

## **Document 1**

### **FEEDING THE HUNGRY CITY**



**Food market**

Ingredients for the meals we eat at home or in restaurants come from near and afar. In an increasingly urbanised and globalised world, the food produced in the countryside needs to be transported to the city. Much focus has been put on reducing ‘food miles’, which can be a relevant but sometimes limited concept. A smarter and cleaner transport system would solve only part of the issue. A wider systemic analysis of the entire food system is in order. Even if we live on a farm, most of the food we eat needs to be transported in one way or another. As three in four Europeans live in cities, the supply of food is highly dependent on transport, which is currently heavily reliant on burning fossil fuels. This of course has negative impacts on the environment and the climate.

Globally, more than half of the world’s population lives in urban areas and, according to the United Nations, this share is projected to increase to about two-thirds — more than six billion people — by 2050. So the demand for transporting all kinds of food to cater both to our needs and tastes is likely to increase.

Transporting food, people and goods has many environmental impacts, including air pollution, noise, landscape fragmentation and greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). Concern for these impacts has led to the concept of ‘food miles’, which usually means the distance the food has travelled to reach homes, supermarkets or restaurants.

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<http://www.eea.europa.eu/signals/signals-2016/articles/feeding-the-hungry-city>

## Document 2

