Pressures for sustainable food – the role of public meal in changing food system

Local and adapted developments

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Introduction

StratKIT
Innovative Strategies for Public Catering: Sustainability Tool KIT across Baltic Sea Region

• Pooling, sharing, co-learning and co-innovating by (public) procurement and catering services towards increased sustainability across BSR
Focus on the concept
How has sustainability fared?

• 1987 concept launched (WCED) – a better world for all
• Harmonizing prosperity with ecology
• 1992 Rio de Janeiro, FCCC
• 1997 Kyoto, Kyoto protocol (% decrease in GHGs)
• Paris 2015, Paris agreement to curb GHGs
• 2015 New York, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs, 17 with 169 targets)
• Equity, equality, human dignity, resources, climate, nature, peace and justice
• Humanistic approach
• Global political interests and applications to come
• Extremely relevant for food systems through many single (though overlapping) goals
Overview on Sustainable Development (SD)

**Focus on the concept**

Discursive structures (Dryzek, 1997)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Imaginative (innovative)</th>
<th>Prosaic (realistic)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>Reformist Problem solving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green radicalism</td>
<td>Radical Survivalism</td>
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Current threats for or due to food systems

- Conventional crops stagnating
- Organic agriculture not productive enough for 10 billions
- Zoonooses, pests, weeds
- Food loss and waste
- Obesity epidemic, hidden hunger
- Malnutrition, stunted growth, contaminated food
- Climate change, eutrophication, ecotoxicity...
- Loss of biodiversity, CRM
- Migration, conflicts...
- GMO’s, lab meat, insects, power to x – hydrogen bacteria?
- ‘Adults keep saying we owe it to the young people, to give them hope. But I don’t want you to be hopeful. I want you to feel the fear I feel every day.’ (Vigilantcitizen.com, 2019)
Role of PPCS towards sustainability
Scripts for action for the food system

- PPCS are a tool for politics, strategies, regulations across levels
- Makes the organizational / business model important
- Wanted: Less environmental damage, climate change, ecotoxicity, eutrophication, food loss and food waste – more biodiversity
- Wanted: ever lower costs, some exceptions
- Needed: More organic food, vegetarian and vegan food, food with geographic origin, less meat and dairy, saturated fats, bottled water
- Better strategies, more organizational communication, new trading methods and skills, more sensory and sustainable food education to customers
- PPCSs become very multiprofessional
Challenges towards sustainable (SSP) and green public procurement (GPP)

The state-of-the-art in Finland
Towards healthier and increasingly sustainable food chain system
**Focus on food chain**

PPCSs from Idealpolitik to Realpolitik

- SPPCS and GPPCSs – one size does fit all

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Strategic alignment</th>
<th>Open strategies For SD</th>
<th>Climate strategies For SD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BAU</td>
<td>Effective change</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent alignment</td>
<td>Creative and patchy developments</td>
<td>Troubled developments</td>
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Focus on food chain
There are reasons for diverse views & questions

• While quantification is notoriously difficult...
• Fossil fuels are the main issue as nonrenewable natural resources
• New research: trees emit and absorb N2O, ruminants’ microbes regulate the CH4 emissions and can be considerably reduced
• EDSCE – what are the mechanisms and consequences of change?
• Behavioral change is twisty
• Market, sustainability and bioregional discourses have their say
• Even if today’s nutrition recommendations would be followed...
• Local and adaptive choices are needed!
Concluding remarks 2

Focus on food chain
PPCSs as a change agent

• If StratKIT can offer some basis for rethinking and responding to challenges of increased sustainability in the food chain by PPCS, their suppliers, their customers and families and friends,

• It has reached its aim.
Thank you for attention!