

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> GPP NETWORK MEETING** Lisbon – 13 February 2019



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#### **GPP IN ITALIAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS**





## How are data on GPP collected by Legambiente?



Ecosistema Urbano Municipal Survey

Ecosistema Scuola Municipal Survey

School canteens' GPP Survey

The different clusters of data we analyze every year

#### **Ecosistema Urbano**

Ecosistema Urbano is a **national survey** we send to all main Italian cities and towns (roughly 110) focusing on all aspect of urban environmental policies. We've got to the 19° edition of this survey.

The data we collect are self-certified, nonetheless they are official as they are formally issued by institutions. The target are municipalities and among the sets of questions we send them there is a whole section dedicated to primary, elementary and middle schools. Questions about these schools make up the **Ecosistema scuola** national report.

In this set of questions there are specific questions related to canteens , which we have taken out and transformed in a small report, **one of a kind in Italy**.

# Figures from ecosistema scuola 2018 (year 2017)

# **Ecosistema Scuola Figures related to main Italian towns ONLY**

LEGAMBIENTE

- 1. School buildings concerned **5725**
- Students concerned:
  1.192.697
- 3. 90 municipalities send back the form



#### schools with canteens





#### Southern areas of the country lack infrastructures





#### Schools adopting GPP criteria when purchasing





quite even around the country





#### (at least some) Organic food is present in the menu





#### quite even around the country





#### 100% organic school canteens





#### Share of the organic products in the menu





#### of menu contain some (local?) typical product





#### share of the typical products in the menu (+0,2%)





seasonal products criteria are taken into consideration (+9%)





#### quite even around the country (+9%)











again surprisingly even throughout the country



# Non-food GPP figures



Cantinees only serving tap water (-18,4%)





#### troublesome in some areas of the country





canteens with food waste policies (leftovers to charities) (-1,4%)





canteens with cultural/religious options in the menu +3,7%





canteens using single-use tableware (+7,4%)





very popular solution in the southern part of Italy





Share of **PLASTIC** single-use tableware





Schools with Public Trasport or Schoolbus available





a big problem everywhere





Canteens with acoustic noise prevention





Schools accessible with walk-to-school programs



### Evolution

...... ....

#### **100% organic canteens**



#### Share of organic products in the menu


### **Only-tap-water canteens**



# Conclusions

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### No achievement to be taken for granted

At first look, the positive trends we witnessed in the early '10s years are not always confirmed. Further analysis is needed to find out if this is due to a worse economical situation, to a change in policies or to cultural factors.

### **Change is too slow**

It is worth stressing that in the last 3 yrs many indicators, mostly food-related, seem to be growing too slowly or even decreasing.

It seems there has not been a general cultural take off ot these topics.

### Serious regional differences

Though every part of the country is leading the way on at least one indicator, unfortunately it is very evidente a remarkable difference between the centre-northern regions, on one side, and the southern areas (especially Sicily) on the other side.

### Serious regional differences

Traditionally, southern regions have a much smaller amount of schools with canteens, due to a variety of reasons (unemployment rate, lower per capita income, worse organization capacity by public authorities, among others).

### Still too much bottled water on the tables

Despite the remarkable savings that it brings, the use of tap water instead of bottled water seriously steps back. This must be investigated but might be the result of some cases of mismanagement of the aqueduct that lead to hysteria in certain areas of the country.

Sei in: TOSCANA > IL COMUNE PREFERISCE L'ACQUA...

#### Il Comune preferisce l'acqua pubblica: i genitori comprano a turno le bottigliette

Prato e provincia, il capoluogo impone alla ditta che gestisce la mensa scolastica di portare in tavola le caraffe di **Maria Lardara** 





TOP VIDEO

Livorno, barca a vela Viarega finisce contro gli scogli magaz della Meloria l'arte di



Autovelox di San Livorno Pierino, la rabbia dei rapinati multati: 'Quel limite ... momer

#### ASTE GIUDIZIARIE



In Prato parents refuse tap water at school and tip in to buy plastic bottled water for their children

### Plastic-free still just a slogan

Despite all policies being developed for Circular Economy it is unbelievably clear that there has been a return to single use plastics tableware: though only 30% of them are made from oil this marks a bad signal for waste prevention\*.

\*It should be noted, though, that organic waste from canteens in most part of Italy is separately collected and composted in industrial composting sites where these plastics are reduced to compost

### Difficulties

- 1. Not all municipalities wrote back. Some don't have the time, others don't feel the obligation to. The national ranking (naming and shaming) is not always a sufficient motivation.
- 2. Some criteria are inevitably vague (i.e. the amount of typical food in the meal doesn't say anything about its quality and the type of food purchased)
- 3. we don't have feedbacks on the reasons why some schools do not apply GPP criteria. These reasons can be linked to circumstances beyond the school management's control.

Further actions and remarks



We're sending out a survey to all **secondary schools** (14-18) in order to investigate GPP in this sector, who is managed mostly by provinces.

These schools rarely have canteens but they all rely on some sort of catering service for breaks (an internal bar, eventually)

They all have vending machines, highly popular among the students

Coffee and tea are two major commodities to be investigated in these schools.

### Parks and natural areas

We're also sending out a survey on GPP to **National Parks** and the main regional ones.

We suspect that, despite being a on the spotlight for nature preservation, they might be among the public bodies that have adopted GPP the least as of today.

## **National GPP report & trainings**

We will be presenting a national report on GPP (again, the excerpt from our national survey on environmental performances of IT bigger towns) in October 2019 at fiera Compraverde, organized by Fondazione Ecosistemi in Rome.

Food will be likely to be separated from the other topic and have a dedicated communication.

We are currently organizing three different trainings (north/centre/south) for public officers and companies on compulsory GPP criteria already in place.





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