



FOODLEVERS

Learning from Innovation in organic & sustainable food systems



📍 Frankfurt am Main
Germany

>> DIE KOOPERATIVE

The German Case Study

Farm type

Community supported cooperative,
organic farming, city farming

Existence

operating since 2018



Swipe to find out more!

This work was financially supported by the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) through the Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE), grant number 2820ERA15B. The editor acknowledges the financial support for this project provided by transnational funding bodies, partners of the H2020 ERA-NETs SUSFOOD2 and CORE Organic Cofund, under the Joint SUSFOOD2/CORE Organic Call 2019.

Gefördert durch:



aufgrund eines Beschlusses
des Deutschen Bundestages



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Farm size

6.3 ha (0.3 ha glasshouse cultivation | 2 ha for chicken mobiles | 3 ha outdoor vegetable cultivation | 1 ha orchards)

Cooperative's Members

750 Members | 650 crop shares

Staff 24 & many more helping member hands and supporters



Values & Goals

Independent food supply | Strengthening small regional businesses | Economic sovereignty | Community building | Knowledge transfer | Less food waste | Environmental protection



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Main activities City farming | Production & Provision of sustainable, regional and fair food (with cooperation partners) | Governance of cooperation network | Organization of produce distribution | Management & Administration

Products

City farm: Vegetables, Fruits, Eggs
Cooperation farms: Vegetables, Fruits, Meat
Other cooperation partners: Honey, Juice, Bread, Noodles, chicken meat



Other activities Workshops (e.g. on Beekeeping, Juicing) | City farm tours | Providing facilities for community action (e.g. community kitchen, parties) | Plans for second core business: education & community building to connect urban people to agricultural food production



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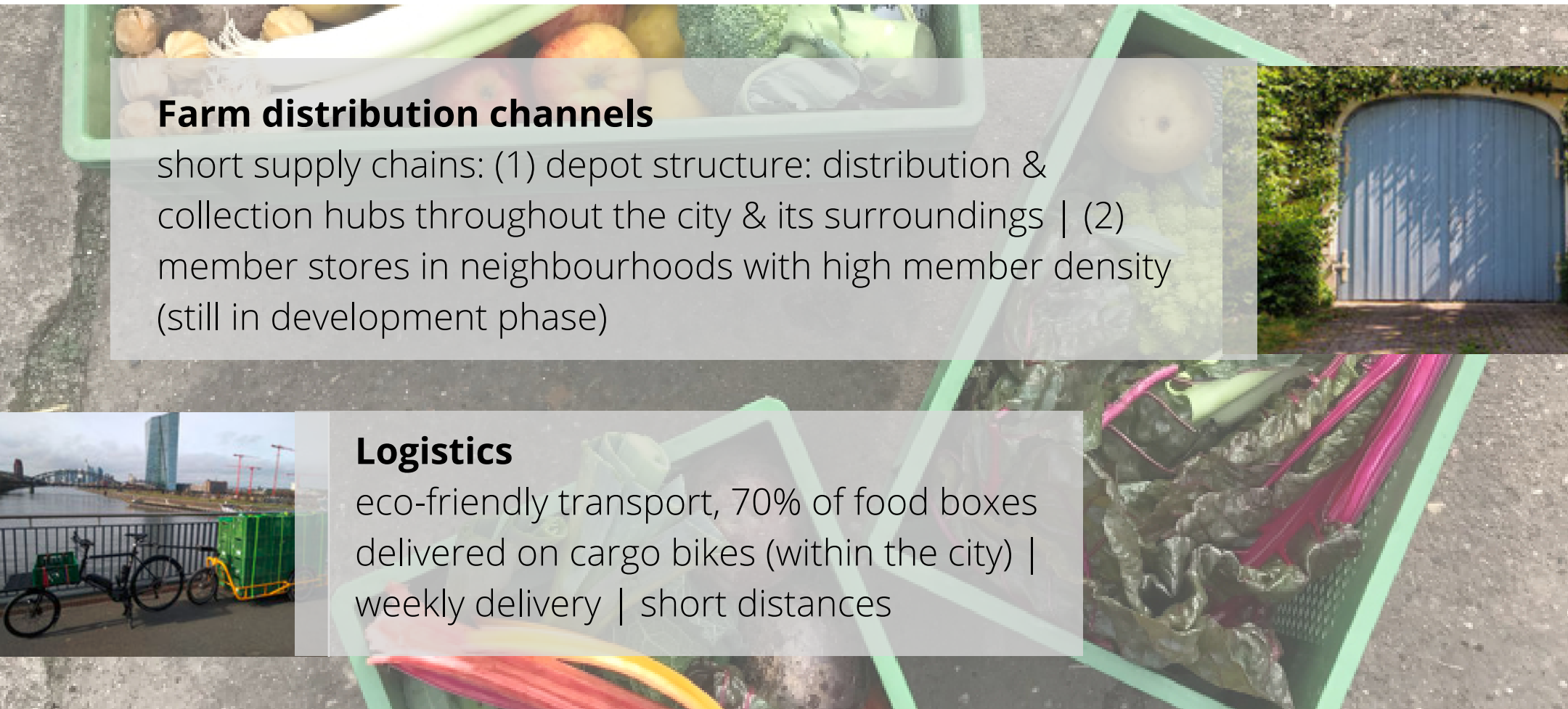
The German Case Study

Farm distribution channels

short supply chains: (1) depot structure: distribution & collection hubs throughout the city & its surroundings | (2) member stores in neighbourhoods with high member density (still in development phase)

Logistics

eco-friendly transport, 70% of food boxes delivered on cargo bikes (within the city) | weekly delivery | short distances





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Particularities

DIE KOOPERATIVE

Common

Community Supported
Agriculture (CSA)



... distinguishes itself by its legal form of being a cooperative.

CSA-approach: one farm
feeds an associated
consumer group



... bundles the produce of a regional
cooperation network of farms providing food for
its members.

Growth and profit
orientation



... limits its member size to an optimum where
the generated turnover is enough to cover costs,
to make reinvestments and to pay above-
average wages.

Financial
CSA-mechanism:
bidding rounds



... started with fixed prices for the crop shares
to avoid financial risks. Now as its financial
situation is stable, the cooperative's price
mechanism is ideologically fine-tuned, together
with their members, of course!



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SILAS & CHRISTOPH
(Board members & Founders)



“The potential is huge, the idea is big and we are part of the solution for the future. That gives me the feeling every morning that I am directly involved in shaping change. All this together with people who are very motivated, constructive, open and sympathetic.”

SILAS

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