

**THE ROLE OF ACADEMIA IN** TRANSITION TO **SUSTAINABLE** FOOD **SYSTEMS** 

> UNA EUROPA SEED FUNDING – 2020 Speaker from UCM: Alejandro Rescia Perazzo Text and design of slides: Alejandro Rescia Sara García Macarena Lucas

2

### What academic dimensions contribute the most to sustainable food systems?

3

### How can universities support policies and collaboration among different stakeholders?

### The focus is a healthy and sustainable lifestyle





### Basic pillars of a Sustainable Food System

- Good nutrition is a public health issue
- Resilience and sustainability at all scales

### At the university scale (cafeterias)

- 1. Sustainable and healthy menus
- 2. Suppliers should meet sustainability requirements
- 3. Correct separation of organic waste
- 4. Reduce food waste
- 5. Certified energy efficient equipment

# 1 How can universities improve the resilience of the food system? I Institutional perspective

#### UNIVERSITY

University staff training, including the cafeteria staff

Create alliances with different public and private entities

Cafeterias with sustainable criteria STUDENTS iNEW GENERATION!

act as transmission belts to society

Transferring to students: -innovation (through research) -knowledge (through teaching) SOCIETY Healthy and sustainable way of life (resilience and sustainability of food systems)

### At the UCM

Exhibition and sale of products from local farmers on campuses Environmental educational project of the Madrid City Council. EUROPEAN FOOD WAVE Project.





### THIS WEEK 5-7 APRIL



### At the UCM

- The UCM, through its Campus and Environment Unit, is taking part in:
  - Healthy and Sustainable Food Strategy of Madrid
  - Research and education on agroecology in the orchards of their campuses
- Entrepreneurship Office (Compluemprende): information about business development
- Participation in the call for the <u>Madrid City Council</u> <u>awards</u> for academic and research works on healthy and sustainable food

# 

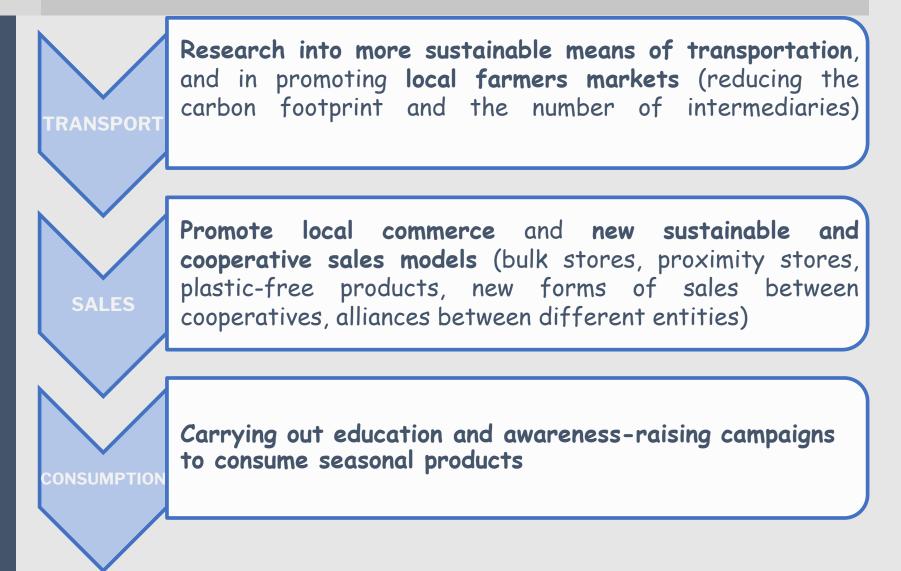
PROCESSING

STORAGE

**Research to achieve triple-bottom-line sustainability.** The highest possible **production**, with viable **economic benefits** and the lowest possible **environmental impact** 

Research into the best techniques and processes to transform fresh products into food in a sustainable way

Research to improve techniques and processes for the use of more environmental and friendly packaging and wrapping



#### Teaching and research

- Academic curricula with cross-cutting subjects in all degree courses that address issues about environment, gender equality, sustainability, social inclusion...
- A module dedicated exclusively to sustainable and healthy food
- Complementary expert courses, seminars, congresses
- Alternative learning environments as university orchards
- Promoting <u>transdisciplinary</u> research projects and entrepreneurship in sustainable food systems

### At the UCM Courses

#### AGROECOLOGY AND ECOSOCIAL EDUCATION

MÉTODO BIOINTENSIVO DE CULTIVO DE ALIMENTOS 2020-2021 "Aprende a cultivar tus propios alimentos ecológicos en una pequeña huerta sustentable" Certificado de Formación Continua UCM



#### Teórico-práctico 30h HuertAula Comunitaria de Agroecología "Cantarranas"

Octubre 2020 del 16 al 25 de actubre 2020 Viernes 16 de 15h a 20 h Sesión inaugural: Salón de Actos de la Facultad de Veterinaria UCM Sábado 17 de 9 h a 20 h Agroecologia "Cantarranas" UCM Domingo 25 de 9 h a 14 h

#### Abril 2021 del 9 al 18 de abril 2021

 
 Viernes 9 de 15h a 20 h
 Sesión inaugural: Salón de Actos de la Facultad de Veterinaria UCM

 Sábado 10
 de 9 h a 20 h
 Resto de sesiones: HuertAula Comunitaria de Sábado 17
 de 9 h a 20 h
 Agroecología "Cantarranas" UCM

 Domingo 18 de 9 h a 14 h

 Agroecología "Cantarranas" UCM
 Designa 14 h

2 ECTS (UCM) y 1 ECTS (UPM)



THE EDUCATIONAL DIMENSION IN HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE AND FAIR NUTRITION

#### FOOD SOVEREIGNTY



**APUNTATE!** 

C Million 🔂 ideas

LA DIMENSIÓN EDUCATIVA EN LA Alimentación Saludable, Sostenible y Justa

man COMPLETENSE

Facultad de Educación Universidad Complutense de Madrid 17, 18, 24 y 25 de marzo y 1 de abri

> Curso con reconocimiento de 1 ECI alimentalauniversidad o

At the UCM Awareness programmes (complementary to the formal university education)



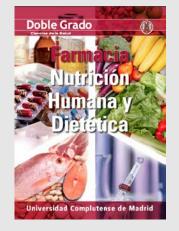
Student movements for their commitment to sustainable food THE GREAT NIGHT OF SCIENCE healthy, sustainable and face-to-face





The orchard HuertoAula de Cantarranas: Soil Test Station of the GROW BIOINTENSIVE method as part of a project by Ecology Action (15 countries, 4 years)

#### At the UCM Formal education: undergraduate and master degrees in this field









NUTRICIÓN HUMANA Y DIETÉTICA APLICADA



Comercio

### At the UCM

Research projects, teaching innovation projects, undergraduate's degree theses, master's degree theses, doctoral theses, scientific publications of impact and dissemination...(<u>https://eprints.ucm.es/</u>)

### Research Teams:

- Nutritional value of individuals and collectives
   <u>Methodology and applications</u>
- idiJutrición

- Nutrition on the net
- Natural food preservatives



Aplicación de la tecnología a alimentos.

### At the UCM Sustainable food policies



- Since 2020, no single-use plastic
  - Sustainable nutrition  $\rightarrow$  more food less waste!





noubar la reducción del desperdici de alimentos en las comidas diarias de alumnos/as y personal de la Universidad a través de la sensibilización mediante carteles en las cafeterías y conferencias, entre otras acciones

Estudiar la posibilidad de recuperació de los alimentos aptos para el consumo en cafeterías, colegios nayores e instalaciones deportivas u entrega a comedores sociales

Difusión de euías para reducir el lespilfarro en hogares y restaurant distintos tamaños para las raciones,

Nuevos pliegos de cláusulas técnicas de los concursos de restauración, para que las cafeterias universitarias se involucren en la reducción del despilfarro

Fragmentación de precios y creación de



Complutense carer : Sustainable diets must protect biodiversity and ecosystems, be culturally acceptable, economically fair, accessible, affordable, nutritionally adequate, safe and healthy

# 3 How can universities support policies and collaboration among different stakeholders?

Universities can support policy and promote collaboration on the sustainability of food systems through:

- Institutional policies, innovation projects, awareness-raising and training programs, with agreements and alliances with public and private entities
- Promoting competitions, awards and encouraging innovative entrepreneurship
- All these initiatives should be addressed with the national and European policies in mind

# 3 How can universities support policies and collaboration among different stakeholders?

### KEY POINTS

- Create a specific and funded unit or department for the university sustainability with specialists to coordinate the different dimensions involved, such as sustainable food systems
- Create a **budget line for research in this area** and for development cooperation projects

# 3 How can universities support policies and collaboration among different stakeholders?

### Through New "Formal" Education

- Innovation-based education
- Project-based education
- Training for sustainability practitioners and small-scale entrepreneurs
- Through Management and Governance
- Social leadership through alliances
- Raising funds from funders and public-private projects
- Patronage of university R&D&I through transfer of knowledge

# Thank you for your attention!

Alejandro Rescia: <u>alejo296@ucm.es</u> FOR MORE INFORMATION: <u>WWW.UCM.ES</u> <u>WWW.UCM.ES/SOSTENIBILIDAD</u>