# Innovative Public Organic Food Procurement for Youth (iPOPY)





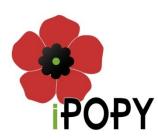
innovative Public Organic food Procurement for Youth

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Anne-Kristin Løes anne-kristin.loes@bioforsk.no

## The iPOPY project



<u>Main goal</u>: To study how increased consumption of <u>organic</u> food may be achieved by the implementation of <u>strategies</u> and instruments used for <u>public</u> procurement of organic food in serving outlets for <u>young</u> people.

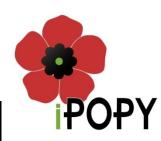
**Activities:** In five WPs, the project studied:

- •Policies and strategies to increase organic consumption, e.g. in schools
- Supply chain management
- Procedures for certification of serving outlets
- Stakeholders' perceptions and participation
- •The potential of organic food in relation to health and obesity risks

<u>Frame:</u> CORE Organic I project funded by Denmark, Finland, Italy and Norway. Duration 2007-2010.

# Organic for the youth - Why school meals?

- iPOPY was about public procurement
- Schools are the most important public service for youth
- School days increase in length
- Young people need healthy, high quality food
- Introduction, or change of school meal systems is a "window of opportunity" to increase organic consumption







#### Main results 1



Packed lunch brought from home



Dagens 3 prett 3 prett ...

Complete meal served at school

## Large variation between school food systems

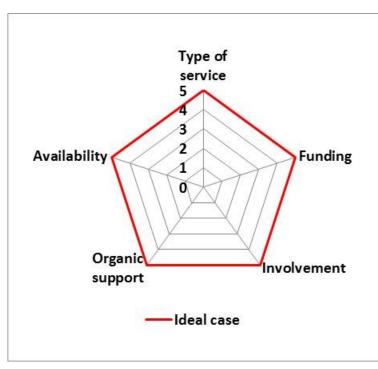
How to analyze them?

# Five factors describing the variations in school meal systems



- Type of school food service any food offered in school?
- Degree of public financing. User payment?
- Degree of political and administrative involvement in school food procurement in general
- Degree of specific support for organic school food, e.g. regulations
- Availability of organic food supply adapted to school food service

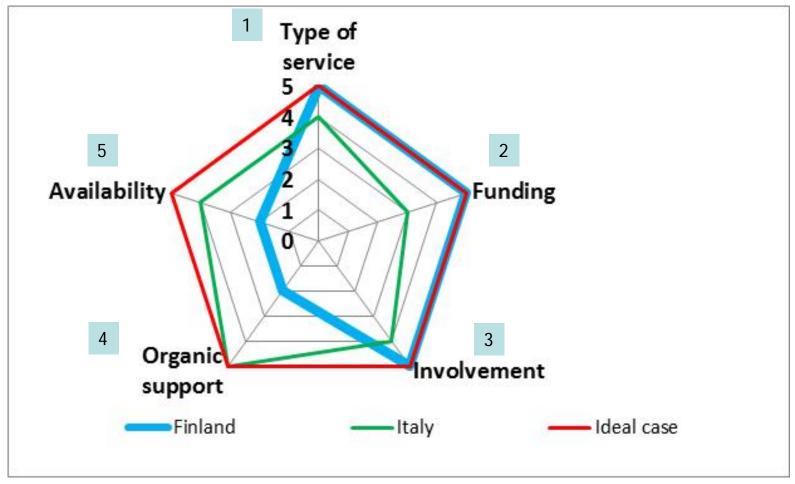
Ideal case, maximising organic consumption: Complete meal, paid by the public, strong public involvement in school meals, good support for organic school food and a well developed organic school food supply (5,5,5,5,5)



Web diagram for comparison, scores 1-5

### Two examples: Finland and Italy





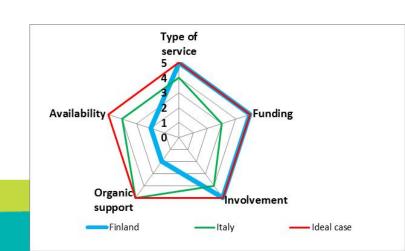
Finland: Scores 5,5,5,2,2

Italy: Scores 4,3,4,5,4

#### **Finland**



- Complete, warm meals, served daily for all pupils up to 18 years, paid by the public, nutritionally calculated, well integrated in the school culture
- «Help yourself» system, eating together in large dining halls
- Low share of organic products (about 3 % in 2010), but public aims of sustainable public procurement (2/week by 2015).
  Sustainable defined as organic, vegetarian or seasonal
- High potential for a large organic consumption in schools in future



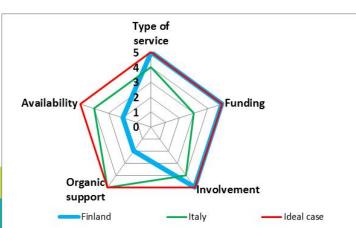
### Italy



- Complete, warm meals, served for pupils up to 13 years on full school days
- Public support for infrastructure, but high user payment
- Pupils normally served at the table to learn good manners
- High share of organic products (about 40 % by weight), due to public regulations prioritizing certified food in school meals

 Design of calls for tenders are crucial to achieve large shares of organic food

Organicness should be communicated!



#### Main results 2



#### Multiple embedding is required

- The more formalized, politically prioritized and economically supported the school food systems are, the more embedded the systems will be in terms of pupils' participation, infrastructures such as canteen facilities etc.
- On the other hand, top-down regulated systems may lose the civil embeddedness, and the pupils and parents may feel decoupled from the decisions.
- In public catering contexts, there are caterers who make initiatives to use organic and local food, expressing a professional identity for sustainability. These caterers exert a social force for sustainability. They need support in terms of learning about the supply chains, and understanding more in-depth the role of organic agriculture in their professional work.
- Lack of regulatory embeddedness gives the school food systems being tried/developed a hard time to survive due to weak structures and lack of canteen facilities, economic support etc. However, the involvement of the civil actors may be stronger in such cases, possibly due to this lack of regulatory embeddedness



Kristensen et al., 2010 CORE Organic Project Series Report (Biofach); Mikkola 2009 (Apetite, Agronomy Research)

### Remaining main results



40% organic school food in Italy due to public demand

<u>Catering certification: Survey showed</u> <u>stakeholders call for harmonization</u>

Organic food and farming well suited to discuss and experience sustainability in practice

Organic school policy promotes healthy eating: Schools with a healthy food policy also support organic food





### Main end users, and how to reach them?



Interdisciplinary approach (food antropologysociology- nutrition-agronomy)

#### Main end users:

- People involved in decisions about school meals and public procurement of food
- People active along the whole supply chain linked to the food serving
- Politicians and other stakeholders We established national user groups



and issued a regular newsletter in English, editor at Bioforsk

TPY onen seminar at RioFach

"If a country doesn't its children, it doesn't deserve to be called

#### Newsletter

innovative Public Organic food Procurement for Youth

All articles are written by Mia Brandhaj, Researchgroup of Nutrition & Sustainability in Novel Foodscapes, Aalborg University, Denmark

Novel strategies for Climate Mitigation, Sustainability and Healthy eating in Public Foodscapes

The uscoming IPOPY conference will be an exciting chance to gain insight in the opportu nities for radicalising traditional approaches to design public foodscapes.

The conference is focusing on how professional decision makers, public planners and politicians, through an interdisciplinary approach, can impact climate, health and sustainability through strategies in large scale food environments, and how organi food supply can be integrated.

tice/case stories and policy A broad representation from different coun

tries is prioritized in the program. Experiences and knowledge from outside the four iPOPY countries is also relevant and re-

he conference is running from the 25th-26th at the Copenhagen Institute of Technology in

conference field trip in the region of Copen-

AALBORG UNIVERSITY HDEplan 220 dk



visited. The field trip includes lunch and de-

with a good chance to have an oral presents tion. Especially research and policy papers and presentations are requested at the

The conference is organized by the research group of Nutrition & Sustainability in Novel Foodscapes at Aalborg University, managed

of papers, registration and more at the con ference website www.foodprint.aau.dk - or by contacting the organizing team at

#### Main end users, and how to reach them?

- We arranged several workshops and conferences
- Linked to the Organic World Congress Modena 2008
- Linked to Biofach Germany 2008, 2009, 2010.
- Arranged in each partner country; Helsinki 2009, Copenhagen 2009, Bologna 2010, Oslo 2010
- Proceedings published in the CORE Organic Project Series Report (except for Oslo 2010)



#### Main end users, and how to reach them?

- We presented (and still present) our results in scientific conferences and journals
- We published 15 scientific reports in the Bioforsk series, 3 in the CORE Organic series and 2 in other series
- We published a leaflet with practical recommendations in English and Italian
- We cooperated with "International Innovation" and paid for a 3 page paper written by professional journalists
- We updated our website
- We wrote a comprehensive final report =)

- We uploaded all our delive rables into Organic Eprints







Bioforsk Report Vol. 5 No. 104/2010 iPOPY discussion paper 3/2010

Creating centres for sustainable

Finnish national report of innovative Public Organic food Procurement for Youth (iPOPY) 2007-2010 research project





Forme innovative di Approvvigionamento Pubblico dei prodotti Biologici per i giovani innovative Public Organic food Procurement for Youth iPOPY



#### Risultati e raccomandazioni

con particolare riguardo alla ristorazione scolastica

Definizione di Approvvigiolatti Bialagici (APB) per i

'APB per i giovani include tutte le attività richieste per rtegrare i prodotti biologici nell'offert<mark>a alimentare – a</mark> titolo gratuito o oneroso – in ntesti collettivi costituiti da ambini o ragazzi fino a 25 nni. L'APB trova il suo ruolo ioni come case di snoso osnedali caserme i prodotti biologici utilizzati sono conformi al regolamento europeo vigente in materia.

#### Aumentare il consumo di cibi biologici attraverso l'approvvigionamento pubblico

Il progetto di ricerca iPDPY ha studiato come aumentare il consumo di cibi biologici attraverso strategie e strumenti legati ai servizi di ristorazione destinati ai giovani. iPOPY ha analizzato i seguenti aspetti legati all'approvvigionamento pubblico di cibi biologici (APB) per i giovani in Italia, Danimarca, Finlandia, Norvegia, e in parte, in Germania: messa in atto di politiche, organi zazione di filiera, ruolo della certificazione, percezione e partecipazione dei consumatori al sistema della ristorazione, impatti sulla salute legati all'utilizzo di cibi biologici. Tale ricerca interdisciplinare verte sul biologico nella ristorazione scolastica, che rappresenta il più importante canale di alimentazione per i giovani, inoltre sono stati considerati nello studio anche festival musicali, caserme militari e congregazioni religiose.

Questo documento, indirizzato a coloro che si interfacciano sia con le ricerche scientifiche che con gli aspetti tecnologici, presenta risultati e raccomandazioni del progetto a soggetti specifici,



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For Thought

# In which countries can your results be used, and how?

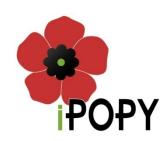
- The variation between countries with respect to school meals was large in the project, and covers most of the total variation in Europe
- Hence the results are relevant for most other countries
- Countries with comparable conditions may identify, and like to see answers to, more specific research questions; iPOPY results are more general
- Results may be used to inspire stakeholders and guide them about how to increase the consumption of organic food among young people in a public setting







### New research questions?





 Interesting to utilise iPOPY results and experiences to study more/other countries, and other serving areas than school meals, such as festivals, youth organisations, army camps, kindergartens, high schools and universities, where we only analysed a few cases



Thanks to the iPOPY research team here in Copenhagen, Denmark, Nov. 2009 8 participating institutes/universities in 5 countries (DK, DI, IT, NO, DE)