



G7 Ag ric ult ur e

and Astino nel gusto, East Lombardy on the forefront for food security and valorisation

5 December 2017

Last October, Bergamo, in **East Lombardy, European Region of Gastronomy 2017** was the framework of the **G7 Agriculture ministerial meeting**, an occasion to rethink agriculture and food policies through the lenses of sustainability and biodiversity.

The Agriculture Ministers of the **G7 Countries**, the Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development of the **European Union**, representatives of the **European Union** and international organisations such as **FAO, OECD, IFAO** and the **World Food Program** attended the meeting. A chance to call for joint commitment and shared responsibility among international actors, the summit addressed different topics of discussion, from hunger and food waste to the protection of local producers and the role of agricultural cooperation in migration management. These efforts culminated in the signature of the **G7 Bergamo Agriculture Ministers' Meeting Communiqué**, which sets a series of priorities.

waste was one of the core issues of the debate as well and, in this direction, the declaration sets the intention to establish precise rules and actions to solve this widespread problem. Last but not least, the establishment of policies to track products from the producers to the final consumer, in order to develop systems that are deeply connected to the territory.

During the summit, East Lombardy hosted also the three-day event *Astino nel gusto*, organised on the spectacular set of the monastery of Astino, in the **Valley of Biodiversity**, and attended by more than 2400 visitors. For the event, four different itineraries were developed, each one composed of 25 gastronomic stations and offering cooking shows of Italian celebrity chefs, as well as the possibility to taste the best local wines, pastry and bakery. The aim of the event was to showcase the highlights of Italian gastronomy and, especially, the finest **flavours of East Lombardy**.

According to IGCAT Expert and Scientific Coordinator of East Lombardy, European Region of Gastronomy 2017, **Prof. Roberta Garibaldi**, interviewed by national Italian Tv: "We are here today with more than 100 chefs, producers and winegrowers to celebrate during three days the wines and gastronomy of Brescia, Bergamo, Cremona and Mantua's territories, European Region of Gastronomy 2017."

TV reports (Italian) regarding East Lombardy Region and its events are available at the following links: [RaiNews24](#)

[Rai1](#) (from minute 05:00)

About the European Regions of Gastronomy

The European Region of Gastronomy Platform and Award aim to contribute to better quality of life in European regions, by highlighting distinctive food cultures, educating for better health and sustainability, and stimulating gastronomic innovation. It provides cross-marketing opportunities and longer-term benefits. Being part of the European Region of Gastronomy Platform and bidding for the award brings a range of stakeholders together to confront development challenges in the region.

About IGCAT

IGCAT is a non-profit organisation established in 2012 working in the fields of gastronomy, culture, arts and tourism. Through its worldwide **network of experts**, IGCAT aims to **empower local communities** by guiding, facilitating, and supporting local leaders in cities, regions and cultural projects to understand the potential of their distinct food, culture, arts and sustainable tourism assets.

IGCAT is furthermore the official secretariat for the **Region of Gastronomy Platform** and provides the **European Region of Gastronomy Award**, the **European Young Chef Award** and the **Innovative Food Souvenir Award**.

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