



**PoliCulturaEXPOMilano2015**  
**www.policulturaexpo.it/world**

**Themes**

**Food Systems**

Food systems are very complex systems, encompassing everything from agricultural production to processing, packaging, distribution, retail, consumption...

*Ideas*

- One or more segments of the food system may be present in each local community
- The various segments are interrelated and problems in one segment can hardly be solved without impacting the others
- Globalization can affect different segments in different ways
- Overall quality depends on all segments (and cannot be improved by focusing on just one)

**Agriculture/Livestock**

**holding**

Agricultural production and livestock holding are specific to each area. Various factors and situations may determine their characteristics.

*Ideas*

- Traditional agriculture/livestock holding
- Landscape aspects related to agriculture/livestock holding
- Modern agriculture/livestock holding
- Agriculture/livestock holding techniques
- Typologies of farms
- Socioeconomic factors of production
- ... sustainability, biodiversity

**Processing**

Agricultural products are often subjected to transformation processes. Processing makes their consumption or distribution easier; however, it may alter their properties.

*Ideas*

- Where and how are local agricultural products processed?
- Are there any food processing industries in your local area?
- Benefits and problems of processing
- Globalization of the food processing industry

**The food industry**

The food industry produces many of the food products consumed today (packaged, frozen, canned...).

*Ideas*

- How food processing industries work
- Characteristics of the processes and of the food produced
- Localization/globalization

**Food distribution and retail**

Distribution and retail bring food products (fresh or preserved) to the consumer. Different kinds of distribution systems exist, each with its own characteristics.

*Ideas*

- Large-scale distribution, small-scale distribution, farmers' markets
- Which products are distributed (local, global)
- Low prices, quality
- Biodiversity of the products supplied



### **Food preparation**

Agricultural products are often subjected to transformation processes. Processing makes their consumption or distribution easier; however, it may alter their properties.

#### *Ideas*

- Cooking/recipes
- Tradition/innovation
- Places where food is prepared: home, school, cafeterias...
- Restaurants

### **Nutrition**

The characteristics of a healthy and effective diet are well known. Oftentimes people cannot (will not) follow recommendations.

#### *Ideas*

- Different kinds of diets
- The diet at school and/or at home
- Tradition vs. current trends

### **Biodiversity**

Biodiversity means preserving the number of different living species: both vegetal and animal species. Biodiversity is important in every domain: in nature, in agriculture, in the food we consume.

#### *Ideas*

- Biodiversity in your local area
- Biodiversity in the food we consume
- Biodiversity in the past vs. in the present

### **Sustainability**

Sustainability means preserving resources on a global scale. Sustainability may regard every aspect of a food system.

#### *Ideas*

- Water consumption
- Water use
- Socio/economic factors
- Waste disposal
- CO<sub>2</sub> and greenhouse gas emissions

### **Waste disposal/recycling/waste**

“Leftovers” and even “food scraps” or other materials (used for example in packaging) must be disposed of: at a cost, and with a negative impact on the environment. Also, reusable resources may be wasted.

#### *Ideas*

- Waste disposal at school, in the family, in your local area
- Recycling at school, in the family, in your local area
- Waste we can avoid

### **Excess/hunger**

The paradox of our contemporary world is that situations of excessive (or unhealthy) food consumption exist side by side with poverty and hunger.

#### *Ideas*

- Excess/hunger in your local area
- Excess/hunger in the world
- Paradoxes, problems, solutions



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### **The role of women**

The role of women in the past and in the present, in activities related to agriculture, food production, cooking, nutritional choices.

#### *Ideas*

- Tradition, innovation
- Cooking, recipes
- Family structures
- Responsibilities and arrangements in the family
- Agriculture and livestock holding techniques
- Socio-economic aspects of production