

Urban food sharing: Innovations, governance & sustainability

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What is food sharing?

“**having** a portion [of food] with another or others; **giving** a portion [of food] to others; **using, occupying** or **enjoying** [food and food related spaces to include the **growing, cooking** and/or **eating** of food] jointly; possessing an **interest** [in food] in common; or **telling** someone about [food]”.

(Adapted from Oxford University Press, 2014)

This definition emphasises the practices and experiences of **having things in common** and **doing things together** around food, including but moving beyond commensality; the practice of eating or drinking together. Such a definition includes attention to what is shared, from **raw materials** (e.g. crops) to **products** (e.g. processed food products, tools and cooking utensils) and **services**, as well as **capabilities** (knowledge and skills) and **spaces** (e.g. fields, allotments, gardens, and kitchens).



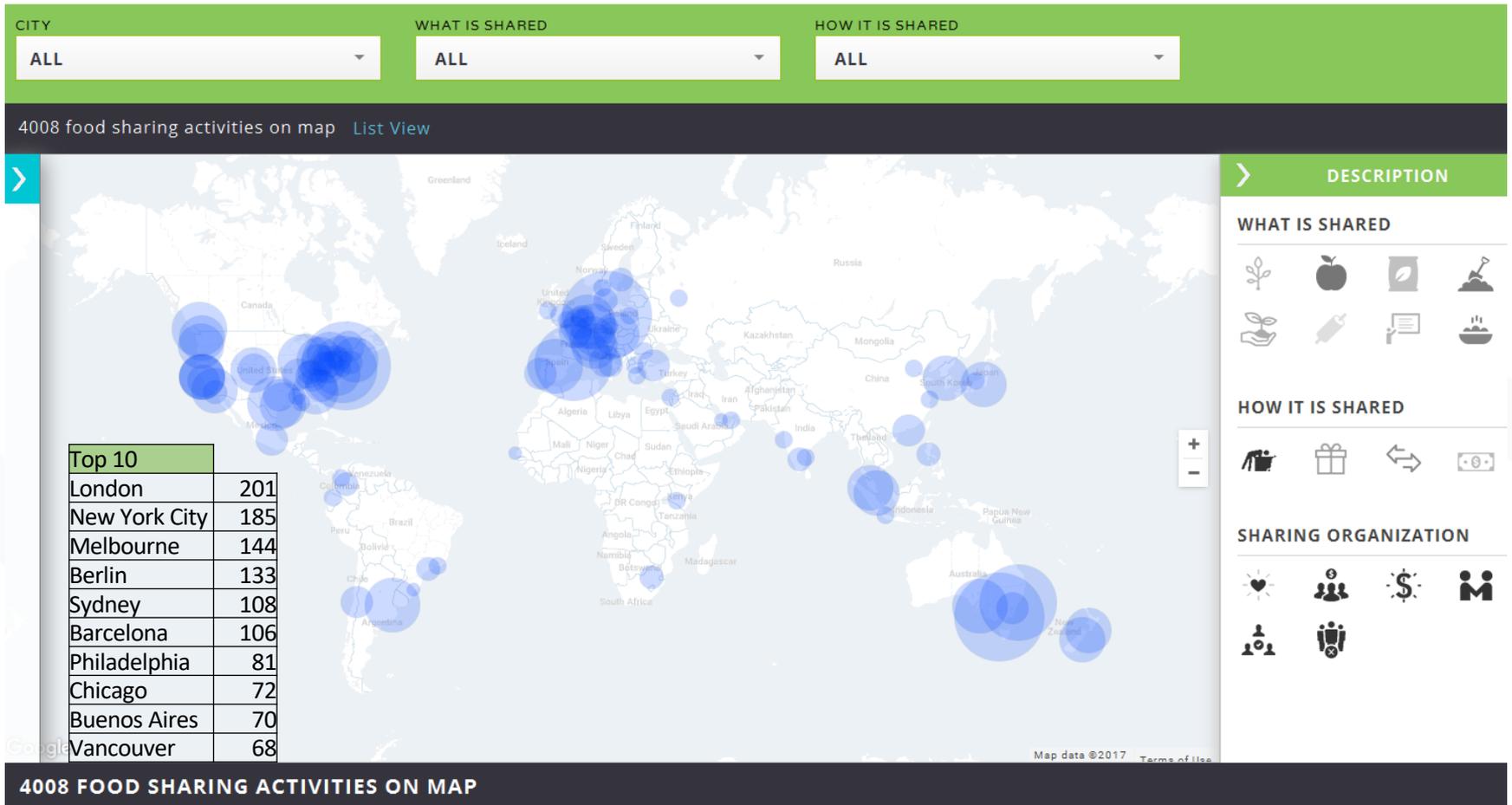
SHARECITY

Aims to establish the **significance** and **potential** of **urban ICT-mediated** food sharing initiatives to help transition towards more sustainable pathways by:

- 1) Developing **deeper theoretical** understanding of contemporary food sharing
- 2) Generating **comparative international empirical** data about food sharing activities
- 3) Assessing the **impact** of food sharing activities
- 4) Exploring how urban food sharing might **evolve** in the future



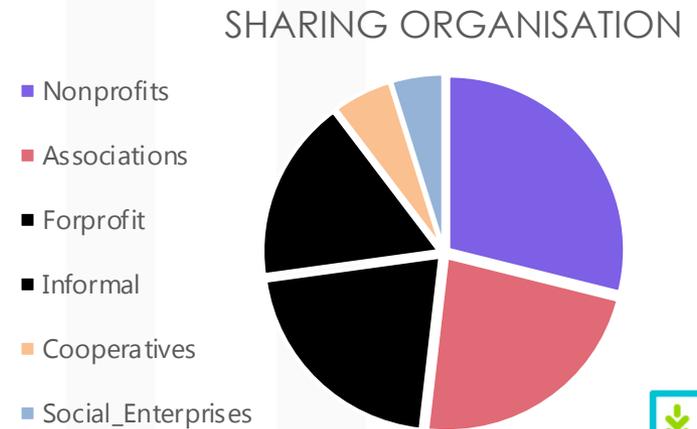
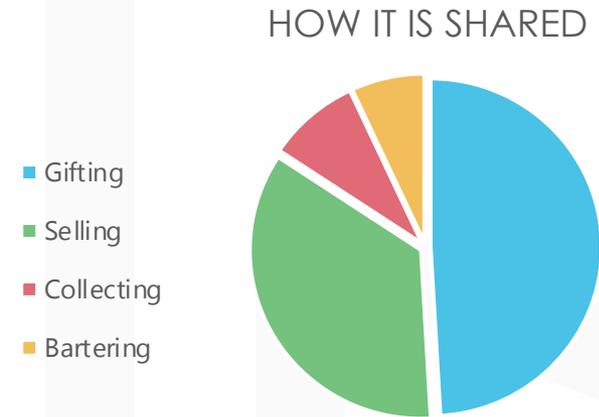
Making food sharing visible



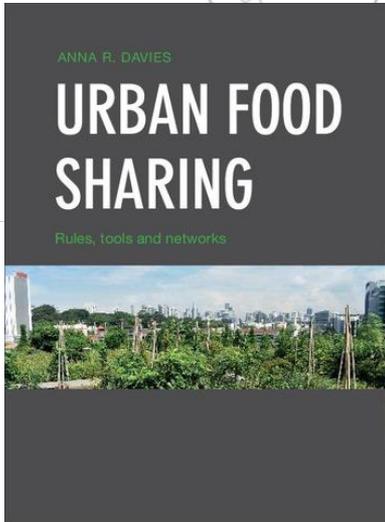
www.sharecity.ie/research/sharecity100-database



The diversity of food sharing



Practices and performances

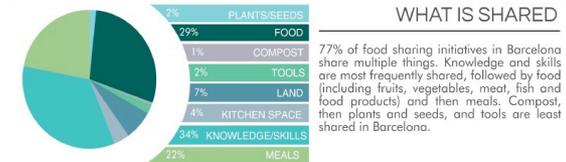


Urban Food Sharing (2019) Policy Press
<https://library.open.org/handle/20.500.12657/25248>

SHARECITY PROFILE

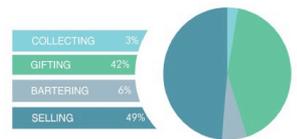
BARCELONA

Barcelona is ranked 6th in the SHARECITY 100 Database of global ICT-mediated food sharing, with 106 initiatives currently active in the city.



HOW IT IS SHARED

Selling is the most common form of food sharing in Barcelona, followed closely by gifting. Collecting and bartering are relatively infrequent modes of exchange. Only 8% of initiatives share via multiple methods, the most common combination being gifting and selling.



Is (ICT-) food sharing innovative?

- Technical innovations
 - Apps (e.g. FoodCloud); collaborative crowdsourcing and open platform mapping (e.g. Fallen Fruit);
- Social innovations
 - Creating food commons (e.g. 596 Acres)
 - Supporting communities (e.g. Be Enriched)
 - Facilitating community cohesion (e.g. Himmelbeet)
- Environmental innovations
 - Circular economies around food surplus
 - Regenerative agricultural practices
- Economic innovations
 - New business models (e.g. EatWith)
 - Reinvigorated exchange models (e.g. ICT-barter);



Connection as innovation

SKIP GARDEN & KITCHEN

“... All of this helps to nurture **a close-knit and collaborative community, which cares about its environment** - and about the planet as a whole ... I work with a group of ten volunteers that are coming regularly, helping maintain the garden. They **give away about a thousand hours a year of work** to maintain the garden.”

EDIBLE
GARDEN CITY

“There’s a mysterious and undeniable discovery of our own soul when we start to become more connected to our food ... Working with plants is **therapeutic** and **rewarding**.”

Himmel
beet

“People **pay attention** to other people. They also pay attention to animals and plants. They behave in such a way that they do no harm to anyone. That's what we want in the Himmelbeet. That all **face each other with respect** ... Everyone works together at Himmelbeet.

Working together is easier than on your own. Therefore, offer your help if someone needs help. You can accept help or friendly say "no". ”

[transl.]



Challenges

Fears for inner city as Bridgefoot Street community garden set to close

Residents have spoken about how much the garden has meant to their community

By Sarah-Louise Hennessy
Thu 11 Nov 2016

Inner city Dublin is set to lose an important community garden by the end of the year, as plans are underway to transform the area with a new park.

While a community garden is included within the future plans, residents in the Bridgefoot Street area are concerned about the interim plans - and what it means for existing crops.

On December 31, the Bridgefoot Street community garden will close in its location nestled between Thomas Street, Usher Island, and Oliver Bond Street.

0 READ MORE

• Councillor calls on public to rally against anti-social behaviour in St Cuthbert's Park



City shuts down the community garden

SHARON WATSON/IRISHMILK - APRIL 4, 2016

0 READ MORE

"We wish it wasn't closing down": Edmonton food kitchen closure forces clients to search elsewhere for a meal, friendship

National News | September 26, 2016 by Chris Stewart. Attributed to: | 0 Comments

0 Share 0 Tweet



Chris Stewart

AFTN News

A soup kitchen in Edmonton is being forced to close forcing hundreds to another place to get a warm breakfast and lunch.

The Gathering Place on Fort Road, also known as Mawachitwin operating out of a closed downtown hotel since Nov. 2017.

THE IRISH TIMES

Fri, Nov 11, 2016

NEWS SPORT BUSINESS OPINION LIFE & STYLE CULTURE

Food & Drink Recipes Restaurants Drink

Growing pains: The Dublin community gardens under threat

As the housing crisis deepens, allotments are being earmarked for development

0 Fri, Nov 26, 2016, 12:43

Catherine Cleary
0 Follow



NEW ZEALAND | CANTERBURY

Kaikōura community kitchen on cusp of closure

07 Nov 2017 6:00 PM

0 Share 0 Like 0 Comment 0 Retweet

Kaikōura's beloved community kitchen could be forced shut if the district council carries out its plan to close the local meat hall.



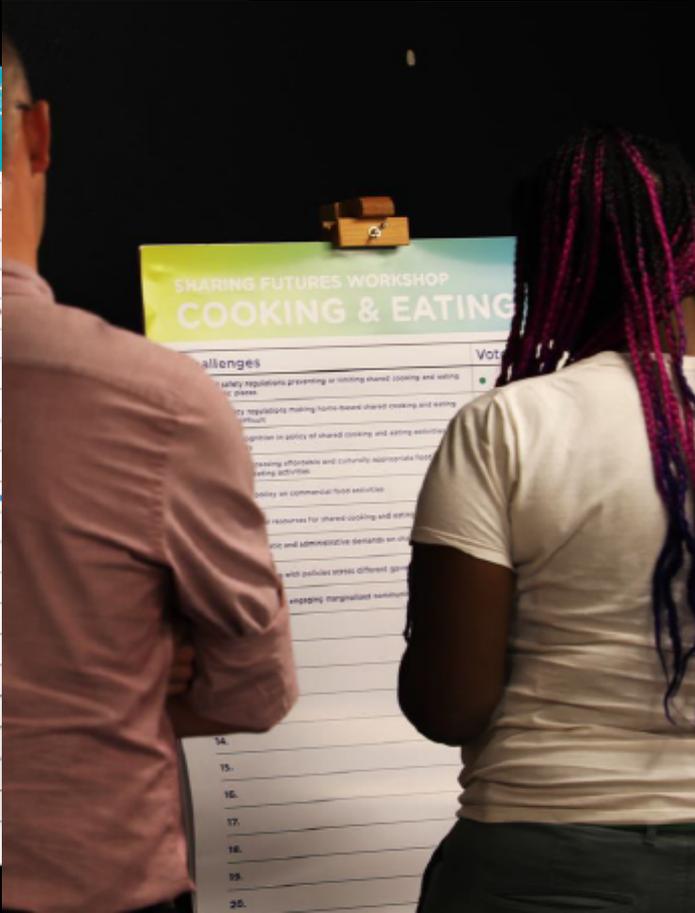
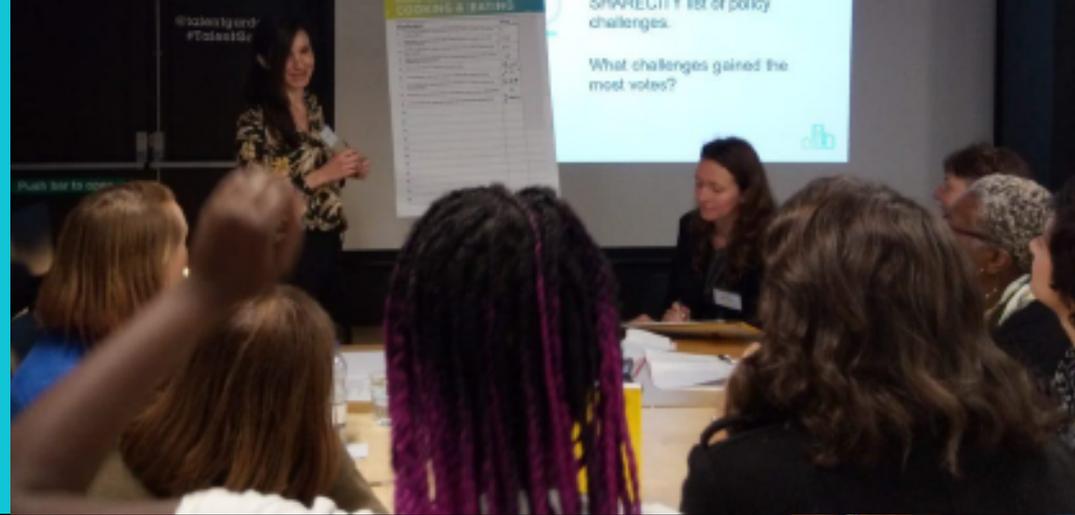
As of June 2018, 596 Acres is not providing advocacy support in New York City. Our tools remain online but no staff is able to assist with crafting campaigns. Community land access advocacy continues to be done by New Yorkers - we are so glad to have contributed to shaping a movement.

CHAMPIONING RESIDENT STEWARDSHIP OF LAND

SHARING FUTURES

Workshop:
The Future of Food Sharing Governance

September 2019
Talent Garden Dublin



Is food sharing sustainable?



Toolshed

The Toolshed will support you to create a full sustainability impact report for your initiative and a short summary to quickly communicate these impacts to others.

[Find Out More](#)



Talent Garden

The Talent Garden is a space for food sharing initiatives to share stories about their activities and impacts.

[View Talent Garden](#)



Greenhouse

We have created a space called the Greenhouse where food sharing initiatives can connect with others around the world to share experiences and learn from each other.

[Learn About Greenhouse](#)

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Connecting and creating new support networks within communities

3 questions
0 responses

6

Boosting levels of meal sharing

4 questions
0 responses

7

Increasing well-being through volunteering

6 questions
0 responses

8

Improving self-confidence and resilience

3 questions
0 responses

9

Increasing movement and exercise

4 questions
1 responses

10

Increasing access to health and well-being services

5 questions
0 responses
**Last Added*

11

SHARE CITY Sustainability Impact Summary

WHO WE ARE

Name: FoodCloud
Location: Dublin

GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

Goals: FoodCloud redistribute surplus food, thereby reducing food waste.
Activities: Redistribution

OUR IMPACT AREAS

Our key areas of significant impact are

- Fostering a wider food and sharing culture
- Food waste reduction
- Reducing the carbon footprint of the food system

Indicators where we have reported our impact: Environmental, Social, Economic, Environmental

Indicators where we are having a significant impact: Environmental, Social, Economic, Environmental

SPECIFIC IMPACTS INCLUDE

520 active

100000 kg food

10000 kg of CO2e

WHY WE SHARE FOOD

- If food waste was a country it would be the third largest emitter of greenhouse gases after China and the US.
- FoodCloud is a social enterprise, regulated by the charity regulator, that enables community groups across Ireland and the UK to access food that businesses do not need, our solution is better for community and kinder to our planet.
- This food has been used to create personal connections, add value to services, reduce food bills and expand services using the savings made.

BENEFITS FROM SHARING OUR SHARESTARS

Food sharing can create multiple positive benefits from fostering a social cohesion to reducing food waste. The sharing benefits we create are shown in the graphic below.



Can local practices turn into transformative change in a collaborative economy?



For a sustainable future, we need to reconnect with what we're eating - and each other

Thank you!

Website: www.sharecity.ie
SHARECITY100: www.sharecity.ie/research/sharecity100-database/
Blog: <http://sharecity.ie/blog/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sharecityresearch/>
Twitter: [@ShareCityIre](https://twitter.com/sharecityire)
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/share_it_toolkit/

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