1. Record Nr. UNINA9910669802103321 Autore Biel Robert Titolo Sustainable food systems: the role of the city / / Robert Biel Pubbl/distr/stampa London:,: UCL Press,, 2016 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (vi, 145 pages) Disciplina 338.19 Soggetti Agricultural industries - Management Agricultural industries - Environmental aspects Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di contenuto Introduction -- Searching for a new model of food and farming -- The mainstream farming paradigm: what went wrong? -- How systems change: crisis and rift -- Embracing complexity: the earth system, land and soil -- Dialectics of a (re)discovered sustainability -- Political dimensions: agriculture and class struggle -- Towards a new paradigm : practical guidelines -- Regenerating the earth system, working with climate -- Food, imperialism and dependency -- Built systems, biomimicry and urban food-growing -- Autonomy, radicalism and the commons. Sommario/riassunto Faced with a global threat to food security, it is perfectly possible that

Faced with a global threat to food security, it is perfectly possible that society will respond, not by a dystopian disintegration, but rather by reasserting co-operative traditions. This book, by a leading expert in urban agriculture, offers a genuine solution to today's global food crisis. By contributing more to feeding themselves, cities can allow breathing space for the rural sector to convert to more organic sustainable approaches. Biel's approach connects with current debates about agroecology and food sovereignty, asks key questions, and proposes lines of future research. He suggests that today's food insecurity - manifested in a regime of wildly fluctuating prices - reflects not just temporary stresses in the existing mode of production, but more profoundly the troubled process of generating a new one. He argues that the solution cannot be implemented at a merely technical or political level: the force of change can only be driven by the kind of

social movements which are now daring to challenge the existing unsustainable order. Drawing on both his academic research and teaching, and 15 years' experience as a practicing urban farmer, Biel brings a unique interdisciplinary approach to this key global issue, creating a dialogue between the physical and social sciences.