

Urban Rural Linkages in the Past 20 Years: Towards a post urban-rural divided world

Presentation to Eating City Summer Campus 2018
Thomas Forster, Practice2Policy, New York



Where have you and where do you
find home in the urban – rural world?

Three hypotheses:

1. A new systemic and holistic urban-rural metabolism is coming into effect now
1. The next generation, especially youth, women and place-based communities, will be critical change agents for a positive future
2. To establish new socio-cultural and political “living territories”, people and institutions will have to be ready and be creative

Levels of my work since the early 80s

Civil society mobilization

- Local and state campaigns for food policy
- National organic law, community food and and farm to school grant programs, geographic preference for school food procurement (US Farm Bill and Child Nutrition Bill)
- Civil society input to UN processes
 - 1992 Earth Summit
 - 2012 Eio+ 20 Summit (The Future We Want)
 - Sustainable Development Goals (2014)
 - New Urban Agenda (2016)
 - High Level Political Forum (HLPF) to review implementation of SDGs (2016-2018)

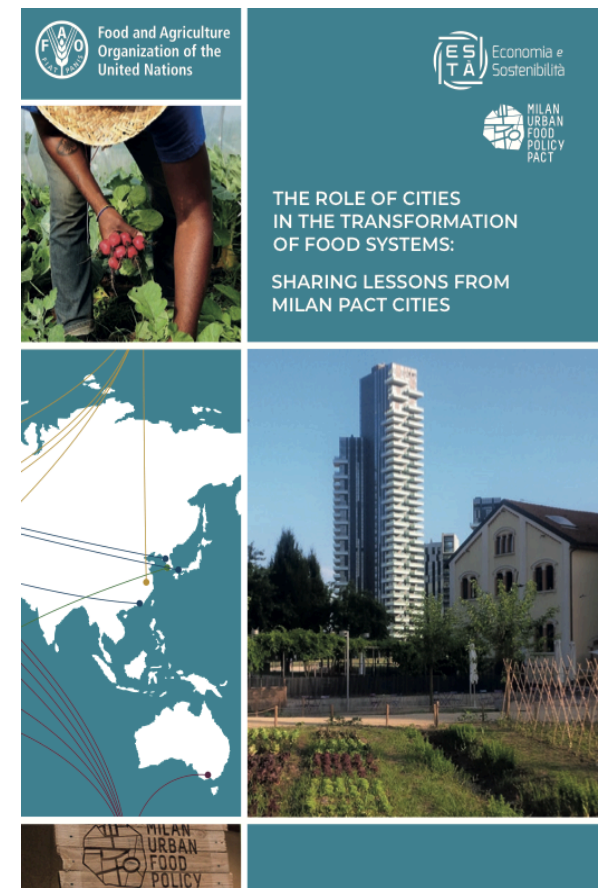
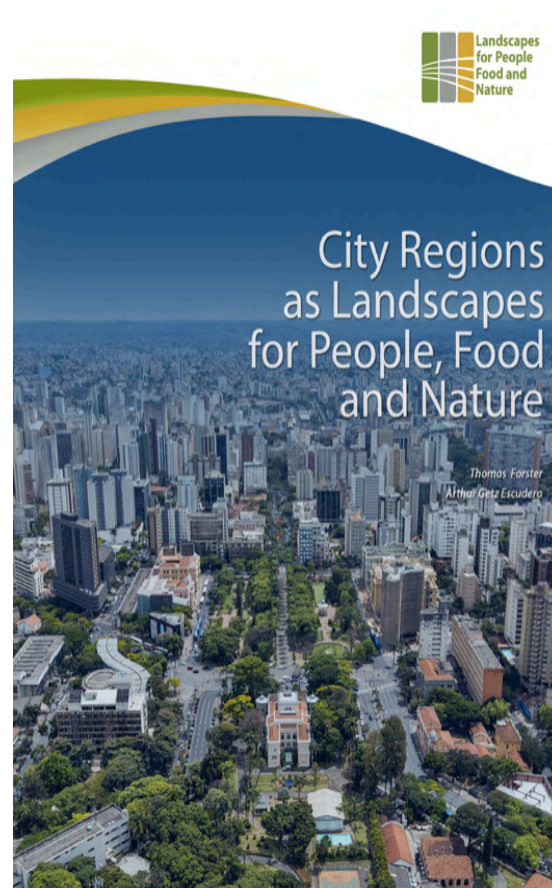
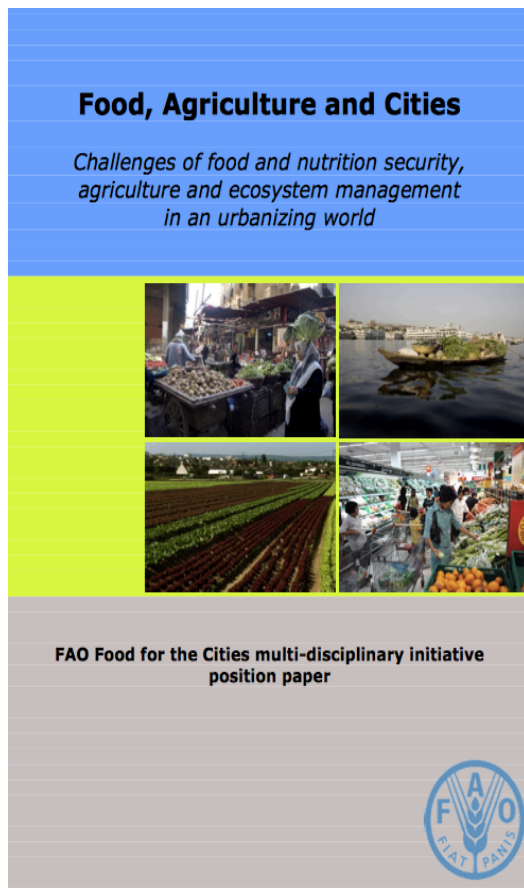
Multi-Actor Policy Technical Processes

Expert Group Meeting Facilitation for Urban Rural Linkages and City Region Food Systems (June 2018)



Guiding Principles for Urban-Rural Linkages
to Advance Integrated Territorial Development
Expert Group Meeting
in La Paz, Bolivia, 19-20 June 2018
Summary Report

Research reports for policy change related to food and cities and urban rural linkages



Teaching food policy literacy to upcoming food system advocates (NYC)

New School for General Studies

Course Syllabus

Fall 2017



Making Sausage: Policy for food systems,
environment and design

New School Food Studies:

FOOD, POWER & PARADOX



THE ROLE OF BUSINESS IN FOOD AND FARM POLICY



The Power Triangle

Food Related Enterprise

Food Governance Systems

Peoples (urban and rural) Food Movements

key words

- *urban-rural relations*: rural-urban and rural-urban linkages, continuum, nexus, interface
- *urban and territorial systems*: city region food systems, city systems, territorial food systems, functional territories, living territories, territorial markets, urban metabolism, etc.
- integrated landscape management (ILM)

policy entry points

- urban and territorial food policy
- national urban policies
- national sustainable development planning processes
- 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda: esp SDG 11.a
- New Urban Agenda inclusion of territorial with urban and FSN
- Other global normative agendas and treaties

Understanding changes in the urban-rural interface

Megacities do not represent the majority of the world!

- 70% of the world lives in small towns, medium sized cities and the rural areas between them and larger cities
- many countries have become majority-urban in the last 20 years (Andean countries in the most urbanized continent, South America)
- 5.5b people live in the interface of rural and urban societies
- rapid, often unplanned urbanization will create new social, political economic and environmental crises - especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, South and East Asia



MUNDO URBANO - SIGLO METROPOLITANO.

Urbanización acelerada:

Urban Population

- Greater than 75%
- 50% - 75%
- 25% - 50%
- Less than 25%



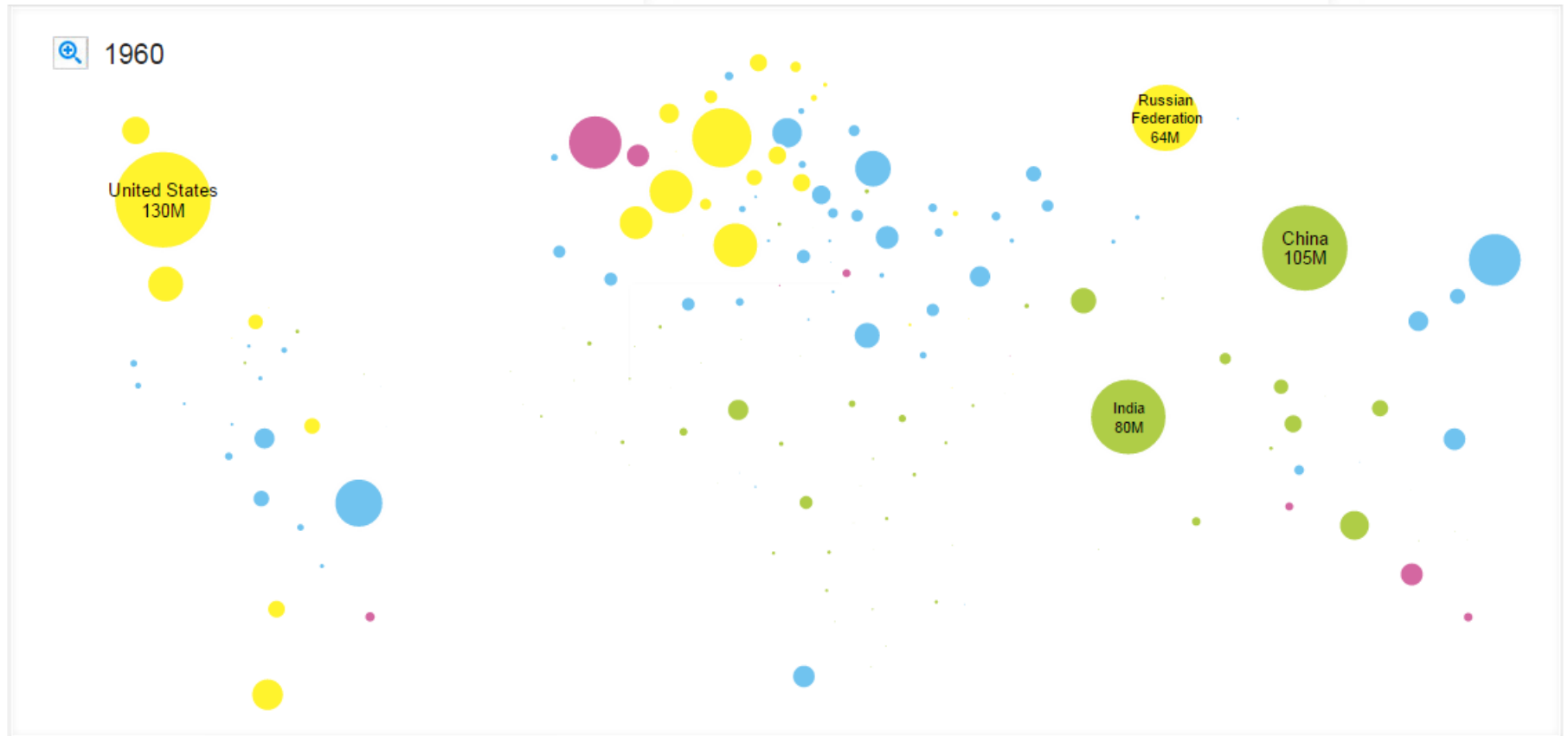
UN (2014).

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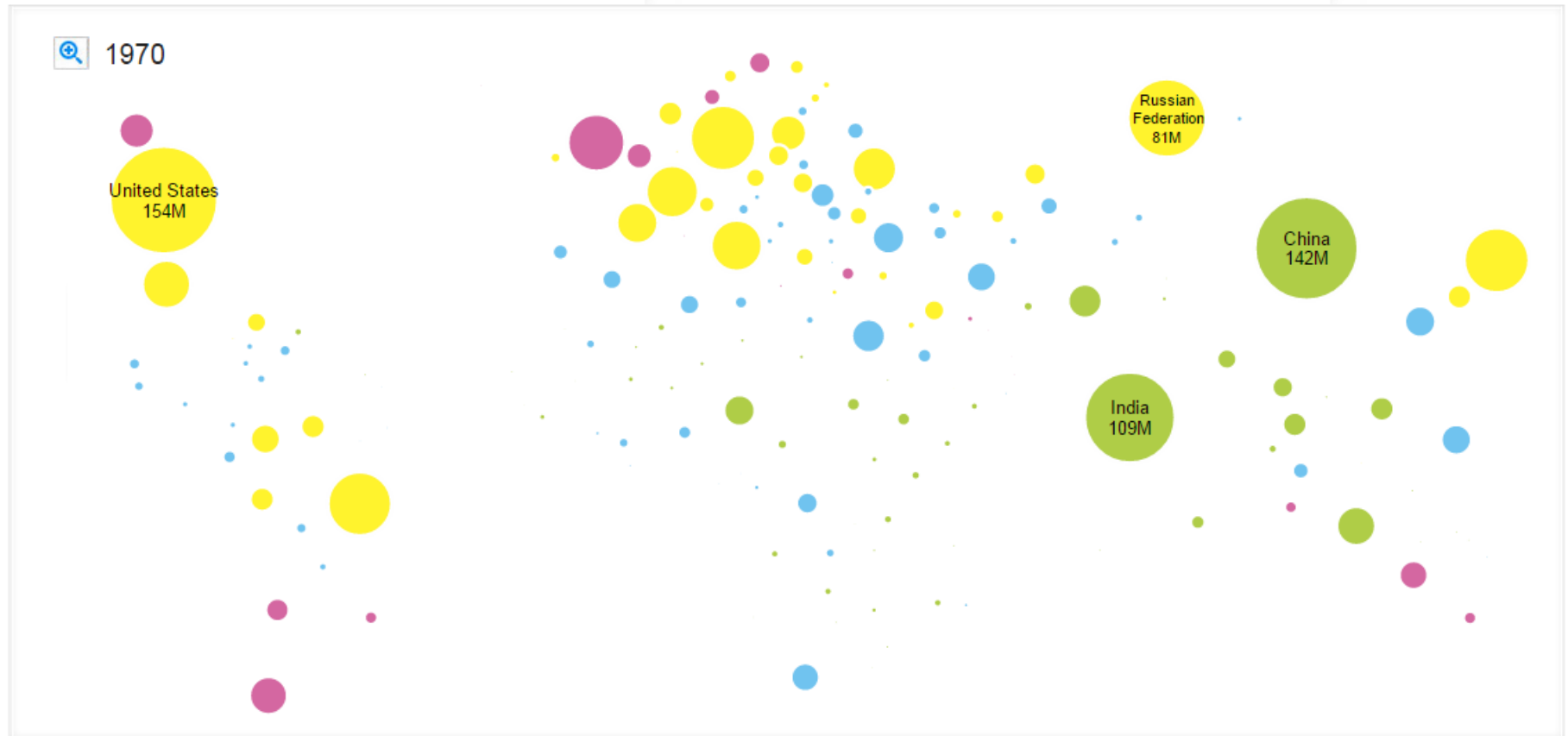
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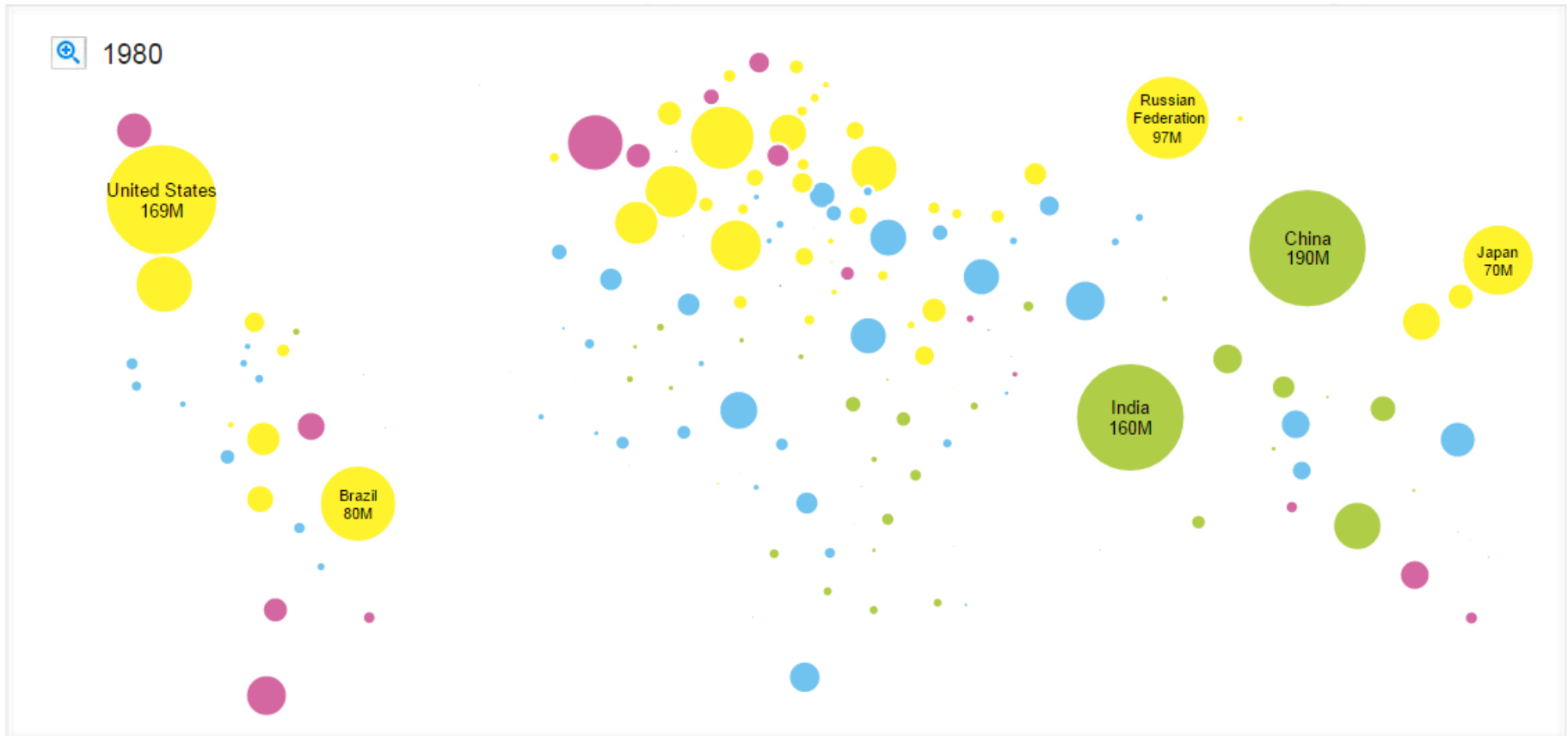
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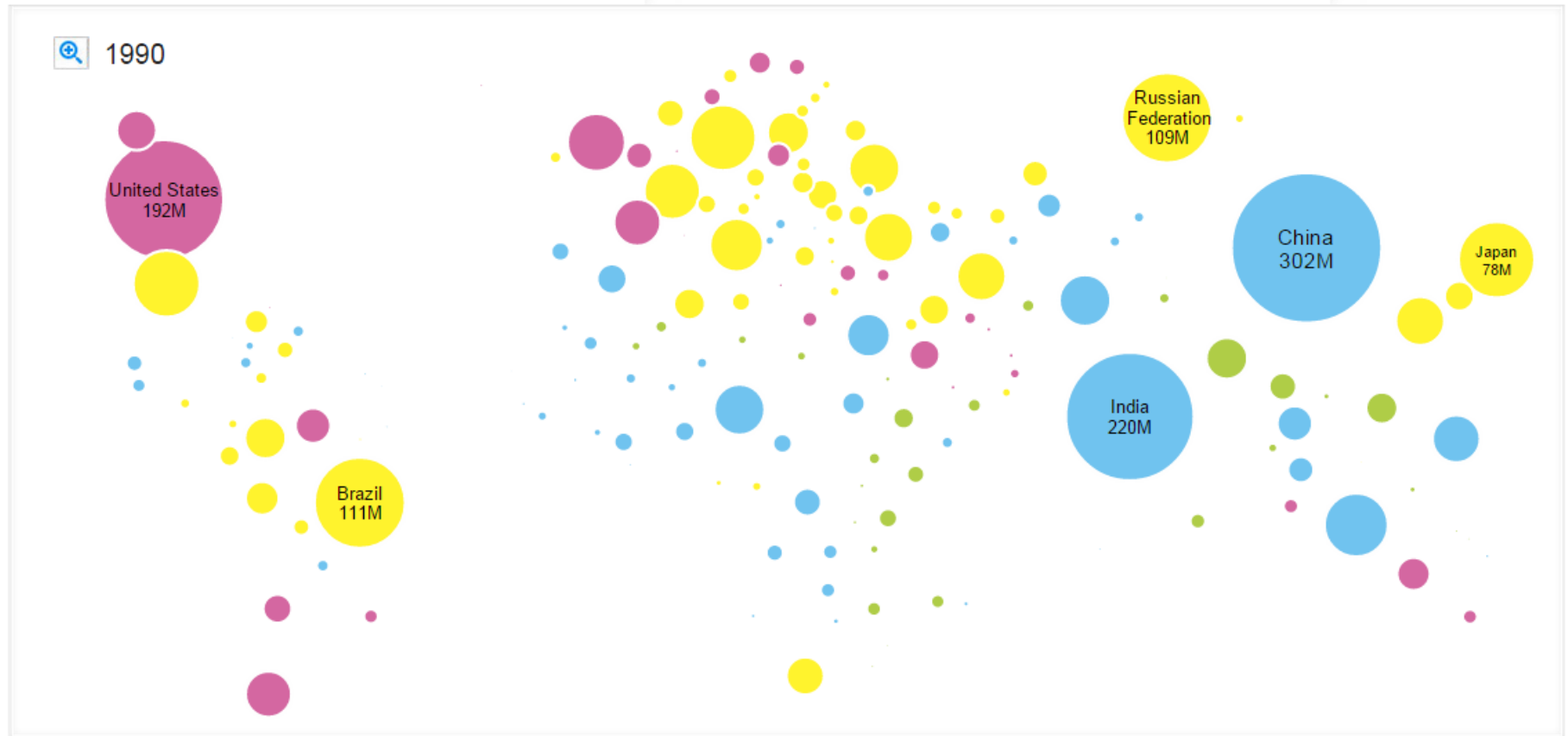
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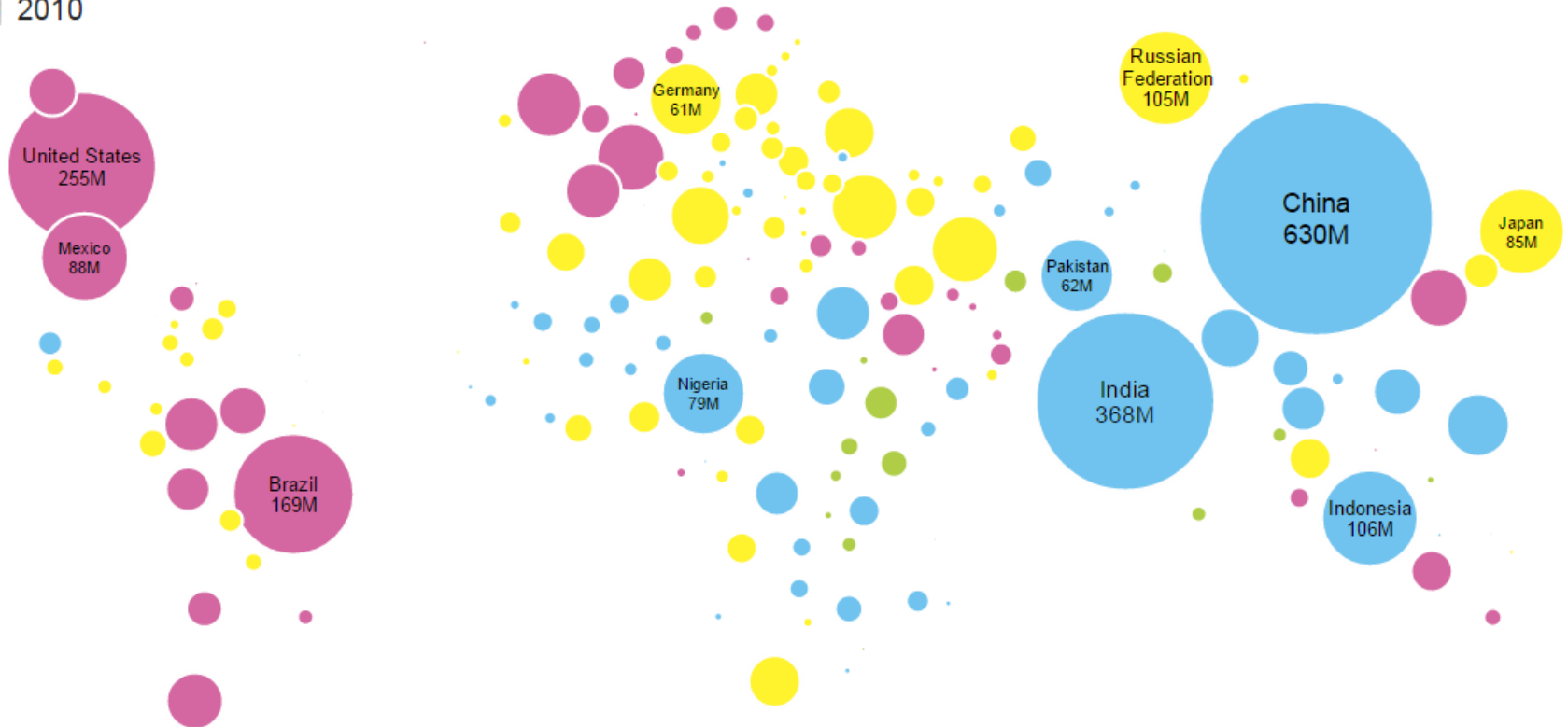
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2010



UN (2014).

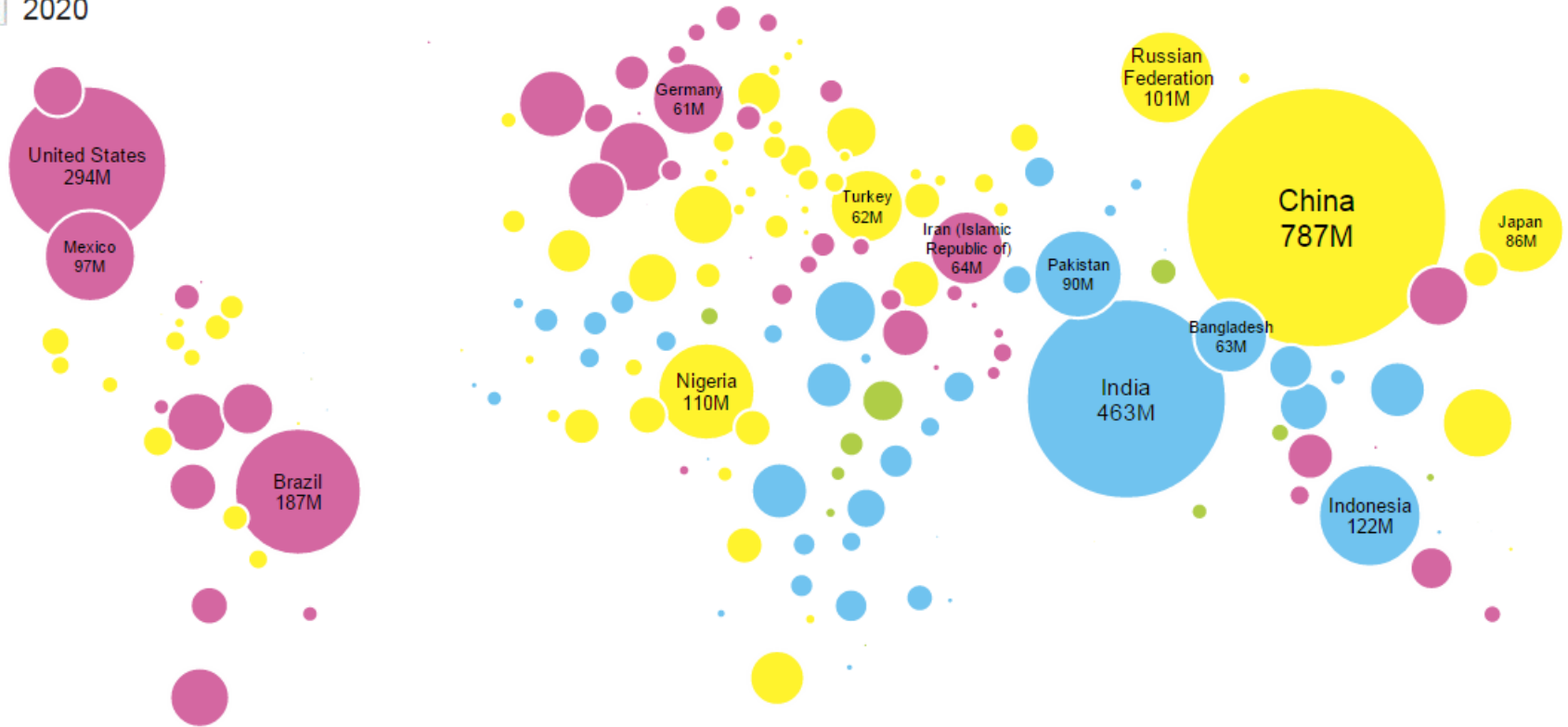
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2020



UN (2014).

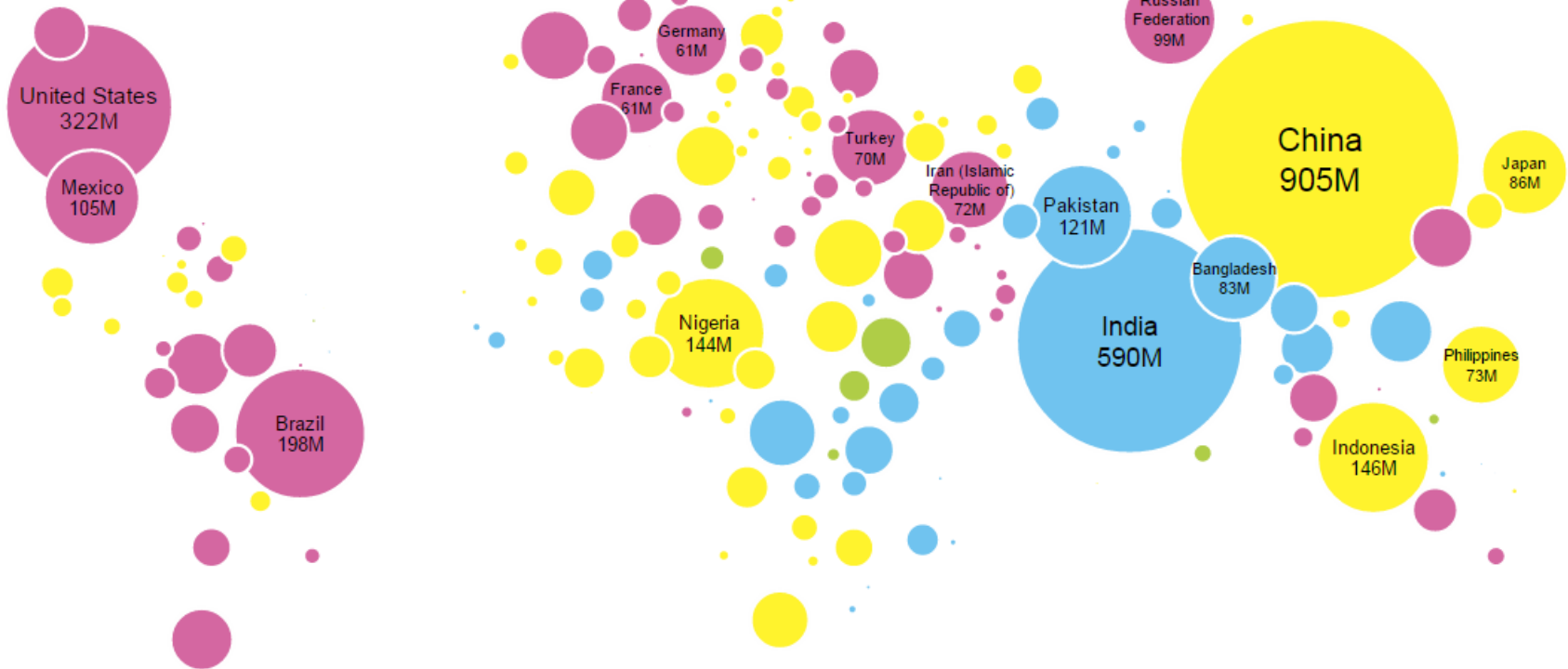
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2030



UN (2014).

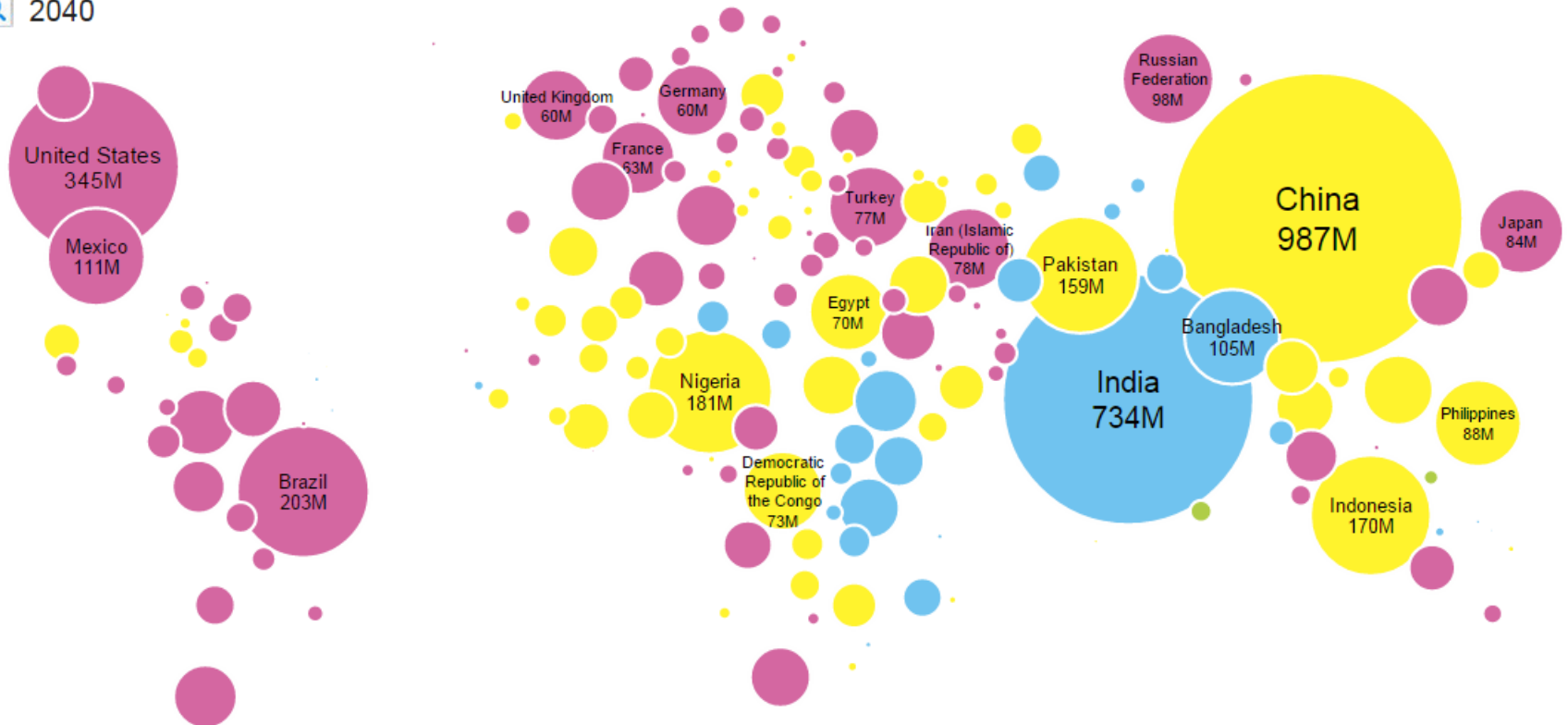
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2040



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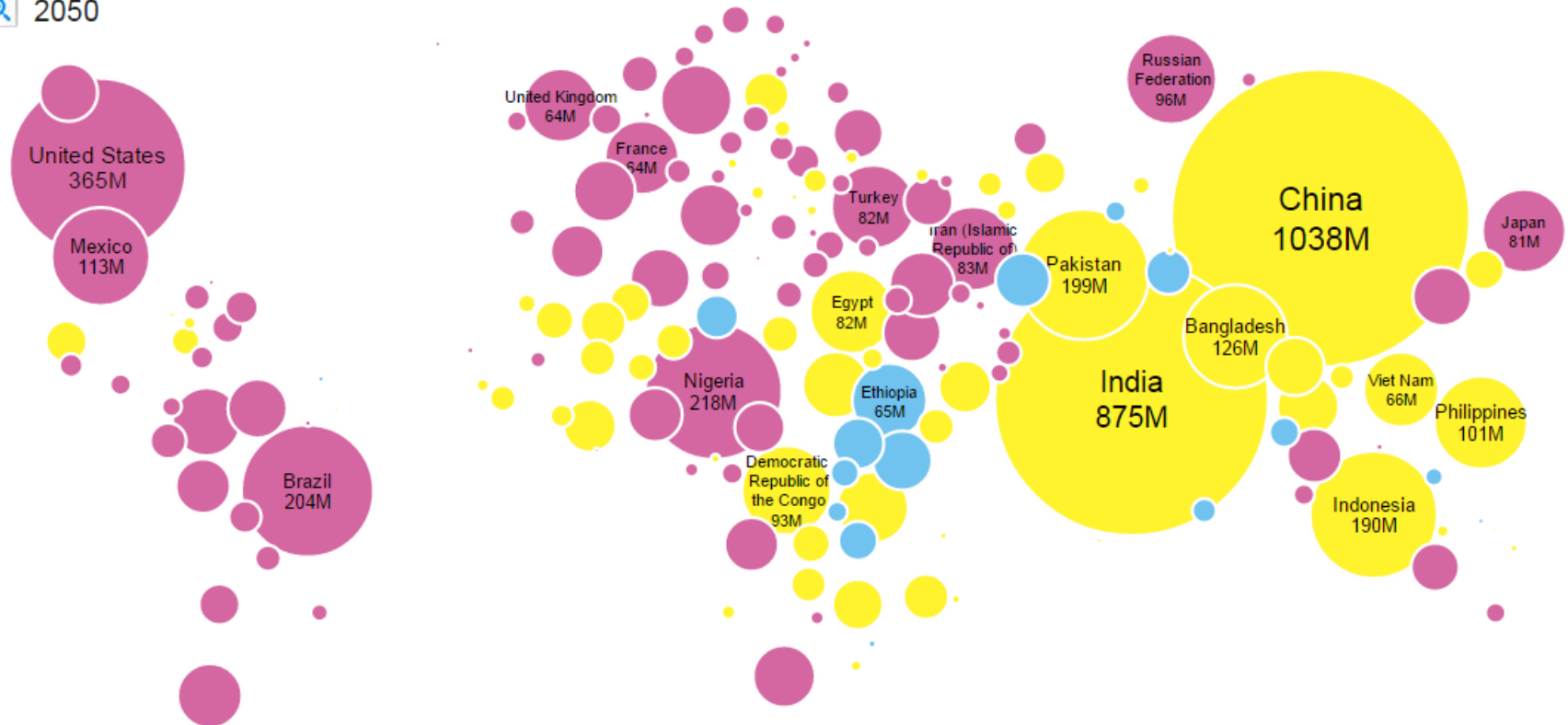
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Urbanización acelerada:

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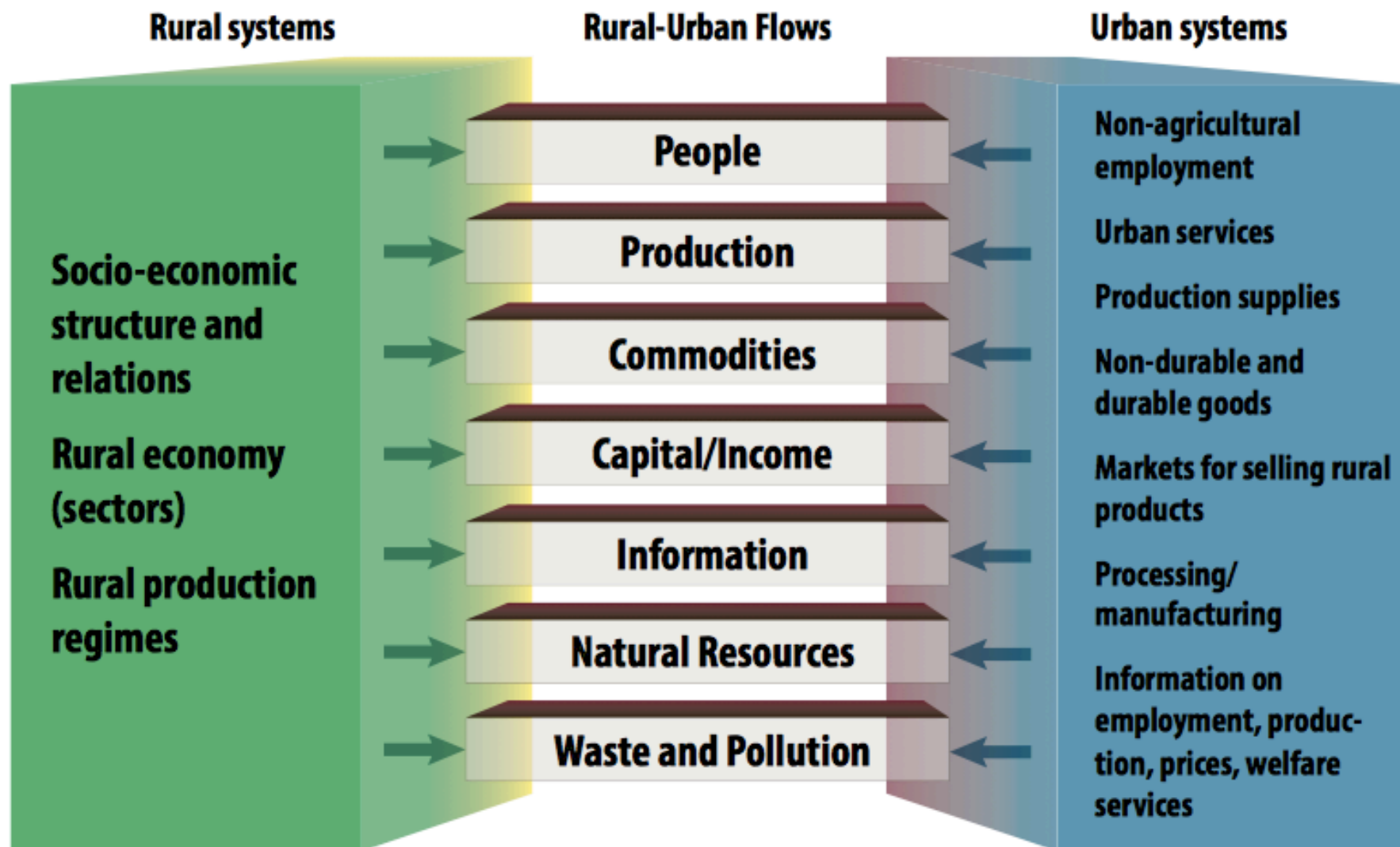
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2050



UN (2014).

Rural-urban linkages



Adapted from: Allen, A. 2010. Pathways to Sustainability: Agendas for a New Politics of Environment, Development and Social Justice. Presented at: Peri-urban Dynamics, 23 - 24 September, Institute of Development Studies, Sussex, UK.

Food systems in the context of urban rural linkages (URL):

Even with all the growth and challenges, smallholder farmers and micro, small and medium enterprises feed cities today and will tomorrow and for the foreseeable future

- 570m farmers, 500m smallholders
- 70% of the worlds primary producers are small farmers
- food production in urban and peri-urban areas are a major source of food supply in many towns and (estimated 1b)
- urban and peri-urban ag accounts for 11% of all irrigated cropland, 800 million engaged in UPA with the poor a majority of these producers
- evidence shows that strengthening URL can be most beneficial for poor urban and rural peoples

Negative changes in URL context:

- exclusion of smallholders from more dynamic markets
- concentration of value in downstream segments of food systems
- weakening of traditional wholesale and retail
- increase in non-food related activities impacting primary producers
- presence of highly processed foods
- impact on health and wellbeing of urban and rural populations (violations of human rights)

Positive changes in URL context:

- diversification of production for new markets
- capturing value of food transformation for farmers and local communities
- strengthening of new markets assisted with ICT tools and platforms
- linking of nonfood and food enterprises in circular territorial economies
- building demand for minimally processed foods
- delivering health to people, land, biodiversity

Upland forest provides water harvesting, flood control, wildlife conservation, carbon sequestration, scenery & recreation, and timber & non-timber products.

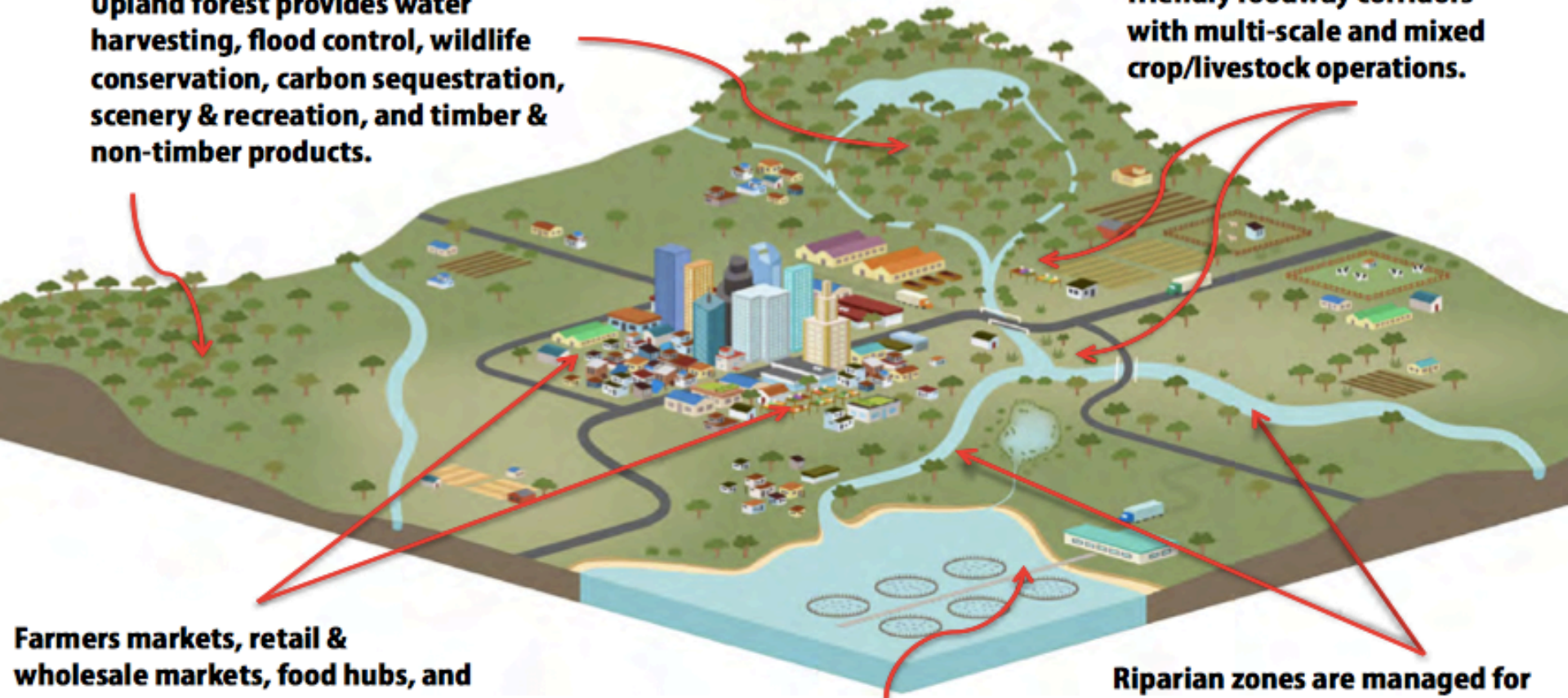
Peri-urban & rural green wedges are biodiversity-friendly foodway corridors with multi-scale and mixed crop/livestock operations.

Farmers markets, retail & wholesale markets, food hubs, and community gardens in the urban core enable access to fresh, locally produced food resources.

Coastal resources are managed for biodiversity, scenery & recreation, storm surge protection, and aquaculture.

Riparian zones are managed for biodiversity, flood control, wildlife and pollinator movement, urban heat island control, and aesthetic & recreational benefits.

Adapted from: Victoria (Australia) provincial government framework "Building healthy and resilient ecosystems across the landscape", Chapter 6: 72-73.



Labor markets and the food system

- primary producers, direct and indirect food jobs in the food system are the largest sector of workers in most cities and rural areas
- changes in the food system (consumer choice, intermediation and migration) are having a powerful effect on labor (availability and types)
- public procurement systems can drive change in positive directions (farm to school, etc)
- overall smallholders have been excluded from new and more dynamic markets

Recapture of inclusive rural-urban benefits of territorial food systems

- consumer/producer collaborations on the urban-rural continuum (informal and farmers markets, Teikei and CSA systems, circular and solidarity food economies. Etc.)
- academic/policy analysis of city region food systems (see CRFS assessment toolkit hosted by FAO: <http://www.fao.org/in-action/food-for-cities-programme/toolkit/introduction/en/>)
- municipal and territorial embrace of (aspects of) food systems
- national devolution to local governments (partial)
- procurement reforms driven by consumer demand and policy changes
- city and territorial government networks

Key turning points and new mindsets linking food and cities:

- **food systems** meet **city systems**
analysis/policy
- **agroecological approaches** merge with
procurement at city region scales
- **whole of government** — linking
administrative and investment silos
- **how to be inclusive** - new multi-actor
mechanisms
- **protecting rights holders** and critical spaces

Zones of Emergence

new food policy and governance

Urban Food Policy (Milan Urban Food Policy Pact) and uptake by city networks)

National policy support for city systems and territorial integration including food systems (few but growing)

Global policy Agendas (support for the food-city nexus in implementation of SDGs and NUA but also UNFCCC, CBD, and ICN2, among others)

But the real action will be at the subnational level in small towns, medium cities and the rural areas in between them.



MILAN URBAN FOOD POLICY PACT

"We Will Work To Develop Sustainable Food Systems That Are Inclusive, Resilient, Safe And Diverse"



Cities role in transformation of food systems: Sharing Lessons from Milan Pact Cities

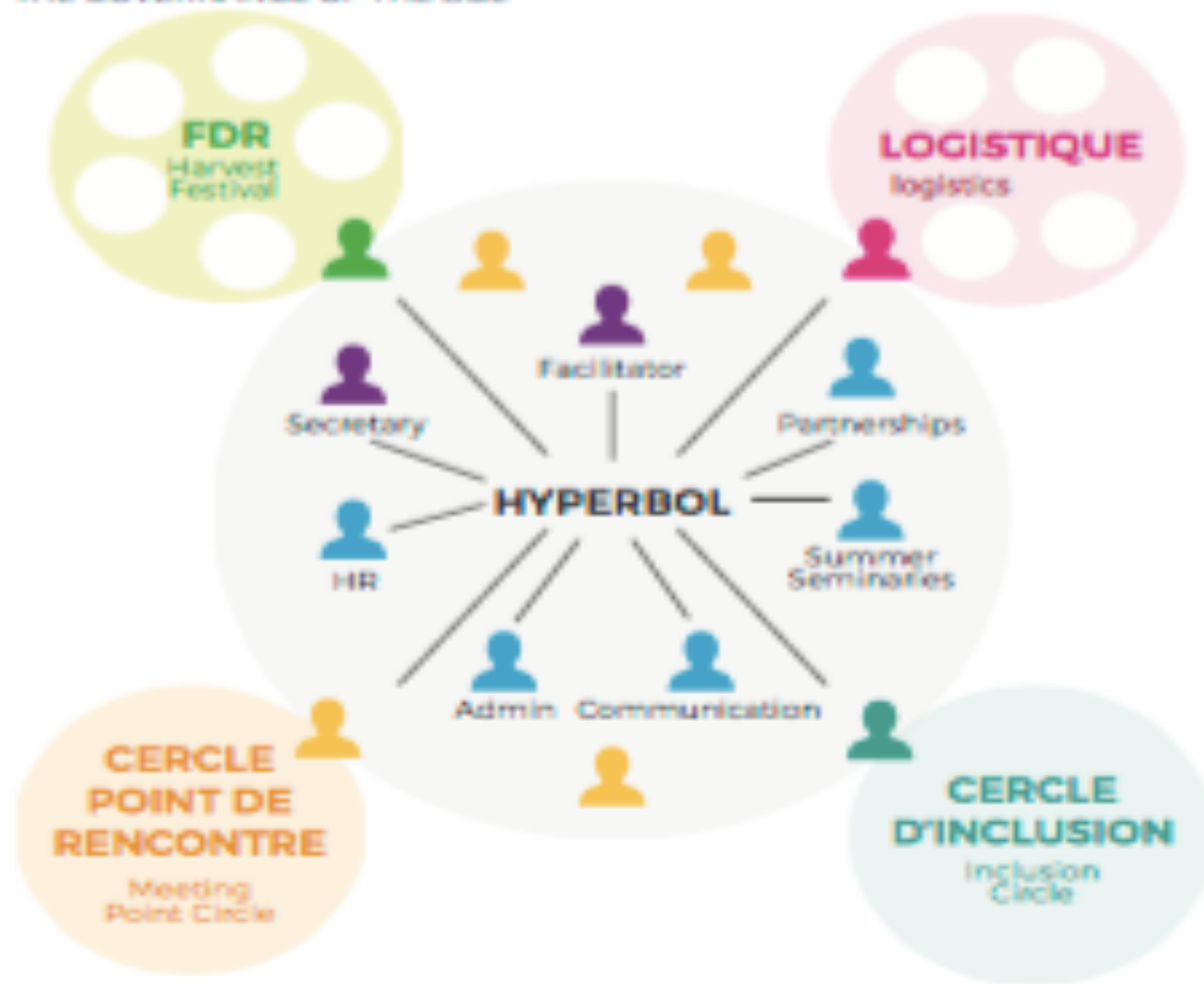
Four emerging trends:

1. Integrating food with other priorities
2. Moving from single entry more integrated governance mechanisms
3. Strengthening urban-rural linkages
4. Institutionalizing partnerships with civil society and local business sector

Report to be published by FAO in Sept. 2018

Lyon food governance mechanism: BOL

THE GOVERNANCE OF THE BOL



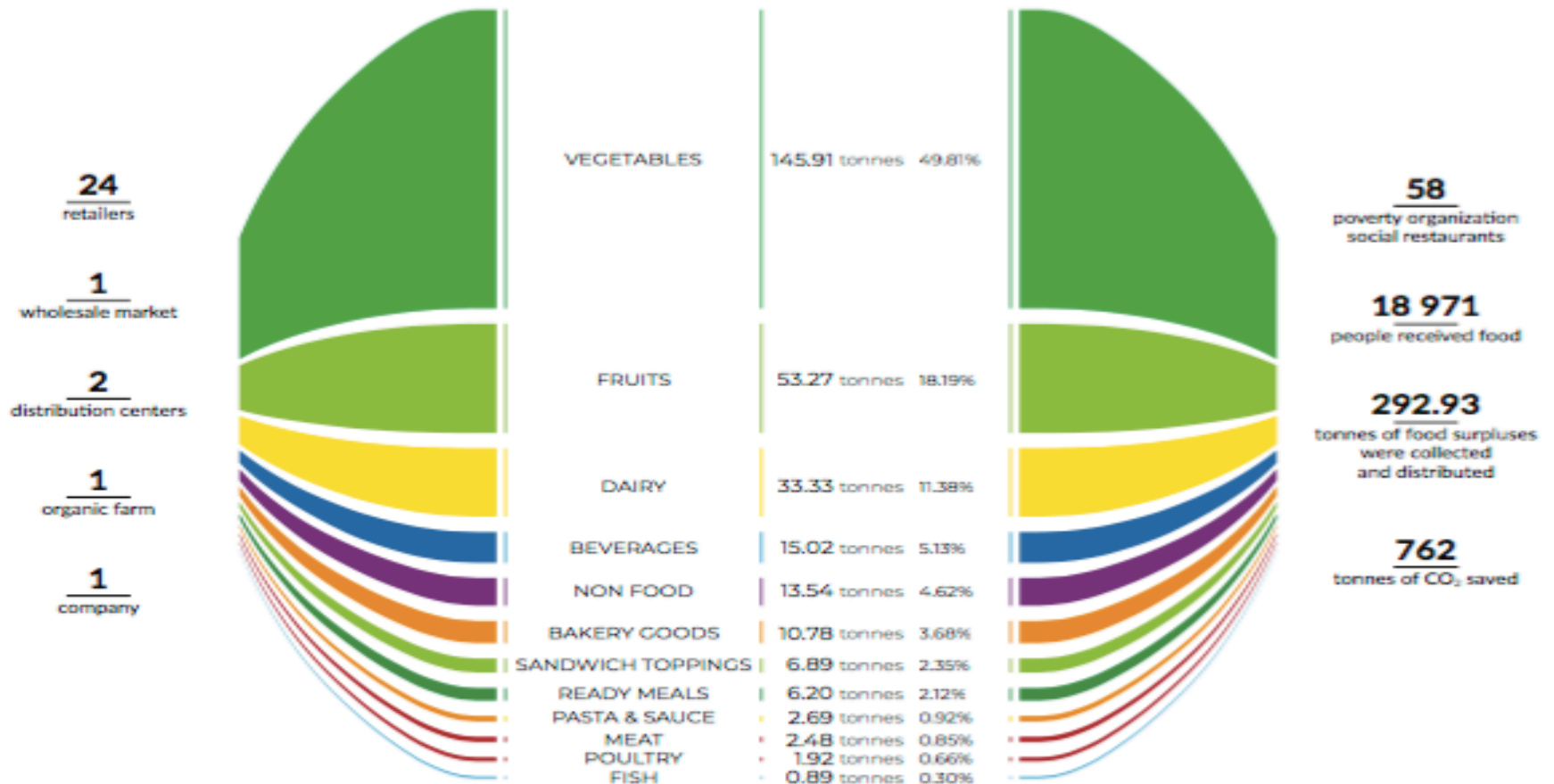
Source: Le Bol - Pôle de Coopération sur l'Alimentation



- www.lebol.org/quil-sommes-nous/presentation/
- www.grandlyon.com
- <https://bit.ly/2J77yej>

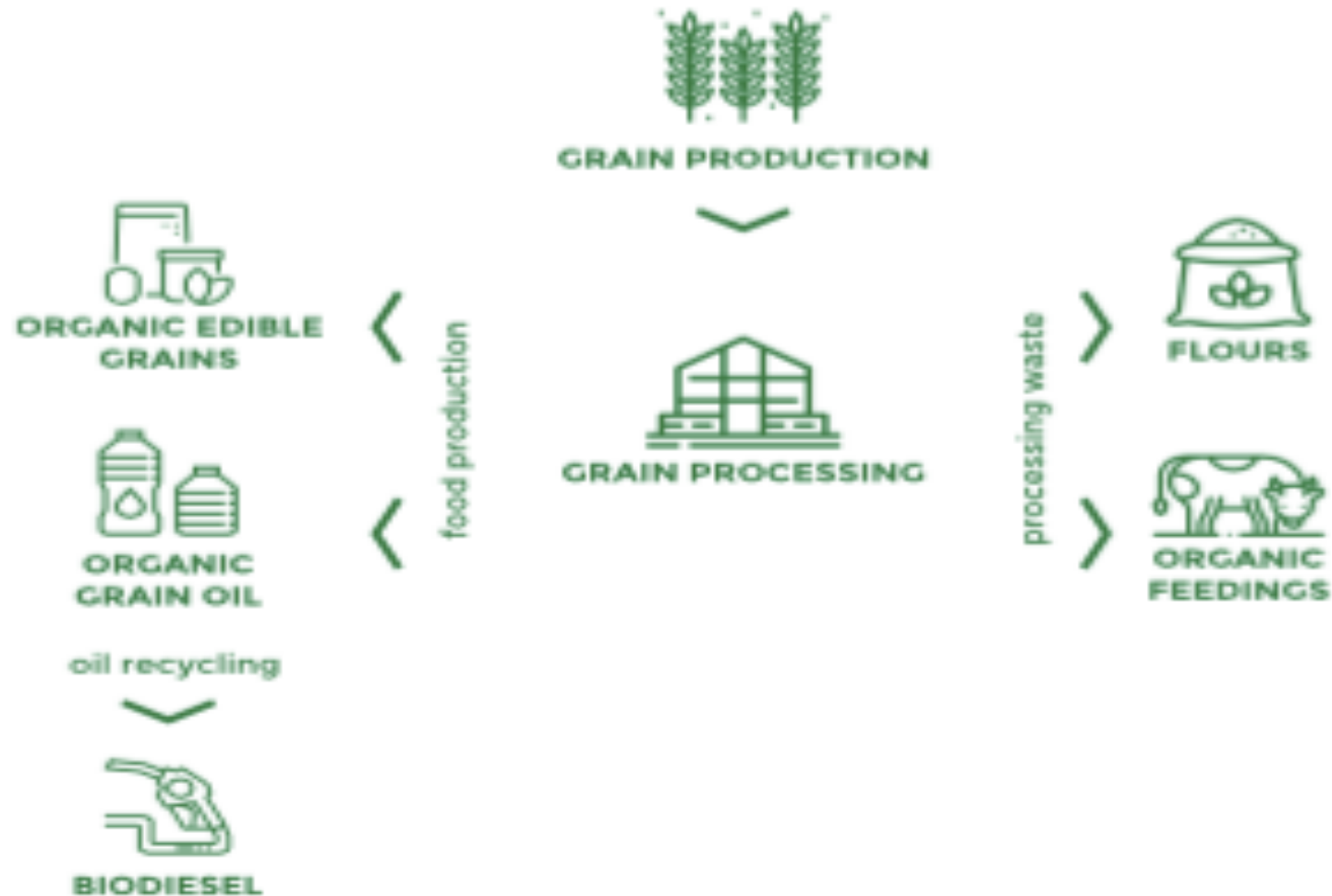
Ghent integrated food system

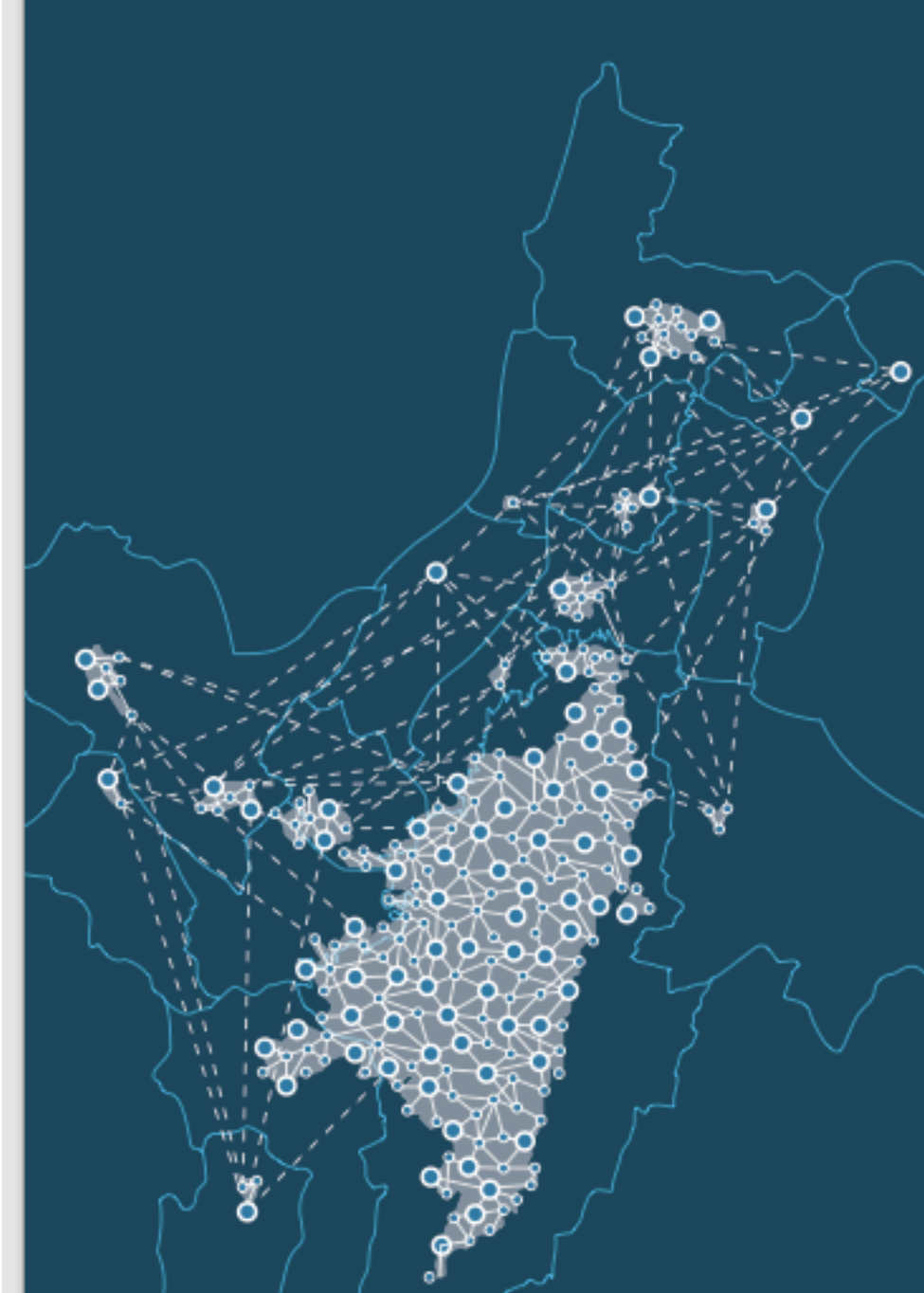
FOOD COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION PROCESS



Source: Ghent Public Centres for Social Welfare and the City of Ghent.

Porto Alegre oil & grain processing





City Systems are coming and the interlinkages between them must include equal treatment for the rural areas in between.

Example:
Colombia's newly conceived national system of cities

New Urban Agenda, paragraph 123:

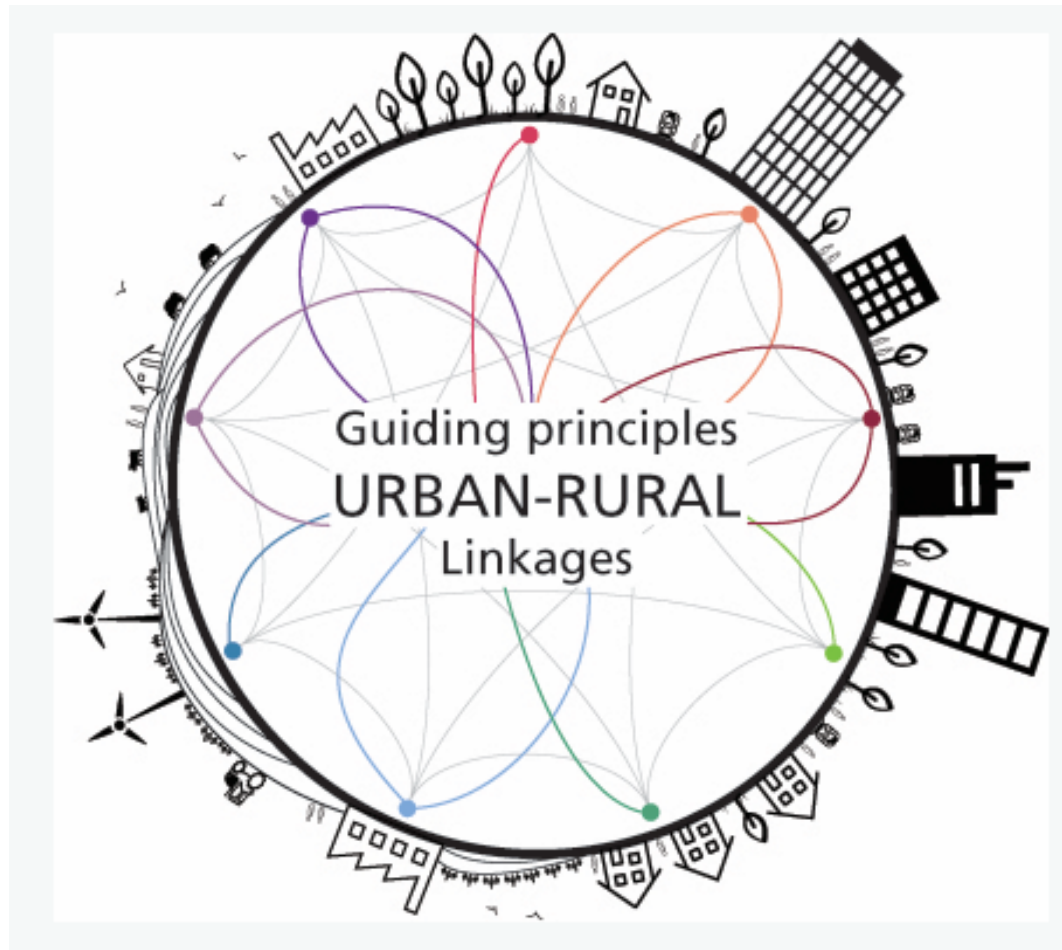
“We will promote the integration of food and nutrition needs of urban residents, particularly the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, to end hunger and malnutrition. We will promote coordination of sustainable food security and agriculture policies across urban, peri-urban, and rural areas to facilitate the production, storage, transport, and marketing of food to consumers in adequate and affordable ways to reduce food losses and to prevent and reuse food waste. We will further promote the coordination of food policies with energy, water, transport, waste, and other policies in urban areas to maximize efficiencies and minimize waste.”

Interlinkages among goals (SDGs) and targets are part of the foundation for improved urban-rural linkages



Colombia and Germany were strongly supporting the interlinkage between the SDGS during the process

Guiding Principles and Framework for action to advance integrated territorial development and link all levels of governance



Core elements of the initiative

- A universal set of principles to guide multi-level implementation of urban-rural linkages to advance integrated territorial development
- Thematic entry points and fields of action are context specific, spatially and functionally, with roles for different actors at all levels
- Institutional partners and stakeholders from different areas of expertise are essential to validate and rapidly advance implementation
- Guiding Principles will be basis for policy work and projects in different pilot countries

The Guiding Principles (June 2018)



GROUND INTERVENTI S

Translate global normative agendas in national and subnational commitments for territorial cohesion and action and policy related to the SDGs, such as the New Urban Agenda, Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction, Biodiversity or Nutrition. Mainstream urban-rural linkages and integrated territorial development to create enabling environments for local governments and subnational actors, overcome spatial inequalities and address the mobility of peoples, whether the



GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Strengthen governance mechanisms in a “new way of working”. Incorporate the urban-rural nexus in multi-sectoral, multi-level and multi-stakeholder approaches to governance integration. This should be done in order to align humanitarian and development strategies and action plans vertically across different levels of governance according to the principle of inclusive subsidiarity, and horizontally across spatially associated jurisdictions in metropolitan regions or with adjacent cities and towns including rural hinterlands and outer islands.

A “New Way of Working” refers to the revisiting of the relief to development continuum. Understanding context in urban, peri-urban, rural areas will help aligning humanitarian action and development goals by informing what long-term development and



SPATIALLY INTEGRATED

Promote integrative, inclusive and systems-based approaches to urban and territorial planning. Consider multiple scales of urban and rural settlements in systems of cities and towns of different sizes in terms of territorial, functional and ecosystem-based interconnectivity including those in more outlying hinterlands or in the case of cities in island nations, in smaller outlying island communities.



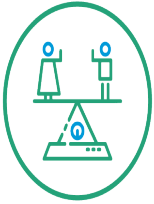
INCLUSIVE FINANCE

Secure and prioritize sustainable investment that is balanced between and conducive to urban-rural linkages. Complement sectoral funding with objectives of integrated rural and urban economic, social and environmental development with special attention to small towns, intermediate cities and peri-urban areas; promote fiscal strategies to address unequal public services and infrastructure investment.



PARTNERSHIP

Foster partnerships, alliances and networks that link urban and rural actors and different sectors. Enhance synergies across urban and rural actors and harness capacities and skills across a wide range of stakeholders such as civil society, private sector and academic institutions through inclusive and participatory processes for full engagement, especially for the most marginalized groups and communities.



HUMAN RIGHTS

Embed human rights-based approaches in all policy instruments and actions, ensuring development initiatives and processes do not adversely impact the human rights of actors at different points across the urban-rural continuum.



DO NO HARM

Strive to strike a balance between measures affecting urban, peri-urban and rural populations. Strengthen urban-rural linkages and reduce inequalities to protect and promote health, food security, water, nutrition, land tenure and well being in initiatives, policies, programmes and in service provision for both the informal and formal sectors. (endnote reference to Pinhero Principles)



SOCIALLY INCLUSIVE AND PARTICIPATORY

Ensure participation of people, local institutions and communities. Build capacity for active engagement of urban, peri-urban and rural communities in integrated territorial governance, by especially empowering women, Indigenous Peoples, children, youth, elders, slum dwellers, migrants, and others at risk of being left behind based on participatory analysis of gaps in capacity for active engagement.



ACTION ORIENTED

Create the institutional environment conducive to integrated planning strategies through tools that are flexibly and sensitively adapted to individual country and subnational contexts. Policy instruments, programmes and tools should be accessible and useful to a wide variety of actors with appropriate mandates, responsibilities and capacity development for cooperation across administrative and natural boundaries in urban and rural landscapes.



SPATIALLY AND GENDER DISAGGREGATED DATA

Establish or improve knowledge systems for the urban-rural continuum and territorial cohesion. Collect urban, peri-urban and rural (gender-disaggregated) data and indicators on national and subnational levels (including non-state and grassroots knowledge and addressing appropriate scale and inclusion of quantifiable and qualitative data). Facilitate knowledge sharing, monitor performance and evaluation, make information accessible, transparent and interactive and available for all.

The Guiding Principles and the Framework for Action (June 2018)



In the current, second draft version, the Guiding Principles are accompanied by a Framework for Action consisting of

Creating an enabling environment for strengthened urban-rural linkages:

A, Governance, legislation and capacity development

B, Integrated planning across the urban-rural continuum

C, Investment and finance for inclusive urban-rural development

D, Empower people and communities

E, Knowledge/data management for dynamic spatial flows of people, products, services and information

Sectorial and thematic entry points to promote integrated territorial development

F, Territorial economic development and employment

G, New and coherent approaches to social service provision

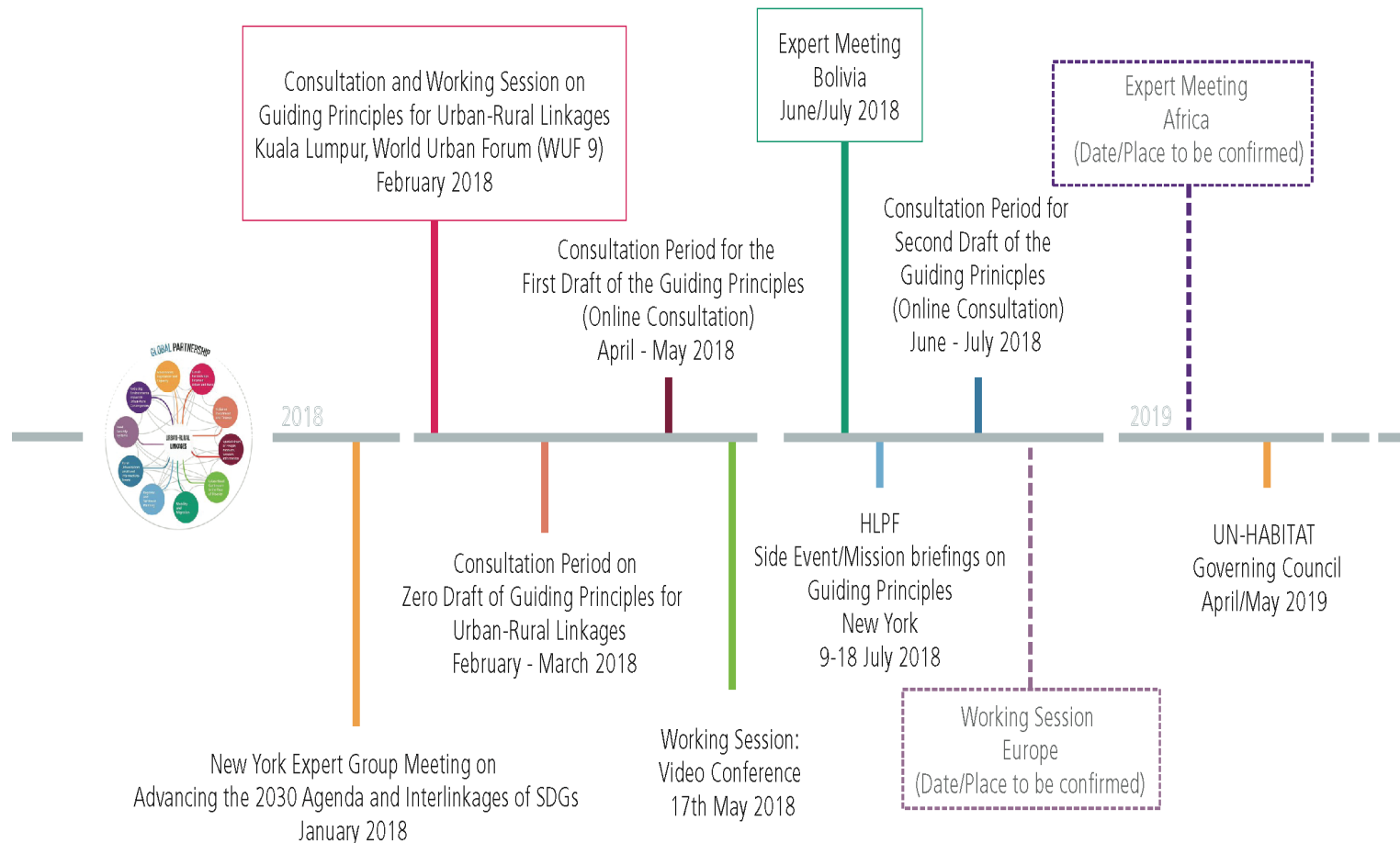
H, Infrastructure and communications

I, Integrated approaches for food security, nutrition, and public health

J, Environmental impact and natural resource and land management

K, The urban-rural continuum in the face of conflict and disaster

Recent and planned events for developing the Guiding Principles



Key reference links:

- Inclusive Rural Urban Linkages, RMISP, 2014
http://www.rimisp.org/wp-content/files_mf/1422296516InclusiveRural_UrbanLinkages_edited.pdf
- Milan Urban Food Policy Pact
<http://www.milanurbanfoodpolicypact.org>
- 2030 Agenda and the SDGs
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org>
- Urban Rural Linkages Guiding Principles and Framework for Action to Advance Integrated Territorial Development
<https://urbanrurallinkages.wordpress.com>

Thank you!

