FOOD AND AGRICULTURE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

By The Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future

Working at the Intersection of Food and Agriculture Policy, Public Health and the Environment

JOHNS HOPKINS
CENTER *for* A LIVABLE FUTURE

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed herein are our own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Johns Hopkins University.


POPULATION GROWTH
CLIMATE DISRUPTION
LACK OF EQUITY
RESOURCE DEPLETION
PUBLIC HEALTH
ECOSYSTEM
DIET
FOOD PRODUCTION

Working at the Intersection of Food and Agriculture Policy, Public Health and the Environment

As an interdisciplinary academic center based within the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, the Center conducts a range of research, policy, communication, education, and advocacy activities that increase scientific understanding, raise awareness, and promote action on issues such as eliminating the non-therapeutic use of antibiotics in food animal production, reducing the environmental degradation caused by industrial agriculture, reducing food waste, assisting institutions seeking a more sustainable food supply, and building the capacity of communities of practice to reshape the food system.

Recognizing the multi-faceted nature of food system problems, the Center draws upon expertise from disciplines throughout Johns Hopkins University and beyond, building University-wide bridges and establishing collaborative relationships with organizations in public and private sectors and across communities.

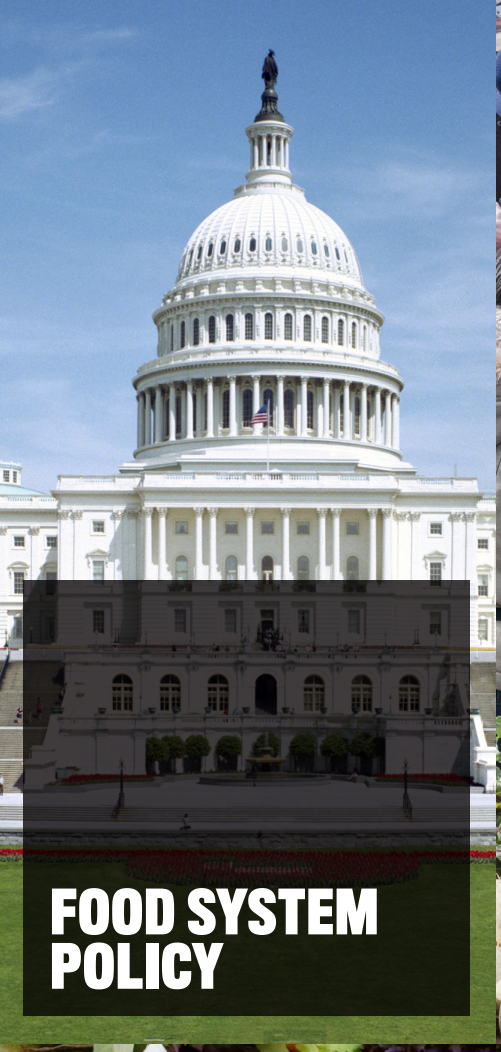
The Center is an active leader in the efforts to create a food system that is more healthy, just and sustainable, and pursues its mission in the following ways:

- Supporting and conducting interdisciplinary research through collaboration with experts in a variety of fields
- Educating and training students, professionals, and the public through doctoral fellowships, graduate coursework and certificate programs, a textbook in food systems, and open-access online curricula
- Communicating food system and public health expertise to a wide range of audiences, including policymakers, nongovernmental organizations, educators, and students
- Generating resource materials, translating science, and providing technical expertise for policy, advocacy, and outreach initiatives
- Partnering with organizations that complement the Center's and University's resources and expertise in order to improve our food system overall and strengthen capacities to advance change at the local and regional levels

The Center's four core program areas and cross-cutting education program integrate research, policy, education, communication and a range of public health program activities that support the Center's mission, each with a unique focus on a particular aspect of the food system and its impact on public health.

Below is an overview of program areas and highlighted projects, followed by our Center's policy recommendations on key food systems issues for the Trump administration and the 115th Congress.

We are here to serve as a resource to the new administration, members of Congress, and agency staff on issues related to food systems, public health, and the environment. For more information on the Center or guidance on these issues, please contact Bob Martin, Director of Food System Policy, at rmarti57@jhu.edu or at (410) 502-7578.



FOOD SYSTEM POLICY

FOOD COMMUNITIES AND PUBLIC HEALTH

FOOD SYSTEM EDUCATION

FOOD SYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

FOOD PRODUCTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

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Food System Policy

The Center's Food System Policy program includes a diverse portfolio of projects and activities that aim to advance federal, state and local agriculture and food policies to protect the public's health and the environment by supporting a healthy, equitable, and sustainable food system. Harnessing available expertise across the Center and throughout Johns Hopkins University, the program builds upon the many comparative advantages of the University to conduct interdisciplinary research, translate science to support policy efforts, convene key food system stakeholders, and engage advocates and policymakers at all levels.

In addition to implementing a range of projects initiated by the Food System Policy program, program staff also advise and oversee policy work initiated by other CLF program areas. By providing direct support and in-house policy expertise for program priorities, the program creates synergy on the Center's policy priorities and helps strengthen capacity for Center-wide policy engagement.

Recent projects in the policy program include: the Food Citizen Project, an ongoing research initiative to assess public opinion on various food system issues; a report on the health impacts of food production and processing on immigrant food system workers and their families; engagement with and research support for communities facing intensification of food animal production in their geographic areas; and various efforts around procurement to encourage reduced meat consumption

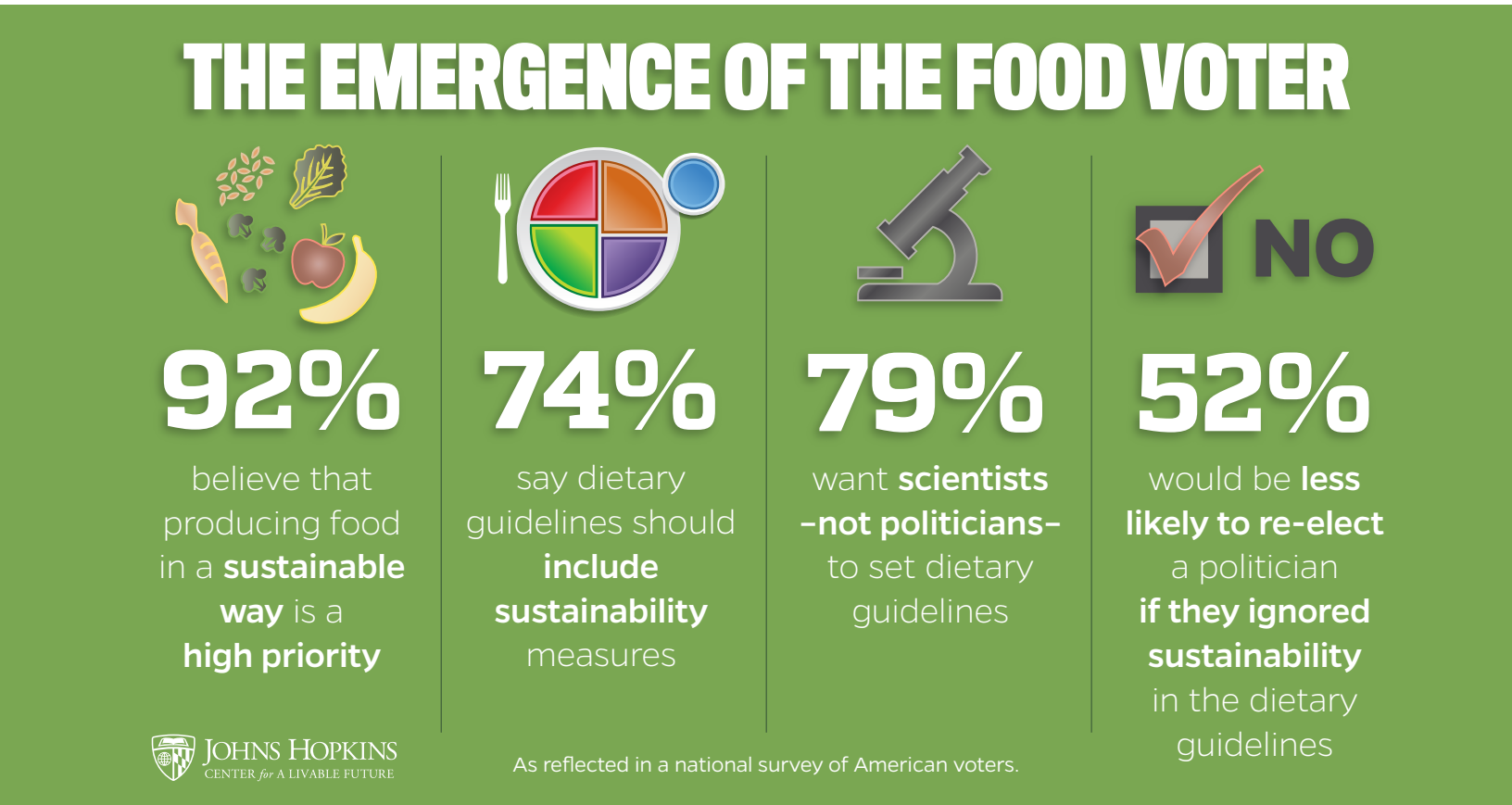
and the procurement of food that is sustainably produced and healthy for consumers, food system workers, food animals, and local economies.

Program Highlight:

Food Citizen Project

The Food Citizen Project is an ongoing public opinion research project that gathers public perceptions and attitudes on food system issues. It utilizes a variety of information-gathering methods, including focus groups and scientific polling, and works at a range of levels and scales regarding geographic area and scope. Results from focus groups and polling are communicated to the public, to policymakers at all levels, and to civil society groups working on related issues. To bring about change and move toward a healthy, equitable and more ecologically sustainable food system, it is essential that we understand what people know about the food system and how they perceive key issues, such as:

- How can we best address public health and environmental concerns surrounding food production?
- Which aspects of a more equitable system do people consider to be most important?
- What is the level of willingness to pay more for sustainably produced foods?



- What are the public perceptions about the benefits of our current food system versus a more sustainable system?

As attention to, and work on, food system change is growing, with more non-governmental organizations working on these issues each year, the Food Citizen Project will provide information to groups working in this area in order to inform and strengthen efforts. A deeper understanding of public opinions and interests regarding the food system is also needed to inform policymakers and the media on these important issues, independent of lobbying interests. The value of the Food Citizen Project will be enhanced over time. As data are collected and analyzed, trends can be identified and our understanding of perceptions about food production, consumption, and other food issues will increase.

Program Highlight:

Antibiotic Use Policy

The Food System Policy and the Food Production and Public Health programs have leveraged research conducted by the Center and others on the misuse of antibiotics in food animal production and have provided guidance to state and federal policymakers, national security staff, food service management companies, and food retail companies on this issue. The Center was the first to investigate the percentage of antibiotics that are sold or distributed for use in food animals—nearly 80% of all antibiotics in 2009—and has continued to inform advocacy groups working on antibiotics issues with its analysis of federal guidance (such as Guidance for Industry #213) and scientific research linking antibiotic use in feeding operations to antibiotic resistance in human infections.

The Food System Policy program has also directly advised state legislators on proposed antibiotics legislation, commented on several proposed rules and guidance related to antibiotics in animal agriculture, and conducted a review of the antibiotics commitments and guidance made by food animal integrators, food retail companies, and federal agencies in order to inform and advise on antibiotic use policies for food service management companies.

Food Communities and Public Health

The Center's Food Communities and Public Health program focuses on developing relationships with communities to improve food environments, increase access to healthy food, and inform food and nutrition policy. By working with professional, community-based, governmental and academic communities, the program implements projects and activities that build and strengthen capacity to address key opportunities to create a healthy and sustainable food system that is equitable for all.

The program provides technical assistance and leadership support by developing metrics and evaluation tools to measure the impact of changes, translating scientific research findings into practical policy recommendations, evaluating food system interventions to provide evidence for policy and program decisions, and convening stakeholders at the state, local, and regional levels to advocate for reform on leading food system issues. The program uses scientific evidence to guide its technical assistance and leadership support in efforts to increase community food security, promote environmental stewardship, and strengthen networks among local and regional food, nutrition, and agriculture organizations.

The Food Communities and Public Health program's current activities include the Food System Mapping project, the Food Policy Networks project, and technical assistance for Meatless Monday, a national program based in New York that encourages reducing meat consumption. Each applies a different approach to help communities improve the current food system, ranging from spatial

mapping of the food system to using the Food Policy Evaluation Toolkit to measure the impact of food policy groups.

Program Highlight:

Food Policy Networks Project

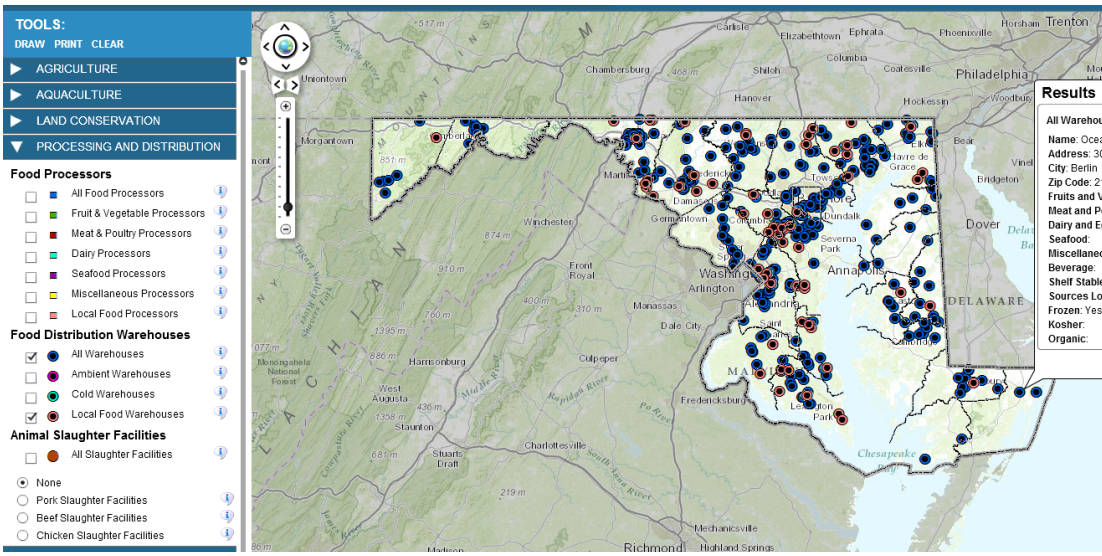
In 2013, the Center launched the Food Policy Networks (FPN) project to improve the health, sustainability, and social and economic resilience of communities by enabling citizens and stakeholder groups to shape their food systems through public policy. FPN works with existing food policy councils (FPCs), national organizations, and other interested groups to support the development of food policy at the federal, state and local levels. FPN applies a broad definition of food policy, including administrative, regulatory and legislative decisions made by government at all levels, businesses, and organizations that affect any element of the food system. It may manifest as state laws, city ordinances, government agency regulations or business statements.

The number of local and state multi-stakeholder coalitions working collaboratively on food and farm policy in the U.S. has grown rapidly, from a little over 30 to around 215 in the past decade. By bringing together stakeholders working in different sectors of the food system, each FPC reflects the context of the geographic area in which they operate. FPN works to facilitate opportunities for local, state, and tribal food policy entities to exchange information and resources, increase the capacity of professional and national associations to influence the food policy environment, and serve as a hub where materials for effective food policymaking are collected, evaluated, and disseminated.

Program Highlight:

Food System Mapping Project

The Food System Mapping Project, currently focusing on Maryland, facilitates the creation of effective food system initiatives and policy solutions by providing publicly accessible data, mapping tools, and technical assistance to food system stakeholders. These resources build stakeholder capacity to make accurate assessments and informed decisions and effectively evaluate their work. Using a GIS platform, the online food system mapping tool and extensive database allow users to learn about and examine the landscape of Maryland's food system from farm to plate. The tool is an interactive resource for public health, nutrition, and agriculture communities who are working to strengthen local food systems by improving farm viability, increasing access to healthy food, and addressing health disparities. Users can create their own maps and download datasets for further analyses.



The mapping team currently provides one-on-one technical assistance for numerous organizations in and around Maryland. Most notably, project staff worked with the Baltimore City Food Policy Initiative to assess the Baltimore City food environment, which led to the development of a city-approved food environment map and report. City officials have used the findings and materials to advance a supermarket tax incentive policy for Baltimore City and to develop a multi-sector food desert retail strategy. In addition, the Baltimore City food policy director successfully advocated at the federal level for the Department of Health and Human Services Healthy Food Financing Initiative Request for Proposals to include city-approved food desert maps that may not fall within the federal food desert definition.

Program Highlight:

Meatless Monday Technical Support

Meatless Monday is a public health campaign that encourages people to choose meat-free meals one day each week as a way to help improve their personal health and the health of the planet. A non-profit initiative of The Monday Campaigns, Meatless Monday began in 2003 in association with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The Campaign continues to expand and enjoy broad-based support among individuals, celebrities, restaurants, schools, corporations, hospitals and media outlets in the U.S. and internationally. The Center harnesses expertise to strengthen the scientific foundation of the Meatless Monday campaign and offers technical assistance that involves a range of research, science translation and communication, education, and outreach activities

Food System Education

The Center's education program engages students of all ages and provides information on the complexity of our global food system through a public health lens. The program harnesses a diverse network of practitioners, academics, farmers and others working in the field of food systems to offer coursework and seminars, a professional training certificate, pre-doctoral fellowships, and mentorship to students and professionals focused on food systems and food production—topics not historically addressed in public health studies.

The Education program's activities include a series of graduate-level courses at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, which consistently earn awards for teaching excellence based on student evaluations, and a free, online course offered through the Johns Hopkins University partnership with Coursera, titled An Introduction to the U.S. Food System: Perspectives from Public Health, which has reached over 16,000 learners around the world. The program also operates the Food System Lab @ Cylburn, an urban teaching farm in Baltimore that provides tours and experiential educational programming to over 1,500 visitors annually. Additionally, the Center has released FoodSpan, a standards-aligned curriculum for high school students to explore the food system through activities and classroom-based discussion, and the Food System Primer, an online resource offering

short, easy-to-digest readings about topics from farm to fork.

Program Highlight:

Food System Lab @ Cylburn

The Food System Lab @ Cylburn is an urban teaching farm in Baltimore City that is operated by the Center on the grounds of the Cylburn Arboretum. The Lab offers diverse educational programs that emphasize the connections among the living components of a small-scale agro-ecosystem and offer a compelling introduction to an equitable, healthy and sustainable food system. Visitors to the Lab engage directly with a variety of food production practices, including aquaponics, a system of agriculture that combines fish farming with hydroponic plant farming. Tours and longer theme-based programs are available for middle- and high-school students, college students, and adults.

Program Highlight:

FoodSpan

FoodSpan is a free, downloadable high school curriculum that explores critical issues in the food system and empowers students to be food citizens. It is aligned to national education standards in science, social studies, health, and family and consumer sciences. This curriculum stimulates debate about crucial food system topics related to human health, the environment, equity, and animal welfare. The Center developed FoodSpan as a natural outgrowth of the work it does to help build a healthier, more equitable, and more resilient food system. The curriculum includes three units with 17 total lessons for Grades 9-12. Each lesson features an introductory warm-up, activities that facilitate a rich exploration of the lesson topic, optional activities, and lesson extensions that can serve as homework assignments or projects. A Food System Primer series also allows teachers to familiarize themselves with a lesson topic before teaching it and to provide students with introductory background reading. The FoodSpan curriculum integrates social media connections into every lesson so that students can explore, share, and discuss their ideas with others.

Food System Sustainability and Public Health

The Center's Food System Sustainability and Public Health program spurs the transition to a more sustainable, resilient, and less wasteful food system using research, practice, policy, education, and communications. The program specializes in three areas: wasted food, urban food system resilience, and sustainable diets. It also engages on a range of other food system sustainability issues, including social sustainability issues such as occupational safety and health and justice issues for food system workers. In all of these areas, this program aims to understand and address the complex social realities relevant to making change.

The program's current activities include research and policy projects to reduce the amount of food wasted in the U.S. each year, collaboration with Baltimore City as it develops one of the first urban food system resilience plans in the nation, and research on the impacts of animal agriculture and meat consumption on climate change. At the forefront of wasted food and sustainable food systems research, the program also provides technical assistance to government agencies and organizations developing policies and programs that support more sustainable food systems.

Program Highlight:

Food Waste

The Food Sustainability and Public Health program is leading multiple projects aimed at reducing the 30-40 percent of food wasted each year in the U.S. Projects address wasted food across the food system but most recently include two national surveys

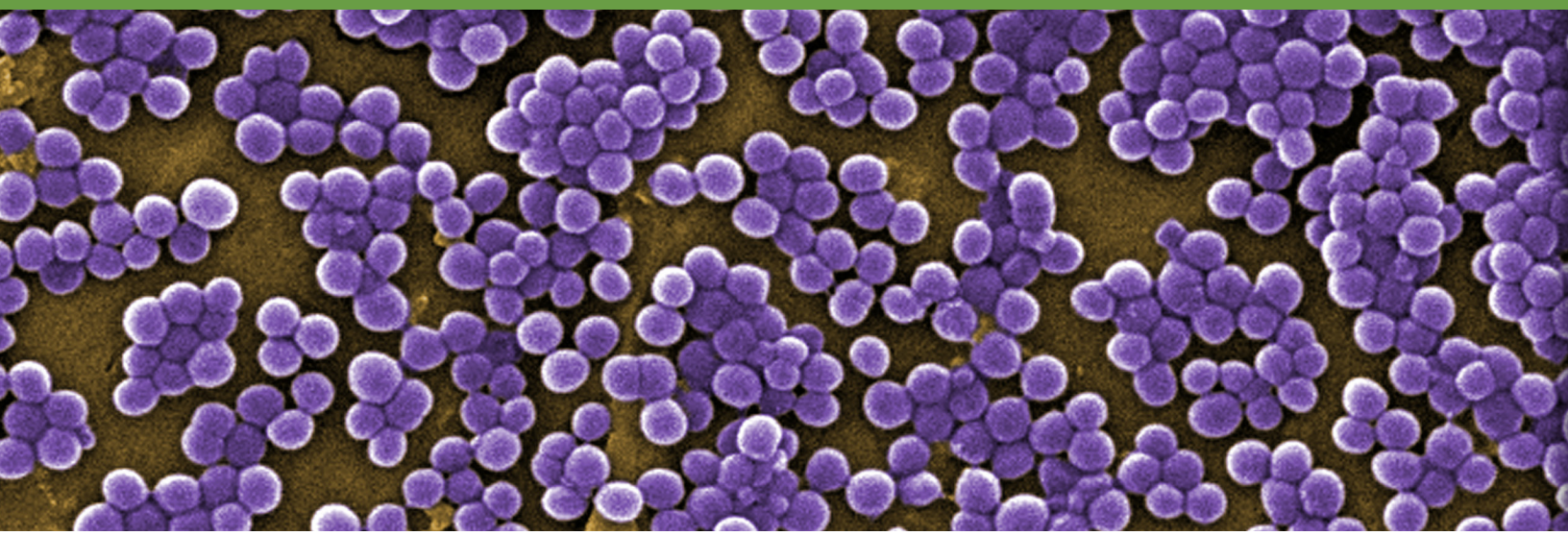
of consumers' awareness, attitudes and behaviors regarding food waste; collaboration with USDA to develop national estimates of the nutritional content of wasted food; and a policy analysis of national, state and local plans to address wasted food.

Program Highlight:

Resilience Project

The CLF's Food System Resilience Project aims to make sure that urban food systems are resilient, meaning they are strong enough to withstand and recover from crises related to climate change, population growth, and urbanization. Food system resiliency ensures that urban residents have access to a continued supply of safe, affordable food in the face of these crises.

The Center is teaming up with the Baltimore Office of Sustainability and the Baltimore Food Policy Initiative to create a plan for building a more resilient urban food system in Baltimore. Through research and discussions with community members, food retailers, farmers, and government agencies, the project will identify the vulnerabilities in Baltimore's food system and develop a plan for addressing them. The plan will: assist the Baltimore City government in prioritizing food in their emergency response; help store owners prepare for emergencies; ensure that food pantries, food banks, and other organizations have the support they need to serve Baltimore residents in need; and protect all Baltimoreans from events that disrupt the food supply. The Center plans to expand its food system resilience research and, using lessons learned in Baltimore, assist other cities develop more resilient food systems.



Food Production and Public Health

The Food Production and Public Health program focuses on the relationships among food production, the environment, and public health in order to critically analyze the hidden or externalized costs and unintended, negative effects of the industrial food production model. The program documents the impacts of industrial agriculture practices, gathers evidence to inform policymaking, and promotes more sustainable and resilient methods of food production. Current activities include investigating the risks and benefits of urban agriculture, examining the sustainability, equity and health of the seafood sector, conducting research on animal feed additives, and providing information and technical assistance to communities burdened by food animal production operations.

Program Highlight:

Public Health and Sustainable Aquaculture Project

The Public Health and Sustainable Aquaculture project conducts research, policy, and advocacy activities aimed at moving the seafood sector toward a more equitable, sustainable, and healthy seafood system, specifically by focusing on aquaculture. The project brings a unique perspective to aquaculture by applying a public health lens and knowledge of global food systems. It raises and answers new scientific and policy questions, provides context and analysis of poorly understood issues, and proposes solutions to modern aquaculture and seafood challenges.

The project has focused specifically on issues of seafood traceability and supply chains, resource use and implications for food security, genetically engineered salmon, offshore aquaculture, and other related topics. Staff have developed one of the first environmental footprint estimates for crops used in aquaculture feed; found crop-based

feeds can change the omega-3 content of farmed, carnivorous fish; estimated that 47 percent of seafood in the US seafood supply chain is wasted, mainly due to consumer behavior; provided policy recommendations to reduce waste; and identified regulatory gaps to be addressed before U.S. federal agencies move ahead with developing a marine offshore finfish aquaculture industry in the Gulf of Mexico Exclusive Economic Zone.

Program Highlight:

Industrial Food Animal Production Project

Changes in the scale, concentration and manner in which food animals are produced over the last half century are unsustainable and pose serious risks to rural communities, consumers, and environmental quality. The purpose of the Industrial Food Animal Production project is to address these ills by contributing to the state of peer-reviewed knowledge and communicating findings to policymakers and advocates, working with communities burdened by food animal production operations, and translating science for rapid dissemination to the media. Characterization of risks for the purpose of promoting public awareness will provide the needed impetus for policy change toward a more sustainable production system. This project has focused specifically on the use of veterinary drugs—including antibiotics and arsenicals—in food animal production, leading to the 2013 and 2015 bans of roxarsone and nitarsone, respectively. The project has also been involved in characterizing the impacts of large-scale animal agriculture operations on rural communities, and exploring how the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem is inextricably linked to the health of mid-Atlantic populations.

Center Recommendations for the Trump Administration and the 115th Congress

Please see Appendix A for recommendations organized by federal agency

Antibiotics

- Refine the definition of non-therapeutic use of antimicrobials as any use in food animals in the absence of veterinarian-diagnosed microbial disease or documented microbial disease exposure
- Ban the non-therapeutic use of antimicrobials in food animal production to reduce the risk of antimicrobial resistance, limiting uses to disease control and disease treatment
- Following up on data already collected under the Veterinary Feed Directive rule, support the development of a transparent and rigorously-evaluated antibiotic use reporting system, similar to those used in the European Union (e.g., Vetstat)

Antitrust Law Enforcement

- Vigorously enforce current federal antitrust laws to allow for a competitive marketplace in animal agriculture
- If the enforcement of existing antitrust laws is not effective in restoring competition, further legislative remedies should be considered, such as more transparency in price reporting and limiting the ability of integrators to control the supply of animals for slaughter

Aquaculture, Fisheries, and Seafood

- Direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other relevant agencies to address critical policy gaps in offshore finfish aquaculture regulations in the Gulf of Mexico and other regions
- Revise regulations to provide clear jurisdiction and standards to protect occupational health and safety for aquaculture workers
- Incorporate increased access to locally and regionally produced farmed and wild seafood into food procurement and fisheries policies
- Appoint professionals to the next Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee with the expertise needed to make recommendations on seafood consumption that address nutrition, sustainability, food safety, and access
- Build on the work of the Obama Administration to increase global seafood traceability, leveraging the role of the United States (U.S.) as a major seafood importer to reduce illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in non-U.S. waters
- Invest resources in tracking nutritional content of key farmed species to develop a knowledge base of nutritional changes as aquaculture feed compositions shift in response to limited fishmeal and fish oil supplies
- Include testing of farmed seafood products for sale in the U.S. in the National Antimicrobial Monitoring System for Enteric Bacteria
- Create a specific category for aquaculture in the Animal Drug User Fee Act data collection and reports

Food Access and Food Policy Advocacy

- Fund research efforts to evaluate larger scale initiatives that are working to increase access to healthy food, such as the Healthy Food Financing efforts
- Allocate existing Community Food Project (CFP) funding to build capacity for advocacy and policy within communities through models like food policy councils, community coalitions, and other stakeholder groups
- Support transdisciplinary research and applied projects that build regional food systems and support knowledge sharing through mechanisms like Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)
- Revise existing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) regulations to incentivize healthy foods and healthier food retail operations
- Reduce the burden on farmers' markets offering SNAP Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) access by eliminating the "one permit, one machine" policy for each individual farmers' market
- Support legislation that provides broad support for urban farmers like the Urban Agriculture Act introduced by Sen. Stabenow (D-MI)

- Improve the management of the Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers (also referred to as the Section 2501 Program) to increase transparency and engage stakeholders in the implementation and peer review of the program

- Ensure all projects funded under the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development program are farmer-based, that the program continues to prioritize grant partnerships led by farmer-based non-profit and community-based organizations, and that the program supports underserved communities, including minority, immigrant, and refugee farmers, as well as farmworkers and military veterans

- Support improvements to the Childhood Nutrition Reauthorization Act, including provisions that advance summer and afterschool meal programs and increase the age of eligibility for children to receive Women, Infants & Children (WIC) benefits, and oppose block grants for child nutrition programs

- Actively oppose block grants for SNAP and advocate for its strengths as an entitlement program

Food Waste

- Demonstrate a commitment to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) goal of reducing wasted food in the U.S. by half by 2030:
  - Provide funding for research and practice activities that reduce wasted food in the U.S. across the food supply chain and by consumers
  - Support legislation that helps consumers and retailers reduce their food waste, such as HR 4181 — The Food Recovery Act, introduced by Rep. Pingree (D-ME), and the Food Date Labeling Act, introduced by Sen. Blumenthal (D-CT) and Rep. Pingree

Food Procurement

- Support the implementation of the Health Guidelines for Federal Concessions and Vending Operations (once released) and provide guidance to governmental procurement offices on sustainable food procurement metrics

- All federal agencies should adopt environmentally sustainable food procurement practices, based on the Health Guidelines for Federal Concessions and Vending Operations, that influence all government transactions in acquiring food

- Food procurement guidelines should also include metrics to track and encourage reductions in wasted food at federal food service institutions

- Federal agencies should aim to shift food purchases away from resource intensive foods (e.g, red meat, cheese) and toward more environmentally sustainable foods (e.g., plant-based proteins, vegetables, whole grains)

Food System Resilience

- Provide funding for state and municipal-level planning, activities, and research that improve food system resilience
- Support activities that address resilience and adaptation to climate change across the entire food system, not just in agriculture

Food System Workers

- Amend the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) to:
  - Remove exemptions for agricultural workers and increase minimum wage
  - Mandate states to require agricultural employers to provide full workers' compensation coverage
- Advocate for the replacement of the H-2A visa with a variation of the Blue Card program, which would allow visa holders to switch employers, apply for a green card after five years, and come and go from the U.S. as long as 100 days of agricultural work are completed in a year
- Encourage whistleblower provisions that would allow food production and processing workers to report waste, abuse, and fraud
- Advocate for amendments to the National Labor Relations Act that would afford agricultural workers the right to organize and collectively bargain
- Remove the exemption of food production and processing facilities from inspection and enforcement of labor laws based on the number of employees

Industrial Food Animal Production

- Promulgate new National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit regulations and effluent limitation guidelines that would require Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) to account for and effectively control water pollution from all facilities, no longer allowing them to "self-certify"
- Require that landowners applying CAFO waste for agronomic purposes develop and submit a comprehensive nutrient management plan, which should be incorporated into the NPDES permit
- Begin the process of ending the EPA exemption of CAFOs from enforcement of the Clean Air Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation & Liability Act, and the Emergency Planning & Community Right to Know Act
- Require the involvement of local public health officials in CAFO air and water monitoring
- Direct Environmental Quality Incentive Program funding and Farm Service Agency loans to small and medium-sized operations rather than CAFOs and require a rigorous environmental and public health assessment as part of the approval process

- Improve enforcement of existing federal, state, and local food animal production facility regulations by providing adequate mandatory federal funding to states to enable them to hire more inspectors, collect data, and monitor farms more closely

- Prohibit the installation of new liquid manure handling systems, including waste lagoons, and phase out their use on existing operations in order to avoid the public health and environmental disasters such as those caused by waste lagoons during Hurricanes Floyd and Matthew in North Carolina

- Develop baseline federal zoning guidelines for food animal production facilities that set a framework for states and require a rigorous, pre-permit environmental impact study and a health impact assessment; such a requirement would not prevent states and counties from enacting more comprehensive zoning laws

Sustainable Diets

- Take the lead in addressing climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture, in part by quantifying and limiting methane emissions from agriculture

- Support the development of Dietary Guidelines that are based on the scientific recommendations of an Advisory Committee and include recommendations to eat more environmentally sustainable diets in order to preserve Americans' health, food security, and the environment

The Center for a Livable Future is a voting member of the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC) and strongly supports the Coalition's recommendations for the next Administration. In particular, we support the Coalition's goals and recommendations for 1) the 2018 Farm Bill, specifically concerning conservation programs and the Federal Crop Insurance Program; 2) the Farmer Fair Practices rules to support fair competition and contract reform for food animal producers; 3) programs supporting beginning farmers and ranchers, particularly outreach and training for socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers; 4) expanding access to farmland through Federal Tax incentives; and 5) local and regional food systems.

Appendix A: Center Recommendations for the Trump Administration, 115th Congress by Agency

Food and Drug Administration

- Refine the definition of non-therapeutic use of antimicrobials as any use in food animals in the absence of veterinarian-diagnosed microbial disease or documented microbial disease exposure
- Ban the non-therapeutic use of antimicrobials in food animal production to reduce the risk of antimicrobial resistance, limiting uses to disease control and disease treatment
- Following up on data already collected under the Veterinary Feed Directive rule, support the development of a transparent and rigorously-evaluated antibiotic use reporting system, similar to those used in the European Union (e.g., Vetstat)
- Include testing of farmed seafood products for sale in the U.S. in the National Antimicrobial Monitoring System for Enteric Bacteria
- Create a specific category for aquaculture in Animal Drug User Fee Act data collection and reports

Department of Agriculture

- Support transdisciplinary research and applied projects that build regional food systems and support knowledge sharing through mechanisms like the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative
- Revise existing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) regulations to incentivize healthy foods and healthier food retail operations
- Reduce the burden on farmers' markets offering SNAP Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) access by eliminating the "one permit, one machine" policy for each individual farmers' market
- Support legislation that provides broad support for urban farmers like the Urban Agriculture Act introduced by Sen. Stabenow (D-MI)
- Allocate existing Community Food Project funding to build capacity for advocacy and policy within communities through models like food policy councils, community coalitions, and other stakeholder groups
- Direct Environmental Quality Incentives Program funding and Farm Service Agency loans to small- and medium-sized operations rather than Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) and require a rigorous environmental and public health assessment as part of the approval process

- Support the development of Dietary Guidelines that are based on the scientific recommendations of an Advisory Committee and include recommendations to eat more environmentally sustainable diets in order to preserve Americans' health, food security, and the environment

- Appoint professionals to the next Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee with the expertise needed to make recommendations on seafood consumption that address nutrition, sustainability, food safety, and access

- Incorporate increased access to locally and regionally produced farmed and wild seafood into food procurement and fisheries policies

- Incorporate metrics to track and encourage reductions in wasted food at federal food service institutions in food procurement and food service guidelines

- Invest resources in tracking nutritional content of key farmed species to develop a knowledge base of nutritional changes as aquaculture feed compositions shift in response to limited fishmeal and fish oil supplies

- Revise regulations to provide clear jurisdiction and standards to protect occupational health and safety for aquaculture workers

- Ensure all projects funded under the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development program are farmer-based, that the program continues to prioritize grant partnerships led by farmer-based non-profit and community-based organizations, and that the program supports underserved communities, including minority, immigrant, and refugee farmers, as well as farmworkers and military veterans

- Support improvements to the Childhood Nutrition Reauthorization Act, including provisions that advance summer and afterschool meal programs and increase the age of eligibility for children to receive Women, Infants & Children (WIC) benefits, and oppose block grants for child nutrition programs

- Actively oppose block grants for SNAP and advocate for its strengths as an entitlement program

- Improve the management of the Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers (also referred to as the Section 2501 Program) to increase transparency and engage stakeholders in the implementation and peer review of the program

- Take the lead in addressing climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture, in part by quantifying and limiting methane emissions from agriculture

- Promulgate new National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit regulations and effluent limitation guidelines that would require CAFOs to account for and effectively control water pollution from all facilities, no longer allowing them to "self-certify"

- Require that landowners applying CAFO waste for agronomic purposes develop and submit a comprehensive nutrient management plan, which should be incorporated into the NPDES permit

- Begin the process of ending the EPA exemption of CAFOs from enforcement of the Clean Air Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation & Liability Act, and the Emergency Planning & Community Right to Know Act

- Require involvement of local public health officials in CAFO air and water monitoring

- Improve enforcement of existing federal, state, and local food animal production facility regulations by providing adequate mandatory federal funding to states to enable them to hire more inspectors, collect data, and monitor farms more closely

- Prohibit the installation of new liquid manure handling systems, including waste lagoons, and phase out their use on existing operations in order to avoid the public health and environmental disasters such as those caused by waste lagoons during Hurricanes Floyd and Matthew in North Carolina

- Develop baseline federal zoning guidelines for food animal production facilities that set a framework for states and require a rigorous, pre-permit environmental impact study and a health impact assessment; such a requirement would not prevent states and counties from enacting more comprehensive zoning laws

- Demonstrate a commitment to the USDA/EPA goal of reducing wasted food in the U.S. by half by 2030:
  - Provide funding for research and practice activities that reduce wasted food in the United States across the food supply chain and by consumers
  - Support legislation that helps consumers and retailers reduce their food waste, such as HR 4181 — The Food Recovery Act, introduced by Rep. Pingree (D-ME), and the Food Date Labeling Act, introduced by Sen. Blumenthal (D-CT) and Rep. Pingree

Federal Trade Commission	
▪ Vigorously enforce current federal antitrust laws to allow for a competitive marketplace in animal agriculture	▪ If the enforcement of existing antitrust laws is not effective in restoring competition, further legislative remedies should be considered, such as more transparency in price reporting and limiting the ability of integrators to control the supply of animals for slaughter
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	
▪ Address critical policy gaps in offshore finfish aquaculture regulations in the Gulf of Mexico and other regions	▪ Incorporate increased access to locally and regionally produced farmed and wild seafood into food procurement and fisheries policies
▪ Build on the work of the Obama Administration to increase global seafood traceability, leveraging the role of the U.S. as a major seafood importer to reduce illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in non-U.S. waters	▪ Revise regulations to provide clear jurisdiction and standards to protect occupational health and safety for aquaculture workers

Health and Human Services

- Fund research efforts to evaluate larger scale initiatives that are working to increase access to healthy food, such as the Healthy Food Financing efforts
- Advocate for the extension of eligibility for health insurance subsidies (under the Affordable Care Act) to agricultural workers and their families
- Support the development of Dietary Guidelines that are based on the scientific recommendations of an Advisory Committee and include recommendations to eat more environmentally sustainable diets in order to preserve Americans' health, food security, and the environment
- Appoint professionals to the next Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee with the expertise needed to make recommendations on seafood consumption that address nutrition, sustainability, food safety, and access
- Incorporate metrics to track and encourage reductions in wasted food at federal foodservice institutions in food procurement and food service guidelines

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Support the implementation of the Health Guidelines for Federal Concessions and Vending Operations (once released) and provide guidance to governmental procurement offices on sustainable food procurement metrics

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

- Revise regulations to provide clear jurisdiction and standards to protect occupational health and safety for aquaculture workers
- Remove the exemption of food production and processing facilities from inspection and enforcement of labor laws based on the number of employees

Department of Labor

- Work to amend to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) to:
  - Remove exemptions for agricultural workers and increase minimum wage
  - Mandate states to require agricultural employers to provide full workers' compensation coverage
- Advocate for the replacement of the H-2A visa with a variation of the Blue Card program, which would allow visa holders to switch employers, apply for a green card after five years, and come and go from the U.S. as long as 100 days of agricultural work are completed in a year
- Encourage whistleblower provisions that would allow food production and processing workers to report waste, abuse, or fraud
- Advocate for amendments to the National Labor Relations Act that would afford agricultural workers the right to organize and collectively bargain

All

- All federal agencies should adopt environmentally sustainable food procurement practices, based on the Health Guidelines for Federal Concessions and Vending Operations, that influence all government transactions in acquiring food
- Federal agencies should aim to shift food purchases away from resource intensive foods (e.g, red meat, cheese) and toward more environmentally sustainable foods (e.g., plant-based proteins, vegetables, whole grains)
- Provide funding for state and municipal-level planning, activities, and research that improve food system resilience
- Support activities that address resilience and adaptation to climate change across the entire food system, not just in agriculture
- The Center for a Livable Future is a voting member of the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC) and strongly supports the Coalition's recommendations [link when available] for the next Administration. In particular, we support the Coalition's goals and recommendations for 1) the 2018 Farm Bill, specifically concerning conservation programs and the Federal Crop Insurance Program; 2) the Farmer Fair Practices rules to support fair competition and contract reform for food animal producers; 3) programs supporting beginning farmers and ranchers, particularly outreach and training for socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers; 4) expanding access to farmland through Federal Tax incentives; and 5) local and regional food systems.