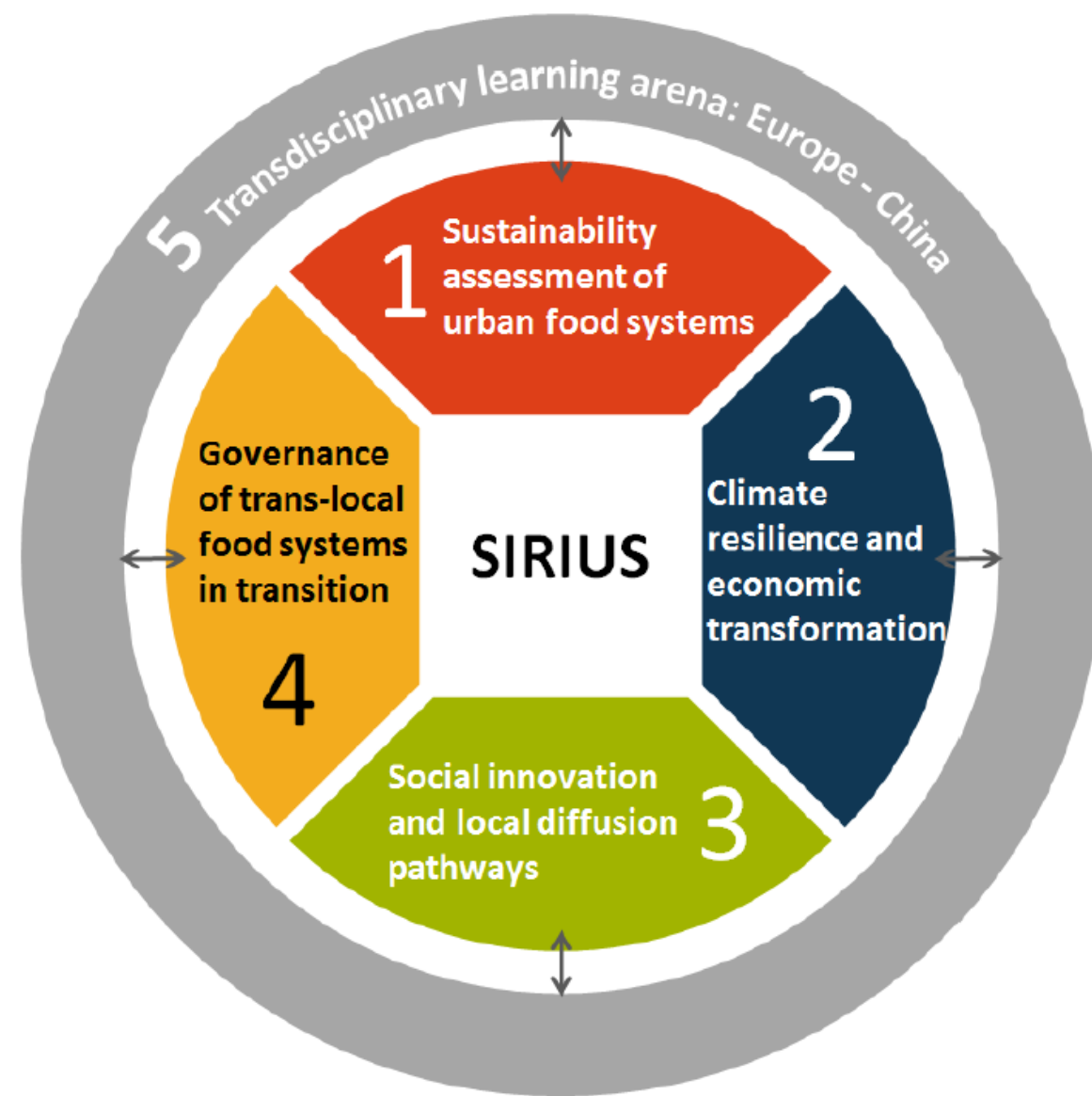


SIRIUS

Sustainable urbanisation is coupled with the sustainability and resilience of ‘glocal’ food production and consumption. Economic transformation and climate change have brought complex and dynamic challenges for urban food systems, while new urban economies and social innovations are emerging to tackle food problems. However, identifying and assessing transition pathways of future urban food systems remain primarily neglected in studies on urban sustainability. Local planners and policy-makers seek scientific guidance and learning opportunities about mechanisms to navigate towards sustainable urban food systems. Project SIRIUS is a UK-Netherlands-China consortium. We will 1) shed light on trends of urban food production and consumption in Chinese and European cities, 2) identify the natural and societal factors that will influence the vulnerability and resilience of urban food supply chains, and 3) reveal how new business models, social entrepreneurship, and other innovations in the urban food sector are evolving locally.



Aim/objective

The key objective of Project SIRIUS is to develop cross-disciplinary methods, innovative understandings, and practical managerial insights for a sustainable and resilient urban food system in both China and Europe. We aim to generate both data and methods needed to observe, measure and evaluate the environmental sustainability, socioeconomic resilience, and business innovation patterns of urban food systems.

Approaches/methods

Project SIRIUS will conduct interdisciplinary, collaborative and comparative research with selected case cities (two in Europe and two in China) and a broad community of impact group partners in the urban food sector. Data analysis methods will include both quantitative methods (e.g., multi-regional input-output analysis, spatial life cycle assessment, etc.) and qualitative methods (e.g., scenarios analysis, policy and strategy co-designing, etc.).

Expected results and impacts

Project SIRIUS will lead to scientific papers, an indicator-based toolkit, policy briefs and white paper reports, stakeholder engagement and policy co-designing workshops. We will interact with stakeholders through knowledge exchange, policy learning, business impact and societal benefits for a sustainable urban future, via identifying and actively engaging with urban planners and policy makers, food industries as well as public and consumers.

SIRIUS - Sustainable, Innovative, Resilient, and Interconnected Urban food System.

Duration: Starting in 2019, ending in 2022 at the latest

Internet: jpi-urbaneurope.eu/project/sirius

Contact: Dr. Lingxuan Liu

E-mail: lingxuan.liu@lancaster.ac.uk

Budget: €862,751

Partners: Lancaster University, Dutch Research Institute for Transitions, Institute of Urban Environment, Xiamen, Institute of Ecology and Geography, Xinjiang.

Involved countries

- China
- Netherlands
- The United Kingdom

The Sustainable and Liveable Cities and Urban Areas call

The pilot call Sustainable and Liveable Cities and Urban Areas organized by JPI Urban Europe and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), inviting interdisciplinary Sino-European consortia opened on January 31st, 2018.

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