



PARTNER SEARCH

Provisional project title: Commercial Food Chain Solidarity	
Funding Programme	URBACT III Programma Operativo (2014-2020)
Call for proposal	Call for proposal for the creation of 20 Action-Planning Networks (deadline 16 june 2015)
Applicant	Municipality of Bagheria (PA) – Sicily - IT
Description of the project	<p><i>What is the purpose of the initiative?</i></p> <p>The Municipality of Bagheria would like to design and test an innovative community project, which aims to overcome established welfare models and move towards participatory models of social integration through the involvement of non-profit organizations, parishes, Caritas, social services district, farmers, landowners, agronomists and agricultural workers.</p> <p>Through the involvement of these parties, the project partners will intend to recover uncultivated portions of agricultural land, whether owned by the city or privately owned (in which case a memorandum of understanding would be signed with the owner) for the purpose of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recovering agricultural land in compliance with the fine traditions of citrus cultivation around the town; • experiment with new organic and environmentally sustainable crops (using new types, procedures, and models); • promote “zero km” production, in other words, growing food as close as possible to the end consumers; • promote the active involvement of poor people; • promote the transfer of knowledge through the involvement of elderly farmers; • use the products to supply the Solidarity Supermarket, which would be staffed with sales operators including those on low incomes and / or with disabilities; • integrate the Solidarity Supermarket with a system of collection and distribution of unsold food online, possibly also integrating food close to its expiry date donated from other commercial establishments in order to avoid waste, retrieve the food resources available and decrease the production of urban refuse. <p>Basically, the goal is to implement a new type of food supply chain consisting of socially-inclusive small-holdings, co-operative welfare supermarkets etc.</p> <p><i>How the initiative will be implemented?</i></p> <p>Bagheria Council’s social services, in partnership with non-profit associations, Caritas and parishes, will support people affected by economic hardship or unemployment, and disadvantaged in terms of housing, environment or health, with income below the limit of</p>

	<p>sufficiency, as well as persons with disabilities, with the objective of engaging them in roles according to their type and level of personal capability or disability.</p> <p>For each person or family in financial difficulty, an individual plan will be drawn up for the distribution of a points card which can be spent in the Solidarity Supermarket as an alternative to the provision of financial assistance.</p> <p>In return, the recipients will engage in activities, according to their physical capabilities and under the guidance of skilled farmers, which will make productive use of uncultivated land and grow vegetables, citrus fruit, other fruits and other goods in demand (e.g. capers) which, in addition to supplying the Solidarity Supermarket, will be sold to members of the general public in order to ensure the economic sustainability of the initiative.</p> <p>Essentially, this is an economic model with minimal environmental impact and high social impact.</p>
Partners sought	The municipality is seeking to partner with towns (including one Lead Partner) which suffer the same socio-economic conditions as Bagheria and which have a solid agricultural tradition; including at least two towns from the economically under-developed regions.
Deadline of the call for proposal	16 June 2015
Deadline for receiving declaration of interest	by May 25, 2015 send an email to express your interest (please specify if you are interested as Lead Partner or Partner)
Contact	<p>Giovanni Di Cristina gianni.dicristina@gmail.com mobile +39 3891144008</p> <p>We kindly ask you to CC the Brussels Office of the Region of Sicily ufficiodibruxelles@regionesiciliana.be</p>