


**"FOR PARENTS, HOT MEALS
APPEARS AS AN ADDITIONAL
COST THAT THEY DON'T SEE IF
THEY PREPARE SANDWICHES"**



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What do you do when you don't have canteens?

The question seems either absurd (why then, taking part in the BioCanteens network?) or rhetoric (what else if not implementing a canteen scheme?). In both cases, the postures of the LAG Pays des Condruces in Belgium and of the city of Trikala in Greece, two cities which do not have canteens as such, questioned the benefits a city can get from an URBACT Transfer Network when its socio-cultural practices is far away from the one of the Good Practice city.

Catching-up re-implementing a canteens scheme

"Eating a hot meal at school is not in the culture of our villages" explains Anne-Marie Lecompte, volunteer at the school of Fraiture, Tinlot. Indeed, in the majority of Pays des Condruces' schools, there is no canteen. When there was one, it has been abandoned in the last decade, kitchens have been closed, refectories reconverted into classrooms. As such, the country has developed a culture of *"sandwich boxes"* and of one hot meal per day in the evening.