

Torres Vedras - PORTUGAL



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SUSTAINABLE FOOD SCHOOL PROGRAM



Torres Vedras
Câmara Municipal

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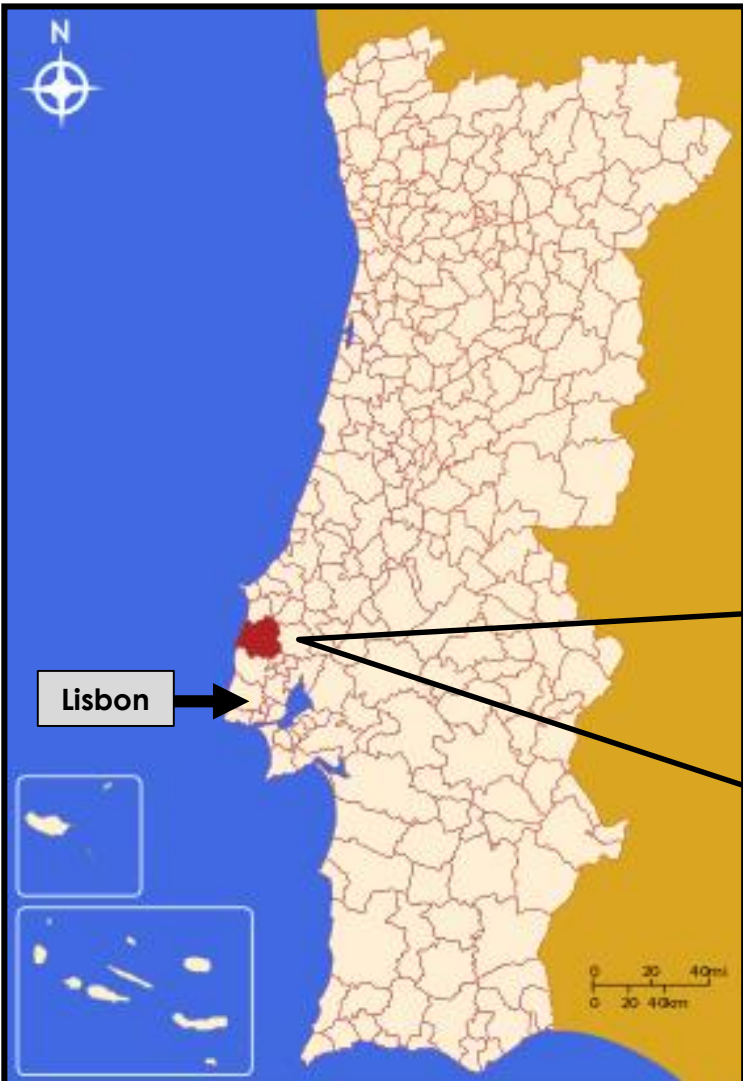


BioCanteens
Education - Food - Environment - Local Economy - Governance



25th of september 2022

TERRITORIAL REALITY



Council area - 407 km²
80.000 inhabitants
13 counties, managed by 13 local authorities



Torres Vedras
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SUSTAINABLE FOOD SCHOOL PROGRAM

Integrated strategy to promote local economy, environmental sustainability and school meals quality

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SUSTAINABLE PRINCIPLES

Package free



Local products



Healthy food

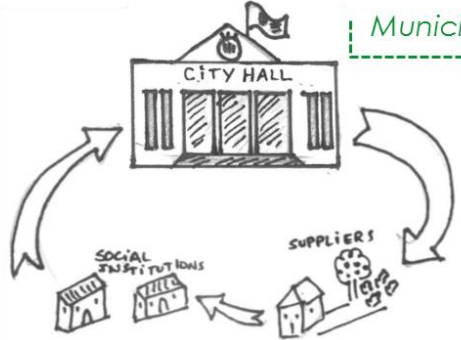


Alternative meals



Network

Municipality



Social Institutions

Suppliers

LOCAL REALITY

REALITY >2022 – 2023

65 kindergartens + primary schools

7 secondary schools

3 to 18 years old pupils

6000 meals/day

Development of a sustainable program that
contemplates the

4 stages of food process for school meals

STRATEGIC AXES

1

- Production

2

- Acquisition

3

- Cooking

4

- Consumption and Healthy Habits

4 STRATEGIC AXES



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II - ACQUISITION



Exclusively purchases of raw food material directly from LOCAL producers and suppliers, thereby promoting territorial development by increasing the turnover for this sector in the territory as well as increasing the net job creation - **Promotion of the Circular Economy**

Lower environmental footprint by buying **bulk products** and by promoting **Short Food Chains**, through the direct acquisition of the food for the school meals, from local small and medium suppliers of the region

Fresh and quality products, including **organic fruits and vegetables**

Lots' division of the products to better manage the Public Procurement

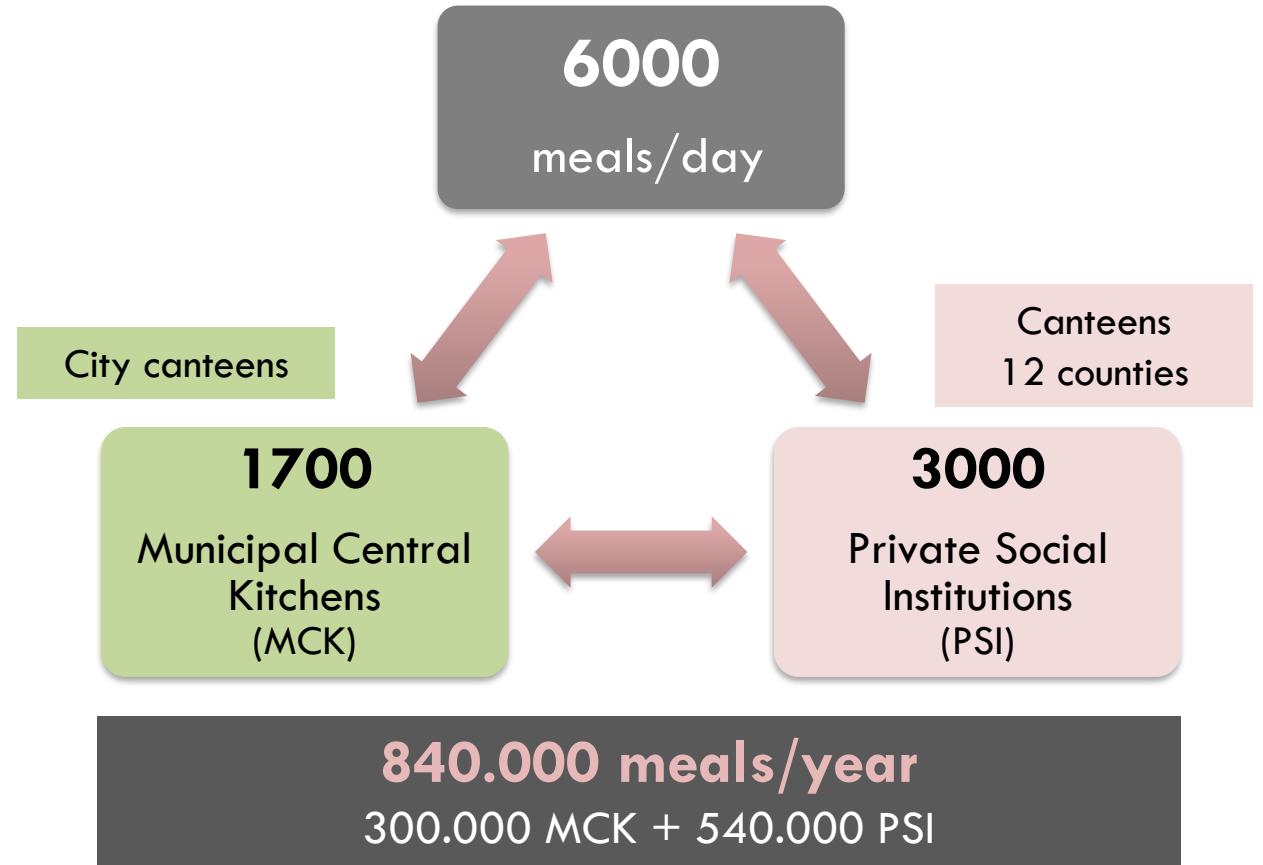
Organic Fruits | Conventional Fruits | Organic Vegetables | Conventional Vegetables | Meat | Fish | Grocery | Bread | Eggs | ...

4 STRATEGIC AXES



III - COOKING

The Municipality uses a network strategy which delegates the competences to the 12 local county authorities, which, themselves contract local private social institutions for management of the school meals



Valorization of logistics and human resources existing in Social Institutions in the council

Municipal Kitchens



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Direct management:
6000 meals/day

Creation of **LOTS** for
Raw food materials

Organic Fruits | Conventional Fruits | Organic
Vegetables | Conventional Vegetables | Meat |
Fish | Grocery | Bread | Eggs | ...



- **Decision criteria** - *apply a percentage %*
 - Price
 - Samples for quality evaluation + technical datasheets of the products
 - **Freshness** related to the food transport time (minutes)

- **Mandatory conditions for supply**
 - Bulk products (*if applicable*)
 - Specific capacity of the suppliers
 - Replacement of non-acceptable products by quality issues

- **Mandatory documents**
 - Price
 - Products datasheets
 - Document to evaluate freshness through the distance of the food production/storage

4 STRATEGIC AXES



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III - COOKING



- Vegetarian menus are available
- Plant-based menus are being implemented once a week

The menus are carefully prepared with the support of a nutritionist, respecting the **nutritional balance**, taking into account **anthropometric values** and favouring **local seasonal foods** according to the **Mediterranean Diet, traditional dishes** or the most appreciated in each location



Food waste reduction by cooking the specific daily needs, according to the menus' datasheets

Adaptation to seasonal menus by introducing organic food

FUTURE CHALLENGES

- Extending the current direct management system to all the schools' levels of the county;
- Increase the organic food in meals and organic farming in the territory;
- Gradual increase the plant-based menus, with seasonal products;
- Daily monitoring for the reduction of food waste resulting from the consumption of meals by students;
- Awareness for children, families and educators for sustainable food eating habits.



CONCLUSIONS



Torres Vedras
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The system implemented depends on the strategic vision and political commitment of the municipal executive, resulting on a budget increase for the school meals;

Torres Vedras is a rural territory, characterized by its high agriculture sector. This allows the promotion of the Food Short Chains by local producers and suppliers;

By introducing organic vegetables (and fruits), an adaptation of menus was needed, according to seasonality of the products and by introducing new vegetables that weren't contemplated before. In spite of it, the quantity and variety of organic products are not enough in the region (for example, there is a lack of livestock products).



Thank you!



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