The Planning for Agriculture and Food Systems Resource Index provides links to online resources about local and regional food systems, including reports, plans, and agencies and organizations. In most cases these resources are available on the Farmland Information Center (FIC) Web site (www.farmlandinfo.org).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LITERATURE 2

Background Information 2
Food System Assessments 3
  Community Food Security and Food Gap Assessments 3
  Comprehensive Local and Regional Food System Assessments 3
  Foodshed Assessments 4
  Local Food Economy Assessments 4

Food Policy Councils 5
Food System Plans 5
Planning for Agriculture 7
  Guides 7
  State Plans 7

AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS 7

TECHNICAL RESOURCES 10
  Presentations 10
  Planning Tools 11

December 2011
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Susan Ellsworth and Gail Feenstra, University of California, 2010

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From Farm to Fork: A Guide to Building North Carolina’s Sustainable Local Food Economy
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State Plans

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AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

American Planning Association
National
The American Planning Association is an independent, not-for-profit educational organization that provides leadership in the development of vital communities by advocating excellence in community planning
planning, promoting education and citizen empowerment, and providing the tools and support necessary to meet the challenges of growth and change. APA's Food Interest Group (FIG) is a coalition of APA members interested in or actively engaged in food system planning at the local, regional, state, or national level.

**ATTRA**

*National*

ATTRA – National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service, formerly known as Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas, is managed by the National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) and is funded under a grant from the USDA’s Rural Business-Cooperative Service. It provides information and other technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, Extension agents, educators, and others involved in sustainable agriculture in the United States.

**Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems at the University of Wisconsin**

*Madison, Wisconsin*

The Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (CIAS) is a research center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. It is part of the Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Agriculture. The CIAS was created in 1989 to build the University of Wisconsin’s sustainable agriculture research programs that respond to farmer and citizen needs and to help set research agendas.

**Community Food Security Coalition**

*Portland, Oregon (National)*

The Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC) is dedicated to building strong, sustainable, local and regional food systems that ensure access to affordable, nutritious and culturally appropriate food for all people at all times. CFSC seeks to develop self-reliance among all communities in obtaining their food and to create a system of growing, manufacturing, processing, making available and selling food that is regionally based and grounded in the principles of justice, democracy, and sustainability. The CFSC has over 200 member organizations.

**Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission**

*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

Serving the Greater Philadelphia region for more than 40 years, DVRPC works to foster regional cooperation among city, county and state representatives to address key issues, including transportation, land use, environmental protection and economic development. Through its “Eating Here: Greater Philadelphia’s Food System Plan,” DVRPC seeks to increase the security and economic, social and environmental benefits of the regional food system that feeds the nine-county region of Greater Philadelphia—four counties in New Jersey and five counties in Pennsylvania.

**Food First**

*Oakland, California*

The Institute for Food and Development Policy, also known as Food First, is a “people’s” think tank. Its mission is to end the injustices that cause hunger, poverty and environmental degradation throughout the world. Food First carries out research, analysis, advocacy and education for informed citizen engagement with the institutions and policies that control production, distribution and access to food.

**Food Roots**

*Tillamook, Oregon*

Food Roots exists to educate, empower and engage the people and communities of the North Oregon Coast to grow a vibrant regional food system that is good for the people, the economy and the land.
Iowa Corridor Food and Agriculture Coalition  
*Amana, Iowa*

The Iowa Corridor Food and Agriculture Coalition (ICFAC) is a diverse group of organizations, agencies, and community members from the Iowa Corridor Region that includes Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Linn, Tama, Poweshiek, Washington, Cedar and Jones counties. Its mission is to develop strategic partnerships to revitalize a local food system within the Iowa Corridor Region, the second fastest growing region in Iowa that includes the cities of Iowa City and Cedar Rapids.

King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks  
*Seattle, Washington*

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) works in support of sustainable and livable communities and a clean and healthy natural environment. DNRP’s *FARMS Report: Future of Agriculture Realizing Meaningful Solutions* (December, 2009) presents the findings of a study determining what measures King County and other agencies should take to ensure the continued success of its local agricultural economy.

Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food Initiative  
*National*

This is a USDA-wide effort to create new economic opportunities by better connecting consumers with local producers. It is also the start of a national conversation about the importance of understanding where your food comes from and how it gets to your plate. Today, there is too much distance between the average American and their farmer and we are marshaling resources from across USDA to help create the link between local production and local consumption.

Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture  
*Ames, Iowa (National)*

The Leopold Center is a research and education center with statewide programs to develop sustainable agricultural practices that are both profitable and conserve natural resources. Each of the three new research initiatives—marketing and food systems, ecology, and policy—is responsible for its own projects and educational events.

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
*Columbus, Ohio*

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is a voluntary association of local governments serving central Ohio acting as a regional voice and a catalyst for sustainability and economic prosperity. MORPC’s “Central Ohio Local Food Assessment and Plan,” released in 2010, supports a vision for the local food system that would strengthen the local economy; ensure that fresh, safe, healthful, locally produced food is accessible to people of all income levels; reduce the miles needed to distribute and sell food; and preserve farmland by making agriculture more viable to area farmers.

Multnomah County Office of Sustainability  
*Portland, Oregon*

A national leader in promoting sustainability, Multnomah County’s Office of Sustainability has led the county’s efforts to adopt sustainable internal government operations and works to support sustainability efforts in the community, providing leadership, education, policy analysis, project development and accountability for the County’s sustainability efforts. Among its key efforts is the launching of the Multnomah Food Initiative and development of the Multnomah Food Action Plan.
Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group (NESAWG)
Belchertown, Massachusetts (Regional)
NESAWG’s mission is to strengthen the work of its members by providing active support and assistance in achieving shared food system goals. The NESAWG region includes Conn., Del., Maine, Md., Mass., N.H., N.J., N.Y, Pa., R.I., Vt. and W. Va. It is one of five regional sustainable agriculture working groups in the U.S.

Roots of Change
San Francisco, California
Roots of Change (ROC) is a collaboration of community, nonprofit, philanthropic, government and business organizations. ROC provides resources to a diverse alliance of leaders and their institutions that are unified by strategy and collaborate in pursuit of a sustainable food system in California by 2030.

Sacramento Area Council of Governments
Sacramento, California
The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) is an association of local governments in the six-county Sacramento Region. SACOG provides transportation planning and funding for the region, and serves as a forum for the study and resolution of regional issues. Its Rural-Urban Connections Strategy (RUCS) is an economic and environmental sustainability strategy for the region’s rural areas that includes an analysis of the infrastructure challenges facing agricultural production.

State and Local Food Policy Project
Des Moines, Iowa (National)
Drake University Agricultural Law Center in collaboration with non-profit organizations and state and local governments throughout the U.S. has developed an extensive initiative on food and agriculture policy. Through a partnership with the USDA Risk Management Agency and the National Agricultural Law Center, the State and Local Food Policy Project provides resources and support for the development of food policy councils.

Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund
Montpelier, Vermont
The Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund (VSJV was created by the Vermont Legislature in 1995 to accelerate the development of Vermont’s green economy. VSJV provides early stage grant funding, technical assistance and loans to entrepreneurs, businesses, farmers, networks and others interested in developing jobs and markets in the green economy.

TECHNICAL RESOURCES

Presentations

Planning for Greater Philadelphia’s Food System
Alison Hastings, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 2011

Building Local Food Systems
Brian Williams, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, 2011

A 10-year Plan for Vermont’s Food System
Erica Campbell, Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, 2011
Planning Tools

*Is Your Town Planning a Future for Agriculture?*
American Farmland Trust, 2005

*Food System Planning: Municipal Implementation Tool #18*
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 2010

*Seeding the City: Land Use Policies to Promote Urban Agriculture*
Heather Wooten and Amy Ackerman, Public Health Law and Policy. 2011