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## **ID 1577 | CONNECTING FOOD WITH PLANNING PROFESSION: A REVIEW PAPER ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND EVOLUTION OF URBAN FOOD PLANNING, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH**

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**ABSTRACT:** The food system has been noticed by planning profession since the World Health Organization launched the Healthy Cities movement in the 1980s. As the result, countries gradually started to focus on the health, agricultural and urban food security issue and make efforts to create healthier and more liveable cities ever since. Food system has been regarded as production and consumption of food in general and could be divided into the policy and planning dimensions. Food policies are about agriculture, economic development, logistics and education can cooperate with each other in policy actions or how non-governmental organisations, farmers and other different stakeholders can work with the government. The spatial planning of urban food is related to how we can improve the access for people to get the healthy food and how to implement the sustainable urban food planning. In addition, urban design concerning the application of productive landscape and other tools are also parts of spatial interventions to urban agriculture and food city. Although food planning has gradually been discussed in recent years, there has been a lack of systematic review about this planning trend. In this paper, we reviewed the literature related to the subject of urban food planning since 1980. Through analysing articles in planning related journals, we created the literature maps and descriptive statistics that document the current development of food planning literature and organise them by the definition, themes, history, typology, evolution and future direction of food in connection with the planning research, practice and education. We wish to contribute to this emerging planning and design paradigm that concerning about food, public health, sustainability and the new rural-urban relationship.

**KEYWORDS:** healthy cities, food planning, urban agriculture, literature review, planning trend

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

The food system has been noticed by planning profession since the World Health Organization launched the Healthy Cities movement in the 1980s. This reflects the increasing public concern on the food safety, food security and its relationship to toward a healthy and liveable environment. Food system contains two parts, including production and consumption, and could be considered by its policy and planning dimensions. In the policy dimension, it is about the cooperation between agriculture, economic

development, logistics and education sectors or the relationship within governmental sectors, non-governmental organisations, farmers and other different stakeholders. The planning cares about the spatial domain, regarding the location of the agricultural land, the availability of food and how to achieve a sustainable food planning. As for urban design, it can be related to the productive landscape and other tools to raise the public awareness on food issues.

Food issues have been discussed in different disciplines and the purpose of this paper is going to identify the emerging themes and topics in food planning in order to identify the potential research gap in planning discipline. While growing number of papers on the food subjects published in planning literatures, there is no comprehensive and systematic analysis on how this subject has been discussion in our profession. Therefore, the goal of this article is to identify the trends in food planning, using online literatures as the database, to discussed the similarity and difference on the subject of discussion on the food systems and food planning by the general public, academia, and planning scholars.

## 2 LITERATURE REVIEW

Pothukuchi & Kaufman's(1999) ground-breaking work "Placing the food system on the urban agenda: the role of municipal institutions in the food systems planning place the food issue in the centre of attention in the contemporary planning literature. They pointed out the rationality of behind such advocacy:

"Air, water, and food are the three essentials of life. Clearly, it would be extraordinarily difficult to have high-quality human settlements without high-quality air, water, and food. Planners have been heavily involved in efforts to improve the quality of air and water through air and water pollution control programs. But the third leg of the essential life tool, food, has been virtually ignored by planners. If planners are truly concerned about improving human settlements, they need to incorporate food issues into their working models." (Pothukuchi & Kaufman, 1999, p.8)

Besides of the basic necessity of life, they also highlighted the food issues are planning issues due to its relationship to local economy, public health, quality of neighbourhoods, urban sprawl, and many others. An year after, Pothukuchi & Kaufman's(2000) in another article "The food system: A stranger to the planning field", further discussed the key food topics at that time and identify planning actions improve the food systems, with particular focus from the social equity of food accessibility. As the results, literatures on the food issues has emerged in the area of food deserts (Battersby and Crush 2014), food security(Lang and Miao 2013, Opitz In addition, we used "Food", "Agriculture" and "Farm" as keywords to define the food-related hot topics in the planning literature. Finally, we made the cross-comparisons among topics in these subsets of literatures. The hot topics are decided by its frequency of appearance on the web and ranked accordingly. The purpose of the comparison is to discover the research gap in food-planning research in urban planning discipline. (Figure1)



Figure 1 - Research Design

## 3 GLOBAL DIMENSION

The Google Trends website allows researchers to download data for almost all countries at no cost and to download time series of any search term's popularity over time (provided enough people have searched for it). For these reasons, Google Trends is an attractive data source for social scientists. (Mellon, 2013)

Here we use Google Trends as the primary tool to search “Food Planning” and find the popular theme of interest by the general public. The keywords are “food planning” and searching dates are defined from 2004/1/1 to 2016/12/31. There are two classifications, “Related Topics” and “Related Queries”, in the results of Google Trends. Each classification ranks interrelated topics in two ways, “top” and “rising”, and each way lists 23~25 words. In this research, we choose “Related topics” to analyse and 50 topics are collected in our database (Figure2).

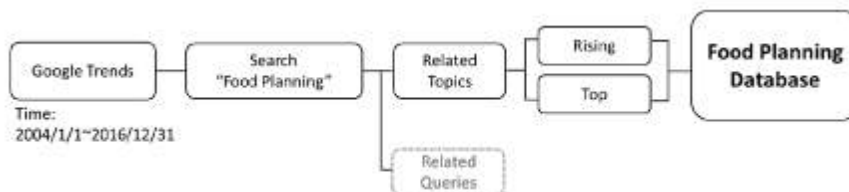


Figure 2 - The process of the global food-planning relate search

In the result of “Food Planning” searching, “Health” and “Nutrition/ Nutrient/ Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics” are in both ranking at the top and rising in the global food-planning discussions. This result shows that in the public pay more attention on food in relationship to health-related issues. Besides, it came to a conclusion that the popular topics in food planning in the world from 2004 to 2016 are dietary or entertainment-related. On the rising side, we see “Food security”, “Planning Commission”, “Vegetable”, “Food systems”, “Marketing” and “Business plan” are getting its popularity in the world. In this case, it reflects that the public are more interested in social and economic issues comparing to the spatial discussion, such as the urban planning which is appear in the last position of the ranking table. (Table 1).

	TOP	RISING
1	Food	Food security
2	Outline of meals	Month
3	Menu	Nutrient
4	Party	Food truck
5	Eating	Planning Commission
6	Health	Vegetable
7	Diet	Nutrition facts label
8	Plan	Breakfast
9	Event management	Food systems
10	Nutrition	Marketing
11	Budget	Buffet
12	wedding	Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
13	Catering	Business plan
14	Cooking	Goal
15	Management	Budget
16	Family planning	Event management
17	Food and Beverage	Eating
18	Food Network	Health
19	Week	wedding
20	Company	Cooking
21	Wedding Planner	Management
22	Cost	Food
23	Fast food	Family planning
24	Dinner	Menu
25	Urban planning	Outline of meals

Table 1 - The searching results from the global dimension

In general, these topics are always discussed enthusiastically in the world, then gradually draw the academic attention. It might be because the academic articles need more time to be published and lead to a lag concern on topics. Overall, the academia dimension provides a more detailed observation in the food planning. It is necessary and important to look into the academic literature to study the types of food planning issues had been discussed.

#### 4 ACADEMIA DIMENSION

In the academia dimension, we have divided the keyword search into three part. One part is going to observe the number of different periods recognizing the time when it appeared lots of articles about food planning. Another part is going to find the hot issues in the academia dimension before 2016. The last is to identify important journals in this search.

Vitiello(2014) and Pothukuchi(2015) both discussed about the food planning from an evolution perspective. Use “Google Scholar” as the primary tool. We search “sustainable food planning” “food systems planning” “urban food planning” and “community food planning” to find literatures in four different scales. At the time



scale, we take “1980” as the first time division because it is the time that World Health Organization launched the Health Cities movement. Besides, according to the publication date of “Placing the food system on the urban agenda. The role of civil institutions in food systems planning”(Pothukuchi and Kaufman 1999), it takes “2000” as another time division for the reason that the above article is famously regarded as the new millennium of the food planning (Figure3).

Figure3 - The process of the academia data search by different time divisions

The growing scholar attentions on food planning issues was after 2000, despite WHO launched Health Cities movement was 1986. Besides, “Food systems planning” was the topic that mostly covered among four levels and this can be made a conjecture that most of the people talked about the food issue on the country scale (Table2 and Figure4).

Keywords	~1979	1980-1999	2000-2016	total
Sustainable Food Planning	0	1	420	421
Food Systems Planning	2	31	757	790
Urban Food Planning	0	2	301	303
Community Food Planning	0	8	75	83
Total	2	42	1553	1597

Table 2 - The result of the academia data search in different periods

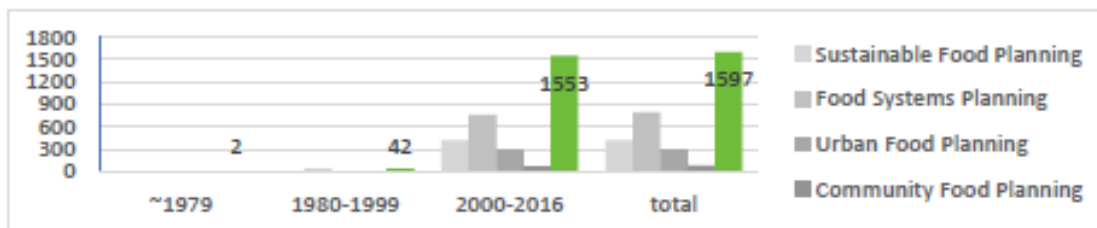


Figure 4 - The bar chart of the academia data search in different periods

To identify the hot topics among the academic research on food planning, we collected the 99 journal articles from “Google Scholar”, excluding the review paper, non-English articles, incomplete articles, theses and books. Second, we review the articles and selected those with keyword listed. Lastly, we categorize these keywords and put them in groups according to their similarity and rank them according to their frequency of appearance. (Figure5). Among those article database, there are only 66 articles contains keywords and 576 keywords in our database. “Agriculture”, “Policy”, “Local” and “Security” ranked as the top four keywords that appeared more than ten times.

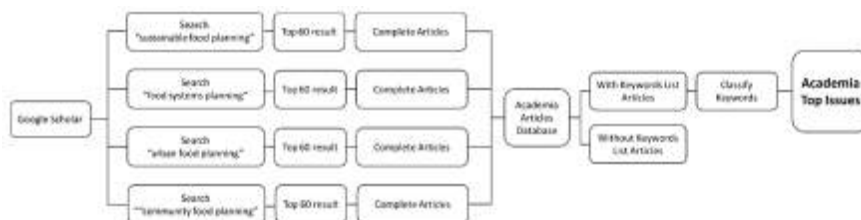


Figure 5 - The process of the academia data search

Times	Keywords
21	agriculture
15	policy
14	local
14	security
8	development
7	land
7	public
7	social

Table 3 - The table of the academia data search by Keywords lists

The above mentioned 99 articles also used to identify the journals that contribute to the food planning subject and with the important articles. Journals related to agriculture, justice, social and policy show the importance in this research. The table below list journals that included more than two popular articles in searching in google scholar. The most prominent journal in this analysis is International Planning Studies (Table4). International Planning Studies is a journal focusing on the challenges that urban, regional, and national and international levels facing in the planning.

Journal	Frequency
International Planning Studies	17
Agriculture and Human Values	9
Journal of Planning Education and Research	9
Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability	5
International Journal of Sociology of Agriculture and Food	3
Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development	3
Journal of the American Planning Association	3
Land Use Policy	3
Food Policy	2
Geography Compass	2
Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning	2
Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition	2
Regional Studies	2

Table 4 - The journals with popular food-planning related articles

As urban planner, we need to be more sensibly aware of food issues in our lives (Pothukuchi and Kaufman 1999). Therefore, in the following research, we do the similar search on the urban planning literatures and identify the hot issues in the urban planning academia field and will be used to identify the potential research gap in the next step.

## 5 URBAN PLANNING ACADEMIA

First, we need to decide which journals are important in the urban planning academia. Second, find articles which have "food", "agriculture" and "farm" either in the title or in the abstract during 2000, the time has the significant growth, to 2016. Third, collect all listed keywords of selected articles and analyse the number of occurrences of words to point out main topics the urban planning academia (Figure6).

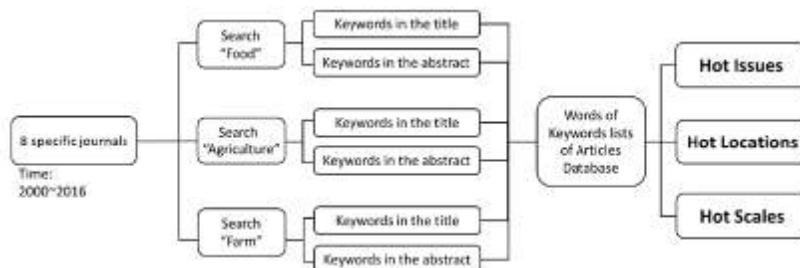


Figure 6 - The process of the urban planning academia data search

Referring to “Urban Studies & Planning Research Guide: Journal List” of the library of University of California, San Diego, we choose eight main journals and search the specific keywords to find food-related articles, including Environment & Planning A, Environment & Planning B: Planning & Design, Environment & Planning C: Government & Policy, Environment & Planning D: Society & Space, Journal of Planning Education and Research, Journal of Planning Literature, Urban Affairs Review and Urban Studies. There are 232 articles collected and 66 of them with keyword listed. The table5 below was the particular outcome which shows the words that mentioned more than 5 times, and these subjects are policy, agriculture, security, land and governance, that are mainly related to security or health. As we discussed in the literature review, the current literature on food planning are socially related. The spatial-oriented keywords, such as land, accessibility and the network show the relatively lower frequency in this research. As the result, we can conjecture current research efforts have made more attention on the social rather than the spatial terms.

Times	Keywords	Original Keywords
13	Policy	policy,policy-making,policy-mobilities,political-sensibilities,politics-of-possibility,political-ecology,new-political-spaces,food-policy,environmental-policy-making
12	Agriculture	urban-agriculture,agriculture,peri-urban-agriculture,agroecology,agrofood-standards,agricultural-change,agricultural-soil-carbon-projects
12	Security	biosecurity,food-security,Biosecurity,Biosecurity-governance,community-food-security,food-in/security,securing,security
10	Land	land-use,Conflicts-over-land,farmland-amenity,land,Land-grab,land-grabbing,landscape,land-scarcity,land-use-change,rural-land-management
8	Governance	governance,risk-governance,urban-climate-governance,urban-governance
7	Economy	bioeconomy,urban-economy,carbon-economies,economic-integration,evolutionary-economic-geography,local-economic-development,urban-economics

7	Accessibility	food-access,accessibility,physical-access,food-accessibility,open-access
7	Poverty	poverty,poverty-alleviation,poverty-dynamics,spatial-poverty-trap,urban-poverty
6	Desert	food-deserts,food-desert
5	Network	actor-network-theory,agrifood-network,alternative-food-networks,network-design,networks-of-practice
5	Environment	built-environment,environmental-lifestyles,food-environment,food-environments,obesogenic-environments

Table 5 - The table of the urban planning academia subjects searched by keywords

To put the spatial theme in the centre of food planning discussions, we further analyse the articles by its geographic location of study. We found most of the articles discussed the subjects or area in European countries, while South American countries did not attract the attention. Different regions have different food issues identified. For example, when it comes to European(Reynolds 2010), most of the food issues focus on the sustainable topics. When it comes to the North America (Cohen and Reynolds 2014, Pothukuchi 2010), Africa(Battersby and Crush 2014) or Asia(Lang and Miao 2013), the subject is socially related, in terms of health, justice and security (Opitz et al. 2015) (Table6).

Continent	Times	Country	Times	Original Keywords
Europe	34	Europe	8	Europe, European, Europeanising, Europe's
		British	4	British
		England	12	England, England's, Kingdom, Leeds, Cardiff, London
		Nederland	3	Dutch, Netherlands
		Belgian	1	Belgian
		Spain	1	Catalonia
		Germany	1	Germany
		Hungary	1	Makó
		Portland	1	Portland
		Spain	1	Spanish
Sweden	1	Sweden		
North America	22	America	11	America, American, Mississippi, Buffalo, California, San Francisco, Hawai'i
		Mexico	5	Mexico, Oaxaca, Toluca
		Canada	2	Canada, Canadian
		America	2	Detroit
		Guatemala	2	Guatemala
Asia	19	China	14	China, China's, Kunshan
		Japan	1	Hakuba's
		Russia	1	Russian
		Sri Lanka	1	Sri Lanka
		Turkey	1	Turkey

		Vietnam	1	Vietnam
Africa	12	Africa	12	Africa, African, Lusaka, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Burkina, Kenya
Oceania	5	Australia	5	Australasian, Australia, Vienna
South America	0	-	-	-
Antarctica	0	-	-	-

Table 6 - The geographic area of food-related research in urban planning

Nowadays, we talk about food issues always at a city scale. In the “Avoiding the Local Trap: Scale and Food Systems in Planning Research”(Born and Purcell 2006), it considered the food issues with a view to the scale. Authors thought that the local or community level was before other bigger levels, according to the ecological sustainability, the social and economic justice and the food quality and human health. It reminded the public that it should not draw the equal sign between the local food and the healthy food. The local healthy food is assembled by the concept of fresh, healthy, short distance, justice and so on. At the end of the article, it brought up that the network approach can offer an alternative solution to the local trap. From this point of view, the scale of discussed issues is also important (Table7). The provincial level was the most mentioned keywords, and secondary levels were global and city. We seldom talked about the national scale of food issues. and it might be the neglected point of food issue. National food issues are related to food distribution in countries. Besides, if we can discuss food issues from the perspective of the central government, food issues can enhance the importance to a certain degree. In addition, it is worth to be noticed that the local scale shows its number of occurrence out of the expectation. It shows the trend that the public began to concerned about the food in their neighbourhood. About all, food issues are extensively discussed in every scale.

Scale		Times	Original Keywords
International		14	global, globalisation, globalization, world
National		1	national
Regional		11	Regional, metropolis, metropolises, Metropolitan
Provincial	urban	13	cities, city, municipal
	rural	25	rural, ruralities, suburban
Local		8	communities, community, community-based

Table 7 – The scale table of the urban planning academia data search

When we looked into abstracts of every articles and sorted them into four themes, we can also get a similar result as the result of the analysis of keywords lists collection. According to Sustainable Food Planning (Andre Viljoen and Wiskerke 2012), it classify food-related topics into four domains: Social relevance, Environmental relevance, Economic relevance and Spatial relevance. In the social relevance, it concludes the health, the food culture, the sustainable lifestyles and the food consumption. And in the environment relevance, it is about the organic food, the food production, the ecological footprint, the waste management and the biodiversity. When it comes to the economic relevance, it always talks about the employment and income, the food growing supplies, the local trade and the food processing. In the spatial relevance, it is related to the public open space, the accessibility, the land use and the planning. Besides, in order to know the evolution of the urban food planning from 2000, we count the proportions of each subject in every year. There are 238 articles analysed in this study, and each article is categorized into one domain. On the basis of above characteristics, you can see the result of classification in the figure7 and the table6.

As you can see, the society domain always got the higher amount in every year especially after 2012. The amount of articles of the economy domain was always more than the environment domain before 2013, but recently the environment domain got the notice in the urban planning academia. As for the spatial domain, it got a lower attention of the urban planning academia. This might be a crisis because we should



put the most effect on the spatial operation in the urban planning. However, the result showed the opposite direction. Except the urban planning, there is seldom professional field that will care about the spatial issues. If the urban planner continues to ignore spatial food issues, we will come down to a terrible life quality and fall to build a sustainable food city.

	economy	environment	society	spatial	Total
2000	1	2	3	0	6
2001	1	1	1	1	4
2002	10	1	15	0	26
2003	2	2	5	1	10
2004	3	1	6	2	12
2005	4	3	5	0	12
2006	1	3	5	1	11
2007	3	4	7	2	16
2008	3	2	10	0	15
2009	1	0	3	2	7
2010	5	3	9	1	18
2011	5	3	4	3	15
2012	4	0	7	1	12
2013	1	1	6	0	8
2014	3	4	7	1	15
2015	3	3	14	1	21
2016	4	7	12	1	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>230</b>

Table 6 - The table of the urban planning academia data search by title

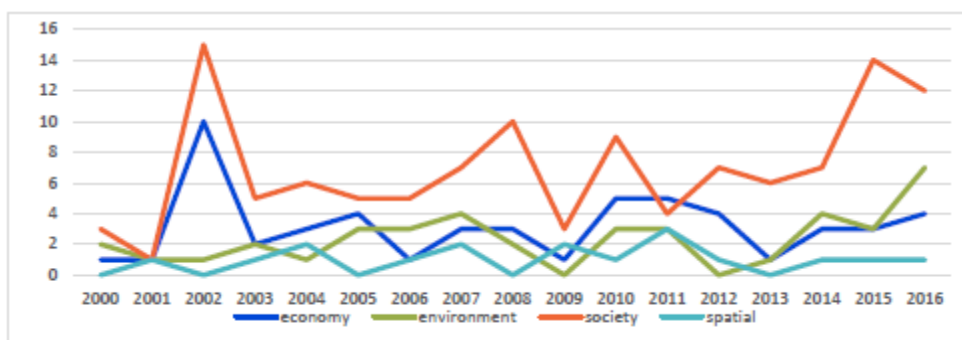


Figure 7 - The number of articles of each subject in every year after 2000

In all 17 articles about the space, most of them focus on the policy. There are eight articles related to the policy discussion. Reframing the foodscape: the emergent world of urban food policy (Moragues-Faus and Morgan 2015) talked about a new food governance system in Malmö and Bristol. It brought out this kind of new governance needs a close cooperation between governments and civic organizations. Even though it might be a challenge to create a local-based food planning within complex governance systems, we should not give up devoting to building a sustainable food city. Second more are seven articles discussed the accessibility and the location of the retail, food desert and the network in the urban area. Besides, there also two papers discussed the food land use. Planning on the Edge: England's Rural — Urban Fringe and the Spatial-Planning Agenda (Nick Gallent, Marco Bianconi and Andersson 2006) looked into the multi-dimension food planning, including the management, the policy and the land use, on the edge of cities which are always to be the rural area and related to the location of the food production. Colonist Household Decision making and Land-Use Change in the Amazon Rainforest: An Agent-Based Simulation (Deadman et al. 2004) discussed in a relatively smaller scale in the farm planning. We

discussed a lot on food issues but seldom tried to development a systematic food planning to those problems to create a sustainable food city.

## 6 CROSS-COMPARISON

Different topics show their importance in three dimension (Table 8). For example, “Health” ranks first in the global dimension but it ranks fourth in the academia and show the low importance in the urban planning academia. According to the concept, other topics in the ranking show the same meanings of their rankings.

	Global	Academia	Urban Planning Academia
1	Health	Agriculture	Security
2	Nutrition	Policy	Policy
3	Security	Security	Agriculture
4	Food Network	Health	Land
5	Economy	Justice	Governance

Table 8 – The ranking table of hot issues in different dimensions

We need to notice the subjects that are outside the urban planning but located at the global dimension and the academia dimension (Figure15). In general, the common subject is security and it is also the top three theme in all dimensions. It indicates that we have put lots of effort on it and followed it closely for a long time. Comparing the global dimension and the academia dimension, “Health” and “Security” are both critical issues. Look into the academia dimension and the urban planning academia dimension, besides security, “Policy” and “Agriculture” are both identical issues. Then regarding the global dimension and the

urban planning academia dimension, there is no common subject except the security. It is a noteworthy view that the urban planning did not notice the issues that the global has already noticed on food issues, such as “Food Network” and “Nutrition”. These two subject are relative important in the urban planning academia



Figure 15 - The original diagram of hot issues in different levels

## 7 CONCLUSION

In the “The Food System: A Stranger to the Planning Field”, it also became aware of the similar situation. “Planning texts over the last few decades have provided a comprehensive overview of the planning profession while identifying several central topics. These include physical planning and urban design, land use, economic development, social planning, growth management, real estate development, public infrastructure, environmental planning, urban transportation, housing, historic preservation, and technology planning (Catanese & Snyder,1988; Chapin, 1972; Levy, 1988; So & Getzels, 1988). None of these texts includes planning for the community food system, and few of the specialisations described allude to the food system.”(Pothukuchi & Kaufman, 2000, p.3)

Therefore, we need to focus much more on the spatial planning in the food system, such as how to connect the public space, the visual amenity, the transportation systems, the land use planning to the food systems in the future. As the “Feeding the City: Towards a New Research and Planning Agenda” concluded, “more comparative and comprehensive studies of the emerging urban food strategies are necessary to fully capture the potential of fast-growing cities in creating or recreating more sustainable social, economic and environmental linkages with their surrounding regions.”(Sonnino 2010). The

advantage and the importance of the urban planning is that we have a relatively greater power than other non-spatial professional fields in cities. We need to make good use of our particular tools to solve food issues, instead of staying in the discussion of social issues. Moreover, according to the study, we have already discussed lots of social issues of the food planning and got a roughly clear context. As the result, it is time to put our effort on the spatial discussion and think more comprehensively on the spatial food issues to creative a sustainable food city.

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