented by Nantes Metropolis (urban planning and development, economic development, the environment, the circular economy, etc.). Outside partners were regularly consulted depending on the issues being discussed: GAB44 (organic farmers’ group for the Loire-Atlantique département), CIAP (local cooperative to support the creation of farm businesses), SCIC Nord Nantes (community cooperative), SAFER, Terres de Liens, etc.

• An annual meeting between all these players to pool and share experiences.

In parallel, Nantes Metropolis provided funding (covering 80% of the land clearance work, and farm set-up costs of up to €14,000 per project) and technical support (environmental assessment and administrative assistance). It also rolled out an awareness/information programme aimed at professionals and the general public.

RESULTS AND NEW PERSPECTIVES

Between 2009 and 2014, 137 different sites were assessed, covering 1,900 hectares. Of these, 51 were cleared and returned to crop. Several farm projects are supported every year (30 over the past 5 years). Today, land clearance support continues following a further assessment of wasteland (updating that of 2014), which identified priority sectors and the evolution of agricultural land by municipality. Within the context of the food policy currently being developed, Nantes Metropolis wants to reinforce its action via innovative projects with the potential to be copied in the future.

WHAT ROLE FOR URBAN AGRICULTURE?

As a concrete illustration of these trends, urban agriculture in Nantes is emerging in a wide variety of forms. Depending on definitions, it covers professional farms, citizen initiatives, high-tech farms in the city centre, local market gardens, etc. …as well as family gardens and allotments, the Potager de la Cantine vegetable garden and the Stations Gourmandes (spaces where inhabitants and tourists can pick and taste the fruit, vegetables and herbs grown). It provokes or reassures, reinvents old recipes or innovates for the future, produces value or turns established economic models upside down.

It is a formidable lever for raising awareness, bringing people closer together and creating social cohesion. As long as it leaves room for consultation and citizen involvement.

3 examples of peri-urban agricultural projects:

• Douflon-Gohards: project to revamp 5 former inner-city market gardens – Nantes-Est / Nantes Métropole Aménagement

• 5 ponts: Urban farm project on the roof of a homeless shelter – Île de Nantes / CCAS (municipal social action centre) / Association Les Eaux Vives

• Promotion of Nantaise cattle: Programme to secure the future of a local mixed breed threatened with extinction in the 1970s - APRBN.
AN ASPIRING AGRICULTURAL PLAIN

Nice Côte d’Azur Metropolis is made up of 49 municipalities, from the coast to the high mountains. The territory studied, the plaine du Var (Var plain), is part of an opération d’intérêt national (OIN, a French urban development programme initiative with specific legal arrangements attached due to its national interest) and covers 15 municipalities, including Nice. Since 2012, its agricultural policy has been structured around 4 priority objectives: to promote local products, to ensure their development, to develop sectors and to facilitate and support the farm start-ups. These objectives are defined within the context of falling farm numbers, scarce and expensive agricultural land, numerous areas of wasteland, but also an outstanding “terroir” for agriculture and a large population of consumers who demand high-quality products. There is one specific feature about the territory: agricultural produce primarily comes from coastal municipalities, particularly from the plaine du Var. The land of the Var river bed is of excellent agronomic quality and the source of a considerable proportion of the vegetables so typical of Nice’s culinary heritage.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

NICE COTE D’AZUR METROPOLIS
- 49 municipalities
- 540,000 inhabitants
- 1,400 km²
- 731 farmers

OIN PLAINE DU VAR
- 10,000 hectares, of which 1,046 hectares in agricultural zones (POS (land use plan) - PLU (urban development plan)
- 61% of Metropolis farmers, of whom 10% organic
- 600 hectares cultivated land
- Number of peri-urban agricultural projects: 11
- Average price of land: 30 to 200 times the national average

Project 1

Reconciling town and agriculture through a partnership development strategy

DESCRIPTION
In 2008, the French Government gave the plaine du Var development project the status of opération d’intérêt national (OIN, or national interest programme). In 2012, a partnership initiative was launched by the Prefect and the President of the Metropolis who wanted to see the implementation of a strategy aimed at developing peri-urban agriculture throughout the Plaine du Var OIN. A working group involving the Region, the Département, the French State, the Etablissement Public d’Aménagement de la plaine du Var (plaine du Var local planning and development authority), the Metropolis and the Chamber of Agriculture was formed to apply this strategy. A territorial assessment was conducted and an action plan defined. Territorial measures concerning the 10 sectors
of agricultural interest identified were funded by the partners and implemented to support the emergence of projects on the ground. In parallel, in 2015, the Metropolis provided municipalities with funding to support the purchase of land and the creation of new farm businesses; this funding was in addition to existing local authority subsidies. In 2016, 5 farm businesses were set up, including 4 organic market gardens with short supply chains. In 2017, the Metropolis set up a Maison de Pays, which it manages directly in the heart of Nice, where farmers can come and sell their products. A showcase for local production and know-how, this Maison de Pays, called "Le Goût de Nice", brings together 24 businesses and represents a genuine platform for the promotion and development of farms and the territory.

GOVERNANCE AND TERRITORIAL ALLIANCE
Operational monitoring is handled by a working group made up of all the aforementioned structures, which meets every month to conduct analyses and put forward initiatives and projects. A technical committee and a steering committee bringing together leadership teams and elected representatives is responsible for overseeing the strategy. The mayors of the 15 municipalities take part in the meetings at which different studies are presented: assessment, action plan, land instrument proposals, legal protection initiatives. Municipalities acquire land with a view to facilitating business start-up projects; they receive technical support from the Metropolis and benefit from agreements signed between the Metropolis and agricultural development bodies, responsible for farm start-ups in particular.

Project 2

Feeding the children of Nice via the mobilisation of fertile land

DESCRIPTIF
A reflection process was launched in 2016 focusing on the local supply of quality agricultural products for the mass catering sector, particularly the Nice central kitchen, which, as part of its restructuring process, will establish a fruit and vegetable processing facility in 2019. In parallel, the Metropolis applied for funding through the EAFRD to conduct an analysis of fallow land in the plaine du Var, estimated to amount to 175 hectares. The objective is to conduct this assessment right through to negotiations with owners in order to claim back agricultural land and enable new farmers to come in. Ultimately, the aim is to produce local organic fruit and vegetables for schools in Nice, representing more than 3.6 million meals per year. The principal obstacle remains the acquisition of land, the price of which is well above the national average. In this context, the Metropolis initiated the creation of a territorial foundation responsible, among other things, for the acquisition of land left fallow with a view to re-establishing farm businesses on a rural lease basis, with environmental and social clauses. Such a foundation provides a multi-funding platform; participative citizen funding, either through donations or solidarity savings accounts, corporate sponsorship and foundations. The strategy is thus based on the irrevocable allocation to a recognised public interest foundation of assets, in this case fertile land, with a usage that will underpin long-term social cohesion.

GOVERNANCE
This reflection process, combined with a French government initiative to roll out the National Food Programme at local level, is guiding the design of a “territorial food plan”. This will involve contributions from various levels of local authority administration as well as private partners and associations (farmers, food-processing businesses, local authorities, parents association representatives, integration associations, SSE players, etc.). The territorial foundation will also include a resources department responsible, in partnership with national experts, for reflecting on issues relating to agriculture, ecology and nutrition as well as the funding of awareness-raising initiatives aimed at the urban population surrounding these same issues.

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
This project reflects the expectations of the urban population regarding consumption and short supply chains. It is being conducted within the framework of the virtuous principle of local production and sustainable consumption. It brings producers, processors, local authorities and consumers closer together and enables the urban population to regain ownership of food via the rediscovery of local resources. It also improves the living environment by reducing the amount of wasteland impacting the landscape.

The fact that local authorities have agricultural land at their disposal has strategic implications for them: management of land and land quality, creation of local jobs that will remain local, food self-sufficiency. The foundation is unique in terms of its type: a hybrid public-private, profit-making/non-profit-making model, combining subsidies, donations and social investment, and involving local authorities, businesses, associations, the philanthropic sector and citizens, etc.
Located in the Loiret département in the Centre-Val-de-Loire region, Orléans Metropolis is made up of 22 municipalities. The river Loire, a UNESCO world heritage site, flows through Orléans and several municipalities in the metropolis, helping to forge the territory’s identity and structure its landscapes and agriculture.

Agricultural land accounts for 30% of Orléans Metropolis’ territory, representing a considerable economic resource in its own right. In order to maintain, develop and ensure the long-term future of the territory’s farming industry, Orléans Metropolis, in partnership with the Loiret Chamber of Agriculture, has drawn up an Agricultural Charter, reflecting the joint ambition to construct a sustainable strategy for urban agriculture.

25 consultation meetings bringing together more than 300 participants (municipalities, farmers, associations, public partners, etc.) guided the design of the Orléans Metropolis Agricultural Charter and its action programme. The document was ratified in 2012 by the 22 mayors, the Loiret Chamber of Agriculture and the prefect of the Centre-Val-de-Loire region. The charter represents a reinforcement of Orléans Metropolis’ commitment to agricultural policy and underlines the shared interest of the municipalities.

The programme defines 23 actions concerning access to land, farm machinery movements, set-up, marketing, communication etc.

To oversee the operational implementation of the actions contained in the Agricultural Charter, Orléans Metropolis and the Loiret Chamber of Agriculture created a job share position. This was made possible thanks to the support of the EAFRD fund.

In 2017, 75% of the actions have been implemented and the action programme is now under review.

**KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY**

- 279,500 inhabitants
- 22 municipalities
- 11,000 hectares of agricultural land, i.e. 1/3 of the metropolitan area
- 232 active farms
- 850 direct full-time jobs
- An agricultural charter signed in 2012
- 23 programmed initiatives
- 75% of action programme implemented between 2012 and 2017
- 966,800 euros dedicated to agricultural development from 2012 to 2017
Supporting the development of short supply chains generally
ACTION N° 16 OF THE ORLÉANS METROPOLIS AGRICULTURAL CHARTER – PROJECT LAUNCHED IN MARCH 2013

Short supply chains are being developed generally across the Orléans Metropolis territory. The territory is fortunate to host a broad variety of agricultural activities: cereal crops, fruit tree growing, vineyards, market gardening, horticulture, nurseries, etc. Diversity within an urban setting that deserves to be emphasised.

Hence, several initiatives have been launched to develop and promote local produce and encourage short food supply chains serving private individuals and professionals.

The importance of short supply chains in the urban environment cannot be overstated: they allow farmers to increase their income by providing new market outlets and provide a platform for dialogue between local residents, retailers and farmers. This relationship contributes to social cohesion and enhances the living environment within the Metropolis.

50 producers selling directly from the farm, in markets or online have been included in a direct sales guide. This first step led to the creation of signs for producers, followed by a smartphone app, the objective being to ensure measures reflect the extent to which various target publics are connected or otherwise. 60% of producers saw their turnover increase after publication in the producers’ guide.

For food sector professionals, the focus was on the development of the Orléans Metropolis wholesale market. The “little Rungis” (Rungis being the large wholesale market serving the Paris region) is supplied by some twenty or so market gardeners and fruit tree growers in the Loiret. Beyond the outlet it represents, it also enables professionals to sell and cook local produce. A showcase that contributes to the image and attractiveness of the “Garden Metropolis”.

The publication of the producers’ guide was followed by a working group made up of elected representatives of the various municipalities, farmers, public partners and associations. Numerous events - themed days and themed weeks - focusing on the seasonal nature and provenance of products have been held, aimed at the general public, schools, and hospitals.

Facilitating the return to production of fallow agricultural land
ACTION N° 7 OF THE ORLÉANS METROPOLIS AGRICULTURAL CHARTER - PROJECT LAUNCHED IN JANUARY 2017

Fallow land is abandoned agricultural space that is no longer cultivated. The reasons for the phenomenon include poor agronomic potential, lack of access for agricultural machinery and retention by landowners hoping to sell their land for construction purposes. In the urban environment, pressure is considerable and the amount of land available for farm start-ups or farm expansion is extremely limited.

The aim of this project was to take an inventory of existing uncultivated agricultural land throughout the metropolis’ municipalities and identify plots that could be returned to production.

The study involved several steps. The first cartographic analyses identified 3,172 hectares of potential uncultivated land, i.e. 10% of the metropolitan area. Following several consultation meetings, a drone survey, a land analysis and feedback from various municipal services, the total area of uncultivated agricultural land was estimated to be 1,099 hectares across the metropolitan territory.

The Loiret Chamber of Agriculture, which conducted the study, then carried out qualification work by way of a scoring system. This involved establishing a ranking using various data including: the agronomic potential of land by crop type, access to water, the neighbourhood, surface areas, accessibility, green and blue networks, etc. This analysis provides an accurate and detailed view of the plots that could be returned to crop on a sustainable basis and identifies the most appropriate crop for each fallow plot.

A land management and monitoring operation will be conducted to enable farmers to set up or expand their businesses and encourage the reduction in fallow land and the leasing out once again of abandoned plots. Five local consultation meetings have been held to get the metropolis’ municipalities and farmers involved. They were thus able to make an active contribution to the identification and categorisation of uncultivated land plots through their knowledge of the local terrain and projects. The finalised maps have been sent out to each municipality to enable them to verify the coherence of data.

A meeting is set to be organised before the end of 2017 to present the results to the municipalities and the levers for action available to them to return agricultural land to production.
PARIS AND ITS PARISCULTEURS

Paris, a very densely populated city, is developing numerous initiatives aimed at making its territory greener: the current city administration’s 2014-2020 programme includes the opening up to the public of 30 hectares of additional green space, the planting of 20,000 new trees, the revegetation of public space, etc. All of the city’s players and its residents are encouraged to support this objective, via a range of tools such as the collaborative Végétalisons Paris (let’s turn Paris green) platform, permits allowing people to plant in the public space, and more. Numerous initiatives selected by Parisians within the framework of the participative budget reflect citizens’ expectations in this area.

The many environmental and societal challenges are addressed in several city framework documents: The Biodiversity Plan, the Climate Air Energy Plan, the Sustainable Development Plan, Resilience Strategy, etc.

URBAN AGRICULTURE, A REALITY IN PARIS!

The city of Paris has set itself an objective of creating 100 hectares of green roofs and walls across its territory by 2020, one third of which will be dedicated to urban agriculture, promoting local production, short supply chains and closer links between producers and consumers. The objective will be achieved through the mobilisation of all the partners concerned and institutional owners. To date, 74 partners have signed up to the “Objective 100 hectares” Charter proposed by the city. With these partners, the city of Paris has launched a process of calls for projects dedicated to urban agriculture on Parisian buildings. “Parisculteurs”, the first call for projects, launched in 2016, led to the identification of 32 diverse projects (including the 2 presented here) on the rooftops of municipal, departmental or partner buildings, representing a total surface area of more than 5 hectares. The 2nd Parisculteurs call for projects, launched at the end of September 2017, brings together two neighbouring municipalities: Saint-Denis and Pantin.

Closer links between the city of Paris and producers have also materialised in the form of regular exchange with the Ile-de-France Chamber of Agriculture and the region’s young farmers.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- 2,240,621 inhabitants in Paris
- 1 municipality concerned: Paris and its 20 arrondissements (districts)
- 221 ongoing urban development projects
- 15 additional hectares of cultivated land
**Project 1**

**The Aéromate farms**

The Aéromate farm projects are being developed on three Parisian sites (the Lachambeaudie site owned by the RATP, Paris' public transport authority (12th arrondissement), the Tishman Speyer Bourse site (2nd arrondissement) and the Duperré art school (3rd arrondissement)) representing a total area of 1,200 m², from the 1st Parisculteurs call for projects. There are a number of objectives associated with Parisculteurs: the idea is to increase the number of cultivated spaces around the city and create a demonstrator and benchmark for urban agriculture projects that can be developed in Paris. In this context, Aéromate is trying to demonstrate the viability of hydroponic herb gardening and contributing to the sustainable buildings policy: it is the rooftops of buildings that are being used to host the projects. Aéromate farms are not accessible to the general public, but project leaders welcome any opportunity to share their knowledge and experiences. The end produce has various outlets, including building users or restaurants in the neighbourhood.

"Parisculteurs" calls for projects are launched by the city of Paris. Submitted projects are examined by a technical committee made up of experts and the technical departments of other local authorities, before being passed on to a jury bringing together Parisian elected representatives, the arrondissement mayor and, where appropriate, the building owner.

Many of the projects ultimately selected have a significant participative dimension, involving building users (the children of a school, office building employees, etc.) or residents of a neighbourhood, via educational workshops, for example.

Various city of Paris departments then support winning projects from the set-up phase through to the first harvest.

**Project 2**

**Facteur Graine - The permaculture gardeners of la Chapelle (Paris 18th arrondissement)**

The Facteur Graine project is aimed at demonstrating the potential of rooftop growing based on the principles of permaculture and creating productive spaces that encourage social cohesion.

The site of the vegetable garden is a building owned by La Poste (French Post Office company). It occupies an area of 700 m² and the growth medium is made up of urban organic waste (ground wood, green waste compost, etc.).

The Facteur Graine plot is designed and maintained by a group of La Poste employees. All of the produce (tomatoes, peppers, marrows, melons, lettuce, etc.) is sold within the building and on local neighbourhood markets. There are plans to get neighbours involved via educational workshops held at the foot of the building and to work with local associations and businesses.

This project is also one of those to emerge from the 1st Parisculteurs call for projects launched by the city of Paris. In addition to this call for projects, further cooperation initiatives are being considered to extend the scope of Parisculteurs and work towards the creation of an urban produce sector for Paris and the surrounding region, all with the aim of re-establishing closer links between Paris and its peri-urban and rural environment. Facteur Graine fits squarely with this global objective as it seeks, in the long term, to develop a regional distribution network for urban agriculture products.
DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE URBAN AGRICULTURE WITHIN THE METROPOLIS

Created on 1 January 2016, Grand Paris Metropolis is an EPCI bringing together Paris, the 123 municipalities of the three départements of Hauts-de-Seine, Seine-Saint-Denis and Val-de-Marne and 7 municipalities of the neighbouring départements of Essonne and Val d’Oise, representing close to 7.5 million inhabitants. Within the framework of its authority over environmental protection and enhancement, Grand Paris Metropolis is focusing on the preservation of biodiversity across its territory, particularly via initiatives aimed at the restoration and development of urban nature.

A STRONG COMMITMENT BY THE METROPOLIS

Climate change, combined with problems related to urban development, demographic growth and evolving lifestyles are giving rise to emerging challenges for the metropolis. In this context, nature constitutes a tremendous pool of solutions in terms of reducing impacts and adapting to these changes, and presents numerous ecological, productive, recreational and economic benefits.

The reinforced presence of nature in the metropolis is also something citizens increasingly demand in terms of their living environment and the quality of the landscape. It also provides a platform for going beyond the borders of the metropolis and launching joint projects with neighbouring EPCIs, départements and the Ile-de-France region.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- 7.5 million inhabitants
- 131 municipalities
- 12 territories
- 814 km²
- 25% of national GDP
- 11,000 hectares of forest, semi-natural areas, agricultural land and land covered by water
- 20% of the metropolitan area occupied by natural environments
An ambition: to develop urban nature
The example of Montfermeil

3 SITES DEDICATED TO URBAN AGRICULTURE

The development of nature-based solutions provides an opportunity to continue the momentum generated in many local authorities throughout the territory.

Such is the case of Montfermeil, located 15 kilometres from the three economic centres of Paris, Roissy and Marne-la-Vallée. With its 23 hectares of town centre parkland and its 21 hectares of forest, the municipality, situated at the highest point of Seine-Saint-Denis, wants to reinforce efforts to bring nature back to the urban environment, making 3 plots of land available to local residents, partners and professionals to develop urban agriculture projects.

At neighbourhood meetings, residents voiced their desire to develop community gardens. Montfermeil thus launched a call for applications aimed at the population as well as various local services (schools, leisure centres, nurseries, play facilities, etc.), associations, social and health partners, etc. in order to identify their needs. Then, buoyed by the enthusiasm shown for visits to the pilot permaculture site and training courses delivered to local residents, the town decided to make 3 sites dedicated to urban agriculture projects available to the people of Montfermeil, association partners, workplace integration companies and professionals.

The development potential is extremely broad: community gardens, urban or educational farm, underground greenhouses, micro-farms, eco-grazing, aeroponics, medicinal plant gardens, fragrant plant gardens, etc.

Projects may be developed for a variety of purposes: food, economic, environmental, social, recreational or educational.

AN URBAN AGRICULTURE PROJECT SUPPORTED BY THE METROPOLIS

Within this context, the project benefits from financial support from Grand Paris Metropolis, provided by the metropolitan investment fund. The metropolis wants to support municipalities and territories in their investment projects with a view to encouraging the implementation of initiatives associated with the protection of the environment. As such, the metropolis prioritises nature-based initiatives in towns and urban agriculture initiatives, which contribute to the territory’s food resilience and the renewal of agricultural practices, while developing social cohesion and solidarity between residents.
FOR AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE

Located in the southern half of the Paris urban area, the agglomeration community of Grand Paris Seine-Essonne-Sénart was created on 1 January 2016 following the merger of five agglomerations and bringing together 24 municipalities in the départements of Essonne and Seine-et-Marne. The territory is criss-crossed by major road and rail networks (the A6, A5 and “francilienne” motorways, the RER D urban express railway, T Zen express bus service). Grand Paris Sud (South Greater Paris) is a major metropolitan development player providing: precious land resources in the Ile-de-France region, a thriving and dynamic economic fabric supported by the presence of sectors of the future, two major development centres on either side of the river Seine and a protected living environment. The river Seine flows through Grand Paris Sud, which is characterised by vast natural and agricultural spaces and lies on the fringes of major cultivated plains.

A “SECTOR-DRIVEN” TERRITORIAL MOMENTUM

From the time of its creation, Grand Paris Sud has been committed to an ambitious policy aimed at fully exploiting the specific characteristics of its territory, particularly its agricultural component, as well as its economic development potential associated with local production. In 2013, the part of its territory located in Seine-et-Marne established a governance initiative hinged around an “agricultural charter”, enabling the creation of a first exchange network involving agriculture and urban planning and development players. The initiative then formed the basis for the joint construction of an action programme. Within this context, in 2016, the agglomeration, supported by the ADEME, launched a study focusing on the development of short local supply chains.

This study identified an out-of-home catering market worth around €260 million for the territory as a whole. Based on this observation, concrete strategic priorities were identified in collaboration with the two Chambers of Agriculture, the two départements, farmers, public and private out-of-home catering professionals and food supply intermediaries.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- 347,000 inhabitants
- 124,482 households
- 24 municipalities in two départements, Essonne and Seine-et-Marne
- 20,350 companies
- 138,200 jobs
- Area of the territory: 22,220 ha
- 3,500 hectares of natural areas
- 5,500 hectares of cultivated land
- 40 farms
- 2 farm set-up projects, more than 50 hectares identified for local crops
- 2 food processing facility projects under consideration
This operational approach is structured around various components:

- **The land component:** the determination to maintain farm businesses and encourage crop diversification enables the agglomeration to work with the various towns/cities to establish local agriculture projects alongside urban development projects, covering dozens of hectares.
- **Synergies between players:** encouraging exchange between the agricultural sector, urban planning and development players and the various players in the territory’s food sector (information, training, networking).
- **Local sector dynamics:** working with project leaders to set up and develop the tools and facilities required for the production, processing and marketing of local products.

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**Project 1**

**Organic food production and on-site recycling for a better quality of life in Ris-Orangis**

Ris-Orangis (27,300 inhabitants) champions a managed urban development model based on the preservation of open spaces. Maintaining the momentum of an eco-neighbourhood project (a 10-hectare urban project – 42,000 m² ground area), on a former farm site, Grand Paris Sud and the town have pooled their expertise with a view to turning a 19-hectare plot of land into an organic farm and optimising the conditions for success of farmers seeking to set up in business in the future (soil preparation, fodder, shed, etc.). This project is supported within the context of the French Positive Energy for Green Growth Territory call for projects (MEEM, or French Ministry of the Environment, Energy and the Sea - 2016) and backed by the ADEME via the Circular Economy and Urban Development call for expressions of interest.

**GOVERNANCE**
The agglomeration and the town have called in various players including Grand Paris Aménagement (Greater Paris Planning and Development), SAFER Ile-de-France and ABI-OSOL (partnership for the development of farm start-ups in Ile-de-France) to optimise the organisation of land management and the identification of start-up applicants. The project has been presented to local residents on various occasions, including a public meeting.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**
The project is aimed at preserving a multi-purpose open space that contributes to quality of life across the territory. The circular approach under consideration is designed to develop resources and production activities within a local system (water resources, pooled facilities, the use of organic inputs, etc.). Finally, the development of short food supply chains, in conjunction with the central kitchen and AMAPs in particular, remains the principal economic focus.

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**Project 2**

**Towards a mixed crops/trees/grazing eco-district in Moissy-Cramayel**

Moissy-Cramayel (17,600 inhabitants) has joined forces with the Sénart Planning and Development Authority (EPA) to construct its latest neighbourhood (2,400 housing units and facilities). The aim of this eco-district is to develop environmental, social and economic synergies and incorporate the municipality’s rural history and the town centre’s urban renewal programme. Alongside the cultivated green spaces, the orchards that will be established on the eco-district site and the eco-grazing present in the heart of the town, an organic market garden is currently being created on a 3.4-hectare site to the north of the project (land preparation in progress). To support the initiative, Grand Paris Sud is providing engineering expertise for the agricultural component and seeking funding, while promoting synergies between projects and players throughout the territory.

**GOVERNANCE**
The town has organised governance in conjunction with the agglomeration, Grand Paris Aménagement, the EPA (Planning and Development Authority), the Ile-de-France region and the relevant local services and housing players, hinged around themed working meetings. Information and awareness-raising initiatives aimed at residents, municipal agents and elected representatives are conducted at the maison des projets, a site dedicated to this purpose. In addition to neighbourhood visits, themed working groups are also organised.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**
The market garden and productive green spaces will contribute to the target objective of using 50% organic and local produce by 2020 for the 2,000 meals produced by the municipal central kitchen. This is in addition to the differentiated management of green spaces using zero pesticides in order to protect water resources.
FOR A COORDINATED LOCAL FOOD POLICY

The recent merger, in January 2017, of five EPCIs provides an opportunity for the newly created urban community of Poitiers to set about bringing together territorial players and the various municipalities in the perimeter to develop a new, coordinated PAT. Comprising rural and urban municipalities, this new "rurban" territory represents a "fertile ground", an opportunity to take a step closer to a coordinated and global local food policy that will promote links between the local municipalities - agricultural production territory, and towns - consumption territory.

Hence, elected representatives, who have inherited a multitude of local projects (short supply chain initiatives, AMAP, creation of family gardens, farm shops, provision of municipal land for new farmers, integration projects, local supply of canteens and solidarity groceries, local product events, new markets, etc.) are supporting 3 major objectives:

- To use restauration collective as the lever for a local food supply policy (2020 objective: 40% sustainable food in the mass catering sector).
- To support the development of a structured local food product offer (logistics platform, village centre commercial offer).
- To us this plan as a foundation for preserving the environment, particularly water resources, and delivering social equality in the form of access to sustainable food for all.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- Number of inhabitants:
  - Urban Community of Poitiers: 189,845
  - Urban Area of Poitiers: 258,837
  - Nouvelle Aquitaine Region: 5,879,144
- Number of local authorities: 40 municipalities
- Area: 1071.1 km²
- Share of natural areas: 92.5%
Project 1

Consultation to support a territorial food plan

The development boards of Grand Poitiers (Greater Poitiers), Vienne and Moulière as well as those of the 2 regions neighbouring the former agglomeration community of Poitiers joined forces to examine the issues surrounding the development of short supply chains. It is the role of development boards to provide a platform for debate and forward-looking reflection concerning the territory.

In 2013 and 2014, the boards conducted a broad consultation and mobilisation exercise to establish a joint inventory, identify potential avenues for action and the conditions for the implementation of a coordinated local food policy.

4 themed meetings were held with players in order to gather the full range of views and define together the issues surrounding this “food territory” that soon extended beyond those related to short supply chains (health, social justice, etc.). Drawing on these themed evening debates, an objective quantitative assessment and a local forum of players mobilising some 150 local representatives (elected officials, public and private players), the development boards laid the groundwork for a coordinated food policy.

By formalising a veritable local food policy manifesto, they went beyond administrative boundaries to promote this new momentum, coordinated via the Seuil-du-Poitou’s revised SCoT (189 municipalities concerned), to the Vienne département and the relevant local authorities (agglomeration community, communities of municipalities as they were then).

This approach provided a platform for highlighting the cross-cutting nature of such a policy, instigating dialogue between the various players, enabling citizens to make an active contribution to their territory and to initiating a coordinated policy at the new urban community level.

Project 2

Shared coordination and solidarity food

Within the framework of its active social and solidarity economy policy, Grand Poitiers supports food aid networks and more than 10 solidarity groceries across the territory. The municipality initiated the creation of a local network of solidarity groceries in order to encourage the pooling of supplies and facilitate dialogue between players. Since 2009, this network has been managed by the CAPEE, the local committee responsible for alternative solutions for local employment and mutual assistance. In concrete terms, this coordination takes the form of a quarterly meeting involving all players to discuss access criteria and procedures, the pooling of supplies, the implementation of training programmes, the organisation of events, etc. The CAPEE also establishes contacts between solidarity groceries and social integration gardens (raising awareness of gardening and growing techniques).

Within the framework of the new inter-municipal organisation, this network now extends to all structures across the territory.

Lastly, in 2012, Grand Poitiers built a facility dedicated to food aid in South Poitiers bringing all players together on a single site. In the same spirit, since 2012, Grand Poitiers has also been a pilot territory for the ANDES (French National Association for the Development of Solidarity Groceries) "UNITERRE" project, aimed at bringing local suppliers of solidarity groceries closer together. The purpose of this project is to support farm start-ups or help farmers experiencing financial difficulties keep their business afloat, and provide fresh high-quality produce for people entitled to food aid. Four groceries in Grand Poitiers are committed to buying their fruit and vegetables from local farmers who have started a business in the area or who are experiencing difficulties. ANDES covered 70% of the cost of fruit and vegetables in 2012, the year the experiment was launched. This initiative supports some 250 families each year.
AN EFFICIENT “RURBAN” ECOSYSTEM COMBINING BIOECONOMY AND TERRITORIAL CODEVELOPMENT

France’s first rural urban community, created on 1 January 2017, Grand Reims (Greater Reims) is a territory made up of 143 municipalities, the heart of which is structured around a unique symbiotic relationship between the rural and urban environments, providing the springboard for the future of its ecosystem.

With chalky soil better suited to livestock than arable farming, this territory has seen exceptional development, underpinned by its agriculture and wine production, but also the associated food-processing and innovation activities, driven by the determination of its men and women who have embraced technical progress and worked together to adapt to their evolving environment.

Today, this territory, with its thriving agricultural and wine production sectors, is ready to rise to new challenges, not least of which is the transition to the agriculture of the future, “Smart Agriculture”.

The transition from a traditional food-processing industry to a cutting-edge industry specialising in the treatment and conversion of agro-resources into substances of interest and energy sustains Grand Reims’ ambition to become the bioeconomy capital of Europe.

This involves mobilising all of the local political, economic and societal forces to ensure the long-term transformation of the “Marne triangle” (Reims-Châlons-Epernay). The stated objective is to create a territory with a positive carbon balance, and one that is a powerful lever for increasing the region’s attractiveness, by exploiting a new model of territorial co-development as well as its agricultural, viticultural and agro-industrial excellence in the bioeconomy and agriculture of the future.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

Grand Reims
- 1st rural urban community in France
- 2nd biggest urban centre in eastern France
- 298,154 inhabitants
- 143 municipalities
- 111 municipalities with fewer than 1,000 inhabitants (Reims – 12th biggest city in France – 187,000 inhab. / Aubilly 48 inhab.)
- 1,424,89 km²
- 75% of total surface area occupied by agricultural land
- No. 1 European agro-resources hub
It is to achieve this major ambition, serving a territorial dynamic driven by all stakeholders across the perimeter, that Grand Reims has launched several strategic projects. These projects are aimed at demonstrating that innovation can also be found at the heart of territories: ExpoFrance 2025, application for PIA3 (French Investments for the Future programme 3) – Call for Expressions of Interest - Innovative Territory of Great Ambition.

Project 1

An ambitious territorial coherence programme: combining the preservation of agricultural/viticultural spaces and agglomeration development.

Beyond legislative and regulatory changes, it became apparent that the territory was facing a new development rationale that the Territorial Coherence Programme ratified by the Reims region in 2007 no longer addressed. In 2012, a consultation exercise was launched to guide the implementation of a tool to enable the preservation of agricultural land and also to support and promote the agglomeration’s development. One of the objectives of the SCoT was to define the territory’s overall strategic priorities and their respective weighting, particularly regarding the use of land for development, but also the provision of diverse housing and environmentally-friendly developed zones.

The reflection process guiding the SCoT now incorporated all issues affecting land, i.e. projects relating to the development of housing, economic activities, infrastructures, biodiversity and green and blue networks. In order to ensure effective implementation across the territory, two protocol agreements have already been signed: one, between the Chamber of Agriculture and the Urban Community, concerning land restraint and the preservation of the agricultural potential of the Reims perimeter, the second for a viticultural component in partnership with the profession and the INAO.

This approach is in line with the ambitious objective of the SCoT regarding the rational use of land, via a pragmatic assessment of development contexts specific to each of the municipalities involved, and an ambition to promote sustainable development throughout the territory.

Project 2

TerraLab: Installation of an experimental farm in the middle of wasteland!

In 2008, the new military map imposed the closure of French air base 112.

In June 2011, all aviation activities were suspended definitively and the air base became the largest wasteland plot in the Reims agglomeration (546 hectares). A number of projects emerged, but without anything concrete materialising. Then, in 2014, the Marne Chamber of Agriculture presented a strategic project, in synergy with the development of local players, capitalising on the territory’s assets and wealth. The redevelopment of the site would be a partnership initiative, aimed at setting up an experiment and reference acquisition centre in order to pave the way for the transformation of agriculture in the Marne region: the creation of an experimental farm - Farm 112 - to firmly establish former Reims Metropolis - now Grand Reims - and its territory as the benchmark platform for the development of agro-resources.

It is clear that our agricultural sector faces a number of challenges: to become more sustainable and less dependent on inputs generally; to incorporate the needs of a new, uncertain environment and improve the capacity of farms to accommodate these uncertainties; and lastly, to address the issue of the 2015-2020 Common Agricultural Policy and adapt to the emergence of competition.

In this context, former air base 112 provides an opportunity to launch two agricultural projects:

1. Establish a cluster for the agricultural profession. The objective: Bring together a variety of partners to create a structured upstream production sector.
2. Establish innovative crop systems with farmers on the Terralab site (e.g. farm 112).
Over the past 35 years, the Rennes agglomeration has developed on the basis of a multi-centre model of the "ville-archipel" (or archipelago city), which leaves plenty of space for agricultural and natural areas between villages and towns. In order to ensure the long-term future of this agriculture, Rennes Metropolis preserves agriculture via the SCoT and PLUs of its 43 municipalities. It also signed (in 2008) a Local Agriculture Plan (PLA) with the Chamber of Agriculture and the SAFER, defining strategic priorities and actions relating to land, wooded areas, links between city dwellers and farmers, energy, climate and food in the territory. This PLA provides a strong partnership framework in which elected representatives and farmers recognise the mutual benefits of working together to ensure the viability of agriculture in all its aspects.

**FROM PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE... TO URBAN AGRICULTURE**

Rennes Metropolis has been promoting short supply chains since 2000 via the development of farm shops and markets, market gardens and the purchase of local and organic produce for the mass catering sector. It also contributed to the "Rennes ville vivrière" (Rennes Subsistence City) study conducted by Agrocampus students aimed at identifying the food requirements of the urban area.

**AN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR INCREASINGLY GEARED TOWARDS THE PRODUCTION OF LOCAL, HIGH-QUALITY FOOD**

Rennes Metropolis, an "archipelago city" that preserves its peri-urban agriculture:
- 444,723 inhabitants - 43 municipalities
- 705.94 km² of which 56% agricultural
- 764 farms and 1,900 agricultural workers
- A local agriculture plan (PLA)

City of Rennes:
- 219,370 inhabitants
- 5,039 hectares, of which 515 hectares agricultural (10%)
- 7 professional farms and 9 workers
- 37% de la SAU en agriculture biologique
- A sustainable food plan (PAD)
- More than 1,000 family gardens covering 15 hectares
- Some forty community gardens

**KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY**
population. The city of Rennes and Rennes Metropolis signed up to the Milan urban food policy pact.

In this context, the city of Rennes also protects its agricultural spaces in its PLU and in June 2017 it adopted its sustainable food plan (PAD) concerning in particular the 12,000 daily meals provided by the municipal catering sector. It also supports urban agriculture experiments: mushroom farm, micro-farms using permaculture principles, etc. Moreover, it provides more than 1,000 family gardens occupying an area of 15 hectares and around one hundred community gardens have been set up in recent years on the city’s green spaces, in partnership with the “Vert le jardin” association.

Lastly, the city of Rennes manages the urban agriculture project at “la Prévalaye”, a multi-purpose natural and leisure space covering an area of 400 hectares and bordering urban neighbourhoods, which boasts a range of sports and green leisure facilities. The la Prévalaye agriculture project fits squarely with the city’s policy of developing its cultivable land, using it for vibrant agriculture that is “open to the public”.

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**La Prévalaye agricultural development initiative**

**DESCRIPTION**

The woodland of la Prévalaye still retains traces of the agriculture of the past. The majority of plots are managed by the city of Rennes, sometimes in partnership with the farmers of neighbouring municipalities who make hay there. Since 2014, the city has focused its efforts on developing agriculture that is more visible and permanent. It gives people and associations with an agricultural project serving the general interest (visibility, educational, short supply chains, etc.) the opportunity to set up on plots of land managed by the city. The objectives and principles are set out in a charter that could be used for regulatory purposes and as a guide document for any future call for expressions of interest concerning new plots.

Over the past two years or so, players employing experimental or innovative agricultural practices have set up business. These initiatives have underpinned the construction of the project, as reflected in early feedback.

- The la Taupinais Eco-centre is an environmental discovery centre located at the heart of the site. Various partners use the facility as a platform for exchange regarding their respective projects.
- Since 2014, the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA) has been using a plot of land to test and demonstrate crops grown from old seed varieties for the purposes of research, promotional events, education and dissemination. It also hosts the annual “du champ à l’assiette” (from field to plate) festival.
- Since 2014, the “le Jardin des Millepas” association has been using market gardening as a platform for educational initiatives aimed at schools and leisure centres, and for events held on the site (monthly participative workshops, seasonal events such as the Fête de la châtaigne – chestnut festival).
- Since June 2016, Permag Rennes has been running a micro-farm employing the principles of permaculture. The main purpose is seed production. This structure was also the kingpin for the Rennes stage of the “Fermes d’avenir tour” (Farms of the Future Tour).
- “Semons l’espoir” – let’s sow hope – (an organic farmers’ group from the Vilaine valley) is trialling a future livestock activity involving the “Bretonne Pie Noire” cattle breed, and the “Equi fait quoi” project is aimed at developing the use of animal-drawn ploughs in farming. The livestock projects conducted by these associations will enable the reintroduction of animals to raise the profile of the agricultural project, while providing a solution to the deterioration of soils at la Prévalaye.

**GOVERNANCE AND TERRITORIAL ALLIANCE**

The la Prévalaye agricultural project is led by the city of Rennes’ “Gardens and Biodiversity” department in partnership with the “Urban Planning and Studies” department of the metropolis and the la Taupinais Eco-centre, the environmental discovery centre. Local associations and research players are also lending their support (Agrocampus, INRA). Partnerships are active with the Department, the Chamber of Agriculture and FD CIVAM (Departmental Federation of Initiatives’ Centres for the Development of Agriculture and the Rural Environment), as well as with “Eau du Bassin Rennais - collectivité” (Rennes Basin Water Authority) and its mass catering contract “Terres de sources” guaranteeing water quality.
Historically, Roubaix was a textile town. In the 19th century, the booming textile industry led to dense urban development organised around small houses backing onto factories. Open spaces were a rarity. Most of the population was working-class.

In the face of growing social problems and various food crises, the first allotments were established. Since then, and with the collapse of the textile industry, former factory sites have made way for redevelopment or been abandoned. This industrial past can generate various types of pollution and requires specific management.

So the town has its identity: the development of agriculture in an urban setting. Initially addressing immediate social needs, it has led to the gradual development of projects for a variety of purposes (economic activity, social cohesion, etc.)

In 2012, the city validated its Green and Blue Network, setting the objective of doubling the number of family gardens. Five years later, the objective has been reached, with 350 plots. That being said, the number of people requesting a plot of land continues to grow, with more than 200 households on the waiting list, i.e. an average waiting time of 3 years.

To meet this demand, the decision has been taken to use some of the city’s under - and undeveloped land (wasteland, areas at the foot of buildings, etc.) to host permanent or temporary urban agriculture projects.
Project 1

The emergence of a food-producing city

In 2016, Roubaix was the winning city in the "Sustainable and solidarity city" call for projects for its proposal to develop a strategy to support its development as a food-producing city, acting as an experimental pilot at metropolitan level. The objective is to identify various agricultural solutions depending on plot type and layout. The ultimate aim is to produce enough food to feed at least 10% of the population, i.e. the equivalent of 27 production hectares (of which 9 hectares already operational in the form of family or community gardens).

Following an assessment, 15 hectares are available (excluding rooftops and car parks). They can be grouped into eight categories: from a 200 m² street corner to a large 3-hectare plot of wasteland. For each of these spaces, various development proposals are under consideration, the fundamental question being: is it possible to establish a viable economic activity on this space or is it more suitable for standard family garden-type models?

The study group, made up of and led by Auxilia in partnership with Ferme d’Avenir, AgroBioTech de Liège (the agronomic sciences and bioengineering faculty at the University of Liège), the Institut Supérieur d’Agronomie de Lille (Higher Education Institute of Agronomy, Food and the Environment, Lille), Urban Interstices, as well as a Canadian researcher, has established a classification of project types, purposes and economic potential as a function of the available plots.

More specific work is being conducted at some sites in order to be able to proceed quickly. These sites were selected for their reproducible nature and/or their exceptional characteristics making them opportunities not to be missed.

The municipal council ratified the Food-Producing City strategy on 5 October 2017. At the start and end of the study, the various stakeholders came together to share objectives and mobilise local players (landlords, development companies, urban renovation players, associations, the metropolis, food excellence centres, etc.).

Today, urban agriculture projects and/or actions include:

- The creation of a group of urban agriculture entrepreneurs to support and guide their project developments;
- The launch of a call for projects at the end of 2017 with an initial selection of sites made available;
- The continued creation of family gardens as a function of land opportunities (2 new sites under consideration representing 4,000 m² for 2018);
- The installation in the 1st quarter of 2018 of a first entrepreneur (2,500 m²);
- Projects to set up a circular urban farm on 2 sites. Projects are taking shape gradually (3 hectares);
- The creation of gardens at the foot of a building with the agreement of the landlord. Work to be launched at the end of 2017.

So the city has been gradually constructing a new methodology based on the level of risk and observations made at each plot. This case-by-case approach leads to greater precision in terms of the recommendations made. By classifying the degree of pollution present on the plot according to colour - green, orange or red - the approach is also more informative and more easily understood by residents and contractors.

Project 2

Focus on soil compatibility

When it comes to farming on wasteland, the problem lies in the fact that each plot has its own unique history. The challenge is to manage the risk, a task complicated by the fact that the level of pollution can evolve over time and that pollutants can be transmitted to varying degrees depending on the crop in question. To characterise this pollution, the methodology currently employed in France is not particularly suited to former industrial land, as is the case with Roubaix. The real danger with it is that it can lead to hasty conclusions resulting in sites being abandoned or long and costly pollution clean-up operations.
Lying an hour and a half from Paris and recognised for the wealth of its cultural and natural heritage, Rouen Normandy Metropolis has opted for a balanced development approach underpinned by the protection of resources. It has leveraged its strengths as a dynamic urban, economic and tourist region. In this context, agriculture, which occupies nearly one third of the territory, represents a kingpin for the development and attractiveness of the metropolis.

FOR SUSTAINABLE, SOCIAL AND PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURE

DEVELOPING URBAN AND PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE AND PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT

While agriculture is first and foremost an economic activity that provides food and creates jobs, its inextricable links to the land and influence on the environment give it a singular and complex role.

Within the context of its responsibilities for fresh water provision, town and country planning, economic development and tackling climate change, the metropolis has focused considerable efforts on agriculture and feeding its population.

In 2012, the first partnerships were forged between the metropolis and agricultural sector professionals, such as the Seine-Maritime Chamber of Agriculture and associations supporting the development of organic farming and the preservation of agricultural land, to guide the design of agricultural policy for the perimeter. Studies were carried out on the problems associated with passing on farms seeking buyers and the development of agricultural practices that protect resources.

The metropolis has worked closely with farmers to support them as they change their practices, with benefits for the environment and natural resources. It has provided financial support to help them develop and diversify their income sources, notably via the creation of structured short marketing chains.
In 2017, the metropolis decided to go further, drawing up, in consultation with its partners, a new cross-cutting and ambitious programme of actions covering the period up to 2021 in order to:

- **Reinforce the role of agriculture** as a lever for enhancing the attractiveness of the territory;
- **Support the evolution of agricultural practices** that are more protective of resources, particularly water;
- **Provide inhabitants with high-quality locally-produced food.**

**A Territorial Agricultural Policy...**

The challenge for the metropolis is to provide the momentum required across the territory to address issues such as the expectations of the population and changes in food practices, via the relocation of agricultural economic added value and increased food self-sufficiency, while promoting the roles of agriculture.

The design of this new policy mobilised numerous partners during the course of 2017, such as the Chamber of Agriculture, SAGE (French water planning and management scheme) Cailly-Aubette-Robec, the Association biologique de Normandie (Normandy Organic Association), Les Défis Ruraux (Rural Challenges) and Terre de Liens Normandie, leading to the adoption of a Territorial Agricultural Charter.

This strategic document reflects the determination to tackle every aspect of the agricultural problem, in line with the diversity of powers exercised by the metropolis. It concerns all players associated with agriculture and food (professionals, elected representatives, agricultural technicians, municipalities and EPCIs, citizens, etc.). It will be adapted, throughout the implementation phase, to take account of technical, regulatory and societal changes impacting the issues addressed.

Hinged around 3 themed components, as well as a component specifically dedicated to governance, it unveils 13 action plans serving as levers to guide the territory and its players and support the development of sustainable, social and productive agriculture:

- **Component 1:** Develop an agricultural land policy
- **Component 2:** Reconcile territorial environmental challenges and the development of an efficient and productive agricultural sector
- **Component 3:** Develop short supply chains and structure local sectors
- **Component 4:** Establish the governance of the Territorial Agricultural Charter

...underpinning a collective commitment

Leading the implementation of the Agricultural Charter, the metropolis will hand over the management of the various actions to each co-signatory, as a function of individual themes and missions. A technical committee and steering committee, representing all stakeholders, will be held annually to evaluate and, where necessary, refocus actions implemented. This calls for a collective commitment with a view to:

- **Asserting** the economic role of agriculture as a creator of jobs and added value with all the associated economic benefits for the territory;
- **Mobilising** existing resources and mechanisms as a priority, working with the appropriate partners and public authorities on the themes in question;
- **Working** in line with the various policies conducted, incorporating the agricultural aspect of all policies implemented by the metropolis;
- **Promoting** the principles of sustainable development throughout all reflection processes and the actions conducted within the framework of the Territorial Agricultural Policy;
- **Mobilising** over the long term, the tools and resources required to achieve the objectives collectively defined in the Territorial Agricultural Policy.

Lastly, the metropolis wants to extend its focus and actions to neighbouring territories, concerned by common issues, particularly within the context of protecting drinking water catchment perimeters. To do so, work is also being conducted in the field of inter-territorial cooperation (metropolitan centres, InterScot, etc.).
Located at the heart of the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region, Saint-Etienne Metropolis boasts a rich and dynamic agricultural sector. Labelled a Positive Energy Territory for Green Growth and Ville respirable (Breathable City), it is recognised for:

- its ecological and energy transition policy;
- its ambitious biodiversity protection policy;
- the green and blue network incorporating an agricultural policy based on the development of short local supply chains and agro-ecology;
- the preservation of agricultural land.

Urban agriculture has been a feature of the territory since the 19th century in the form of a large network of family gardens, the first of which were established by Père Volpette to meet the needs of a population suffering under the effects of the economic crisis. In Saint-Etienne, these gardens are organised around 24 associations, representing 3,100 gardeners.

Today, gardening continues to address social issues and can contribute to the aim of bringing nature back into the urban environment. It is for this reason that a strategic, participative project has been set up in the Tarentaise Beaubrun district of Saint-Etienne aimed at improving the living environment for local residents, creating social cohesion, reconnecting nature to the plate and encouraging the development of food autonomy.

**Key Figures for the Territory**

- Number of inhabitants:
  - city of Saint-Etienne: 170,760
  - Urban area: 515,398
  - Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region: 7,820,966

- 31 family gardens
- 3 urban permaculture projects
- 723 km²
- 53 municipalities, of which 27 with fewer than 2,000 inhabitants
- Share of agricultural and natural spaces: 73.6% of the total area
- 1,000 farms exploiting 27,000 hectares
Project

Food Municipalities, participative permaculture

In the urban environment, abandoned spaces could be used to produce large quantities of fruit and vegetables through the use of agro-ecological techniques. Permaculture practices can be employed to turn a living environment into a harmonious, productive, naturally regenerating ecosystem that respects nature for all its inhabitants.

In 2016, an opportunity emerged on two plots, covering an area of around 1,300 m² in the neighbourhood. The “La Ferme en chantier” association came forward to introduce permaculture to the plots and lead an educational initiative aimed at the public. Ultimately, its aim is to establish a genuine “garden-cook-compost” circular economy. The objectives are to improve the quality of local residents’ diets, manage food spending, tackle food waste, turn waste into resources and reinforce social cohesion.

Concretely, this “Communs Comestibles” (Food Municipalities) project, covering the period 2017 to 2019, comprises several actions:

• a fruit-producing forest adapted to the land, often rare locally, on a 700 m²-plot using trees requiring little maintenance after 2019, with production from June to October of fruit for winter preservation, and small, fast-growing fruits, as many trees already productive as well as fruit hedges;
• a show-room presenting the techniques of urban agriculture;
• a maintenance-free vegetable garden;
• herb beds;
• support for local residents: seed and tool swap, cooking workshops, community meals, etc.;
• the creation of a micro-nursery.

To date, there has been good progress with the fruit-producing forest, as well as the “vegetable garden for lazy people”, requiring no work and permanently covered in hay. Crops will gradually be introduced to the upper levels and a community seedling greenhouse will be installed.

ALL PLAYERS MOBILISED TO SUPPORT THE PROJECT

The entire chain of players has been mobilised for this project:

• Rural players have contributed their expertise, particularly concerning the provision of high-quality topsoil and compost and the purchase and production of plants, trees and seeds. Useful discussions have also been held with members of the Terre de Liens network (farm visits, seed exchanges, etc.) concerning growing practices.
• Local associations have been mobilised, with the Compost’Ond cooperative, to install an urban composting facility, and the Amicale Laïque de Beaubrun, with the loan of material and volunteer involvement.
• Local businesses have got involved, particularly landscape gardeners and tree surgeons for waste recycling (grass, wood residue, etc.).
• Research and education players have also played their part: Jean Monnet University and the École nationale des Mines engineering school concerning pollution and natural soil regeneration, and the French National Agricultural Research Institute and the École des Ingénieurs Agricoles de Paris (Paris Agricultural Engineering School) concerning soilless culture.

The success of this project stems from the mobilisation of all institutional stakeholders and the complementary nature of public action. The city of Saint-Etienne and Saint-Etienne Metropolis, winners of the national Sustainable and Solidarity City call for expressions of interest, supported the emergence of this project and provided the necessary funding alongside the French State. The Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region and Saint-Etienne Metropolis also provided financial investment support.

A MOMENTUM DRIVEN BY CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

All initiatives take the form of participative projects involving neighbourhood residents, enabling them to take ownership of the spaces and, ultimately, manage them like “Municipalities”.

The global project also forms part of an educational initiative aimed at the public. Technical and logistics support is available to residents’ gardening projects to help them develop their autonomy rather than for training purposes. Lastly, residents are supported with a view to facilitating food self-sufficiency. For example, there are plans, at the end of each season, to set up a seed bank that can be used the following year by residents.
A PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

At the heart of the Rhine basin and Europe, Strasbourg occupies a strategic position linking France and Germany. A nature city, its destiny is inextricably linked to the Rhine, a cross-border river, and its natural spaces. A compact city, Strasbourg halted its urban sprawl in 2008. A growing awareness of climate issues has guided the focus of the territorial project towards the ambition to create a sustainable metropolis, in which agriculture contributes to the development of this natural heritage and tries to meet the territory’s food needs.

The territory covered by the Eurometropolis of Strasbourg contains 305 farmers exploiting 12,500 hectares of utilised agricultural area, of which ¾ dedicated to cereals. Market gardens and organic agriculture have been little developed (450 hectares and 170 hectares respectively). This territory is also home to around 490,000 people, consumers who spend €114 per household per week on food. Relocating the food system has become a territorial objective with a view to increasing autonomy and quality.

Since 2010, the City and the Euroemetropolis have been working with the Alsace Chamber of Agriculture and the Alsace Professional Organic Farming Organisation to:

- **preserve agricultural land and maintain farms** by minimising land use for development, while including the agricultural dimension in the design of urban planning and development documents (850 hectares of land for potential urban development classified as agricultural or natural land that cannot be built on in the PLU, definition of levels of agricultural-related construction) and urban projects (drawing up of a compensation protocol, agro-park project as a component of the modernisation of the Zone Commerciale Nord industrial zone), incorporating the problems relating to the passing on of farms and young farm start-ups outside the family setting (awareness and support).

**KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY**

- Number of inhabitants:
  - city of Strasbourg: 280,114 (population census 2013)
  - the metropolis: 489,767 (total population 2013)
  - Grand Est (Greater East) region: 5,554,645 (2014)

- 33 municipalities

- Area:
  - city of Strasbourg: 78.27 km²
  - the metropolis: 339.85 km²

- 60% of the Eurometropolis’ population is concentrated in Strasbourg.
- The Eurometropolis is home to 45% of the population of Bas-Rhin and more than a quarter of the population of Alsace.
• develop a sustainable agriculture sector, one that is diversified and environmentally friendly (introduction of new market garden businesses to the urban sector), one that is diversified and environmentally friendly (introduction of new market garden businesses to the urban sector), maintains biodiversity (eco-grazing) and landscape variety, and protects the green and blue network (100 hectares subject to environmental clauses) and natural resources (awareness of good practices and definition of specific action plans).

• develop short, local supply chains via the galvanisation of the existing fabric and the creation of a coherent territorial network (more than 200 tons of organic produce per year - 60% local - in school canteens, city market producers' charter, distribution of baskets throughout the public domain and support for collective farm shops).

• bring farmers and city dwellers closer together by encouraging consumption habits that favour seasonal local products (an annual event since 2010).

The steering committee, made up of mayors and agricultural representatives from the municipalities, is chaired by the Deputy Mayor of Strasbourg responsible for agriculture and associate Eurometropolitan advisor. The Water Agency, the DRAAF, the DDT (responsible for the implementation of public policies relating to planning and sustainable development) and the ADEME also participate.

The city of Strasbourg was awarded the title of French Biodiversity Capital in 2014 in recognition of this policy. The French Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry qualified it as PAT in 2017.
MAINTAINING THE TERRITORY’S AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION POTENTIAL AND INCREASING PRODUCTION VOLUMES

Created in 2002, Toulon Provence Méditerranée changed from the status of agglomeration community to that of metropolis on 1 January 2018. It encompasses 12 municipalities across a territory of 366 km² and 200 km of coastline. Europe’s biggest naval port, it occupies a strategic position on the Mediterranean. Now the Region’s 3rd biggest urban centre, TPM is an extremely attractive coastal territory of contrasts, between vast natural spaces and densely populated areas.

The agricultural sector is facing a crisis on a number of fronts: land access and availability difficulties, as well as European regulations, labour costs, a series of extreme weather events, etc. The direct consequences for the territory are numerous:

- A fall in production in the horticultural, viticultural and fruit tree growing sectors, which represents a threat to some collective structures: SICA MAF (the agricultural collective interest company responsible for the Hyères Flower Market), the COPSOLFRUIT cooperative, wine cooperatives, etc.
- Food governance that is inadequate and ineffective for the TPM population Market gardening production is not sufficient to meet local demand.
- Wasteland occupying a significant share of land classified as ZA or “activity zone” (2,908 hectares of UAA for around 6,727 hectares of ZA, i.e. 40% of unproductive wasteland) highly sought-after by property developers.

TPM and its partners are implementing a dual strategy: maintaining the territory’s agricultural production potential and increasing production volumes.

It is important to maintain production zones already identified. In concrete terms, this involves using the SAFER right of first refusal to prevent sales to non-agricultural buyers of potentially produc-
tive agricultural land, thereby facilitating its acquisition by farmers. Several strategic initiatives have been implemented with the CDAV to galvanize production sectors: supporting the emergence of collective projects, developing brands and labels for improved identification of local products, developing short supply chains, particularly by supporting local/regional producers’ markets.

In parallel, a land partnership with the CDAV and SAFER has been set up to define an action programme aimed at returning wasteland across the territory to production and hence increase production volumes.

TMP-led initiatives prefigure the implementation of a territorial food plan aimed at:

• Establishing the long-term future of agriculture, creating a coherent agricultural and food sector structure and promoting a return to economic value across the territory (via the development of short supply chains)
• Contributing to the consolidation of locally-based sectors (that cannot be relocated elsewhere) and to the implementation of a local food system meeting consumers’ needs
• Bringing together producers, processors, distributors, territorial authorities, consumers and all civil society players and developing local supplies, the quality and volume of local produce, as well as access to high-quality food for as many people as possible.

Project 1

Agricultural land strategy 2015-2020

A partnership has been set up with SAFER and the Var Chamber of Agriculture to address the objectives identified above. The agreement, renewed annually, is structured around a variety of actions:

Action 1. Identification of the potential to pass on farm businesses
Action 2. The bringing together of buyers and sellers
Action 3. Support for Hyères agricultural high school graduates seeking to set up in business
Action 4. Identification of the potential to return wasteland to production
Action 5. Land management strategy development

Project 2

Management of the market gardening sector and support for local/regional producers’ markets (MPP)

Market gardening production across the TPM perimeter is not sufficient to meet demand. Hence, since 2012, TPM has been working in partnership with the Var Chamber of Agriculture (CDAV) to regalvanize the market gardening sector and promote its development. The objective of the agreement is to manage market gardening throughout the territory, focusing on the upstream sector, but intervening downstream depending on needs.

Action 1. Continued collective technical coordination via support of the progress group formed at the end of 2015
Action 2. Development of a targeted training programme
Action 3. A dedicated website resources/page on the Var Chamber of Agriculture (CA83) website
Action 4. Audit of their current marketing practices and implementation of a targeted support programme for market gardeners seeking to diversify or change their distribution channel
Action 5. Support for the required equipment/materials (skirts, tables and parasols), management and development of Local/Regional Producer’ Markets

INTERIM ASSESSMENT

• All farmers over the age of 55 without a definitive solution for passing on their businesses have been given awareness support regarding the issues involved
• 260 hectares of wasteland studied and mapped
• 3 municipalities currently setting up a ZAP (Protected Agricultural Area) in zones suitable for agricultural development
• 15 hectares of new Solliès Fig orchards planted in the TPM perimeter and 8 hectares of land taken over by young farmers
**At the heart of the Grand Sud Ouest region in south-western France and located in the Garonne alluvial plain, Toulouse occupies a strategic position between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean, between the south-west coastal regions and those of Northern Europe. As well as being a major aviation and space-sector hub, Toulouse has also been shaped by its “agricole Lauragaise” (Lauragais agriculture, primarily cereals) history and its years of prosperity linked to oil growing.**

**A compact city, Toulouse has not escaped the problems facing all major metropolises, with the challenges of reconciling the preservation of a quality living environment and the sustainability of resources (including agricultural and food) in a context of climate change.**

The development of Toulouse Metropolis has hinged around several priority areas:

- **the preservation of agricultural spaces and the maintenance of an economic agricultural activity in urban planning and development documents**, as specified in the PLUi ratified on 3 October 2011: objective to moderate the use for development of agricultural land, reducing the average area open to urban development annually by at least 10% compared to that of the last 10 years; the PLUi puts forward a proposal to classify 2 market gardening sites (Blagnac, Launaguet) as landscape interest sites;

- **land control** via municipal management and EPFL (local public land management institution) and SAFER state-assisted land

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### KEY FIGURES FOR THE TERRITORY

- **Number of inhabitants:**
  - the metropolis: 734,944 (2013)
- **37 municipalities**
- **A metropolitan project hinged around a charter, territorial projects and municipal agricultural management**
- **Area:**
  - city of Toulouse: 118.33 km²
  - the metropolis: 458.20 km²
- **346 farms representing 11,018 hectares of UAA (general agricultural census 2010)**
- **85% of area dedicated to cereals and oil crops; market gardening - horticulture (330 hectares), vines and specialist crops (70 hectares), grassland (550 hectares)**
- **400 Farm Units and 4,000 food-processing jobs**
- **6,200/year per household spent on food**
purchase tools. These mechanisms have been used to assist the setting-up of organic market gardening businesses, such as EARL BORDE BIO, within the context of the city’s urban renewal policy;

- territorial agricultural projects on various scales (from ten hectares or so to around 200 hectares). Two strategic projects are under way: the Pin Balma agricultural and natural park project (220 hectares) and the development of the Quinze Sol market gardening plain in the municipality of Blagnac (135 hectares). This programme brings together teaching and research players (CERTOP, INRA, ENSFEA) and professional associations (SOLAGRO (environmental protection association) and a Haute-Garonne Organic Farmers’ Group, Erables 31);

Other initiatives are under way: inventory of wasteland and analysis of its potential, prospective scenarios concerning the satisfaction of food requirements to the year 2050, incorporation of local organic products in school catering, etc.

In addition, in July 2017, Toulouse Metropolis signed a reciprocal contract with the Pays des Portes de Gascogne, setting out agreement for cooperation in a number of areas including “organic and rational farming via a PAT” with “the recognition of a joint PAT between Toulouse Metropolis and the Pays des Portes de Gascogne” as a pilot initiative/project.

The city of Toulouse has been farming a vast agricultural estate since 1975. Previously considered as land reserves, this land, now rare and precious, is today protected in the PLU. It represents 200 hectares of arable land distributed across 4 sites and a 25-hectare vineyard surrounding the château de Saint-Simon.

The farm is managed by 6 workers and a steward. The entire estate is organic. Each year, the arable land produces 500 tons of cereals (wheat, barley, buckwheat, soybean, chick-pea, etc.) marketed via a regional organic cooperative. Wine and grape juice are destined for the old age catering sector and buffets organised by the City. The opening of a farm shop is an opportunity to launch a “Sponsorship” operation to support the planting of new vines on a 5-hectare site with regional grape varieties (Gros Manseng, Marsellan and Malbec). This project is supported by the interprofession des Vins du Sud-Ouest. (South-West joint trade association for the wine sector)

A vegetable garden and educational orchard can be found in the grounds of the château. It is a location that lends itself to the organisation of agricultural festivals bringing together a broad range of local producers and attracting members of the public interested in direct dialogue.

On the arable land, work is under way to ensure better landscape integration. It will take several years to achieve. Hedges and copses, natural grassland, hives and dirt tracks will give city dwellers the opportunity to wander through a restored agricultural landscape.

DIVERSE PARTNERSHIPS BUILT AROUND AN AGRICULTURAL IDENTITY

The estate acts as an interface between local producers and consumers, enabling the emergence of innovative projects.

In 2014, a commercial premises equipped with a cold room was made available to Drive Fermier Toulousain, an online drive-through farm shop established by the Chamber of Agriculture. It enables the 35 producers attached to the drive-through to prepare baskets ordered online and deliver-red every Friday to 6 collection points around Toulouse. The activity generates a weekly turnover of 4,500.

The “Abeillement votre” association manages a beehive activity combining production and education. The 20 active hives produce 200 kg of honey per year much to the delight of the 700 visitors. The activity showcases the work of the beekeeper, as well as the threats facing bees and the beauty of natural urban spaces. In the future, more than 100 hives are planned in order to create an activity that is economically profitable.

The site is an ideal educational platform for schools. At every grape harvest, 150 students from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d’Agronomie (School of Agricultural and Life Sciences) come to make their own wine. The Ecole Hôtelière (Hotel School) brings its students - future chefs, head waiters and wine waiters - to the site to observe the reality of activities on the ground.

“Innovista”, a workplace integration company, renovates the buildings as part of training projects. Hence the sales outlet, for example, is a room that has been restored using traditional materials (Toulouse bricks, beams, lime plaster).

These relations are all mutually beneficial, making them sustainable. The estate has become a platform for collaboration where agricultural activities directly associated with the City can emerge.
Since the Renaissance, the city of Tours, capital of the Touraine region, has been considered to be a land of humanism offering a good quality of life. Known as “the garden of France”, in recent years, it has been focusing its efforts on defending and promoting culinary crops in all their forms.

Alongside François Rabelais University, the city helped the Repas gastronomique des Français secure its place on UNESCO’s intangible cultural heritage list, and it was awarded the “International City of Gastronomy” label in 2013. The city of Tours has also made the development of green spaces one of its priorities, as reflected in its Fleur d’Or award in 2014. Tours has the biggest area of green space accessible to the public of any city in France.

As reflected in the success of the PATs, the relocation of food-producing agriculture across territories and the development of environmentally, socially and economically-responsible agriculture are priorities for the territorial authorities.

In this context, in 2016, Tours Metropolis Val de Loire stated its determination to promote local, responsible and productive agriculture on the fringes of towns.

Surveys conducted within the context of the PAT assessment in the first 6 months of 2017 highlighted a local product offer that was insufficient to meet growing demand. While opinions diverge among food chain players concerning the reasons for this shortfall, there is agreement on certain issues:

• help new farmers set up business through land and training initiatives;

• introduce intermediate tools aimed at matching supply and demand (vegetable processing facility, central platform);

• raise consumer awareness of local agriculture;

• create spaces for pooling and dialogue between the various food system players.

Accordingly, since 2014, Tours Metropolis Val de Loire, which has around 300 farmers across its territory, has supported 6 farm businesses by purchasing land and renting it out to the farmer on a lease with option to buy basis. So the metropolis continuously monitors land to prevent the disappearance of rural
land and help farmers establish their businesses. It has set itself the objective of establishing market garden businesses on the fringes of the city to deliver a food-producing agricultural sector and increase the consumption of locally produced food, in school canteens, restaurants and household kitchens.

Family gardens

Family gardens have been a feature of the city of Tours since the 19th century. Originally established for subsistence purposes, they are now seen as a platform for developing social cohesion and conviviality. Since the 2000s, community vegetable gardens and small participative plots have developed in the various neighbourhoods, to the point that Tours now boasts 1,297 family gardens enabling tenants to cultivate produce at the heart of the metropolis.

Tours Metropolis Val de Loire considers these community and family gardens to have a role to play in the PAT; numerous community gardens exist in the Tours belt (more than 2,000). Today, the metropolis wants to reinforce this family food-producing activity with new, more ecological projects. For example, it is contributing to the creation of natural community gardens on the Plaine de la Gloriette, in Tours. 60 new gardens are set to be established on the site in 2018.

Community gardens will be democratically managed within a dedicated management association or residents’ group, with responsibility for some of the decision-making and project implementation. Residents will be encouraged to contribute to the life of the garden (collective plantings, festivals, cultural events).

Neighbourhood gardens will contribute to the development of active solidarity initiatives with other structures (associations, educational establishments, nursery schools, public services, companies). They will promote interaction between the generations and between cultures, facilitating dialogue and social cohesion.

In order to contribute to the improvement of public health and environmental protection, gardeners will have to undertake to:

• preserve the water resource by reducing waste, covering the soil with straw, collecting rain water, selecting plants adapted to the soil and climate and avoiding the use of chemical inputs,

• respect soil life by abandoning the use of herbicides, turning organic waste into compost, favouring manual or mechanical weed removal as well as the use of green fertiliser,

• focus on plant and animal biodiversity by diversifying the range of plants sown, creating conditions favourable to hosting fauna and abandoning the use of chemical pesticides.

Consequently, the promotion of natural, organic gardening will be encouraged via the organisation of training initiatives and experience-sharing between gardeners.

The Perched Gardens

The urban market gardening project known “les Jardins Perchés” (the perched gardens), conducted by Tour(s) Habitat, in partnership with the INRA, the Indre-et-Loire Chamber of Agriculture, the Tours Metropolis Val de Loire sustainable development department and various experts, fits squarely with this drive to reintroduce nature to the city while ensuring the careful management of urban expansion.

Thanks to this project, Tours has taken another step forward in an urban environmental development project that is almost unique in the world, at the cutting-edge of agro-nomic research and the reinforcement of social cohesion. The Perched Gardens will become a benchmark for future housing projects in the Tours agglomeration.

Tour(s) Habitat conducted a year-long study to support the construction of a social housing block (76 housing units) and a market garden operation comprising a 776-m² greenhouse on the roof of a 3-story building (1 aquaponics garden), a 1,200-m² ground plot (organic agriculture) and 4 shipping containers for mushroom crops. A cultivatable space will be set aside, an orchard and garden will be made available, an aquaponics demonstrator will be installed and a collective composting facility will be trialled.

This experiment will be seen as a prototype that can be reproduced elsewhere, since the total cost (€1,999.39 ex-vat /m² living area) is below the average cost of landlord property transactions (€2,134 ex-vat/m² living area).
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<tr>
<td>ZAC</td>
<td>Zone d’activité commerciale / A joint development zone</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZUS</td>
<td>Zone urbaine sensible / Sensitive urban area</td>
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The Caissse des Dépôts and its subsidiaries make up a French public group, a long-term institutional investor serving the general interest and supporting the economic development of the country’s territories. Its mission was reaffirmed by the French law on the modernisation of the economy of 4 August 2008. It is present throughout mainland France and the overseas regions, via its Network and Territory Management Department and its 35 regional offices. This locally-anchored network, close to the territorial authorities and partners on the ground, harnesses all of the Caissse des Dépôts’ expertise.

THE CAISSSE DES DÉPÔTS’ RESPONSIBILITIES SUPPORTING FRENCH TERRITORIES THROUGH THE ECOLOGICAL AND ENERGY TRANSITION

Issues relating to the environment, energy, mobility and planning lie at the heart of territorial development. Working in close partnership with our regional departments, we deploy project engineering expertise to support sustainable territorial development. This engineering may be aimed at ensuring the long-term future and development of specialised agricultural sectors, handling development programmes hinged around short supply chains that bring together public and private players, in an urban centre with a balancing role, or supporting the re-galvanization of city centres via a territorial food plan. Territoires Conseils also implements methodological support initiatives relating to areas such as GEMAPI (water management and flood prevention for inter-municipal structures) and “Développement”, a sustainable development policy tool devised with the French national union of permanent initiative centres for the environment (CPIE).

Concerning its mission as a prudent investor, the Caissse des Dépôts focuses on territorial projects aimed at supporting developers and local authorities in the production and distribution of renewable energies, as well as the energy renovation of public buildings: investment activities target various production technologies (solar, wind, biomass, geothermal, etc.), via the acquisition of minority stakeholdings in projects. The CDC is also present in more than twenty semi-public energy companies and in major Local Distribution Companies (Metz, Grenoble, Soregies in the Vienne département, Strasbourg, etc.).

The Caissse des Dépôts is responsible for obtaining security deposits from operators via its related consignment activity (“environmental” consignments), for facilities classified for environmental protection (ICPE) or within the context of the technological risk prevention plan (PPRT).

The Caissse des Dépôts is also a long-term lender via savings funds and EIB resources: the CDC is providing funding to renovate 40,000 social housing units per year until 2020 via Eco-loans (with interest rates as low as 0%, 220,000 housing units renovated to date). In addition, the CDC has established the “green growth” loan in order to finance public sector ecological and energy transition projects in several fields (sustainable mobility, renewable energies, drinking water and purification infrastructures, building rehabilitation, etc.). This long-term loan facility (20 to 40 years) has funded the energy renovation of 600 public buildings.

contributing operational solutions, including within the context of the "smart city" initiative rolled out across eight demonstrators in France (www.caissedesdepots.fr/villesintelligentes).

The SCET, société de conseil et d’appui aux territoires (www.scet.fr), deploys its expertise to advise and support local authorities in the field of the ecological and energy transition.

Lastly, on 13 December 2017, to mark the anniversary of the Paris agreement and the One Planet Summit, the Caisse des Dépôts confirmed and pursued its strategy to incorporate climate change into the management of its financial portfolios and its project financing activities. The objectives set out on Climate Finance Day in 2015 have been exceeded. For example, the carbon footprint of its share portfolio fell by 27% between 2014 and 2016. New undertakings have been initiated to support the funding of the ecological and energy transition: in order to develop new public savings products for the climate, Sustainable and Solidarity Account funds will be used to provide loans to fund projects with a favourable impact on the climate.

Alongside these commitments, on 22 February 2017, the Caisse des Dépôts launched its first green bond worth €500 million and with a maturity of 5 years. The funds raised will be invested in three sectors: energy-efficient property (new-build or extensive renovation), renewable energies and site clean-up.

As local authorities increasingly take ownership of energy issues, it becomes possible to extend the scope of partnership and public policy support initiatives at the heart of Caisse des Dépôts’ activities. Accordingly, the CDC will be a committed partner within the framework of the Major Investment Plan announced by the French government in 2017.

Discover our comprehensive range of services to support your projects along with our regional office contact details:
www.caissedesdepotsdesterritoires.fr