



BUILDING COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS

Kathryn Colasanti · May 28, 2014



MSU Center for Regional Food Systems



WHAT IS A FOOD SYSTEM?





A COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEM?



Local food system

Short food supply chain

Farm direct

Community based

Regionally integrated

Good food system

CHALLENGES IN OUR FOOD SYSTEM

Loss of farmland Struggling rural economies

Aging farmers Disconnect from food

Environmental threats Inefficient waste disposal

Industry concentration Poorly paid food workers

Uneven access to healthy food Diet-related diseases

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FOOD SYSTEM VALUES

Going green Responsible land use

Public health Resource efficiency

Family Security Employment growth

Food Safety Fair wages

Workforce development Infrastructure investment

Social equity Entrepreneurship

Heritage preservation Placemaking

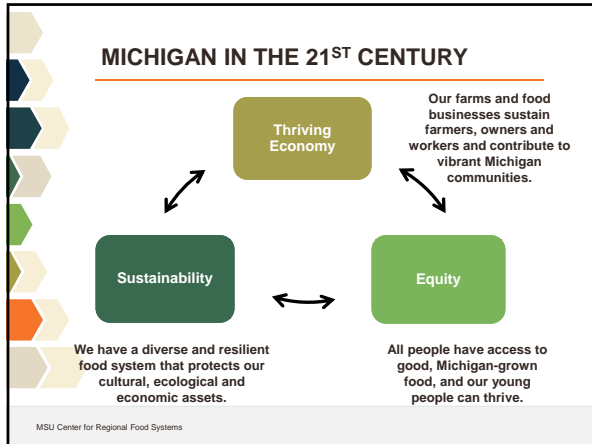
Local Government Support for Food Systems: Themes and Opportunities from National Data

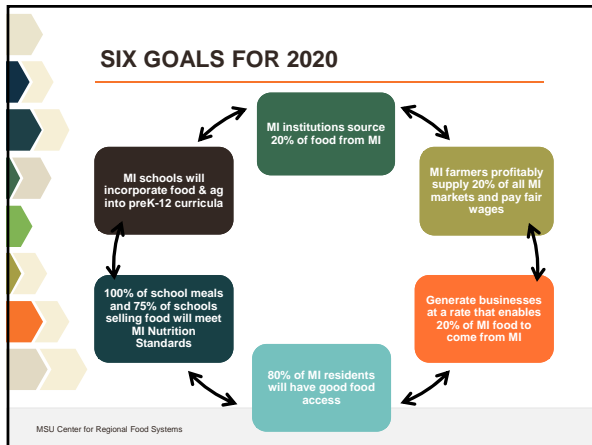
MICHIGAN GOOD FOOD CHARTER

- Statewide policy initiative
- 6 goals
- 25 agenda priorities
- Developed with input from across the state
- Steering committee of 20 organizations

www.michiganfood.org

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2014 MICHIGAN GOOD FOOD SUMMIT SAVE THE DATE OCTOBER 28, 2014

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EXPANDING FOOD PRODUCTION

ACTIVITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community gardens• Urban farms• Backyard livestock• School gardens• Demonstration gardens on public land	PLANNING SUPPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and ensure access to land• Assess zoning and ordinances• Ensure access to municipal services• Programmatic support• Compost programs
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INCREASING HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS

ACTIVITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farmers markets• Double Up Food Bucks• Healthy convenience stores• Mobile food markets	PLANNING SUPPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Include in plan development• Coordinate with transportation planning• Allow and encourage multiple food retail venues
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FOSTERING FOOD BUSINESSES

ACTIVITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incubator kitchens• Food hubs• Food innovation districts• Farm incubators	PLANNING SUPPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Include in plan development• Make information relevant to agri-food businesses readily accessible• Allocate economic development funds to food-based businesses• Direct city/county food purchasing to Michigan farmers• Assess opportunities for food innovation districts
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Photo courtesy of Tiltan Farm Development Center

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SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

ACTIVITIES

- Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP)
- Conservation Districts
- Michigan Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program




PLANNING SUPPORT


- Local farmland preservation programs
- Regional collaboration to address environmental impacts
- Engage farmers in developing environmental policies
- Collaborate with other public and private organizations

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STATE NETWORKS & WORK GROUPS




Healthy Kids,
Healthy Michigan
*Advocates for Healthy
Wings in Children*




ICC Food
Policy
Subcommittee




MSU
Livestock
Work Group



Cultivate
MICHIGAN

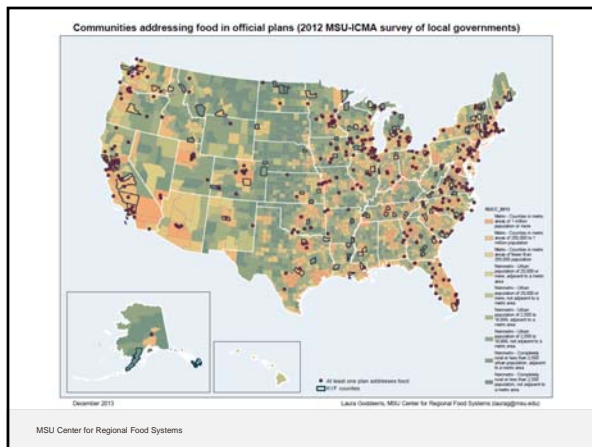


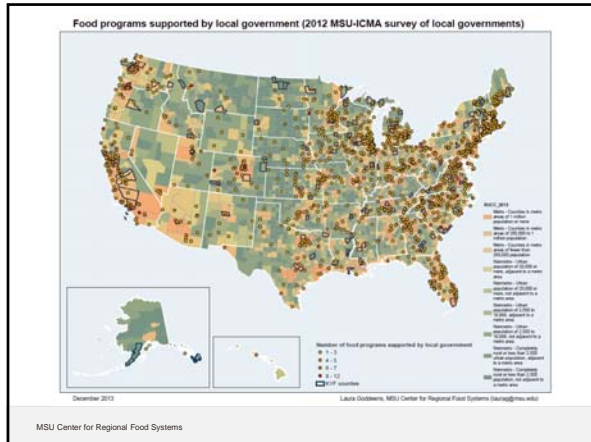
Local Food
Policy
Councils

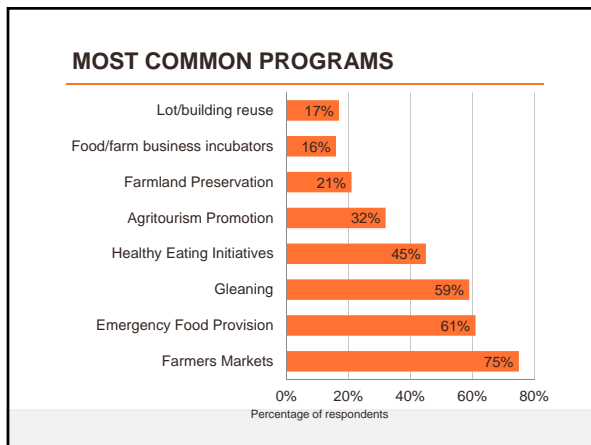


Michigan
Food Hub
Network

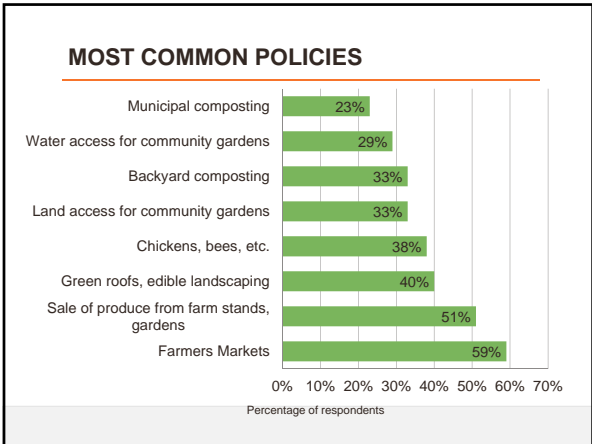
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THANK YOU!
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