

Thematic interim output:

Intentions to adopt specific elements from the good practice

December, 2014

Background

Two transnational conferences have taken place within the Diet for a Green Planet project. During these conferences, the giving city Södertälje has presented the concept in depth, both from a policy transfer perspective and from a policy making perspective.

This report is a work-in-progress account for the ideas, actions or elements of the Diet for a Green Planet concept that the receiving cities are likely to initiate or implement during the course of this project. This report accounts for the receiving city of Molėtai.

Molėtai

Molėtai's entering into this project was marked by some hesitation from the political sphere, as this is considered a "soft" project, as opposed the "hard" projects that the municipality normally engages in.

The preconditions when it comes to the possibilities to achieve in Molėtai are also important to mention. All menu decisions are taken by dieticians and approved by the state control organization. This gives no freedom to deviate from the detailed state regulations, and the municipalities are not authorised to develop their own diet policies. Due to this the project team in Molėtai will need to find alternative ways of engaging policy making in the project.

Actions/elements that have been – or will be – implemented or initiated

- The Diet for a Green Planet concept has offered a modern approach for changing eating habits. The creation of a Local Support Group has opened up a discussion about the will to change eating habits in Molėtai and in all of Lithuania. The Diet for a Green Planet concept offers a framework for these discussions.
- Practical steps have been taken in different schools. For example, food waste is now being measured in the Molėtai gymnasium, the primary school and in one kindergarten. A garbage separation system has been installed in the Molėtai gymnasium to be able to recycle paper, plastics, glass and organic material. Photos of healthy foodstuffs and glass containers with different kinds of legumes are exposed in the canteen.



Connecting cities
Building successes



- A locally adapted version of the Diet for a Green Planet Handbook is a key deliverable of the project, and it will be finalized in early 2015. The ambition is to use it practically, with season's oriented recipes.
- There will be a conference in Molėtai in January. This conference will be the biggest local event during the project. It will mark the launch of the handbook, and it will also feature a kitchen expert exchange where chefs from Södertälje will visit chefs in Molėtai for theoretical and practical working sessions. This conference will also be important since it will offer a possibility to strengthen the relationship with the political sphere. Also, some state institutions will be invited to the conference to discuss the Diet for a Green Planet concept and how it could influence Lithuanian policies.
- When the new government is installed after the local elections in March 2015 the Local Support Group will invite the new politicians to have a round-table discussion about what is needed to create an environmentally friendly region.

Report author: Daniel Dworetsky, support to LP.



Connecting cities
Building successes

