



Institute for
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Policy

Building blocks for food system resilience in Europe

European Parliament Joint Hearing on “The impact of the Farm to Fork Strategy on agriculture and food systems”

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IEEP Policy Report

Building blocks for food system resilience in Europe

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Towards systemic agricultural change
post-COVID-19

Nora Hiller, Faustine Bas-Defossez



Resilience: risks and shocks to the food system

Taking the current policy opportunity for systemic change through building resilience:

- Reducing structural vulnerabilities
- Anticipating future shocks
- Creating the ability to absorb shocks

Changing the way our food system operates, comprehensively from production to consumption

Creating a balanced and stable system, with strong legal foundation



Human-nature interaction

- High-density, intensive agriculture has been key driver for emerging zoonotic diseases, pollution and habitat destruction
- Integrate animal welfare into mainstream Green Deal and Farm-to-Fork agenda
- Increasing the capacity to absorb shocks by moving away from an emphasis on efficiency

Supply chain considerations

- Shocks can lead to disruptions in the transport sector and changes in consumption patterns
- Resilience building through assessing and enhancing working conditions across the food sector
- Considering options for short and local supply chains

Sustainable diets and food availability

- Shocks induced disruptions and barriers in providing access to healthy and sustainable food products
- Greater interlinkages needed between economic, environmental and nutritional crisis – public health resilience
- Creating better environments for healthier and nutritious consumer choices



Building a robust and strategic framework for food system resilience

Deeper engagement for change

Systematic inclusion of food chain actors, civil society, citizens at regional level

Research & Innovation

Connecting field work, trainings, monitoring and a societal focus through the Horizon Europe missions

Governance for systemic change

Sustainability objectives and standards embedded in a robust legal framework, including targets

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Rethinking the food system

- Opportunity to redirect policies to serve long-term sustainability goals
- Incorporating resilience as a central theme
- Combining necessary environmental ambition with enhanced governance and a strong scientific basis
- Deeper accountability, greater stakeholder engagement





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Thank you for your attention

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